Daily Appeal.

EVENING EDITION.

JACKSON, MISS.

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 3.

ARMY SUPPLIES—OUR CONDITION.

When we took occasion some weeks ago to publish some strictures of our own upon the then condition of the commissariat of the army in this State, we were well aware of the cause of any deficiency that existed, and plainly indicated our belief. Such, too, was the case with the correspondence admitted to our columns in almost every instance. We believed there then was a sufficiency of provisions in the country, and that there was no necessity for the privations our soldiers were undergoing, and felt it our duty to expose the delinquencies, confident that neither the government or the people would, when cognizant of the facts, permit a longer continuance of the existing state of affairs than possible.

We have every reason to believe that the exposure of the condition made by the press at the time referred to, has accomplished the object desired. Instead of complaints coming up from the camps, all appear to be satisfied. A little energy has demonstrated the fact that the granaries of the people were not as empty as dilatory agents had represented, and that it was only necessary for the people to know the necessities of their defenders to cause them to spare from their abundance. This latter has been done, and we are assured that the supplies now on hand, and under control of officials, are sufficient to secure the complete provisioning of the army hereafter, without interruption. The men are satisfied, and appreciate their obligations to the people; and as there is no necessity for any further celebrity, it is to be hoped those whose duty it is to concentrate supplies will see that it is done, not only in an emergency, but to an extent that will permit no decrease of the present abundance in store.

In this connection we may refer to the fact that for the last ninety days the Federal journals have been indulging in speculations as to their ability to starve us out. So much did they write and print on the subject that they not only grew into the belief that it could be done themselves, but many of our people began to despair. The Federal generals seemed, from the slowness of their movements, to imagine we would be conquered without a battle, or that starvation would accomplish what the prowess of their soldiers had failed to do. The editorial press has been disappointed—the opposing generals found they were mistaken, and our people and soldiery have ascertained there was no cause to despond. We are ready, with a willing soldiery, to do our fighting, and a working, sacrificing people to produce for the future. There is no necessity for complaints or despondency among ourselves, nor is there cause for our enemies to indulge in any farther utopian dreams as to our being starved out. The future looks bright.

A SUGGESTION.

In view of the fact that some of the planters are complaining of being unable to put in crops in consequence of the government having a large number of their hands at work on fortifications, etc., and as it is of the utmost importance planting should be engaged in as extensively as possible, the Vicksburg *Whig* suggests "that the general commanding adopt some plan for returning all the negroes, if it can be done without injury to the cause. We believe the negroes are allowed one dollar per day and rations, for labor. Now suppose the government offer those soldiers who have been lying in camps all winter, this dollar per diem to perform the labor the negroes are now doing, would not enough volunteer to do all the work, and thus allow the negroes to go home and raise breadstuffs for the army? This would save the government the rations of the negroes, enable us to raise more of the staff of life, be wholesome exercise for the soldier, and at the same time be giving him an opportunity to make a trifle to send home to his family or purchase articles of food or clothing, sometimes very essential and not furnished by the government. We submit this suggestion to the General commanding. If possible, let us have all the negroes on the plantations. That is where their services are needed most. Let the soldiers take care of the fortifications and keep the negroes at work raising bread and meat for them." Whether the *Whig's* idea is a practicable one or not, while we are so seriously threatened by the enemy, we would not undertake to decide, but it is certainly worthy of consideration.

☞ The Knoxville *Register* has been shown a private letter from one of the Tennessee delegation in the Confederate States Congress, which states that the tax bill which recently passed the house in secret session, is heavy enough to satisfy him who craves the most ponderous taxation. In Richmond, in view of the coming campaign, the most perfect confidence prevails of our success at every point where we are likely to be assailed, with all classes and all departments of the government. The writer adds that it is understood in Richmond that the administration of General Donelson in East Tennessee "is by far more promising than any we have had in the past."

☞ Referring to the fact that the Yankees succeeded in furnishing Farragut a supply of coal by harmlessly running the blockade at Vicksburg, the *Whig* says: We had hoped proper steps were taken to secure any coal that might run by, but it would seem that such is not the case. Had we not better inform the Yankees that they need not wait to send their coal down under cover of darkness—that we are willing for them to supply Farragut with fuel, and that they can send it down in broad daylight in safety?

☞ The Knoxville *Register* of the 29th doubts the correctness of the report that Humphrey Marshall had captured the renegade Carter, and explains: The fact that it was known to our commanders, that Carter was a few days ago in a position from which escape was almost impossible, if our forces had moved promptly, led to the story to which our Bristol cotemporary gave currency. The supposition now is, that as soon as General Marshall ascertained that Carter was penned, he took a nap, and when he waked up, found the bird was flown.

☞ We had occasion to visit Rome, Ga., a few days since, and noticed at all the towns and stations between Chattanooga and Rome, and particularly at the latter place, enough officers, dressed in gay and flashy uniforms, to command the army of Tennessee. You cannot enter a billiard saloon or bar room without encountering a dozen or more of these Sunday soldiers. Whose fault is it?—*Shelbyville (Tenn.) Banner.*

We are pleased to notice that in this section the class of soldiers referred to has been considerably thinned out. As a consequence our camps must have increased in population.

☞ The schooner Hortense, from Havana to Mobile, has been captured off New Inlet, St. George's Sound, by the Yankees. The Navy Department at Washington has this information.

THE CASE OF AARON DREYFUSS.

We noticed some days since, the order of Judge W. L. HARRIS discharging Mr. DREYFUSS, on a writ of habeas corpus from the custody of the military authorities, by whom he had been incarcerated on a charge of dealing with the enemy, and of being a spy. He was afterwards arrested and brought before D. W. BARNEY, commissioner of the Confederate States, on a charge of treason. No witnesses having appeared, and no proof whatever having been adduced against him, he was honorably discharged by the commissioner.

MAKING CORRECTIONS.—We have frequently observed that the Memphis *Bulletin* has disputed our accounts of occurrences on the lower river, and given those of the Federal officers, but has, afterwards, been compelled to correct its reports. This has been the case with all the engagements, commencing with the first siege of Vicksburg, including the battles of Baton Rouge, Vicksburg, Fort Pemberton, Port Hudson, etc., and ending with the affair at Vicksburg a few nights since, which resulted in sinking one of the vessels and disabling another. We copy, to-day, a very different report of affairs at Port Hudson and Vicksburg from those first published by the *Bulletin*. That journal ought to understand the APPEAL well enough to know that we have no penchant for the sensational, and that our reports, whether adverse or favorable, may be relied upon; and if its editor would act as an honest journalist should, he would not be compelled so frequently to correct his own statements. Our friends in Memphis know that our statements are always based upon facts.

AN EXPLANATION.—The Mobile *News* thinks that the easier feeling lately prevalent in the specie market of New York, furnishes the key to the lying Yankee dispatches about the success of the Yazoo pass and Deer creek expeditions. The Yankee character is a mixture of low cunning and ignorance—indeed the two generally go together, while a broader intelligence is unpracticing and unsuspecting, and, while never the agent is often the victim of small tricks. Tricks to bull or bear the market are the height of the Yankee's aspirations, but they lack the capacity to distinguish the improbable from the probable; so knowing that the actual capture of Vicksburg, or the occupancy of Yazoo river, would have an effect on the market, the knaves in power invented these stories, and the credulous fools who put them there believed it. This is far from the first or the tenth trick of the kind that has been put upon the nation that believes in table-tipping, the sea-serpent, the fish of the universe, free love, free soil, and, in short, everything but God.

☞ It is stated by the Port Hudson correspondent of the Mobile *Tribune* that the negroes on the opposite side of the river have been assaulting white women and children, and committing acts of the most brutal ferocity. We had not heard of this before, but regard it as altogether probable, as it is the mission of the Yankee invaders to incite them to such acts. We are pleased to learn from the same source that General Gardner was about sending over a sufficient force to take charge of these negroes, and still probably have them brought over to headquarters, and summarily dealt with.

A USEFUL PUBLICATION.—We have received from the publishers, Messrs. H. P. Hill & Co., Griffin, Ga., a copy of the "Confederate States Railroad Guide," a neat, compact little volume containing time-tables, fares, connections and distances on all the railroads of the Confederate States; also the connecting lines of railroads, steamboats, stages, etc.

☞ The New York papers, of the 18th ult., have news from Kingston, Jamaica, which states that the war steamer Vanderbilt had encountered the Confederate steamer Alabama—that the latter had fired a broadside at the Yankee and disabled her. The papers do not believe it; but it may, nevertheless, be true.

☞ As the damage done by the storm at Raymond on Saturday night last, the *Gazette* chronicles the prostration of fences, trees, of all the buildings at the fair grounds, and the loss of about one-half of the spacious stables owned by the late G. W. Hickey. The storm was succeeded by bitter cold weather.

☞ We learn from the *Gazette* that the ladies of Raymond will give an entertainment of tableaux and charades, assisted by amateur singers, on Friday evening, 10th of April, at the court house.

☞ The steamer Alice, which arrived at Mobile on Sunday last, from Havana, brought information that a bearer of dispatches from France to our government, had arrived at the latter city.

☞ The wheat crop in the counties of Virginia adjacent to Richmond is in a very promising condition. An unusually large quantity has been planted.

Latest Federal Reports from the River.

[From the Memphis Bulletin, March 28.]

By the Southwester, Terral, master, from Vicksburg, we have later advices from Admirals Farragut and Porter's fleet. The Southwester left the above port on Wednesday evening, making the run in about forty-six hours. The news from Admiral Porter's fleet is of the most exciting character. On last Sunday, as we have before stated, Admiral Farragut ran by the fortifications at Warrenton and communicated with Admiral Porter, the purport of which was he wanted reinforcements.

On Tuesday evening the Lancaster and Switzerland, of Porter's fleet, got under head way and steamed down the Mississippi, as if they only intended to make a reconnoissance, but the real intention was to run the blockade. As they moved quietly down the river, the Confederates kept a sharp look out. From all points in the vicinity of Vicksburg, at every place where an officer could stand, there one could be plainly seen by those on board of the Federal gunboats.

The night was quite dark, and the boats kept as much as possible in the shade. When within easy range of the upper land batteries, the rebel guns lit up the entire heavens with fire, and, if the gunboats were hid hid before, brought them in full view. Then commenced the most terrific cannonading. The two vessels under full head of steam, passed nearly by the last guns when a shot struck the bow of the Lancaster, which was broken off. This disabled that boat that she could be handled only with extreme difficulty. Two more shots struck her amidships and went entirely through. She was then in a sinking condition, and in about twenty minutes went down, and so far as is known, with all on board.

The Switzerland received several shots and would no doubt have fared the same fate as the Lancaster, as she was almost unmanageable, had not the Albatros, Captain Hart, lieutenant commander of Admiral Farragut's fleet, came up the river and took her in tow under heavy firing. This was a daring exploit, but no doubt was the only means by which the Switzerland was saved. Great credit is awarded Capt. Hart for this perilous deed.

We also have additional information, per the Southwester, of the fight at Port Hudson. On the evening of the 14th of this month, Admiral Farragut made the attack on Port Hudson, with seven gunboats, the Big ship Hartford, Albatros, Mississippi, and four others. After a most desperate conflict, the Hartford and Albatros succeeded in getting by the fortifications, but were confidently claimed by the tremendous fire through which they had to go, and, as a consequence, got out of the reach of the guns as soon as possible.

The fight, however, was continued by the five boats below, till two of them were destroyed, the Mississippi by fire and another boat, name not known, by sinking. Our corresponden says there can be no doubt of the destruction of the Mississippi, and that among the naval officers the sinking of the other vessel is generally credited. The officers of the Hartford and Albatros describe the fortifications at Warrenton as being of a very formidable character. The guns are of immense caliber, and throw shot and shell with terrible precision.

The news from the Yazoo pass and Haines' Bluff expeditions is confirmatory of that which we have already published. We have some additional news from the "cut-off" opposite Vicksburg, which somewhat changes the stories heretofore told. When the Southwester left Vicksburg the "pass" or "cut-off" was put down among the failures. The late high water has filled a part of it with mud and sand, which, together with the rebel guns which command it, makes that great undertaking for the present of no avail.

Correspondence of the Natchez Courier.

PORT HUDSON, LA., March 24, 1863.

J. M. BALDWIN—*Dear Sir:* Having an opportunity of sending a letter, I will endeavor to inform you of what is transpiring here, though I cannot hope to acquaint you of anything of much interest.

Since the retreat of Banks' army, and the attempt of the fleet to pass up, we have had but little in the way of hostilities. A little skirmishing, a little shelling every day, numerous prisoners and deserters; some burning of property, and a great deal of stealing has occurred, and now, everything is dull.

Since my last letter to you, the enemy "planted" a number of mortars behind the levee, on the opposite side of the river, landed infantry and artillery, made their camps and showed every evidence that they had come to stay. Their mortars opened fire on our lower batteries, which returned shot for shot, all of which resulted in no injury to us, and I presume none to the enemy. The fleet lay off and kept up an irregular fire, hoping to dismount some of our guns, but feared to trust their wooden sides in reach of rebel shot.

A few days ago Captain R. T. English was sent on Pearl river, on government business, and on his return brought over six deserters, all armed with Enfield rifles. They say that two entire regiments, (the 133d and 154th, New York,) are deserters at heart, and only wait an opportunity to take French leave of Banks; and since then I have seen several others from these regiments who make the same assertion.

Banks' army is now safe behind the breastworks at Baton Rouge, and our pickets are within an hour's ride of that city; the trading between the pickets of the two armies has been resumed, and all seem to have forgotten that they were recently about to engage in deadly conflict.

On the 21st, the enemy attempted to move light artillery across the point to "Hermitage," and cut off our supplies, by driving back steamboats loaded with corn, meal, pork, etc., from Red river, but our commander had guarded against such an attempt, by having the main levee cut, thus flooding the country, and making it impossible to reach that point except in a skiff or boat. The enemy's next attempt was to shell our steamboats, and drive them from the landing, in which they succeeded, and now our boats discharge their cargoes a few miles from the landing, where Yankee shells cannot reach, and where Yankee cowardice dare not venture.

A few days ago the enemy ventured up the levee and burned the fine residence, furniture carriages and outbuildings of Captain T. S. Hines; stole also all his stock they could take off with them, and killed the remainder, this is Yankee revenge.

The Yankees have one gun that throws a shot fully five miles, but as it has not been used since the 20th, the hopeful are of opinion that it turned "secesh" and exploded.

A few days ago a party of Yankees called out to some of our men that they would come over and take them to Baton Rouge and give them something to eat—flour bread, ham, coffee, etc., and this being considered a challenge, our men proposed to take a boat and go, from an equal number, and decide which party should accept the hospitality of the other, but the Yankees, have a dread of rebel arms, or a contempt for rebel fare, would not wait.

I have heard many amusing accounts of what occurred during and after the bombardment, among the best of which is the following: A negro passing a battery noticed a cannoneer trying to stop his nose from bleeding, which had been caused by falling to "break off" when his gun was discharged, and, after expressing his sympathy to a considerable extent, concluded by saying that he "jest knowed a cannon ball struck the poor soldier on the head, else he wouldn't be bleeding at the nose that way."

On yesterday the enemy took on board mortars, artillery, troops, camp equipage and plunder, and judging from this fact many suppose that the fleet will soon return below, while others think that we attempt will be made to storm our batteries from the rear, but I think that the cutting of the levee on the 19th and then in another place on the 21st, has drowned them out and compelled them to seek quarters on their transports.

The recent heavy rains have made the roads very bad and rendered the advance of the enemy impossible, even if they proposed such a move, which I believe very doubtful, and think that if the battle of Port Hudson is ever fought it will occur nearer to Baton Rouge than Port Hudson.

This morning but two armed vessels and three or four steamboats are in sight. Until something of interest occurs, adieu.

VENTER.

P. S. We have plenty of fresh beef, pork, corn meal, peas, sugar, and molasses, and there is no probability of the enemy cutting off our supplies or reducing our rations. From recent reports from Red river, we may soon hear from the Webb, Queen of the West, Etc. V.

The Times.

The observance of fast day was the cause of no paper being issued yesterday, consequently we are a little behind in giving the news of Gen. Forrest's brilliant exploit. But really so much cheering news comes to us, that it seems as if the millions of prayers which went up from our Confederacy on Friday, in obedience to the President's proclamation, are being answered with blessings.

On Wednesday, the 25th inst., at Brentwood, midway between Nashville and Franklin, Gen. Forrest captured eight hundred Yankees, with their arms and ammunition, destroyed a tremendous amount of commissary stores, burned railroad bridge, torn up the track, and brought off seventeen loaded wagons. This is official. It is a brilliant affair, and accompanied with a loss of only three men on our side. The prisoners were brought safely off, although captured thirty miles inside the Yankee lines. Three times huzza for Forrest and his brave command.

The breezes from East Tennessee come singing of victory. General Humphrey Marshall has captured the notorious East Tennessee renegade and bridge burner, General Carter, and his whole command, somewhere between Cumberland gap and Courbon county, Ky. Col. Jenkins also surrounded and captured the 14th Kentucky regiment of the Federal army.

From Kentucky comes news of open resistance to the Lincolnites. The Democrats and Unionists of Columbus had a fight in which four hundred are said to be killed and wounded. This is, perhaps, exaggerated, but it is vouched for as true.

Trenton, in the western part of this State, is said to have been burned by the vandals, and they destroyed the railroad between Humboldt and Columbus, Kentucky. They are reported to be evacuating West Tennessee.—*Winchester Bulletin, March 29.*

☞ The Vicksburg correspondent of the Savannah *Republican* is responsible for the following:

The Yankees drove from home and destroyed all the property of a man named Cobb, in Missouri. Driven by his necessities and a desire for revenge, he has organized a band of partisans that prey on the Yankees. He has been quite successful, but none of his prisoners trouble him. Cobb says they take the oath and he turns them loose. One of his men reports that no man who ever took "Cobb's oath" violated it. It is considered very binding, especially among the rebels. Cobb says he would like to administer his oath to Gen. Scott "just woans."

DANGEROUS FEMININE AMUSEMENT.—A new amusement for women has been invented out in Winstead, Connecticut, as a sort of relief to the skating fever, when the ice is bad. They stick a peaknife into a door about three feet from the ground, and kick at it; if they hit it they take it out and stick it in higher up. This was getting to be a favorite exercise, and a good many girls could kick pretty high. But the innocent amusement came to a sudden end through an accident to a young married lady of the place, who, at the first vigorous kick, went over backwards upon the floor, injuring herself severely.

☞ The growing crop of wheat in the vicinity of Shelbyville, Tenn., is very promising.

☞ The Montgomery *Mail* says General Hardee and staff were at Huntsville, Alabama, on the 25th ult.

The French in Mexico.

From the New York Times, 18th ult.]

Mexican advices to the 1st ult., via Havana—received at that place by the British mail packet Clyde, and published in our columns yesterday—report a positive advance movement of the French forces to the attack of Puebla. It is stated that the French army commenced its march on the 19th ult., and by the 25th all the divisions, with Gens. Forey, Saligny, Almote, etc., were en route, and it was conjectured that the attack on Puebla would commence on the 1st ultimo.

It is also stated that Gens. Ortega and Comonfort are at the head of forces numbering 21,000, infantry, cavalry and artillery; that the city of Puebla is very strongly fortified, and every preparation made for a most determined and desperate resistance.

This is the sum and substance of the news, as far as the movements of the belligerents are concerned; and, if the programme marked out in these advices has been followed, there has been a solution of the military problem proposed by the French ere this.

We are not very sanguine of the belief that the French will reach and attack Puebla at the time stated, and it may reasonably be doubted whether they will ever attack the place at all. But General Forey must move in some direction. Inaction is certain and speedy destruction, and the French general is evidently feeling his way along in a Micawberish mood, indulging a desperate hope that through the dejection of the Mexican people, or some other chance, his position and prospects will improve, and a certain degree of success be insured. It may be another month before any positive result will be reached.

By far the most significant and important news just received from Mexico, is that which relates to the banishment of the Prussian Minister, M Wagner, with Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and some forty other foreigners, by the Mexican government. These parties were considered dangerous to the peace and order of Mexico, and they have been forced to leave. Some months ago, Jecker and his associates were banished in the same manner. These acts on the part of the constitutional government of Mexico evince, in the first place, a thorough comprehension of where the root of all the evils that have afflicted the republic lies. Foreign diplomats and foreign bankers, such as the men banished by the Mexican government during this last revolution are true representatives, have done more than all other agencies combined to promote civil disturbance and anarchy in Mexico since she became independent of Spain.

In the next place, these acts of banishing those who have really been the rulers of Mexico, give indubitable evidence of the real strength of the government of that country. There never has been a government in Mexico, whether in peace or war, whether strong or weak, that ever dared, or ever could, in fact, cease relations with the European ambassadors and banish them, with prominent European capitalists, from the country, as the Juarez government has had the patriotism and courage to do. It only remains for the Liberal party of Mexico to clear their country of the foreign element of purely sordid instincts that has sucked at its vitals so long, in order to open a high career of peace and prosperity.

Terrible Tornado.

The tornado of the 26th ult was witnessed by the writer on the morning of the 27th ult. It struck the Bayou Teche about three-quarters of a mile above its junction with the Courtableu. It course at this time was southwest. It ran down the course of the stream about a quarter of a mile, rooting up and tearing off the largest trees on its banks, and indeed prostrating and destroying everything in its course. At this point it struck a portion of the plantation of Mr. Raymond Deshotel, leveling fences, uprooting his cotton house and scattering the cotton in every direction. The next plantation in its course was that of Honore Dejean. Here it appeared to have collected all its fury and power. Everything that it touched was prostrated and destroyed. The first improvement that it met with was a cotton press, next the negro quarters (being the same fate, and I would to God that the record of evils could here stop, as the heart of the writer of this is bowed down with sorrow to record what follows. The next object was the large and commodious dwelling house of Mr. Dejean, in which were his wife, children and friends. The house was taken from its foundation and carried some distance from where it stood. The following are the names of the members of the family that were killed by the destruction of the house: Mr. Honore Dejean, Emile Dejean, a young man; Matilda Dejean, a young lady; Joseph Zeringue and child, the last two mentioned being visitors at the house, and a negro boy. The following are seriously, if not fatally, injured: Mr. Honore Dejean, femur broken, and a severe injury of the spinal column and other parts of the body; Jean Baptiste Dejean, both bones of the leg broken below the knee, not otherwise dangerous; Madame Zeringue seriously injured. The next object was a row of very large live oaks and pecan trees—many of the oaks were five feet in diameter—the pecan trees were also very large and majestic—all were torn up, broken off and torn to pieces as if they were flax. The next object was a large warehouse 150 by 50 feet. It was made of very strong lumber, and principal roof with hipposts. It stood longitudinally with Courtableu, and the tornado struck it from the south side, lifting it entirely from its foundation and carrying the whole front into the bayou, leaving the north side on its banks. The cotton warehouse shared the same fate. As it crossed the bayou it overturned a forest of very large gum trees, all of which it rooted up or decapitated at different lengths from the ground, say from fifteen to thirty feet, and, strange to say, they were split the full length in the manner shown, one-half carried off and the other left standing. This tornado was about two hundred yards in breadth, and in velocity it could be compared to nothing but the forked lightning. After it passed the courtableau its course was northeast.

Since the above was written Mr. Honore Dejean departed this life.—*Opelousas Patriot, 14th ultimo.*

Capture of Yankees.

Eight of these vile abolition wretches, who have been prowling about our coast for the last two years, robbing us of our property, destroying our homes, inciting our slaves to insurrection and indiscriminate murder, who have put arms into the hands of our own domestics to take the lives of their masters, were captured yesterday morning, just before daylight. The party consisted of Captains Arnold and Eddy and six privates—all of the New York 48th regiment, who were in a boat making their way from Fort Pulaski to Ossabaw. They had with them a large paper and letter mail and ten gallons of brandy, which were also secured.

This capture was effected by a detachment from the Fifth Georgia regiment, under command of Capt. Harrison, of company D, numbering some fourteen in all. Tuesday night, having obtained permission for an expedition through the waters between Thunderbolt and Tybee, the party set out, and having reached an island along the shore of which the Yankees were in the habit of passing in going from Fort Pulaski to the fleet in Ossabaw, they landed, drew their boat ashore, and secreted themselves in the adjacent thicket.

Just before day the oars of a boat coming in a southerly direction, and near to where they were posted, were heard. Waiting until they got within good rifle shot, our party hailed the boat and ordered it to stop. The Yankees heeded not, but pulled the harder, attempting to make their escape, whereupon a volley was poured into them, after which they surrendered and came ashore. One man, a private, was seriously wounded. Our fire was not returned.

Having bagged his game, Capt. Harrison immediately set out for headquarters, where he arrived in safety with his prisoners, and delivered them over to General Walker. They were reported to Gen. Mercer, and it remains to be seen what disposition will be made of them. Were we commandant of the post pro tem, we could inform our readers of their destiny in a very few words.

The prisoners have not yet been brought to town. We hear that the officers are spruce and starch looking fellows, with all the Yankee swagger fresh upon them.—*Savannah Republican.*

Gen. Bragg's Report of the Murfreesboro' Fight.

A correspondent of the Charleston *Courier*, writing from Chattanooga, says:

I am informed by a gentleman just from Richmond that General Bragg's official report of the battle of Murfreesboro' has been received at the War Office in Richmond. It is stated that the report censures Gen. Hardee for general mismanagement, and reflects severely upon General Breckinridge; indeed, that such is its censurable character, that it must necessarily bring about a court of inquiry in the premises. It is also reported that such is the pressure against General Bragg by both senators and congressmen, that neither the President nor General Bragg can withstand it, and that if General Bragg is not relieved of his command, it may lead to an unfortunate contest between the President and both houses of Congress. It is already rumored that Gen. Bragg has been called to Richmond. In confirmation of this it is known that Gen. Johnston is now personally in command of the army at Tullahoma. Rumors from that point say, however, that Bragg is to be sent to Mobile, and that Buckner will command at Vicksburg. Such are the unfortunate relations now existing between Gen. Bragg and his generals, that it will no doubt be the best thing for the country should Gen. Bragg be transferred to some other command.

MORALS IN RICHMOND.

Correspondence of the Knoxville Register.]

RICHMOND, March 22, 1863.—The hotels, rather than the churches, are on Sunday the chief places of resort in this capital city. There is more said of Vicksburg than of Paradise; and Bragg and Rosecrans, and Lee and Hooker supplant the apostles in the midst of formal devotions in fashionable churches. Charleston is a more attractive city than the New Jerusalem, since all the preachers whom I have heard, base their discourses upon some subject connected with the war, and all their figures of speech are gathered from scenes of terror and bloodshed. The press, and next the pulpit, has inspired the people of the South with the spirit of determined resistance to the Northern despot. If the pulpit and newspapers were alike suppressed, the war would cease when the actual presence of invading armies brought terror and suffering to every Southern homestead.

The evils incident to revolution are in this city developed in their worst aspect. Citizens of Richmond are not affected by them, but the crowds which congregate in the capital, of both sexes, give abundant evidence of the rapid progress of social demoralization growing out of the unhappy condition of our country. I cannot say more, without saying too much, and can give you no adequate conception of the looseness of morals that is becoming prevalent among those whose necessities open the gates wide to all vices. Gambling, such as would startle the habitues of European watering places, is not the worst of the moral calamities that has befallen Richmond. Not only do the faro banks attract "depositors" from civil and military classes of society, but men who stand high, at least officially, above congressmen and major-generals, nightly resort to the magnificent gambling halls of Richmond. I have visited such establishments in eastern and southern cities, but have entered none in which the spirit of utter recklessness was so strongly betrayed as in those of this city. The vice of gaming contracted in the army over an "innocent game of old sledge," becomes the absorbing passion of the gamester in the faro banks of Richmond. The hope of sudden wealth, the insatiate love of excitement, the desperation resulting from the loss of fortune by the calamities of war, the destruction of social restraint, and the example of those with wives and children thrown about them, have all combined to fill this city with reckless gamblers.

Women from all the States and cities of the South visit Richmond. They would reach the army, and often find it impossible. They have not anticipated the vastness of the expenditures to which they will be subjected. Their very necessities suggest a course of conduct which it is needless to portray. Penniless, helpless, unadvised, unprotected by the presence of those to whom they are known, they resort to means of securing assistance of which at home they would never have dreamed. Religion is a stranger among the floating population of Richmond. Sunday, in this city, is the day of high carnival for all vices. Patriotism might well weep when beholding this aspect of the moral condition of the capital of the Confederacy.

Your readers might imagine that I could not write thus, unless I knew too much, and "how can such information be acquired?" I never won nor lost a dollar at a game of hazard, and yet who would not see the world as it is? I would not undertake to write the history of this revolution. It can never be written but he who assumes the task, will omit an important chapter if he fail to portray its moral effects upon social life in the Confederate States. A man need only keep his eyes and ears open for two months in Richmond to see a fruitful crop of vice, folly and crime engendered by the condition of the country, than I have cough to unfold to the readers of the *Register*. When I listen each morning to the fervent prayer of the chaplain of the house, when I hear him ask God for the triumph of our arms, and that our legislators may be endued with God-like wisdom, the thought ever recurs that there is a mightier evil from which we should seek exemption, a greater blessing for which we should pray than that we escape, like that which overspread Egypt in the midst of a reign of terror, the reign of madness and all passions and lusts and crimes.

How shall this progressive calamity be checked? To what agency can we appeal? What power can the patriot invoke to save the South from even this incipient step toward that goal of horrible depravity reached years ago by the cities of the East. And which, in a revolution like this annihilated in France the very foundations of public and private virtue? The mission of the press is ill comprehended by him who does not behold even here, a field for its usefulness which has been sadly neglected. Cannot the press render vice hateful? Shall it not hide its unblushing face in the capital of the young Republic? Shall it pass unrebuked? Shall the gaming and prostitution and that tendency to depravity which from this city may permeate social life everywhere in the South "go unwhipt of justice?" Shall it not be inveighed against by the pulpit and the press? Next to the all-absorbing idea of effecting our independence should be deemed most important, the holy purpose of eradicating social vices which, like poisonous weeds, defile the garden watered by tears and blood, in which blooms all the hopes of patriotism. We want more Halifax *Journals*, and more men who, while driving the invader beyond our borders, never forget the moral influences exerted upon their subordinates. We would have more such peerless leaders as Stonewall Jackson and Leonidas Polk, whose devotion to their country is only subordinate to their devotion to the cause of Him in whose hands are the destinies of nations. We would have chieftains who would not only redeem the South from hateful servitude to a hateful race, but whose example among our soldiery would illustrate the perfection of character that should attach to citizens of a pure republic. From popular vices unchecked, a despotism must be evoked, and all the toils and sacrifices of this people will be in vain.

Important Salt Discovery.

Salt, within a few weeks, has had what the prices current call an "upward tendency." There is an effort making to indure the impression that there will be a dearth of it this year, as there was last. The whole of which, we have no doubt, has been set afoot by speculators and saltmakers, for the purpose of saving themselves or keeping their kettles boiling to the tune of at least twenty dollars a bushel. Instead of there being any danger of a scarcity, there is every reason to believe that there will be a superabundance, although for a year to come we do not expect prices to fall below what will make fortunes for those who are largely engaged in the production of the staple.

We have information of one new source of supply just at our doors, which will be welcome news to the public. We get it from our well-known townsman, Capt. Scour. It has been discovered that there are the richest salines at the head of Bon Secour bay. By digging down a few feet an inexhaustible supply of water can be obtained, of the richest kind. It yields one bushel to sixty gallons. That of the salines in the interior of the State yields one bushel to two hundred and fifty or three hundred gallons. It granulates, too, just as soon as it begins to boil. The waters on the coast are so thinly infused that the custom of late has been to boil down to a brine the first day, and complete the operation the next day.

The first day's boiling of this Bon Secour water is sufficient to do the work complete. It has been thoroughly tested and several gentlemen are preparing to erect their kettles immediately. At the point alluded to the sea-side for centuries, we suppose, has been impregnating the soil, which is found to be honey combed by that queer little animal, called the fiddler. In its mine the salt has been deposited in these minute holes, and the result is that the water beneath the surface is a strong brine. It is easily reached, and, as we have said, is no doubt inexhaustible.

We take the foregoing from the Mobile *Tribune*. It will be distressing news to the speculators.

BADLY DAMAGED.—A suit has been commenced in a New York court for slander. The damages claimed are $500,000.

News from Abroad.

The Richmond *Dispatch* makes up the following summary of news from the New York *Herald* of the 21st:

Mr. Slidell had had an interview with Drouyn de l'Huys, in which he did not conceal his surprise at the idea that the South could ever send representatives to the Congress at Washington.

The Confederate government has contracted a loan in Paris for 60,000,000 francs.

A Confederate loan for £300,000 has been taken in 8 per cents. in England, at 77.

Thirteen thousand five hundred citizens of Birmingham, England, have waited on Mr. Adams, at London, and presented him an address approving Lincoln's policy.

Lord Sheridan's motion has not yet been called up in the house of lords, for recognizing the South when France is ready.

In reply to a question in the house of commons, McLayard said that strict orders had been given for all suspected vessels (such as the Alabama) fitting out in British ports to be closely watched.

All the correspondence touching the war and its effects, including that of the Confederate commissioners, has been called for.

The London *Times* says the disposition of the Washington government to letters of marque, and Seward's persistent adherence to the idea that the Federals have met with no reverses, and that there is no insurrection in the South, can only be explained by the belief that the United States desire a foreign war to enable them to have an excuse to acknowledge that the Union is broken.

A Lyons letter says every branch of industry is suffering from the American war.

The Poles seem to be succeeding in their revolution. Messrs. Sampathiring with them, are being held in London. France and England have sent a note to Russia in regard to it.

The Grand Duke Constantine is appointed commander-in-chief of Poland.

It is said Poland is again to be a kingdom, with Constantine for its sovereign.

A new ministry has been organized in Spain, with Miraflores as president.

The stock of cotton at Liverpool is estimated at 409,000 bales.

Advices from Hilton Head represent the black brigade which has gone to Florida to have achieved wonderful results. Burnside's army is expected there.

A good deal of skirmishing seems to be going on near Murfreesboro' and Franklin, Tennessee.

Jack Morgan's men threw the Nashville train off near Richland station on the 19th.

The "cut off" at Vicksburg is said to be progressing finely. The troops are said to be enthusiastic for a fight.

A great Union league meeting was held in New York on the 20th. John Cochrane presided and made a speech. Roscoe Conkling, Senator Foster, and A. J. Hamilton, of Texas, also spoke. A letter was read from Sigel indorsing the emancipation proclamation, the Butler code, and Monroe doctrine, and going for the war all and all.

The Retribution has captured the Emily Fisher, off the Bahamas, and, after taking two hundred and forty hogshead of sugar, bonded her and let her go.

The *Herald* says the preliminary campaign has begun. It expects soon to hear of decisive battles, and "nothing but stupidity," it adds, "can prevent Jeff. Davis from being a prisoner in three months, and the rebellion subdued."

Persons quitting Yankee Doodledom for Europe have to give bonds to go in service if drafted, or furnish substitutes.

John Andrew is organizing a negro regiment in Massachusetts. Recruits for it from Pennsylvania passed through New York on the 29th.

Gold closed in New York on the 20th at 1544, exchange 171.

The *Herald* has the following "astounding" paragraph:

Important news reaches us from San Francisco to the effect that the schooner Chapman, when leaving for Mexico on the 15th, was boarded by the government officials, and taken in charge as a privateer. About twenty passengers were captured aboard, well armed, and six brass Dahlgren guns, with carriages suitable for use on ships. Correspondence on the persons of the prisoners identified them with the party recently negotiating for the steamer Victoria for a privateer. The prisoners taken on board confessed that the Chapman intended to take in a full complement of men at some point on the coast, and that it was her design to follow the steamer Oregonian on her way to Mazatlan, to put a prize crew on board of her, and then to make an attack conjointly upon the two treasury steamers coming from California. This bold enterprise was defeated by our officials at San Francisco. It is said that the Chapman was fitted out in New York, and purchased by secessionists in San Francisco for this expedition.

The Yankees have gotten up a report of a loan from Europe, to stay their sinking government. The *Herald* of the 19th says:

The statement that an offer had been made from Europe for one hundred millions of the new loan produced an extraordinary sensation in Wall street yesterday. It seemed to produce a salutary effect on the price of gold, reducing it to 156. The terms of the European offer are that the loan will be taken at the present rate of exchange, which, if accepted by Mr. Chase, would give him sixty-three millions in gold. This sum, considering that the balance of trade is in our favor, and that the amount of produce which continues to be shipped is immense, would be amply sufficient to enable Mr. Chase to make a beginning in the resumption of specie payment—the only basis upon which the finances of the country can be established. No doubt it is a sacrifice to sell the bonds of the government at 61 cents, but it must be recollected that the country has now been two years engaged in a war which is still unsuccessful, and that the benefit to be derived from the sale of these bonds for gold would far outweigh the temporary loss. Soon the green-backs would be preferred to gold, as being more portable and convenient, while equivalent in value.

The lie soon exploded, as will be seen by the gold report of the 20th, which shows that gold was again up to 1544.

Dreadful Condition of Helena, Arkansas—Yankee Soldiers Dying off like Sheep.

The Memphis correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* gives a very sad account of the physical and moral health of Helena, Arkansas. We extract the following:

Helena, I understand, is threatened with an overflow, as the river was nearly over its banks yesterday morning. Before the end of the week the town will probably be inundated, and the military camps be transferred to the bluffs in the rear of the town.

If Helena—the accent of the first syllable is sufficiently prompter—be overflowed, I do hope it will be cleansed of a few of its mourners for a more corrupt, intolerable place than it now is, cannot well be imagined. The atmosphere is such that men, who were once honest, become tainted in principle and depraved in conduct.

The soldiers and officers alike become demoralized here. The latter drink and the former die. It is a miasmic grave yard. There is no health, moral or physical to it; no energy to its outgivings, no benefit in its influences—ethically, as well as philologically, hell, with additions.

Four thousand soldiers have died here in the hospitals since last August, and more than that number will expire in the next six months, unless some great reform is made.

The hospitals are fearful to behold, and horrible to imagine. They are grossly mismanaged, and nine out of every ten who enter them are certain to die. The surgeons who have charge of the institutions say that they cannot help the state of affairs, which they acknowledge to be wretched and shameful; that their hands are tied; that they have sought to establish reforms, but all their efforts have been in vain.

Many of our soldiers, brought from transports, have