Daily Appeal.

ATLANTA, GA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 9.

THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY.

The Richmond *Whig* makes sensible suggestions as to the duty of the people and the army in the present crisis, which cannot be too forcibly or frequently impressed upon both. The necessity for action, immediate action, is apparent, and it is to be regretted that any argument should be necessary to bring about an entirely different state of things.

In the army the great evil to be reformed is desertion and its kindred crimes of absence without leave, straggling, lingering, etc. By these the army is shorn of one-half of its strength, and instead of being irresistible for aggression is even uncertain for defence. Could all who are now absent, criminally or improperly, be at once restored to their commands, there is nothing we have ever dreamed of as possible that could not be accomplished speedily and infallibly—nothing that we have lost that might not be regained. The enemy have no army that could stand before us, no stronghold that could resist us, no treasure that could escape us, not vital point that could be protected against us. If with the force that has always been at the post of duty, we have been able to do what we have done, what might we not have done if that force had been always doubly as great, as it would have been if all had been where their duty as soldiers and their honor as men demanded. Think of the opportunities we have been compelled to lose for lack of men; the victories that we have had to leave incomplete and comparatively fruitless, the checks and reverses and failures we have sustained, all for the same cause. But for absenteeism *every* battle would have been a victory, and every movement of our armies onward. Not an enemy would have been able to maintain a foothold on our soil, and their whole forces called home to defend their own firesides would have been unable to arrest our still advancing and ever victorious columns. Long ere this they would have been compelled to sue for peace. And what might have been may yet be, if this monster evil can be reformed, if those now in the field remain steadfastly there, and those absent can be brought back to their posts. Is this impossible? Greater vigilance and discipline on the part of the officers and a higher tone among the men will go far toward preventing further desertions, while a stricter conduct among the people and stringent legislation by the States would do much toward driving back to duty those who are now absent.

We need scarcely say what it is among the people that needs to be reformed. When this war began, there was a glorious emulation as to who should give most. For once all calculation of interest and all consideration of self seemed to yield to a noble spirit of public zeal. The cause was everything. So it was in the Revolution; yet, in the third year of that struggle, the great WASHINGTON was compelled, to bitterness of soul, to declare "that speculation, peculation and the insatiable thirst for riches seem to have got the better of every other consideration, and almost of every order of men." Has not this evil time come again? Are we not victims to, and witnesses of, the same ill-boding and disgusting vice, the prevalence of which, in his day, sickened the heart of the mighty chieftain? Nor is this all, but in some quarters we are forced to recognize ugly indications of a waning faith, or cowardly proofs of a willingness to purchase peace and security by the barter of honor and independence. These ignoble, malign and fatal feelings must be rooted out from the bosoms of our people. They must return to the self-sacrificing and heroic spirit which in the beginning controlled and sustained every heart. They must feel that all they have belongs to the country, and that it is better to submit to poverty, suffering, torture, or even death, than to yield to the base and remorseless foe. Liberality and constancy on the part of the people are the fountain that gives life and the foundation that gives strength to the cause, and to all who in any capacity are engaged in maintaining it. They must never fail.

THE ABOLITION PEACE PLATFORM.

We give to-day two important documents from leaders of the Northern Abolition party—LINCOLN's late letter to the Springfield, (Ill.,) convention, and a letter from Mr. WHITING, Solicitor of the Federal War Department. We have no time to indulge in comment at present, but will refer to them hereafter. In the meantime we feel confident it will only be necessary they be read, to stir up the mightiest energies of the people throughout the entire Confederacy, for the purpose of thwarting the purposes of the schemers who so unblushingly avow their object to be one of destruction. No additional words should be necessary. Let them be read by all.

FOR SALE IN THE CITY.—An accomplished house servant. She is thirty-four years of age, a good seamstress, can cut and make, and cannot be surpassed in making pastry, preserves, jellies, and in housework generally. Also, her five children, boys, aged fifteen, nine, six, three and one.

Also, a splendid turnout—a fine pair of gentle horses, a splendid set of harness, and a splendid carriage—all in good order and for sale low by Crawford, Fraser & Co.

WHY WAS IT PERMITTED.—We have a statement that quite a large amount of government stores were left in the neighborhood of Sweet Water, Tenn., when our army fell back to the Hiwassee, that might have been saved. No enemy, we are informed, appeared for a week; and in the meantime the citizens, disgusted at the conduct of the authorities, loaded all the wagons they could procure, four in number, and pushed them by hand to Athens. Why were these supplies so needlessly abandoned?

☞ The Selma *Reporter* publishes the proceedings of a large meeting held in that city, last week, "for the suppression of extortion, as it exists in our midst." It says that "the hall was crowded by resolute and determined men who had borne the evils of extortion until it could be borne no longer." A permanent organization was formed, and the meeting adjourned until the 5th inst., when some practical plan of operations will be proposed.

POINT PLEASANT.—The cultivation of the peppy plant being one of great importance, we remind our readers that the time for sowing the seed is now at hand; and those persons intending to cultivate it should get the seed into the ground as early as possible. The seed sown in September will yield treble the amount of opium to that sown in March. One acre properly cultivated will yield fifty pounds of opium.

FAST TENNESSEE.—A prominent officer, just from East Tennessee, reports four Federal regiments at Knoxville under Carter, and three regiments at London, all mounted, as the only force of the enemy in that division of the State on Saturday. If this information is correct, it is more than probable Burnside is on the way to join Rosecrans with whatever force he may have.

THE ARMIES OF TENNESSEE.

We begin to have something definite as to the situation of affairs in the northwestern part of the State, where quick and important movements are now taking place, and a battle of the greatest moment will undoubtedly be fought without delay.

The Confederate troops have all been withdrawn from the line of the Tennessee river, and we have pretty well authenticated accounts that Chattanooga was occupied by a Yankee force of two or three regiments yesterday morning. They came up the river. In what force they occupied the country north of the river, between Chattanooga and Bridgeport, continued unknown. ROSECRANS' principal column, strong in numbers, is, it has been ascertained, rapidly moving down along the line of the Wills Valley railroad and through the valley, in the direction of Rome or Kingston. The scouts report his numbers variously, ranging from 40,000 to 75,75,000.

On the other hand, Gen. BRAGG has concentrated his divisions, and is also in motion. His destination is unknown; but a glance at the map inclines us to the opinion, that the hostile forces will meet on the Estanaula or Coosa rivers. Our information is to the effect that General BRAGG has his whole army massed in the movement he is now making, whatever that may be, and it adds to our convictions that a victory will be the result of a conflict. Thus, the whole line of the river and railroad, from Knoxville to Huntsville, is in the hands of the enemy, at present; but a decided victory for the Confederate army will compel the foe to fall back at once. We hope with great certainty as to the result.

The only thing to be feared is that the wily Federal general, having obtained possession of the river and railroad lines and East Tennessee, and the strong position at Chattanooga, may turn west with his forces now in Wills Valley, and, uniting with other columns from Huntsville and Corinth, penetrate south through the center of Alabama. Every effort will be made to force him to give battle, but he may avoid it.

LINCOLN'S WAR POLICY.

We publish to-day LINCOLN's letter to the Springfield meeting, in which he announces his barbarous war policy against the South. The best commentary on his letter will be found in the following words of Chancellor KENT, which will be found in his Commentaries, page 96:

The general usage now is, not to touch private property upon land without making compensation unless in special cases, dictated by the necessary operations of war, or when captured in places carried by storm, which repelled all the overtures for a capitulation. Contributions are sometimes levied upon a conquered country, in lieu of confiscation of property, and as some indemnity for the expenses of maintaining order and affording protection. If the conqueror goes beyond these limits, wantonly, or where it is not clearly indispensable to the just purposes of war, and seizes private property of pacific persons for the sake of gain, and destroys private dwellings, or makes war upon monuments of art and models of taste, he violates the modern usages of war, and is sure to meet with indignant resentment, and to be held up to the general scorn and detestation of the world."

THE ATHENEUM.—The bill for to-night is "Metamora, the Last of the Wampanoags," and the "Rendezvous, or Love in all Corners." Crowded houses testify to the popularity of the talented company now with us, notwithstanding the unusually high rates of admission. Mr. Crisp, however, is sparing no pains to please his patrons, and they, in turn, are generously rewarding him.

THE EAST TENNESSEE RAILROAD.—We learn that the East Tennessee and Georgia railroad succeeded in saving all their machinery and rolling stock, when the line was abandoned by our forces. The East Tennessee and Virginia road lost three trains, and it is with these the Federals are now operating the roads between Loudon and Jonesboro, Tenn.

☞ A telegram dated Boston, August 31st, 1 P. M., says: "A destructive fire is raging in East Boston. It commenced in the Atlantic Works, where the monitor turrets are constructed. The buildings, with nearly four finished turrets, are destroyed. The flames are rapidly extending throughout the mechanical portion of East Boston."

☞ Rev. Aaron Jones, of the printing firm of Jones, Wisely & Co., Jackson, Miss., has been arrested and taken to headquarters at Morton. He was editor and publisher of the *Mississippi Baptist*. Disloyal tendencies, the *Mississippian* states, caused his arrest.

☞ Attention is called to the advertisement of Lieut. J. W. Terry, to be found in another column, of a lost trunk, for which he offers a reward of one hundred dollars for its delivery at the Atlanta hotel, and no questions asked.

☞ We learn this morning that the court of investigation, as to the late conduct of military affairs in the department of Mississippi and East Louisiana, has been again postponed.

STOCK RAISERS AND FARMERS.—If you want to improve your stock; if you want good beef cattle and good cows; if you want the best stock in the Confederacy, please call on Crawford, Fraser & Co.

☞ Lincoln has decided there shall be no draft in Ohio, and has ordered recruiting offices opened. He will change his policy *after* the election.

☞ Miss Belle Boyd is again in the Old Capitol prison at Washington. She was captured at Martinsburg, Virginia.

The Confederate Cavalry.

Unless a different system from that now in operation be adopted, this most useful, indeed indispensable, arm of the service seems in a fair way to be broken up entirely. At present each man furnishes his own horse, and is allowed *forty* cents a day for keeping him. Forty cents a day make one hundred and forty-six dollars a year—that is to say, about one-fifth part of the sum which it costs to obtain a good, serviceable (not a fine) horse. The cavalry service is very hard upon the horses. Forage is frequently scarce, and the horses very often compelled to put up with the scantiest possible fare. Moreover they are required to be constantly in motion, often after a shoe, or it may be two, has been lost. Under these circumstances it is not wonderful that the destruction of horse flesh is enormous, and troopers often dismounted, and compelled, probably for days, to follow the wagon trains, rendering no service in their proper sphere. The Government pays for no horses but such as are killed in battle. When the trooper loses his horse he is compelled to buy another out of his own purse, and as not many of them are rich, it goes pecuniarly hard with them. Few of them are able to stand a repetition of the process, now that the most ordinary horse sells for five or six hundred dollars.

Government ought to furnish horses to the cavalry, as they furnish swords and pistols. The idea is that the trooper will take better care of the horse if it belongs to him than he would if it belonged to the government. There may be something in this notion, but the evils of the present system are so enormous as to counterbalance this single good. It is, moreover, the duty of the officers to see that the horses are properly taken care of, and no officer is fit to command who does not attend to this duty with the utmost particularity. In every other service, we believe, the Government owns the horses, and the men are made to take proper care of them, being liable to severe punishment for failure to do so. Why cannot our cavalry be placed on the same footing with that of other services? We hope Congress will take up this question and apply the proper remedy. Otherwise, we see not how it is possible to prevent the dismounting of large bodies of mounted troops.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

LETTER FROM JACKSON.

Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.

JACKSON, September 4, 1863.

I have been yesterday and to day, rummaging deserted libraries. Some most exquisite and valuable books, some of them half bound, have remained untouched for dusty hands and leaky clothes. In one of these old books, I find how schoolmen, in MDCCLXXXIII, was regarded, and how Cowley was tainted. I quote from Samuel Johnson's Lives of the Poets:

"This year he published his poems, with a preface, in which he seems to have resented something, suppressed in subsequent editions, which was interpreted to denote some relaxation of his loyalty. In this preface he declares that his desire had been for some days past, and did still, very vehemently, continue, to retire himself to some of the American plantations and to forsake this world forever.

"From the obloquy which the appearance of submission brought upon him, his biographer has been very diligent to clear him, and indeed it does not seem to have lessened his reputation. His wish for retirement we can easily believe, to be indiscriminated; a man harrassed in one kingdom and persecuted in another, who, after a course of business that employed all his days and half his nights in cyphering and decyphering, comes to his own country and stops into a prison, will be willing enough to retire to some place of quiet and safety. Yet, let neither our reverence for a genius, nor our pity for a sufferer, dispose us to forget that, if his activity was virtue, his retreat was cowardice."

Cowley's case is so apropos, and the effort to whitewash him, three-handed—Sprat, Wood and Johnson having the brush alternately, being so feeble, I am tempted to quote further: "He then took upon himself the character of a physician, still," according to Sprat, "with the intention to dissemble the main design of his coming over," and, as Mr. Wood relates, "complying with the men then in power (which was much taken notice of by the royal party), he obtained an order to be made doctor of physic, which, being done to his mind, (thereby he gained the ill-will of some of his friends), he went into France again, having made a copy of verses on Oliver's death. This is no favorable representation; yet, even in this, there is not much wrong to be discovered. How far he complied with the men in power, is to be inquired but he can be blamed. It is not said that he told them any secrets, or assisted them by intelligence or any other act. If he only promised to be quiet, that they, in whose hands he was, might free him from confinement, he did what no law of society prohibits.

"The man whose miscarriage is a past cause, has put him in the power of his enemy may, without any violation of his integrity, regain his liberty, or preserve his life by a promise of neutrality; for the stipulation gives the enemy nothing which he had not before; the neutrality of a captive may always be secured by his imprisonment or death. He that is at the disposal of another may not promise to aid him in any injurious act, because no power can compel active obedience. He may engage to do nothing, but not to do ill."

But Cowley went over voluntarily; he disarmed himself, and to his act no excuse, if activity be virtue, inactivity is cowardice.

No man, however humble, can escape a record in these days, when all read and write. The traces of the wrecked paths of fugitives slow will not only remain a century hence. Family records of to-day's heroism or cowardice will stimulate or depress our children, centuries hence. No man is so humble that he can escape a record. H.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Full Exposition of his Views on the Prospect and Condition of Peace—The Negro Question Reviewed.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, August 26.

Hon. James C. Conkling:

MY DEAR SIR: Your letter inviting me to attend a mass meeting of unconditional Union men, to be held at the capital of Illinois, on the 3d day of September has been received. It would be very agreeable to me to thus meet my old friends at my own home, but I cannot just now be absent from this city so long as a visit there would require.

The meeting is to be of all those who maintain unconditional devotion to the Union, and I am sure my old political friends will thank me for tendering, as I do, the nation's gratitude to those other noble men whom no partisan malice or partisan hopes can make false to the nation's life. There are those who are dissatisfied with me. To such I would say: you desire peace, and you blame me that we do not have it. But how can we obtain it? There are but three conceivable ways. First: to suppress the rebellion by force of arms. This I am trying to do. Are you for it? If you are, so far we are agreed. If you are not for it, we are not agreed.

A second way is to give up the Union. I am against this. If you are, you should say so plainly. If you are not for force, nor yet for dissolution, there only remains some imaginary compromise. I do not believe that any compromise embracing the maintenance of the Union is now possible. All that I learn leads to directly the opposite belief. The strength of the rebellion is its military—its army. That army dominates all the country and all the people within its range. Any offer of terms made by any man or men within that range, in opposition to that army, is simply nothing, for the present, because such man or men have no power whatever to enforce their acceptance of the compromise, if one were made with them.

To illustrate: Suppose refugees from the South and the peace men of the North get together and frame and proclaim a compromise embracing the restoration of the Union; in what way can that compromise be used to keep General Lee's army out of Pennsylvania? General Meade's army can keep Lee's army out of Pennsylvania, and I think can ultimately drive it out of existence, but no compromise, to which the controllers of Gen. Lee's army are not agreed, can at all affect that army. In an effort to attempt compromise we would waste time, which the enemy would improve to our disadvantage, and that would be all.

A compromise to be effective, must be made either with those who control the army, or with the people first liberated from the domination of that army, by the success of our arms. Now, allow me to assure you that no word or intimation from the rebel army or from any of the men controlling it, in relation to any peace compromise, has ever come to my knowledge or belief. All charges or intimations to the contrary are deceptive and groundless, and I promise you that if any such proposition shall hereafter come, it shall not be rejected and kept secret from you.

I freely acknowledge myself to be the servant of the people according to the bond of service—the United States Constitution—and that as such I am responsible to them. But, to be plain, you are dissatisfied with me about the negro. Quite likely there is a difference of opinion between you and myself upon that subject. I certainly wish that all men could be free, while you, I suppose, do not. Yet, I have neither adopted nor proposed any measure which is not consistent with even your views, provided you are for the Union. I suggested compensated emancipation, to which you replied that you wished not to be taxed to buy negroes. But I had not asked you to be taxed to buy negroes, except in such a way as to save you from greater taxation, to save the Union exclusively by other means. You dislike the emancipation proclamation, and, perhaps, you want to have it retracted. You say it is unconstitutional. I think differently. I think that the Constitution invests its commander-in-chief with the law of war in time of war. The most that can be said—if so much—is that slaves are property. Is there, has there ever been, any question that by the law of war the property both of enemies and friends may be taken when needed? And is it not needed whenever taken it helps us or hurts the enemy? Armies, the world over, destroy the enemy's property when they cannot use it, and even destroy their own to keep it from the enemy. Civilized *belligerents do all in their power to help themselves or hurt the enemy*, except a few things recorded as barbarous or cruel. Among the exceptions are the massacre of vanquished foes and non-combatants, male and female.

But the proclamation as a law is valid or is not valid. If it is not valid it needs no retraction. If it is valid it cannot be retracted any more than the dead can be brought to life. Some of you profess to think that its retraction would operate favorably for the Union. Why better after the retraction than before the issue? There was more than a year and a half for trial to suppress the rebellion before the proclamation was issued, the last one hundred days of which passed under explicit notice it was coming unless averted by those in revolt returning to their allegiance.

The war has certainly progressed as favorably for us since the issue of the proclamation as before. I know, as full as one can know the opinions of others, that some of the command of one of our armies in the field who have given us our most important victories, believe that the emancipation policy and the aid of the colored troops, constitutes the heaviest blows yet dealt to the rebellion; and that at least one of those important successes could not have been achieved when it was, but for the aid of the black soldiers.

Among the commanders holding these views are some who have never had any affinity with what is called Abolitionism, or with Republican party policy, but who hold them purely as military opinions. I submit their opinions as being entitled to some weight against the objections often urged that emancipation and the arming of the blacks are unwise as military measures, and were not adopted in good faith.

You say that you will not fight to free negroes. Some of them seem to be willing to fight for you; but no matter, fight you, then, exclusively to save the Union. I issued the proclamation on purpose to aid you in saving the Union. Whenever you shall have collapsed all resistance to the Union, if I shall urge you to continue fighting, it will be in apt time then for you to declare that you will not fight to free negroes.

I thought that in your struggle for the Union, to whatever extent the negro should cease helping the enemy, to that extent it weakens the enemy in his resistance to you. Do you think differently? I thought that whatever negroes can be got to do as soldiers, leaves just so much less for white soldiers to do in saving the Union.

Does it appear otherwise to you? But negroes, like other people, act upon motives. Why should they do anything for us if we will do nothing for them? If they stake their lives for us they must be promised the strongest motive, even the promise of freedom, and the promise, being made, must be kept.

The signs look better. The father of waters again goes unvexed to the sea; thanks to the great Northwest for it nor yet wholly to them. Three hundred miles up they met New England, the Empire, Keystone and New Jersey hewing their way right and left. The sunny South, too, in more colors than one, also lent a hand on the spot. Their part of history was jotted down in black and white. The goal was a great national one, and let none be banned who bore an honest part in it while those who have cleared the great river may well be proud.

Even that is not all. It is hard to say that anything has been more bravely and better done than at Antietam, Murfreesboro', Gettysburg, and on many fields of less note.

Nor must Uncle Sam's noble fleet be forgotten. At all the water's margins they have been present. Not only on the deep sea, the broad bay, the river, but also up the narrow, muddy bayou, and wherever the ground was a little damp, they have been and made their tracks.

Thanks to all, for the great Republic, for the principles by which it lives and keeps alive for man's vast future! Thanks to all!

Peace does not appear as distant as it did. I hope it will come soon, come to stay, and so come as to be worth the keeping in all future time. It will then have been proved that among freemen there can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet, and that they who take such an appeal are sure to lose their case and pay the cost; and then there will be some black men who can remember that, with silent tongues and clenched teeth, and steady eye, and well poised bayonet, they have helped mankind on to this great consummation, while I feel that there will be some white men unable to forget that with malignant heart and deceitful speech they have striven to hinder it. Still let not those who are sanguine of a speedy and final triumph, let us be quite sober, let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just God, in his own good time, will give us the rightful result.

Yours, very truly, A. LINCOLN.

Our Real Resources.

From the Augusta Constitutionalist.]

Wheat-flour, bacon and beef are the staples of subsistence for the Confederate armies. We believe that with proper management and due diligence, and good business capacity, the commissary department may supply the armies abundantly until next harvest with flour from the wheat now in the country. But it will task its energies severely to gather these supplies, and preserve them, and yet it may be done if no wastefulness be allowed, and if the people out of the army are rigidly kept to short allowances of flour. It will be vastly more difficult to supply an abundance of meat. The whole country next fall, by the bounty of heaven, and the skill, energy and patriotism of the tillers of the soil, will be literally overflowing with Indian corn. The tithe of corn under the tax bill will be nearly, if not quite, twenty millions of bushels in excess of the requirements of the armies for forage, and that surplus might, by the Government, be made to yield at least two hundred millions of dollars—but of course it will not be done.

It matters not, however, how great may be the superabundance of corn, the meat supply will be scant for the simple reason of scarcity of animals to consume it. It will be a strange sight indeed to see a country producing more grain than the people and the animals within it can consume, and yet that spectacle will be presented in the Confederacy if the old system is pursued. And what is that system? It is a reliance almost entirely on the hog, the costliest animal we have, to furnish, from dried the year's supply of meat for the whole people. The flesh of swine dried—bacon—has become the staple meat diet of the people because it is more convenient to keep, and to vitiated tastes more acceptable, and to the mass of laborers, perhaps, better adapted than any other meat. We do not intend here to enter any objection to making swine's flesh the national diet, but simply to suggest that bacon will not be available as the sole meat resources of the country, from the fact that there are not hogs enough in the country to furnish an adequate quantity.

We would counsel every one with earnestness to make the very last pound of hog meat possible with the animals at command this winter, and to save it in good order, well fattened and thoroughly salted, and to increase the stock as far as can be done safely, for every pound of bacon will be needed. But something more must be done. The people should abandon their old system of treatment of cattle, which never did yield a dollar of profit, and prepare to make all the beef possible for that too will be in great demand—in such demand that it cannot easily be met. Let farmers and planters treasure their cattle like gold, for if well attended they will prove immensely valuable, and their flesh and skins are highly essential to the success of our cause. Upon the carcass of every cow put on every pound of meat that you can, for you will be rewarded in money and will be likewise doing your country a service.

Thanks to the bountiful rains, the crop of uncultivated grass is abundant. When that gives out let the cattle have the run of the bountiful pea-fields, and when the peas are consumed let them be mill fed on corn, not wastefully, but prudently and judiciously. Waste nothing—but lose no paying opportunity to increase the supply of beef. Where you can do no better, throw the corn, in the shuck, on the ground, to your beef cattle, and let the hogs into the feeding pen to consume what the cattle waste. Corn will not bring more than a dollar and a half or two dollars a bushel, but a bushel of corn, including the shucks, even unground, will make ten pounds of beef, worth three or four dollars, besides saving a quantity of rich manure, which will be needed next year. From the scarcity of animals and the abundance of corn, meat will pay best of the two.

Abandonment of East Tennessee—A Soldier's Opinion.

Correspondence of the Charleston Mercury.]

CHARLESTON, TENN., Sept. 3, 1863.

I presume that the telegraph has informed your readers of the late startling events in this quarter, which makes it now the focal point of all public interest and anxiety. All indications unquestionably point to this as the field where the next war cloud is to burst its fury. I announce no news to the enemy, though it may be news to your readers, when I state that all of Tennessee beyond the river, except, perhaps, Cumberland gap and one other gap, is evacuated and left open to the enemy. This involves the abandonment of Knoxville and about one hundred miles of the line of the East Tennessee and Virginia railroad. This cuts our communication, by the best and shortest route to Richmond. The reasons and objects of this abandonment are "" "headquarters" secrets, and we can only wait for their development in events, or take the hazards of mere conjecture. But I may say that if this abandonment is intended to be permanent, it is a great and unnecessary disaster, and will receive the indignant condemnation of army, press and people. If it be merely for a concentration of our army in order to overwhelm the enemy, then it may be wise and beneficial. The latter is the view taken of it by the army. If the army believed for a moment that a retreat were contemplated, or that we were not to defend this line to the last extremity, and to the sacrifice, if need be, of the last man, their disgust, distrust, recklessness and despair would settle down, like a frightful incubus, upon the hearts of this gallant army, and I forbear to anticipate the consequences of such an event. But I scout the idea of retreat, for another single inch. It is impossible, preposterous incredible. Here we are, a vast, gigantic army, of veterans and patriots, posted among the mountain barriers, which, if defended, defy the invader. We are eager to close in deadly fray with the vile horde of our vandal enemies.

The people are so well acquainted with Gen. Bragg's antecedents, that this last evacuation will not cause much surprise, though it will cause much alarm. I expected nothing better, after the unfortunate surprise and retreat from Middle Tennessee. Gen. Bragg fell back to this as a better line of defense, which it is not. There we had a short line of twenty-five miles, passable only at mountain gaps. Here we have a line of one hundred and thirty miles, passable anywhere. The only weakness, it is true, of this line, is its extreme length. For this reason Gen. Bragg thought it necessary to abandon a part of it.

Capture of Dick McCann, the Celebrated Guerilla Chief, and Fifteen of His Men.

From the Nashville Union.]

Major Fitzgibbon gives the following interesting narrative, in the Franklin *Sentinel*:

On Tuesday night last, pursuant to orders from Col. Minor, a company of mounted infantry, of the 14th Michigan, under command of Capt. James E. Mackey, met an equal number of cavalry belonging to the 1st Missouri regiment, under command of Capt. Clifford, at Hillsboro', and proceeded together to Weams' sulphur springs, thirty-four miles from this post. Information communicated to Colonel Minor, and by him sent to headquarters at Nashville, left little doubt as to the certainty of Major McCann's whereabouts. Capt. Mackey's mounted infantry were in the advance, and early on Wednesday morning, trailed the guerillas. Arriving at Weams' residence, a plan of attack was arranged, when it was determined that a dash should be made upon the premises and "Spring house," a ball-room close by, McCann's man were laying siege to a hearty breakfast, their horses were in the stables, they themselves unconscious of the presence of an enemy, when the mounted infantry and cavalry approached. The advance guard dashed fiercely up the hill, shouting frantically, and received the first fire from four of Dick's men, who were on the look-out in the road in front of the house. The Federals returned the fire, wounded the whole four, and giving chase to the remainder, who, in their efforts to reach the stable were now cut off by Capt. Clifford's force, which had then come up. McCann himself, seeing his moment of preparation for a fight had past, resolved to escape, and ordered his men to "scatter through the woods," when a soldier of Mackey's command, Sam Dunning, ordered him to halt and surrender, which he did very reluctantly, remarking to Marion W. Culp, the cavalryman to whom Dunning had given him in charge, "I could have shot you if I thought fit, but I would be committing murder." Fifteen of his men, among whom is a brother of his, were captured also, the remainder escaping through the dense forest. On approaching Capt. Mackey, McCann endeavored to conceal his rank—a star on his left breast—and on being asked who he was, gave the name as Johnson. The captain immediately gave him his prisoner the oft described features of Dick McCann, and said, "You can come no game on me; you are Dick McCann." He replied, "Yes, sir, I am Major J. R. McCann, and I am your prisoner." We and his men were lodged in jail in this town on Wednesday night, and were sent under guard on Thursday afternoon to Nashville. He spoke highly of the conduct of his captors, their courtesy and kind treatment of himself and men, remarking that if all forces had behaved with equal gallantry and humanity, the cause of the Union would have more friends in the South.

We have seen and conversed with Major McCann for hours, and in spite of prejudices previously formed against him, we were very favorably impressed by his candor and manner. He is married, having four children now in Nashville, his wife being in East Tennessee.

The *Sentinel* adds that McCann affirms that he is not now nor ever was for a disruption of the American republic. He never had but two disunionists in his command. He was elector on the Douglas ticket in 1860, canvassed this State in behalf of his candidate, and fought secession to the last. When his State went out of the Union, he went with it, and as the great war, so does he. He dispises northern abolitionists, and Southern disunionists alike, for it was they who inaugurated and now prolong this war. He says that there is a powerful conservative party in the Southern army of which the North knows little, and that if the President were to take Seward's advice of extending a general amnesty to those in rebellion, with all constitutional guarantees that our fathers enjoyed, peace would reign throughout the land before christmas. But these things will not come to pass; the war will be prolonged during Mr. Lincoln's administration; more blood will be shed and the life of the nation will continue to be sacrificed.

Tennessoans hate Bragg, he says, and look upon the Rev. Gen. Polk as an immense humbug. The state is subjugated just now, but notwithstanding the reports of Bragg's weakness, he says he was never stronger in numbers.

Cheerfulness and Contentment in the Army and the Country.

From the Richmond Sentinel.]

We are very glad to see a late order of Gen. Lee, that it is his policy to indulge the soldiers with furloughs whenever and to whatever extent, the demands of the service will allow. We have always thought that a judicious system of furloughing would preserve the army at its maximum of strength, by preventing a much larger amount of deserting. Our soldiers are citizens who have business interests that they would like the chance to look after occasionally; have homes that they wish to visit, and wives, and children, and parents, and sisters whom they love, and whom, after their long absence, hardships, numerous exposures to peril in battle, they long to see. There is not only such a feeling, but such a disease as home sickness; and brave men have died of it during the present war. It is both humane and wise to indulge this natural and virtuous love of home, as much as circumstances will allow. Let all understand that there is a chance for them, and that their turn will come after awhile, and they will be patient and good soldiers till the day arrives. But let them have no prospect before them, and the temptation to desert, in order to see home, grows upon many of those of weak virtue, until at last the crime is committed.

When a man goes home on furlough, he goes with all his houses on his head. He is proud to meet his friends, and his friends are proud to meet him, and proud to do him honor, and to listen to the story of his battles. The soldier is refreshed and gladdened by his visit, and returns to camp stimulated to maintain his good name, and to add to his laurels. Precisely the reverse with the deserter. He is ashamed of himself, and his friends are ashamed of him. He hides from his neighbors, and parts with all the sentiments of manliness. If caught up again and carried to camp, he goes back to his comrades a disgraced, and, perhaps, a reckless man, and a poor soldier.

How much better the system which not only yields the soldier a delightful pleasure, and gladdens the heart and confirms the fortitude of his wife, and sister, and mother, and sends him back to the camp like a giant refreshed with new wine, than that which, by refusing all furloughs tempts a man to a crime that disgraces him, disgraces and distresses his family and friends, and loses or ruins him as a soldier. And how much is the superiority increased when we remember that the furloughing at two per cent. may save the desertion of five per cent.

The penny-wise-pound-foolish policy of refusing furloughs under all circumstances, is the vice of men of small judgment or cheerless temper. We have in our mind two opposite examples which we will recite, by way of making each illustrate the other. When our army was passing on to Maryland, its march lay through a county in Virginia, from which there were several companies of soldiers who had not been at home for a long time. Gen. Longstreet issued orders to let those men weather, that they might go by their homes. His only injunction was that they should meet him on a given day, at a point ahead. The soldiers were thus enabled to enjoy the pleasure the dearest that earth yields, and at the rendezvous Gen. Longstreet found every man of them, except one, and he had a good excuse.

The other case to which we refer was on the return of our army from their bloody battles. Other soldiers of another county deserved a similar indulgence. The commander refused. They were thus put under temptation which were too strong for many of them. On their return to camp the commander of the regiment (Gen. Lee knows his name) had them "hucked." Gentlemen of character and intelligence soldiers from principle, had their feelings mortified and their just pride insulted, by being subjected to the ignominy, under such circumstances.

While the measure which has been taken will contribute to the cheerfulness and enthusiasm of our army, let the people also encourage similar sentiments. Let each do all he can to encourage the confidence and animate the zeal of others, and to promote the general content. Let all manifest a self-sacrificing spirit as not only right, but politic.

[Advertisement]

A CARD.

Having been announced as a candidate for the representation of this county in the next Legislature, I take this method of saying to the people that I would like to be elected. Should it be your pleasure to place me in this position, I shall vote on all questions of public interest upon their merits alone, without regard to who favors or opposes them, according to my own convictions of duty.

I now consider it the duty of every private individual, as well as public man, to shape his actions so as to give the greatest amount of aid in freeing the country from the dangers which now environ us—to establish our complete independence and eternal separation from the fanatics of the North, who seek to emancipate our slaves, obliterate our State lines, annul our municipal laws, confiscate our property, and make us and our children vassals for all time to come.

The South has too many maimed youths, grief-stricken fathers, bereaved mothers and widows and helpless orphans, ever to clasp the bloody hands of our enemies in political fellowship. The bare suggestion would be asking too much of human nature, and is repellant to every principle of manhood. It is no time now to ask or dispute about who brought on these troubles; whether it was too late or too soon; the vindictive, cruel, selfishness of the Yankees as developed in the progress of the two years war, leaves us truly to regret we had not made greater preparation at an earlier day. The only alternative is to *fight* out of it. Hence all legislation should be so directed as to secure our triumph in arms.

The army should be, must be maintained, and the wives and children of the soldiers in the field protected and cared for by wise and just legislation. These things will require heavy taxation. The rights of producers too, and of business and commercial men should be protected against all arbitrary, vexatious and unnecessary seizures and improper interference. All officials, both civil and military, should be held strictly to the discharge of the duties which come within their respective provinces. All offices of large patronage should occasionally change hands, for where one man retains power and controls it too long, abuses and corruption are sure to creep in, and cannot be discovered or remedied so long as those concerned keep the lay to their own secrets. As applicable to this view of the subject the State railroad, the extraordinary increase of executive patronage arising from the organization of a State army with the numerous regiments for Confederate service require the serious consideration of the people who are opposed to the *one man power*, which is ever dangerous to republics. I think a little stirring and scrubbing up of the Executive mansion once in *six years* at least would contribute largely to the health and well-being of the body politic.

Therefore I shall not vote for the present incumbent, but shall cast my vote for Governor for one of the other candidates that I think most likely to carry out such measures as will secure our independence and best interests.

I belong to no party or clique, but propose to "vote my own skillet," and do not intend, by any combination, to be impliedly or otherwise bound, if elected, to vote for or against any measure because it is a party measure. This policy has been one of the greatest curses to the country. I go free or not at all. I shall enter into no bitter contest for the office. If this schedule suits you, you can "govern yourselves accordingly." Respectfully,

G. W. ADAIR.

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Correction of a False Yankee Statement.

We call the attention of our readers to the following correction of one of the numerous misrepresentations of the enemy. The Government and people of the United States seem to have lost all reverence for the truth, and, when a falsehood will suit their purpose best, do not hesitate to avail themselves of it:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A., Produce Loan Office, Sept. 2, 1863.

R. M. Smith, Editor of the Sentinel:

SIR: In the summary of news taken from the Baltimore *American*, of August 27th, and published in all the newspapers of this city, of Aug. 31st, is found the following:

"Over one hundred thousand bales of the rebel Government cotton have been captured near Natchez."

One of the objects of this false statement is to prejudice our European loan, which is based upon the cotton held by our Government, and it is, therefore, important to correct it.

The entire amount of cotton purchased by the Government and deposited in Adams county, in which Natchez is situated, is only 6,854 bales, and the whole amount in the four adjoining counties of Jefferson, Franklin and Wilkinson, is only 14,204 bales. It is not likely that the whole seven of this *has* been captured, as it is scattered in small lots throughout these counties. Besides this, orders were given some time ago, to remove, as far as practicable, or destroy all Government cotton in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy. No reports have yet been received showing to what extent these orders have been executed; but it is probable that some portion of the cotton referred to has been removed. However this may be, it is evident that the Yankee statement is a gross and characteristic exaggeration, if it be not an entire fabrication. Respectfully,

R. ROANE,

Chief Clerk in Produce Loan Office.

Northern Reports from Arkansas.

To the Associated Press North.]

CAIRO, ILL., Sept. 1.—Brig.-Gen. Ryal and a number of other officers from below passed through here to-day en route to Johnson's island in charge of Lieut. Wright.

The Memphis *Bulletin*, of the 31 ult., says it learns from Mr. Ray, who was recently a prisoner at Little Rock, Ark., that the rebel force at that place is 40,000 strong, many of whom are conscripts, from sixteen to sixty years old, all only half armed. They are commanded by Kirby Smith and Price, who are erecting fortifications on the opposite side of the river, thirteen miles from Little Rock.

It is reported that Gen. Blunt is marching on Arkadelphia. Mr. Ray says the people are tired of the war, and would gladly come under the protection of the Federal Government.

LEAVENWORTH, September 1.—Advices from Fort Gibson to the 21st ult., say that General Blunt, with six thousand men and twelve pieces of artillery, crossed the Arkansas river on the 23d ult., but the enemy declined a battle and fell back.

The rebel force was estimated at twenty-five thousand. There has been considerable sickness, but the deaths have been few. The smallpox prevails to some extent among the Indians in their neighborhood, many of whom have died.

Reports from Fort Scott to the 28th, say that Gen. Blunt had had a battle and been whipped, with a loss of three hundred.

The Norfolk Banks.

In accordance with an act of the bogus Legislature of Virginia, "Governor" Pierpont recently appointed the following directors for the Exchange Bank at Nor