

To Our Readers and Patrons.

For months past the price of everything has been going up with unprecedented rapidity. During these months we have continued to furnish the Journal to our readers at its former prices, and with more than its former amount of reading matter. We had hoped to be able to do so still, but the pressure of the times makes us feel that we are obliged to resort to one of two alternatives—either to make a slight advance in price, by no means commensurate with the rise in all the materials and elements which go to swell the expenses of publication, or to adopt the system of half-sheets and other modes of curtailment.

Willing to take no step backwards, but anxious to make the Journal still more worthy of public support, instead of less so, we have unhesitatingly adopted the first of these two alternatives, relying upon the liberality of the public to justify us in our decision. We will not reduce the size, and as far as possible will increase the matter of the Journal, but as paper is largely enhanced in price, and as nearly all other things connected with our business and with the support of those engaged in carrying it on have gone up in even a greater proportion, we are compelled to offer the Journal on and after Monday next, the 7th inst., at the following slightly increased rates. No name will be entered upon our list until the money is paid:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity and Price. 12 months, \$8; 6 months, \$4.50; 3 months, \$2.25; 1 month, 75 cents.

Of course all papers already subscribed and paid for will be furnished at the rates existing when the subscriptions were made.

Quick Work.—The Richmond Enquirer of yesterday, says that Hon. Wm. M. Gwin, of California, who was arrested in New York some months ago, and carried to Washington by Lincoln's minions, but afterwards released, arrived in Richmond on Thursday night, having come from Maryland by the new-grown railroad.

It is evident that Mr. Raymond is not only sanguinary but remarkably sanguine. His sixty days' bill is about due, and will require renewal shortly. He is evidently not the best authority, but we will give another of his statements for what it may be worth. After retailing supposed evidences of Union feeling on the Tennessee River, he says:—

So, too, we are told, in Richmond, Va., and I believe it to be true, three thousand men are leagued together as Union men, ready whenever the heavy hand of their tyrannical Government shall be lifted from them, to strike a blow for the cause which lifts us up, and gives us courage and hope for the future.

The Hon. Alfred Eli, Captain Wm. S. Mullins' private property, the captive of his bow and his spear, having been exchanged and thus released from duress vice in a tobacco factory, writes a letter which is read at the grand pow wow. Speaking of his rather involuntary and somewhat prolonged residence in Richmond, he says:—

But even there [in the prison at Richmond] we had pleasing evidence that in Old Virginia—the birth State of Washington—there are those who, in their hearts, are faithful in their allegiance to the United States.

We don't think martial law was declared a bit too soon there, and we see in all this, and in certain things at Newbern, additional incentives to the most watchful vigilance.

Important Arrest.—We understand that the Mayor of Washington, N. C., whose name is said to be Keespass, was yesterday brought up to Goldsboro', having been arrested on suspicion of having been in communication with the enemy. We learn that he either has been or will be sent to Richmond. We have heard it intimated that other arrests had been or would be made, but we have been unable to learn any particulars.

The Gun Boat Fund.—We acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to this fund, or rather the tender, the money being now deposited subject to order, as owing to recent action of a Town Meeting, the whole matter is placed in the hands of the Safety Committee, and so far, we are informed of no action having been taken by that body:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Mrs. Hyde, \$25; Miss Mary Hyde, \$10; John T. H. K. K. K., \$10; Mr. Fleming, \$10; A Lady, \$10.

WE ARE afraid that the two Federal spies who were to have been hung yesterday in Richmond, having been convicted on the most positive proof of their guilt, have been reprieved. Such a thing was feared, and as our telegraph from Richmond makes no mention of their execution, it is to be apprehended that these fears have been realized.

More Contributions.—A lady writes to us from Brunswick county, under date of the 31st ult., to put her down for \$25 for the gun-boat. We take pleasure in complying with her request.

Whenever the Committee of Safety is prepared to act, and it is now or never, we will turn over to them such tenders of money or produce as have been made for the purpose, through us.

It is proper to remark that these tenders have been made for a gun-boat, but we must suppose that the subscribers have had in view the object sought to be accomplished rather than the mere name or form of the instrumentality. This, however, is for the subscribers to decide.

The letter published to-day from Captain Stevenson of the King Artillery, as well as that from Captain Cornelius of the German Volunteers, previously published, shows such a spirit among our brave soldiers as ought to put to shame anything like backwardness or want of liberality among our citizens in town or country. The thing now is for the Committee to act at once. There is no time for delay or procrastination.

A MEETING was held last evening at the Town Hall on the subject of an iron-clad gun-boat or other defense of character for our river, and of course for our town and section.

His Honor the Mayor having been called to the chair, requested Wm. A. Wright, Esq., to explain the objects of the meeting, which that gentleman did, concluding his remarks by introducing some resolutions expressing the convictions of the meeting as to the importance of some floating defenses for the river, made as nearly impregnable as possible; constituting the Safety Committee of the Town a committee to receive contributions and devise measures for the speedy construction of such defenses as should be agreed upon; appealing to the citizens of the State generally, and of the Cape Fear section especially, to form associations for the purpose of raising contributions and otherwise co-operating and advising with the Committee of Safety at this place. After some discussion by different gentlemen the resolutions were passed, and the meeting adjourned.

We make this statement from memory, as neither proceedings nor resolutions have been furnished for publication.

The Charlotte Bulletin has ceased coming to our office. Is it or is it not? We ask because we cannot afford any one-sided exchange, and must stop sending ours after Monday.

We have full confidence in the wisdom of the Government. We are no reason to fear that it will either fall short of the just expectations of the country, or go beyond the requirements of the emergency, in the policy which it may adopt on this subject. Any anxiety it may manifest will consist in the future security of the Government, and as much as we have no doubt, as the immediate necessities of the war.

The following letter was read at the Republican Union Festival held in Irving Hall, New York, on the 22nd Feb., 1862:—

HON. DANIEL S. DICKINSON'S LETTER. FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL, FEB. 22, 1862.

MY DEAR GENERAL: Late last evening, on my arrival here, I was honored by your favor inviting me, in behalf of the Union Defense Committee, to speak this evening at the Union meeting. I regret to say that a previous engagement to speak in a neighboring city will prevent its acceptance. But let me embrace this occasion to congratulate the country, and especially those who characterized the conspiracy and throttled the rebellion in the outbreak, upon the exposure of the one, and the virtual overthrow of the other, and the shame and confusion of the supporters, advocates and apologists of both; and permit me, too, to add one word of warning against the danger of delusive palliatives and mistaken compromises. It is and has been a struggle between a free government and one of the darkest and most atrocious in the history of the world. Now, let there be no unmanly or cowardly shrinking, and no terms offered or accepted, but out and out, absolute and unconditional surrender.

Sincerely yours, D. S. DICKINSON. Gen. P. M. WETMORE, Secretary.

We would refer to only one or two more items connected with this matter of the New York celebration. Among the speakers was Henry J. Raymond, Editor of the N. Y. Times, the "Little Villain," as old Gregory very appropriately terms him. In his speech, as reported in his own paper, we find the following paragraph:—

Sixty days from this time, there will be nothing like a rebel Government in the Southern States that can rally to its support any considerable number even of the Southern people. If they can maintain themselves for that time, I think I may quote the highest military authority of the land for the opinion that it will be the only instance in history where, under circumstances so adverse, that has been accomplished. Surrounded on every side, the heart of their resources broken, their own steps destroying them, what have they to fall back upon, except the Gulf, which will envelop them even sooner than if they stay where they are!

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The Enemy on the Coast.

We learned yesterday evening from a gentleman who had made the trial to go to Beaufort, that the enemy are all around in Beaufort Sound, on the Banks, at Carolina and Morehead Cities and at Beaufort. Their object is, of course, to cut off communication with Fort Macon. Col. White, the commandant of that post, has a good garrioon, provisions for full ten months, plenty of ammunition and a stout heart. Fort Macon is not taken yet. Whenever a Yankee boat goes from Morehead City to Beaufort or back again, the Col. gives them a shot.

We regret to learn that even in this beleaguered host some traitors were to be found, as there is at least one serpent in Eden. Some few men, it is said, from Captain Pool's company, contrived to desert to the enemy. It is not probable that they can communicate any information likely to be of value to the enemy, as of course the character of the Fort, an old government work, is as well known to the enemy as to ourselves, and enough has been said in our own Southern papers to let the enemy know the position and calibre of every gun we have got on the coast.

By the way, we find in the bogus Progress of Saturday, the advertisement of one Wm. Walter Cook, which sets forth the fact that said Cook keeps "The Albany House," a first class eating saloon on Craven Street, Newbern, N. C. We are informed that this man Cook, said to be an Englishman, enlisted last year in one of the North Carolina regiments, the second we think our informant said. He soon contrived to get out of this by either having or shamming all sorts of physical ailments. We presume the officers were glad to get rid of him. He next turned up on board the steamer Mariner, commanded by Captain Berry. After the cruises of the Mariner were closed, we do not know what came of Cook until the advent of Burnside, when he turned up in the eating house line. When the enemy entered Newbern, Cook exhibited an energy and activity that was perfectly astonishing. He flew around, piloting the Lincolnes, pointing out this house as belonging to a secessionist, that as the property of a secessionist or officer in the service, and so on.

Right above the advertisement of Cook is that of "our public spirited fellow citizen," C. B. Dibble, Esq., to which George Munday, the "half prophet," used to make a rhyme by adding "Roque, thief and liar." Mr. Dibble has quite a new stock of goods. His old stock of impudence is all-sufficient. Like the widow's cruse of oil it holds out well, and may be said to increase with spending.

Above Dibble is a stray cow, black and white, with short horns, and has a white streak on her rump. And above the cow is the advertisement of Smith's Bullet-Proof Vest or Jacket, sold by Bartlett & Mann, Pollock street, opposite the Post Office.

These advertisements seem to be ranged in the due order of their respectability. Cook and Dibble being beneath the cow, or any other decent quadruped, and Bartlett & Mann just above the cow, from which they are separated by a very faint line, perhaps a syllable.—She is a cow. They sell vests and jackets for cowards.

Praying, preaching and the celebration of the holy sacraments, at least that of the Lord's Supper are matters of military regulation in Newbern. The Lincolnite authorities there undertake to regulate not only all communications between man and man, but even the language of the humble supplicant with which the creature dares approach the footstool of his Creator.

We cut out the following official appointments for last Sunday:—

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS. 86 Pollock street, March 29, 1862. The Baptist Church on Middle Street will be opened for Divine Services on Sunday, the 31st inst., at 11 A. M., on each following Sabbath, till further orders. The same Church will be opened for Public Worship, at 3 P. M., every Sabbath, till further notice. Chaplain J. B. Clark, of the 23d Mass. Reg't, will officiate.

Rev. Horace James, Chaplain of the 25th Mass. Reg't, will conduct Divine Services in the Presbyterian Church, in Middle Street, on Sunday, the 31st inst., at 11 A. M., and on each following Sunday at the same hour, until further orders.

At the Methodist Episcopal Church, divine service will be held on Sunday, at 11 A. M. A. K. Raven, Officiating Clergyman.

By order of Brig. Gen. JOHN G. FOSTER, Military Governor of Newbern. DANIEL MESSINGER, A. Q. M., Provost Marshal.

The following we take from the editorial columns of last Saturday's Progress:—

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Sunday, (to-morrow) afternoon at 2 o'clock, in the Presbyterian Church, opposite Gen. Burnside's head quarters. Rev. Messrs Clark and James, Chaplains of the 23d and 25th Mass. Regts., will administer the "order of the table," and we wish to invite in this service are cordially invited to be present.

Rev. Horace James, Chaplain of the 25th Mass. Reg't, will officiate, opposite Gen. Burnside's head quarters, assisted by Chaplain Clark, of another "Mass. Reg't."—Daily Journal, 4th inst.

By request we copy the annexed articles from the Charlotte Bulletin, as they relate to citizens of this place. In doing so we would remark that the merchants referred to by Mr. Well have been for many years established here, and have shown as liberal a spirit, and given as freely of their means for the promotion of the Southern cause as any other citizens of the Town of Wilmington. We do not doubt that their absence is temporary, and for the specific purpose assigned.—That there may not be cases of a different character we will not pretend to say:—

Important Movements.—His Honor, Mayor Wright, of Columbia, S. C., has given notice that no person will hereafter be allowed to leave Columbia before obtaining a passport from the Mayor. A special order published in the Wilmington Journal, gives notice that no person will be permitted to pass beyond the suburbs of that city without a passport signed by the Provost Marshal. The order applies to persons traveling on foot, on horseback, or in public or private vehicles.

It is a great pity that that order was not enforced some time since, for we are credibly informed that quite a number of the patriotic citizens and merchants of Wilmington have deserted it to seek refuge elsewhere, apprehending an early attack by the Federals in that behalf.

"We have been directed," Wilmington and Southern Enterprise, a little bodied men, who have been merchandizing in Wilmington, making money there during peace times, unwilling now to defend it, or to covary to face the enemy, have about the 15th inst. departed for the Federals.

We understand the Vigilance Committee of Charlotte have been urged by many citizens to arrest those of that class who have deserted. Wilmington and Southern Enterprise, and send them back. We approve of the suggestion.

Important Movements.—Under the above heading, there appeared in our last issue, an article referring to a class of persons reported to us as deserters from Wilmington, where they have been merchandizing and enjoying the hospitality of its citizens, but who, in consequence of an apprehension that that place would soon be attacked by the Yankees, are seeking refuge as deserters in the interior.

We reiterate our remarks, and again denounce those who have deserted, or who are about to desert, the place in which they have gathered their bread and wealth, when their services are most needed.

But, our remarks cannot be construed to mean that persons who have deserted from Wilmington with passports, and are known by the authorities of that city as deserters. Such persons are not referred to.

"We who left Wilmington in consequence of sickness and disability, or on business, intending to return to take part in its defence, are not the class of persons our editorial remarks are referred to, hence we have no objection to their place before the public the annexed correspondence, which has been handed us with a request to publish:—

ton merchants, and I wish to set myself right before the citizens of Charlotte; and by so doing, you will oblige, A. WELL, Firm of Well & Anshutz, Wilmington, N. C.

MAYOR'S OFFICE. Wilmington, March 24, 1862. Mr. A. Well, of the firm of Well & Anshutz, merchants of this place for several years, goes to Charlotte, in this State, with his wife, who is in delicate health. JOHN DAWSON, Mayor.

MAYOR'S OFFICE. Wilmington, March 24, 1862. Mr. Jacob Lyon, a resident merchant of this place for several years, goes to Charlotte, in this State, with his family. JOHN DAWSON, Mayor.

The Trial Trip of the Merrimack. The Virginia, or the Merrimack, by which last name she is best known, made her dash in Hampton Roads under very extraordinary circumstances, as the following facts will abundantly show. We give them, premising our statement by the remark that they are no mere rumours, but positive facts:—

The most striking characteristic of the performance of the Merrimack was that it was a trial of everything aboard. The ship was for the first time moved by steam, for of the guns had never before been fired; many of the crew had never seen a gun fired—they were strangers to each other and to their officers—had been but little drilled, but once at general quarters; and it was the first time that the great majority had been under fire. Surely under these circumstances her enterprise was a most daring one, and her officers had difficulties of the gravest character to overcome, and a knowledge of these facts raises still higher our admiration of the successful daring that produced such marked results. The Merrimack proved herself to be indeed a bosom of destruction. She fired but 309 times on both days. She destroyed two frigates, two steamers, and took or destroyed three schooners, and more than half destroyed the Minnesota, and seriously damaged another frigate, the Saint Lawrence. She fired hot shot, nine inch balls. High naval authority doubts if hot shot having been before used aboard ship, or at any rate of such large size as nine inch.

It is said that the enemy has been putting heavy chains between Old Point and the Rip Raps, to prevent the Merrimack passing out. If so, she attempts to force a passage, she will be subjected to the concentrated fire of both forts.

We do not like to join in any hue and cry against any action of the government or any of its departments, but we feel bound to express our opinion with reference to its treatment of Lieutenant Ap. R. Jones. Lieutenant Jones, who is one of the ablest, coolest, most skillful and scientific officers in any Navy, was ordered to the Merrimack as her Executive and Ordnance officer, and directed to select her battery, etc. He also experimented to determine the proper projectiles, and other matters pertaining to his department. Up to the time when Commodore Buchanan was wounded, Lieutenant Jones was chiefly occupied with the battery. After that, the command of the ship devolved upon him, and he bore his part nobly and well. Surely it was felt that in the order of things he had well earned promotion and recognition, and that in all fairness and justice alike to Lieutenant Jones and to the service, he ought to have been made Captain and confirmed in the position to which in a manner he had fallen heir. If Commodore Buchanan could not command the Merrimack, then why not Jones, in whose hands she was, who had selected and fought her battery and finally commanded her during a great part of the eventful hours of the ever-memorable Saturday and Sunday. We do not mean to do so now, but we must say that we can hardly wonder that both surprise should be felt and indignation expressed when it was known that Lieutenant Jones was not either recognised or promoted by the navy department, but that a gentleman was brought to be put over him, who, however honored or gallant, was wholly new to the vessel and everything connected with her, and who, all honor to his white hairs, had already passed the allotted three score years and ten, and whose body was already bowed with their weight, even though his fiery and impetuous spirit were still unshaken.

By a strange concatenation of events, the same that enabled us to get a look at the Newbern Crab, or "Progress" Backwaters, we are also in possession of the immaculate N. Y. Evening Post of the 19th ult., which is very much taken up with the affair at Newbern.—After the battle, Burnside issued a congratulatory order to his troops, concluding with the following paragraph:—"The General commanding directs with peculiar pride that, as a well deserved tribute to valor in this the second victory of the expedition, that each regiment engaged shall inscribe on its banner the memorable name of 'Newbern.'"

The leading editorial is headed "Burnside's Late Battle," and is devoted to a glorification over the Newbern victory and those engaged in it, who it seems were mainly from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. It says that the combat at Newbern established, beyond a doubt, the fighting qualities of the New Englanders, who, such is the Northern account, were in numbers scarcely equal, if not inferior to those of the enemy. [Confederates] who fought behind well constructed entrenchments, and near a city, from which they could readily obtain supplies. The Post says "Burnside, who has been often under fire, pronounces Newbern the severest fight he was ever in, inclusive, we suppose, of Ball Run, where he stood in the thickest." In fact they magnify and blow over Newbern "amazing." The following little item may give some information to our friend Pennington. We cut it from an account of the capture of the town of Newbern:—

A WARLIKE COMPOSITOR. Visits were paid to the principal landings, and guards stationed over the place. The Post-office was found deserted, as also the office of the Newbern Progress, the daily newspaper of the place. A form, all locked up, contained the following:—

THE ENEMY IN SIGHT.—The signals on New river, below our batteries, gave news of the approach of the enemy yesterday afternoon about five o'clock. A boat was immediately despatched down the river, and on its return we were placed in positive information of the presence of ten steamers and one large transport (schooner) in the river only about twelve miles below Newbern and in a few miles of the lower batteries.

Everything was active and preparations were busy here last night, and a battle is certainly expected today, and the day will probably decide the fate of Newbern.

Seeing which a sergeant of one of the regiments, a printer, went to a case, set up and added the following postscript:—

SATURDAY, March 15.—Friday did it. We have taken Newbern. The enemy endeavored to burn the town, but were unsuccessful, the inhabitants using the fire engines and other means in their power to extinguish the flames. YANKEE PRINTER.

THE HERO OF THE WAR.—The man who will win for himself the highest fame and do the most essential service to his country is that Confederate General, who will first assume the offensive—take the first successful step forward, first teach our armies to advance, not to retreat—to regain what has been lost, not await the attack upon what is still left to us. The man and the movement will both soon make their appearance. Yea we trust that we may say, the men and the movements. It is of vital importance that this should be done this summer—yes, within the next three months, lest European intervention should overtake us with an attempt to patch up a peace upon the basis of each party retaining all the territory occupied by its armies at that particular time. Such a thing is certainly among the probabilities.

We are pleased to learn that another important supply of arms and ammunition has very recently been received at a Southern port. The supply of these articles will, we trust, soon be sufficient to meet all demands.

As soon as the news of the capture of Newbern was received at Washington, Burnside was made a Major General.

RIVER DEFENCES, &c.—There is no doubt in the world but that the advent of iron-clad steamers is destined to work a great revolution in the science of harbor defense. But although a great revolution, it is hardly yet a complete one. It has elements of destructiveness but few or none of acquisition. For the mere purposes of wanton devastation iron-clad vessels might be extremely formidable by means of their assumed power to pass defensive batteries. For instance, a few iron clad gun-boats might get up the Cape Fear River, and they might shell the town, but their great expense would preclude their being built in sufficient numbers to be used as transport vessels, and the great weight of their armor would leave them no carrying power for any purpose, outside of their armament, stores and machinery. They might pass batteries, but for what purpose? To what use? Unless they silenced the batteries they could not remain, nor could transports with troops follow them, so that no land attack or permanent invasion could be predicated upon them. No nation on earth could ever dream of using iron-clad vessels for transports. Aladdin himself, with his wonderful lamp and its slave to boot, could not bring treasure enough to sustain that drain, nor could all the steel-plate printers in the United States enable Seward, even on paper, to keep up with such an expense. The idea of dashing past forts, simply for the purpose of throwing shells into a town not defended, and which could not be held, would be such an anomaly in war that we doubt whether even the Lincolnites would dream of it, especially where there is no navy yard to be destroyed, no arsenal to be attacked, and no public property to be seized.

We do not wish to underrate the importance of the change effected by iron-plated vessels of war. But may we not overrate it, sometimes basing upon it extravagant calculations of success, sometimes indulging in exaggerated apprehensions of evil.

A Mean White Man! We are in receipt this morning of a copy of the Newbern Progress of the 29th ult., published by E. L. Davenport & Co., the Co. being one Geo. Mills Joy, whose name flourishes over the editorial head as Editor.

The paper is really too stupid for anything. So very stupid that we wish the Lincolnites "Joy" of their editor.

Among the items of news which we find under the head of "The Rebellion," is the important intimation received from Washington that New Orleans is now in the hands of the Federal forces! Verily!

And again—"A Sergeant of the twenty-first Massachusetts regiment writes that among the cannon captured by General Burnside at Newbern, were thirteen brass field pieces taken by the enemy [Confederates] at Ball Run. This fact would seem to indicate that the rebel troops in the battle of Newbern, or at least a part of them were from Massachusetts!" Prodigious!

But really the thing is altogether too stupid for anything. It lies right ahead, with a natural desire to lie, but without sense to be even a good liar.

In E. L. Davenport's same man who once published a paper in Newbern, a gassy, wind-bag, no-account sort of a person, who subsequently went from Newbern to Elenton, and there published a mean little affair, about as no-account as anything could well be? Has he indeed added treason and theft to his other short-comings? We say that, for the man who would appropriate another man's private property, is in fact a thief. Well, mean people will follow in the wake of the Lincolnites. The traitors from this State are generally such stupid rogues that they are a good ridicule. What a knavish fool and what a foolish knave is E. L. Davenport!

For this copy of the Progress we are indebted to the courtesy of Captain Davis, Assistant Adjutant General. The copy having been forwarded to head quarters by Captain Ward.

Railroad Arrangements for Troops. We are authorized to state that at a recent informal meeting of the representatives of different railroads in this State and in Virginia, it was agreed to keep constantly under the control of General Holmes, at Goldsboro', an amount of rolling stock and motive power to enable him to throw ten thousand men into Wilmington within ten hours, and a similar number into Suffolk within sixteen hours. This statement is made in order to reassure our people who might be inclined to have some misgivings at not seeing the troops actually present on the ground. They are within striking distance, and they are the very flower of the Confederate army. Without saying that they are the best troops in the service, which might appear unjust to other of our brave forces, we may confidently say that they are among the best, and that they will give a good account of any invaders.

Two or three days ago the blockaders ran a small schooner ashore near Lockwood's Polly Inlet, Brunswick county, some twenty miles South of the Cape Fear. We have not learned the particulars. The crew escaped.

An item is going the rounds to the effect that Rev. Dr. Hawks, having, in consequence of his secession proclivities, fallen into great disfavor with his congregation, had resigned his pastoral charge over Calvary Church in New York.

44th REGIMENT.—We learn from the Raleigh Standard that the 44th Reg't has been ordered for this regiment, just organized at Camp Mangum near this place: Geo. B. Singletary, of Pitt, Colonel; Capt. R. C. Cotten, of Chatham, Lieutenant Colonel; Capt. Cromwell, of Edgecombe, Major. This regiment is composed of the following companies: Captain Norman, Robeson; Capt. Cherry, of Pitt; Capt. Cotten, Chatham; Capt. Deberry, Montgomery; Captain Anderson, Pitt; Capt. Hargrove, Granville; Capt. Cromwell, Edgecombe; Capt. Lawrence, Franklin; and Capt. McMill, Montgomery.

FROM BELOW.—The fleet below was increased yesterday by several arrivals. It is now represented, including vessels of all classes, as being quite large.

More firing was heard in the afternoon. What was the occasion of it we could not learn.

DISTINGUISHED ARRIVALS.—During the past week five of old Abe's men, belonging to Com. Dupont's fleet, arrived in Tallahassee and taken lodgings in the Leon jail. These men were escorted here by a Confederate guard. Two of them were captured by some of Capt. Pickett's men, and the other three by men of different companies, under the command of Lieut. Strange, who we regret to say, was mortally wounded. In the latter capture four white men of the enemy were killed, and a contraband captured.

P. S.—Passengers by yesterday's train report that Lieut. Strange died at Lake City on Wednesday. Tallahassee Floridian and Journal, March 29.

Fry, THE NOTED BRIDGE-BURNER, CERTAINLY CAPTURED.—Captain David Fry, and nineteen others of his band, mostly from Greene county, who were captured on the 24th of March by a company of Lee county [Va.] Minute Men, while making their way through that county toward the Federal lines, arrived in Knoxville, Tenn., under guard, on Sunday afternoon, and were committed to jail. We learn, says the Knoxville Register, that Captain Fry had a list on his person of 250 names, recruited in East Tennessee for the Lincoln army. Five of the party with him, at the time of the capture, were killed, two or three severely wounded, and twenty were taken captive. It will be remembered that Fry was the person who, according to the testimony elicited by the Court Martial in January last, organized and perpetrated the whole plan of the bridge burning which occurred in December.

PILOTS ACQUAINTED WITH NORTHERN HARBORS.—We have had a pretty strong hint that pilots acquainted with the various harbors along the Northern seaboard will speedily be in great demand, and that their services will be handsomely remunerated. It is unnecessary for us, of course, to say more than this, as those interested will easily find out where to apply for further information. As the weather is getting warm, possibly some of our Southern friends intend to get up a few picnic excursions to the little colder climate; and it may be that they need the services of the above pilots.—Norfolk Day Book, 4th inst.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

Nothing important was transacted by Congress to-day. The contested election from the Third District in Arkansas occupied the House for two days. The subject was committed to-day for further testimony, and is thereby postponed until next session.

FEDERAL FORCE AT BILLOX.—TELEGRAPH LINE CUT.—FROM ISLAND 10. On Wednesday last a Yankee force of two thousand landed at Billox from three vessels, and cut the telegraph line connecting Mobile with New Orleans. A large fleet of shipping was off Ship Island.