Richmond Dispatch.

MONDAY MORN'G.....APRIL 14, 1862.

Their Real Purposes.

That any man should put faith in the pacific and honorable intentions which the Yankees profess, in the event of our submission to their benignant rule, is one of the most amazing instances of human credulity that the world has ever seen. The poor bird who has been charmed by the fascinating gaze of a serpent does not show greater weakness and folly. If this war has proved anything, it has proved that not one word our enemies say is to be relied upon. Truth, never having a very vigorous root in their section, seems to have fallen into utter disrepute since the beginning of this war. At no time an object of idolatry, it has been so kicked and cuffed about by them, under the agreeable rule that deception in war is perfectly allowable, that its best friends would not know it from a lie. Truth is a deity which the Yankees, even in peace, never allotted a place in their Pantheon, but in this war it has never been brought out, except as Quilp, when in a bad humor, brought out the wooden effigy of the admiral, to punch a hole in its cheeks, or clip off a piece of its nose, or put out its eyes. If there is anything in the world they seem to have a special spite against, it is Truth, which they hate worse than slavery, and never so much as look at, except by accident. Any Yankee who could be suspected of giving a truthful account of one battle that has occurred in this war, or an accurate statement of the character of any man engaged in it, or a candid opinion of its probable character and objects, would be instantly sent to Fort Lafayette. All Europe is struck dumb with their mendacity, which is said to have excited more horror even than slavery among the Old World abolitionists; and the Chinese, who have hitherto been considered the greatest liars in the world, are ashamed to show their faces in public, since the only quality in which they claimed pre-eminence above the rest of mankind, has been surpassed by the ambitious Yankees.

If any sane man in the South, after the daily and hourly proofs of the total hollowness and falsehood of our enemies in this war, can still be deceived by their professions, his friends should institute a commission *de lunatico inquirendo* without farther delay. What promise that they made have they kept? Did not Seward, at the beginning of the war, give the most solemn assurances to the Southern Commissioners that no reinforcements would be sent to Fort Sumter, and that the United States forces would be withdrawn, while at that very moment he was preparing to reinforce the fort to the full extent of his power, and bring on a bloody and desolating war? Did he not deceive Virginia in the same manner, and by false assurances so completely win her confidence that she had well nigh fallen into the pit he had prepared for the common destruction? And, putting even this basest of all Northern men out of the question, what has been the course of that party in the North which is most conservative, and which has always been loudest and most eloquent in its professions of love for the Constitution and justice to the South? They constitute at this moment the very back bone of this invasion. Without the money and political weight of cities which had hitherto professed to be conservative, the war, if it had ever begun, would long ago have come to an end. Where are the Dickinsons, the Everetts, the Cushings, the Dixes, the Butlers, now? What has become of principle, of consistency, of good faith, among those to whom the South once looked as a bulwark against the crusade of abolition? With one or two exceptions, the conservative politicians of the North have not only deserted us, but are urging on with might and main this desolating war, whilst the few good men in Sodom, who keep aloof from its iniquities, are overawed and crushed into silence and subjection by a tremendous military despotism.

The Lincoln Government promised to release our prisoners at Fort Donelson on parole, and sent them to Chicago. They promised to exchange gallant privateers, whom they have kept ironed like criminals in loathsome cells since the beginning of this war; but as soon as they had succeeded in making a larger number of prisoners than those in our possession, they shamefully refused to keep their word. They proclaimed safety and protection to the Southern region which should be occupied by their armies, and they have fulfilled their promise by destroying furniture, burning houses, arresting and imprisoning, and sometimes murdering in cold blood, peaceful and unoffending citizens. Burnside and Goldsborough made a pompous proclamation on the coast of North Carolina that they came there with the most Christian and humane intentions, and followed it up by deliberately shelling a town full of women and children, without giving them an opportunity to escape, and even firing upon vessels which were carrying off the helpless and terror stricken fugitives. And are we to believe such a people still, when they promise that, if we will only yield to their demands, we shall not surely die?

The truth is, even if they were so disposed, they have no means of paying off their enormous debt without the wholesale spoliation and plunder of the South. Is any one verdant enough to imagine that, if the Yankee succeeds in our conquest, he is going to pay that debt himself, or any part of it? The whole of more than a thousand millions—the whole of it, to the last farthing—will be wrung from the vanquished in one form or another. If, ruined and bankrupted by defeat, it cannot be squeezed from us in any other way, it will come by the universal confiscation of all Southern property. Their army has already been promised a division among them of the fair fields of the South, and this is one of the few promises made in this war which is intended to be kept. Cupidity, interest, revenge, all point alike to this inevitable conclusion. The history of the whole Puritan race is one which gives no glimpse of hope that when the property of their neighbors is at their mercy justice or compassion will ever induce them to forego the opportunity of its appropriation. Their whole philosophy upon this subject is embraced in the resolutions adopted by the first Puritan settlers in America:—"Resolved, That the earth belongs to the saints. Resolved, That we are the saints." The Indians were made to feel the practical operation of that philosophy to the confiscation of all they had and the extermination of their whole race, and the Dutch, by a more pacific, but equally unprincipled process, were elbowed out of their possessions. The most instructive lesson, however, and one which the South should solemnly ponder, is that quoted by the Richmond *Whig*, in reference to Cromwell's invasion of Ireland, which, our contemporary observes, was conducted on precisely the plans and with identically the same purposes which actuate our foes. The reader will find the same treachery mark every step of his progress. Soon after landing a powerful and well equipped army in Ireland, Cromwell published a proclamation, forbidding his soldiers, on pain of death, to hurt any of the inhabitants, or take anything from them, without paying for it in ready money. This was so strictly executed, that, even in his march from Dublin to Drogheda, where he was guilty of that horrid butchery [he took the place by storm, and, after having promised quarter, massacred all his prisoners,] and breach of faith before mentioned, he ordered two of his private soldiers to be put to death in the face of the whole army, for stealing two hens from an Irishman, which were not worth two pence:

"Upon this strict observance of the proclamation, together with positive assurances given by his officers, that they were for the liberties of the Commons and that every one should enjoy the freedom of his religion, and that those who served the market at the camp should pay no contribution, all the country people flocked to them with all kinds of provisions, and due payment being made for the same, his army was much better supplied than that of the Irish ever had been."

The conquest having been secured, the disguise is thrown off. "On the 16th September, 1653, the English Parliament declared that the rebels in Ireland were subdued and the rebellion ended, and thereupon proceeded to the distribution of their lands."

The whole kingdom was surveyed, and the number of acres, taken with the quality of them, all the soldiers brought in their demands for arrears, and each man received, by lot, as many acres as should answer the value of his demand.

The best land was rated only at four shillings an acre, and some only at a penny. The soldiers drew lots on what part of the kingdom their lots should be assigned them.—Great abuse was committed in setting out the adventurers' satisfaction for the money they had advanced at the beginning of the war; for they had whole baronies set out to them in gross, and they employed surveyors of their own to make their admeasurement.

What lands they were pleased to call unprofitable they returned as such. The soldiers' land returned as unprofitable amounted to 606,670 acres. In this manner was the whole kingdom divided between the soldiers and the adventurers of money.

Cromwell and his Council, finding the utter extirpation of the Irish nation to be in itself very difficult, and to carry in it somewhat of horror that made some impression upon the stone-hardness of their own hearts, after so many thousands destroyed by the sword, famine, and by the plague, and after so many transported into foreign parts, found out the following expedient of transportation, which they called "An Act of Grace:"

"There was a large tract of country, even to the half of the province of Connaught, that was separated from the rest by a long and large river, and which, by the plague and many massacres, remained almost desolate.

"Into this space they required all the Irish, whom Cromwell had declared innocent of the rebellion, to retire by a certain day under the penalty of death, and all who after that time should be found in any other part of the Kingdom—man, woman, or child—might be killed by any who saw or met them.

"The land within this circuit, the most barren in the Kingdom, was, out of the grace and mercy of the conquerors, assigned to those of the nation who were enclosed in such proportions as might with great industry preserve their lives, and to those persons from whom they had taken great quantities of land in other provinces they assigned greater proportions within this, on condition that they should give evidences of their former rights and titles, and bar themselves and heirs from ever laying claim to their old inheritance.

"By this means the plantation, as they called it, was fleshed, and all the Irish natives were enclosed within that circuit, the rest of Ireland being left to the English. Some few estates were left to the old proprietors, who, being all Protestants, had either never offended them or had served them, or had made compensation for their delinquencies.

"The Irish were to confine themselves to Connaught, so that the new English planters might proceed, without interruption, and without that degradation which former age had experienced from an intercourse with the Irish, and the natives, divided by the Shannon from the other provinces, and surrounded by the English garrisons, might be restrained from their old barbarous incursions.

"These colonists were transported (to Connaught) without stock, cattle to stock, ploughs to cultivate, servants to aid, or houses to shelter them; they were not to set up their tents in four miles of the sea, two miles of the Shannon, or enter any garrison town without orders on peril of life."

With truth, does the *Whig* observe, that "from these instructive extracts we may read our own fate, if we should yield either to the threats or promises of the Yankees. The confiscation of lands, to be drawn for by lot among a licentious and foreign soldiery; the seizure of our country, schools, pulpits, with every State and local office by the most vicious and vindictive of our enemies; the lawless mixture of negroes, foreigners and fanatics, would so transform our once happy country that the doom of the poor Irish would be indeed an act of grace. The Virginian, seeing his country the home of vice, infidelity and enmity to all he reverences, would gladly go to any wilderness where his children might forget a country he could not rescue."

Our only salvation from such a destiny is determined and eternal resistance. There is no other possibility, no other hope of deliverance. And in that is certain redemption, victory, and retribution.

NEW MUSIC.—We have received a copy of the "Beauregard Bull Run Quickstep," composed by Mr. J. A. Rosenberger, well known to our citizens as the former skillful leader of the orchestra at the Theatre, and now a member of the First Regiment Band. It is a composition of five pages, with a handsome frontispiece, representing Beauregard on the field of battle; and we are informed by Mr. Hirshberg, a member of the Band, that it is really beautiful. Indeed, when the piece was performed at Beauregard's headquarters, at Centreville, the gallant chieftain said: "The quickstep is musical and beautiful. I hope you will soon have the opportunity of playing it on our march upon the enemy, and on the other side of the Potomac." The fortunes of war have transferred Beauregard to another field, where he is now gloriously contending with the enemy; and at this particular juncture the musical composition possesses more interest than ever. We suppose our booksellers will lose no time in procuring a supply. It is published by P. P. Werlein and Halsey, New Orleans.

CHURCH BELLS.—The Methodist Protestant and Protestant Episcopal Churches, Abingdon, Va., have tendered their bells to the Government. The Churches in Fredericksburg and Harrisonburg have taken similar patriotic action.

COL. TURNER ASHBY.—This gallant and brave officer has already won for himself a name that will ever be remembered with grateful pleasure by the people of the Valley of Virginia. He has probably done more active and dangerous and valuable service than any other man engaged in the war. From the time the first blow was struck up to this hour he has been one of the most resolute, active, and daring soldiers the Confederacy has had in her service. He has become a perfect terror to the invading foe, and his presence is hailed with joy by those whose homes are threatened by the despoiler. He is modest and unpretending as he is chivalrous and brave. He sits quietly upon his horse, watching the foe with the eye of an eagle, and is always ready to come down upon him as occasion demands. He has annoyed and harrassed the enemy at all points, and is constantly interposing every conceivable barrier to his advance. If there is a soldier in the service who deserves the earliest and highest promotion, that man is Col. Turner Ashby; and yet we confess we should be sorry to see him taken from his present useful and honorable position, as we do not believe his place can be readily supplied.—*Rockingham Register.*

COL. TIFF'S MARSH RAM.—We read the following from the Atlanta *Intelligencer*, of the 8th:

"All eyes are now looking with anxious solicitude to the movements of the enemy on and near the Mississippi, and all seem to think the great commercial city of the West would be safe, if the mighty Sea Monster now near its completion, under the supervision of Col. Tiff, could be finished in a few weeks. We understand the plates for her entire covering are now rolled, and most of them laid down, and the work is now near a stand still for want of a few tons of bolt iron from the Etowah Iron Works. We know the head of that large and valuable establishment is not deficient in energy or patriotism, but fear he may have given other work priority in importance. In our opinion the capture of New Orleans, and with it the boat in question, would give the enemy entire control of the West. Shall the want of a few tons of bolt iron lead to that result? We hope not."

A PLAGUE.—We learn that a fearful disease has made its appearance in Carter county, Tenn. The symptoms of the disease are similar to those of congestive fever or cold plague, and a few hours its victim is dead. Last Monday morning there were four corpses in one house. In the last ten days twenty or thirty have fallen before it, and we learned, while at Elizabethton this week, that it was still on the increase.—*Jonesborough Express.*

LOCAL MATTERS.

Disloyalty.—Samson Bell, an immigrant from Connecticut, a shoemaker by trade, and resident of Fulton, below Rocketts, was arrested on Saturday by detective Thomas for disloyalty, and conveyed to Castle Godwin and locked up. On seeing the officer approach, Bell retired by way of a culvert in his yard to a sort of den he had built under his house, and though he was known to be on the premises, such was the ingenuity displayed in fashioning his place of concealment, a considerable time elapsed before the officer was enabled to unkennel him.

Examination for Murder.—The case of Wm. D. Bowman, who is accused of the murder of Geo. Bailey, a trooper, by hitting him on the head with a brickbat, on Monday last, will be before the Mayor this morning for examination. Sundry witnesses were called on Friday, whose evidence led to the belief that the brickbat that hit Bailey was thrown by Bowman partly at the invitation of Bailey, who was intoxicated, and had invited the accused to cast the missile at his capnt. A slight misunderstanding had previously occurred between the parties relative to the health of a horse that deceased, as a trooper, had declined to ride.

Indictment Found.—The Grand Jury of the Confederate District Court was in session on Saturday, and had under consideration the case of George W. Elam, who stood charged with forging and passing counterfeit Confederate treasury notes. The case has been so often alluded to that no further reference is deemed essential at this time. The indictment was voluminous, embracing 24 closely-written pages, detailing the operations of the defendant in all its stages, so far as known to the prosecuting attorney. The legal result of this labor was 19 counts—each and all of whom might be considered dangerous to the peace and welfare of the defendant. The defendant, Elam, was indicted on several counts of the above indictment. The Court sits today.

Remanded for Indictment.—Michael Sweeny was brought before the Mayor on Saturday, charged with robbing John O'Brien of $17 in bank notes. The defendant proved to be a party who had sold himself as a substitute in an artillery company in this city, the sergeant of which had expressed a desire to reclaim him. This fact did not prevent the Mayor on Saturday from examining into the merits of the case, and remanding Sweeny for indictment by the next Hustings Court Grand Jury, the theft being clearly proved. No doubt Sweeny committed the theft for the purpose of avoiding military duty, after having realized all he could hope to gain by becoming a soldier. After putting it in some place of concealment, he has taken measures, like a prudent man, to put himself in the same kind of a condition.

Captured.—Bill McDonald, who made his escape from the penitentiary a few days since, was re-captured last evening by Messrs. John Drake, Henry Franklin, and Frederick Gray, of the city watch. Bill was walking towards town on the Central Railroad, having left his place of concealment in the outskirts for the purpose of finding more comfortable quarters. He will be provided with them at once at the expense of the Commonwealth.

City Police.—The city police arrested Saturday, Emeline, slave of John Higgins, charged with disfiguring J. R. Hicks's dog in one of the public streets. Alderman Lee repaired to the cage and allowed the criminal to "vamose the ranch."—Daniel Lanigan was arrested on the same day for stealing a $4 gold ring from Hammet A. Pearce, jeweller.—Robert, slave of Taylor & Baptist, was locked up for trial this morning for being found in possession of a ham of bacon and eight bottles of ink, supposed to have been stolen from his employers.—Bernard Deuning was arrested at a very late hour Saturday night, while making some unwelcome physical demonstrations in front of Miss Sarah Roach's door.—Two white men also found a lodgment in the lock-up, both for being drunk, one in the Old Market house and the other in an alley. The question arises, where did they get their "licker?"

The French Officers.—Capt. Clopiant and Lieuts. de Beaumont and Villepertin, the three French officers who lately left Washington and came into our lines and gave the slip we up with a request that the Southern Confederacy would assign them employment under its flag, have been treated since their arrival in Richmond with all the consideration and respect which was due to their peculiar case. We learn from gentlemen who have conversed with them in their native tongue, that they are highly educated and intelligent, and express the high gratification it would give them to show their faith by their works. They have been visited by many of the French officers now in our service, and yesterday by Mons. Alfred Paul, the Consul of His Imperial Majesty at this port. They were also escorted on that day by Capt. Alexander, Assistant Provost Marshal, to many points of interest within the limits of the city, which attention was gracefully acknowledged on their part. Each of these men have received a military education, and, it seems, would do good service in our cause.

A Sweet Tooth.—Billy, slave to Mrs. Sally Vanderson, was carried before the Mayor on Saturday and ordered to be punished for stealing twelve cakes from Mrs. Schoenberber. The theft was not proved to have been inspired by hunger. The provision was taken merely to provide against a scarcity, which the Mayor thought was wholly imaginary on the part of the defendant. While the presiding functionary would forgive the filching of a rasher of bacon for hunger's sake, it was his duty to punish uncalled for aggressions on the property of inoffensive citizens, and he meant to do it come weal or woe.

Metropolitan Hall.—This pleasant and popular Hall is the focus of highly attractive to all who look with admiring eyes on the wonderful in mechanical science, and the beautiful in diorama painting. Lee Mallory's "War Illustrations" continue to draw crowded audiences, eager to see the many-changing phases of rural scenery and camp life, and the movements of the thousands of Lilliputian figures which the hand of ingenuity compels to perform their part in the Manassas war drama. There is enough that is splendidly beautiful and enough that is laughable, to suit every variety of taste. We have incidentally alluded to some of the striking features of this diorama, but the more we see of the night scene, when the sentry are on duty guarding the camp of Manassas, and the views of cavalry and baggage wagons passing in the background, the better we like it. Looked at purely as a work of art, this scene is complete in all its harmonious proportions.

Palm Sunday.—Webster defines this occasion "the Sunday next before Easter, so called in commemoration of our Saviour's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the multitude strewed palm branches in the way." The ceremonies incident to its observance in all Catholic countries are invested with peculiar solemnity. The festival of Palm Sunday was appropriately observed yesterday by the Episcopalian and Catholic churches of this city.

The Penalty.—Selling liquor, when the practice is forbidden by martial law, entails considerable to personal liberty, and to the pockets of parties offending. At least one of the parties lately arrested here by the Provost Marshal, has been fined $100 by the Court Martial, with the option of going to jail in default of payment. The fine was paid, as a matter of course.

Burned.—The alarm of fire at a late hour on Friday night was caused by the burning of Robert Beard's iron foundry, in Manchester, south side of James river, near the end of Mayo's Bridge. It was a wooden structure, newly erected, and the proprietor had but lately gotten to work. The fire is supposed to have been the act of an incendiary.

Shakspearian Readings.—Mr. F. C. Bangs, the celebrated Shakspearian reader, will give an exhibition this evening, at the African Church. From the high terms in which Mr. B. is spoken of by those who are familiar with his reading, we feel justified in advising our readers to give him a full house to night.

Arrested.—The Provost Marshal's police arrested, on Saturday, two men, named James P. Neagle and Jack Hart, and placed them in Castle Godwin for selling liquor contrary to order. Neagle lives on Main street, near the County Court House, and Hart at Rocketts.

We stated that Hon. John M. Botts had been taken, a few days since, before the Court Martial for trial. We should have said that he had been taken before a Court of Enquiry for examination, which we have since learned was the true state of the case.

"The Varieties."—The attraction to-night at this place of amusement is of an interesting character. Let there be a full attendance.

THE WAR.

LATE AND INTERESTING NEWS

The Southern and Western mails yesterday brought a large number of papers, which contain highly interesting details of recent events. We append a summary:

THE BATTLE OF SHILOH.

The Memphis papers, of the 7th, contain nothing in addition to what we have already published concerning the great battle of Shiloh. The Knoxville *Register*, of Thursday, however, contains some additional particulars, which we copy:

We received yesterday but meagre details from the battle of Shiloh, near Corinth.—What we gather from passengers who left Corinth on Tuesday morning is somewhat vague. The victory of the Confederates on Sunday is fully confirmed. Our troops pursued the routed Federal army to the Tennessee river, where great numbers of them were drowned endeavoring to embark upon their gunboats—one of their transports, it is said, was captured, consigning its human freight to a watery grave. Our army slept in the enemy's tents on Sunday night.

During the night Buell's army of 80,000 reached and crossed the river, and on Monday morning attacked our forces. The battle of Monday is said to have been as desperate and bloody as that of Sunday, but our troops, running short of ammunition, were compelled to fall back upon Corinth, which, at last accounts, they were doing in good order, having taken a large additional number of prisoners. A private dispatch, received yesterday, says that the enemy retreated to their gunboats on Monday, and there has been no fight since.

The prisoners taken on Sunday were sent under guard towards Corinth. Buell sent a brigade of cavalry to attempt to rescue them, but a story of Confederate cavalry and artillery from Corinth, not only frustrated the movement, but also captured the whole of the brigade of Federal cavalry.

Our informant saw Gen. Prentiss a prisoner at Corinth, and saw him meeting with his command who were brought in prisoners after him. He made a speech on Monday night to his fellow-captives. Several of the flags borne by the prisoners were inscribed—

"To Corinth or Hell."

Our troops were compelled to abandon a portion of the cannon captured on Sunday, we presume, owing to their crippled condition, but spiked them before leaving them.

The following dispatch was received yesterday in this city from a member of Colonel Cummings's regiment:

"The 19th Tennessee regiment capitured an entire Federal regiment—the 221 Illinois—Col. Cummings and Major Fulkerson both slightly wounded. Capts. Walker and Willett both wounded—the latter since dead.—Lieut. Gregg, of Jonesboro', and Lieut. Miles, of Blountville, both wounded. Knoxville boys all safe."

It appears from a statement in the Memphis *Avalanche* that Governor Harris, of Tennessee, was in the battle. That paper says:

This is a spirit worthy of the ancient and best days of our Commonwealth. Let those who a short while since were so ready to censure Gov. Harris go and do likewise. We wonder where the Military Governor, Andy Johnson, was when the trenchant steel shimmered 'neath the April sun, and the death shot hailed in below on the banks of the broad Tennessee? Was he so near the front of danger then as the Governor of our choice?

The Atlanta *Confederacy* gathers the following items about the battle of Monday from a gentleman just arrived from Chattanooga:

Buell's army numbered some 65,000 men, and ours 35,000. We took between 6,000 and 7,000 prisoners and all the batteries of the enemy on Sunday. The fight on Monday was furious and desperate for a time; the left wing of our army forced a whole brigade into the Tennessee river, at Lee's Landing, but our left wing was overpowered with overwhelming numbers and had to fall back, when our whole army was ordered to retreat, without being pursued. In this retreat we lost some four pieces of artillery and all the commissary stores we had captured.

ISLAND NO. 10.

On Tuesday night last, says the Memphis *Appeal*, of the 7th, one of the enemy's gunboats passed our fortifications and Island No. 10 during the storm. She passed down under observation, we heard, of our commanders, but was only to be seen by the flashes of lightning. Many shots, we hear, were fired at her, but at random, the instant of light being too transient and fleeting for our gunners to make anything else than a random shot, by guess, in the darkness of the night and the fury of the storm. She is at New Madrid under cover of the enemy's battery. It is believed the Federals are erecting rafts or boats, upon which they hope, by the assistance and aid of this gunboat, to land their forces on the Tennessee side of the Mississippi river, below Island No. 10 and at or above Tiptonville, and thus capture, by their large force, our batteries on the Tennessee shore, and then Island No. 10; and thus, at that point, to remove an impassable barrier to the descent of their boats and transports down the Mississippi, so long as they can hold these positions.

The adjacent country affords ample supplies for our forces, and, in many respects, it is a most eligible and commanding situation. The enemy can only capture our forts etc., by crossing the Mississippi below them. A small force, with a vigilant commander, located on the Tennessee shore, can prevent the landing of any large force by the Federals, in any sort of craft or boat which they may construct from the opposite side of the river. What this gunboat may be able to effect towards the landing of the enemy's force on our side of the Mississippi river, must be thwarted.

A rumor of the spiking of a gun, etc., at Rucker's battery, we attach little consequence to. We presume it to be idle and unfounded.

Our accounts from Fort Pillow and the Mississippi river are full of encouragement, and quite satisfactory. Let us all be of ourselves, being hopeful, yet confident, of the final result: success in battle, and the ultimate independence of the Southern Confederacy—with a destiny of wealth, vast power, and sublime grandeur as a nation of freemen! With hope, there must be endeavor, by each and every man. He who is not with the South must be set down as against it. There must be no neutrals in so deadly a contest!

THE VIRGINIA'S SECOND CRUISE.

An account of the Virginia's trip on Friday will be found on the first page of the *Dispatch*. The Norfolk *Day Book* quotes from the New York *Herald*, of March 14th, the following boast:

"The Monitor, which from its defeat of the rebel iron monster, we take to be the most perfect model of this kind of vessel afloat."

Commenting upon which the *Day Book* says:

Such was the assumption of the *Herald*, such the declaration of all the Northern press. With one voice they claimed a victory at once brilliant and decisive. What then will the world say when it is informed that on the 11th day of April, in the year of grace 1862 the Virginia, in presence of French and English ships of war, went off Old Point and *badgered* the famous Monitor, who, like an unwieldy and variable "cheese box," lay in smooth water, without accepting the gage of combat! And, under her very cannon, Capt. Barney, in the Jamestown, ran in and brought off three prizes, which were towed up by the Raleigh about two o'clock, Lieut. Alexander delivering his prisoners, thirteen in number, at the Navy-Yard, and returning.

A more egregious affront was never put upon a flag than this, nor does history record a more pusillanimous piece of behavior than that of the triumphant Monitor, in lying at her moorings while the rebels audaciously cut out their transports before her. Will this be pronounced another victory? The editors and correspondents can with ready ingenuity convert it into one, but the French and Englishmen, who saw with their own eyes the unparalleled affront put upon the invincible "cheese box," will tell a different story. Discretion is the better part of valor, and upon this maxim, more prudent than chivalrous, the Monitor saw fit to act yesterday morning.

THE YANKEE RAID IN STAFFORD

The Fredericksburg *News* has a long account of the excesses committed by Sickles and his ruffians in Stafford county, a portion of which we copy:

About 1,500 Yankees, with four pieces of artillery, six-pounders, each drawn by *sixteen negroes*, landed at Evansport on the night of April 2d, by the light of Evans's house, which they set on fire. Thursday morning they went to Capt. Graves's and took all his horses and Mr. Stonnell's. At Mrs. Powers's Sickles asked for "something to drink"—the thirsty warrior!—and something to eat. The yard was full of men romping and boxing.—One asked Mrs. P. if she had any Confederate money, and on her replying no, that the army had taken it all with them, another said, that was a damned lie. Sickles said he would have to put a guard round the house. After giving him food she begged him to leave her one horse to get meal for her little children, but he refused, and said she would probably get paid when the war was over. Her faithful old negro pleaded his rheumatism, and at last was left, but a younger one with her cart and oxen they took, and afterwards hitched to Mrs. Ball's carriage.

They took Mr. Parry's horses and meat. Finding a cavalry bridle in Sam Griffin's stable, they gave a whoop, and one hundred men surrounded and seized his son-in-law, Jas. Carter, of the Stafford Cavalry, and afterwards caught J. Frazier, of the same company. From Griffin's they also got $500 in gold and silver, and all his horses; from Nat. Ford, all his silver, horses, and two negroes. They broke into J. H. Bustle's and threw up his papers and everything else. Fortunately, he had removed nearly all his property, and sickness prevented his saving all. Our cavalry met them at Austin's run, two miles from Stafford Court-House. After their return Friday morning, three companies went to Mr. Glasscock's and shot all his sheep, hogs, oxen in the cart, hens, &c., and stole all his silver plate, groceries, flour, and even his deceased wife's breastpin and finger rings, and took every shot gun he had. They returned to Mr. Maryeville, E. A. W. Hore's farm, and set his barn on fire about 10 A. M., and consumed it and the wheat, rye, &c., in it. Then burnt his fish houses—made a raft of some plank and floated part of their plunder to the steamers. The rest they took to Evansport. Horses which hesitated to go on board, were shot. Saturday night they returned to Maryland. Friday morning our scouts fired on them from Dipple Hill and scattered them, although the distance is 1000 yards.

Of their doings at Stafford Court-House the *News* says:

The Zouaves broke off into squads and commenced sacking the private houses, stores, Court-house, and jail. At the latter place they sang out, come out "Friends," we are here to relieve you. Here, however, they found none of their friends, they being all removed to a safer place. From the store of G. W. Conway they stole everything of value, and left the molasses running. They also got about $50 in *specie* and $100 worth of shinplaster currency. From Mr. John M. Conway, a very old gentleman, they stole all the edibles they could find, and some wearing apparel, but left him his silver. From Mr. Henry M. Conway they stole and destroyed almost everything, including edibles, silver, and wearing apparel; they also broke and injured nearly the whole of his furniture. They also stole his pocket book containing some $26.—From W. L. Morgan, tavern-keeper, they stole and injured a good deal of property, and before his wife's face they killed all of his poultry. They stole three horses from W. L. Morgan, James E. Schooler, and Henry M. Conway, respectively. One citizen of the Court-House, a man named Gollihorn made a horse-trade with one of the Yankees. The next day the horse returned to the Court House. Thus Gollihorn got the rest of the Yankees, and was the only man who did. On the floor of Mr. H. R. Conway's house, they poured as a mixture blackberry wine and ink.

One of the means of torture inflicted upon these citizens who were left there, was to place them between a threatened fire in front and rear, with orders from one party to run and the other to halt. At Aquia Church they broke and destroyed everything. From a Mr. Griffin, near this place, they stole $360 in specie. They carried off one person, a Mr. Chewning, of Lancaster, who had that day reached the C. H., to see his son, a member of the Lancaster Cavalry. When taken Mr. C. told them that he was a rebel in every sense of the word, and defied them to do their worst.

We came near forgetting one of the chief incidents of this raid, which was the presence of and conspicuous part taken by a negro—a negro who, with loaded and cocked pistol, demanded free ingress and egress to every part of Mr. Reuben Conway's private dwelling, being in search, as he said, of rebel officers.

To sum up briefly, they stole everything portable and wantonly destroyed everything else. The Zouaves are the worst of thieves and robbers. The officers made a show of being gentlemen, but the *role* was so unsuited to their characters, that they acted it out very badly.

It is said they did not insult any of the ladies, save by doubting some of the statements which the ladies made. They agreed, if supper was prepared for them, to protect the house of Mr. H. R. Conway. This they gave him by stealing all of his property.

In regard to the records of the county we learn from Mr. H. R. Conway, clerk, that though the papers have been much damaged and scattered, yet it is believed no important book or paper was stolen, carried off, or materially injured. The Bible belonging to Aquia Church was stolen, but luckily found in the ambulance which they were unable to take off. From the servants they stole everything of value. Dan. Sickles certainly was there, as was also Col. Moses, who said that his friends were all in the South, but that he wanted to crush the rebellion.

FROM MISSOURI.

We have heard, says the Memphis *Avalanche* of the 7th, amid the exciting news received home, that a division of Price's army, under Gen. McIntosh, had penetrated as far as Rolla, (eighty miles from St. Louis,) which place they burned, and completely routed the Federals stationed there. McIntosh's force was about 8,000 strong.

We hear, too, that another detachment, numbering 3,000, was advancing on Springfield, with a view to capturing the enemy's supplies collected there, which will doubtless be successful. Price is still to be advancing from Clarksville, and will again enter Missouri with increasing force.

THE ATTACK AT BAY ST. LOUIS.

BAY ST. LOUIS, April 5.—About 2,000 Yankees landed yesterday at Pass Christian, and attacked the camp. Some shots were exchanged. "Nobody hurt" on our side. Our troops rallied in good order.

The enemy burned the tents and everything in the camp. Several houses have been struck by the shells from the Yankee gunboats.

A launch came in Bay St. Louis and took a schooner and cut the telegraph line.

THE CONFEDERATE VICTORY IN NEW MEXICO.

Although we have heretofore published pretty full accounts of Gen. Sibley's victory in New Mexico, the following extract from a letter to W. H. Macwille, Esq., member of the House of Representatives from Arizona, dated Mesilla, March 21, and written by Judge Mare, of the Confederate District Court will be perused with interest:

"We have just received by express, from Fort Craig, important news. A battle was fought between the forces of Gen. Sibley and Gen. Canby on the 21st February, which resulted in the complete defeat of the latter with great loss. The particulars, as given by the courier, disclose the fact that this has been the closest contested battle of the war, and perhaps the bloodiest for the numbers engaged.

"Gen. Sibley, with his command, numbering, rank and file, 2,300 men, left Fort Thorn, 66 miles below Fort Craig, about the 12th of February, with the intention of taking the latter place. On arriving in the vicinity of Craig, he learned from some persons captured near the post that Gen. Canby was in command of the Federal forces in the fort; that he had 1,200 regular troops, 200 American volunteers, and 5,000 Mexicans—entire force near 6,400 men. Notwithstanding this superior force he boldly advanced, and on the 19th crossed the river below Craig, and making a detour of some miles, arrived, on the morning of the 21st, in sight of the river three miles above the fort, where a large body of the enemy were stationed to receive him. It seems that all the enemy's forces, with the exception of their artillery and reserve, were, upon the same side of the river to which our troops were advancing. A portion of Col. Baylor's regiment, under command of Maj. Pyron, numbering 250 men, were the first to engage the enemy. Alone, and unsupported for one hour, they held their position amid a hail of grape, canister and round-shot. At that time they were reinforced, and the battle became general. The enemy then made an attack upon our right wing and were repulsed. A general movement was then made upon our line, and with some success. A portion of our left wing was compelled to fall back and take a new position. This was about two o'clock. The enemy now supposed they had gained the day, and ordered their battery across the river, which was done, and the battery was planted upon the bank. As soon as the battery opened Gen. Sibley knew it had crossed and immediately ordered a general charge, which was done as Texans only can do it. Starting at a distance of 800 yards, with the wild Comanche war whoop, they reserved their fire until within 30 yards of the battery, when they poured a tremendous and deadly fire with double-barrelled shot guns and pistols immediately into their terror-stricken ranks. They sprang into the river, and in crossing numbers were killed. Captain Teel's battery now coming up, closed the sanguinary contest with shell and grape, as they fled down the opposite side of the river to the fort.

"The battle lasted nine hours. Our loss is 38 killed and 120 wounded. That of the enemy, as given by themselves, is 300 killed, 400 or 500 wounded, and 2,000 missing.

"The result of this battle is conceived to be of more importance to the Southern Confederacy than any that has been fought during the war. It will give us the Territory of Arizona and New Mexico, about twenty-five millions worth of property, and will greatly add to the prestige of our arms."

Another letter, received subsequently to the one above, gives the gratifying intelligence that the victory resulted in the capture of Fort Craig, with its military stores, ammunition, guns, and 6,800 prisoners.

THE LATEST.

The Western mail failed last evening beyond Bristol, and we have consequently no dates from Memphis later than the 7th. The Southern mail, however, came through, and we are enabled to lay before our readers some further news:

THE BATTLE OF SHILOH.

The special army correspondent of the Savannah *Republican* telegraphs the condition of affairs about Corinth up to Thursday last:

CORINTH, April 7.—At the date of my last dispatch yesterday evening, the enemy were in full retreat. We drove them back to the river, where their river works, gunboats and darkness stopped the pursuit. The battle was hot and furious, and lasted twelve hours.—The Confederates occupied the enemy's encampment last night.

This morning, the enemy rallied and resumed the fighting, having received reinforcements to the number of 7,000 from Pittsburg Landing. They fought bravely, but the Confederates repulsed them twice. About 10 o'clock further large reinforcements were brought up by General Buell. The fighting now became desperate along our whole line. The battle is still raging, with varied fortune, and even more fiercely than yesterday.

We took 2,000 prisoners yesterday, who are now at Corinth. To-day we captured several batteries and lost some. It is impossible in the roar and confusion of battle to give particulars.

General Beauregard is in command of the Confederate army, assisted by Generals Polk, Bragg, Hardee, Breckinridge, and others. Generals Cheatham, Bowen, and Clarke, are slightly wounded. The loss is very heavy on both sides.

SHILOH, April 7—9 P. M.—The battle has raged all day, and night alone put a suspension to the strife. The fight was more obstinate and furious than that of yesterday, and the loss on both sides is very heavy.

The enemy were heavily reinforced throughout the day. Seeing this, General Beauregard withdrew his troops back of the Federal encampment. The enemy followed up, when the battle was renewed and continued until night, each side maintaining its position. The Confederates fought for two whole days without any assistance whatever, whilst the enemy was constantly reinforced with fresh troops.

SHILOH, April 8.—Both sides are too badly worsted to renew the fight this morning. The enemy fell back last night, and to-day we are returning to our former lines. The Confederates are confident and in fine spirits.

CORINTH, April 10.—Immediately after the battle Gen. Beauregard sent a flag of truce to Gen. Grant concerning the burial of their dead. Gen. Grant replied yesterday that, because of the warm weather, he had made heavy details for the purpose of burying the dead of both parties, and that the work was already accomplished. He therefore refused to receive Confederate parties within the Federal lines for that purpose. His note was respectfully addressed as follows:

"General Beauregard, commanding the Confederate Army, Mississippi:"

At Monterey, our courier found the Federals busy putting their camps in order and looking after the dead and wounded.

The Confederates killed are much less than was at first supposed, and the wounded are comparatively slightly hurt, as they were well protected by the timber.

The prisoners are still coming in, and number nearly four thousand, including about 200 officers.

The Federals daily send out strong reconnoitering parties, which are constantly surprised by the Confederates, and many of them either killed or wounded.

The Confederates are holding firmly their old lines, and the men are in good condition and ready for another fight.

Our wounded have all arrived; many of them have been sent to Memphis and Oxford.

The following private dispatches appear in the Atlanta *Confederacy* of Saturday:

CHATTANOOGA, April 10, 9 o'clock P. M.—Passengers just from Corinth say the most terrible battle ever known occurred on Monday. Buell's forces fought as all day Monday. They say Buell is killed. An armistice expires Friday. Both armies are being reinforced. Van-Dorn is coming up with his forces.

CHATTANOOGA, April 10.—All concur in our victory being complete. They commenced shelling—we retreated. Their loss at the lowest estimate is 15,000