Richmond Dispatch.

WEDNESDAY MORNING..SEPT. 25, 1861.

☞ Our Prince Edward correspondent will hear from us upon the subject to which he refers, as soon as we can make the necessary inquiries.

GOVERNMENT PRICES.—A letter addressed to the President of the Confederate States, by a citizen of Tidewater Virginia, on the subject of the prices paid by Government for farm produce, and published in yesterday's *Whig*, sets forth in strong terms the wide-spread feeling of the entire farming community of Virginia on this subject. The wheat, corn, and other farm produce of the State, being shut out by the war from their usual markets, and the demand for them in any quantity being thus confined almost exclusively to one purchaser, to wit, the Government itself; the writer appeals to the President of the Confederacy for protection to the farmers against the undue depression of the prices of these articles below the actual cost of production, by the agents of the Government. The people are obliged to sell in order to pay their taxes, and to provide for the extraordinary expenses of living induced by the war. They can only sell to the Government. The Government has power to fix the prices of produce at its own figures; but it is in the last degree unwise and unjust to reduce these figures unremunerative rates:

"The Government is not poor—its credit is unlimited in the Confederate States. It has the confidence and affection of the people.—All feel a personal interest in it, as the great engine of defence against a savage enemy who would deprive them of their rights and liberties. Let not these feelings of respect and regard be weakened.

"It is the dictate alike of policy and true dignity that its agents should not be permitted to jaw the people, but on all occasions to give fair, reasonable, moderate prices for the product of their labor. Forty-five or 48 cents for corn is the price now offered on the Mattaponi and Rappahannock; and red wheat, the kind principally used to make flour for the army, would not yield ninety cents. These are not reasonable prices. Those who sell do so from compulsion. No farmer can make either for any such sum. Is it, then, consistent with the respect the Government owes to its itself? Does it accord with any sentiment of propriety and justice to reduce the cultivators of the soil to the necessity of taking such inadequate returns for their labors? The Government taxes them to such an extent as to force them to sell, and then fixes the price at least one-third less than the value. It is not presumed that you or others have given any attention to this subject. No one believes that you would tolerate the dignity of the Government or connive at injustice of any kind. You would countless recommend economy, but not parsimony.

"It has not probably occurred to you, in the midst of your many important and absorbing engagements, that in making purchases for the army your Agents were determining the price of bread, regulating the receipts for labor, and the interest on capital invested in agriculture."

Economy is the duty of the agents of the Government; but parsimony is officiousness of a very unpleasant sort; it is neither politic wise, nor just. Prices which do not repay the cost of production as well as a fair profit besides, are neither just nor judicious, when the purchaser has the absolute monopoly of the market.

The "Tidewater" writer complains justly of the low prices of grain offered in his region of the State. They are notoriously unremunerative. For the Government to refuse to give more, is to refuse to give the prime cost of an article; is to rob the farmer of the portion of the cost that is lost by him. It is not only to exact the tax from him that is regularly assessed; but it is to exact from him an additional tax assessed in an irregular, indirect, and unjust form.

To the complaint of the farmers of the Rappahannock and Mattaponi on this subject, is added that of the farmers of Culpeper and Fauquier in regard to their flour. They are obliged to sell their flour in order to get money to live on and to pay their taxes. The Government is the only purchaser they can find, as they are cut off from market by the war.—The Government offers them only $3.85 a barrel, which does not pay cost. They cannot send their flour to Richmond, where they could get $5.25, because the Government holds possession of the railroads, and no transportation can be procured. They are therefore forced to take $3.85. They have suffered more than any other people by the war, by the presence of the army, and by its impressment of their horses, mules, wagons, and labor. It has cost them much more trouble and a greater outlay of money than ever before to secure their harvest this year; and yet, though suffering from all these causes, they are offered only $3.85 a barrel, which is a price unprecedentedly low. The Government pays $5.25 a barrel for flour in Richmond, and sixty-six cents a barrel for its transportation to Manassa, making a cost at that point of $5.91. Yet the people who have flour on the spot are allowed only $3.85.

It will not do to say that Richmond flour is worth in ordinary years one dollar more than country flour; for the flour of Richmond manufacture is worth the additional dollar only on account of its qualities as a shipping flour for the transit across the equator. But no flour now has a shipping value, because none can be shipped. If Richmond flour could be shipped to Rio Janeiro and San Francisco, it would be worth $6.25 a barrel, not $5.25. To knock off the value given by its shipping quality, when it cannot be shipped, is palpably absurd. Nine-tenths of the country superfine flour is as good for domestic consumption as Richmond superfine flour. It is, therefore, unjust to knock off a dollar per barrel on the flour, or twenty cents per bushel on the wheat, on a hypothesis which supposes open ports, the usual shipments to South America, and which totally ignores the existence of the war.

The Government ought to be liberal to the farmers; for who have been more liberal than they to the Government? The farmers generously consent to receive Treasury notes and Confederate bonds at par. Why should they not receive at least par prices—cost prices—for their grain?

THE NORTHERN NEWSPAPER PRESS.—About two years ago a volume of some four hundred pages was published in Philadelphia, entitled "*Our Press Gang*," by LAMBERT A. WILMER, ex-editor, author of "*The Life of De Soto*," and other works. This volume proposed to give "a complete exposition of the corruptions and crimes of journalism," a subject which it treats minutely and in detail.—We have never heard that a single suit for libel was brought against the author. Indeed, the Northern press seemed only too happy to let the matter drop as quietly as possible. The statements of Mr. WILMER, therefore, may be taken as confessed, corroborated as they are by what every one knows of the character of Northern journalism. From the peculiarities of newspaper literature set forth in these disclosures, we may imagine how low the intellectual and moral plane whose requirements journalism must make such a descent to meet. We cease to wonder at the barbarity and degradation of the Northern masses, as developed in this war, when we see that their journalism in general is venal, vicious, depraved, licentious, infidel.

The astounding examples of Mr. WILMER'S book, demonstrating this truth, are not the only testimony which has been given by enlightened and unexceptionable witnesses in support of the same proposition. JAMES FENIMORE COOPER, himself a Northern man, speaks of their press as "the great agent of mischief," and DANIEL WEBSTER called it "polluted and shameless." Such exceptions as the New York *News*, *Day Book*, *Journal of Commerce*, &c., are exceptions which the Federal Government is suppressing as fast as possible, so that the whole newspaper world of his dominions shall exhibit only the monotonous desolation of the Dead Sea.

Mr. WILMER brings fourteen charges against the newspaper press of his section, either of which is enough to entitle it to the guillotine. These charges are, in brief, its tyrannical exercise of power and authority; that it is controlled in great measure by foreigners; that it is hostile to free institutions; that it systematically misleads the public judgment in relation to matters of the greatest national importance; that it is the zealous and interested advocate of every form of imposture, fraud, and plunder; that it fosters immorality and vice, encourages official corruption and malfeasance, uses its influence to secure the appointment of bad and irresponsible men to important political stations, and persuades the people to submit quietly to extortions and oppressions; that it unwarrantably interferes with the administration of public justice, gives circulation to groundless and malicious slanders, provokes riumans to violations of the law, debases the literature of the country, &c., &c. Mr. WILMER not only makes these voluminous and terrible charges against the Northern press, but he proves every count in his indictment beyond the possibility of contradiction. To give a tenth part of his illustrations would be to fill every column of this journal. It is impossible to read this keen, subtile analysis of the daily newspaper press of the Northern section and wonder at the universal insanity and corruption.

THE PROSPERITY OF NEW YORK.—BENNETT makes an attempt, as ghastly as the grin upon the face of a skeleton, to WAX MIRTHFUL over "the reviving business of the North," and "the prospects for a prosperous fall trade." The only articles of commerce that show signs of life in that quarter are those connected with war. The contractors for the army have their hands full and are anxious that the war should last forever. But outside of this herd of remunerative patriotism, there is little evidence of reviving commerce in New York. Its prosperity in its best days was delusive and partial, a state of things in which the rich became richer, and the poor poorer every hour; in which material wealth absorbed every other consideration, including that shocking moral degradation which the present war has developed. God forbid that the South should ever be cursed with such prosperity as that! Mr. JEFFERSON'S saying that "great cities are great sores on the body politic," has received an illustration in the career of New York and her conduct during this war, which will not soon be forgotten.

But, such as her greatness was, it has departed. New York shall never more be the Tyre of the American continent. The bodies of her fallen Zouaves at Bull Run will rise from their graves before her fallen fortunes can have a resurrection. She is at present under a wholesome penitential discipline, and notwithstanding its denials, the *Herald* itself unwittingly furnishes evidence of the fact. Its advertising columns give the lie to its editorials. In prosperous times that paper had often forty columns of advertisements daily. The Montgomery *Advertiser*, referring to this fact, speaks of a recent number of the *Herald* which has only about sixteen columns, and these were set up in types much larger than were formerly used in that paper. Of these advertisements, the great bulk are "sales at auction," "for sale or for rent," situations wanted, matrimonial cards, astrologists' cards, and personal notices, being nearly all assignations of a criminal character, which no paper conducted by a Botany Bay convict of ordinary decency would be willing to publish. A very small portion only of the limited number of advertisements published by the *Herald* are of a character to indicate that such a word as business is not obsolete in New York city. They indicate, in fact, that the prosperity about which the papers are so fond of prating is a thing of the past, and not of the present or future.

In the same paper, Sept. 7th, appear some items of city intelligence, which illustrate, perhaps, what BENNETT means by a "revival of business." Thus, it is stated in a paragraph "that seventeen families were dispossessed in East Twenty-Ninth street, early in the week, and have been allowed to remain on the sidewalks for three nights without assistance. Some of the children are in the most pitiable condition." Seventeen families, in one street, turned out to starve or perish from exposure, remaining for three nights on the sidewalks, without one compassionate hand in that vast city being extended to them or their little children! But all this is only in the early part of September. What will be the misery of New York when the long, dreary winter sets in, and the laborer can find no money, and the hard-hearted landlord thrusts out upon those inhospitable pavements, in the midst of blinding sleet and snow, thousands, instead of scores, of hungry and freezing families?

COAST DEFENCES OF NORTH CAROLINA.—We learn that the defences of the coast of North Carolina are being pushed forward with great expedition. Immediately after the taking of Hatteras, Capt. CHARLES H. DIMMOCK, of the Engineer Corps, was ordered to fortify Roanoke Island, and in a few days after his arrival he had a very formidable battery mounted and ready for action. Since then he has nearly completed another and still stronger battery, and one more, the third, will soon be finished, when that important part of North Carolina will be entirely ready to welcome the Federal navy. Capt. DIMMOCK, who, by the way, had just finished the strong defences of Craney Island, at Norfolk, is a son of that invaluable military man, Col. DIMMOCK, of the Ordnance; is a young officer of decided abilities, and deserves much credit for his untiring energy and skill.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.—A friend suggests to us that the efficiency of the medical department of the army would be greatly promoted by establishing grades of rank in that as in the military departments, so as to insure the supervision of a responsible head over the whole department. We hear complaints and execrations, not loud but deep, of neglect of duty, and even harshness to the sick in some quarters. Knowing nothing of these charges personally, we can only say that if half we have heard be true, a searching investigation ought to be instituted, incompetent, negligent, and inhuman officials be discharged, and a system adopted which shall ensure the faithful, kind, and intelligent treatment of the gallant men who have offered their lives in behalf of their country, and who deserve all the love, attention, and gratitude in every form that the country can bestow.

COTTON IN SEAPORTS.—Although the great bulk of the cotton is not in the seaports, there may be enough in those cities and in exposed positions on the Western rivers, to be a great object to the enemy. The letter from a gunboat commander at Louisville, to one of the spies lately arrested in New Orleans, requests explicit information about various Western rivers, and how much cotton there is on them, and how much will be made; "*for it will be our aim to take all the cotton on these rivers and send it up the Ohio.*" The same design is unquestionably entertained with respect to exposed positions on the Atlantic coast. The campaign will be a regular cotton hunt. Orders should be given for an immediate removal of every bale of cotton from every accessible point in the South, or, if this is impossible, it ought to be burned rather than permit a pound of it to fall into the hands of the enemy.

OUR NAVY.—A correspondent of the Charleston *Courier* says that one single man-of-war at sea, carrying ten *ninety-pound guns*, will match half a dozen fifty-gun ships of light metal. One such vessel, with two or three such ships as are now lying idle at Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, and New Orleans, Norfolk and Richmond, armed as are the *James Adger*, and some other vessels of that class, could not only defend our own coasts and harbors against the threatened descents of the enemy, but could carry the war into his own harbors, and enter the waters of Portland and burn that city; could threaten the dozen towns upon the coast of Maine, Portsmouth, and other places in New Hampshire, the towns upon the coast of Massachusetts, and sundry points in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey.—Indeed, with one such ship, with two or three small light draft gun-boats, a hundred towns can be reached, placed under contribution, or burnt, if necessary, for retaliation; and all this with far more ease and safety than the enemy can make descents upon our coast. But there is another advantage in this proceeding; such a demonstration would call off and scatter the heavy vessels of the blockading fleets, and leave our harbors open, or at least obstructed by nothing more formidable than nondescript war vessels, improvised in haste by LINCOLN from the merchant marine.

If, at the beginning of this conflict, the Navy Department had been able to procure in Europe one or two iron or steel-plated frigates, the blockade of the Southern coast would by this time be broken. It is no exaggeration to say that such a ship as La Gloire, of the French Navy, or one of the same class lately built in England, would be more than a match for the best half-dozen wooden frigates that could be selected from all the navies in Christendom. The expenditure of a few millions for this object, if it were practicable, would have shown itself by this time to be the most productive outlay ever made by a Government.

Hospital Contributions.

DELAVAN HOSPITAL,
CHARLOTTESVILLE, Sept. 23.

Editors Dispatch: From contributions to other hospitals in Publishing, this one has come far short of receiving its share. I cannot account for this, as we have had all the time a large number of patients from every section, but most of them from the South, whence we have received comparatively nothing. This is not as it should be, nor as I believe it will be when the people know our necessities; and this is written more to notify them than to complain, for I know the Southern heart is large and its hand ever opened, particularly so when its own sons are suffering. From the following list it will be seen that most of the contributions have been from Rockbridge county. Since the 1st September there have been received from that county 34 dozen chickens, 24 bbls. bread, 9 cheese, 1 keg soap, 2 firkins and jars of lard, 4 kegs of eggs, 2 firkins fresh butter, 2 bbls. Irish potatoes and onions, 7 hams bacon hams, 1 bbl. corn meal, wine and eggs, 4 dried beef tongues, 2 jars honey, 1 jar of jelly and dried fruit, and boxes of clothing. From Waynesboro', Augusta county, 2 bbls. flour, 1 bbl. bread, and 3 kegs butter-milk every week. From Mrs. Stapleton Sneed, Nelson county, 1 basket eggs, 2 buckets butter, 1 box vegetables, 6 chickens, 1 jar honey, 1 sponge cake, loaf sugar and tea, 2 bags herbs. From Keswick Aid Society 4 boxes of vegetables, 3 boxes of bread and biscuit, 2 buckets butter, 4 cans butter-milk, 1 bbl. flour, fruit, 1 bucket of lard, 3 baskets of eggs. From Miss Lizzie Lewis and Miss Mary Joiner, vegetables, butter, eggs, chickens, vegetables, &c., at different times. From Frank Minor, Esq., vegetables. From Mrs. Maury, Mr. Sinclair, Mrs. Duke, Mrs. Fife, and Mrs. Farish, milk daily. From Mrs. Maury, jelly, preserves, cake, and wines. From Raleigh, N. C., through Mr. Ross, 2 large boxes clothing. From Rev. Henry Smith, J. D. Campbell, Esq., and Mr. Yates, Greensboro', N. C., tin-ware, wines, clothing, &c. From the La. and S. C. stores, pillows, clothing. There have been many small contributions which are now forgotten. In future a memorandum will be kept, if you will be kind enough to publish it, and I hope it will occupy a large space in your paper. The hospital is now in need of butter, more wines, vegetables of all kinds, chickens, and money to supply necessities when contributions fail. Contributions from a distance should be in money, clothing, or such articles as will not perish on the way, as they are frequently detained. Arrangements should be made for articles to come free, or freight prepaid. Communications addressed to Rev. E. C. Tebbs, (Steward,) Delavan Hospital, Charlottesville, Va., will receive prompt attention.

DELAVAN.

Health of the Camp.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 24, 1861.

Messrs. Editors: My attention has been attracted by your excellent article in the *Dispatch* of this morning, upon the "Health of the Camp," and I would willingly contribute something to keep this matter before the proper authorities and the public until some radical change is made in behalf of our suffering soldiers. We are taught by the history of all wars, in all countries, that more men die of disease contracted in camp than are slain in the field. It becomes a matter, then, of the highest importance that every possible precautionary measure should be used to obviate the causes of disease in our military camps, and insure the health of the troops. That they are regularly supplied with wholesome food and warm blankets and clothing, is not sufficient. It is not always the want of these that produces disease in military camps—there are other laws of Nature regulating health, which must be consulted and regarded, if we would escape the fearful consequences of their violation. Among these, and by far the most important, is that one requiring pure air for healthy purposes. In visiting many of the camps about Richmond, I find, by observation and upon inquiry, that the tents with which our troops are supplied are so constructed that, when the cone sides are drawn together and made tast, they become almost perfectly airtight. I find further that five to seven men are put in these tents to sleep.

Now, every one who knows aught of the properties of which the air is composed, and their action upon the lungs, must see at once that disease and death are the necessary results of such a number of persons sleeping in an air-tight apartment so small as one of the tents used by our troops. The lungs of a single man will consume in the course of a night much more of a vital principle of air, necessary to perfect health, than is contained in one of these tents when closed up. The only remedy for the evils resulting from sleeping in close tents, is that which you suggest—viz.: open tents for the free circulation of air, with fires in front of them to secure the necessary warmth. An experience of two years of camp life in that region known as the Everglades of South Florida, enables me to speak with some degree of confidence on this subject. On first going to the Everglades, myself and those who were with me dreaded more than all things else the miasma, and when night came we closed our tents so as to permit no breath of fresh air to enter until morning. The consequence was, we were constantly troubled with colds, fevers, and other diseases. But becoming convinced at last of the real cause, we abandoned the use of the tent altogether, and from the day we commenced to sleep in the open air with our feet to a fire which was kept burning through the night, we never afterwards had a case of sickness in the camp. Fresh air is as necessary for the sustenance of life in Virginia as in the Everglades.

P.

THE POOR OLD LADY AT MANASSA.—One of the correspondents of the *Delta* gives the following account of the poor old lady who was killed in her house amid the strife of the contending armies at Manassa:

There, near the spot where the last desperate struggle was made, is the house of Mrs. Henry, the central point in the field of the combat. We participated in the natural curiosity of all who visited the spot. It was the scene of one of the most interesting incidents of the battle, which is doubtless familiar to all your readers. Here had lived for a half century an old woman who had been long crippled by age, and was now bed-ridden; she was attended by a son and daughter, both quite old and infirm. Remaining quietly in this house, in the midst of the conflict around them, the red wave of the battle at last swept around the house, where, under its cover, the guns were loaded and then run out to be fired at our troops, formed at a distance of two or three hundred yards in front. Some kindly person notified the son of the danger of remaining in the house, and made a vain effort to induce his mother to consent to a removal into an adjacent hollow; but she declined, saying that it was time enough for her to die. The son and daughter, therefore, left her, and placed themselves in a safe place.—The batteries then opened with great fury upon the old house, riddling it from top to bottom. When the combat was over, the old woman was found quite dead, and dreadfully mutilated. Several balls had struck her, and a cupboard which was doubtless as old as herself, had fallen upon and crushed her.—When the house was entered by our troops, after the repulse of the enemy, the old man was found sitting by the mangled remains of his mother.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Coroner's Inquest.—Coroner Sanxay summoned a jury yesterday—to wit, H. W. Starke, foreman; George Bell, D. T. Carter, Thomas F. Ragland, A. Wolff, M. Seagers, Joseph M. Humphreys, Robert Riddell, Isaac Jacobs, Julius Kracker, John J. Cannon, and Larkin P. Ford, to inquire how, when, and by what means John Griffin came to his death. The jury were sworn and the evidence heard.

Sergeant Keith was voluntarily present as the person charged with the shooting.

Captain John Hill, sworn: Captain Hill testified that Dr. Edwards, who had been robbed of $110 the night before, called upon him Monday for assistance in arresting one of the guilty parties, which he promised to render if a warrant for so doing was produced.—A warrant, in the hands of a police officer, was brought to Captain H. afterwards. The police officer said he had a right to summon men to aid him, and did summon several, probably five, of whom Sergeant Keith was one) of Capt. H.'s men to assist him. Capt. H. afterwards saw the deceased after he was shot and before he died, placed a guard over him; and when he died, delivered the body and a pistol found on deceased to the police.

J. B. Hunter, sworn: I, in company with Sergeant Keith and others, pursued Griffin down Elm street, when the deceased turned and fired at Sergeant Keith. Keith then fired at him, but did not hit him. The deceased then ran towards Rocketts street, and down that street. We pursued him. The deceased afterwards stopped and snapped his pistol twice at Keith. Keith had taken a rifle from me, which he now fired at deceased, who fell at the crack of the rifle.

The foregoing is the substance of all the evidence elicited. Upon this, the jury returned a verdict that the deceased "came to his death by a bullet fired from a rifle in the hands of D. A. Keith, on the afternoon of the 23d of September, 1861, in Rocketts, near the corner of Elm street."

It was so clearly a case of justifiable homicide, that Alderman Sanxay did not think it necessary or proper to order Sergeant Keith to be taken into the custody of the police, and he was accordingly permitted to go at large upon his own recognizance to appear and answer the charge before the Mayor's court.

Mayor's Court, Yesterday.—Thomas Bradford was in court to assert his property in several bales of hay, eight barrels of flour, two pieces of rice, three barrels of vinegar, several cords of wood, several bags of salt, oats, &c., which lay on the floor of the court-room. It appears that Bradford had purchased the aforesaid articles from persons authorized to sell them, it being the custom of our army, as it is of all others we ever read of, to allow the officers to sell their rations, if they choose to do so. The articles had been taken under authority of a search-warrant.

Mary Miller, charged with assaulting and beating Elizabeth Hirsch, gave bail in $100 for her future good behavior.

John Tiernay was fined $15 for keeping his house, where ardent spirits are usually sold, open on Sunday last.

Henry Miller was fined $10 for a like offence.

Two cases against Mary Mull—one for selling ardent spirits without a license, and the other for keeping her house open last Sunday—were continued till to-day.

C. F. Morriss, charged with obstructing the streets with fifty hhds. of sugar. Case continued till 26th.

Opie Stalte, charged with forging a clerk's certificate of allowance, was remanded for examination by the Hustings Court, before which the witnesses were recognized to appear on the second Monday in October.

Edward Barry, charged with robbing Dr. T. H. Edwards of $110 in bank notes, was sent on to a called court to be held next Monday.

Thomas, a slave, whipped for bad conduct. John, a slave, case continued till to-day.—Jeremiah Dwyer, arrested as a person of evil name and fame. Case continued.

Michael Kearney's case was also continued. He is charged with unlawfully gaming with a negro.

The Case of Mr. Kupp.—Mr. Kupp, whose case we have mentioned heretofore, was yesterday before Commissioner W. F. Watson, of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Eastern District of Virginia, to answer the accusation of intending and endeavoring to leave the Confederate States with property in his possession liable to seizure and sequestration under the late act of Congress. We are pleased to learn that not an iota of evidence justifying the charge was forthcoming, and that Mr. Kupp was at once released. He is "a good man and a true," if we are not mistaken entirely. He has been working hard for the State, in Western Virginia, for several years, and came into this Commonwealth, as he will go out of it if he goes at all, bearing the name of a true friend to Southern rights. This was disclosed by the evidence, and Commissioner Watson expressed great pleasure in discharging him.

The Habeas Corpus Case.—Judge Lyons yesterday pronounced his opinion in this case. He entered into an able and elaborate review of the law and the evidence, cited authorities in abundance, and arrived at the conclusion that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted. Mr. Webster was therefore remanded to the custody of his officers.

We understand that the petitioner's counsel asked and obtained leave to file a bill of exceptions to the opinion of the court. The case will thus as we intimated last week, go before a higher tribunal.

Persevering Thieves.—Two attempts were made last Monday night to enter the premises of Mr. David Clark, living on 9th street, beyond Leigh; but, owing to the timely waking of Mr. C., who immediately pursued them, they did not succeed in their various designs.—Any further attempts made by chicken thieves or other night prowlers to patronize, in their depredatory excursions, the peaceful residents of that section of the city known as French Garden Hill, will meet with a liberal discharge of buckshot and ball.

Camp Cobb—16th Regiment Georgia Volunteers.—We were much gratified by a visit yesterday to the camp, at the old Fair Ground, of the 16th Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, commanded by the Hon. Howell Cobb, President of Congress. A finer body of men, or a cleaner, or better regulated camp, we have rarely seen. Although a few weeks ago a considerable number of this regiment were sick with the measles and remittent fever, we are happy to say that now, with very few exceptions, the entire strength of the regiment is fit for duty. The rapid improvement in the health of this corps is, we believe, mainly attributable to the rigid enforcement, by the Colonel and his officers, of the wise rule providing for the sick in camp, and only removing to the hospitals and private houses such cases as could not properly be attended to in the camp hospital, and to the extreme attention paid to the cooking of the soldiers' food, and the cleanliness of all parts of the camp.

During a somewhat protracted visit, we did not hear a single profane expression, nor a word which could offend the ears of the most sensitive. We found the men cheerful and happy, the officers courteous and obliging; the tents airy, scrupulously neat, and well pitched, and the general arrangements for the comfort and good order of the regiment worthy of all commendation.

We understand that the stand of colors voted by Congress at its last session to the corps commanded by its President, is now ready, and will shortly be formally presented by the President of the Confederate States. From what we have seen of this fine body of Georgians, and from what we have heard of their moral and physical discipline, we can predict that they will prove themselves worthy of the proud distinction which the Congress has conferred upon them in the person of their able and popular Colonel.

More Aid for the Sick Soldiers.—Our German friends have resolved not to be behind their native-born fellow-citizens in works of love and mercy. The German Turn Verein will, on Monday evening next, at Monticello Hall, give one of their admirable performances, for the benefit of the sick and wounded Confederate soldiers. The pieces chosen for this occasion are *Zwei Herrn und Ein Diener* and *Studenstreiche*, which are said to be excellent, though we cannot speak knowingly. Of all the performances which have been projected or executed in aid of the Southern cause, not one has been or will be received with more favor by the people of Richmond, indicating, as this does, a universal interest among all nativities in the welfare of our brave soldiers. We hope and believe that the Turn Verein will be greeted by an immense audience.

The Concert to-night.—Do not forget—we were going to say, the concert of to-night, but we will change the phrase, and say—the suffering soldier, whose bed of languishing and sickness may be rendered a pleasant couch by the money you to-night may give to the managers of the grand concert.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

[*FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.*]

FAIRFAX, Sept. 21, 1861.

After a heavy storm, which can be put down as the equinoxial, the weather has become very cool and pleasant. The nights, however, are beginning to grow cold, and indicate the approach of winter. The mornings are also cold and frosty; the skies grow many-colored and hazy; the deciduous trees are beginning to change their summer green; the maples and dogwoods are red and yellow, and the forests show by their mottled tints of green and brown and gold, with here and there a patch of crimson, that we have seen the exodus of summer and the genesis of autumn. Farmers are beginning to gather their corn and to fallow their land for another crop of wheat. Preparations are being made on the plantations for the approaching winter, and also in the army, for the requisitions for warm clothing and for heavy blankets grow more frequent. The health of the troops gradually improves under the kindly influences of the genial weather, and the hospital beds, which have so long borne the weight of anxious sufferers, are being rapidly vacated. The indications are now very cheering, and we can but hope the next two months may be as propitious to our cause as the past two weeks have been.

Nothing of particular importance has occurred in the village of Fairfax or in its immediate vicinity. Matters are remarkably quiet, especially when we consider that this is the centre of the Confederate army, and that within a short distance are the headquarters of both our commanding Generals. For a few days we have been deprived of the usual number of rumors and reports, which, by the way, has deprived newsmongers of their useful occupation, and saved the correspondents many lines of hard riding to ascertain the truth of them. Along the outpost all is quiet. The picketers do not fire with their usual alacrity, and the chiefs spend the days in gazing at each other through their glasses. To give a word of consolation to the people, who are not satisfied with a letter from the army, unless it contains some record of a fight, or at least a preparation for one, I will surmise that this extraordinary calm may be but the prelude to a storm, and leave them to do the speculating as to where and when it will take place.

Visitors are generally very much struck by the appearance in our streets of a number of Yankee vehicles, some of them still retaining the original name and device with perhaps a little addition by the present owner. For instance, every morning a covered wagon, very nicely and strongly constructed, with good springs and an elegant cover, is seen standing before our hotel, waiting for the passengers for Manassa. It was a present from the "New York Defence Committee" to one of the regiments from that State, and was captured July 21, 1861, on the "plains of Manassa." A fine ambulance marked "Second Rhode Island Regiment," is also frequently seen together with others taken from the Massachusetts, Vermont and Connecticut volunteers in the fight at Bull Run. A number of the old forage wagons of the United States Army are in use here, to which horses are attached with U.S. branded upon their haunches. These wagons and ambulances are now in constant use, and are very much admired by our men, as McDowell's legacy to them. By his kindness in furnishing such a goodly number, we have been spared many of the evils that occur from want of sufficient transportation.

Among the many encampments in Virginia, there are none more beautiful or more delightfully situated than the headquarters of Brigadier Gen. Ewell and the regiments which has command. Located upon an extensive covered with an oak grove, in a small unpainted house, containing three or four rooms, are the present quarters of the General. Beyond it, and but a few yards distant, are the tents of the staff, and a little further on, fastened to the trees, are the horses used by the officers. Gen. Ewell himself, with a choice that marks the soldierly habits of the man, lives in a tent in front of the building, in which he messes and transacts the ordinary business of the post. On an opposite hill, about half a mile distant, is the encampment of Col. Lefloh's rifle regiment, from Alabama, and a little farther on, but concealed by a thick wood, is the 12th and the 5th Alabama. The latter is now away on special duty, but their tents are still standing, and their encampment kept up. Scattered around in the thickets are several troops of cavalry, some of which have made themselves well known and dreaded by the valiant Yankees, who sleep with nightly visions of "Black-Horse Cavalry" and flashing sabres, and instinctively keep as far out of their way as possible.

Gen. Ewell, about whom very little has been said, is a medium-sized, spare man, with heavy moustache and whiskers. His massive head is partially bald, with a heavy brow and deep-set eyes of light blue. He is apparently about forty years of age, firm and active in frame, and with a brave, determined look that one cannot fail to observe. His motions are prompt and energetic, and his constantly roving eye takes in all about him, and scans everything stirring about him, no matter how trivial. His dress is exceedingly simple and unostentatious, and one could hardly imagine from its appearance that he was in the presence of the commander of the most efficient and important brigade in the army. A black slouch hat, set firmly upon the head a coat that was used probably when a cavalry officer, dark blue military pants with a buff cord down the seam, thick boots and heavy brass spurs complete the outward appearance of the man. In conversation Gen. Ewell is blunt and deals in very few useless words.—With friends he has a hearty, cordial manner, but with strangers he reserve is natural to those who have their time continually occupied. An occasional smile and merry twinkle of the deep-set blue eye indicates a naturally jovial disposition and a keen appreciation of genuine wit and humor. His *personal* is by no means striking, still one observes at a glance the marks of decided ability and of considerable talent. Heretofore Gen. Ewell has been placed in extremely difficult positions and has had no opportunities afforded him for displaying those qualities for generalship which no one doubts he possesses. As a commander he is concerning his subordinate, attentive to duty, and is much respected and beloved by his men. The Alabamians especially, speak of him in highly complimentary terms, and have entire confidence in his military knowledge and skill. He is a Virginian by birth, was educated for the United States army, served a long time as a cavalry officer, and is now in the front rank of the Confederate army guarding the advanced posts opposite Alexandria.

Among the many reports of the battle of the 21st there are none which do justice to Gen. Ewell, the fault of the writers being entire ignorance of the true facts of the case. I have made careful inquiries as to the movements of his brigade that day, and, without going into detail of the facts elicited, unhesitatingly say that he acted throughout the fight entirely under instructions, and that he obeyed every order that was sent him, or that was forwarded to him from the commanding General. When the report of the battle is given to the public, it will give additional light upon the mysteries which busy brains have hatched up about remissness in duty, couriers killed, failure of orders, and other points which have for two months been thoroughly canvassed.

But enough for the present. I have several things on my note-book—facts gleaned while on a visit to this brigade—which I shall reserve for another letter. Something about the cavalry, the arrangements of the camps, the police regulations, the excellent bakery of Col. Leihal, and the daily detail of camp life, may prove interesting matter for a future communication.

Yesterday a map seller—a man with a decided Hebrew cast of countenance—came into camp with maps of the battle of Manassa. At the first glance one could hardly tell what the engraving represented; but the publishers have kindly added the title to one corner, that there need be no mistake. The whole is inaccurate and false, and is withal badly executed. Any one who was in the battle, and who witnessed the different positions, can easily point out its errors. To whom the blame of this untrue map is attached, I cannot say; the little gentleman with the Hebrew cast of feature places it on the engraver, and says he made the drawing correct; but not only the sketch, but the text had been altered from the original. This map may do, however, to get some idea of the field to those who know of it only through the published accounts, and will probably meet with ready sale.

BOHEMIAN.

☞ AT A MEETING of the Mecklenburg Cavalry, at Camp Philips, on Sept. 6th, 1861, Lieut WM. F. SMALL in the chair, and WM. T. ATKINS acting as Secretary, the following resolutions, offered by Dr. WM. H. JONES, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, our Captain, THOS. F. GOODE, has, by his merits, been promoted to the position of Major:

Resolved, That while we deeply regret his separation from us as commander, yet we would do violence to our own sense of justice if we did not acquiesce in his appointment.

Resolved, That by his uniform courtesy and kindness he has won the love and esteem, and by his gallantry the admiration of every member of this company, and we wish him the most eminent success in any and every position to which he may attain.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the Richmond *Enquirer* and Richmond *Dispatch* for publication.

WM. F. SMALL, Chairman.
WM. T. ATKINS, Secretary.
Camp Philips, York Co., Va.

☞ CORNS, BUNIONS, NAILS, &c., instantaneously removed, without the slightest pain, inconvenience or hindrance, so that immediate ease and comfort is enjoyed, and health and life thus prolonged, by DR. SCHULTZ.
Office, Wall Street Hotel, Wall st. se 25—3t*

Obituaries.

Died, at the residence of his father, Dr. Sydenham Walke, in Manchester, on the morning of the 24th inst., after a brief but painful illness, JOHN R. WALKE, in the 14th year of his age.

In mentioning the untimely death of this unusually intelligent and interesting youth, it is the painful pleasure of the writer to allude briefly to his many admirable traits of character, as well as to some of the consoling incidents connected with his dying moments in reference to his avowed convictions of a blissful immortality beyond the grave.

Handsome and manly in person, agreeable in manners, amiable in disposition, uniformly correct in deportment, and endowed in a remarkable degree with mental vigor and intelligence for one of his years, he was, naturally, a great favorite with all companions of his own age, almost idolized by his parents—indeed, beloved by all who knew him, giving much promise of usefulness and success in maturer years.

A few hours before he breathed his last, he awoke rational and composed from the delirium under which he had been laboring, and turning to his weeping parents, with a countenance beaming with affectionate interest, said, in distinct and thrilling accents, "Father, I'm going home." "Home, my son? you are at home." "No, father, I am not; but I'm going home." "What home, my son?" "My new and happy home." "Where do you mean?" "Heaven," was his reply. "Won't you try to meet me there, father?" "Mother, you will meet me there, and must bring father with you. Doctor, you must try and come, too." His mother said to him, "Johnny, you must pray." "Mother," he replied, "I have prayed, you must pray for me. Ask everybody to pray for me." Such declarations, made in a rational, though dying hour, on the part of one so young, yet so intelligent, are thus mentioned in detail as not only bearing an impressive, though melancholy interest, such as should afford to his afflicted parents and friends the only consolation to be enjoyed in their sad bereavement, but should sink deep in the hearts and live in the minds of all who knew and loved him, and turn their thoughts seriously and earnestly to preparation for that new and happy home to which his vision, through the merciful influence of Divine grace, was directed, and of which he spoke with such calm resignation and composure, to a blissful reunion with the beloved son and brother, the youthful companion and friend.

To illustrate further the beauty of his character and disposition, in a brief interval of reason, between paroxysms of delirium, evidently conscious that his mind had been wandering, he said to his mother and said, "Mother, if I've said anything when out of my head to wound your feelings, you must forgive me." The writer of this notice, from his impressions of Johnny's character, and as a witness of the many incidents of his illness and death, can entertain none other than the abiding and firm conviction that his youthful and gentle spirit has been borne from the sorrows and afflictions of this world to realms of eternal bliss beyond the skies.

Died, at Gloucester Point, on the 19th September, instant, WM. H. H. PARRY, a member of the Richmond Fayette Artillery. He was a native of Richmond county, Va., but had recently resided in Washington city. Upon the secession of his native State, prompted by a lofty patriotism, he returned to aid her in repelling the ruthless invaders from her sacred soil. Since his connection with the company, his soldierly conduct his kindness of heart, and attention to every duty, endeared around him hosts of friends. He was a sincere member of the church, and clearly demonstrated how eminently consistent are the professions of piety with the whole duties of a soldier.

Every attention was paid to him during his last sickness, and he sunk to rest, we hope, to favor with God as he was in charity with the world.

P. S.—At the time of his death he was a member in good standing of the Washington Typographical Union.

Died, in Louisville, Kentucky, on Sunday morning, the 15th inst., MICHAEL HART, Esq., of the city of New York, formerly a resident of Lynchburg, and more recently a resident of this city. He was on his way to Virginia, to make this city his permanent home, and got as far as Nashville where he was taken ill. He returned to Louisville, where a portion of his family are located, and died a few hours after his arrival at the latter place. He leaves a fond and loving wife, six