The Memphis Appeal.

LETTER FROM VIRGINIA.

Fallacy of Human Expectations—Timely Preparations for Winter—Loudoun Militia—Their Utility—Building of Forts, and the Probable Mounting of Siege Guns—The Enemy doing Likewise—Yankee Apprehensions of an Advance on Our Part—Probable Change of Programme for 1862—Lively incident and Narrow Escape of Cavalry Pickets—Suicide of General Cox—Sickness Among our Troops—Thorough Blockade of the Potomac—Yankee Smoke, Etc., Etc.

BALL'S MILL, NEAR LEESBURG, LOUDOUN COUNTY, January 4, 1862.

EDITORS APPEAL: I closed my last letter at a time when expectations ran high among the "boys" to get a short furlough for home. Their minds dwelt continually, and with rapture, upon the anticipated communion with loved ones. No doubt an intended recital of their toils and difficulties, with numberless narrow escapes and deeds of personal valor, was to have formed the nucleus around which lengthy details would have clustered, to the pride of un-sons, the admiration of sweethearts, and the terror of juveniles. But the fallacy of human expectations, and the uncertainty of military necessity, was made very manifest. No sooner had the necessary documents been issued, and preparations generally been made, than an order, rescinding the previous privilege, was issued, dashing hopes to the ground. The scene that ensued among the disappointed ones made it apparent to your writer that the kind admonitions of chieftains was entirely disregarded.

The regiments comprising this brigade have been, and still are, engaged in preparations for the winter. Log shanties, not erected according to the rules of ancient or modern architecture, but very comfortable however, are being erected in true pioneer style. The houses constituent are appropriated by the officers, with but little additional comfort, I should judge. However fast they may have worked, it was done some too soon; for on yesterday it gave us some intimation of what winter could do. It snowed, and it blowed, and it shotted; and, at the present writing, a glance through the window displays the surrounding hills and valleys all rampoled in garments of virgin whiteness. Sufficient snow has fallen to call forth the amateurs of northern pleasure, i. e., sleighing. The merry chimes of tiny bells, and the familiar music of laughing girls, is heard, as the sleighs spin by us, while the excessive gallantry of Mississippians is displayed to admiration.

The Loudoun militia have been called into use by Gen. Hill, and the rising of ponderous earthworks indicate their utility. Some of the "malicious" individuals manifest a decided aversion to being "drilled" and a like hatred to "drilling" holes. Their arms are pieces, shovels and hoes, and they are doing very growing profit in the "manual of arms." Obstreperous individuals are frequently drawn out of the mountain recesses by "guards," and carried in triumph to the scene of action.

The contrabands are busily employed here, not confined simply to breastworks, but regular forts are to be built, I understand, while on Paisley's and Johnson's hills siege guns of a large caliber are to be mounted, which will enable us to command a large portion of territory, at the same time keeping the Yankees at a respectful distance. The artillery we have here serves us but little purpose, as they are inadequate to the demand. They have done no service as yet, a few shots from the Yankee's long range guns invariably silencing our battery.

The mounting of siege guns on our fort would be a capital joke if the Yankees did not "see us and go one better"; but they are also making preparations to do the same thing, and when both sides are ready, we may have the pleasure of witnessing quite an interesting duel with cannon. Our side fear scarcely from the probability that the enemy may shell Leesburg which they can do with certainty and guts.

It is said that "great minds run in the same channel," hence we have great minds, and so do the Yankees, for which we are accusing them of "advance movement;" the Yankees are doing the same thing; and it is hard to tell which apprehend the most danger, we or the enemy. Like Dedlam's admonition to Simon, "arse Simon, arse Simon, Dedlam's admonition to Simon," both sides are ready to jump at any moment, at the least alarm. The state of things certainly will not be allowed much longer to remain; some desire to urge on the crisis, others, fully unanimous, desired by more a proper time, but the time has come, or will come by spring, for the programme to change. Our defensive attitude for the past year has, beyond doubt, given us great advantage over the aggressive. Without a doubt, any respect, the advantage may be lost. Without effort of any kind, it certainly was a Herculean task to set in motion the machinery of a government in its multiform departments, as well as to organize so large and so efficient an army.

With all these disadvantages, in nearly every contest we have held our own, but we have gained nothing toward the great purpose of driving the enemy from our territory. It is true that we have not prepared for this last year, but a far different state of things is now in existence. We have a large army, and a more efficient one can never be found. If we consume all our time in making preparations, while the Yankees are doing the same thing on our territory, I confess an inability to see the point gained, for every one will acknowledge that to be emphatically independent, we must be able to repel the invasion from our territory from the invader as to repel the invasion.

That the enemy has been thrown here *de novo*, and from unpublishing on our paper, have been forced to assume the defensive, is true; but this only a moral point of view, which amounts to nothing at all, save a cause of self-congratulation, so long as they remain in possession of one foot of our territory.

We have no reason to desire to invade their territory, neither does our offensive attitude imply that necessity; but we have reason to rout them totally from our country. This can be done as easily as we can wait for their attack. It is the opinion of many that the time has come to change that a change of programme will be decided upon for the opening campaign on our side.

Those who are editorizing for the war do so with that understanding. Many have been the inquiries, from the sage to an army, and in more ways than one we have felt the evil.

Some pickets from the Bedford cavalry, stationed in and around Leesburg, had quite an exciting time last week, as well as running a narrow risk of being captured. During the night before about one hundred and eighty Yankees (so report says) crossed the river at that point, and lay in ambush until daylight. The cavalry started in the morning to reconnoiter a little, as is usual, when they found themselves surrounded. All escaped in a moment but one who took to the streets and alleys of the town, where he dodged his pursuers on scientific principles. Some sixty shots were fired at him without effect, nor did they get him at all, wonderful to tell, for he succeeded in eluding their vigilance.

The Bulletin is pronounced now to be effectually blockaded. This reduces the Yankee forces at Washington to a strait that I do not know how they will mitigate. The Chesapeake and Ohio canal was their main dependence, and being deprived of its advantage by the blockade, they now have only the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, which certainly is inadequate for so much transportation.

S. I. W.,
Company B, 17th Mississippi Regiment.

THE KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., January 6, 1862.

EDITORS APPEAL: On Christmas morning last orders were received by Gen. Bowen, at Camp Beauregard, to proceed at once to Bowling Green with the flower of his brigade. In this order was inclosed the 2d Mississippi, 9th and 10th Arkansas, the 24th Tennessee, 1st Missouri, and Martin's 1st Mississippi Valley regiments of infantry, with Hudson's battery of flying artillery.

The advance left the camp at eleven o'clock that morning, and was followed as rapidly as the others got ready to leave. The last detachment did not duffle out of the encampment until the afternoon of the following day. We marched a distance of sixteen miles to State Line Station, an insignificant little depot on the Mobile and Ohio railroad, and as detestable as it was small. There we took the cars as fast as they could be pressed into service, and proceeded thence to Humboldt, and from there came by way of Clarksville to Bowling Green—the advance reaching here on Sunday and the rear coming up during the following three or four days.

For several weeks before leaving Camp Beauregard, our troops had been busy erecting winter quarters, and had them nearly all finished at the time of leaving. It may well be inferred that the men left their comfortable cabins, which they had built with much labor, with many feelings of regret, lightened by the fact that they were to be occupied by men whose patriotism for their country was deeply sufficiently strong to prompt them to fight sixty days. But they were consoled by the reflection that while they were leaving a point of secondary military importance, and perhaps of no importance whatever, they were to be relieved in one of the badly grand and splendid armies of the Confederate States, as is that of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnson.

There were many incidents which occurred along the road that night, in peaceful times, to be put in the papers; but I prefer not writing them down. These incidents consisted, in part, of a man killed here and there along the road by falling from the train, a car or two running off and getting mashed up, engine running off from one half the tracks, beautiful valleys, lofty, romantic mountains, rippling brooks, rolling streams, with bare railroad bridges, fine cities and mean little towns, patriotic people along the road, wild daughters and aged matrons waving handkerchiefs to the boys, all of which must be skipped by the undersigned, because a hero is sensible people.

It would take one week of incessant travel and observation to see all the troops and the positions they occupy in and around Bowling Green. Of course it would be impudent to publish any special detail concerning a s'ot one armies, and more particularly so, for upon it depends the fate of Kentucky for all time to come. I will only assure you that it cannot be dislodged save by one of those terrible and sanguinary battles we read of in the Bible, and which the Napoleons, and Wellingtons have yet given no assurances of emulating. The white tents are seen everywhere—on the mountains, in the valley, and on the plain; but you cannot tell which is Hardee's, which is Breckinridge, or Floyd, or Buckner, Bowen, and the rest.

It is the prettiest place to fight a brilliant and decisive battle the military eye ever gazed upon. Yonder is the mountain, the heavy artillery is battery; there the stop of timber for massed guns; here the level plain with gentle and solid declivity for the bayonet, cavalry and flying artillery; while all around smoothly, gently and without a murmur, meandering a deep and narrow stream, inviting an enemy to cross and an enemy to contest the attempt. Then the city of Bowling Green lies within its limits wealth, luxury and riches. Its homes are of that texture which do not cover where the Vandal in a desperate struggle for their possession and the owner and his friends to fight like brave men, long and well, to prevent their falling into unholy hands.

There is but one thing that will prevent a great battle being fought at this place sooner or later; and that is a declaration of peace before the northern army gets ready to make its attack. They cannot pass around the point without fleeting all the laws known in military strategy. Nor can they any more weaken it by diversions than they have Manassas by raids upon the southern coast. As there, they cannot go around fly over, or crowd under Bowling Green, and as they cannot conquer Kentucky and enter Tennessee without defeating our army here, fight it here they must, or yield the point.

The large bridge which we burned over Green river let fall the Yankees have rebuilt, and have now finished. Their advance is now in the vicinity of that locality, commanded by Gen. Henderson and Gen. Buckner. Their force, the first of all their armies *before* going into battle, is greatly exaggerated. Sixty or sixty-five thousand would cover the whole of it. You may rest assured that reinforcements come to us as fast as they do them, while every day adds to our defensive works.

They boast of having ten or twelve regiments of Kentuckians in this army; but the truth is there is not one genuine one. These regiments published as from this State, are composed mostly of foreigners, and whole companies from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and other Northern States. While this is true of Kentuckians in Lincoln's army, it is equally true that the number of Kentuckians in the Confederate armies is not less than fifteen thousand. There are several regiments at Columbus, many in Virginia, and the rest in the commands of Marshall, Clark, Zollicoffer, Tilghman, and under Gen. Johnston at this place. Were it not that many counties are hemmed in by the Federal army, this number would be fully doubled. There is a third party who are awaiting the result of the first decisive battle before taking a hand upon either side, while still a fourth cling yet to the exploded humbug of neutrality. They cannot maintain this most dangerous of all positions long, for they are neither respected by the North nor by the South.

No man can tell the day or even the week when the Yankees will make an attack upon us. Gen. Hindman occupies the advance position, but will fall back upon the approach of the enemy in force, and Gen. Johnston will fight nothing more than a skirmish beyond Big Barren river.

SUBALTERN.

Monetary Troubles at the North.

The New York *Express* of the 4th inst., has the following paragraphs in its commercial column. Comment is unnecessary:

The banks, or rather bankers, held a long and excited session, yesterday, not adjourning till 6 P. M. The object of the meeting was to regulate the currency as much as possible, now, in the "suspension," and to provide for making some arrangements with the Secretary of the Treasury, for the paper money on demand Treasury notes Mr. Chase is about to issue.

The banks and bankers now fully comprehend the crisis, and are fully alive to it—and they seem willing, to the full extent of their ability, to accommodate the government in what credit or what means they can, but they do not see their way almost clear, in justice to their own credit or their own customers, without the hearty cooperation of the Secretary of the Treasury, who, they reason, ought to and must give them some security, if they receive and pay out as currency the forthcoming Treasury notes.

The discussion upon these great subjects which began temporarily, degenerated, after awhile, into a personal controversy, between Mr. Gallatin, of the National Bank, and Mr. John A. Stevens, president of the Bank of Commerce. Mr. Withers, of the Bank of the State of New York, having made some remarks not satisfactory to Mr. Gallatin, Mr. G. attacked him, with some zeal, and this broke out into a general attack upon the expenditures of the government, which, in a great degree, he deemed corrupt, or very unsatisfactory. His remarks, indeed, though he is of the politics of the government, and was one of the bank officers who, in November, 1860, first pronounced for Mr. Lincoln, were, in general, now denunciatory of the whole financial mode and manner of government administration and direction. These remarks called forth a sharp reply from Mr. Stevens, who declared that banks would stand by the government to the last in which he was heartily cheered.

To quiet Mr. Stevens, the chairman of the bank meeting, to speak, Mr. Thomas Tileston, of the Phœnix Bank, was called to the chair—but the discussion had been so hot that Mr. Tileston felt it his duty to adjourn the meeting, since, though nothing had been concluded or done, yet it was time for something to be done.

It is understood and tacitly agreed, however, that the banks shall appoint a committee to visit Mr. Chase in Washington, to try to make some arrangement with him for the payment of the interest of his treasury notes. This committee, however, were not appointed, the hasty adjournment forbidding. The question between the specie paying and the non-specie paying banks, as yet remains undecided, and it will remain until further action the banks it is believed, will receive the treasury notes to the amount of their individuals to the government, $1,000,000, but not beyond that until the government shall have set apart a portion of its revenue to secure its issues.

English Dislike to Mr. Seward.

From Thurlow Weed's Correspondence.]

Strong, active and subtle influences have been at work here to render our Secretary of State obnoxious to the government, its press and people. And these influences have been so successful that he is everywhere regarded, not only as an enemy of England, but as one who, from personal hostility or political consideration, really desires a collision between the two nations. In support of these opinions the duke of New Castle is quoted. I cannot gather, from the numerous versions allow the precise language used by the duke, but I am sure that either the language, or the import of what Gov. Seward said, was misapprehended, for it is an impeachment of the commonest sense to suppose that he seriously apprehed the duke of an intention to provoke a war with England; and yet I am assured that amongst whom our whole country was manifesting, in unmistakable enthusiasm, its admiration for the Queen and its regard for England, is ovations to her son and his bride apparent.

I perceive, by the London correspondence of the New York *Times*, allusion to another "malign influence," potent in some quarters here, against Gov. Seward. That influence, largely responsible for the war a ready upon our hands, might, one would suppose, be content to wait till that war is over, before seeking to embarrass the country abroad.

"ON TO RICHMOND" AGAIN THE CRY.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *World* writes as follows:

There is no earnest feeling here in favor of an effective forward movement of the army, which has grown more decided since the settlement of the Mason-Slidell affair. It is felt that an extended and successful aggressive movement can now be made, and that it would have a happy effect, not only at home, but upon those nations whose policy towards our government is at present warped. The regular opinion of England is, that we are doing nothing toward the furnishing her with cotton, would be stilled, she would become less impatient, and the occurrence of more cavalry, which might result in war, would be avoided. At any rate, it is said that a great victory now would secure us the increased sympathies of the greater part of Europe, and effectually prevent the recognition of the Confederacy by any Trans-Atlantic power. Assurances, vague and general though they be, are still given that an advance is to be made, and that the army will not go into winter quarters. Gen. Halleck's order to the effect that it is assumed that a great event is impending in Kentucky, that will result in a glorious Union victory. From advices I have received to-day, it is probable that Gen. Buckner will be attacked at Bowling Green by a large Federal force, the center of which is fifty thousand, the right wing fifteen thousand, and the left ten thousand.

AFFAIRS AT CAIRO.

The Cairo correspondent of the Louisville *Journal* writes a letter which we find in that paper of the 7th inst., and of which the following is an extract:

I open now upon the first chapter of the new year, and though an eventful one has closed upon our distracted country I will not fret your readers by a dull essay upon its ills and grievances, but leave to other and more gifted minds the monotonous task, whilst I relate unvarnished tales and facts.

I find on my return to-day that "things have gone on here most execrably." Nothing new or startling has occurred, for in these piratical times 'tis nothing new to hear of treachery, frauds, or any manner of evil doings.

Under the rule of Gen. Fremont things appeared to go on very smoothly hereabouts, and the nest of swindlers who infested this ranche crept and glided along in confidence and security, and revelled in their ill-gotten gains; but "foul deeds will rise though all the world o'erwhelm them to men's eyes." Under the new regent, Gen. Halleck, affairs are assuming a widely different aspect, and the plunderers tremble at the mention of his name and the frown of his justice.

But matters have not yet appeared in a sufficiently vivid light to warrant my mentioning anything beyond generalities.

Among the recent removals is Commodore Wash. Graham, superintendent of government transports.

Gen. Grant refuses to recognize recent contracts made by parties at this post and suspends all contracts until an investigation can be had. Parties who applied to him to have their contracts ratified yesterday and were denied, went post-haste to St. Louis, to endeavor to get them approved there before Gen. Grant could get advices there, but he telegraphed to Major Allen to await his advices. The conclusion of his letter to Major Allen to-night read as follows:

"I would recommend that a law be passed to press all fraudulent contractors into the service as soldiers, or still better, that they be placed as marines on the gunboats, where they would have no opportunity to desert."

The expedition which left Paducah, December 28th, with a force of 135 cavalry, two companies of regular cavalry, and seventy dragoons, under command of General Lewis Wallace, proceeded in the direction of Camp Beauregard as far as Camp Creek, when they halted for the night. At three o'clock next morning they started for Mayfield, where reaching, they rested a short time, and then marched forward to within six miles of the camp, where they found the enemy had an outpost guarded by seventy-five men.

Here they learned from a Union man that all the troops who had occupied Camp Beauregard, except a battery of artillery and H. Clay King's marauders, had gone to reinforce Buckner at Bowling Green, but that it was occupied by three or four regiments of sixty day men. As our force was too small to hazard against such odds of the enemy, Gen. Wallace with his force returned again that night to a station on the Paducah branch of the Memphis and Ohio railroad, near Viola. At daybreak on Monday one of Wallace's pickets returned to camp and reported that a large force of rebel infantry and cavalry was advancing and about to attack our men. Learning this, Gen. Wallace crossed his command over Mayfield creek in good order and drew up on the opposite side of the creek to receive the enemy, but they showed no disposition to attack us. Gen. Wallace sent a messenger to Paducah for reinforcements while he retired again to Viola, intending to engage the enemy in a skirmish, but he (the enemy) retreated.

Here our force remained awaiting orders, which did not arrive until 3 o'clock Tuesday morning. Quite a large force of cavalry appeared early in the morning, but made no demonstrations against us, and in obedience to orders Gen. Wallace, with his command, returned to Paducah without having effected anything.

According to the report of Gen. Wallace, the country through which he marched is of a character such as to render fighting with cavalry extremely difficult and disadvantageous. It is described as one long stretch of scrub oak and dense chapparel, broken only now and then by a farm or clearing. On account of the scarcity of water it would also prove difficult to march a heavy column through.

☞ After an absence of more than twenty-five years, Ole Bull has returned to England, where he is now touring it through the provinces.

LATE NORTHERN NEWS.

We get some additional items of news from the New York *Herald* of the 4th instant:

A fight occurred on the 2d instant between the Union gunboats, Yankee and Anacosta, of the Potomac flotilla, and the rebel battery at Cockpit Point. The missiles from the rifled gun of the battery struck the Yankee, doing but small damage. Several of the projectiles from the gunboats took effect in the midst of the battery.

The news from the Point of Rocks is not particularly important. The rebels sent a body of cavalry, two hundred strong, on a foraging expedition in the neighborhood of Bolivar. They were saluted by a few shells from the Parrott guns belonging to a section of Col. Knapp's Union artillery, which made them move off rapidly in a contrary direction to that intended by them.

There is nothing of particular interest reported by the arrival of the transports Roanoke and Cahawba from Port Royal. Commander Truxton, of the sloop-of-war Dale, is rapidly becoming acquainted with the rebel positions in the country around him, their strength, etc. Reconnoissances are being made with some success in the neighborhood of the Edisto river. The military movements are unimportant. A new naval expedition is said to be on the tapis. A rebel privateer succeeded in running the blockade off Charleston harbor on the night of December 29, after having previously made several ineffectual attempts.

BOSTON, January 3.—The excitement about the departure of Mason and Slidell has entirely subsided. One hears very little discussion about it. A good many persons have expressed the hope to-day that the Rinaldo, with her traitor passengers, had gone to the bottom in the hurricane of last night.

The Paris correspondent of the New York *Herald* writes:

I am assured by those whom I have ever found well informed, that France will acknowledge the Davis government if England does.

* * * The Emperor is quite unfriendly to the North, but will take no part in the quarrel.

* * * The southern commissioners here are working actively against the North, and with increased success. * * * The only paper in Paris really friendly to the North is the *Opinione Nationale*, the organ of Prince Napoleon.

An English paper relates the following incident:

The detachment of the British Guards, destined for Canada, were shipped on board the Adriatic and Parana steamers, the Adriatic having the American escutcheon on her stern, while she was taking the men on board she hoisted, "I wish I was in Dixie," played by the band of a volunteer regiment.

WASHINGTON, January 3.—Horace Greeley delivered a lecture to night before a dense auditory at the Smithsonian Institute, his subject being "the nation." He said the misfortune of our country has been that our country has been reluctant to look its antagonist in the eye. Slavery is the aggressor, and has earned a rebel's doom. Save the Union and let slavery take its chance.

He was against compromise, because it implied concession to amend treason, and he expressed his belief that the present contest would result in enduring benefits to the cause of human freedom. President Lincoln, Secretary Chase, and Senators and Representatives were on the platform. The lecturer was frequently applauded.

NEW YORK, January 3.—The British bark *Express*, of Hull, for New Orleans, loaded with 6,500 bags of coffee, arrived here yesterday as a prize, having been captured by the United States sloop-of-war Vincennes. She took in her cargo at Rio Janeiro.

The first hostile step of the allied expedition against Mexico was taken on the 17th ult., when the Spanish troops from the fleet landed at Vera Cruz, took unopposed possession of that city and the fort of San Juan de Ulloa, and hoisted their flag over the city and fort.

The northern papers report much excitement in Canada, growing out of the Mason-Slidell affair and England. The people were making active preparations for war. The Detroit *Free Press* says:

A corps of engineers, under the command of Gen. Williams, arrived at Windsor, and proceeded at once to lay our fortifications commanding the city of Detroit. The plans have been completed and the work commenced, and if continued, will be ready to mount guns in a short time. The fort is situated on an eminence a little to the left of the main village, and nearly in the rear of the Town Hall, and completely commands the whole river front and principal business part of the city. The fortifications consist of breastworks, embracing an area of about sixteen thousand square yards, and surrounded by a ditch forty feet in width. The same corps of engineers are now at Collingwood selecting a site for similar fortifications.

Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.]

UNITED STATES STEAMER PEMBINA, AT ANCHOR IN WARSAW SOUND, GA., December 27, 1861.

The projected expedition from Port Royal to Fernandina, Florida, having been abandoned, Flag-Officer Dupont immediately ordered the different vessels composing it to the blockading stations on the South Atlantic coast. It was our fortune to be sent to the Savannah river, and since our arrival (December 11th) have had very exciting times. At daylight the next morning "sail ho!" from the masthead attracted our attention, and looking seaward a large full-rigged ship was seen steaming in from the southeast, not more than seven miles distant. We first supposed she was one of those old stone hulks that have balked so many of our cruisers, but her sections were so unusual that we determined to overhaul her. "All hands! up anchor!" and in ten minutes were steaming toward the bar. The strange sail, seeing us, backed and stood out to sea, but the wind was very light, and soon the usual salutation—a shot across her bow—was extended.

This produced the desired effect, and we were soon alongside of her. She proved to be an English crew, from the Belize, bound to Falmouth, England, with a cargo of mahogany, logwood, and four hundred thousand cocoanuts. An officer and crew were sent on board to examine her, and bring off the captain and his papers. On being questioned he gave a very honest and plausible account of himself and vessel, all his papers being properly issued and signed and cargo free from suspicion, he was allowed to proceed without further detention. When asked why he was so far out of his course, he replied that his vessel was a leaking badly, and he was going into Savannah for repairs, supposing the war was confined to the Potomac, and being totally ignorant of the blockade. Our crew were much disappointed at the result of the chase, for more than one had been calculating the probable value of his share of the prize money.

On Thursday the steam transports Ariel and Marion came into Tybee sound with a Connecticut regiment, and ordnance and quartermaster's stores from Hilton Head. This addition increases the force on Tybee island to fifteen hundred men, under command of Brig.-Gen. Wright. With the exception of pickets, sentries, etc., the entire force is industriously employed in throwing up fortifications, building barracks, mounting heavy siege guns, and landing army stores from the transports. It is believed that Fort Pulaski will be attacked from this point with more success, the channel being so narrow and shallow as to prevent an important naval attack. The light-house on the northeastern point of the island has been completely gutted by fire, and the walls so much cracked by heat as to be almost useless. On Friday a raft was picked up drifting down the channel near Tybee; at the time it excited but little comment. We have since learned that it was intended to be used by the rebels as a fire raft against our fleet in the roadstead, but was prematurely cut loose by a Secesh sergeant. For this offense they threatened him with death, and, on Saturday night, he deserted from Fort Pulaski and came to Tybee, bringing with him much valuable information. He stated that the British steamer Fingal, laden with cotton and rice, was preparing to run the blockade on Sunday night, at high water.

Such, indeed, proved to be the intention, but by the timely action of the gunboats Pembina and Henry Andrews, it was foiled. Instead of endeavoring to pass down the Savannah river, they had selected a small channel running into Warsaw sound, and come down within a few miles of the outlet, and sent a boat with a pilot, two midshipmen and two sailors, to see if the coast was clear" before venturing out; everything was satisfactory but the presence beyond the bar of Uncle Sam's steamers. Early the next morning we steamed up the sound and saw her retreating toward Savannah. We pursued until a battery, mounting seven heavy guns, interposed, when we were obliged to return a short distance and anchor, where we now are. Since then the steamers Flag, Alabama and Seminole have joined us; and from the preparations being made, I have no doubt the battery will be attacked. When it is silenced, the way to Savannah is opened for vessels drawing under sixteen feet of water, and the Fingal will be in as light a place as was "Barney's brig."

But three of the guns (columbiads) are mounted on this side, the remainder are directed to prevent a land attack. On Monday afternoon, we had quite a sharp skirmish with three of the "mosquito fleet," and drove them up the river. From two to four of them appear daily, but do not seem inclined to have another brush. On Tuesday, the Henry Andrews picked up two deserters, from whom we obtained much information, and also learned that the fort above us was garrisoned by two companies of rebels, that Fort Pulaski contains but forty-five mounted guns, and their plans for the escape of the Fingal, a few days after the lower figure; but most of the drawers and importers appear to be waiting for further developments. American coin is offered at one and a half premium, and it is bought by the bullion brokers at one; but very little business is being done in it. It will be easy to bring the gold to light again when it is needed, now that the banks have got out of the false position they occupied.

Suffering and Cannibalism of an American Whaler's Boat Crew.

The St. John *Daily News* has an account of the sufferings of John F. Sullivan, of Hadley Falls, Massachusetts, and his companions, deserters from the whaleships Daniel Webster and Ansel Gibbs, of New Bedford, in Cumberland Straits, on the 4th of August last. The narrative was written by Sullivan. The writer says that he had no reason for leaving the ship only that he was not sufficiently provided against the cold northern climate, and was afraid of dying by scurvy. The crew of the Ansel Gibbs complained of bad treatment. They were John Giles, boatsteerer; John Martin, Hiram J. Davis, Willard Hawkins, Thomas Colwell, Joseph Fisher, and Samuel Fisher, who, with Sullivan, and his shipmate Warren Dutton, constituted the deserting party. They stole a boat from the Ansel Gibbs, into which they managed to place a very small quantity of provisions, two guns, and a little ammunition, and stood across the straits. They left the vessels in lat. 65° 59', about five miles from Penny's harbor. On the fourth day out, they fell in with the bark George Henry, Captain Cuddington, of New London, who offered to take them all on board, but they declined. He gave them some provisions, which were augmented by a duck and the hindquarters of a write bear they managed to shoot before they made Resolution Island, where their provisions became nearly exhausted. On the 20th of August, at Cape Chidleigh, they had nothing but mushrooms and berries to live upon; and here Hawkins and Davis ran away from the party, and carried away everything that was useful belonging to the boat. After an attempt to leave the place, which was prevented by stormy weather, they landed again, and Dutton died of starvation.

The narrative of Sullivan says:

The evening he died Samuel Fisher proposed to eat him. He took his knife and cut a piece off the thigh, and held it over the fire until it was cooked. Then, next morning, each one followed his example. After that the meat was taken off the bones, and each man took a share. We stopped here three days. We then made a start, but the wind being ahead we were compelled to put back. Here we stopped two more days. During that time the bones were broken up small and boiled in a pot of bottle that we had; also the skull was broken open, the brains taken out and cooked. We then got a fair wind, but as we got around a point we had a wind very fresh off shore; we could hardly manage the boat; at last we drove on to an island some ways out to sea; we got the boat under the lee of it; but the same night we had a large hole stove into her. Being unable to haul her up we staid here eight days. It was on this island they tried to murder me.

The third day we stopped here I was out as usual picking berries or anything I could find to eat. Coming in I chanced to pick up a mushroom. I brought it in with me, also an armful of wood to keep. While kneeling down to cook the mushroom, I received a heavy blow of a club from Joseph Fisher, and before I could get on my feet, I got three more blows. I then managed to get on my feet when Samuel Fisher got hold of my right arm; then Joseph Fisher struck me three more blows on the arm. I somehow got away from them, and being half crazy, I did not know what to do.

They made for me again; I kept begging of them, for God's sake, to spare my life; but they would not listen to my cries. They said they wanted some meat and were bound to kill me. I had nothing I could defend myself with but a small knife; this I held in my hand until they approached me. Sam'l Fisher was the first to come toward me; he had a large dirk knife in his hand; his cousin was coming from another direction with a club and a stone. Samuel came on and grasped me by the shoulder, and had his knife raised to stab me. I then raised my knife and stabbed him in the throat; he immediately fell, and I then made a step for Joe, but he dropped his club and went up to where he was. I then stooped to see if Samuel was dead; he was still alive; I began to cry; after a little while the rest told me to come up—they would see there was nothing more done to me. I had received four deep cuts in the head; one of the fellows dressed them for me and washed the blood off my face. Next day Samuel Fisher died; his cousin was the first one cut him up; his body was used up the same as my unfortunate shipmate's.

After awhile we managed to repair the boat and leave the island. We ran in where we thought it was mainland, but it proved to be an island; here we left the boat and proceeded on foot, walking about one mile a day. At last we reached the other side of the island in about four days; then put back again to the boat. It took us four days to get back. When we got there we found the boat stove very bad since we left her. We tried to get around the island with her, but she sunk when we got into her; we then left her and went back again to the other side of the island, to remain there until we should die or be picked up. We ate our belts, boots and sheaths, and a number of bear and seal-skin articles we had with us. To add to our misery, it commenced to rain, and kept up for three days; it then began to snow. In this miserable condition we were picked up by a boat's crew of Esquimaux, on the 29th of September, and conveyed to Okoke on the 3d of October. The missionaries did all in their power to help us along, and provided us with food and clothing, then sent us to Nain where we met "the doctor" (Davis), who was picked up three days before we were. He reported that his companion died, and told many false stories after he was picked up.

The above thrilling narrative has the air of romance rather than the reality, and some of the circumstances appear very improbable, but as the Ansel Gibbs, which arrived at New Bedford on the 11th of November last, reported the desertion of seven of her crew with a whale boat in the Arctic regions at the date above given, the main facts of the story are doubtless true. The misguided seamen suffered fearfully in consequence of their folly.—*Boston Post.*

Canadians Sarcastic.

From the Montreal Gazette.]

We have no desire to utter one word calculated to wear the appearance of a taunt to our neighbors at the issue of the recent controversy with Great Britain. It is enough for us that they have con. cented to repair the wrong done, and we need not be curious to question the motives which prompted this act of public justice. Yet it were to fail in our duty if we did not draw the moral from the issue of the dispute. Nearly all the northern press puts it upon the ground that their first duty is to crush out the "rebellion" of the Southern States, and they must make any concession to foreign powers necessary to preserve their strength unimpaired for the work.

This is, by no means, the highest motive. It is an admission that they act under a sense of coercion, not from a sense of right, and in so far it is profoundly to be regretted. We believe Mr. Seward's line of argument to be cleverly chosen, in as far as it has been made public, but it is in the teeth of almost all the public declarations of his fellow-countrymen, official and non-official. Every publisher and statesman, who has expressed an opinion, with the exception of Mr. Seward and Mr. Buchanan, has declared that the act of Capt. Wilkes was one to be applauded, not condemned. The chances are that Mr. Seward's popularity will be seriously damaged by the course he has adopted. It required not a little pluck to face the public insanity, and rob the people of the opportunity of self-destruction, which they seemed to covet. He has run directly counter to the current or popular opinion and feeling.

The world will believe now, in spite of all Mr. Seward's adroit arguments, that the surrender has been made because of threatened coercion. As the *Times* threatened, they have been made to eat up the vaunting and taunting of the last few months, after a fashion which must be very disagreeable to such vain-glorious boasters.

BLUE STONE.—The Athens *Post* says: "We have at this office a sample of blue stone, manufactured at the Polk county copper mines. This is an article indispensable to telegraph operators, and for some other purposes, and in general demand among farmers at seeding time. The supply had become nearly exhausted, but it is now being largely manufactured at Ducktown, and no further difficulty will be experienced in procuring it."

LOCAL MATTERS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 15.

☞ We are indebted to our friend J. M. Toney, E q., of the Memphis and Ohio railroad, for late favors.

TAXES.—The allowance of one and a half per cent. per month to all who pay their taxes between now and June, has resulted in the payment to Tax Collector Bowen of $3,910 in the last two days. The wise will "go and do like wise."

SERENADE.—We were last night complimented with a stirring serenade from Capt. John O'Neil's splendid brass band. "Dixie," particularly, inspired us. To the company we return our acknowledgments.

A CLEVER OFFICER.—Since the new office of Collector of Privileges was established, it has been well filled by our old friend, John Newson, Esq., who discharges its duties with the same attention toward the city's interests, and the same courtesy toward the taxpayers, as has always characterized him in office.

THE CONCERT TO-MORROW.—Prof. Winkler's concert to-morrow is the theme of much expectation. From the high quality of the pieces selected, and the superior talent of the performers, a very agreeable occasion is looked for. Prof. Winkler has been indefatigable in his efforts, and a superior concert will no doubt be the consequence.

RECOVERED.—The two prisoners, Hugh Morrison and Mike Kelly, who escaped from custody at the State line depot on their way to Nashville on Friday morning last, have been retaken. They went into a negro cabin and asked the negro to help them off with their irons. The boy went out and told his master, who restored them to the keeping of the law. A reward of fifty dollars had been offered for their recovery.

GENEROUS.—We stated a short time ago that Messrs. Winn & Co., saddlers, and their employees, had made the handsome donation of $388.50 to the Southern Mothers' for the sick soldiers. We have now to record that they have presented another $388.50 to W. O. Lofland, Esq., Treasurer, for the wounded soldiers in the Overton Hospital. These contributions do honor to the noble hearts that gave them. Let not the goodheels of Messrs. Winn & Co. and their patriotic employees be forgotten.

CITY CHANGE NOTES.—The City Council has referred to the City Attorney and the Finance Committee a resolution, which, if adopted, will result in the issue by the city of notes from five cents and upwards. The resolution empowers the City Controller, in paying the claims of policemen and other city creditors, to issue warrants on the City Treasurer *in such sums as may be demanded* by any creditor. Persons holding any unpaid paper of the city, can have that paper exchanged for notes or bills in place of the paper *in such sums as the holder may desire.* The Controller is to keep a separate record of the small notes issued with the names of the persons to whom they are paid.

Since writing the above we learn that any idea of issuing notes of low denominations by the city has been abandoned; though it is believed the notes would have been of pub lic convenience, there is an objection to making the city corporation a banking concern, and a danger of incurring the heavy fine of $10,000 fixed by law against unauthorized issues.

A SOUTHERN OPERATION.—On Friday last an elderly man named Young, from Giles county, was walking along the levee, he made the acquaintance of a "very nice young man," who undertook to show him the city. At the navy yard, the nice young man met an acquaintance of his he had not seen for some time. He learned that his friend had been busily engaged in inventing a submarine battery, a model of which he had with him, and he was wondering where he could get some of them made. The nice young man recommended him to go to Street's shop, not far off. The man went, leaving his model behind, which Mr. Young and the nice young man proceeded to examine. In a tube within was found a piece of paper. This the nice young man took out and proposed that he and Mr. Young should be the inventor, when he got back, that there was no paper in the submarine. It was agreed to. The inventor came back and the box was proposed and accepted. All Mr. Giles had about him was forty dollars. This was put down, when the inventor opened another tube in the submarine, from which he drew a piece of paper. He had won the bet—the money was handed him, and he left. After he was gone the nice young man came to the conclusion that the paper had been placed there on purpose, and that there was cheating going on. He was determined not to submit to it. He wou d have the money back or ——. He set off in a great rage. Mr. Young waited, but the nice young man did not return. He at last came to the conclusion that there was cheating about it, and applied to officer Wise, but in vain. The nice young man, his ingenious friend, and the forty dollars were all gone.

On 'Change—Business News.

There was a moderate attendance on 'Change yesterday, and the New Orleans intelligence was not of a nature to create a very active feeling. The dispatches reported the demand for flour on Monday as light, and sales were confined to a few small lots at irregular prices. Wheat was quiet. Corn, under the influence of large receipts, declined very materially in price. Oats also declined. Rye was dull. Bran in fair demand. The sugar market was moderately active at unchanged rates. Molasses were in good demand. This intelligence, take it altogether, shows a blue day in New Orleans on Monday.

The sales of flour on Saturday, reported in the *Bulletin*, and other New Orleans papers at one thousand barrels, had raised the expectation of dealers here, but Monday's market does not give signs of any present material improvement. The receipts here have been liberal of late, and shipments not very large. The stock in New Orleans had been accumulating, and appearances seem to indicate that flour purchased here when prices were high, and held back in New Orleans for an advance, may yet be thrown on the market. The consumption in New Orleans is three thousand barrels a week, the sales of late have only been for home consumption; if the