Richmond Dispatch.

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DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXIII. RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, 1862. NO. 119

WEDNESDAY MORNING.....NOV. 19, 1862.

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

During yesterday not even a rumor was in circulation with reference to affairs in Northern Virginia. It seems to be the general conclusion that there is no probability of an advance of the enemy from the line of the upper Rappahannock. From the Valley we have nothing later than has already appeared. Everything is apparently at a standstill.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG.

The latest information we have from this point assures us that it is still in possession of our forces, though threatened by a vastly superior body of the enemy. As stated, the enemy are represented to have possession of Falmouth, on the opposite side of the river, but we have no intelligence that they have made any attempt to cross. A brisk artillery fight occurred between the contending forces on Monday evening, which lasted up to five o'clock, our troops maintaining their position. The firing was not renewed yesterday morning.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

An intelligent lady, whose home is in Caldwell county, North Carolina, but who has been absent at the North at school for some years, arrived at Raleigh last Friday. On her route to Raleigh from the North she came through Newbern, at which point she was compelled to remain for nearly three weeks. During her sojourn there troops arrived every week, and her judgment is that there can be less than 25,000 men at Newbern, consisting of infantry, cavalry, and artillery. She says that Yankee officers with whom she conversed talk quite freely of an advance on Raleigh, and that a Colonel informed her if she would wait a couple of weeks they would send her to Salisbury by flag of truce from Raleigh. While there troops arrived from New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. The Yankee officers asked if she knew anything of the finest residences at Raleigh, stating that they should bring their families to occupy them. Gen. Foster and the traitor Stanley were both there the latter looking very sanctimonious. She represents a number of gunboats in the river and the fortifications west of the town as very formidable.

NEW SECRETARY OF WAR.

Although there has been no official announcement of the fact, it is generally understood that the portfolio of the War office has been tendered to the Hon. James A. Seddon, of Virginia. Mr. Seddon is well known to the people of this district, which he at one time represented in the old Congress, and has the reputation of being a man of energy and ability.

WANTS OF THE SOLDIERS.

We place the following communication in a prominent position, with the view of attracting especial attention to it. It comes from an officer high in rank, who enjoys a great degree of confidence and respect, both as a gentleman and a soldier. He has been in the hardest fought fields of the war and always acquitted himself with distinction. We hope that his appeal and his suggestions may receive the attention they deserve:

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, Nov. 11th, 1862.

You will perform a good service if you will conspicuously and earnestly call attention to the great need of *blankets* among our soldiers. Besides the fact that many of those in use by the army last winter have been worn out and lost, there are many more of our brave fellows in the field than there were at this season last year. So that the supply of covering to render them at all comfortable during the winter is greatly inadequate.

Meanwhile, the heroic matrons of the South have the means, and, thank heaven, the spirit, to contribute largely toward the remedying of this deficiency as soon as a proper way is opened to them. There are thousands of families that can, and will more than cheerfully, furnish one or more blankets for the use of soldiers in the field, substituting at home, if necessary, covering for themselves out of window curtains, surplus carpeting, &c. Let it be proposed, then, *that organizations be formed in every State of the Confederacy, and in every county, and neighborhood, for collecting blankets* to be thus contributed, *for conveying them* to the Quartermaster General in Richmond, with a due record of their number, value, and the names of the donors, and *for whatever other measures* may be requisite towards a right application of patriotic generosity to relieve so pressing a want.

What is done on the subject ought to be done promptly and with vigor. The Yankee, as malignant as he is false, despairing of subjugating us in honorable arms, gloats over the idea of ruining us by cold, starvation, and servile butchery. Let us, with united heart and energy alike ready and enduring, show him what a noble people, relying on the aid of truth, can do, under all disadvantages, in suffering aggression and defending their honor and their homes. To this end one of the very first conditions is a blanket or two for each gallant Southerner who will have to his out this winter, guarding his country against threatened destruction.

The case is too obvious to need many words. It is therefore committed, with this brief suggestion, to your friendly endorsement in some conspicuous column of your paper, and to the considerate attention and generous action of the people.

DEFENDERS.

☞ All other papers approving the proposal are requested to give currency to this appeal, with such additional remarks as they may think best.

THE CONFEDERATE LOSSES.—"P. W. A," the correspondent of the Savannah *Republican*, gives the following as what he believes to have been the losses of the Confederates in the battles named:

Our loss in killed and wounded at Fort Donelson may be roughly estimated at 3,500; at Roanoke and on the North Carolina coast, 500; at Elkhorn, 3,000; at Shiloh, 10,000; at Williamsburg, Seven Pines, and before Richmond, 20,000; in the Valley of the Shenandoah, 5,000; at Cedar Run, 1,200; at the second battle of Manassas, 6,000; at Boonsboro and Crampton Gaps, 4,000; at Sharpsburg, 10,000; at Corinth, 1,000; at Perryville, 1,000; and 5,000 for those who have fallen at outposts in skirmishes, &c. These figures added together make the frightful sum of 75,000! Of this number it would be safe to say that one-third, or 25,000, are now in their graves having either been killed outright or died from their wounds. Quite as many—probably more—have died from sickness. To this should be added 25,000 more for those who have been maimed, and whose health has been ruined for life. The our losses in ten months of the present year may be estimated at 75,000 men, who have either perished or been disabled. If the whole truth were known they would probably reach 100,000 by the end of the year, for the deaths from disease, in the hospitals, in camp, and at home, generally exceed those in battle. For every year the war continues we must expect our casualties to be quite as heavy as they have been the present.

DEATH OF A VENERABLE PATRIOT.—Parker Craig, a distinguished citizen of Kentucky, whose entire property had been confiscated or destroyed by the Federals, died at Knoxville, Tenn., last week. In his last moments he said to his friends:

"If Kentucky shall ever come out and join the Confederacy, then place my body by the side of my old, valued friend, Henry Clay. But if it does not, let me remain a refugee in the land of Tennessee."

SALT EXCITEMENT.—A letter from Dalton, Ga., states that a number of ladies in that place had gone to the State depot and demanded of the agent some salt. He directed them to the Commissary's office, when they repaired thither and demanded salt or blood. That officer gave them some salt, which supplied their immediate wants. It is reported, says the Rome *Courier*, that this same thing was done at several other places on the State road.

ANOTHER BRUTAL ORDER.—Gen. Sherman, the Butler of Memphis, has issued an order to the effect that the head of that family nearest whose residence the body of a slain Federal shall be found, shall be held responsible for the killing. One victim, a Mr. Greenwaur, has already been sent to prison with no other evidence against him than that a dead Missouri soldier was found one morning near his dwelling.

"STONEWALL JACKSON A POET."—Under this heading several Southern newspapers are surprising their readers with some beautiful verses, called "My Wife and Child," of which, they say, Gen. T. J. Jackson is the author. Nobody will be more surprised to see the famous "Stonewall" thus discussed as a poet than the old hero himself. The verses in question, which have long had a place in Southern literature, were written by Gen. Henry R. Jackson, of Georgia, and will be found in a volume of poems which he published soon after the Mexican war.

CAPTURE OF MAJOR REID SANDERS.—The Baltimore Sun announces the capture of Major Reid Sanders, son of George N. Sanders, Esq., on the Potomac, on one of the crafts which empties into the Chesapeake. The Sun says, at the time of the capture he was waiting for an English vessel to convey him to Europe with Confederate dispatches.

Judge Mitchell King, of Charleston, S. C., died at Flat Rock, N. C., on the 15th inst.

Highly Interesting Revelations--The Last Interview About the "Union"--Lincoln Tells Two Anecdotes--He Wonders if Bell or Douglas would have Stood what He Stood?

The detailed interview herewith subjoined, as given by ex-Gov. Morehead in his recent Liverpool speech, will be found highly interesting and instructive. It should be read by every one:

Mr. Lincoln commenced the conversation, after receiving us very kindly, by stating that he was accidentally elected President of the United States; that he never aspired to a position of that kind; that it had never entered into his head; but that from the fact of his having made a race for the Senate of the United States with Judge Douglas, in the State of Illinois, his name became prominent, and he was accidentally selected and elected afterwards as President of the United States; that running that race in a local election his speeches had been published; and that any one might examine his speeches and they would see that he had said nothing against the interests of the South. He defied them to point out any one sentence in all the various addresses that he had made in that canvass that could be tortured into enmity against the South, except, he remarked, one expression, namely, that "a house divided against itself must fall; they must either be all slave or all free States," and he said that he explained afterwards that that was an abstract opinion, and never intended to be made the basis of his political action. He remarked at the same time that the clause in the Constitution of the United States requiring fugitive slaves to be delivered up was a constitutional provision; was a part of the organic law of the land, and that he would execute it with more fidelity than any Southern man that they could possibly find, and that he could not imagine what was the cause of the deep and apparently settled enmity that existed towards him throughout the entire South, looking at me at the time as if to invite an answer from me. I replied that he was very much mistaken if he supposed that the deep pervading feeling throughout the South originated in any personal enmity towards himself; that I did not suppose that there was any feeling of that kind on the part of an individual in the South; that he was the representative of a great party—of a very sectional party—elected on a platform which they considered would, if carried out, be destructive of their dearest and best rights; and that it was on that account, and that alone—the attempt to throw a common Government, the Government for all the States, in antagonism to the interests of a portion of the very State whose Government it was, which was the cause of the deep and settled feeling which existed throughout the entire South. We appealed to him then to give the guarantees which were demanded by the Southern men in that Peace Conference, representing to him that it was in his power; that he was at that time a power in the State; that he held in the hollow of his hand the destiny of thirty millions of people; that if he said that the guarantees should be made, and would make it, there would be no difficulty in carrying out any programme that might be adopted.

He said that he was willing to give a constitutional guarantee that slavery should not be molested in any way, directly or indirectly, in the States; that he was willing to go further, and give a guarantee that it should not be molested in the District of Columbia; that he would go still further, and say that it should not be disturbed in the docks, arsenals, forts, and other places within the slaveholding States; but as for slavery in the Territories, that his whole life was dedicated in opposition to its extension there; that he was elected by a party which had made that a portion of its platform, and he should consider that he was betraying that party if he ever agreed, under any state of the case, to allow slavery to be extended in the Territories. We pointed out to him that there was not an acre of territory belonging to the United States where the foot of a slave could ever tread; that there were natural laws which would forbid slavery going into a mountainous region, and the colder regions of the North; and that it was utterly impossible that slavery could ever extend there; and we denied that a common Government had power to make the prohibition, and asked him why, if he was a really true, sincere, Union man, have an empty prohibition when the laws of nature were a stronger prohibition than any that could be passed by act of Congress? (Hear, hear.) That he waived, by saying that he was committed on this subject. Then it was that I replied to him: "Mr. President, you say you were accidentally selected and elected by a party. You were the candidate of the party, but when you were elected, sir, I thought—I have been taught to believe—that you were the President of the Union—I opposed you, sir." I said to him: "With all the zeal and energy of which I was master, I endeavored to prevent your election—not because I had any personal feeling or enmity towards you, but because I believed that it would lead to the very mischief we now witness. I opposed you, sir; but you are my President—you have been elected according to the forms of the Constitution, and you are the President of the people of the United States, and I think that some little deference is due to the opinions of those who constitute the majority, according to the vote that has been polled, of 1,100,000 men in the United States."

He at once rather briskly said: "If he was a minority President he was not the first, and that, at all events, he had obtained more votes than we could muster for any other man." I think, as near as I can recollect, those are about his identical words.

I responded at once to him that I did not intend to recall to him that he was a minority President, but simply to announce the broad fact that he was the President not of the men who voted for him, but of the whole people of the United States, and that of the wishes and feelings and interests of the whole people of the United States—the party with 1,100,000 majority as well as the minority party by whom he was elected, ought to be consulted by him.

General Donovan here interposed and presented three alternative propositions to him. First, that he might remain perfectly idle and passive and let the disintegration of the States go on as it had gone on—secondly, give guarantees such as were asked, and bring the whole power of his Administration to bear in obtaining those guarantees; or, thirdly, resort to coercion and attempt to force the seceding States into obedience. He illustrated very distinctly and clearly those three propositions.

When the conversation had slackened a little I ventured to appeal to him in a manner in which I never appealed to any other man, and never expect to do again. I said that as to the last proposition I desired to say one word—that I trusted and prayed to God that he would not resort to coercion; that if he did, the history of his Administration would be written in blood, and all the waters of the Atlantic ocean could never wash it from his hands. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He asked me what I would do, if I meant by coercion the collection of the revenue and the taking back of the forts which he said belonged to the United States. I replied that that was the only mode in which was it possible that he could, under the Constitution, resort to coercion—by an attempt to collect the revenue and to take back the forts. He had placed himself in a chair with rounds to it, with his feet upon the highest round—a long, lanky man, with very large side whiskers, with his elbows upon his knees, and his hands upon the sides of his face, in an attitude of listening, and when he would speak he would drop his hands and raise his head. Dropping his hand and raising his head, he said he would tell me a little anecdote which had happened when he first came to the bar. An old man, he said, had applied to him to bring a suit, and made out a capital case, as he thought; but when the evidence was detailed before the jury it was the worst case he had ever listened to, and while the evidence was going on the old man came, listening to the evidence himself, and whispered in his ear, "Guv it up"—(Laughter.) "Now," said he, "Governor, wouldn't this be 'guvin' it up?"

I assure you, Mr. Chairman, I don't present it in any light different from that in which it actually occurred—none whatever. I said to him: "Mr. President, it may be said that it would be 'guvin' it up;' but hadn't you better 'guv it up' without bloodshed than drench this land with blood, and then have to 'guv it up?'" (Applause.) He then asked what he was to do with his oath of office—He said he had sworn to see the laws faithfully executed, and, addressing himself to me, he said: "I would like to know from you what I am to do with my oath of office." I said to him that he had taken a solemn oath to see the laws faithfully executed; but that Congress was then in session, and application had been made to Congress to give to the President of the United States the power to collect the revenue by armed vessels outside of the ports, and Congress had refused to give that power. "If," I said, "Congress fails to give the necessary power, Mr. President, to you to collect the revenue by vessels outside the ports, how are you to collect it? Do you think you can send a collector to the port of Charleston, to the port of Savannah, or of New Orleans, to collect the revenue there? Is it not an impossibility, and does your oath bind you to do a thing that is impossible? As to the forts, that is a matter within your discretion, sir. You can withdraw the troops if you please.—You are the Commander-in-Chief, and it belongs to you either to keep them there or to withdraw them totally, and prevent a collision and a consequent deadly and ruinous war."

"Well," said he, raising himself again, "I will only answer you by telling you a little anecdote which struck me—excuse me," says he, "a little anecdote which struck me as you were going on—It is from Esop's fables, and doubtless in your schoolboy days you have read it. Esop, you know," says he, "illustrates great principles often by making mute animals speak and act, and according to him there was a lion once that was desperately in love with a beautiful lady, and he courted the lady, and the lady became enamored of him and agreed to marry him, and the old people were asked for their consent. They were afraid of the power of the lion, with his long and sharp claws and his tusks, and they said to him: 'We can have no objection to so respectable a personage as you, but our daughter is frail and delicate, and we hope that you will submit to have your claws cut off and your tusks drawn, because they might be very serious injury to her.' The lion submitted, being very much in love. His claws were cut off and his tusks drawn, and they took clubs and then knocked him on the head." (Laughter.)

I replied, I think, about in substance this—that it was an exceedingly interesting anecdote, and *very apropos*, but not altogether a satisfactory answer to me, and then said to him, "Mr Lincoln, this to me, sir, is the most serious and all absorbing subject that has ever engaged my attention as a public man. I deprecate and look with horror upon a fratricidal war. I look at the injury that it is to do, not only to my own section—that I know is to be desolated and drenched in blood—but I think of the injury that it is to do the cause of humanity itself, and I appeal to you, apart from these tests, to lend us your aid and countenance in averting a calamity like that."

Before he replied, Mr. Rives, of Va., got up. We had before that conversed sitting in a semi circle around the President; but Mr Rives rose from his chair, and with a dignity and eloquence that I have seldom heard surpassed in the course of my life, he appealed to him I could not pretend to give even the substance of his speech; but I remember that he told Mr. Lincoln that he was then a very old man; that there never had been a throb of his heart that was not in favor of the perpetuation of the Union; that he came there with a hope and a wish to perpetuate it, and that all his efforts had been exerted in endeavoring to procure such guarantees as would perpetuate it; but that he desired to say to him—and he said it with a trembling voice—in order that he might know, and not say thereafter that he was not fully warned, that he agreed with every word I had said with regard to the horrors of this anticipated war, and that if he did resort to coercion Virginia would leave the Union and join the seceding States. "Nay, sir," he said, "old as I am, and dearly as I have loved this Union, in that event I go, with all my heart and soul." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Lincoln jumped up from his chair, as Mr. Rives was standing, advanced one step towards him, and said: "Mr. Rives, Mr. Rives, if Virginia will stay in I will withdraw the troops from Fort Sumter."

Mr Rives stepped back and said, "Mr. President, I have no authority to speak for Virginia; I am one of the humblest of her sons; but if you will guarantee to do that, it will be one of the wisest things you have ever done. Do that, and give us guarantees, and I can only promise you that whatever influence I possess shall be exerted to promote the Union and to restore it to what it was." We then, all of us, got up and were standing. I was on the outer circle.

He said: "Well, gentlemen, I have been wondering very much whether, if Mr. Douglas or Mr Bell had been elected President, you would have dared to talk to him as freely as you have to me."

I did not hear the answer, but I am told that Mr. Guthrie answered him about in this way: "Mr. President, if Gen Washington occupied the seat that you will soon fill, and it had been necessary to talk to him as we have to you to save such a Union as this, I for one should talk to him as we have to you." (Hear, hear.) That closed the conversation.

The War and the Southern Forts--Rejoinder of Lieut. Gen. Scott to Ex-President Buchanan.

The *National Intelligencer* publishes the subjoined rejoinder of Lieut.-General Scott to the recent communication of ex-President Buchanan, and remarks:

The interest naturally attaching to this discussion between citizens so distinguished, and who were called to act such a conspicuous part at a most important epoch in our history, will procure for this response of General Scott that attentive perusal which it no less deserves from the dignity of the subject to which it relates. It is gratifying to observe that neither of our venerable and eminent correspondents, in controverting the statements of the other, transcends the limits of candid criticism while dealing with topics at once so delicate and partly of a personal nature.

LIEUT.-GEN. SCOTT'S REJOINDER.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer:

I regret to find myself in a controversy with the venerable ex-President Buchanan.

Recently (October 21) you published my official report to President Lincoln dated March 30, 1861, giving a summary of my then recent connection with our principal Southern forts, which I am sorry to perceive has given offence to the ex-President. That result, purely incidental, did not enter into my purpose in drawing up the paper; but, on reflection, I suppose that, under the circumstances, offence was unavoidable.

Let it be remembered, that the new President had a right to demand of me—the immediate commander of the army—how it had happened that the impiest rebels had been allowed to seize several of those forts, and from the bad condition of others were likely to gain possession of them also. Primarily the blame rested exclusively on me. Hence to vindicate my sworn allegiance to the Union and professional conduct, the report was submitted to President Lincoln at an early day, (in his administration,) and recently to the world.

To that short paper ex-President Buchanan publishes a reply of double the length in the *Intelligencer*, of the 1st inst. My rejoinder, from necessity, if not taste, will be short, for I hold the pen in a rheumatic hand, and am without side-de camp or amanuensis, and without a printed document and my own official papers.

Unable, in my present condition, to make an analysis of the ex-President's long reply, I avail myself of a substitute furnished by an accidental visitor, who has kindly marked the few points which he thinks may require some slight notice at my hands.

1. To account for not having garrisoned sufficiently the Southern forts named against anticipated treason and rebellion, according to my many recommendations, beginning October 29, 1860, repeated the next day, and again more earnestly December 13, 15, 28, and 30, the ex President says: "There were no available troops within reach."

Now, I have nowhere said that either of those forts, even with the reinforcements indicated, would have had a war garrison. Certainly not—My proposition was to put each in a condition, as I expressly said, to guard against a surprise or *coup de main*, (an off-hand attack—one without full preparation.)

That these movements of small detachments might easily have been made in November and December, 1860, and some of them as late as the following month, cannot be doubted. But the ex-President seems at my "weak device" for arming the forts. He forgets what the gallant Anderson did, with a handful of men, in Fort Sumter, and leaves out of the account what he might have done with a like handful in Fort Moultrie, even without further augmentation of men to divide between the garrisons. Twin forts on the opposite sides of a channel not only give a cross fire on the head of an attack, but the strength of each is more than doubled by the flanking fire of the other. The same remarks apply to the gallant Lieutenant Slemmer, with his handful of brave men in Fort Pickens. With what contempt might he not have looked upon Chase or Bragg, had it fell to him, with overpowering masses of from six to six thousand men, if Fort Pickens and its twin, Fort McRae, had had between them only two hundred men!

Now, although it is true that, with or without the ex-President's approbation, the Secretary of War had nearly denuded our whole Eastern seaboard of troops in order to augment our forces in Texas and Utah, I nevertheless pointed out, at several of the above dates, the six hundred recruits (about) which we had in the harbor of New York and at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, nearly all organized into temporary companies, and tolerably drilled and disciplined—quite equal to the purpose in question—besides the five companies of regulars near at hand, making about one thousand men—These disposable troops would have given (say) two hundred men to the twin forts, Jackson and St. Philip, below New Orleans; an equal number to Fort Morgan, below Mobile; a reinforcement of one hundred men to Fort Pickens, Pensacola harbor, and a garrison of the like number to the twin fort, McRae; a garrison of one hundred men to Fort Jefferson, Tortugas Island, and the same to Fort Pulaski, below Savannah, which, like Forts Jackson, St. Philip, Morgan and McRae, had not at the time a soldier—leaving about two hundred men for the twin Forts Moultrie and Sumter, Charleston harbor, where there were two weak companies, making less than ninety men. Fortress Monroe had already a garrison of some eight companies, one or two of which might, in the earlier period of danger, have been spared till volunteers could have been obtained, notwithstanding printed handbills were everywhere posted in Eastern Virginia, by an eccentric character, inviting recruits to take that most important work.

I have thus shown that small garrisons would at first have sufficed for the other twins, Forts Jackson and St. Philip, also. My object was to save to the Union, by any means at hand, all those works until Congress could have time to authorize a call for volunteers—a call which the President, for such purpose, might no doubt have made without any special legislation, with the full approbation of every loyal man in the Union.

2. The ex-President almost loses his amiability in having his neglect of forts "attributed," as he says, "without the least cause, to the influence of Governor Floyd;" and, he adds, "all my Cabinet must bear me witness that I was the President myself, responsible for all the acts of the Administration."

Now, notwithstanding this broad assumption of responsibility, I should be sorry to believe that Mr. Buchanan specially consented to the removal, by Secretary Floyd, of 115,000 extra muskets and rifles, with all their implements and ammunition, from Northern repositories to Southern arsenals, so that on the breaking out of the maturing rebellion they might be found without cost, except to the United States, in the most convenient positions for distribution among the insurgents. So, too, with the one hundred and twenty or one hundred and forty pieces of heavy artillery, which the same Secretary ordered from Pittsburg to Ship Island, in Lake Borgne, and Galveston, Texas, for forts not yet erected! Accidentally learning, early in March, that, under this *posthumous* order, the shipment of these guns had commenced, I communicated the fact to Secretary Holt (acting for Secretary Cameron) just in time to defeat the robbery.

But on this point we may hear ex-Secretary Floyd himself. At Richmond he expressly claimed the honor of defeating all my plans and solicitations respecting the forts, and received his reward; it being there universally admitted that but for that victory over me there could have been no rebellion!

3. Mr. Buchanan complains that I published, without permission, January 12, 1861, my views addressed to him and the Secretary of War, October 29 and 30, 1860. But that act was caused, as I explained to him at the time, by the misrepresentations of the *sense* in one of the earlier speeches of the same ex-Secretary after his return to Virginia.

4. One of my statements, complaining of the joint countermand, sent through the Secretaries of War and Navy, to prevent the landing at Fort Pickens of Capt. Vodges's company, *unless the fort should be attacked*, is cited by the ex-President to prove a "singular want of memory" on my part; and a note from Secretary Holt is adduced to show that I had entirely approved of the joint countermand the day (January 29) that it was prepared.

Few persons are as little liable to make a misstatement by accident as Mr. Holt, and no one more incapable of making one by design; yet I have not the slightest recollection of any interview with him on this subject. I do remember, however, that Mr. Holt, on some matter of business, approached my bedside about that time when I was suffering greatly from an access of gout. Mr. Buchanan, Mr Holt, and myself were all landsmen, and could know but little of the impossibility of landing troops on an open sea beach, with a high wind and surf. Mr. Toucey, Secretary of the Navy, with officers about him of intelligence and nautical experience, ought to have said plumply that if Vodges was not to land except in the case of an attack upon Fort Pickens, he might as well have remained at Fortress Monroe, as the prohibition placed the fort, so far as he was concerned, at the mercy, (or as the event showed,) of the want of enterprise on the part of the rebel commander at Pensacola.

Possibly there are other parts of the reply which a superficial reader may think require comment or elucidation; and, indeed, here is another marked for me by my kind visitor:

5. The ex-President has brought together a labyrinth of dates respecting the arrival and departure of rebel commissioners, armistices, &c., with which, as I had no official connection, I may have made an unimportant mistake or two; but as I have not by me the means of recovering the clue to these windings, I shall not attempt to follow them.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

New York, 6th Av. Hotel, Nov. 8, 1862.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

MR. COBDEN AGAINST INTERVENTION—THE LONDON TIMES AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND ON GEN. BUTLER AND MRS. PHILLIPS, &c.

Mr. Cobden has addressed his constituents at Rochdale. He spoke at length on the prevailing distress at Lancashire. He regarded that distress as a national question, and if public and private aid proved insufficient to relieve it, Parliament would have to make provision for it. He then referred to the American war, and said that it would be a waste of time for foreigners to attempt to influence the combatants. To interfere in the war, or to recognize the South, would do more harm than good, and fail to bring forward cotton. As to how the contest was going to end, he confessed his inability to form any opinion, but if compelled to make a guess, he would not make the same guess that Earl Russell and Mr Gladstone did. He did not believe that if the war should soon be brought to a termination it would end in the separation of the North and South. He thought those who professed so much for Italian unity ought to appreciate more the same union in America. Interference by force would do more than anything else to strengthen the Union Government, and the cost to England in six months would be more than sufficient to feed the distressed cotton operatives for ten years. Mr. Cobden concluded by reproaching the Palmerston Government for its extravagance, and advocated retrenchment.

The ringleaders of the great robbery of the Bank of England note paper had been arrested. One of them was taken in the act of printing notes on some of the stolen paper.

THE "TIMES" ON THE DEMOCRACY.

The *Times*, in some speculations on the elections in America, says:

"When we see the Democratic party making a show of force, once more struggling for utterance, and yearning for the old free institutions of early America, we believe that in that party lies the only hope of peace to a great people and permanent prosperity to a mighty country. They have all our sympathies. We have no great faith in the early termination of the war if the Republicans gain another term of power. True, gold is now at 139, and the money crash is nearing every day; but the Confederates have fought on parched corn, and the Federals also can fight without foreign credit if their passions hold out or their party hatreds urge them. Although they never can actually subdue, they may go on obstinately fighting.—If the Republicans should win all these elections, the result may very probably be so to lengthen and embitter this war as to throw the North American continent back for a century.

THE "TIMES" ON BUTLER.

The *Times* publishes a private letter from New Orleans, in which it is stated that Mrs Phillips, who suffered such barbarous treatment from Gen. Butler for having smiled as the funeral of a Federal soldier passed, has completely lost her reason. Gen. Butler has, by a recent proclamation, required every person in the city to register himself or herself as either a friend or an enemy of the United States, and at the same time to give in a register of their property; and no article could be sued for or sold or enjoyed in any way, which was not regularly registered.

The *Times* remarks on this letter: "It is a senseless humiliation and a useless insult to drive up a whole population under the muzzle of cannon and under the threats of being utterly despoiled, to commit a sort of white perjury. A gentleman with a little tact might by this have let loose those three million bales of cotton. But while Butler commands, New Orleans can serve for no other purpose without but as a warning to all other Southern cities of what submission to the North involves."

BRITISH INTERESTS AT NEW ORLEANS.

A memorial has been sent to Earl Russell from leading Liverpool merchants connected with New Orleans, calling his Lordship's attention to the arbitrary conduct of Gen. Butler in respect to foreigners, and urging the necessity of a chief consul and a British man-of-war being dispatched to that port for the protection of British interests. His Lordship has simply acknowledged the receipt of the memorial.

ONE OF THE ROMANCES OF THE WAR.—A sprightly newspaper correspondent has given the public the following among the incidents of the war:

A few years ago Sir John Musgrave, of England, and his beautiful daughter, visited New York, bringing with them the prestige of a good name, and wearing the livery of exceeding gracefulness and refinement of manners. They were feted and caressed by the merchant princes of the great commercial metropolis. The daughter won the heart of the gallant son of Henry Grinnell, the generous and noble-hearted merchant of New York who has been, and is now, the unflinching and dauntless friend of the South, and who has defied the Lincoln Government in the expression of a bold and manly opinion in our behalf, and in the manifestation of the most substantial aid and comfort to our cause.

Sir John and his daughter returned to England soon thereafter; his daughter accompanied Florence Nightingale to the Crimea, and was the constant companion day and night of that angel of mercy, in her ministrations to the dying and wounded soldiers in the Crimean war. On her return to England young Grinnell met her in London, and they were married, where they settled, enjoying all the luxuries and elegancies of life, which the princely wealth of their fathers could so well afford them. Col. ——, of Virginia, had often met Miss Musgrave in New York, and whilst passing down the street in Richmond suddenly and unexpectedly met her. "Mercy!" exclaimed Col. ——, "I would as soon have expected to see an angel from Heaven! Pray, Miss Musgrave, how came you here?"

Her story was soon told with most unaffected simplicity. "After leaving New York," said she, "I returned to England and went with Florence Nightingale to the Crimea. On my return home I married Mr. Grinnell, and on the breaking out of the war in America, my husband avowed his determination to link his fortunes with the South; and I accompanied him. He soon raised a company—fitted them out at an expense to himself of fifteen thousand dollars—preferred that some one of more experience than himself should be captain, taking for himself a lieutenancy, and he has gone to fight for the South, and I am here in one of the hospitals of Richmond caring the best I can for the wounded and dying soldiers of the Confederacy." And she passed on—the Florence Nightingale of America!

MORGAN'S RAIDS IN ENGLAND.—*Bell's Life in London*, under the caption of "Novelty in Warfare," reproduces from the private correspondence of Col. St. Leger Grenfel, full accounts of Gen. Morgan's performances in the telegraphic department of the Confederate Army. *Bell's Life* states that the record of Morgan's achievements reads like that of Louis XIV.'s campaign in the Porte St. Martin. *Capti urbes mentes quadrigenta.* He has captured seventeen cities, and destroyed millions of dollars worth of United States property. Morgan's name is becoming world wide.

Judge C. P. Smith, for twelve years Chief Justice of the State of Mississippi, died on the 10th inst.

ATTENTION!—TO MEN OF ENTERPRISE AND DASH.—A few recruits are still wanted to complete the organization of our company of GUIDES, SCOUTS and COURIERS. None but young, ambitious, and enterprising spirits, and dashing riders, will be received. Some of the finest horses in the Confederacy are in this command, and each recruit will be furnished a horse, perfect outfit, and $50 bounty. Ample opportunity to win laurels in the most attractive service in the army is now afforded. Persons wishing to join this command will call at our recruiting office, opposite the Spotswood Hotel.

CHAS. H. TALBOTT,
DAVID JOHNSON,
WILSON D. WILLIAMS,
Recruiting Officers.

no 11—3t*

LOCAL MATTERS.

Arrival of Prisoners.—Seventeen Abolition prisoners of war, mostly members of the 10th New York regiment, were received at the Libby Prison yesterday, from Fredericksburg, Va., having been captured in the vicinity of that place. Of this number four—viz: One belonging to the 96th New York, one to the 6th U. S. cavalry, and two to the 130th New York—professed to be deserters, and not to desire to go North again. Last night, three Abolition prisoners, captured on Saturday near Cook's store, 2½ miles from Gloucester Point, arrived at the above prison. There are now about 500 in confinement there, half of whom are subject to exchange or parole as prisoners of war.

Prison Items.—The following persons were received at the Military Prison for the Eastern District yesterday, viz: Jno. McDonald and Henry Brent, of the Rodgers Cavalry, for being absent from their company without leave. H. McDonald, Co. B, 13th Ala., and P. S. Danbury, Cutts's Artillery, for seven days for punishment. Holland Watson, for trial before the Mayor. James Champion and James Farrel, for disobeying orders and letting two prisoners escape from their custody.—Thomas Adams, for trial by Court-Martial. The following parties were received from the Libby Prison, the charge against whom did not transpire, viz: Eliza Edwards, Mrs. M. B. Brown and four children, Mrs. Sarah Yarlett, and Ellen Brown.—Fergus McIver, a drunken man, was put in the Castle last evening for appearing there and abusing the officers. One of the sentinels at this prison yesterday discharged his musket at a prisoner for putting his head out of the window. The article shot at was not hit, and the man threw in return a brick at the soldier.

Arrests.—The only party arrested yesterday besides a drunken man found on the sidewalk, was John Mahan, on complaint of his wife for an assault on her person.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURTS.

Mayor's Court, Tuesday, Nov. 18th.—Lizzie, slave of Dr. Ellison, arrested by Watchman Wasserman, was committed for going at large.

William, slave of Talbott & Brother, charged with making a felonious assault on Henry Mayo, manager of a farm owned by the Talbotts, in Chesterfield, last Friday night, having been picked up in this city by the police, and brought before the Mayor, was ordered to be sent to Manchester for trial.

Alick, slave of Mrs. Mary Rose, and Robert, slave of Miss Mary Howard, were arraigned for stealing $15 from Daniel Ross. The latter not appearing, they were discharged from custody, none of the police officers knowing anything of the transaction.

Wm. Irwin and John Bastain, two youths, were arraigned for surreptitiously possessing themselves of a bed-quilt belonging to Bridget McDonough. Five little boys were introduced to show how the article in question was sequestered. Mrs. McDonough being sworn, demonstrated the manner in which the quilt was lost and recovered, whereupon the five youthful witnesses were discharged, and the criminals, both boys committed to jail for an indefinite period for want of surety for their good behavior. Irwin, the largest, had not long been out of jail.

Thomas O'Brien and Thomas Wilkinson were brought up for drunkenness and disorderly conduct on Tuesday night, on 4th, beyond Leigh street.—They had been to a convivial gathering in that locality. Wilkinson's forehead had a bump on it and was bandaged, showing that the spirit of the occasion had moved him to an activity damaging to his personal beauty. Officer Carter said it was his first appearance before the police since his release from the Penitentiary. Both parties were committed for want of surety for their future good behavior.

Frederick Grobe, charged with having counterfeit money in his possession, and offering to pass the same, was again called up and again acquitted, the first having occurred on Monday, when in company with Charles Lindner, an alleged accomplice.

Sandy, a slave owned by J. H. Enroughty, charged stealing from the Petersburg depot three boxes of dry goods, owned by Robert W. Joyner, was arraigned for the second time to-day, in company with Pittman, slave of Susan Howard; Henry, slave of James Taliaferro; William, slave of Muscoe Garnett; Miles slave of Dr. Hancock; Bill, slave of Julius Slowman, and George, slave of G. Berry, alleged participants in the abduction. No witnesses were examined and the case remained at the adjournment of the Court in *status quo*.

The case of Wash Jordan, Robert Jackson, and others, for being in a room over No. 90 Main st., was continued until Wednesday, the *status* of the parties being in doubt. Peter Greentree for hiring the room over No. 90 to the party aforesaid, without knowing whether they were slaves or free negroes, was condemned to pay a fine of five dollars.

Sarah Edmondson, a free negro, was examined and sent on for trial before the Hustings Court for stealing a mourning dress, worth $95, from the residence of Recorder James K. Caskie.

John Minnahan was fined ten dollars for straining his horse through Main street, near 8th, on Monday. Disbursing the amount, he was discharged.

Thomas Pryor, charged with getting drunk and acting disorderly on Clay street, and breaking down Susan Blake's gate, was committed in default of security for his good behavior.

William Flemments, of Baltimore, member of the Purcell Battery, arrested on suspicion of murdering Michael Horan, in Henrico county, two weeks since, was arraigned, and witnesses called to testify in the case, who said that Flemments was present, but they could not swear he fired the fatal shot. One of them, Morgan Roach, said he had heard that Flemments had shot at him, but he did not know the fact. Defendant was committed until Friday for further examination.

The case of the parties arrested at the house of Ann Thomas, on Saturday night, was called up—Mr. Seal, policeman, being sworn, testified to his knowledge of the house, which, he said, was of evil fame, as well as the proprietress. Seal detailed the circumstances of the visit of the police after they heard of the murder and prior to the arrest—The Mayor, in answer to a question of Mr. Gilmer, prisoner's counsel, said he was trying to investigate the criminality of the house. Mr. Seal learned that Hiltzheimer, a witness before the Coroner's inquest on the murder of Whitmall, had intimate relations with some of the parties residing in the house, and was not let in on his visit, because accompanied with a crowd. The police took seven men and ten women from there. Lieut. Crone testified to the local and State reputation of "Mulberry Grove"—Thomas M. Hiltzheimer, Jr., said that the party who went to Ann Thomas's on the night of the murder, proceeded from No. 109 Main street. He had been invited to supper there that night, and first varying his account, he subsequently said he knew whether No. 109 was a house of public entertainment