Richmond Dispatch.

TUESDAY MORNING ... APRIL 8, 1862.

A Reasonable Refuge.

The Paris *Patrie* says a British official has expressed the opinion that a settlement of the American difficulties will take place before the first of June on the following basis: The Southerns are to have Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri. There are to be no custom-houses along the line. Slavery is to be extinguished in thirty years. That is to say, the Yankees are to have all they wish, and we are to have nothing; for it is quite evident that they are fighting for this line, knowing perfectly well that subjugation is impossible. Little do they care to whom the Cotton States, and Virginia and North Carolina, may belong, provided they be allowed to retain the market for their manufactures which they had before the war, and to have free access to our cotton and tobacco, without being subjected to the payment of custom-house duties. So far as the Treasury is concerned, they would doubtless be glad enough to make such a peace. But, we suspect, it requires two to make a bargain, and the present temper of the South is such that we see no ground upon which they can hope for such a consummation at present.

This piece of information would not be worthy of notice under ordinary circumstances. But the source from which it comes suggests a painful suspicion. Can it be possible that France and England have conspired to force a peace upon us upon terms so disadvantageous to us, and so altogether favorable to the Yankees? After their loud protestations of fidelity to the obligations imposed by the law of neutrality, can they mean to violate it to the ruin of one of the belligerent parties? We cannot believe it possible, and yet the assumption is calculated to create internally disagreeable sensations on our part. We are well aware that Lord Russell has been completely flummoxed, and that he takes for gospel all that apostle of lying chooses to tell him. His acts have had so far towards us all the effect of the most active hostility, and the worst of it is, that it has all been done under the pretence of neutrality.

In all history there is no record of any State crime so atrocious as such an intervention would be. Not Catherine II., when she interfered in the civil broils of Poland and ended by taking possession of the greater part of it, was guilty of a more enormous iniquity. And what would be the motive for such a crime? Avarice, pure avarice. The petty traffic of a merchant's counting-house, not any grand political necessity, such as might be expected to govern the actions of a great statesman. Lord Russell sees the British manufacturers in an alarming state of agitation, and their workmen ready to break out into open revolt for the want of our cotton. He first makes a bargain with Seward, by virtue of which England is to become the receiver of stolen goods, and the Yankees are to steal it. This plot not promising much, he conspires with Seward and the Emperor of the French to impose upon us a treaty which must result in our ruin; and all from the basest and most sordid considerations.

We have but one piece of advice to give our countrymen. Oppressed, as we already are, by the weight of a tremendous war, we hope no man will think of submitting even when two mighty empires are thrown into the scale against us. If we are to be hunted like a wild beast for his skin, let us die like the wild beast, fighting to the last. But first let us take care to baffle the avarice of the sporsmen. Let us burn every bale of cotton and every hogshead of tobacco. Let them find nothing when they come to seek us, but steel and gunpowder. If we are to be crushed, crushed let us be; but let us not fall without giving our enemies cause to remember that we once existed. Yet it is by no means certain that we shall fall. As great odds have been encountered before now, and victoriously encountered. Ten millions of people, fighting for all that man holds dear, cannot be conquered if they will but be true to themselves. Never, never, let us submit to the arbitrary dictation of nations who have turned a deaf ear to our solicitations, who have taken the part of an enemy against us without any offence on our part, and who have no claim to interfere with us in any shape whatever.

Napoleonic.

McClellan, not content with rendering himself ridiculous by his proclamation after the affair of Rich Mountain, is on the stilts again. His late "order of the day," announcing an advance upon Richmond, is a parody upon the Napoleonic proclamations. In some places he almost quotes the words of the great conqueror. For instance, Napoleon says, "it will only be necessary to say 'I was in the great battle, under the walls of Moscow,' to authorize the reply, 'there goes a brave man!'" McClellan tells his Yankees, "when this war is over, we will all return to our homes, and feel that we can ask no higher honor than the proud consciousness that we belonged to the army of the Potomac."

Ridiculous as it is in other respects, the first portion of this proclamation is at least instructive. We subjoin it:

"For a long time I have kept you inactive, but not without a purpose. You were to be disciplined, armed and instructed. The formidable artillery you now have, had to be created. Other armies were to move and accomplish certain results. I have held you back that you might give the death-blow to the rebellion that has distracted our once happy country. The patience you have shown and your confidence in your General, are worth a dozen victories.

"These preliminary results are now accomplished. I feel that the labor of many months have produced their fruit. The army of the Potomac is now a real army, magnificent in morale, admirable in discipline and instruction, excellently equipped and armed, your commanders are all that I could wish. The moment for action has arrived, and I know that I can trust in you to save your country. As I ride through your ranks I see in your faces the sure presage of victory—I feel that you will do everything I ask of you."

While McClellan was thus employing the time which we most generously left at his disposal, we were doing nothing, waiting for France and England to come in and fight out our quarrel, under the belief that cotton was king, and ruled all things. Was ever madness like this madness? Was ever folly like this folly? Did infatuation ever so absorb the human understanding?

The Stonewall Brigade.

In every encounter of Gen. Jackson's men with the enemy, they have fairly earned the title won by their sturdy and unconquerable valor at Manassas, the "Stonewall Brigade." The late battle near Winchester was another striking illustration of their bull-dog courage. If Jackson had had a few thousand more men he would have routed the enemy, vast as was his predominance in numbers. He is a "live man," every inch of him, and so is every man in his army. We know the men well, and no Hannibal or Greeks ever pronounced Italian strange with less pretension. That common commodity, a gassy soldier, is not to be found in the whole of the common-sense, iron willed, God in every way manly race, who are defending their native Valley. They are cool, quiet, and cautious. Fifty [illegible] the whole Federal [illegible]

The Greatness of England.

It is by her manufactures as much as by her commerce, and by her arms, that Great Britain has maintained her supremacy among the nations. Whatever the prejudices which the first Revolution left rankling in our minds, embittered though they may have been by the illiberal criticisms of British writers upon America and its institutions, it cannot be denied that, of all the countries in the world, England is the most prosperous and powerful. If the annals of history record any other country as great, as wise and free, we know not what it is. It is wonderful to think of, that a little island, scarce a speck on the ocean's surface, should attain such world-wide supremacy and dominion. In that little island is the throne of the world's finance and the world's trade. The pulsations of the great English heart in London are felt in all the extremities of this creation. The other nations cannot enter upon any great enterprise of war or peace without borrowing money of the English. The men from the far East, the representatives of dusky tribes in India and blackamoors in Africa, Persians, Afghanistans, Turks, Greeks, and Arabs, are seen in her streets, brought thither by the interests of their countries, or by curiosity to behold this wonder of the nations. In her rivers and harbors the ships of all nations, innumerable almost as the waves that bear them, are crowded, her own national flag flying from the masthead of most of them. They bring to her the products of every clime, and in return she conveys to them their products manufactured into articles of use and necessity for the whole world. She exports in one single article of her manufactures more than all the exports of her neighbor France of every kind put together. And small as the imperial island itself is, the sun never sets upon its dominions. In the words of Webster, "her morning drum-beat, beginning with the sun and keeping company with the hours, travels around the globe." Her navy is the most powerful that the world ever saw. All the navies of all the nations of the earth would be no match for the English navy at this moment. A wonderful nation! First in wealth, in commerce, in manufactures, in naval power, she is also first in political wisdom, in civil liberty, and, last but not least, in common sense. She is pre-eminently, the common sense nation of the world; and, in statesmanship, learning, and literature, she can produce a host of names as brilliant and extraordinary as any other nation that ever existed. She is the land of Bacon, of Pitt, of Shakspeare. An island not as large as Virginia, to which all the world pays tribute and reverence!

The example of England must be followed by every nation that would emulate her unparalleled greatness. It is by diversifying her industry that she has become great, by developing, in harmonious proportions, her manufacturing, commercial, and agricultural energies and resources. It is upon these massive pillars her structure of greatness rests. Napoleon called the English a nation of shopkeepers. But that did not prevent them from conquering Napoleon, and from increasing at such a rate in power that the present bearer of his name finds the chief strength of his dynasty in an alliance with Great Britain.—There never was a greater mistake than to suppose that manufactures and commerce enfeeble the warlike energies of a nation. On the contrary, war has become, in these days, so dependent upon mechanical arts, that the soldier himself is but one of the various machines employed in its operations, and it is no longer essential that he should possess great physical powers. The very mobs in manufacturing cities, which are easily dispersed by a file of grenadiers, are converted by military discipline into soldiers, such as followed Havelock in India, or Sir Colin Campbell in the Crimea. So far as the spirit of chivalry is concerned, that is preserved by the nobles, who have in their veins the old Norman blood, and in their character those lofty instincts of the gentleman, which are as transmissible from generation to generation as the peculiar family features. There never were, in the days of Rome or Greece, or in the most heroic hour of the crusades, a more chivalric class of men than the nobility of England, whilst even among the Anglo-Saxon masses there is an ancient and inherent love of fair play which imparts a touch of rude chivalry to the whole population.

This magnificent and wonderful empire, in which there is so much power, wealth, intellect, freedom, is also a land of law, where every great interest of society is secured; where property is safe, life is safe, and crime is punished. It is the pride of the South that it is essentially an Anglo-Norman and Anglo-Saxon race. We cannot do better than study and adopt the policy which has made our ancestors great in their own little isle. What may not the vast and fertile South become, developed by like energies and spirit? In agriculture, it has already made the world dependent upon its labor. But it can never make much progress in power and population till it learns to diversify its industry, and avail itself of its vast natural resources for manufactures and commerce. That these need not diminish its chivalric temper and military aptitude, is shewn by the experience of England, whilst the present war itself gives evidence of the advantages to the North of mechanical skill and resources in the prosecution of hostilities, and really present the most formidable obstacle which the South has to encounter.

Wilmer & Smith's European Times, which appears to be one of the few English papers favorable to the Yankees, expresses the opinion that if the North does not conquer the South in the next ninety days, the European Powers will have to step in, and, for the sake of humanity, both in Europe and America, put an end to the present struggle.

We place no reliance upon the aid of the European Powers. We can achieve our own independence, and will do it, no thanks to any of them. As to the conquest of the South in ninety days, that is a beautiful idea. If it could be effected, it would also be a conquest of the Yankees themselves, and of everything in America in which Europe is interested.—The great staples will be destroyed before they can pass into the possession of our enemies. We have strength enough, at all events, to accomplish this object, and it will be done.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

Interesting Facts about the Newbern Fight—Cotton Burning, &c., &c.

GOLDSBORO', N. C., March 31, 1862.

I have gathered some reliable information in regard to the Yankee loss at the late battle near this point. A letter from a Major was captured by one of our pickets, giving to a friend at the North the particulars of the fight. This Yankee Major writes, "*Our loss was between three and four thousand.*" A gentleman who has just worked his way through the Yankee lines, told me in Newbern this was the estimated loss, and that *one thousand* wounded were sent off just before he left.—Our loss was small, not more than forty were killed.

The raid of the enemy into Washington has led to the burning of large quantities of cotton. Cotton is plentiful and waste, in this whole country, is so placed that at any moment it may be made food for the devouring flames.

The people of this place do not seem in the least discouraged, and from all accounts they will not drive back the foe.

[illegible]

LOCAL MATTERS.

Municipal Election.—We append a list of the candidates elected on yesterday to fill the various municipal offices. It will be seen that most of the present incumbents were re-elected for the ensuing year, there being very little competition, except for the office of Captain of the Night Watch. The election was an exceedingly quiet one, and a far smaller vote was polled than on the same occasion last year, though the aggregate considerably exceeds what we supposed it would be.

	Jefferson Ward.	Madison Ward.	Monroe Ward.
Mayor:			
Joseph Mayo	302	259	216
Martin H. Lipscomb	6	4	36
City Sergeant:			
Thos. U. Dudley	228	354	375
Assessor:			
Isainey M. Miller	226	317	371
City Collector:			
Julius A. Herson	228	321	369
Superintendent Water Works:			
James L. Davis	255	334	372
Superintendent Gas Works:			
John J. Fry	224	324	365
Superintendent of Streets:			
Washington Gill	—	124	176
C. H. Epps	—	10	138
High Constable:			
Geo. A. Freeman	218	324	366
City Gauger:			
Richard Fox	221	321	363
Grain Measurer:			
Henry Davis	221	322	368
Manager Poor-House:			
Jno Pearce	223	322	364
Captain Night Watch:			
J. R. Pleasants	131	80	153
L. M. Carter	62	95	107
Rich'd Reins	21	148	109
L. M. Jude	13	5	11
A. Jenkins	00	00	1

Jefferson Ward.—Hustings Court—A. F. Picot 210, Wm. Taylor 216, N. M. Lee 186, E. A. J. Clopton 214, Richard D. Sanxay 214; scattering 32. Council—R. O. Haskins 214, N. B. Hill 212, James M. Talbott 218, W. H. Richardson 166, A. Y. Stokes 164, R. J. Christian 91, J. H. Greanor 19, Luther Libby 5.

Madison Ward.—Hustings Court—James K. Caskie 302, James Bray 319, Geo. N. Gwathmey 317, Wm. B. Smith 203, John Purcell 216, Sam'l S. Cottrell 163, J. E. Burress 98. Council—D. J. Burr 313, Geo. K. Crutchfield 317, P. R. Grattan 311, J. A. Scott 315, Thomas H. Wynne 305, scattering 10.

Monroe Ward.—Hustings Court—N. C. Lipscomb 366, W. W. Timberlake 362, J. F. Regnault 362, C. E. Anderson 364, J. W. Beveridge 360. Council—D. J. Saunders 359, S. D. Denoon 352, L. W. Glazebrook 364, Thos. C. Epps 359, W. C. Allen 1.

The contest for the Captaincy of the Night Watch was conducted very quietly. In the whole city, L. M. Carter received 264 votes, Richard Reins 278—a majority of 14. James B. Pleasants, for the same office, received 364 votes—an excess of 86 over Reins—and is therefore elected.

Fatal Fall.—Yesterday afternoon Mr. Wm. H. Martin, a well-known master builder of this city, while working upon some portion of the new building of Mr. Haxall, at the corner of 6th and Grace streets, fell a distance of about twelve feet, from one of the windows to the pavement below, fracturing his skull and breaking one of his hips, from the effects of which death almost instantly ensued. Considering the height, or distance, of the fall, the result seems to us really remarkable. Mr. Martin was a worthy man and good citizen, and leaves an interesting family to mourn his sad fate.

List of Prisoners Confined in "Castle Godwin" to March 15th, 1862.—Our readers can rely upon the following as a correct list of all the prisoners confined in "Castle Godwin" up to the 15th instant, together with the charges which led to their arrest. We will endeavor to continue a monthly statement of these committals:

Committed on the 2d of March.—Hon. John M. Botts, of Henrico, treason; C. Crouse, Richmond, seditious language; Lewis Dove, Richmond, disloyalty; Valentine Hechler, Henrico, treason; John M. Higgins, Richmond, treason; Chas. J. Muller, Richmond, treason; Franklin Stearns, Richmond, treason; John Scully, New York, spy; B. Wardwell, Richmond, treason.

Committed on the 3rd of March.—A. O. Brummell, Richmond, desertion.

Committed on the 4th March.—Rev. A. Bosserman, Richmond, treason; Ebenezer Hallock, Richmond, disloyalty; Michael Kearny, Richmond, selling liquor; J. Fentou, Jr., Memphis, Tenn., on suspicion; Mrs. Annie E. Scott, Leesburg, on suspicion.

Committed on the 5th March.—William Fay, Richmond, disloyalty.

Committed on the 6th March.—Daniel Bitter, Richmond, disloyalty; Thomas Bergen, Richmond, selling liquor; John Denzler, Richmond, selling liquor; Henry Fitzgerald, Arkansas, disloyalty; Henry Frischkorn, Richmond, selling liquor; William Williams, Richmond, disloyalty.

Committed on the 7th March.—B. Davis, Henrico, disloyalty; James King, Richmond, disloyalty; James Manville, Delaware, ——; Tobias Pearsall, Richmond, selling liquor; Patrick Sherry, for interfering with the arrest of a prisoner; George Warren, Richmond, selling liquor; H. L. Wigand, Richmond, treason.

Committed on the 9th March.—Henry Wolf, Caskie's Rangers, deserting.

Committed on the 10th March.—S. P. Carusi, Washington, ——; A. J. Lavelle, Crutchfield Artillery, deserting; F. J. Tappey, guard, drunk while on duty; Chas. Williams, Fredericksburg, treasonable language.

Committed on the 11th March.—Captain James E. Leonard, New York city, ——; Philip Helfrick, Richmond, giving away liquor; H. L. Pelouze, Richmond, disloyalty; William R. Read, King George, ——.

Committed on the 12th March.—Thos. Case, Richmond, treason; Francisco Dominick, Richmond, selling liquor; H. P. Derby, Richmond, treason; John Leonard, Richmond, selling liquor; Jos. Marshall, 4th Alabama regiment, for threatening the guard; J. R. Miller, Richmond, selling liquor; John McClelland, Richmond, selling liquor; Frank Ward, guard, drunkenness.

Committed on the 13th March.—Wm. H. Harrison, Richmond, for refusing to take the oath; John M. Jennings, Baltimore, ——; John Kelly, Baltimore, having no pass; John Nash, Baltimore, having no pass; J. B. Taylor, Baltimore, 1st Maryland regiment, deserting.

Committed on the 14th March.—Col. A. H. Adler, ——; Robert Gillin, Richmond, selling liquor; Jas. Rust, Parkersburg, disloyalty.

New Tracts for Soldiers.—Rev. A. E. Dickinson has placed upon our table the following tracts, which have just been issued: "In Camp," by Rev. W. F. Broaddus, D. D; "Why Will Ye Die?" by Rev. A. M. Pointdexter, D. D.; "Don't Swear," by Rev. J. B. Jeter, D. D.; and "Your Soul—How to Save It," by a layman. These publications will be followed by a tract written by Rev. V. T. Moore, D. D., of this city; Rev. Dr. Petrie, Presbyterian Pastor in Montgomery, Ala; Rev. Dr. Hamilton, (Methodist,) Mobile, Ala., and Rev. P. Slaughter, (Episcopal,) Chaplain of a Virginia regiment. We are pleased to know that Rev. Mr. Dickinson accomplished much good in his recent visit to the South, and returns inspired with new hope in behalf of colporotage.

April.—This month has been compared to a young maiden of capricious moods, yet beautiful in her smiles and tears. Ordinarily the comparison is well applied; but the "young maiden" in her present visitation has exhibited none of her wonted smiles, which she might properly have copied from the expiring sunbeams of March, the first-born of spring.

Promotions.—The following promotions have been made in the 1st Regiment Virginia Artillery, formerly commanded by Col. Geo. W. Randolph, now Secretary of War: Henry Coalter Cabell, Colonel; J. Thompson Brown, Lieutenant-Colonel. The office of Major is yet vacant. Prior to the war Col. Cabell commanded the Richmond Fayette Artillery.

An Enterprising Fellow.—The Provost Marshal's guard succeeded yesterday in laying hold of an individual who, under the names of Ford and Crafton, had joined two artillery companies here as a substitute, getting $1,000 in each case from his victims. The prisoner was carried to Castle Godwin. A large number of unprincipled persons have played the above game, and the majority of them have escaped detection.

No Court.—In consequence of the election yesterday the Mayor held no court. There was but one prisoner in the cage yesterday—one Louisa Jenkins, a free negress, arrested about about 10½ o'clock on Tuesday night, for stealing cloth worth of wearing apparel from Capt. John Thompson. It is presumed that the accused will be brought to condign punishment, at the usual hour.

The Church Bell Battery.—A lady correspondent of this paper makes the following excellent suggestions:

In your yesterday's issue you announce the donation of the bell of the second Baptist Church to the Secretary of War, and the intention of the congregation to contribute an amount of money sufficient for the manufacture of a battery. The name proposed seems inappropriate, being liable, from its length, to abbreviation or some ridiculous misnomer, disparaging to our denominational tenets. The object of this communication is to suggest to the Church the propriety of calling it "The Seeley Battery"—a compliment justly merited by our patriotic pastor, who is likely to become a considerable sufferer from the enemy's invasion of his native State, Kentucky.

A LADY OF THE CHURCH.

War Illustrations.—Leo Mallory's admirable serioco automatic exhibition, entitled as above, can be seen at the usual hour to-night at the Metropolitan Hall. It grows in favor with the public.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, April 2, 1862.

A bill reported from the Military Committee to increase the number of depositaries of the public fund, and providing that the incumbents shall not continue in office longer than one year after the war, was passed.

The Senate also passed a bill, reported from the Military Committee, "for keeping the firearms belonging to the Government in the hands of effective men." The bill provides that the President be authorized to raise a force of pikemen, either by companies, battalions or regiments, who are to be organized as infantry, and may be detached for service in regiments of other arms in the proportion of two companies of pikemen to a regiment. Also, providing that in case of the death or discharge of soldiers, their firearms shall be put into the hands of effective men taken from the drilled ranks of the pikemen.

Mr. WIGFALL, from the Military Committee, submitted a report adverse to the resolution of inquiry, as to the expediency of employing negro teamsters in the army of the Confederate States. The report was laid on the table.

Mr. SPARROW, from the same committee, reported back a memorial from citizens of Jackson county, Alabama, in favor of a general draft of soldiers, and suggesting a plan of legislation for the same. Mr. SPARROW said the committee asked to be discharged from further consideration of the memorial, since the Senate had already commenced action upon the subject matter suggested in the bill introduced yesterday and discussed in secret session. This measure embraced every object of the memorialists; but for the purpose of exhibiting the spirit of the people of Alabama in military matters, he would read some passages from a letter accompanying the memorial.

The paragraphs read, state that the county of Jackson, before mentioned, had furnished eighteen companies for the war in the Army of the Confederate States; that all the men able to bear arms had enlisted and gone away, and that the women were making the crops.

The committee were discharged from further consideration of the memorial.

The bill to provide for the payment of dues of deceased soldiers to their families was taken up and discussed at some length.—Every speaker admitted that some steps ought to be taken to pay the arrearages to the relatives of the deceased soldiers; but it was a question of doubt with many of the strict States-rights gentlemen, whether the Senate had a constitutional right to make a law for distribution of property and descent. The bill was under discussion when the Senate went into secret session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, April 2, 1862.

The House met at its usual hour, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. KOONE, of the Presbyterian Church. Journal of yesterday read.

The Clerk read a letter from the Speaker of the House of Delegates tendering the use of the Hall of that body to the House, in which to hold its daily sessions.

Mr. CURRY, of Ala., moved that the House take a recess of five minutes, at the expiration of which time they should meet in the Hall of the House of Delegates. Agreed to.

At the expiration of the five minutes the members convened in the Hall of the lower House of the Legislature, where some little time was occupied in the seating of the members.

Mr. HERBERT, of Texas, moved to suspend the rule requiring the call of States and committees, with a view to take up the bill authorizing the Secretary of War to receive a regiment into the Confederate service for the protection of the frontier of Texas. The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. JONES moved to suspend the call of the States, so as to continue the call of the committees. Motion agreed to, and the rule suspended.

The Chair announced the question to be upon the bill reported by Mr. Garnett from the Committee of Ways and Means, to admit all imports duty free, except such as may be imported from the United States of America. To this bill one or two substitutes were submitted—one by Mr. Clopton, of Alabama, and one by Mr. Russell. These elicited some discussion, which was participated in by Messrs. Perkins of Louisiana, Davis of Mississippi, Dargan and Clopton of Alabama, and Garnett of Virginia. Both substitutes were rejected; and the bill coming up on its engrossment, was read a third time and passed by a vote of—ayes 67, noes 16.

Mr. KENNER, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported back Senate bill with reference to the time of rendering estimates of the several Departments, with a recommendation that it pass. The bill was read at length and adopted.

Also, a bill to remit the duty on railroad iron sufficient to complete the Mississippi and Alabama railroads. Agreed to.

Also, a bill to be entitled an act to authorize the employment of additional clerks in the offices of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. FOSTER moved to amend by inserting as a proviso that no person shall be employed under the provisions of this bill who is subject to military duty. Not agreed to.

Mr. RALLS, of Ala., moved to amend by striking out $1,500 as the salary fixed in the bill, and inserting $1,000. Motion lost.

Mr. HASKELL, of Tenn., offered an amendment that no person shall be appointed under this bill who is under the age of forty years, and who is able to do military duty. This amendment was agreed to.

Mr. MINNES, of Tenn., moved to strike out $1,500 and insert $1,200 as the salary of the clerks provided for in the bill.

Upon this amendment the ayes and noes were called, and the vote resulted—ayes 43, noes 29. With this amendment the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, announcing that that body had passed a bill to increase the number of depositories of public funds, in which the concurrence of the House was asked. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. HERBERT, of Texas, again called up the bill authorizing the Secretary of War to receive into the Confederate service a regiment for the protection of the Texas frontier.

To this bill three different substitutes were offered and rejected, and the bill, after elaborate discussion, was put upon its passage and agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House two or three Executive communications, transmitting reports from the Secretaries of War and the Navy; which were appropriately referred.

Mr. HASKELL, of Tenn., presented a bill to legalize the acts of the Marshals, Deputy Marshals, and District Attorneys of Tennessee. The bill was adopted.

Mr. LYONS then moved that the House adjourn.

A SPIRITED SOUTHERN LADY.—The Abolitionists of Cincinnati desecrated the 22d of February by what they called a celebration and illumination. Mrs. Dickerson, (a true Southern woman, notwithstanding she is the wife of Capt. Dickerson, a Quartermaster in the Federal army,) who was boarding at the Burnett House, declined, in the absence of her husband, to permit the windows in her room to be illuminated. For this she was denounced as a "secesher," and grossly insulted by Mr. Johnson, a clerk in the house, and a Mr. Barbour, a boarder. Indignant at this infamous and unmanly treatment, Mrs. Dickerson immediately left the house, and sought the protection of a friend who resided near the city. When Capt. Dickerson returned and was made acquainted with the circumstances, he inflicted summary chastisement on both Johnson and Barbour, damaging the frontispiece of the latter individual quite seriously, and banging both his peepers in the most artistic style. For this he was brought before the police Court, and pleading guilty, he was fined $35 for assault and battery, which he cheerfully paid.

TERRIBLE HOMICIDE.—We copy the following particulars of a tragic affair which occurred at Knoxville, Tenn., on Saturday, the 29th ult., from the *Register* of the 30th.

Much excitement was created in our city yesterday afternoon by the shooting of Leon Jones, a well known citizen of this county, by a young man from Nashville, a member of Col. Baine's regiment, named Walker Haile. Jones was standing on the corner of Main and Gay streets when Haile approached and shot him through the head with a pistol, killing him instantly. The cause of the act, we hear, was a personal difficulty of some months' standing. Mr. Jones was an unmarried man, but leaves an aged mother and two sisters to mourn this sad occurrence. He was a brother of Hon. G. W. Jones, county judge of this county. Young Haile is the son of a Nashville merchant, and, we believe, was chief bugler in Baine's regiment at Cumberland Gap.

The Battle of Kernstown.

We are permitted to make the following extracts from a private letter written by a young gentleman belonging to the "Rockbridge Artillery," of "Stonewall Jackson's" army:

CAMP BUCHANAN, March 30, 1862.

This is the first opportunity I have had for more than a week to write you a single line, and now I am compelled to be brief and hurried in what I have to tell you about our battle at Kernstown, on Sunday last. It was a terrible fight, and all our men behaved like heroes. No one left his post until ordered off the ground. The loss in our battery was comparatively slight, being less than a dozen. Henry and Charlie are safe, so is George B., &c.; and it is wonderful how we all got off so well. A round shot killed one of our men not far from me, and another cut a spokes out of a wheel by which I was standing with my foot on the hub. Shell burst all around us. One struck a driver on the leg and cut it off, then passing through one horse and entering the body of another, burst inside of it and mortally wounded its rider.

The Second regiment (our own glorious regiment) behaved magnificently, and Colonel Allen proved himself worthy of his gallant command. Amongst many instances of gallantry which characterized the conduct of our men, I must tell you one or two. The banner-bearer of the 52d was shot down, killed; whereupon Lieut. Richard Henry Lee caught up the fallen flag and bore it onward in front of the line until he fell wounded in the thigh. Then Lieut. Davis seized it, when he, too, was shot, and as he fell another man caught it before it touched the ground, when he also was mortally wounded. Col. Allen then sprang from his horse, took up the tattered standard from the ground, and gallantly charged at the head of his regiment, with the consecrated colors in his hand. The flagstaff was shot in two, and bears, besides, the marks of fourteen bullet-holes!

Harris Towner was killed, and John Peaman also, of Shepherdstown. Poor Selby Hamtramck was wounded in the hip and left on the field.

Bushrod Washington was wounded, and, when asked to leave the field and go to the rear, replied that "*not so long as he had a drop of blood left in his body would he cease fighting for Virginia.*" His brother stood by him and assisted him in loading his gun, when the enemy's reinforcements came up and both the poor boys were killed.

Our battery lost one gun and two caissons; but the execution we did upon the enemy greatly exceeded the loss we sustained. A regiment of infantry, charging on us came up to within a hundred yards of our battery, when our canister scattered them like scared sheep, and made them run, all that were left of them, like so many —— Yankees!

The Minie balls of the sharp-shooters rattled like hail around us, killing five of our horses, and wounding some of our men. But, as I said before, our battery escaped wonderfully well. We retired in good order, at our leisure, and regard the result as by no means discouraging; for with less than 3,000 we fought from three to five times our number of fresh troops until night put a stop to the engagement. Our loss was 400, all told; that of the enemy from 1,200 to 1,500.

On the evening after the battle my gun, with Chew's and Blakely's, were ordered to check the enemy's advance, and cover the retreat of our men, when a full battery opened upon us, and did some very good firing. One shell struck immediately in front of me. I threw myself on my face, and the fragments flying over me killed a horse from under a Sergeant who was directly behind me. Another came rushing over our heads, and, bursting behind us, killed five and wounded ten of the infantry who were supporting us. We then let loose upon a column of cavalry which was cautiously approaching us, and cut them up considerably.

Yesterday morning my gun was again ordered down to picket with Col. Ashby, and we gave the enemy a few rounds. So you see how busily we are kept at our work. Within the last five days we have marched 100 miles and have been in three engagements.

A. R. B., Jr.

THE CAPTURE OF THE ENGLISH STEAMER LABUAN.—We have heretofore had information of the seizure, by a Federal blockading vessel, of the English steamer Labuan. The Havana *Diario*, of a recent date, gives the following account of the affair:

The English merchant propeller Labuan, of Hull, 723 tons burden, left this port, arrived at Matamoras on the first of January last, and discharged her cargo of merchandize, consigned to Messrs. Droege, Oetling & Co., merchants of that place. As all the commercial world knows, Matamoras is about forty miles from the mouth of the Rio Grande—As that river has a bar, vessels of heavy draft are compelled to anchor outside. For this reason, in the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, between Mexico and the United States, the neutral waters of both nations were extended a marine league north and south of said river, which is considered the port of Matamoras.

The Labuan had dispatched for Havana the 24th of January. She had on board 439 bales of cotton, of which 269 are the property of Messrs. Jersey & Co., of Manchester, and the 170 remaining belong to Don Francisco Armandez, a Spanish merchant residing in Matamoras. The Captain had gone to the mouth of the river with the rest of the cargo and $150,000 in silver. He was detained there by bad weather till the 1st of February, when arrived the United States sloop-of-war Plymouth, 22 guns, Commodore Swartwout.—She took possession of the Labuan, and on the 4th that steamer had disappeared.

The British Vice-Consul, Mr. Blecker, on the 5th of February, went on board the Portsmouth, which vessel had raised the French flag. In his interview with the commander, the latter refused to inform the Consul to what port he had sent the Labuan, telling him only that he had taken the vessel because she had cotton on board. That he (the commander) intended to capture every vessel he should meet containing cotton, because he considered that article contraband of war, as the production of Texas or some other rebel State.

The *Diario* has two long articles denouncing the act of the Federal officer, as a violation of the law of nations and of treaty stipulations.

YANKEE TRADERS IN NASHVILLE.—After the occupation of Nashville by the enemy, large stocks of goods were sent to that city by Yankee merchants, who want to do a little trading while the army does the fighting. A telegram to the Northern Associated Press says:

The steamer Graham returned this afternoon from Nashville. Very few, if any, of the St. Louis merchants went on her to Nashville, were satisfied with the result.—Some of them sold their goods at a sacrifice, so as to return on the same boat, while others unwillingly remained, in order, if possible, to effect sales at better prices. Specie and bills of the banks in loyal States are scarce, but nearly every shop-keeper is getting daily an amount of United States Treasury notes, which they are already eager to secure. Anxious inquiries were made for cotton, turpentine, rosin, etc., for which specie would have been given, but nothing of the kind could be had except about two hundred bales of cotton, which a resident of Nashville shipped on his own account per steamer Madison. Southern bank bills, especially those of Tennessee, were abundant, but the people of Nashville are being rapidly convinced of the worthlessness of that paper.

Some of the merchants have ordered goods from Louisville, Cincinnati, and probably other cities. The steamer Graham brought back a portion of the goods she took to Nashville. She left the Lacrosse at Paducah, bound to Nashville, with a similar cargo.—The Adriatic, the first arrival at Nashville with goods from St. Louis, is due on her return trip, and is probably bringing back a portion of her cargo.

The Memphis *Appeal* remarks:

The currency is not the only, or even the chief difficulty encountered by the "traders." Our information is, that the people of Nashville roundly refused to buy the wares of their would be masters, and that many of the goods had been reshipped to the North.

The people of the United States will discover some of these days that the Southern people cannot be bought with a mess of pottage.

AN ASSUMPTION OF POWER.—The following orders have been issued by the usurping authorities at Nashville:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
NASHVILLE, March 20, 1862.

Having been officially notified by Gov. Tod, of Ohio, that many of my fellow-citizens of Tennessee are now confined as prisoners of war at Camp Chase, I have appointed Connally F. Trigg, Esq., as a commissioner to interpose in their behalf.

I have instructed him, should he be entrusted by their friends with letters or money, or other articles of value or comfort, not inconsistent with their conditions as prisoners of war, to see the same promptly and carefully delivered.

ALBERT JOHNSON,
Military Governor.

I shall leave this city on Saturday, the 22d inst., for Camp Chase, and in obedience to the instructions above recited to, will take charge of, and deliver to any of the prisoners there confined, letters and such articles of value or comfort, not inconsistent with their conditions as prisoners of war, as their friends may feel inclined to intrust me with.

CONNALLY F. TRIGG, Commissioner.

A CURIOUS OFFICER.—A Canadian paper says that one of their officers, on learning that the militia were to be called out, sent his commission to his Lieut.-Colonel, endorsed as follows:—"Dear Colonel, I beg to resign my commission. Being a disciple of Knox, I cannot take up the cord."

THE BATTLE IN ARKANSAS.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

From the Memphis *Appeal*, of the 29th ult., we take the following interesting particulars of the late battle in Arkansas. It will be seen that our army has nothing to blush for in the recent engagement in that State with the Yankees, notwithstanding they outnumbered us, as usual, two to one:

We had an interview yesterday with an officer direct from our army in the West, and from him obtained the following interesting details of the battle at Sugar Creek, or Elkhorn.

Gen. Price had remained at Springfield until the enemy were in six miles of the town, when he put his army in motion toward the Arkansas line. There was more or less skirmishing between his rear guard and the enemy's advance until he crossed into Arkansas and effected a junction with Van-Dorn and McCulloch. In all these skirmishes, our informant says the Missouri sharp shooters invariably got the best of their pursuers.—Price's object was to draw them down into Arkansas, since Van-Dorn had not joined him at Springfield.

The Confederates rested a few days at Cove creek, in Washington county, Arkansas, some thirty miles below the line. At length Gen. Van-Dorn having got ready, he determined to go in search of the enemy, and to make the attack himself. The troops were ordered to cook five days' provisions, and move upon the enemy, who had stopped at Sugar creek. At Bentonville, on their way up, they encountered the Federal rear guard, and had quite a brisk skirmish, in which we lost one man and the enemy eight or ten. We also took one piece of artillery there. The Confederates marched all that day and night without food or sleep, and came up with the enemy in the Sugar creek hills at half past 10 o'clock A. M., when the action at once became general. The enemy was completely surrounded, General Price attacking them on the north and Gen. McCulloch on the west.

It is now generally believed that we made a mistake in surrounding the enemy and cutting off every avenue of escape. It is thought that if we had attacked them from one side only, as it is understood Gen. Price proposed, we should have driven them out and taken everything they had on the sun went down. As it was, we drove them for two miles from all their strong positions, and held their encampment during the night, with the greater part of their commissary stores, on which our half famished men fed.

Many of our troops who were supposed to be captured by the enemy have come in, and our whole loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, will not exceed six hundred, viz: one hundred and twenty-five killed, two hundred and seventy-five wounded, and two hundred prisoners. The enemy's loss was far greater—probably five to our one. A Federal Colonel who was taken on the evening of the first day, says their loss up to that time was terrific—probably twelve hundred to fifteen hundred—and the next morning they lost many more, among whom were several officers. Such prisoners as have escaped from them, say that there was no exultation among them, so heavy had their losses been. The Confederates took two hundred and twenty-five prisoners.

On the morning of the 8th, the enemy, having taken a strong position during the night, re-opened the fight. The action became general, and continued until about half past nine o'clock, by which time Gen. Van-Dorn had completed his arrangements to withdraw his forces