Official Report of Gen. Buckner in Regard to the Fall of Fort Donelson.

The official report of General S. B. Buckner, in relation to the defense and surrender of Fort Donelson, has been furnished the War Department, having been delayed until the present late day by the circumstance of his capture and long imprisonment by the enemy.—The report is too lengthy to give entire in our columns, but the following extract, relative to the surrender, will not fail to be read with interest:

In a council of general and field officers, held after night, it was unanimously resolved that if the enemy had not re-occupied, in strength, the position of Gen. Pillow, the army should effect its retreat, and orders to assemble the regiments for that purpose were given by General Floyd. But as the enemy had, late in the afternoon, appeared in considerable force on the battle field of the morning, a reconnoissance was ordered, I think by General Pillow, under the instructions of Gen. Floyd. The report of this reconnoissance, made by Colonel Forrest, has been fully stated by Gens. Floyd and Pillow, and from what I have been able to learn since, I am satisfied the information was correct.—Amongst other incidents showing that the enemy had not only re-occupied their former ground, but extended their lines still further to our left, is the fact that Overton's cavalry, following after Forrest's, was cut off from retreat by an infantry force of the enemy at the point where Forrest had crossed the stream on the river road.

When the information of our reinvestment was reported, General Floyd, Gen. Pillow, and myself, were the only members of the council present. Both of these officers have stated the views of the council, but my recollection of some of the incidents narrated differs so materially from that of General Pillow, that, without intending any reflection upon either of those officers, I feel called upon to notice some of the differences between us. Both officers have correctly stated that I regarded the position of the army as desperate, and that an attempt to extricate it by another battle, in the suffering and exhausted condition of the troops, was almost hopeless. The troops had been worn down with watching, with labor, with fighting, many of them were frosted by the intensity of the cold; all of them were suffering and exhausted by their incessant labors. There had been no regular issue of rations for a number of days, and scarcely any means of cooking. Their ammunition was nearly expended. We were completely invested by a force fully four times the strength of our own. In their exhausted condition they could not have made a march. An attempt to make a sortie would have been resisted by a superior force of fresh troops; and that attempt would have been the signal for the fall of the water batteries, and the presence of the enemy's gunboats sweeping with their fire, at close range, the positions of our troops, who would thus have been assailed on their front, rear and right flank at the same instant. The result would have been a virtual massacre of the troops, more disheartening in its effects than a surrender.

In this opinion General Floyd coincided; and I am certain that both he and I were convinced that General Pillow agreed with us in opinion. General Pillow then asked our opinion as to the practicability of holding our position another day. I replied that my right was already turned, a portion of my entrenchments in the enemy's possession they were in position successfully to assail my position and the water batteries; and that with my weakened and exhausted force, I could not successfully resist the assault which would be made at daylight by a vastly superior force. I further remarked that I understood the principal object of the defense of Donelson to be to cover the movement of General A. S. Johnston's army from Bowling Green to Nashville, and that if that movement was not completed, it was my opinion that we should attempt a further defense even at the risk of the destruction of our entire force, as the delay even of a few hours might gain the safety of General Johnston's force. General Floyd remarked that General Johnston's army had already reached Nashville. I then expressed the opinion that it would be wrong to subject the army to a virtual massacre when no good could result from the sacrifice; and that the General officers owed it to their men, when further resistance was unavailing to obtain the best terms of capitulation possible for them. General Floyd expressed himself in similar terms, and in his opinion I understood General Pillow to acquiesce. For reasons which he has stated, General Floyd then announced his purpose to leave with such portions of his division as could be transported in two small steamers which were expected about daylight. General Pillow addressing General Floyd then remarked that

He thought that there were no two persons in the Confederacy whom the Yankees would prefer to capture than himself and General Floyd, and asked the latter's opinion as to the propriety of his accompanying General Floyd. To this inquiry the latter replied, that it was a question for every man to decide for himself.—General Pillow then addressed the same inquiry to me, to which I remarked that I could only reply as General Floyd had done, that it was a question for every officer to decide for himself, and that in my own case I regarded it as my duty to remain with my men and share their fate, whatever it might be. General Pillow, however, announced his purpose to leave when Gen. Floyd directed me to consider myself in command. I remarked that a capitulation would be as bitter to me as it could be to any one, but I regarded it as a necessity of our position, and I could not reconcile it with my sense of duty to separate my fortunes from those of my command. It is due to General Pillow to state that some time after the command had been transferred to me, and while preparations were making for his departure, he returned to the room and said to General Floyd and my self that he wished it understood that he had thought it would have been better to have held the fort another day in order to await the arrival of steamers to transport the troops across the river. I again recapitulated my reasons for thinking it impossible to hold our position; and whatever may have been General Pillow's opinion, he certainly impressed me with the belief that he again acquiesced in the necessity of a surrender.

It was now near day-light of Sunday morning, the 16th. I ordered the troops back to their positions in entrenchments, and addressed a note, a copy of which is enclosed, to the Federal commander, Brig Gen. U. S. Grant. His reply is also transmitted.—When it was received but a small portion of the troops had returned to their lines. A portion of my field guns had been spiked when the troops had been withdrawn under Gen. Floyd's orders. The gunners had not yet returned to the water batteries. A degree of confusion, amounting almost to a state of disorganization, resulting from the knowledge of our position, pervaded a considerable portion of our troops. A corps of not less than 15,000 of the enemy, with fifteen pieces of artillery, were in position to assault the extreme right of the line, which was effectually turned, and the water batteries exposed to assault without the power of resisting the attack. At the point most strongly threatened I could not have opposed, at the time a thousand men. Every road leading from the lines was effectually closed. Even the river road, by which the cavalry had left, and which was impassable by infantry, was closed by a force of the enemy, within fifteen minutes after Forrest had passed, and Overton's cavalry was forced to the lines. The troops were broken down by unusual privations. Most of them had labored or fought almost incessantly for a week. From Thursday morning until Saturday night they had been almost constantly under fire. From Thursday evening until Sunday morning they had suffered intensely in a heavy snow-storm and from intense cold, almost without shelter, with insufficient food and almost without sleep. They had behaved with a gallantry unsurpassed, until the power of further endurance was exhausted. The supply of ammunition was very small. The aggregate of the army never greater than about 12,000, was now reduced to less than 9,000 men after the departure of Gen. Floyd's brigade. The investing force of the enemy was about 50,000 strong, and considerably exceeded that force by the following morning. Under these circumstances no alternative was left me but to accept the terms demanded by our ungenerous enemy. A copy of the order of Gen. Grant, fixing the terms of the surrender is herewith enclosed.

I do not seek to avoid any responsibility which in the judgement of the President, may attach to my action, which was guided in every instance by a feeling of duty. My chief wish is that he will find it consistent with the public interest to permit me still to write my fortunes in the contest for independence with those of the brave men whose gallantry I have witnessed, whose dangers and hardship I have shared and in common with whom I have endured the privations of imprisonment amongst a vindictive and tyrannical foe.

H. Percy Anderson, an attache of the British legation at Washington, has been sent to Memphis to advise British subjects as to the mode of proving their nationality. He recommends all bona fide British subjects to make a declaration of their nationality within the next fourteen days before the provost marshal of Memphis. The marshal will keep a list of all thus registering. By this means Anderson hopes to secure her majesty's subjects from the draft, and from suffering other inconveniences than such as are inseparable from the state of war, or incurring any obligation inconsistent with allegiance to her majesty. Gen. Sherman unites in urging British subjects to register their names and declare their purpose of adhering to their allegiance.

From the Frankfort Yeoman.

Occupation of Frankfort.

On Sunday night, about 1 o'clock, the State Legislature, the Governor, Secretary of State, and several of the heads of departments, suddenly left Frankfort on the cars for Louisville, under resolution of the Legislature to remove the seat of Government temporarily to a place of safety from the advancing and victorious Confederates. The Legislature is now in session at Louisville, holding its meetings in the court-house there. The principal books and records of the different departments were taken off with them.

On Monday evening the Federal army commenced moving through this place in its rapid retreat towards Louisville. Monday night General Wright and staff, and General Clay Smith and staff, passed through here on a special train, with stores and artillery from Lexington. All day Tuesday and Tuesday night, up to daylight Wednesday morning, wagons without number, infantry, artillery and cavalry poured promiscuously and disorderly through our streets in hasty retreat from the Confederates. There were from seven to ten thousand men, and some five or six hundred wagons, under Generals Gilbert and Jackson, in this retreat.—A small portion of their stores were destroyed at Frankfort.

On Wednesday morning the heretofore thronged streets were emptied, and the town was quiet and still as ever it has been in times of peace on a Sabbath morn. Frankfort being deserted by all the civil and military authorities of the State, and Federal and city governments, quietly surrendered to the flag of truce brought by Major Harper and Adjutant Fox, of the advance guard of Col. Scott's cavalry of the Confederate army, which arrived about 11 o'clock on Wednesday forenoon. In an hour afterwards Scott's brigade of cavalry, in force, drew up in front of the capitol, and planted its battle flag on the dome of the State house, where it still flies as an emblem of Confederate supremacy in the capital of Kentucky.

Great curiosity is manifested on the part of our citizens to see, as is the case in most instances, for the first time, a body of Confederate soldiers; and to-day our streets are crowded with men and women from the country, most of whom are manifesting, in a temperate manner, however, a decided partiality for the Southern colors. Of course it would not be prudent for us to attempt to publish information of the strength or intended movements of the Confederates even if we had such information. But we discover that the Confederates keep their own counsels on these points and we are in the dark. Their forces are as hardy, touch and well drilled a set of dare devils as ever served in war, if we can judge by appearances. On taking possession, the officers in command assured the people that no citizen was to be disturbed in person or property; and, so far, we believe that we can say that they have faithfully carried out their promises, and we feel certain that they will do it to the end.

Brigadier General Manson (Federal,) was among the prisoners taken at the battle of Richmond, Ky., on Saturday last. It will be remembered that last year the gallant Col. Pegram, (Confederate,) was taken prisoner by this same Gen. Manson, at the battle of Rich Mountain, Va. Colonel Pegram, Acting Brigadier, on Saturday had the pleasure of settling the old account with his former captor.

Lexington Statesman.

From the Western Sentinel Extra.

We are indebted to Lt. S. C. James, acting Adjutant of the 21st Regt. N. C. Troops, for the following list of casualties in this regiment during the late battles in Northern Virginia:

KILLED AND WOUNDED ON THE 27D AUGUST.

Company A.—Killed—Sergt Ishaam Harris.

Company C.—Wounded—Privates J T Lunday, J W Cummings.

Company D.—Wounded—Private W. H. Thomas.

Company F.—Killed—Private W. Fulk. Wounded—Privates H. Shackelford, A McCanlass, E Edwards.

Company H.—Wounded—Capt. Andrew Shore, Corp. W. D. Richardson, Privates Martin King, A. McKinney.

Company I.—Killed—S. M. Roark. Wounded—E. E Kingsbury, J. C. Vaughn.

Company B.—Wounded—Capt. R. E. Wilson, Privates M. Whitaker, J. Shugars.

ON THE 26TH OF AUGUST.

Company I.—Wounded—Capt. M. L. Patterson.

ON THE 28TH AUGUST.

Lieut. Col. Saunders Fulton, killed.

Major B. Y. Graves, slightly wounded.

Company A.—Killed —J. D. Blackburn. Wounded.—Corp. J. F. Carrick, Privates J. D. McIver, Frank Scott, Wm. Fry, A. Hedgecock, mortally.

Company B.—Killed.—Privates W. H. Williamson, A. D. Shores. Wounded—Sergt. — Whitaker, Privates H. R. Wood, John Brown, mortally, Wm. Ball, A. H. Whitlock, Thos. Faulkner.

Company C.—Wounded.—Lieut. F. Snow, Privates W. H. Calloway, Alfred Galyen.

Company D.—Killed—Lieut. D. P. Jackson, Sergt. B. B. Copeland, Privates A. Z. Butner and H. W. Clemmons Wounded—Lieut. J. W Miller, Sergt. Alspaugh, Privates J. N. S. Doub, E. Linville, M. Sprinkle, L. F. Hine.

Company E.—Killed—Lieut. W. L. Owen, Privates John Hendrix and L. D. Wright. Wounded—Sergt. Wm. Shepperd, Privates J. C. Jarvis, G. Newsom, B. Waugh, Wm. Hauser.

Company F.—Killed—Lieut's. W. B. Schaub, Corpl. J. C Hartman, Privates Alex. Faucett and A. S. Boyles.—Wounded—Lieut. S. M. Jessup, Sergts. J. W Williams, H. R. Hauser and Moses Lawson, Corpls. Wm. Bennett and W. H. Collins. Private B. W. Riersen, killed.

Company G.—Wounded—Privates Jno. Blackburn, Alex Moore, Wesley Ligon, Lieutenants V. W. Haizlip, M. V. Tuttle.

Company H.—Wounded—Lieut. W. R. Martin, Sergt. J. W. McGlowhorn, Privates John F. Reynolds, Jesse Bolin, Sergt. R. W. Brinkly, Privates R F. Critchfield, Wm. Holyfield.

Company I.—Killed—Corp'l Sanford Hill. Wounded—Corp'l W. D. Baldwin, Privates John Rottenbury, Giles Whitaker.

Company K.—Killed.—Corp J. A. Shultz, Private W. A Petree. Wounded—Sergt. H. B. Newsom, Corp. W. M. Lancaster, Privates W. C. Dwiggins, C. Reich, Wm. Lewis, J. G. Gordy.

ON SEPT. 1ST, 1862, NEAR FAIRFAX C. H.

Wounded —Major B. Y. Graves, severely; Capt. P. D Headly, slightly; Capt. J. F. Beall, slightly; Lieut. G. T. Clayton, severely.

Total—20 killed, 74 wounded.

From the Savannah Republican.

Getting Sober, but Still Illogical.

There is a thoughtful tameness in all the recent effusions of the Yankee press touching the war. The utter rout of their grand army for the second time, and the triumphant entry of our victorious legions into Maryland, have humiliated the whole pack, and their bark has dwindled down to a whine. Occasionally they summon the courage to growl, but the operation is performed most feebly. At last they have seen the vanity of all their boasting. They have become sensible that they are dealing in the work of death with a better people than themselves. They *feel* whipped, and see but little prospect of again "coming to time."—Yet the crazy fools are not wholly restored to their senses. They have not arrived at that stage of convalescence from lunacy when they will be able to philosophize on the sad experience of the past. They confess to a thorough drubbing on every occasion when we have met them in anything like equal combat, and even admit that in the recent battles we whipped and drove them across the Potomac with an army inferior in numbers to their own. The lesson, though, of all this misfortune is lost upon them. They tell us all their troubles are owing to their own bad generalship, and yet they still cry out for prosecuting the war, after having exhausted the list of Generals. If Scott, and McClellan, and Halleck, and Pope, and Banks, and Shields, and Nelson, and Heintzelman, and McDowell, have all been whipped, and the Union cause has suffered in their hands, pray where are they going to get better men?—Have they ever asked themselves this question? It is a very natural and a very sensible one, and yet it seems never to have occurred to them. It is not yet too late. They may save much bloodshed, much suffering in the future by propounding it now to their own judgments and ringing it into the ears of their equally infatuated government at Washington.

All these things having happened, a sensible people would very properly conclude that now is the time to stop the war and save the blood and treasure of the nation; but not so with these deluded wretches whom the Gods seem to have resolved to destroy and utterly blot out from the family of nations. Their cry is for more blood, more treasure, more disaster. They seem ambitious that their ruin should be complete, and their country placed beyond the possibility of a resuscitation.

We would ask the question: Is there no reason left at the North? Is there no common sense left, that they should ignore what even the brutes understand—the principle of self-preservation. Is there no man among them who has the courage to raise his voice against a war that is devastating the land that makes it? Is there no humanity left that they should continue a strife that is abhorrent to all civilized mankind?

The North could make peace to-morrow if it would. The wrath of Heaven will rest upon the refusal.

Fred. Douglas Opposed to the Colonization Scheme.

ROCHESTER, August 26, 1862.

Hon. S. S. Pomeroy:—

MY DEAR SIR: I assent to neither the justice nor the wisdom of colonizing the free colored people in Central America or elsewhere out of the United States. The American government could for better employ the energies of this people by stimulating their friendship for the country, and giving them an opportunity, in common with others, to protect and defend its institutions. But I am not now to discuss with you the policy of this colonization scheme. The power and responsibility for the measure belong alike to the government. Opinion is yours—necessity ours. It is a hard alternative. To see my children usefully and happily settled in this, the land of their birth and ancestors, has been the hope and ambition of my manhood; but events stronger than any power I can oppose to them, have convinced my son that the chances here are all against him, and he desires to join your colony, and perhaps a younger brother also. * * * * I have never ceased to remember you and to observe with pleasure and gratitude your fidelity to liberty and humanity in the high position you now occupy. I shall be glad to know that you receive my son Lewis as one of your colony. I shall follow him with my blessing, if I do not follow him personally. * * * * * *

Sadly and truly yours,

FRED'K DOUGLAS.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 20th, 1862.

SENATE.—The military exemption bill was further considered, and finally passed—yeas 16—nays 3.

HOUSE.—The Senate bill fixing on the second Monday of January as the time for the next regular session of Congress, was passed. Also the House bill to provide for the prompt settlement of claims, arrearages and bounty, due to deceased soldiers. The Arkansas contested election case was discussed until adjournment.

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 22, 1862.

In the Senate to-day, a bill was passed providing that all persons who may hereafter furnish substitutes shall guarantee the fidelity of the substitute. The residue of the day's session was occupied in the discussion of the bill introduced by Mr. Yancey, to regulate the nomination and appointment of Brigadier Generals, so as to apportion them among the several States. The bill was rejected—yeas 3, nays 15.

In the House, Mr. Foster, of Alabama, submitted a resolution instructing the Secretary of War to send a corps of Engineers to make reconnoissance of the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, with the view to erecting fortifications, &c. Adopted. The Arkansas contested election case was further discussed.

FURTHER FROM GENERAL LEE'S ARMY.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 22, 1862.

The accounts of the battle at Sharpsburg are meagre and somewhat contradictory, but agree in representing it to have been the most bloody and desperately contested engagement of the war. The Confederate army, though opposed by largely superior numbers, again illustrated its valor and invincibility, by successfully repelling the repeated onsets of the enemy. Officers have arrived here who state that they went over the battle field on Thursday, and they assert that the advantage remained on our side, the enemy having fallen back. The city papers, of this morning report, on the authority of passengers who arrived last night, that Gen. Lee recrossed the Potomac on Friday at Shepherdstown.

FURTHER FROM HARPER'S FERRY AND MARYLAND

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 21st, 1862.

Col. Lindsay Walker arrived here to-day from Harper's Ferry, which place he left on Wednesday evening. The cannon and stores captured at that place had been removed. There had been no fighting since the capture of Harper's Ferry on Monday. Our army was in the finest spirits. McClellan, with his army, was in our front near Sharpsburg, and a general battle was expected.

Gen. Reno (Yankee) was killed in the fight near Boonesboro'.

Gen. Jackson's official report of the capture of Harper's Ferry, dated the 16th, says:—"Yesterday God crowned our arms with another brilliant success in the surrender at Harper's Ferry of Brig. Gen. White and eleven thousand troops—an equal number of small arms, seventy-three pieces of artillery, and two hundred wagons. In addition to other military stores, there is a large amount of camp and garrison equipage. Our loss was very small."

ANOTHER HEAVY FIGHT IN MARYLAND.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 21, 1862.

The Enquirer has a dispatch from Warrenton, dated the 20th, announcing a terrific fight at Sharpsburg, on Wednesday last. The advantage was on our side. There was great loss on both sides. Gens. Stark, Manning, and L. O'B. Branch were killed. Gen. D. R. Jones, R. R. Jones, Ripley and Lawton were wounded.

The whole strength of both armies were engaged in the fight. Report says the fight was renewed on Thursday, when the enemy was routed and driven back nine miles.—[Another change of base.]

REPORTS FROM NORTHERN PAPERS.

The New York *Herald* of the 18th, claims a victory at Sharpsburg. Its dispatches are contradictory, but concur in stating that the Confederates were defeated.

Letters from Louisville claim a victory over Duncan and Scott's (Confederate) forces at Munfordville, Kentucky.

The Bermuda correspondent of the *Herald*, says that five steamers are lying in the port of St. George, awaiting an opportunity to run the blockade.

The United States arsenal at Pittsboro', Pa., was blown up on Wednesday last, and 75 or 80 boys and girls were killed.

In New York, on Wednesday, gold opened at 116¾ and advanced to 117¾.

ARRIVAL OF RELEASED PRISONERS.

MOBILE, Sept. 21, 1862.

Col. Charles Olmsted, Capt. F. W. Sims, Lieut. Henry Freeman, and 22 others of the Fort Pulaski prisoners, arrived here to-day via Vicksburg, and left for their homes this evening.

FROM THE WEST.

CHATTANOOGA, Sept. 21st, 1862.

The Nashville *Union* of the 16th inst. says: If the Rebels in Kentucky have any disposition to fight, and want shun an engagement, there will be a great battle within three days, and it does not fear the result, as the best divisions and Generals in the Federal service are there.

The Louisville *Journal* of the 12th inst says: The rebels have not at present any intention of attacking Cincinnati, but that four heavy columns, including Bragg's, were then advancing towards Louisville, notwithstanding this, thousands of Federals are being sent from Louisville to Cincinnati.

THE THIRD NORTH CAROLINA REGIMENT.

RICHMOND VA., Sept. 22d, 1862.

The loss of the 3d Regiment in the battle of the 17th, is eight officers killed, twenty wounded, and three hundred and fifty men killed and wounded. Col. DeRosret severely wounded; Lt. DeRosset slightly. Capt. Meares, Lieut Quince and perhaps Lieut. Cowan are killed.

IMPORTANT FROM THE WESTERN ARMY.

IUKA, Sept. 20th, VIA MOBILE 22d.

The right wing of the enemy, under Rosecrans, eight thousand strong, were found advancing about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, on the Jacinto road, driving in our pickets.

Gen. Price immediately ordered Gen. Herbert to move with his own and Martin's brigade against them, and went himself upon the field, accompanied by Gen. Little. They met the enemy advancing in line of battle: about one mile South of the town; our line was immediately formed and the battle opened. Discovering the enemy in force, Gen. Price sent back for the other Brigades of Little's Division. They came forward at double quick, but did not reach the field until the enemy were driven back from every position more than 600 yards, with a loss of over 500 prisoners and 9 pieces of artillery.

Darkness prevented further pursuit, and Little's division bivouacked on the field. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing, reaches 250. Gen. Little was killed. Cols. Whitfield, Gilmore and Mabry were wounded.

The enemy having received heavy reinforcements during the night, Gen. Price determined to carry out the order of the previous morning, and his army left Iuka between seven and 8 o'clock in the morning bringing off the captured stores.

An attack which the enemy made upon our rear guard was repulsed with severe loss to them, and our loss was only one man.

The Third Louisiana, Whitfield's Legion, and the Third Texas cavalry, behaved with great gallantry, and were the greatest sufferers in the fight on Friday. Their Colonels were all wounded.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 23d, 1862.

The New York Herald of the 20th contains dispatches from Louisville announcing the surrender of six Indiana regiments, numbering five thousand men, at Munfordville, Ky.

Official dispatches from McClellan, dated on Friday the 19th, claim a victory in the Wednesday's fight at Sharpsburg, though it is evident that his army had fallen back.—He states that the rebel army had crossed the Potomac into Virginia, and that he had sent a column under General Alfred Pleasanton in pursuit.

An official dispatch received here (Richmond) this morning, announces that a battle took place on Saturday on the Potomac near Shepherdstown, between Confederate forces under Jackson and a column of the enemy ten thousand strong, resulting in the route of the enemy with heavy loss. Our loss is but slight. Quite a number of arms were taken. Jackson has recrossed in Maryland.

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 23d, 1862.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.—The House bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to offer a reward not exceeding five thousand dollars, for the apprehension and conviction of persons engaged in counterfeiting Confederate notes, was passed; also the Senate bill to facilitate the payment of amounts due soldiers.

The Conscript bill from the House was amended by substituting therefor the bill recently passed by the Senate, with modifications. The subject will probably be referred to a committee of conference. The Senate bill fixing the rank and pay of Quarter Master General was passed.

In the House the Arkansas contested election case was recommitted to the committee on elections. The bill to raise revenue was considered in Committee of the Whole until adjournment.

From the Richmond Dispatch.

The Policy of England.

As the war drags its slow length along, the British Government avails itself of every suitable occasion to reiterate, in terms too explicit and emphatic to admit of misconstruction, its positive determination not to intervene in American affairs. It strikes us that the British Government might save breath and time by saying nothing more on that subject. It its object is to dispel from the South the false hopes it entertained on that subject, it may rest satisfied that the South has long ago ceased to look for foreign intervention, and has learned not to put its trust in princes. Nor is this all. The South, from its own experience of war, might be disposed not much to censure Great Britain for avoiding a dire alternative which has already entailed upon her an enormous national debt and national and individual distress beyond computation. But it has become painfully evident to reflecting men in the South that the policy of Great Britain in this contest is impartial not so much in friendship as in enmity; that it seeks with equal regards the mutual destruction of North and South, and that it refuses to interfere in this war simply because the war is the very thing which she has been laboring to bring about for the last thirty years, and because peace in America is just what she does not want till both parties are so worn out and helpless as no longer to be an object of alarm so each other or to the world. The long and persistent efforts of the British Government to inflame the two sections of the old Union against each other through the influence of abolition, and the immediate disappearance of that question from all prominence in England, as soon as it had produced its destined fruits in the division and civil war in America, are too significant to have escaped the observation of calm and dispassionate spectators. The only solution of English policy afforded by her course during the present war is that she desires equally the destruction of North and South, so that she may make the world dependent upon the cotton production of India for its supplies. No other theory has been suggested which at all explains and harmonizes the whole policy of Great Britain in peace and war, towards the American States.

The supreme malevolence of such counsel is no argument against their existence, for nations know no conscience, no principles, no humanity, no law of any kind but their own interests. At this moment the British Government beholds, unmoved, the terrible distress among its own manufacturers; and if it can permit its own people to suffer thus, for the purpose of working out the ultimate independence of Great Britain in the production of cotton, we cannot wonder that she is supremely indifferent to the distress of strangers. These remarks apply exclusively to the Government, and not to the people, who, in general, sympathize with the Southern cause, and, if their voice could be heard, would recognize the South to-morrow. With or without recognition, however, our independence is equally certain and we shall have no favors to acknowledge, no friends to reward, no interests but our own to make supreme.

The Military Exemption Bill.

The following is a copy of the Exemption Bill, as passed by the Confederate Senate on Saturday. The words between brackets indicate the variations, by addition, from the Exemption Act now in force, with the exception of the italicised words, which indicate clauses in the existing law omitted from the bill just passed:

A BILL to exempt certain persons from military service, and to repeal the act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons for enrolment for service in the army of the Confederate States," approved the 21st of April, 1862.

1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That all persons who shall be held unfit for military service, [by reason of bodily or mental incapacity or imbecility,] under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War, [the Vice President of the Confederate States,] the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State Governments, [except postmasters not nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate and assistants and clerks in any other post office than the General Post office, and such state officers as the several States may have declared by law to be liable to militia duty, or may hereafter be excepted by the several States,] the members of both Houses of the Congress of the Confederate States, and of the Legislatures of the several States, and their respective officers; all clerks in the offices of the Confederate and State Governments, allowed by law; all pilots and persons engaged in the [merchant] marine service [*and in actual service on river and railroad routes of transportation*] [the President, Superintendents, Conductors, Treasurer, chief Clerk, Engineers, Managers, Station Agents, Section Masters, two expert track hands to each section of eight miles, and mechanics in the active service and employment of railroad companies, not to embrace laborers, porters and messengers, the president, general superintendent and operators of telegraph companies, [the local superintendent and operators of said companies not to exceed four in number at any locality but that at the seat of Government of the Confederate States; the president, superintendents, captains, engineers, chief clerk and mechanics of all companies engaged on river and canal navigation, and all captains of boats, and engineers thereon employed] all [foremen, pressmen and] journeymen printers [actually] employed in printing newspapers, [having at least five hundred *bona fide* subscribers, the public printer, and those employed to perform the public printing for the Confederate and State government;] every minister of religion [authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and] in the regular discharge of ministerial duties; [all persons who have been and now are members of the society of friends and the Association of Dunkers; all physicians who now are and have been in actual practice of their profession for the last five years; all shoemakers, tanners, harness makers, saddlers, blacksmiths, wagon makers, millers, and there engineers, and millwrights, skilled and actually employed, as their regular vocation, in said trades, whilst so actually employed; provided said persons shall make oath, in writing that they are so skilled and actually employed at the time, as their regular vocation, in one of the above trades, which affidavit shall only be *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein stated;] all superintendents of public hospitals, lunatic asylums, and the regular nurses and attendants therein, and the teachers employed in the institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind; in each apothecary stores now established and doing business, one apothecary in good standing, who is a practical apothecary [*druggist*] superintendents and operatives in wool and cotton factories who may be exempted by the Secretary of War; all presidents and [teachers] [*professors*] of colleges, academies [schools, and theological seminaries who have been regularly engaged as such for two years preceding the passage of this act; all artisans, mechanics, and employees in the establishment of the government for the manufacture of arms, ordnance, ordnance stores, and other munitions of war, who may be certified by the officer in charge thereof, as necessary for such establishment; also all artisans, mechanics, and employees in the establishments each persons as are or may be engaged under contracts with the Government in furnishing arms, ordnance, ordnance stores, and other munitions of war, provided that the chief of the ordnance bureau, or some ordnance officer authorized by him for the purpose, shall approve of the number of the operatives required in such establishments; all persons employed in the manufacture of arms, or ordnance of any kind by the several States; or by contractors to furnish the same to the several State Governments, whom the Governor or Secretary of State thereof may certify to be necessary to the same; all persons engaged in the construction of ships, gunboats, engines, sails, or other articles necessary to the public defence under the direction of the secretary of the Navy; all superintendents, managers, mechanics, and miners employed in the production and manufacture of salt, to the extent of twenty bushels per day, and of lead and iron, not to embrace laborers, messengers, wagoners and servants, unless employed at works conducted under the authority and by the officers or agents of a State; and one person either as owner or overseer on each plantation on which a white person is required to be kept by the laws and ordinances of any State, and in which there is no white male adult not liable to do military service; and such other persons as the President shall be satisfied on account of justice, equity, or necessity, ought to be exempted,] are hereby exempted from service in the armies of the Confederate states; [provided that the exemptions herein above enumerated shall only continue whilst the persons exempted are actually engaged in their respective pursuits or occupations; provided, further, that such numbers of the militia of any State as have been called out and mustered into the service of said State, by the Executive thereof, employed and necessary to repel any actual invasion of said State, shall also be exempted, provided that whenever such invasion shall have been expelled, or otherwise shall have ceased to exist, the exemption hereby declared shall expire.

2. That the act entitled "an act to exempt certain persons from enrolment for service in the armies of the Confederate States," approved the 21st April, 1862, is hereby repealed.]

The following clauses in the old bill have been omitted from the present bill, as passed, in addition to the italicised clauses:

"All in the service or employ of the Confederate States.

"All persons engaged in carrying the mail.

"All ferrymen on post roads.

"All teachers having as many as twenty scholars.

"All engaged in working iron mines furnaces and foundries."

From the Lynchburg Virginian.

The Press and Exemptions.

An exemption bill is now pending in Congress and a disposition is evinced to concede this boon to a very limited extent. This may be all right, and for one we are not disposed to complain, or throw difficulties in the way of our legislators. It is the bounden duty of every citizen to do what he can for his country, rendering her the best service of which he is capable. But there are diff rent departments of public service, and certain spheres in which certain men can be more useful than in others. All men have not sufficient physical ability to endure the fatigues and exposures incident to the life of a soldier, but many men who are physically disqualified for the field, may in the forum, on the rostrum, or through the press, render essential service.

If there be any truth in the aphorism that "the pen is mightier than the sword"—and the fact that this sentiment has almost come to be regarded as a settled axiom, proves that it is entitled to be weighed, at least, in the balance with the sword—the Press of the country may justly claim to have rendered signal service to our high and holy cause. Without it, it had been impossible to stir the great popular heart at the beginning of this war, and to have produced that prompt, hearty, and united action which the promulgation of Lincoln's war call, and the earnest appeals of the Press of the South, did accomplish. The effect was electrical.—Every where the people were aroused, and rushed to the field to vindicate the principles of self-government and independence, for which our fathers contended.—It is not arrogating too much for the Press to say that, without its agency, making, as it did, the electric telegraph subservient to its purposes,—thereby, at every point of our widely extended country, sounding simultaneously, the alarm that a tyrant menaced our liberties, and invoking the people to resistance,—there would not, could not have been the concert of action which in an almost incredibly short space of time, placed an efficient army in the field. The service thus rendered to the Government and the cause, is only excelled by the glorious deeds which our armies have performed. In a thousand other ways since, the same potent agency has been seen and felt, in the encouragement which it has administered to the sometimes flagging spirits of our people, when woes and disasters had supervened; in the abuses it has been the means of correcting; in the wholesome restraints it has exercised over the tendency of power to accumulation and tyranny; in the appeals it has made for and the services rendered to the families of our soldiers, and to the soldiers themselves; aye, in times and ways without number, has it been found to be a most important auxiliary of the Government, and palladium of the people's liberties. Never has the Press been looked to with more solicitude, nor has it ever exercised a greater power over the hearts of men than at the present moment. The Lincoln Government has indicated a true sense of its influence, by suppressing every journal that lifted a voice against its heartless tyranny. Against this high-handed policy, our people, without exception, have spoken in terms befitting the occasion. They have denounced the ruler who feared the influence of a free Press over the minds and hearts of his people:—and their censures are just. Strange as it may appear, our legislators are attempting to do by indirection, what Lincoln and Seward have accomplished in a more manly way. The former first indicate their appreciation of the services of the Press by voting that journeymen printers, employed upon newspapers, shall be exempt from military service, whilst editors shall not be! Not so much as a single editor shall be allowed to a daily paper! By what process of reasoning, we wonder, do grave Senators who have made this foolish discrimination, arrive at their conclusions? What more are journeymen printers to public journals, than guns without soldiers, or armies without officers? Of what use is an instrument when the intelligence to use it is wanting? Types are unmeaning things, and the mere mechanical skill that moulds them into sentences is surely not more indispensable than the intelligence which calls these sentences into existence. A newspaper without an editor is a body without a soul. What influence can scraps and paragraphs, picked up at random, wield? It is the labored emanation of the thinking, ever busy brain, which devotes whole days and nights to high public interests, that makes the impress upon a nation. It is to the editorial columns of a public journal that people look, and by these their opinions are affected, and their conduct not unfrequently shaped.

From this view of the subject it is impossible to reconcile the action of the Senate in the case referred to, with either sound philosophy or common sense. Hedged in and restricted as the substitute system now is, it may be difficult for editors to supply themselves with substitutes in the army, and far more difficult to get proper substitutes for the editorial sanctum.

We trust that the House of Representatives, seeing that the editor of a well regulated journal can be vastly more useful in "plying his vocation" as old Butler would say, than in the army, will perfect the work which the Senate but commenced, and complete the exemption necessary to keep the public journals in existence.

A YANKEE DULCINEA IN TROUBLE.—The following letter was picked up on the battle-field near Manassas. It affords an illustration of Yankee social life:—[ED. REP.

WEST PHILADELPHIA,
May the 8th 1862.

Dear Michael:—I embrace this opertunity to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and heping you are the same what is the reason you did not come and see me before you went away I should think you could come and bid us good by the day that the Regiment went away I seen your aunt and she asked me if I knew you and I said yes she said she thought so because she seen my likeness she told me you are leaving a wife and 2 children and you goway to war she said you had 3 children but one died Michael tell me Candidly if it is so for I would not have a married man to come and see me no matter how much I loved him for I think it is a shame for any man that has a wife go and see a girl I never heard of it before perhaps your aunt was Jelous but It hurt my feelings very much I want you to write as soon as you get this for I am anxious.

Mother sends her best Respects to you and I send my love to you. Yours,

KATEE A. PAULLIN.

Excuse this writing.

From the New York Sun.

President Lincoln a Huge Tumble-Bug.

Comparisons are said to be odious. However this may be, there are some things more aptly illustrated in this manner than by any other method, and of such is President Lincoln's colonization scheme, as developed in his quiet chat with the dark colored citizens of America, at the White House. The system of American slavery composes a ball of such size and weight in the affairs of our nation, and stands so directly in its path of progress, that it may not be inappropriately likened to a hundred pound cannon ball in the wheel-rut of one of our common roads. It is wanted out of the way, and our President, whose powers may be compared, for the nonce, with those of a large size tumble-bug, seeks to push it aside. Can he do it? Will it move? The reader will readily see that the national wagon may drive around the obstacle, or over it, but cannot wait for the colonization efforts of our worthy President to get it out of the way. A nation of millions cannot be taken up and moved on a May day, the same as individuals—the negroes cannot move off if they would, and should not if they could. They are better where they are

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THE PEOPLE MUST NOT HAVE ARMS.—The New York *Herald* has an article denouncing the present clamor among the *people* at the North for arms, from which it is quite evident that the Government stands in almost as much fear of the people as it does of the Confederates. It says:

We regret to see the clamor which comes from every quarter for a general arming of the population. It is occasioned by an unmanly fright, and is calculated to do infinite damage in withdrawing men from useful and productive occupations, to spend their time in trying to be poor soldiers. The Government has called for and will receive all the troops it needs or will know what to do with. What we really need is not more men, but competent generals. This frantic calling for more soldiers is a sign of real weakness of heart. What we want is not the legions of Xerxas, but the spirit of the Greeks who beat them. If we cannot conquer the South with one million of men, it is qu