Richmond Dispatch.

The DISPATCH is published DAILY Sundays excepted. Price for mailing $4 a year, or $2 for six months; three months $1; one month in advance.

The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued on TUESDAY and FRIDAY at $3, in advance.

The WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every SATURDAY, and mailed to subscribers at $2 per annum.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXIII. RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4, 1862. NO. 80

SATURDAY MORNING.....OCT. 4, 1862

FROM THE NORTH.

From our Northern papers, of the 30th, we compile our news extracts. The Hygeia Hotel at Old Point is to be pulled down this week, notwithstanding "Representative" Segar's protest:

HENRY WARD BEECHER ON THE PROCLAMATION.

The New York *Herald* of Tuesday, gives Rev. Mr. Beecher a complimentary notice, as follows:

The mountebank Beecher, who has turned his pulpit in Brooklyn into a theatre, where applause is given to his points by the audience, just as it is in a theatre, or Miss Bateman or any other theatrical star, appeared on the boards at Plymouth Church on Sunday evening, when he decided the Constitution as a mere "sheepskin parchment," of no account, and said we are going to have the Union as it never was but as it was meant to be—the Union as it was meant to be, and not as it was, by our doctrine, because the Union as it was is a moral outrage on your rights and mine." He has declared himself to be the mouthpiece of God, like Greeley a short time ago, and appears resounded from all parts of the house, ridiculing the Union and the Constitution, the next assails things still more sacred, exhibits the Divine Being in the light of a gatherer, who "is out now, and will have it in time." Let us quote the whole passage: "The North, too, was suffering to an extent to which she had winked at slavery for the sake of commerce. When the North had paid two thousand millions of taxes (and only just begun) he thought that the Lord would get back pretty much the North made out of slavery. God is the tax gatherer. He is out now, and He will have a good time." (Great laughter.) The character of the audience may be judged from their laughter at such a horrible profanity. Unfortunate are those who follow such a shepherd. He alluded to the very general wish of the people to have twenty Abolitionists hanged. He said he would be good he had no objection to be the first—let him try. By following the example of Greeley he may induce Greeley, and Garrison, and Phillips and sixteen others, to go and do likewise; and twenty of the leading Abolitionists swinging in a row, from a sour apple tree, there will be a chance of our arms being speedily successful in restoring the rebellious Southern Union, when we can perform the same service for the leading Abolitionists, when we catch them, that Beecher offers to do for himself.

The reverend mountebank closed his sermon with the following prediction of the result of the proclamation:

"We shall see a glorious nation, a restored Constitution. We shall see a liberty in whose bright day Virginia and Massachusetts will shake hands that they shall be separated again. There is love to be waked upon yet. Now there is fierceness of wind; but there shall come concord, fellowship, union; and when this comes we shall have a nation that no foreign influence can break, and no trouble shall ever mar again.

THE WISE, CONSERVATIVE, AND BENIGNANT AIMS OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN—THE WAR TO BE CLOSED IN 90 DAYS.

The New York *Herald*, of the 30th, has a characteristic article, which may be so easily construed into sarcasm that we are almost inclined to think that there is a substratum of "rebel" ing in that establishment. It says the Abolitionists, who have heretofore urged an active and aggressive war, are beginning to advocate a defensive policy for several months to come, so that when they resume offensive operations their fleets and armies may be seconded by a general uprising of the negroes in the rebellious States, in response to the President's decree that, though recognized by him as slaves till the 1st of January next, they shall be free, henceforward, and forever, free." It says:

The argument, at this time, for "standing on the defensive," broadly discloses the aims and objects of our abolition disorganizers. They aim to prolong the war, that they may still fatten upon the spoils and plunder of the Government, and in the hope that the war, in being actively suspended meantime, may, from and after the 1st of January, give to be a war for the Union, and become an abolition crusade. Their ultimatum is "emancipation or separation"—the conquest of the South after the fashion of William of Normandy, or two confederacies. These abolition Marplots have no design or desire to restore "the Union as it was.'—Would deprive them of their present political war, and their political hopes of the future.—Their programme is to overthrow "the Union as it was," to destroy our rebellious Southern States, and to reduce them to the condition of Territories, to recognize a Southern Confederacy, to erect on off the political elements of the South in a reconstruction of our political parties.

From this perilous programme of our abolition destructives we turn to the *wise, conservative, and benignant aims and purposes of President Lincoln.* The object of his late proclamation is not to destroy, but to save the South; not to abolish Southern slavery by the sword, but to induce our revolted States to preserve their domestic institutions by a timely return to the ark of the Union. We find reason to believe that President Lincoln, from a vigorous prosecution of the war, *anticipates within the* next ninety days such decisive work with the armies of this rebellion that there will be no necessity for the enforcement of this emancipation decree.—This too, is so manifestly the fear of our abolition friends, that there can be no difficulty to genuine Union men in comprehending that their policy is the most energetic prosecution of the war, and with the least possible delay in any quarter.

In Virginia, in Kentucky, and in Missouri, the rebels of the rebellion are now so situated that all the advantages are in our favor for active operations against them. We have the men, the means, and the facilities at hand whereby we may make clean work of the rebellion, not only in Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, but in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas, within the next sixty days. Let this be done, and the approach of winter will find our armies advanced southward into the cotton States, where winter is the most favorable season for military operations, and where our land forces can be assisted by our gunboats far into the interior of every seaboard State, from South Carolina to Texas. But with our armies along the northern frontier of these States, and with our fleets in occupation of their seaboard towns, the rebellion will be ended in a general capitulation, and the Union and the South will be saved, including the vital institution to the cotton States, as they are situated, of their system of African slavery.

On the other hand, let the snows and rains and impassable border State roads of winter still find our armies in Northern Virginia, and in Kentucky, and Missouri, and they will be apt to remain there until April or May, wasting away from disease and inaction, while the rebel armies are subsisting upon the supplies of said States, without which they cannot be subsisted through the winter. Thus, with the return of spring, our depleted regiments, old and new, will need another draft, and we shall have before us another year of war, with its increased expenditures, its diminished productions, and its doubtful results. But all these deplorable contingencies may, and we hope will, be avoided by the active prosecution of the war, now and without intermission, during these next two favorable months for military operations in our border slave States.

Such are the considerations upon which we urge the immediate adoption of offensive operations against the enemy fast and West. It is so clearly the policy, and, as we believe, the purpose of President Lincoln, that we cannot doubt his decision.—We rely upon him to bring this war substantially to an end before the 1st of January. In any event we rely upon such successes to our arms as will, if required to avoid an abolition crusade, lead our patriotic President to the extension of his term of grace on the slavery question to those States which may still be unreclaimed from the rebellion. His decree of emancipation is a mere military act, which he may amend, extend, or revoke, at his discretion.

The reason, the advanced and exposed positions of the enemy, our superiority in men, means, and facilities of all kinds, the expectations of the army and the country, and the necessities of our cause—the Union—combine to urge upon our honest President a prompt, earnest, and resolute advance upon the rebel armies, East and West.

THE ORIGIN OF LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION.

The New York *World* thinks it has discovered the original proclamation which Lincoln had in his mind when he penned the formidable Emancipation document. Its origin is minutely described in Irving's "History of the New Netherlands." During Governor Kieft's administration he received intelligence that some very formidable invaders had taken possession of his southern frontier and built a fort there. "They were represented," says the historian,

"As a gigantic, gunpowder race of men, exceedingly expert in boxing, biting, gouging, and other practices of the rough-and-tumble mode of warfare, which they had learned from their prototypes and relations German, the Virginians, to whom they have ever borne considerable resemblance. Like them, too, they were great roysters, much given to revel on hoe cake and bacon, mint-julep and apple-toddy; whence their newly formed colony had already acquired the name of Merryland; which, with a slight modification, it retains to the present day.

"In fact, the Marylanders and their cousins, the Virginians, were represented to William Kieft as offshoots from the same original stock as his bitter enemies, the Yankees or Yankee tribes of the East, having both come over to this country for the liberty of conscience, or, in other words, to live as they pleased—the Yankees taking to praying, and money making, and converting Quakers, and the Southerners to horse racing, and cock fighting, and breeding negroes.

"Against these new invaders Wilhelmus Kieft immediately dispatched a naval armament of two sloops and thirty men, under Jan Jansen Alpendam, who was armed to the very teeth with one of the little Governor's most powerful speeches, written in vigorous Low Dutch.

"Admiral Alpendam arrived without accident in the Schuylkill, and came upon the enemy just as they were engaged in a great barbecue, a kind of festivity, or carouse, much practiced in Merryland. Opening upon them with the speech of William the Testy, he denounced them as a pack of lazy, canting, julep-tippling cock fighting, horse-racing, slave-driving, tavern-haunting, Sabbath-breaking, mulatto breeding upstarts, and concluded by ordering them to evacuate the country immediately; to which they laconically replied, in plain English, 'they'd see him d—d first.'

"Now this was a reply on which neither Jan Jansen Alpendam nor Wilhelmus Kieft had made any calculation. Finding himself, therefore, totally unprepared to answer so terrible a rebuff with suitable hostility, the Admiral concluded his wisest course would be to return home and report progress. He accordingly steered his course back to New Amsterdam, where he arrived safe, having accomplished this hazardous enterprise at small expense of treasure and no loss of life. His sarcastic policy gained him the universal appellation of the Saviour of his Country; and his services were suitably rewarded by a shingle monument, erected by subscription on the top of Flatterbrack Hill, where it immortalized his name for three whole years, when it fell to pieces and was burnt for firewood."

THE DIFFICULTY BETWEEN BUTT NELSON AND GEN. DAVIS.

The Indianapolis *Journal* publishes the following account of the reason why Gen. Nelson suspended Gen. Davis from command, and ordered him to report to Gen. Wright:

General Davis reported to General Nelson that he had the brigade assigned to his command—the citizens of Louisville asking for service, and desiring to know if he could get guns for them. "How many men have you?" asked General Nelson.—"About 2,500." "About 2,500? About 2,500?" You a regular officer, and report about the number of men in your command. Don't you know, sir, you should give the exact number?" "But, General," replied Davis, "I didn't expect to get the guns now; I only wanted to learn if I could get them, and where, and have it learned that I would secure fully the exact number needed and then draw them." "About 2,500!" persisted Nelson. "I suspend you from your command, and order you to report to Gen. Wright, and I've a d—d mind to send you out of the city with a provost guard."—And so another Indiana General was suspended for nothing. It is pretty nearly time this sort of thing was ended.

THE FEDERAL "VIRGINIA" TROOPS.

A letter in the Wheeling *Intelligencer*, dated Clarksburg, Sept. 25th, says of the Virginia (Dutch) troops:

The Twelfth has received its new guns, (of the Enfield patent,) and those of them here are delighted with the change. The Fourteenth is afflicted with mumps and measles; chiefly, however, confined to Capt. Smith's company.

The Tenth regiment of the Irish Virginia, and the Eighty-Seventh Pennsylvania, are here; also, Captain Manlsby's battery. How many more, it might be embarrassing to say.

Captain Carlin's battery passed here a night or two ago on its way to Parkersburg, or below. *That is the direction in which to look now for stirring events.*

GEN. TAYLOR'S PLANTATION PLUNDERED.

The Montpelier *Journal* contains a letter from a soldier of the Vermont 5th, dated Camp Allemand, August 29th, in which he states that on the previous Thursday the property of General Richard Taylor, a son of old General Taylor, (by whom it was bequeathed to him,) was confiscated, the son being now in the rebel army. The slaves, 150 in number, were all declared emancipated, while the plantation was plundered by the Union soldiers.—According to the writer:

It is one of the most splendid plantations that I ever saw. There are on it 700 acres of sugar cane, which must rot upon the ground if the Government does not harvest it. I wish you could have seen the soldiers plunder the plantation. After the stock was driven off, the boys began by ordering the slaves to bring out everything there was to eat and drink. They brought out hundreds of bottles of wine, eggs, preserved figs and peaches, turkeys, chickens and honey in any quantity.

I brought away a large camp kettle and frying-pans that belonged to old General Taylor, and also many of his private papers. I have one letter of his own hand-writing, and many from Secretary Marcy—some from General Scott, and some from the traitor Floyd. I brought to camp four bottles of claret wine. Lieutenant —— brought away half a barrel of the best syrup from the sugar-house, and a large can of honey.

The camp kettle and pans I intend to send home. They are made of heavy tin, covered with copper. I think I will send home the private papers by mail if I do not let any one have them. The camp is loaded with plunder—all kinds of clothing, rings, watches, guns, pistols, swords, and some of General Taylor's old hats and coats, belts, swords—and, in fact, every old relic he had is worn about the camp.

* * You and every one may be thankful that you are out of the reach of plundering armies.—Here are whole families of women and children running in the woods charge plantations entirely deserted—nothing left except slaves too old to run away—all kinds of the best mahogany furniture broken to pieces. Nothing is respected.

THE GREAT IRON CLAD PREPARATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The ship yards at New York are alive with the building of the iron clad fleet with which every city of the South which has water approach is to be destroyed. There are 5,000 men at work in them, and an equal number engaged in iron foundries and mills in the vicinity on work intended for them. The New York *World*, of the 30th, says:

The Weehawken will probably be the next iron clad vessel launched. She is building at Cornwell's foundry, in Jersey City. Planking has already gone and the deck floor is being laid. On the upper part of the hull the first iron plates were laid yesterday. They form, with the wooden portion of the bulwarks, a defence quite as wide, and far stronger, than the generality of "stonewalls" so common in the suburbs. The lower part of the hull is being painted and prepared for the mail. It is expected that by the first proximo the Weehawken will be afloat.

On the same yard with the vessel the Camanche, intended for California, is being built. She is all iron. Yesterday the different slabs of that metal arose in half circles, stopping at what is to be the top of the hull. The intermediate slabs will be put on day by day until there is room for no more, and the ship is finished. She is in sections, and when complete will be taken apart and transported to the theatre of her future operations, is as already explained.

Greenpoint is like a human beehive. Bars are worthless once you get inside the bounds of the Continental works. The greater part of inquiries and answers are pantomimic. Montauk, Kaatskill, and Passaic, of the nine-Monitor fleet, and the Onondaga and Puritan, of the special fleet, are in hand. The Passaic, launched and "engined," is preparing rapidly for sea. The Montauk and Kaatskill will be afloat in a month. They are so like their sister ships that Mr. Ericsson says the same hole would answer each of them. The Puritan is the Great Eastern of the lot, being nearly as large as the three combined. She is early in the early stages of existence, and will hardly be manned and equipped before the close of 1862. The Onondaga is further advanced. She is all iron, and will have two turrets. The Morgan Iron Works are getting up her machinery. There is a considerable difference visible between her and the other vessels, she being built on a somewhat separate plan, although the chief principle involved in her conception is the same as that which brought forth Monitor Number One.

The Dictator is going up at the Delamater Iron Works. Her ribs are ship-shape, and the several parts of the monster begin to look recognizable.—Hitherto an uninitiated person would not know the skeleton from the foundation platform of a lunatic asylum. Over a thousand men are engaged on her, and Mr. Robie, of the navy, is sentinel.

Mr. Whitney's iron ship is more advanced than any, save the Weehawken. The Moodus is the name given to her by Mr. Welles. The hull is finished and a good portion of the armor on. The "shell" of the vessel is complete, and, if it were wood, in launching condition. The turrets will be two in number, and are nearly ready. Before the expiration of October the Moodus will be ready for floating out.

Mr. Webb's ram has just been commenced. She will be 7,000 tons burden. All other ships on the iron system will be mere catamarans to her. She will be a double ship, the hull not being iron but wood. At present she looks too unlike anything to be described. In two months she will be a great ram, able to go to sea and accommodate a larger ship's company than the Niagara. Her name has not been mentioned yet, but people think it ought to be "Washington," as we have no man-of-war with that name.

The Fort Henry, an iron-clad gunboat, built at Carondelet, was launched there on Thursday, the 24th inst. The Choctaw, a vessel purchased some time since by the Navy Department, and subsequently converted into a ram, was launched on the previous Saturday. The Fort Henry, a sort of sister ship to the Essex, is 220 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 11 feet deep. The Choctaw is 225 feet long, 34 feet wide, and about 10 feet deep. The Fort Henry will carry eight guns, and the Choctaw six. The latter is a mere ram, the former being more of a gunboat. Each boat's ram measures two feet, of bell metal. Porter's India rubber invention is carried on these vessels, which is said to be better than three inches of iron.

The Osage, Winnebago, Chickasaw, and Milwaukee, are progressing rapidly in the yard whence the ships named were launched.

THE "OLD FUD. FUSC." ON THE WAR

Ex-President Buchanan is not altogether quiescent. The New York *Express* contains, from the pen of a "distinguished politician," an account of an interview with the venerable "Pub. Func." last week. The D. P. says:

In an interview, last evening, he denied all charges against him, proposing an early vindication, which should be triumphant as to his loyalty, integrity of purpose, and public acts. I will never forget the solemn dignity of his countenance while exclaiming: "*With my hand upon my heart, before the Almighty, I acquit myself of any wrong to my country or the Union.*" He pointed to his frequent efforts to avoid the rebellion, subscribed by Congress; the attack of Davis and Southerners upon him, (he well known refused to receive, socially, or nationally, a Secessionist.—While thus discouraging the South, the press encouraged, through editorials, the idea that we could do, without them, and that they had the sympathy of many North with the Democratic party; that it was strange to this day the charges should be made against Floyd for stealing arms, and him for arming the South, when he accomplished this hazardous enterprise at small expense of treasure and no loss of life. His saving policy gained him the universal appellation of the Saviour of his Country; and his services were suitably rewarded by a shingle monument, erected by subscription on the top of Flatterbrack Hill, where it immortalized his name for three whole years, when it fell to pieces and was burnt for firewood.

ANTIPATHY ABOUT GEN. BUTLER.—A story is told concerning Gen. Butler which is not calculated to prove his confidence in the safety of the secession element by which he is surrounded:

Some time ago Gen. Butler, finding that it was almost impossible for him to devote to his wife the cares to which he is entitled, resolved to part with her and send her homeward. The day of departure arrived, and he went with his wife and children to the boat on which they were to embark. Unfortunately the water was high and the boat difficult of access. The plank thrown upon the water between the deck and the shore formed an acute angle, and Blondin himself would have found it difficult to maintain his equilibrium upon it. But Gen. Butler, confident that his centre of gravity was sufficiently ponderous to secure him against all accidents, ventured bravely upon the steepy road. Hardly had he taken two steps, however, than his feet glided along, and down he went, measuring the plank with all his length, and producing at the same time a noise something similar to that of an old kettle. His servants ran to his assistance, and he was soon up again. When it had been ascertained that the General was unhurt, inquiries were made concerning the sound of metal heard at the close of the fall. It was nothing before the mystery was solved. The clothes of the General having been torn in his perilous descent, people saw protruding underneath his coat-tails a large breast plate, reaching from his neck down to his thighs.—This was the object which had produced the noise. It was ascertained afterwards that the General wears this kind of armor since his arrival in New Orleans, and that he never goes out without it.

REPETITION OF THE REBEL COMMISSIONER MASON IN GLASGOW.—Unable to effect any of his proposed measures with Parliament or with the Government direct, Mr. Mason, the Southern Commissioner, has started on a tour through the Kingdom, with the evident hope of making capital out of his visits made at Glasgow, if not before. His first appearance in his new character has been at Glasgow, where, as a private letter informs us, he was, on Tuesday last, the guest of a distinguished citizen, and met a company invited especially to do him honor. The Lord Provost and one of the members of Parliament, stood aloof from motives of policy, but the latter invited him to dine the next day.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was also called, as one of the results of the occasion, with the avowed purpose of petitioning the Government to recognize the Southern Confederacy. I learn that Mr. Mason's reception was of the most flattering character, and that he has, so far as changes is concerned, profited an impression very favorable to his cause, by his accomplishing the object of his mission. I learn, also, that the very parties who are now most active in this movement, are the very ones who headed the deputation to Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, and also flouted Frederick Douglass, when those passengers respectively visited Glasgow. They comprise the leading Abolitionists in that city, and we thus witness the strange spectacle of people of that class glorifying the author of the fugitive slave Law, and one of the firmest supporters of the American institution that has hitherto received their bitterest denunciations.—*London Cor. Philadelphia Inquirer.*

BUTLER'S WAR UPON WOMEN.—The Savannah *Republican* learns that the report that Mrs. Phillips, of New Orleans, had been released from ship Island is incorrect. She is still incarcerated there as a "State prisoner." The *Republican* adds:

Mrs. Isaacs, the step daughter of Judge Rost, Commissioner to Europe, is also a prisoner at Ship Island, together with other ladies of New Orleans. Mr. Casey's house, on Canal street, is full of imprisoned ladies, and many have been sent to the Penitentiary. Judge H. D. Hodges wife is a prisoner in her own house, which is under the surveillance of the military, and she is not permitted to leave it except on Sunday, to go to church, and then she is accompanied by a guard. Mrs. Ogden is imprisoned for no better reason than refusing to tell who bore her a letter from her husband who is not in the city, advising her that it she could not get a passport to join him, to endeavor to obtain one to go to Canada.

A BRAVE BOY.—A friend from Holly Springs related to us the following incident, which occurred in Jackson, Tennessee, a few days ago. Little Benny Malone, a boy about ten years of age, and son of Dr. B. J. Malone, of Jackson, resided mainly on lands offered his mother by one of the infamous Yankees quartered there, by striking him a severe blow on the head with a rock. Standing by a squad of Yankees, on the sidewalk, he heard one of them use some insulting language about his mother as she passed them, when he said: "Sir, she is my mother," to which the chivalric Yankee replied: "I don't care a d—n if she is." At this moment the little fellow let fly a rock, which brought the accursed Yankee to the ground, whence he was carried to his quarters. When last heard from he was considered to be in a precarious condition, and tears were entertained that he *might* recover. Little Benny was arrested and carried before the military authorities, but, upon a hearing of the case, he was released.—*Grenada Appeal.*

YANKEE LITERARY NEWS.—The New York *World* has the following notice of a new book about to be published:

Sheldon & Co. will publish, in a few days, a new novel, by Marion Harland, author of "Alone," "Hidden Path," "Nemesis," &c., called "Miriam." The large sale of her previous works has rendered Marion Harland the most popular female writer in this country. "Alone" and "Hidden Path" each had a sale of about 40,000 copies. The scene of this new story is laid in the dark and bloody ground of Kentucky, and the work is dedicated to George D. Prentice, editor of the Louisville *Journal*. Marion Harland, although born and brought up in Richmond, Va., married and is now living in loyalty in Newark, N. J.

GEN. CASS.—One of the regiments from Michigan which recently passed South, was commanded by an adopted son of the venerable Gen. Cass. Previous to leaving home the old veteran addressed the regiment, and, in conclusion, (turning to his son,) he said, that it was unnecessary for him to remind him that his State would expect him to display his valor in the service, for that was a quality proverbial with all Americans; but, says he, let me impress it upon you that you must never permit your command to be surprised—a hint which, if given at the commencement of the rebellion, would have saved us much credit and time in quashing this great iniquity.—*N. Y. Express.*

The Daring Feat of the C. S. Steamer Florida—Graphic Account of Her Running the Blockade.

The successful running into Mobile of the C. S. Steamer Florida, (formerly the Oreto,) Captain Maffit commanding, was one of the most brilliant achievements of the war. The Oreto narrowly escaped condemnation at Havana, but at last got off. A letter from on board gives the following account of her cruise afterwards:

Arriving at sea, when a crowd of the enemy's cruisers were scouring the waters, putting up our helpless little craft—thank heaven! one of their finest (the Adirondack) was totally lost in the darkness—our pilot knowledge of Captain M., and his confidence in himself, enabled us to elude all their captures. A black cloud came upon us. Yellow fever, that pestilential tyrant of the tropics, appeared on board. We are without a physician, and that duty devolved upon our surgeon. The armament being incomplete and disease prevalent, it became necessary to seek a port. Cardenas was selected, and two days afterwards the sun rose upon that harbor, showing to the wondering citizens a beautiful armed vessel, from whose peak proudly floated the Stars and Bars. Some three men were on duty and one woman.

The fever rioted, and the quarter deck was turned into a hospital. Soon death stalked on board, and the wild cry of frenzied victims ceased in eternal sleep. On the 20th our Captain, who had exposed himself a great deal in attending to our sick—up at all times of day and night—was struck down by this terrible disease, and great anxiety was felt for his safety; for who could manage the craft or the ship as well as he? "Twas a severe case, and for several days doubts existed in the minds of the physicians as to his ultimate recovery, but on the 29th, thanks to a merciful God and the vigorous constitution, he rallied, and we were pleased to hear that hope of his restoration to health existed. Lastnight young M. Lauren Rost, of Charleston, the Captain's step-son, passed into eternity.—His unexpected death cast a deep gloom over the vessel, for we all loved Lauren for his admirable qualities and respected him for his virtues. Shortly afterwards our 3d Assistant Engineer, Mr. Seely, slept in death, and three more of our men. Certain public reasons caused the Captain to order the vessel under way, and, with some laborers, we started for Havana, where we arrived on the following morning, avoiding the Federal cruisers that Brigadier General Shields (Yankee Consul) had sent to keep us from leaving Cardenas. Probably our safe passage may be attributed to the circumstance of the Spanish passenger boat, bound to Havana, having passed out two hours before us, and, believing her to be the Florida, she was chased and cannonaded for some time. "Nobody hurt," but Spanish dignity greatly offended.

Our advent into Havana caused much excitement. Throngs assembled on the quays, and there was an evident manifestation of good will and satisfaction.

There is no use in attempting to conceal the fact that the stringency of the neutrality proclamation of the Queen of England and Spain check mated the enterprising spirit of our enthusiastic little skipper. Our full equipment *had not been sent from England*—vital implements for the guns were wanting. Men were willing. Neither men nor equipment could be obtained. The authorities of Nassau and Cuba were ably assisted in sustaining the law by Consular aides, Yankee impudence, and gold. There was no alternative; a Confederate port had to be entered, and on due consideration our commander made his decision. At 7:30 P. M., on the 1st inst., we sailed. We had obtained some thirty "laborers," who all entered the Confederate service, and acted well their part.

At 2:50 P. M., on the 4th instant, we made Fort Morgan, and at the same time three blockaders.—Lieut. Stribling, our Executive, went to the Captain, who, though still confined to his bed, directed all things, and asked if he was determined to push through. He replied, decidedly, "Yes," and we stood on. They approached in under full steam, and in a short time grouped around us—within very short range. The large one tried to cross our bow. Capt. Maffitt, who had taken charge, but was better fitted for the sick room than the deck, ordered that our course should not be changed; on the contrary, he gave a little starboard helm, which caused the enemy to sheer from us slightly. At this juncture a fat little midshipman from the fore topmast head squalled out: "She has no men on deck, sir!" We could hear all their conversation. A shot was fired across our bow, which, of course, we did not heed, and then the entire party opened one of the most furious cannonades every witnessed. As they rounded to to get their broadside to bear, the Captain edged to the windward to cover us from the fire of one by luring the other. Shells of all kinds burst over and around us; hammocks were knocked overboard—a shell passed through into the cabin—our boats were pierced. The wind having increased, Captain ordered the main sail to set the fore top sail and top gallant sail. With a cheer up went our gallant "laborers." The sails were set, and as they descended from aloft, Parrot shells and schrapnel scattered among them, cutting away nearly all the rigging. One man was struck on the feet by his shoe with a Parrot shell, the impact cut off the sole and split the leather. He sang out, "My foot is gone;" and the men brought him out of the rigging. The foot turned black and has proved most painful.

As soon as the men were down the Captain ordered them below. We gazed upon them, but their firing seemed to improve. I forgot to mention that we approached under the English flag, and as we were running up the "Stars and Bars" the halyards were shot away, but soon re-rove, and the Dixie flag floated in their faces. At this moment an 11-inch shell entered at the water line on our port side, passed the boiler, glanced forward to the berth deck, and took off the head of Jas. Duncan, and wounded several others. Had it exploded the loss would have been terrible.

Standing by the after pivot gun I could hear the two men at the wheel, Billups and Sharky, conversing. As the shells burst over us Sharky would exclaim "And sure ye are a parcel of cowards, firing (three) upon one poor *sick man* as hathenish." "Bedad, something has got a dose. And Mr. —— can't you do that darker to give them one pill?"—Alas! none of our guns were in serviceable condition, and we had to grin and stand it, though it is no truth for me to say, that at one time I felt like ordering my hand, for I thought the poor lad Tilghman was gone, for that scoundrel would be unrendered, but the shot would be blown out of the water, his case seemed most desperate.

The bar was gained, and soon we were safe under the guns of Fort Morgan, after standing the assault for over two hours, which seemed like two hundred.

We were warmly received by all the officers of the fort, their Surgeons attended to our wounded, and Col. Powell stated that twas the most brilliant dash on record. That night we anchored nine miles from Mobile—were quarantined, for the fever still existed. On the 8th Lieut. Stribling was attacked by the epidemic, and on the 12th it became our melancholy duty to commit him to the grave.

The Birth of a Princess in Turkey.

The papers contain the following particulars of the recent ceremony attendant upon the birth of the Princess of Turkey:

When the ladies of distinguished personages present themselves on the occasion of the Sultana's confinement, the custom is for them to offer congratulations to the Sultan. They appear before His Majesty unveiled, and dressed in the richest costumes; but they wear no jewels. On the recent occasion they were introduced according to the rank and position of their husbands; first, the lady of the Grand Vizier, then the lady of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, afterwards the wife of Mustapha Pasha and of the Sheikh ul-Islam, followed by the remainder. There were also some Christian ladies present, among other Madame Guntelli, Madame Pecipio (the mother of Marco Pasha), Madame Dadian, &c. On the presentation of the ladies in the apartment where His Majesty was awaiting them, they first bowed on passing the door, then advanced, prostrated themselves, kissed His Majesty's foot, and, on rising up, again bowed. Upon this His Majesty, who remained on foot during the whole of the ceremony, replied by a bow, and made inquiries individually of the ladies as to themselves and their husbands. After passing several days at the Palace, the fair visitants returned to their homes, each of them having previously received magnificent tokens of His Majesty's bounty in the shape of a beautiful costume richly embroidered in gold and an ornament in brilliants. Among other customs peculiar to an event of this kind it may be mentioned that the lady, during her confinement, wears a red handkerchief on her head. The Sultana's apartment was hung with rich silk damask; the coverlets of the beds were embroidered in gold, and the curtains which surrounded it, with pearls of considerable value. The cradle of the Royal infant, the coverlets and everything which enveloped it, were ornamented with diamonds, pearls, rubies, and emeralds. Presents were also given to the attendants of the ladies. It was a fairy scene which must have been witnessed to be realized. The exquisite beauty of many of the ladies, the brilliancy and richness of their toilets, their animation and grace, were in every respect a most pleasing object to behold, and cannot fail to have removed many prejudices which might have existed in the minds of the Frank companions. The Sultan appeared delighted in the company of the ladies, and exhibited a politeness not to be excelled by the most polished gentleman in Europe."

A DOSE FOR THE ESSEX.—A letter received in Charleston, from a good source, says that the Yankee gunboat Essex, in going down the Mississippi river, suffered from the attentions of the Confederate batteries at a place near Vicksburg. Eighteen bodies were buried from the Essex, which received also at least two shots in dangerous place. The withdrawal of the Essex left the river above Donaldsonville clear of Yankee gunboats.

PLUNDERING.—The Northern papers boast that among the things taken from Baton Rouge by the evacuating force were Power's marble statue of Washington, and the State Library from the Capitol. This was done by order of the commanding General.—*Memphis Appeal.*

Vice-President Stephens on Martial Law.

Gen. Bragg recently declared martial law in Atlanta, Ga., and appointed Hon. James M. Calhoun Military Governor of the city; but Mr. Calhoun, doubtful of his powers, sought the counsel of Hon. R. H. Hill and Vice-Pres't Stephens on the subject. The latter's reply we find in the *Southern Confederacy*:

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 8, 1862.

Hon. James M. Calhoun, Atlanta, Ga.:

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 28th ult., to Hon. B. H. H. Hill, was submitted to me by him a few days ago for my views as to the proper answer to be made to your several inquiries touching your powers and duties in the office of Civil Governor of Atlanta, to which you have been appointed by Gen. Bragg. I took the letter with the promise to write to you fully upon the whole subject. This, therefore, is the object of my now writing to you. I regret the delay that has occurred in the fulfilment of my promise. It has been occasioned by the press of other engagements, and I now find my time too short to write as fully as I could wish. The subject is one of great importance, and this, as well as matters of a kindred sort, have given me deep concern for some time past.

I am not at all surprised at your being at a loss to know what your powers and duties are in your new position, and your inability to find anything in any written code of laws to enlighten you upon them. The truth is, your office is unknown to the law. Gen. Bragg had no more authority for appointing you civil Governor of Atlanta than I had; and I had, or have, no more authority than any street walker in your city. Under his appointment, therefore, you can rightfully exercise no more power than if the appointment had been made by a street walker.

We live under a Constitution. That Constitution was made for war as well as peace. Under that Constitution we have civil laws and military laws; laws for the civil authorities and laws for the military. The first are to be found in the Statutes at Large, and the latter in the Rules and Articles of War. But in this country there is no such thing as martial law, and cannot be until the Constitution is set aside, if such an evil day shall ever come upon us. All law making power in the Confederate States Government is vested in Congress. But Congress cannot declare martial law, which, in its proper sense, is nothing but an abrogation of all laws. If Congress cannot do it, much less can any officer of the Government, either civil or military, do it rightfully, from the highest to the lowest. Congress may, in certain cases specified, suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, but this by no means interferes with the administration of justice so far as to deprive any party arrested of his right to a speedy and public trial by a jury, after indictment, &c. It does not lessen or weaken the right of such party to redress for an illegal arrest. It does not authorize arrests except upon oath or affirmation upon probable cause. It only secures the party beyond misadventure to appear in person to answer the charge and prevent any preliminary inquiry as to the formality or legality of his arrest. It does not infringe or impair his other constitutional rights. These Congress cannot impair by law.

The constitutional guarantees are above and beyond the reach or power of Congress, and much more, if it could be, above and beyond the power of any officer of the Government. Your appointment, therefore, in my opinion, is simply a nullity. You, by virtue of it, possess no rightful authority, and can exercise none. The order creating you civil Governor of Atlanta was a most palpable usurpation. I speak of the act only in a legal and constitutional sense; not of the motive that prompted it. But a wise people, jealous of their rights, would do well to remember, as Delorme so well expressed it, that "such acts so laudable when we only consider the motive of them, make a breach at which tyranny will one day enter," if quietly submitted to long. Now, then, my opinion is, if any one be brought before you for punishment for selling liquor to a soldier, or any other allegation, where there is no law against it, no law passed by the proper law-making power, either State or Confederate, and where, as a matter of course, you have no legal or rightful authority to punish, either by fine, corporeally, &c., you should simply make this response to the one who brings him or her, as the case may be, that you have no jurisdiction of the matter complained of.

A British Queen (Anne) was once urged by the Emperor of Russia to punish one of her officers for what his Majesty considered an act of indignity to his Ambassador to her Court, though the officer had violated no positive law. The Queen's memorable reply was that "she could inflict no punishment upon any, the meanest of her subjects, unless warranted by the law of the land."

This is an example you might well imitate. For I take it for granted that no one will pretend that any General in command of our armies could confer upon you or anybody greater powers than the Ruling Sovereign of England possesses in like cases under similar circumstances. The case referred to in England gave rise to a charge of the law. After that, an act was passed exempting foreign ministers from arrest. So with us. If the proper discipline and good order of the army require that the sale of liquor to a soldier by a person not connected with the army should be prohibited, (which I do not mean to question in the slightest degree,) let the prohibition be declared by law, passed by Congress, with the pains and penalties for a violation of it, with the mode and manner of trying the offence plainly set forth. Until this is done, no one has any authority to punish in such cases; and any one who undertakes to do it is a trespasser and a violator of the law.

Soldiers in the service, as well as the officers, are subject to the Rules and Articles of War, and if they commit any offence known to the military code therein prescribed, they are liable to be tried and punished according to the law made for their government. If these Rules and Articles of War—or, in other words, if the military code for the government of the army is defective in any respect, it ought to be amended by Congress. There alone the power is vested. Neither Generals nor their Provost Marshals have any power to make, alter, or modify laws either military or civil, or establish any tribunal to punish what they may so declare. All these matters belong to Congress; and I assure you, in my opinion, nothing is more essential to the maintenance and preservation of constitutional liberty than that the military be ever kept subordinate to the civil authorities.

You then have my views hastily but politedly given. Yours, most respectfully,

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS.

HEAVY MORTALITY.—The 15th Arkansas regiment surrendered at Fort Donelson with 323 men. While in prison 160 died, leaving but 163. This is certainly a heavy mortality.

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, Oct. 3, 1862.

ON and after this date the PASSPORT OFFICE will be opened daily from 6 o'clock A. M. to 9 o'clock P. M., and on Sundays from 9 to 11 o'clock A. M. and from 4 to 6 o'clock P. M.

E. GRISWOLD,
oc 3—3t Major and Provost Marshal.

N. H. STARBUCK, NOTARY PUBLIC, and AGENT FOR CLAIMS against the Confederate States. Office, at the office of R. H. Dibrell, Commission Merchant, Shockoe Slip, Richmond, Va.

Having been a clerk under the old Government at Washington, D. C., for some fourteen years, the advertiser tenders his services to the legal representatives of deceased soldiers, and all others having claims against the C. S. Government, with entire confidence in his ability to prosecute them to a speedy and satisfactory adjustment. Address

N. H. STARBUCK,
oc 2—1m* Box 613, P. O., Richmond, Va.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Richmond will take place at their banking-house on FRIDAY, the 3d October, 1862, at 11 o'clock.

J. B. MACMURDO, Cashier.
se 20—12t

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

THE subscriber has removed his OFFICE to No. 87 Main st., (over Strider's skirt manufactory,