# Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY MORNING, : : : MARCH 10, 1863.


### A Glance over the Field.

The enemy are now preparing to attack us, with very large forces, at many places. These notes of preparation are now heard all around our Confederacy, North, South, East and West. Attacks are daily expected at Charleston, S. C., Savannah, Ga., and Port Hudson in Louisiana; and, in a short time, we may expect severe battles to be fought at Vicksburg, Miss., and near Tullahoma, Tennessee. Even Hooker, on the Rappahannock, says that he has the strongest and best army in the world—that it is not at all demoralized, and is prepared for an advance as soon as the condition of the roads will permit. It will thus be seen that stirring and important news may be daily expected. The enemy recently have been again essaying an attack upon Fort McAllister, one of the out-post defences of Savannah.

So far, they have been able to effect nothing, and our forces seem to be confident of defending that city with success. From late despatches it seems that Banks, with a force of 30,000men, is a bout to attempt the capture of Port Hudson. He expects to succeed by getting in the rear of our fortifications.—A despatch to the Savannah Republican says that Rosecians, in Tennessee, has recently been reinforced by Seigel's Corps, 20,000 strong, sent from Hooker's army in Virginia. Gen. Van Dorn, with his cavalry, has recently had a severe fight with the enemy, in which he captured between *two and three thousand prisoners*. See Telegraphic despatches. There is no news from our forces down the Valley. "All is quiet on the Rapdahannock."

### Left-handed Compliment.

In speaking of the skirmish down the Valley, the Rockingham "Register" says:

"The force of the enemy attacked was greatly superior to ours, when General Jones rushed upon them; *but our force was increased, as soon as it became evident that the Yankees preferred to give us a race instead of a fight!*"

From the above it seems that General Jones' prospects for reinforcements, when he "rushed upon them," would have been quite "blue," if it had not become "evident that the Yankees preferred to give us a *race* instead of a *fight*."

### Washington's View of Impressment.

When we maintained, in our article last week upon the subject of impressment, that justice to the farmer, and policy on the part of the Government, demanded that the farmer should be allowed for his products "full and fair compensation," measured by the standard of the "local market value," we were not aware of the interesting fact that that is precisely the policy adopted by the "Father of his Country" in the trying times of our first revolution. Since last week, we have seen a letter written by General Washington upon the subject of impressment, dated Headquarters, Morristown, January 8th, 1780, in which he ordered that the farmer should be allowed the "market value," and that his products should not be impressed unless he should refuse to sell them at that price.

### Concert at the Virginia Female Institute.

We were too much indisposed to attend the concert, for the benefit of the Fredericksburg sufferers, at the Virginia Female Institute on Friday evening last. We have learned from those who were present that the concert was excellent, and reflected the highest credit upon the performers. The net proceeds, after defraying all expenses, amounted to $325. We understand that nearly as much more would have been received, had the capacity of the room been sufficient to accommodate all who went there for the purpose of attending. We have been informed that nearly half who went there failed to get in for the want of room.

### Concerts by the Band.

The concert given by the Staunton, *alias* 5th Va. Regiment, Band on Tuesday night last, was so numerously attended that many were unable to get into the Court-house. The proceeds of this night, designed for the benefit of the soldiers, amounted to $400.

The concert was repeated on Wednesday night for the benefit of the families of the soldiers. The proceeds on this night amount to $108. The money designed for the benefit of the families of the soldiers was placed in the hands of Mr. Wm. A. Burnett to be properly donated. Those who attended these concerts were delighted.

### Hanger's L. E. G.

The first conflict of arms in this destructive war in which blood was spilt occurred at Phillippa, in Barbour county, on Monday morning, the 3rd day of June, 1861. It will be remembered that two of our gallant soldiers, Leroy P. Dangerfield, jr., of Bath county, and Jas. Hanger, of this county, each lost a leg in that unfortunate surprise and defeat. Mr. Hanger, being possessed of good mechanical ingenuity, and too patriotic to be dependent upon the Yankees for an artificial leg, invented by his own genius, and manufactured by his own skill, an artificial leg, by which he is enabled to walk with ease. Though this feat of skill reflects great credit upon the inventor and manufacturer, yet we cannot indulge in the extravagant praise of the Editor of the *Vindicator*, who, in his last issue, said, "*It is one of the most complete legs we have ever seen.*" We infer from this, that his extreme modesty has confined his observation to his own "drum sticks," for it seems that,

The "most complete" limb he did ever see
Was Hanger's *wooden* L. E. G.

### A Rich Capture.

The New York "Herald," of the 3d, says the Confederate steamer Florida captured and burned the ship, Jacob Bell, from China, for New York, with 1,600 tons of merchandise. The cargo is valued at $1,800,000.

On Sunday morning last, firing was heard in the direction of Gloucester Point.

### Lincoln's Conscript Bill.

Lincoln's Conscript Bill was amended in the House, and sent back to the Senate, where the House amendment was concurred in, and the bill passed with only six votes against it. Of the two Senators from the bogus State of Western Virginia, Wiley voted for and Carlisle against it.

That the skies are now dark there can be no denying. We should prepare to meet the crisis with courage and fortitude. The Richmond *Examiner* says that "the inauguration of an absolute sovereign over the Northern States of the late Union, has a signification of vital importance to every man and woman in this country. The official publication of the fact makes plain, to the humblest understanding, the nature and duration of the war. Scraps of Northern Newspapers, the declamations of individuals in the North, and our own universal and sincere desire for peace, lose the power of delusion in the presence of this solid reality. While it was possible to regard the Union as a republic, governed by the representatives of the people, it was also possible to believe that the evils of war would create a party among the people, that would force the Government to terminate the struggle on reasonable terms and within a limited time. But now that the Government has rendered itself entirely independent of the people and its representatives—now that the last relic of the Republican Constitution has been abolished, and absolute power declared by Congress and proclaimed by the press to have been openly substituted, it is beyond question that the duration of the war depends on the will of Lincoln and his councillors. None need be told that these men will not consent to any terms of peace. Setting aside considerations of passion, it is enough to know that Lincoln has been invested with a sovereign power over one of the greatest countries of the world, on the expressed ground that he will destroy the Southern people, and take their property for distribution among his followers. The moment he departs from this purpose, the sword and purse drop from his hands, and he will be torn to pieces by his own dogs. Therefore, while he stands on the bad eminence where he is now placed, he will fight us with an inveterate determination and with unchangeable cruelty. While Lincoln is President-dictator, and the North contains a man or a dollar, they will be used to carry on the war."

### Northern Hypocrisy Exposed.

Those who remember (and who does not?) the Legislation of many of the Northern States, a few years since, nullifying the fugitive slave bill by the adoption of what they denominated "personal liberty bills," will appreciate the overwhelming force of the points made against them by the New York "World" in the following extract from an able editorial recently published in that bold and out-spoken paper upon the subject of the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus:*

And the party which passes this infamous, this abominable bill, defying the Constitution and annulling all State laws for protecting personal liberty, is the same party that two or three years ago was passing so called liberty bills in behalf of the Northern States to protect runaway negroes against the provision of the Constitution which requires their surrender. So dear and sacred did they profess to hold individual liberty that they would not allow it to be violated even in the person of an escaped slave, and they set up State legislation against Federal legislation for his protection. These sensitive philanthropist and doughty champions of freedom then professed to be shocked at the denial of the habeas corpus to these fugitive blacks, and made that the pretext for resisting, by mob violence, the execution of a law of the United States. And now we see these same champions of personal liberty, these same sticklers for the habeas corpus, these same justifiers of State resistance to Federal power, passing an act which degrades the white citizen below a condition which they then thought intolerable for slaves as black as the ace of spades.

### Manhood Tested.

The Richmond *Examiner* truly says that "this war has thoroughly tested the true manhood of our people. When our country was blessed with peace and plenty, there was a class of chivalrous knights of the Don Quixotte school, who despised the usual routine of business, and desired, above all things, that an opportunity might be granted them to display their fighting qualities. They were very blood-thirsty at the beginning of the war, and expressed the strongest desire to literally eat up ten times their number of live Yankees.—But now, that the time has arrived when every man can serve his country, and the chance of promotion is free to all who distinguish themselves, these mighty men of Mars, these warriors *par excellence*, have tried every expedient, rather than face the bullets of the enemy, to keep out of the army.

PLANT CORN.—We hope that every good citizen who has a garden spot or unoccupied piece of ground, large enough to spread a blanket upon, will turn it to good account this year, by planting corn or vegetables thereon.—Let him not only do this himself, but persuade his neighbor to do likewise.—If the people would generally try to raise something—cabbage, corn, butter-beans, tomatoes, &c., which can be done on a small scale, without appreciable trouble, the prices of such edibles would be kept within more reasonable bounds. We say, therefore, plant corn somewhere—anywhere; but plant corn!

INVASION OF SONORA BY THE FRENCH.—The delegate from New Mexico in the Yankee Congress has received advices from El Paso, in Chihuahua, that the French, 8,000 strong, had captured Guaymas, and were marching on Hermosilla, the capital of the Mexican State of Sonora. The reason assigned for this invasion is said to be in consequence of Governor Pequira confiscating the goods of Frenchmen and banishing them from Sonora.

MILITIA OFFICERS.—Governor Brown, of Georgia, has ordered all the militia officers of that State to report to General Mercer, at Savannah, for orders and for service. This is all right. The officers want a chance to show their courage and patriotism. We hope every officer in the State will respond, and carry five or six other exempts with him.

THE FLEET AT PORT ROYAL.—The latest advices from Port Royal state that the Yankee fleet now there numbers one hundred and twenty-three vessels, including three frigates, twenty gunboats, and the rest chiefly transports.

### The Ensuing Campaign.

Early in the month of April, it may be expected that the great campaigns of the East and the West will re-open with unexampled activity. Certainly it has not been from want of the means, or motives, or strength to fight, that the powerful armies of Lee and Hooker, of Bragg and Rosencrans, have camped for months in close proximity without a cannonade and almost without a skirmish. Now that the condition of the ground permits the passage of cannon and the march of columns, what both parties regard as the trial scene of the war, will be speedily witnessed. The next two months will be signalized by the most terrible battles of modern times.

We have no fear for the general result of the approaching campaign. The Confederate armies have never been equal to what they now are. The preludes of the coming collision which have already been witnessed are most encouraging. Wherever they have touched, the Southern troops have made their mark. Every affair indicates the high spirit which animates the Confederate army; and the weakness or demoralized condition of the enemy is equally evident. * * * * *

In truth the field of the military affairs in all quarters is bright with hope. Yet it cannot be denied that the sentiment of the country at this moment, though not despondent, is serious and even sombre. It is affected by the political complexion of the Northern States. The revolution in the Constitution of their Government, consummated by the passage of the military and financial bills through Congress, has destroyed the expectation of a termination of the war for years to come, and renders any other conclusion than that of our own destruction, or exhaustion and anarchy in the North, less than probable. We have a long and gloomy perspective of danger and desolation before us. This prospect does not inspire gayety of heart, and the ideas it suggests are illustrated in the prodigious rise in gold.—*Examiner.*

### Plant Corn! Plant Corn!!

If we had a voice that could be heard in all parts of the Confederacy, we would, at the top of our voice, cry into the ears of every farmer—PLANT CORN, PLANT CORN! The subsistence of our army and people, and the success of our revolution is, in a great degree, dependent upon it. We hope that not a plant of tobacco nor a stalk of cotton will be grown the ensuing season. We believe, with the *Examiner*, that the "South is in no real peril while it has bread for its army. Let this be supplied and all the rest is certain. In view of the new turn which affairs have now taken, it is plain that not only patriotism, but interest, requires that all the agricultural power of the country should be devoted to the production of grain. Cotton and tobacco will have only a speculative value for years to come; but corn and oats are worth five dollars a bushel as fast as they can be brought out of the ground. Let every man and every woman in the Southern Confederacy plant corn now. The wheat crop of this year will be a failure, but it is not too late to replace it with a superabundant harvest of Indian corn. Every part of the Southern country can produce it in perfection and profusion. It is the natural crop of the country. Every farmer in the South will become suddenly rich, if he will in this year utterly renounce cotton and tobacco, and plant every acre at his command in corn and oats."

### "Tempora Mutantur, Nos Mutamur."

These are truly strange times, and times of strange changes. It seems strange to see the Richmond "Enquirer," which for an age has been singing pæans to the fidelity of Northern Democrats, now denouncing them as having been "ALWAYS our worst enemies." The "Enquirer" has become a convert to the doctrine of Seward which was the "direful spring of all our woes." The Enquirer openly proclaims that it is less hostile to the extreme abolitionists than to its former lauded "Northern allies"—the Democrats. The following is an extract from an editorial article in the "Enquirer" of Thursday last:

"To be plain, we fear and distrust far more these apparently friendly advances of the 'Democrats,' than the open atrocity of philanthropists of Massachusetts. That Democratic party always was our worst enemy; and but for its poisonous embrace these States would have been free and clear of the unnatural Union twenty years ago. It is not the Sewards and Sumners, the Black Republicans and Abolitionists who have hurt us. They were right all along; there was an irrepressible conflict between two different civilizations, two opposite social organizations; they were no more able to live peacably together in one government than two hands can wear one glove. If we did not discover as soon as the abolitionists, this great truth, it was because the Democratic party, neutral as it was in principle, false to both sides, and wholly indifferent to the MORALE of either of the opposing communities, placed itself between, raised the banner of "spoils," and—we all know the rest. The idea of that odious party coming to life again and holding out its arms to us, makes us shiver. Its foul breath is malaria; its touch is death."

### The Late Terrible Accident on the Southern Railroad.

The Selma (Ala.) Reporter, of February 26th, has the following:

Mr. J. S. Kennedy, Postmaster at Centreville, gives us the following list of persons who were killed or drowned by the accident which occurred on the Southern Railroad eighteen miles west of Meridian, on the 19th inst., and whose remains had been recovered when he passed the scene of disaster, last Saturday.

Young, G. C. Thompson, William Towles, A. A. Hill, all of the 27th Alabama Regiment; W. P. Grayson, of Tuscaloosa, who had on his person $54,000; Major J. S. Lilly, of the 12th Mississippi Regiment; D. B. Taylor, U. W. Bradley, C. M. McDaniel, M. G. Roden, R. Melsop, R. G. Slatter, R. M. Gambell, C. J. Caffier, J. Buchron, engineer, J. S. Holt, Cunningham, Butler, McDowell, one unknown man and one negro.

The conducter was badly hurt, but swam out. The engine and several cars were under water, and it is supposed that between sixty and seventy persons were lost—mostly soldiers, who, it is said, broke open the cars and got aboard before the train left Meridian, though they had been warned by the officers of the road of the dangers attending the trip. It was the freight train to which the accident occurred.

Arrangements had been made to inter the dead in as decent a manner as could be expected under such circumstances. About ninety coffins were in readiness.

The thirteen members of the Yankee Senate who voted against the bill authorizing Abraham I. to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, were Carlisle, Henderson, Kennedy, Lane, of Indiana, Latham, Powell, Rice, Richardson, Saulsbury, Tuspee, Wall, Willey, and Wilson, of Missouri.

On Sunday night last, we were visited with a thunder storm, attended by vivid lightning, loud thunder and a heavy rain.

The Tax Bill has passed the House, and is now before the Senate.

### Northern News.

U. S. SENATOR FROM NEW-JERSEY.

Mr. Wright, Democrat, has been elected U. S. Senator from New Jersey, for six years from 4th March.

YANKEE CONSCRIPTION BILL.

The N. Y. "Herald's" correspondent, writing from Albany, says: "One class say we should like to see the General Government carry out the provisions of the bill. Lincoln will have to get more brains before he can accomplish anything in this State." Another class say the radicals will have to fight now a large portion of the Legislature. He continues to look upon it with perfect indifference, apparently considering the acts of the Administration as of no importance whatever, and concludes by saying no one expects a sensible or a practical movement on the part of the Washington fanatics.

A SPEECH IN THE N. Y. LEGISLATURE ON THE WAR.

In the New York Assembly, on the 26th ult., Mr. Hutchinson of N. York city, made a speech, in which he held that the formation and success of a sectional party in the North, which had for its creed opposition to State sovereignty, was the cause of our present calamity. He denied the power to coerce a State, and held the action of the South was not rebellion but revolution.—Rebellion grew out of dissatisfaction of a few people, who yield at display of force; but this is a revolution on a great principle of government. If the South triumphed, State sovereignty succeeded; if the North triumphed, then a centralized Federal power would come off victorious, and State sovereignty is destroyed.

The "Herald" says:

"The Secretary of War expresses abundant satisfaction at the condition of our military establishment, and confident success as soon as operations can be resumed. He states that we have now eight armies in the field, numbering in the aggregate five hundred thousand effective soldiers."

The small pox is prevailing to an alarming extent in the contraband camp of negroes at Washington. As many as fifteen die daily. The condition of these poor creatures is said to be deplorable. They wander about the city and spread it. Many whites are dying with it also. There is on an average, only one nurse for fifty patients.

The New York "World" says: "It is manifest that on every side the most terrible and decisive battles of the whole war are about to take place."

The Baltimore "Gazette" says: "If it be true that the weekly average of deaths in the army of the Mississippi is seven hundred, the amount of sickness among the troops must be terrible in the extreme. Under such circumstances, the resumption of active operations on the part of General Grant appears to be quite as much a matter of necessity as of good policy."

FROM VICKSBURG.

Despatches from New York say that telegrams received from Cairo announce that the famous "*cut off*" at Vicksburg was completed on the 26th ult.

It is asserted that all the gunboats had passed through, and that the transports were preparing to follow, and that after the batteries at Warrenton are reduced, the whole force will be sent to Port Hudson.

It is also stated that the small gunboat fleet has reached Yazoo river by Union lake, and are "playing the mischief" in the rear of Vicksburg.

It is also reported that Federal boats have reached Red river by way of Lake Providence.

There are also reports that serious disasters have happened to the Union troops, and that gunboats have been captured, but these rumors, it says, are not credited.

The bill giving the President power to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* at pleasure finally passed the House by a vote of 97 to 45.

A row has occurred between the Federal soldiers and the negroes at Hilton Head. The *Chronicle* has "sad and humiliating reports of insubordination and outrages committed by regiments from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and, we say it with shame, Massachusetts." A soldier writes: "The day after we landed the troops came in collision with the blacks—the soldiers rapacious, the negroes independent and uncivil. The result was, the blacks were driven off to the other end of the island. General Naglee has censured the recent sets of vandalism of the soldiers. Groans were given in the various camps for General Hunter at the close of the evening dress parades on Sunday. Much ill feeling has been shown by the soldiers on the island, (St. Helena,) and there has been serious talk in some regiments about laying down their arms. We expect General Foster to straighten things out."

General Butler says if he had received in New Orleans President Davis' proclamation against him, he would have sent a respectfull General and several other officers them in his hands to Ship Island, with orders that all should be hung upon receipt of information that a hair of his head or of any of his officers had been touched; "and Jeff. Davis knows that a Massachusetts man who dared to vote 64 times for him at the Charleston Convention would dare to do anything."

Hon. J. T. Nixon, of New Jersey, says of the Army of the Potomac: "The feeling of despondency among the men is gone as is the semi-disloyal sentiments among many officers."

### Willful Violation of the Constitution.

The New York "World" charges boldly and proves conclusively that the Lincoln Congress, in the passage of the bill empowering Lincoln to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, "committed *conscious perjury*," that they *knowingly* and *wilfully* violated the solemn oath they had taken to support the Constitution of the United States." The "World," in speaking of the character of the bill and the proceedings connected with its passage, says:

"It authorizes and justifies arbitrary arrests at the will of the Executive, in defiance of explicit provisions of the Constitution forbidding such arrests. It puts every man's liberty and property out of the protection of the fundamental law; it annihilates the power of the State Governments to protect their citizens against illegal violence; it tells the President and his minions that they may with impunity perpetrate all these acts of despotism by which the most odious tyrants in the worst ages have earned the execration of mankind.—This may be deemed strong language, but it is no more than adequate to characterize the infamous act of combined perjury and despotism which we print this morning, and which challenges the attention and must provoke the indignation of every man who is not base enough to confess himself a cowering slave.

"The proceedings in connection with the passage of the bill prove that every Senator who voted for it committed conscious perjury; that he knowingly and wilfully violated the solemn oath he had taken to support the Constitution of the United States. We ask the deliberate attention of the country to the facts we will now recite, and which appear on the record. Mr. Carlisle, of Virginia, moved to amend the first section of the bill by inserting after the phrase "President of the United States," the words "in the constitutional authority," an amendment which would give that officer immunity for all acts, arrests, and proceedings which he has done or ordered in the exercise of his authority, but leaving him and his subordinates to the full consequences and penalties of acts done in violation of the Constitution. The Republican Senators saw that the adoption of this amendment would render the bill nugatory, that this confession of allegiance to the Constitution would render it of no more effect than so much blank paper. The amendment was accordingly rejected by eleven ayes against twenty-nine nays, as follows:

*Yeas*—Messrs Anthony, Bayard, Browning, Carlisle, Cowan, Harding, Powell, Saulsbury, Turpee, Wall, and Wilson of Missouri—11

*Nays*—Messrs. Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Dixon, Doolittle, Fessenden, Foot, Foster, Grimes, Hale, Harlan, Harris, Henderson, Howard, King, Lane, of Indiana, Lane, of Kansas, Morill, Pomeroy, Sherman, Sumner, Ten. Eyck, Trumbull, Wade, Wilkinson, Willey, Wilmot, and Wilson of Massachusetts—29

"By this still and brazen vote the senate of the United States declared their intention to treat the Constitution, which they have sworn to support, and the guarantees it throws around the liberties of the people, as a nullity. The vote of these twenty-nine Senators is a damning and indelible record, not only against themselves but against the President of the United States. It in effect declares him quite guilty of numerous, frequent, and repeated violations of the Constitution. It is a plain confession that the design of the bill is to shield that officer and his underlings from the legal consequences of such violations. If that were not his object Mr. Carlile's amendment would have been readily accepted, for the insertion of that amendment could in no way impair the effect of the bill, in exempting the President and his subordinates from penalties for acts which were *not* violations of the Constitution. These Senators in effect declare that he has violated the Constitution; that they consider violations of the Constitution meritorious acts on the part of an officer sworn to protect and defend it; and that they will stand between him and all parties ordained by State or Federal laws for wanton and illegal trespasses on the rights of citizens."

NASHVILLE.—There is a great scarcity of provisions in Nashville, but despite the scarcity and high prices the poor are said to be well provided for. Here the rich have not shown that selfish and sordid spirit as in other places, but have helped and contributed most liberally to the support of suffering families. This is as it should be, and we commend it to the emulation of other communities.

Our latest advices from Tennessee report Gen. Rosencrans as quite sick, and has gone home to Cincinnatti, on furlough. In his absence, the command of his army is with Gen'l Crittenden, of Kentucky.

The two men killed on our side in the running fight down the Valley were Messrs. Henry Lange and Charles Hamilton, both citizens of Bath county—one belonging to Captain Ware's and the other to Captain Dangerfield's company. The remains of these gallant soldiers were taken home for interment.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

PORT HUDSON, LA., Feb. 25.—(Via Mobile, March 2:)—A Yankee force, 4,000 strong, is marching towards Lorgausa. The advance guard, 1,000 strong, is at Fausse River, twelve miles from this place. This is deemed an important movement, and doubtless prompt steps will be taken to arrest it.

PORT HUDSON, Feb. 27.—Col. Mill's Legion, the 4th Louisiana; Col. Hunter's and Fennea's Battery, drove the Yankees from Point Coupee. The enemy ignominiously retreated at the appearance of our forces. The reported force of the enemy at Baton Rouge is 30,000

PORT HUDSON, March 5—(via Mobile, March 6)—Intelligence, reliable and of the greatest importance, has been received from the front. The preparations being made by Bank's army point unmistakably to an early advance. Seventeen mortar boats, the sloop-of war Mississippi and the gunboat Essex are now anchored at Baton Rouge. Bank's force is fully 30,000.

Ambulances and litters are being prepared.

The opinion of military men is, that this point will be attacked in a few days. The utmost confidence prevails among both officers and men in our ability to defeat the enemy. The report that our pickets had been driven in is unfounded, but an immediate advance is anticipated.

The latest information confirms the disaffection in the Abolition ranks

It is reported that Banks is opposed to the attack, but has orders from the War Department.

SAVANNAH, March 3.—2 P. M.—The enemy are attacking Fort McAllister. The attack commenced at thirty minutes past 8 o'clock this morning. Three iron-clads and two mortar boats are playing on the Fort. Our eight-inch Columbiad has been dismounted, and two men slightly wounded. The firing continues very heavy.

SAVANNAH, March 3, 5:30 P. M.—A despatch from Fort McAllister dated 3:46, says that one of the iron-clads has withdrawn. Two iron-clads and one mortar boat are still playing on the fort. The fort is uninjured, and no one hurt on our side, except the two slightly wounded early this morning. The garrison is in good spirits. The firing still continues.

SAVANNAH, March 4.—The enemy shelled Fort McAllister all of last night till near day. This morning a despatch from the fort dated 8 A. M. says the enemy have not renewed the attack this morning. Their vessels are still in the river.—The fort is in good condition. The columbiad is re-mounted. No further casualties at the fort.

CHARLESTON, March 3.—Nassau advices report the arrival there of the Confederate privateer Retribution. She has taken and burned the bark Mary Wright, of Portland, and brig Erie, of Camden, Maine; captured and sent to Confederate ports the brig Elliott, of Bucksport, Maine, and schooner Hanover, of Massachusetts; captured and run ashore, on the Bahamas, the brig Emily Fisher, taking the crew prisoners to Nassau.

The Elliott was subsequently recaptured by the Yankees at St. Thomas. The Retribution encountered an unknown whaler in the Caribbean Sea, which showed fight, killing one of the Retribution's crew, when the whaler was sunk with all on board, by the fire of the Retribution.

The crew of the Retribution are all well, and would soon finish repairs and resume her cruises.

MOBILE, March 2.—The Tribune learns from Captain Haywood, who took the steamer Florida out of this port, that there were nine blockaders in front of the entrance to the harbor.—Two of them pursued, and, by the aid of their powerful "fiescal" lights, they signalized the Florida four miles. The chase continued nineteen hours, but the Florida ran out of view, and on her way destroyed a new Yankee brig on her first voyage, laden with sugar, molasses and rum; the whole value of which was $140,000.

The speed of the Florida is fifteen miles per hour, and Captain Maffit is greatly pleased with her.

MOBILE, March 3.—A special despatch to the Evening News, dated McMinnville, Tenn., 2nd, says: Maj. Austin, of Gen. Morgan's Brigade, with fifteen hundred men, passed around the Murfreesboro' and Nashville railroad, tearing up the track and running a train of soldiers over an embankment.

The Louisville Journal reports that Generals Longstreet, Marshall and Forrest are approaching Lexington.

MOBILE, March 3.—A grand review of the army took place to-day, by Major Generals Withers and Buckner and Brigadier Generals Slaughter and Cummins. After the review, four pieces of artillery captured at Murfreesboro', were presented by General Withers, on behalf of Alabamians and Tennesseans, in the army of Tennessee, to the army at Mobile. Each piece is inscribed with the names of gallant Alabamians who fell in that battle.

MOBILE, March 5.—The Jackson Mississippian says the destruction of the Indianola was a most unfortunate and unnecessary affair. The turretted monster proved to be a flat boat with sundry fixtures to create deception—passed Vicksburg on Tuesday night. The officers believing she was a turretted monster blew up the Indianola, but her guns fell into the hands of the enemy.

The Queen of the West left in such a hurry as to forget a part of her crew who were left ashore. Taken altogether this was a good joke on the partizan rangers, who are notoriously more cunning than brave.

JACKSON, March 5, 1863.

*To General S. Cooper:*

General Stephenson, commanding Vicksburg, telegraphs March 4th, as follows:

The Indianola is not destroyed. We are at work to raise her. One eleven-inch-gun was burst; the others are not injured.

(Signed) J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieut. General.

CHATTANOOGA, March 4.—Confirmatory reports are received of Van Dorn's successful raid in Franklin. He is now in possession of that place. Thirty-nine wagons were captured, with stores. The Federal loss is one thousand killed and wounded. Our loss is heavy. The number of prisoners taken is twenty-six hundred.

CHATTANOOGA, March 4. Gen. Van Dorn attacked the enemy at Franklin, 18 miles south of Nashville, on Sunday, with cavalry and light artillery, capturing three thousand Yankees, with stores and equipments.

The enemy captured several foraging wagons belonging to Wheeler's Brigade, near Wartrace, on the 1st.

The Yankees continue to commit depredations around Murfreesboro'. A citizen of Rutherford was taken out and whipped by order of the Federal officers.

CHATTANOOGA, March 6.—The following official despatch of Van's Dorn late engagement has been received. The fight took place at Thompson's Station, and not at Franklin, the enemy making the attack.

TULLAHOMA, March 2.—*To Col. B. S. Ewell:*—The enemy attacked Van Dorn yesterday at Thompson's Station, between Columbia and Franklin. He drove them back handsomely, and captured five regiments of infantry, 2,200 officers and men. Our loss is not yet reported.

(Signed) BRAXTON BRAGG.

VICKSBURG, March 5.—Commodore Porter, commanding the Yankee fleet, proclaims that if any persons firing on unarmed vessels in the river were taken in the act, they would be hung.—Also all persons caught burning cotton, levying contributions, &c.

The answer of General Stevenson has not yet transpired.

MOBILE, March 7.—Reliable information has been received that the Yankees have gone up the Tennessee river to Florence, Alabama, with a fleet of gunboats. About 400 cavalry were landed, and were destroying everything in their route through Franklin and Lawrence counties. Latest accounts say that they were marching from Moulton, in Lawrence, southwest through Marion county, in a direct line towards Aberdeen, Mississippi.

A man by the name of Harvey Smurr, a citizen of Mt. Jackson, a tailor by trade, is on trial at Edinburg, for being a spy in the employment of the Yankees in the Valley. The proof of his guilt is said to be conclusive. He is said to have led the Yankees up the Valley several times, and was the pilot who conducted the late Yankee force to Mowreytown. Smurr is a married man. He will most probably be hung, as he ought to be, if his guilt should be established. A villain who can live among us and become a spy for our enemies ought to have the shortest route up "the spout."—[Rock. Reg.

We learn that there were several cases of Small Pox in Crab Bottom and on Straight Creek, in Highland county, within the last few weeks.—Daniel Rexrode and his wife, of Moat's Draft, in Pendleton county, died of the disease, and there were several other cases in the same locality, though none were fatal. The disease was brought home from Yankeedom by Mr. Rexrode, who had been taken prisoner and carried to Vicksburg.—[Rock. Reg.

About 12 o'clock, M., on Friday last, the alarm of fire was given, when it was found that the row of buildings occupied by Mr. John O'hare, at the bridge, near the American Hotel, was on fire. Tho' the wind was blowing, the fire was soon extinguished, and no material damage done.

The Extortion Bill after a long and tedious discussion was finally laid on the table and lost.

The Virginia Legislature will no doubt adjourn this week. Its session expires with the close of the week, and it is not probable that it will be protracted beyond that time.

### Europe Stands at Ease.

No recognition, no mediation, no movement of hand or voice in Europe; nothing for us but our own cause, our own firm resolve, and the God of Battles. So be it!

* * * * * *

And we are sincerely convinced that it is better so. The lesson of self-reliance, though learned with heavy cost, is precisely the lesson which is infinitely precious to a nation. Without it we could never be really independent. With it, and with the unalterable resolve to practice it to the end, we can afford to let the outside world give free utterance of their *opinions*.

With regard to France, she also remains for the present inactive. The Emperor, in plain words, is not yet ready for his predestined war with England. He knows that while England keeps herself so accurately balanced upon her position of "neutrality" it would need but a gentle touch to precipitate her into an alliance with the Yankees. He knows that the one object dearest in this world to England is the destruction of *his* formidable fleet; and when the inevitable war does come, which both nations have been preparing for these many years, he is resolved to make the occasion himself, and not allow it to be forced on him by others. Yet one thing has long been certain—that all the real sympathy or friendship felt for us in Europe is in France. France *alone* has even proposed the first and faintest step by which the Powers of Europe might possibly bring about a peace. It is true that his proposal was inadmissable by either party to the war. But the friendly *animus* was made plain; and it will not be forgetten. In the meantime we give notice to all concerned, that we do not ask, and never did ask, for intervention—or, for mediation; that we demand simple recognition as a right; and, finally, that whatever may be the *opinion* of noble lords, the "Union" which was once known to European diplomacy no longer exists, and never shall be seen on earth again.—Richmond Enquirer.

### The Yankees and their Colored Brethren at Pensacola.

We learn through a trustworthy private letter from Pensacola that there has recently been a bloody fight in the streets of that city between a Maine and a New York regiment, growing out of some difference of opinion between them relative to the treatment of their negro brethren. Many of the soldiers of each regiment and a number of negroes were killed in the *melee*. The affair was terminated to the satisfaction of the contesting parties by chaining fifteen negro men and driving them at the point of the bayonet off the end of a wharf into the bay, where the water was fifteen feet deep. The negroes are beginning to taste the sweets of universal freedom with a vengeance.—Richmond Examiner.

### The Enemy at Newbern, North Carolina.

A gentleman who succeeded in making his escape through the enemy's lines at Newbern, North Carolina, gives some information as to the situation there.

The enemy had a force at Newbern of some nine or ten regiments—say some six thousand strong. The Yankees here have also a regiment of *negroes*, who are being drilled and organized along with the other forces.

"Governor" Stanly is still at Newbern. His resignation has been sent on to Washington, but it was not known at Newbern whether it had been accepted. He had not been relieved.

### To the Preachers of the Baltimore Conference in Virginia.

WHEREAS, The condition of the country will, as it did last year, render a regular session of our Conference impracticable, you are hereby invited to meet in Churchville, Augusta county, Va., on the 3d Thursday in March next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to transact such business as may be proper.

All intending to be present will please communicate with Rev. D. W. Arnold, Churchville, Augusta county, Va. S. R. VEITCH.

Feb 3—7t

## MARRIED.

On Thursday, the 26th of February, in Bridgewater, Rockingham county, by Rev. Thomas Hildebrand, Captain ADAM SMALTS, C. S. A., and Miss HETTIE J. FLEMINGS, daughter of Mr. John Flemings—all of Bridgewater.

On the 5th instant, by Rev. Jos. R. Wheeler, Mr. GEORGE W. DEES, of Talapoosey, Ala., and Mrs SARAH A. BAKER, of Augusta county, Va.

On the 4th inst., at Greenbank, Pocahontas county, by Rev. S. B. Dolly, Major J. C. ARBOGAST, and Miss SALLIE J. BEARD, all of Pocahontas county

## OBITUARIES.

Finding that protestations against long Obituaries are of no avail, and not having space to publish them, except to the exclusion of news matter, we feel constrained to follow the example of our contemporaries, who publish them at advertising rates. The usual notices of deaths will be published, as heretofore, free of charge, but Obituaries and Tributes of Respect will be charged for at the rates of TEN CENTS per line.

## DIED.

In Lynchburg, Va., on the 25th ultimo, NELLY ASHBY, youngest child of John S. and Dilia W. Richards, aged 8 months and 9 days.

At the residence of his mother, in Clark co., Va., Jan. 28th, 1863, of consumption, NEWTON J. BENN, aged 27 years, 4 months and 19 days. He was a faithful member of the M. E. Church, (South), and died beloved by all who knew him. His last words were, "tell my brother to meet me in Heaven."

## MARKET.

RICHMOND MARKETS.

BY W. D. TOMPKINS.

*Richmond, March 7th, 1863.*

Flour—The market is excited, and tends higher.—We quote it to-day:—Superfine, $27@28; Extra, $30@32; and Family, $32@35.
Wheat—$4.00.
Corn—$1¼@4½.
Meal—$4¾@5.00.
Bacon—$1.20@1¼.
Lard—$1.20@¼.
Butter—$2¾@3.00.
Apples—Green, $35.00@40.00 ₩ bbl.
Do Peeled, $8.00@9.00 ₩ bus.
Peaches—$15.00@16.00 " "
Flax Seed—$5.00@5.00.
Clover Seed—$25.00.
Timothy Seed—$7.00@800.
Hay—$6.00@6½.
Oats—$4¼@4½.
Wool—$2.00@2¼ for unwashed.
$2½@2¾ for washed.
Soap—90@$1.00.

## AUCTION SALES.

BY BRUCE & PECK, Auctioneers.

LARGE AUCTION SALE!!—NEW AND DESIRABLE GOODS!!—We will sell, on FRIDAY, the 13th inst., at Crawford & Cochran's Store Rooms, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.:

200 yards Fancy Madder Prints,
1500 " Neat Black and White ditto,
250 " Fancy Printed Muslin and Shallies,
200 " Black Alpaca,
10 pieces White Curtain Muslin,
4 White and Colored Grape Shawls,
72 Gross Hooks and Eyes,
Fancy Silk Vesting,
Children's Cotton and Wool Hose,
Tooth Brushes,
Fine Combs,
Men's Suspenders,
Linen Cambric Handkerchiefs.

ALSO:

2000 lbs. Sugar,
2000 yards 4-4 Cotton Cloth,
2000 " Osnaburg,
Cotton Yarns,
Copperas, &c., &c.

☞ The ladies are especially requested to attend.

March 10. BRUCE & PECK, Auc'ts.

VALUABLE TOWN PROPERTY IN STAUNTON FOR SALE—Will be sold, on MONDAY, (Court Day,) 23d March, 1863, in front of the premises, the very valuable property, occupied as a DWELLING and STORE, by A. E. & J. P. Bledsoe.

This property possesses superior advantages as a business stand, combining the advantage of a large and elegant residence above the store, and with little addition might be made sufficiently large for a first class Hotel, the location being admirably adapted to the purpose. Those desiring to purchase can examine the property by calling.

TERMS:—One-half, Cash; the balance in six and twelve months, with interest from date, or all Cash, should the purchaser prefer paying the money.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

Possession given immediately.

At the same time and place, will also be sold, my Household and Kitchen Furniture, together with all the Goods and furniture belonging to and remaining in the store of A. E. & J. P.