Daily Appeal.

ATLANTA, GA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 12

THE TRUE SPIRIT.

There is no fact more self-evident than that the farmers and producing classes, to a very great extent, hold the destiny of the country in their own hands. It is they who must provision and feed the army. It is to them, and them alone, that the Government can look for supplies, to withhold which at this time, either by a refusal to sell or by placing an extortionate price upon them, would only be aiding the enemy in their efforts to conquer our armies, by the process of starvation.

Acting upon the hypothesis that not withstanding the tithe collected under the late law of Congress, the Government will be compelled to purchase heavily, and at enormous expense if present prices continue to rule, a farmer, writing in the Richmond *Sentinel*, makes this proposition. He exhorts the farmers to come up to the aid of the Government, and says:

"I will agree with any one hundred farmers of respectability, to sell to the Government all our surplus crops of wheat, corn, hay, oats, and fodder, for the present year, *for half what the government have fixed as the price*, that is say, $2.50 for wheat and $10 for corn, and so on. By surplus crops, I mean all not necessary for home consumption, on the farm. If one hundred farmers will send in their names to your office—to be considered as a pledge of honor to effect this plan, the Government would then be notified, and that much of relief will be experienced by the finances. This example, if successful, may stimulate others. It may spread, and we may see this brave old State exhibiting to the world the highest form of Christian patriotism, in all respects! God grant it may be so. Let one or two in each county take the lead. General concerted action of this sort will be of immense service. I do not wish you to begin this movement publicly, or privately, in connection with the proposition, unless it seems necessary privately to show the best face of the proposition to any one disposed to accept it."

This is conceived in the true spirit which, if generally acted upon, would go far to relieve the Government of many of its burthens and give assurance of the unselfish loyalty of those who, more than any other class, hold its destiny in their hands.

May we not hope that the farmers of Georgia, and all the other States of the Confederacy, will be influenced by a like liberal and patriotic spirit, and come up with their ample stores to the relief of their country? They are, says the writer whom we have just quoted, generally a class eminently patriotic, and surely there never was a time when the people of the Confederacy had a nobler opportunity for the exercise of those virtues on which her glory must forever rest—a time not for unmanly fear or stolid despair, still less for mean and niggardly pursuit of gain; but for the development of hope and faith and courage, and, with them, of generosity and self-sacrifice. What is virtue worth, which yields to the first temptation? What is gold worth which is not refined by fire?

Let us all, then, now, when difficulty confronts us, ring out a bolder defiance to the enemy than ever. The more he rages, let us the more firmly summon our energies, and defy alike either his force or his fraud. Let us discard or subordinate, at once and forever, all considerations, personal or other, that do not revolve around and contribute to our success.

To this end, while the Government takes care to develop the power of the country against the foe, let the people in their sphere energize its action by all the means in their power; and let him hold his manhood and honor both cheap, who permits his sordid interests to check his zeal in the public service.

FROM THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI.

We have had a visit from a gentleman, says the Mobile Register, of the 7th, just from the other side of the Mississippi. He left General TAYLOR's headquarters on the 25th ult. He tells us that our troops held undisputed sway of all those late conquests in Louisiana, west of the Mississippi. They, as well as the people, are in fine spirits, undepressed by the fall of Vicksburg, and not only able to hold their own, but at the proper time to help us on this side of the river. General MAGRUDER is fortifying at Sabine Pass, and ready to co-operate with KIRBY SMITH. TAYLOR is securing his conquests and is zealously supported by the planters, who, when BANKS overran the country, were ready to give up and take the oath. BANKS scouted at their oaths and took their property. They are now fighting now and we soon to the bitter end. Our informant believes that our combined forces under PRICE, TAYLOR, WALKER—KIRBY SMITH commanding the whole—will reach 50,000 men, and are increasing.

NOTICE TO CONSCRIPTS.—The attention of all persons included within the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, and who are subject to conscription under the late call of the President, is asked to the advertisement of Lieutenant J. M. Harwell, enrolling officer for the Eighth Congressional district of the State of Georgia. This notice includes all persons between eighteen and forty-five years of age—those who have been heretofore examined and discharged, either by State or Confederate surgeons, (except those who have received permanent discharges from the conscript medical board)—those who have been at any time discharged from the army—those who have furnished substitutes, and any and all persons who may claim exemption on any ground whatever."

Gen. Cooper has issued a general order that all discharges for disability shall be held as conditional, dependent upon the disability continuing during its continuance. If, on examination, the disability is at any time found to have ceased, the holders will be liable to conscription, to serve the unexpired terms of their enlistments. This regulation applies to substitutes, whether over or under the age of conscription. Their services are due for the war, and the Government should not be deprived of them, for what proves to be a temporary disability.

A correspondent writes that Col. Scott's cavalry force has returned to Dixie from Kentucky and that his losses were not near as great as was at first reported. He brought one thousand of his men through. Raids have at last become to be farces, and our commanding general would do a good thing, for his service, by issuing an order abolishing this species of warfare entirely.

The Louisville Journal of a recent date, says quite a number of Morgan's men are confined to their beds at different points in Indiana, where they were compelled from sheer exhaustion to lie down and abandon the raid.

The Montgomery *Mail* states that Peter Height—a newsboy and refugee from New Orleans—was drowned in the river opposite that city on Sunday last, while bathing.

PIANOFORTES AT AUCTION.—Messrs M. C. Cayce & Co. sell at the Arcade, tomorrow at 9 o'clock, three pianofortes.

SUBSTITUTE WANTED.—See advertisement for a substitute, in another column.

INCREASING THE ARMY.

The Savannah *Republican* suggests two plans by which the active strength of the Confederate armies can be at once increased, that are worthy of consideration. It thinks there are many recreant soldiers, whom the appeals of the President and Gen. LEE will never reach, many of them being buried in the forests where newspapers never penetrate, or ensconced in the swamps, where enrolling officers can never find them. It is suggested that the home reserves in every county and district of the Confederacy be entrusted with the special duty of hunting up these men, showing them the clemency offered by the President, and restoring them to the service—willingly if they will, but forcibly if it must be so.

The second is that wherever occupation can be found for disabled soldiers, either in public or private life it be given to them in preference to any other class of men, native or foreign. It is stated that the scandalous spectacle may be sometimes seen of able-bodied foreigners employed in Government positions, or as overseers of plantations, and exempt from military duty on that account, while the wounded soldiers of the South seek in vain for employment and are at the verge of starvation. No Government or people can prosper which permits such unnatural and monstrous ingratitude and injustice. The scripture rule is as true of nations as of individuals—he who neglects his own household has denied the faith and is worse than the infidel," and how much more hideous, not only to neglect your own—those, too, who have suffered and bled for you—but to put aliens and perhaps secret enemies in their place, to take the children's bread and cast it unto dogs.

These ideas are worthy the attention of the Government and the people.

DOCTOR WANTED.

Gen. POLLARD wants horses, and General JOHNSTON wants horses. The latter has sent an impressing officer to Montgomery, and refusing to the desperate efforts making to secure the necessary stock from his clutches, the *Advertiser* says: Gen. Johnston supposes, who didn't know better, that a generous Yankee was here to press horses for LINCOLN, and that those truly patriotic people were determined not to let the enemy have a single horse to advance the army of subjugation. But when he came to discover that it was Gen. JOHNSTON's army of Confederates who were in urgent need of horses for artillery, the dreamer might call into requisition his arithmetic to determine which, in the eyes of a home patriot, is worth the most, a pair of fancy carriage horses or a country which should be dependant on such men to defend it.

The Government pays a fair price for horses, and the man ought to be ashamed of himself who turns off his horse or fails to deliver him up when notified to do so. Such a course is well calculated to make officers harsh and discourteous, for the necessities of the service are greater than any individual's inconvenience. Wealthy and influential citizens should be the first to set examples of liberality and fair dealing with the Government. Every man, rich or poor, should see how much he can do to sustain a cause in which not only the property, but the liberty of this country is involved, for all time to come.

There are a large number of good horses in Atlanta and vicinity, as well as at Montgomery, and both Generals JOHNSTON and FORNEY should be supplied at an early day.

Serious Affair at the Trout House.

The usual quiet of the Trout house in this city was disturbed about eleven o'clock last night, just after the guests had retired, by a party of rowdies. The only white person immediately in the office, where the fray commenced, was Mr. Clark, one of the clerks of the house. The servants on watch were present. The assaulting party first addressed a few words of insult to Mr. Clark through the window, but almost instantly they rushed in the office, where one of them used the inkstand as a missile. The other ran behind the counter, and in a short space that caused succeeded in inflicting several wounds upon Clark with his knife, some of which are of a dangerous character. Parties who came in placed the assailants in the hands of several policemen at once, who removed them from the house; but, strange to say, this morning they are not in custody. The active participants in the assault are said to have been two young men named Thompson and Lessinger. Mr. Wyley, another of the clerks of the house, also received a severe blow from one of the ruffianly band, after the principals had been removed. Mr. Clark is very severely injured, but we learn this morning every hope is entertained that he will recover. The public have a right to know why the officers permitted the rowdies to pass from their custody, and every good citizen will demand an investigation of their conduct.

The Lynchburg *Republican* of the 8th says that on the previous day tobacco sold at one of the warehouses in that city at the enormous price of $430 per 100 lbs, besides sundry other parcels at $330, $335, $295, $365, $260, and a number of lots at from $187 50 down to $8. Some of the parcels weighed quite heavy, almost equal to a hogshead. If tobacco continues to advance as it has done lately, it will be used as currency, so much a leaf.

SUICIDE.—We learn that Capt. Bill. Large, C. S. A., committed suicide, last night, by taking poison, at the train from Augusta to this city. His body was put off the train at Union Point. We were not able to give any explanation of the affair. We understand he was a Tennessean, and leaves a family behind.

DEATHS OF CONFEDERATES IN MEMPHIS.—On the 16th ult. John E. Wambaugh, company B, 5th Arkansas, and on the 17th A. W. Hogle, company L, 1st Mississippi, died at the Overton Hospital, Memphis.

The steamship Beauregard, Captain Thomas Lyon, has successfully run the blockade into a Confederate port.

Fill up the Ranks.

We have reached the crisis of the war. The blows that are to be struck during the next thirty days will be likely to have a very important influence in determining the future of these Confederate States. It is a time when every soldier of the Southern army should be at his post. The very week of the late campaign has left great gaps in the ranks, which must be filled—filled at once. The country calls for every man capable of bearing arms to shoulder his musket and to bear his part in the common struggle. Let there be no skulkers in this great emergency. Let each man act as if the safety of the cause rested upon his own individual efforts, and there is good ground for the confidence we shall yet safely pass through the perils which beset us.

The duty of the conscript officers, at this juncture, is one of the last importance. Upon the intelligence, vigor and promptitude with which they discharge that duty, depends, in great degree, the strengthening of our forces in the field. We dare not, can no laxity nor undue delay on their part, will thwart the intentions of the Government in inaugurating the conscription and disappoint the people, who have come to regard this measure as the shout anchor of their hope.—*Charleston Mercury.*

Since the war broke out, nearly 150 war vessels have been constructed, and of these nearly fifty are iron clads. Besides these, the Government has purchased about 550 vessels, which are now so formidable an navy built vessel. We have only eleven first class steamers—that is, vessels of 2000 tuns and upwards—and only four first-rate iron clads; but there are some of these to be built before many months.—*Northern paper.*

LETTERS FROM BRANDON, MISS.

[Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

BRANDON, August 7, 1863.

The Yankees remained here only one night, but found time to strip the town of provisions, knives and forks, and such articles. They burned the two best squares of the city, comprising eighteen of the best houses.

Three hundred deaths are reported as occurring daily at Vicksburg. They have a throat disease, which is represented as being very fatal. No families or citizens are to be allowed in Vicksburg. It is to be held as a purely military post.

A report went east a few days ago that E. D. Frost, superintendent of the Mississippi Central railroad, had gone to Vicksburg, and taken the oath in behalf of the company. The person who carried this report represented that he had it from high military authority. I write to give it a most emphatic denial. It is not true. Mr. Frost has been on his road constantly attending to his duties, and placing the rolling stock and machinery in the safest possible position. I take this opportunity to caution people against the thousand stories of individual disloyalty which are in circulation. Not one in ten have any foundation in truth.

I have reliable information that no part of Grant's army has passed above Memphis. He seems to be devoting himself to the armies we have west of the Mississippi. He is wise. He can't operate on this side with these armies in his rear. They are too enterprising. They imperil too many expeditions. A heavy expedition has set out to dispose of Price, who is up near Jacksonport. This expedition is to act in concert with one said to be coming overland from above. Ransom's division, with light draft gunboats, has gone down the river. It is supposed the gunboats will ascend Red river. Operations on this side for the present, are to be confined to some skirmishes and drilling. They have high hopes from the black soldiers. They are succeeding in this matter far beyond even their sanguine expectations.

Should not the military rule in this matter mean, are not exposed to their wrath. If one every one be brought to the interior at my cost?

Col. Grierson, the great raider, is at Memphis, on crutches. His leg is kicked him.

A report agent from Memphis that one thousand troops have been sent from there to aid in operations against Richardson, who is making considerable headway. They are landing cross the in the Mississippi Central railroad, which they say they are determined to run south-ward.

The blowing up of the DeKalb came very near being a missing affair. Four Yankee generals were aboard, including the commander of the expedition, who came very near drowning. The explosion occurred opposite the navy yard, after the plans was evacuated, and as the Yankees were joyfully approaching to take possession. The half-drowned general was so indignant that he was with difficulty persuaded from laying the town in ashes.

B.

BRANDON, August 8, 1863.

We have amusing reports from New Orleans. A lady who came in contact with a Yankee general, below here, was told by him that they had very dissatisfactory news. The general would give her no particulars, but he seemed depressed and said the lady was a some serious thing had happened. A citizen of Claiborne county met a wealthy druggist, just from New Orleans, who stated that the Confederates had possession of New Orleans, and that there was a Confederate fleet in the Mississippi below. I give you this as a curiosity. Should it turn out not to be so I will not take the trouble to contradict it.

A gentleman who witnessed the performances of the negro regiments at Port Hudson, says it is all a mistake. The blacks never delivered their fire. They were brought in a certain point twice, and scorched by the flank fire the woods. The line was in evident confusion and many of them were killed. He imagines the negroes were drunk.

The great fight which the blacks made at Milliken's bend was a forced fight. They were penned in and shot down, the Yankee gunboats firing on many, to keep them forward, as we did to keep them back. Many of them were drowned by being shoved into the water from the boats on which they sought refuge from the double fire.

A gentleman at table, who had lost a dozen or so men in the Milliken bend fight, made inquiry about his women and children whom he had placed some fifteen miles back of the bend. I think it would have been more becoming had he told his women and their children.

Sorrowful news follows that story John.

Capt. Lloyd Tilghman, son of Gen Tilghman, who was killed at the battle of Raven's creek, was thrown from his horse and killed. Young Tilghman had been with his father as an aid de camp since the war began. He had just returned from a disconsolate visit to his mother in Kentucky, his object being to sustain and comfort her in her deep affliction. We have lost a most gallant and promising young soldier.

It is true, that which I wrote you a few days ago. The Yankees are to close the private and public resources of the country and open colored soup houses, where the people can feed. In the language of the Yankee privates, and some generals, too, "We are going to bring these ladies to the washtub." The aristocracy (white people) are to be brought down, elevating the black, under every encouragement, having been found impossible.

Restoration of the Union is no more talked of in camps. The answer to the whine, "I am a Union man," is, "You be damned." The Union is antipathetic to the people, and the mouths of the politicians are full of it, but in their hearts is the inrad scheme of flooding millions of white people till they have the infinite of negroes. There is no hope of reconstruction. It is too late for submission. Pictures, ornaments and musical instruments are destroyed that you may lose their elevating influence. Table furniture is destroyed that you may lose the civilization of the family board. Personal attire and ornaments are taken from you that you may lose the enobling elegance of costume which has characterized your mothers for hundreds of years.

Every whispered wish for reason received, each sign of submission, shows the progress of the enemy in debasing us. The instinct of the negro only would say get compromise now. A beast, a cat, a hog, would scorn it.

B.

LETTER FROM NORTON, MISSISSIPPI.

[Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

NORTON, August 9, 1863.

Captain Clark arrived here recently from Donaldsonville, Louisiana. He confirms the intelligence previously received that Gen. Dick Taylor had whipped Banks, last month at that city. Taylor, it seems, won a settled victory, driving Banks, routed and demoralized, before him, capturing his entire commissary train, and six thousand prisoners. Banks' loss in killed and wounded was also heavy, while the casualties on our side were light. Several of the enemy's iron clad fleet participated in this fight, and the New Orleans, one of their first class gunboats, mounting numerous heavy guns, and which had been in twenty-three engagements previously without have received any damage, was badly riddled, and, according to the enemy's own showing, suffered severely in killed and wounded. Captain Clark says that Donaldsonville is still in our possession and well fortified; that we have heavy batteries below the town, by which nothing attempts to pass but the enemy's largest and strongest gunboats, and they only in the darkness of night and not without serious injury; and that our forces are in fine spirits and anxious to receive our recent reverses. This intelligence proves the soundness of the position taken by your correspondent in a former letter, and the confidence reports published in Northern papers to the effect that trading steamboats had started down from St. Louis to New Orleans, in hopes of which national salutes were fired by the national garrison, etc., etc., were intended for home and foreign effect; were nothing but the wash which Northern policy is there doled out to their silly and gullable people to prove the navigation of the Mississippi was once more open to the commerce of the Northwest. The Mississippi is still sealed, and will continue to be, until the Government of the Confederate States see fit to order otherwise.

Our intelligence from the trans-Mississippi department, entirely of a reliable nature, is calculated to inspire us with confidence and hope. Our friends over there, although separated temporarily from direct and unimpeded communication with the rest of the Confederacy, are up and doing, and Taylor and Magruder are quickly bringing order and strength out of the chaos and weakness that ensued there some time ago. If Gen. Holmes were only relieved from duty there, and a man like Hardee, or Hindman, placed in command, the West would soon throw a cheering light over the whole country. But things are working well there, nevertheless, so it may be safely predicted that the coming fall campaign will witness some glorious Confederate victories on the western bank of the Father of Waters.

I learn from an authoritative source south of Natchez, that a gentleman had come up to that point from Galveston, bringing the information that the United States steam gunboat Sciota, one of the enemy's finest vessels, had sailed, on the 15th ult., with the steam gunboat Antona, off the Galveston coast, and that the former was sunk, and was a complete wreck, having her armament, machinery, and many lives. This some Saints had but a few days before the disaster, well nigh fallen into the clutches of our little fleet in Galveston harbor, while she was attempting to destroy or capture some schooners lying at anchor within the bay. A few shots struck her, and she "made tracks" before our gunboats fleet could come to close quarters with her.

It is said this morning, but I cannot vouch for the statement, that General Hardee assumed, permanently, the command of this army yesterday, under a state of things nearly akin to those mentioned in a former letter, General Johnston of course holding his original position. If this be so the country has reason to congratulate itself, and may date a new era in the department of the West from the establishment of this event. An old army officer, a soldier crowned by experience, a man of large brain and large heart, a humane and Christian gentleman, and withal a brave, wary, and fighting man, General Hardee comes to his high duties here with every quality calculated to inspire the army and the country with confidence, and give an earnest of success. Let the army and country rally to his support. Let the Administration strengthen his hands, let the soldiers at home, with or without leave, return to their regiments, and the forest leaves shall not have been purchased by the autumn's sun until the army of the West shall stand on its old pedestal of strength, fidelity and confidence in itself and its leader, and the country feel the old familiar glow of military and patriotic enthusiasm.

I am in possession of a letter from Chickasaw county, in North Mississippi. The writer, one of the most respectable as well as one of the oldest citizens of that county, writes hopefully of things up there. A few men, without character in those of peace, have reached that section, openly avowing their desertion from the army, and swearing they will never return to their duty in the field. Some of these poor, misguided and ignorant men brought high glass with them, to make good, it is supposed, their dishonorable intention, but the real citizens of the county, the men of character and respectability, of influence and property, are in time and so loyal to the Confederacy as they were when they sent their sons by thousands to the field at the beginning of the war. He thinks that prompt and effective punishment of these misdirected few, or an example being made of some of them would effectually cure that class of men of the evil of desertion. It is due to the people of Mississippi to state, that very much of the sensational reports floating over the country to the prejudice of the loyalty and bravery of this people, has very little foundation in fact, and that on investigation, the people of this State would be found as true to the principles for which we fight, as eager for the success of our arms, and as little disposed to bend the supplicant knee to Yankee power as any people in the Confederacy. When Mississippi offers incense to the Baal at Washington, the mighty river that glades her on the west will forget its source, and flow back to the marshes of the North. If we must have conscripts we require them to temper their conscientiousness with justice. Still there are in Mississippi, as there are everywhere else, men who to save their property would serve the Devil himself. The country and the Government should take care of them. This gentleman also speaks of the abundant crops being gathered in North Mississippi, and the profusion of fruit and vegetables abounding there. Alas! for the military inexpediency which placed this fertile region in the easy power of the enemy! Telegraphic communication was restored yesterday with Jackson. The up train yesterday evening from Brandon brought five Yankee prisoners, of the lot that straggles and steals and lies. They are the fruit of our cavalry's watch towers, and being useful takes of the cruelty practiced upon the Yankee soldiers who are rebellious because they can't go home on furlough. They say a division of Grant's army left Vicksburg for Mobile—Herron's division—some time since. Farragut is reported as organizing an expedition against the gulf city, but it is not believed that any thing will be attempted until the result in Virginia is known, as a gigantic struggle between Meade's and Lee's forces is looked for in that quarter, the issue of which will determine the fall campaign of the enemy in the South and West.

I have just learned of a fiendish murder perpetrated recently upon the person of a young married lady near the city of Natchez, Mississippi. A Yankee lieutenant and two private soldiers entered the house of the party deceased, who in the absence of her husband, was the only occupant of the place, demanding where her husband was concealed. She refused to tell him, and at the same time asked what they wanted with him. The Yankee officer told her that what they wanted with him was their business and none of hers, and said that he would give her three minutes to reveal the retreat sheets of her husband, and if she did not do so in that time, he would take her life. She refused peremptorily, when the time having expired the murderer deliberately took of his sword, and with the assistance of his men, hung her up by the neck in her own house, and left her in the agonies of a violent death. She was afterwards cut down by her friends but life had long since been extinct. The gentleman who related this horrible, strange, fiend, and unnatural murder is now in the town, and a son of citizens of Natchez, having edited at one time a weekly journal in that city. He says he saw the dead body after it was cut down. If this terrible tale be true, and we have no good reason to doubt it, the vengeance not only of man but of God will follow the inflicting army.

CICILIAN.

FROM THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE.

From Our Own Correspondent.]

TULLAHOMA, August 11, 1863.

The only thing gathered about Tennessee and matters there since my last, is that outside of certain points, or more positions of the army, no points are occupied save Lebanon and Carthage. The information is derived from a gentleman just in, who also reports that Rosecrans had issued a proclamation to the people of Tennessee, calling upon them to continue their usual occupations, and assuring them that they shall not be interfered with by officers or soldiers of the army, and that any soldier or officer entering a house without permission, for plunder or any purpose of outrageous, shall be rigidly punished. If this be so, it is intended to reconcile the doubtful to Yankee Constitution, or is it intended to screen his rear by putting an end to bushwhacking, by intoning the people themselves to its suppression. I learn, also, that the Yankees are not taking the property of the people, or otherwise disturbing them at present.

To the remark of the Atlanta *Confederacy*, that "Bragg seems to have subsided since the retreat from Shelbyville, so little is known about his army," I can make no answer, not understanding the signification of the colloquial technicality, "subsided." The General has, no doubt, a sacred sense of the value of reticence in reference to the movements and positions of armies, a sense apparently more sacred than that which distinguishes other generals, to judge from the unrestricted freedom of communication which seems to be enjoyed by correspondents in Virginia, Mississippi and Charleston. It may be, that the position and movements of the army of Tennessee may be of more importance just now than the armies elsewhere, and, if so, there is the right motive for reticence. Never having communicated anything upon which restriction had been imposed, I have no desire to yield other than a willing obedience to what superiors may dictate, being moved to this course of reticence, not simply by the injunctions of authority, but by a sense of patriotic responsibility, as intelligent and as fervent, I trust, as that which distinguishes the highest officials in the army. That chatterbaum may be a feature, now and then, of correspondents who magnify their professional zeal frequently to the degree of valuing an item more than their country, is perhaps true, and much to be regretted; but officers may console themselves for much of the prevalent twaddle of correspondence, proceeding as it does from a morbid hankering for seeing themselves and commonplaces in print, and counteracting of the marvellous deeds in commonplace or battle of Chipley Sphinkbeans from Tickenhob, of staff or Colonel Simon Suggs, of the never dying while or forty-second, or Brigadier or Major General Obadiah Sandbrigh, commanding an unencumbered whole brigade or division, composed mainly of troops from the State of Hollidaing. It has happened that things which I have withheld from pressure, I have seen published until officially in newspapers, or proclaimed by other correspondents, and I may say of army reticence generally, that it is very like those secrets which every one, far and near, knows, but of which no body is permitted to speak of publicly, or which a man communicates freely to everybody, but whose communication by any one else is held to be a breach of sacred confidence. I have known an officer to proclaim his intentions with regard to the enemy in a speech to the multitude of a village. I have known troops to be moved with the greatest infinitude of secrecy, and yet have their destination published in a newspaper before they had gone a hundred miles—yes, and before they had reached their destination, have read it proclaimed in a stump or serenade speech by the officer commanding. In the name of all that is just or in if army reticence is to be unpalatable as a matter of politeness, let it either be so officially or nothing—let it by all means be absolute, and not like the prophecies of Mosatz and her pale sisters, which "keep the word of promise to the ear, and break it to the hope."

I am glad to see from the APPEAL's budget of yesterday, that there is ground for the hope of "returning confidence" among the people, and we love that we want only this in the exhibition of the fruits of energy and persevrance to put down our independence. Certainly we have enough, in the indications of the spirit and purpose of the enemy, to inspire us with every feeling necessary to the attainment of freedom, and with it every social blessing. Now it is time, if ever "to gird ourselves like men, and be strong." For if ever there was a time, to judge from appearances, when the chances for subjugation and independence seem to be equally balanced, that time seems to be the present. Now is the time, as you say, "to come to the aid and rescue of the Government," as also for the Government to come to "the aid and rescue" of the people. The people of the country and army, with a few exceptions, will do their full duty in this and every other emergency. If the Government will show wisdom and energy in proportion to their spirit of sacrifice and endurance, Hitherto official incompetency has squandered the substance and means of the people, instead of securing to wise application to the support of the Government and army, and has sacrificed life in apology for its own blunders and miscalculations.

What is the meaning of the dispatches, this morning, about the seizure of an English vessel in the Rio Grande, and the seizure of both English and American vessels at Vera Cruz? Does it mean a premeditated destruction of war by France, against these powers, as sovereign of Mexico? and does the first named intimate to them that England shall not send arms to the rebel forces in Texas? Does it mean something against us or for us—or does it mean anything, or only something which, after all, was a mistake?

Our pet, the daily *Bird*, I am pleased to see, has "enlarged the skirts of her garments" this morning, by the substitution of a whole for a half sheet. If the should be sprightly in proportion, she should exchange Chattanooga for a larger sphere. The *Bird's* leader this morning, is an exceedingly proper and well considered paper. Its spirit is above all praise.

The *Confederate* has an able hand at the helm, just now; one which writes with equal ability and patriotism. In its leader, a few days ago, I was struck with the propriety of its criticism on the using of the word "national," and reminded by it of Mr. Calhoun.

ASHANTEE.

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

[Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

RICHMOND, August 8, 1863.

The little affair of gunboats on James river has given us something to talk about, and it would have been a very brilliant thing altogether if the torpedo had only gone off at the right moment. Four gunboats and one monitor came up the river very nearly to Chaffin's bluff, and two torpedoes were exploded without blowing up any one of them. The boats were making ten knots at the time, and it is supposed that the man at the galvanic battery on shore either was seized with a momentary excitement, like that of the buck ague with young deer hunters, or miscalculated the time it would take the electric spark to reach the bottom of the river. The first torpedo went off just a few seconds too soon, throwing up a mass of water, according to an eye-witness, as large as the capitol, and making a great cavity in the river into which the gunboat plunged headforemost, striking the dry bed very heavily. Instantaneously, however, the waters rushed in and the vessel, somewhat injured, but in such a condition that she might be towed down the stream. The whole fleet made its way, with all convenient speed, back toward City Point, and was vigorously attacked by our batteries of light artillery at Deep bottom and Turkey Island, with such accuracy of aim and efficiency of fire that all were more or less crippled, and it is believed materially so in considerable loss in killed and wounded. One comfortable fact has been proved by the advance of the gunboats—that our torpedoes in the river will not take fire, and that their power of destructiveness is adequate to the complete blowing to pieces of the largest monitor if exploded directly under the vessel.

No little sensation has been created in Richmond by the removal of Col. A. C. Myers from the position of quartermaster general, which he has filled since the formation of the Provisional Government and the organization of the Confederate army at Montgomery. Col. Myers was a popular officer in Virginia, and though there have been complaints in various parts of the country concerning the management of the quartermaster's department, it was believed that his administration of its affairs was, on the whole, as stalwart as could have been expected of any one. He was chief of that branch of the service under Gen. Scott in Mexico, and gained great credit for energy in the discharge of his duties. His removal would not have caused much surprise some months ago, when the President withheld his consent from the bill raising the rank of the quartermaster-general to that of a brigadier, but few looked for it at this time. A friend of Col. Myers tells me that the cause of his interview with the Secretary of War upon official business at one o'clock yesterday, and, upon returning to his office, found the order of the secretary for his removal lying on his desk. The public is entirely ignorant to know the reasons which impelled the President to make this change in the service. If resignation from other quarters could influence the President in the least degree, it is said by Col. Myers' friends, Mr. Mallory and Commissary General Northrop would have been dismissed long ago. I am give you no explanation of the matter at all, nor do I think that the group of the city which suggests the cause, ought to be referred to in the newspapers. Gen. Lawton, of Georgia, who has been appointed the successor of Col. Myers, is spoken of as an officer of talent, and it is to be hoped that the public interests will not suffer from his appointment.

The army of General Lee is now wholly on this side of the Rapidan, though the cavalry of General Stuart ranges between the Rapidan and the Rappahannock. On Tuesday last there was another cavalry skirmish near Brandy Station. These engagements are becoming almost as regular and frequent as drinks, which the same recalls.—In which the enemy was driven back in the latter river, our loss being six killed and eighteen wounded. The enemy occupies Culpeper Court House it is said, though in what force is not known.—Rumor affirms that there is to be an entire reorganization of the cavalry of General Lee's army—that Hood is to be made lieutenant-general and placed in command of the whole, with Stuart and Hampton under him as major generals. General Hood is now in town, and his visit may have some connection with this rumored change.

Governor Letcher has called an extra session of the Virginia Legislature for the first of September, to consider, among other matters, the question of the currency.

Ricks, the bookseller, who advertised the Yankee magazines, has been tried by the district attorney of the Confederate States, and his whole stock of Northern publications, which he had run through the blockade, amounting to about one thousand five hundred volumes, has been confiscated.

The whole number of deserters in the military prison of this city, liberated by the recent amnesty of the President, is one thousand and eighty—enough to form a full regiment.

The weather still continues to be blazing hot, but frequent showers temper the atmosphere of evening.

DIXIE.

Facts and Incidents in the Siege of Port Hudson.

From correspondences and New Orleans papers we select the following facts and incidents in the siege of Port Hudson:

Notwithstanding our troops did not formally enter the place on the 8th inst., yet the garrison fully understood that they were to be surrendered, and according they came over the parapet in large numbers to converse with our men.

Now and then they would seek out a particular stump or log from which they had been wont to fire at our sharpshooters. "This cursed hole," said a Kentucky colonel, dressed hunter from the wilds of Arkansas, "I have been aiming at for the last two weeks, to split the Yankee's head when was always peeping out of it; but somebody had quite evidently been watching that hole rather closely, for the two logs, which were a little apart, and formed the aperture, were riddled with bullets.

The last fortlet displayed looking rebels most conspicuously were grat-faed, for they never gave heavier chaces than when told by Gen. Beale and Col. Miles that soon they should see their homes.

By seven o'clock our troops were marched into the work, headed by the brigade which had volunteered, a thousand strong, to storm the place in the morning. Capt. Birge, of the 13th Connecticut regiment, was in command of this storming party. It was fitting that they should lead the way with the flag of bloodless victory which had volunteered to do so with bayonet and saber.

Gen. Andrew and staff rode up to receive the sword of the rebel commander. It was proffered to Gen. Andrew by Colonel Gardner, who, however, had no power to yield up the fort with all the garrison and munitions of war herein contained.

Gen. Andrew made a brief reply, and at once restored the sword to Gen. Gardner.

The men grounded their arms, not being able to stack them, since nearly one in ten of their pieces had a bayonet in ankle. They were mostly very rusty and of old style. Quite a number of the old Springfield muskets were included among them, having a bore half as large again as the heavy musket. Most of the cartridge boxes were well filled, but the scarcity of percussion caps was universal.

The infantry was composed of the following regiments:

The 1st and 30th Mississippi, the 1st and 49th Alabama, the 30th, 14th, 18th, and 22nd Arkansas, Miller's Louisiana legion, and Wingfield's cavalry, which was dismounted and used as infantry.

The troops are some of the best in the Confederate service, many of them were at Fort Donelson, and all have been at Port Hudson since the battle of Baton Rouge. At the time of the seizure of the Palmetto there were 6112 men in the fort. Since that time the loss has been six hundred and ten in killed and wounded. Our men who were in the place numbered about fifty, and the rebels say they had every facility for escape.

After the ceremony was over, Gen. Weitzel was presented with a fine Arabian stallion by a rebel officer, who was formerly his pupil at West Point.

The generals and several staff officers and pupils among the officers of the garrison, and they all seemed glad to revive the days long gone by, when they only all that union of hearts and hands which a strange fanaticism has now severed.

And not only between a few classmates, but between whole regiments, on the day of the surrender, there was a command in exchange of good feeling. Perhaps they crossed bayonets for the last time. That is not certain. But we fears for the future seemed to trouble these heroes of many battles, as they talked of the scenes in which they had shared a part, for the day dawned, when many hearts were knit together in friendly bonds, which a few hours before were severed by the deep stream.

Five thousand prisoners, as stated by Gen. Gardner, are now in the hands of our troops.

SERVICEABLE.—Three 42-pound barbette guns, two 32-pound barbette guns, one 32-pound barbette gun (rifled), one 24-pound barbette gun, two 12-pounds barbette guns, one 24-pound barbette gun, four 24-pound barbette guns (rifled), one 12-pound barbette gun.

UNSERVICEABLE.—One 24-pound barbette gun, one 8 inch howitzer, one 32-pound barbette gun, one 32-pound barbette gun, one 30 pound barbette gun.

RECAPITULATION.—15 heavy guns in good condition, 5 heavy barbette barbette 32 guns in good condition, besides smaller guns; 1911 shot and shell; 1 heavy gun, various calibers; 775 cartridges; 2000 pounds of powder; mortar up to cartridges for heavy guns; various calibers; 20,000 pounds cannon powder; 150,000 musket cartridges; 5,000 muskets.

The principal defenses are on the river side. They comprise seventeen separate embrasures, mostly built in an angle of a circle. They are finely finished, and commanded all the approaches by way of the river. In front of these powerful works stretched, which were in good condition, a belt of the Dagnell, which is intended for the center of the work on the river front. The rest of the embrasures are under ground.

The land approaches are built in the ordinary manner, on the other side. They extend, in a semi-circular direction from river to river for a distance of nearly seven miles. In this they have a narrow ditch, with small parapet one foot from it, on which the stockades are placed. The ditch is from ten to twelve feet wide, and extremely deep in very well built, but in the contrary, and they were not built until the recent investment, and hence are nothing but rifle pits.

Colonel Gardner says that Vicksburg only made a diversion with him of three days. That he had made up his mind to surrender at the expiration of that time, and that any serious demonstration would have brought a flag at any moment. We learn from him, that the guns of Port Hudson could not be hidden in the larger half of those of Vicksburg, but must stand upon its own merits individually, a result of certain breastworks constructed around and the mere emplacement of a given number in the fields.

Gen. Gardner also says that the very day our lines closed in upon the place, through his glass, by a sortie who came through carrying orders from Gen. Johnston to evacuate the post. This shows the great rapidity and dexterity with which Gen. Banks wielded his army toward Port Hudson, and Gen. Bragg from the east, concentrated rebel relief, and showed never he lost sight of in forming a fair estimate of the very brilliant military manoeuvre.

Desolation in Middle Tennessee.

A correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, writing from Tullahoma, says:

There is not a family between Tullahoma and Winchester, over the road, that is not mostly dead one of a population. Laid down, confiscated by both armies, the people have been left scarcely a single pound of provisions, and the day I passed it return, I found hundreds of men, gray headed men, and ragged children, plodding forward to Winchester after weeks spent in vain. I was pressed by as old gentleman, as I passed a mere little log cabin at the foot of the hills, where I stopped to water my horse, if I would carry a bucket of mountain water, and asked whether he could find water enough at the Nashville station to fill his family.

I asked him his son's health. He replied that, at both Shiloh and Chickamauga, he served against Yankees, but since then, he had contributed nothing voluntarily to the rebel cause, but that both armies had levied on the stock of government, until literally were left destitute. He had nothing left, on a farm of growing corn, and the which, before the winter set in, he gathered by the army's Sunday service. The corn was a pitiable case, but there were hundreds of cases exactly so. The truth of the matter is, that the corn we winter will without sufficient force hang or rebel guerrillas by those of the friends the rebellion of '98. Food enough cannot be found in this country to subsist the people during the coming winter.

The Military Governorship of Arkansas.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, July 8, 1863.

General Orders No. 271.

Ordered, That the appointment of John S. Phelps, as Military Governor of the State of Arkansas, and of Amos P. Red, as Secretary, be revoked, and that the military government of that State be abolished, and that the civil government of that State be continued, and the laws be duly executed by the