THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC'R 11, 1862.

THERE can be little doubt that the Federal forces which for some time past have been concentrating at Newbern, either have already moved or are about moving on some expedition against the interior of the State or against the coast still in the hands of the Confederates.

If their destination is against any point in the interior, that point in all probability is Weldon. On the other hand, if a blow is aimed at any point on the coast that point is Wilmington. We can hardly think that the extensive preparations which for weeks past have been in progress at Newbern, can be intended merely as the prelude to a predatory raid, which however ruinous to our people, can produce no result in a military point of view.

Whatever the destination of the Newbern flotilla and the army which it carries may be, its movements, if it has indeed left, as there are reasons to believe it has, cannot long remain a secret. If it is designed for this portion of the coast, we must soon know it. If for Weldon, its appearance in the Roanoke will soon be announced. If, on the other hand, it is intended to co-operate with the force at Suffolk in an advance upon the south side of the James River, to operate against Petersburg and Richmond, its course up the Sounds will surely be tracked and traced.

We look for a solution of the problem contained in the objects of the concentration at and movement from Newbern within the present week, perhaps at a very early day, it may be at any moment. All we can do is to contain our souls in quiet expectation, and employ all our energies in diligent efforts to be ready to meet the storm wherever it may burst. While we think *this* blow *may* be intended for Wilmington, and that *some* blow *will* be, and at no distant day, we somehow lean to the belief that Foster's movements at present will be co-operative with those of the army seeking to advance from Suffolk, either directly by immediate junction or indirectly by seizing the Southern Railroad communications at Weldon. It is positively asserted that Burnside has expressed a decided preference for the route to Richmond by way of Suffolk. It is, may not Foster be designed to co-operate with an army advancing by that route, while Burnside holds General Lee's forces employed in the direction of the Rappahannock? In fact a Northern Lincoln organ has decidedly expressed the opinion that while Burnside at Fredericksburg would really win Richmond, the city would be actually taken by an army on the James River. Of course our military authorities have thoroughly weighed all these points, and prepared for all emergencies, so far, at least, as the means at their disposal will admit, and we only allude to them as tending, perhaps, to throw some light upon pending movements of the enemy nearer home.

Legislature of North Carolina.

In the Senate, on Saturday, Mr. Shipp, from the Joint Committee on Salt, presented a resolution in regard to getting transportation for salt belonging to the State now on hand below Wilmington. The rules were suspended, and the resolution, after the adoption of an amendment offered by Mr. Outlaw, excluding speculators from its benefits, passed its several readings.

Mr. Sanders introduced a resolution, asking the Committee on Internal Improvements, to enquire into the conduct of rail roads in regard to furnishing transportation.

Mr. White, a resolution to prevent the extensive production of cotton and tobacco, and encouraging the production of grain.

In the House, on Saturday, Mr. Worth from the Committee on Finance reported a Revenue bill. (The bill provides a tax of two fifths of one per cent. on land; on slaves declared to be of the average value of $350, excepting mechanics, declared to be of the average value of $750. Stock in banks in addition to tax imposed by their charters, money at interest and cash on hand, less the debt of the tax-payer, 10 per cent. on all purchases of domestic, and 20 per cent. on purchases of foreign liquors, $60 on retailers, one per cent. on salaries above $1000, and most other subjects of taxation contained in the last Revenue bill.)

Mr. Person, from the Military Committee, reported back a bill to raise 10,000 troops for State defence, recommending a bill as a substitute for the same—(Proposing to raise five thousand men between the ages of 18 and 45, not subject to conscription; those between 18 and 40 to be called out first, and if a less number than 5,000 shall be thus obtained, authorizes the remainder to be made up out of the second class. The Governor to appoint and commission all the officers of the line and staff, and cause regiments to be organized, and tender them to the President for local service within the State.) Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Cowles stated that as a member of the Military Committee he was opposed to this bill, and gave notice that he desired to enter his protest on the Journal against it.

Mr. Grissom stated that as a member of the same Committee he dissented from the bill, and gave notice that a minority report would be made.

Mr. Person, from the same Committee, reported a bill for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers, recommending its passage with several amendments. Ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, a resolution relative to the removal of salt from Wilmington and other exposed points, to the interior, was taken up and passed its several readings; ordered to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

The balance of the session appears to have been occupied in the discussion of a resolution introduced by Mr. Fowle, authorizing the Governor to protect the citizens of this State from arrest by Confederate officers, on suspicion of being conscripts.

The discussion was participated in by Messrs. Fowle, Person, Amis, Headen, Shober and others, and finally the resolution was passed, some amendments proposed by Mr. Person having been accepted by Mr. Fowle.

THESE are no times for "sells" or practical jokes on matters affecting the best interests of the country, and the parties indulging in them ought to be exposed, and if not otherwise punished, at least they ought to be held up to public reprobation. A case in point is the alleged discovery of an inexhaustible supply of salt at Opelika, Alabama. Who started that miserable, witless and contemptible humbug? Who was Governor Pickens' telegraphic correspondent, promising to supply the whole State of South Carolina with salt from this source, at five dollars a bushel, delivered at Augusta? These things ought to be found out. Again, we say, these are no times for indulgence in such things, nor are such things matters to be trifled with at any time.

THE December Term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for New Hanover county, commenced its session this morning, in the Court House. We believe P. W. Fanning, Esq., is acting as Chairman *pro tem*, no successor having as yet been elected to the lamented Col. Miller, the late Chairman.

Daily Journal, 8th inst.

WHY MCCLELLAN DID NOT ADVANCE after the battle of Sharpsburg, or Antietam, as it is called in the Northern journals, is fully explained by a Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, who states that that battle had so crippled General McClellan that he could not move for the want of troops. And this battle was the one that was claimed as a great Federal victory!

CLOTHING FOR THE ARMY is a point of great and vital importance, and the brave men in the field have the first claims upon all good citizens, so that few at home have any right to grumble at their comparatively light privations. Still, even if not in the service, neither men, women, nor children, can *quite* dispense with *some* clothing, and there is certainly nothing more out of place than to see a civilian arrayed in military costume. It amounts to a sort of false pretence, and yet to such a point we seem to be fast coming. If absolute necessity—the imperative call of comfort or common decency carries any one into a clothing store or merchant tailoring establishment, about all he can find is military goods. After a while even the reverend clergy will be forced to bear, at least in outward semblance, indisputable evidences of belonging to the church militant or military. They will all be reducible to the two classes of "Gray-backs" or "Butternuts," and be lucky if they can get the costume appropriate to either.

A THOUSAND and one rumours can be picked up on the streets, at any time almost, which would certainly be important, *if true*. How one-tenth of these rumors starts, is more than we know or can trace. For instance, it was reported yesterday afternoon that we had received dispatches informing us that General Foster had left Newbern with twenty thousand men, and that his destination was Wilmington. And again, another version said that Kinston was to be the point advanced upon, with a view of striking the railroad at Goldsboro'.

Now, none of all these things did we get by telegraph. We have reason to believe that some days ago a Yankee force left Newbern in vessels, and that in all probability this force was a heavy one. Farther than that we know nothing. If the vessels left Newbern at the time supposed, they ought to have made their appearance off this part of the coast at least thirty-six to forty-eight hours since, that is, provided such was their destination. They have not yet been seen, and we rather question the probability of their being so. We doubt if the attack upon any seaport by sea will come from Newbern or any point in the Sounds. The class of vessels that out the Sound would have hard work in attempting an entrance at either of our inlets or in protecting a landing at any point on our coast, during the Winter months. The true defence of Newbern, Washington, Roanoke Island, in fact of all the towns and places on the Pamlico, Croatan and Albemarle Sounds ought to have been made at the Inlets to Pamlico Sound—at Hatteras, Ocracocke and Oregon Inlets—the forces defending these inlets being supplied by a flotilla in the Sounds. Once in the Sounds, almost any sort of craft that would bear a gun, would answer the purposes of the enemy, and did answer it in running up rivers, carrying troops, etc. But these craft would hardly do to stand off the coast, nor could they afford to come to close quarters with well constructed and well defended works. These are the reasons why we think that the Newbern flotilla is not destined to operate in this direction, at least for the present. It is more likely to have gone either to Suffolk or to the Rappahannock, if not in the direction of Weldon.—*Daily Journal, 9th inst.*

Harry Webb re-opened his restaurant last night.—He makes a nice display, and will no doubt serve up meals in good style.

The Palmetto Hotel has been open for some time, and the indefatigable Bailey is as energetic as ever, and as successful in giving satisfaction to the public.

The City Hotel begins to give signs of life. We saw "Sidney" near the hall door yesterday contemplating the broken panes of the large glass doors to the baggage room. We suppose Messrs. Cutts & Evans will open next week.

The Rock Spring Hotel, kept by Mrs. McCaleb, reopened very soon after the disappearance of the epidemic and has done much to meet the wants of the public.

So, with the "Globe Saloon" which did not close, and the Saloon at the railroad, and the hotels and restaurants already attended to, there will be no difficulty for the man who has money to get something to eat.—The hardest part is getting accommodations in the way of lodging.—*Daily Journal, 10th inst.*

THE Cannibals carry on war more economically than any other people. Their Commissary and Quarter Master's Departments are very simple. They eat their enemies, and wear a full length uniform of mud. They carry nothing on a march besides their arms, but a small chunk of cold roast man, which they eat without salt, pepper or mustard, and feel much comforted thereby.

Legislature of North Carolina.

The Senate, on Saturday, was mainly occupied in discussing resolutions introduced to guard against arbitrary arrests of citizens by military authority under the Conscription law. Some members of the Provost Guard in Raleigh have been acting with very little discretion.

We do not notice that anything very important was done in the House on Saturday. We extract the following as having some local interest:—

A message was received from the Governor transmitting a communication from H. W. Guion, Esq., President of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad, relative to an order from the War Department to seize, for the use of the Confederate Government, certain railroad iron, upon which the State holds a claim by virtue of a mortgage.

On motion of Mr. Fowle, the message and accompanying documents were sent to the Senate with a proposition to refer the same to a Joint Select Committee of three on the part of the Senate and five on the part of the House.

On Monday the Senate passed resolutions declaring the offices of Adjutant General, Attorney General and Solicitor of the 4th Judical Circuit vacant. Also a resolution from the House protesting against the wanton destruction of cotton in the Eastern part of the State by the order of General French.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Shepherd, from the Select Committee, to whom had been referred several bills relating to the relief of the families of soldiers and the subject of extortion, reported back House bill No. 9, recommending that it do not pass, and a bill fixing a tariff of prices, with an expression of the opinion on the part of the Committee that such legislation was inexpedient. The Committee recommended, with several amendments, House bill No. 10, authorizing the Governor to seize for the purposes of the bill, grain, flour, clothing, &c., &c., in certain cases.

Mr. Shepherd made a detailed explanation of the amendments and the reasons that had influenced the Committee to recommend them.

A bill appropriating $300,000 for the relief of our sick and wounded soldiers was taken up and passed.

LAST SUMMER, indeed we may go farther, and say ever since the difficulties of the country commenced, we made, and have been making, and continue to make, an ardent effort to obliterate party lines. A number of persons took advantage of this disposition on our part and the part of those with whom we acted. While we deprecated party, they organized faction. While we tried to promote harmony, they cherished rancour. The result is before us. The clique to which we have alluded, have, under the name of "Conservatives" seized the helm of power and are pursuing a course that would have shamed Frank Granger himself, or any other official decapitator, and which, in times like these, while we have an enemy in our front, in our rear and on our flanks, can only be characterized as disgraceful and butcher-like. These people are marking all men that did not bow to the dictation of Jonathan Worth, W. W. Holden, *et id genus omne*. Thank the Lord, the world has not yet come to an end, nor has the earth stopped revolving. Another such snap-judgment will not be so easy taken.

The Wilmington *Journal* copies *all* our article about Judge Shepherd, and offers a bare reply to it. The object is apparent. The Judge is in training for a race for Congress in the Cape Fear District, and it is important to quote the *Standard* against him, so as to strengthen him with certain prejudiced or ignorant "precipitators" or "Destructives" in that District. This is a singular way of electioneering. But the Judge broke faith with his constituents in voting for Mr. Davis for Senator. There is no doubt about that. If the people of Cumberland and Harnett had been generally informed that we would vote, if elected, for Mr. Davis for Senator and against Mr. Graham, he would not have received five hundred votes.

We quote the above from the Raleigh *Standard*, simply to remark that, so far as it refers to us, its statements are wholly without foundation, or the shadow of foundation. If Judge Shepherd is a candidate for Congress, we do not know it. We never thought of it.—We don't believe it. More than this, we see no reason just now for throwing the present most worthy incumbent overboard. Give him the usual chance.

The *Standard* may keep plotting *all* the time, but we don't, for the simple reason that we have something else to do and to think of.

The Late Col. Miller.

The following is an extract from the minutes of the County Court of this county, at its present term, (December, 1862.) The resolutions passed by the Court express the genuine feelings and sentiments of all its members:—

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Hanover county.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, December Term, 1862.

A majority of the Justices of this County being present, it was announced that since the last term of this Court, James Telfair Miller, the late Chairman and Presiding Magistrate of this Court had died. Whereupon the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we consider it a duty of high obligation, to the performance of which we are incited by an affectionate remembrance of his amiable virtues and most useful example, to record our sense of the worth of our late associate, James Telfair Miller, who as the presiding Magistrate of this Court for many years past, brought to the discharge of the varied duties incident to that office, the moral firmness, amiable courtesy, patient attention and sound and educated judgment, which should ever mark the character of those who administer the laws of the land, and decide between parties litigating their rights.

Resolved, That by his death this Court is deprived of its most valued member, and the County of New Hanover has lost one of its best and most useful citizens.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be entered on the minutes of this Court, and that the Clerk furnish a copy for publication in the Wilmington Journal.

The following resolution was presented by Joshua G. Wright, Esq., on behalf of the bar. Mr. Wright accompanied the presentation of this resolution by some exceeding touching and eloquent remarks:—

Resolved, That the members of the bar upon hearing the foregoing resolutions, too leave to participate in the meeting now being held by the Justices, and while declaring their high appreciation of the character of the late Colonel James T. Miller, ask to express their full and hearty concurrence in the resolutions just presented.

ORDERED, That the resolutions presented on behalf of the members of the bar of this Court be recorded on the minutes of this Court and published with the resolutions adopted by this Court.

Teste, SAMUEL R. BUNTING, Clerk.

☞ Our telegraphic news to-day seems to confirm the impression that FOSTER's force at present is designed to co-operate with the Yankee force at Suffolk, in a demonstration against Richmond, either by a direct advance upon Petersburg, or by attempting to seize our Railroad communications at Weldon.

Alien Cormorants in our Midst Aiding the Abolition Enemies.

When the parties attending the late auction sales in Charleston were brought before the Examining Board, it was found that a large majority of them were provided with Consular certificates protecting them as aliens from conscription. The Courier very properly asks: How long shall we endure and allow the operation and effect of Consular certificates, which are eminently *natural* in everything except in screening speculators, extortioners and skulks, who, after voting and exercising the rights of American citizenship, have discovered, at the hour of danger, that they once had other allegiance?

Should not notice be given, with reasonable time, that the functions of all Consuls holding *Exequatur* from Lincoln, or any President of the United States, will not be recognized by any Confederate authority?

The subject demands the earliest attention of Congress, soon to re-assemble—if it is not within the power of the President to act—and we hope it will be considered promptly and in the proper spirit. As Congress meets early in January, the notice could, in all courtesy and fairness, be given for the first of March. What say our brethren of the Press?

We have long ago and frequently protested against allowing men to execute functions here under permission of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, or any other person foreign to the Confederacy and its laws. We of course second the *Courier*. This thing of consular certificates to protect harpies has become a nuisance, which *must* be abated.

HEAD QUARTERS,
Wilmington, Dec. 9, 1862.

To the Editor of the Journal:

SIR: I have read with interest your editorial remarks of your paper to-day.

While I deprecate, as you do, the practice of spreading extravagant rumors relative either to the movements of the enemy or to our own, this community may be assured that I will communicate to them at the earliest possible moment, all authentic information which I may have touching their safety and that of their property, save in the case that such publications might, in my judgment be prejudicial to the interest of the community at large.

I take this occasion, through your good offices, again to advise the heads of families and property holders to take advantage of the present, to secure the women, the children, and the household goods from the chance of war. I propose to hold this ancient city to the last, no matter what force is brought against it.

I call upon the State and the City authorities, to assist in this removal of persons and goods, as a military measure, and I rely much on our common brotherhood and Christian charity, in the hope that the rich and able will assist the poor.

Very respectfully,
W. H. C. WHITING,
Brig. Gen. Com'dg.

☞ The Lynchburg Virginian of Friday mentions a report current in Charlottesville, that Winchester, Virginia, had been again evacuated by our forces, and that the enemy had taken possession of the town.

☞ General Joseph E. Johnston left Chattanooga on last Friday morning for Murfreesboro', and immediately assumes command of the army of the West.

For the Journal.

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. James Church, Wilmington, held on Monday, Dec. 8th, 1862, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in this first meeting of the Vestry held since the death of the Reverend Robert B. Drane, D. D., their late honored and beloved Pastor, they feel constrained, before attending to any other duty, to record their deep sense of the bereavement which they and the congregation they represent have sustained in the removal from among them of that eminently good and wise, and devout and useful man.

2. *Resolved*, That having known him long and known him well, they can bear the fullest and most cordial testimony to his remarkable excellence as a man, as a citizen, and above all as a minister of Christ. That he was judicious, energetic, kind, firm, of untiring zeal and immovable steadfastness in the performance of his high duties. That having lived among us for near thirty years he was regarded with profound respect by the whole community, while in his own congregation the young reverenced him as a father and the elder honored and loved him as a wise, sympathising and affectionate friend, and all looked up to him as a man of God, earnestly and unfaltering seeking to point out to them and to lead them on the way to a better and eternal world.

3. *Resolved*, That his death was an untimely but noble and appropriate termination of his life, he died as he lived, at the post of duty, seeking to alleviate the sufferings and to soothe the sorrows of the sick and the afflicted in the late dreadful pestilence which has desolated this town carrying the consolations of the Gospel where they were so much needed; the Angel of God found him at his proper work, and called him immediately, we doubt not, to a glorious reward.

4. *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Dr. Drane, and that the *Daily Journal* newspaper of this town, and the *Church Intelligencer* of Raleigh be also requested to publish them.

JAMES ANDERSON, Secretary.

A lady living five miles North of Ozark, Arkansas, with an ax, a saw, a chisel and an auger, made herself a loom out of oak rails, upon which she new weaves eight yards of coarse cotton cloth a day. The thread is furnished by Major N. B. Pearce, and woven into cloth for army purposes.

STUART'S MEN IN A YANKEE CAMP.—A few days ago a portion of Stuart's cavalry made a dash upon the town of Warrenton, where the Yankees had previously established their headquarters, and those of the enemy still remaining there fled with all possible haste, leaving valuable stores behind. Our cavalrymen then visited the sutlers' establishment and supplied themselves profusely with luxuries and articles of substantial value, such as sealed cans of fruit, tobacco, segars, wines, boots, et cetera. The expedition was under the command of the gallant Colonel Rosser, formerly of the Washington Artillery, who, we are gratified to learn, has been promoted to the rank of a Brigadier. This was the raid alluded to in the New York *Herald*, of the 22d November, which that paper viewed as an "audacious" affair.—*Richmond Whig.*

From the Greensboro' Way of the World. Manufacturers' Convention.

In pursuance to a previous notice the manufacturers of North Carolina met in Convention, in the town of Greensboro', on Wednesday the 3d Dec., 1862.

On motion of Geo. Makepeace, Esq., the Convention was organized by appointing C. P. Mendenhall, Esq., Chairman, and Thomas M. Holt and D. Curtis, Secretaries.

The following persons came forward and reported themselves as delegates:

Jesse Walker, Union Mills; Thos. Hogg, Rockfish Man. Co.; S. T. Hawley; Blount's Creek Factory; J. W. Leak, Richmond Man. Co.; James Newlin, Saxaphaw; Hugh Parks, Island Ford; J. McDonald, Concord Factory; R. R. Gwynn, Ag't Elkin Man. Co.; J. A. Murray, Big Falls; V. Mooney, Yadkin Man. Co., A. M. Powell, Long Island; Geo. Makepeace, Cedar Falls Man Co.; T. M. Holt, Granite Mills; Wm. McRay, Montgomery Factory; D. Curtis Deep River Man. Co.; E. M. Holt, Alamance Mills; Wm. A. Coldwell, C. P. Mendenhall, Joseph Newlin, James Dick, Union Man. Co.; J. & J. H. Webb, Orange Factory.

On motion the chair appointed George Makepeace and E. M. Holt as a committee to wait upon Gov. Vance and invite him to attend the meeting.

At the request of the convention Gov. Vance made a few, able and appropriate remarks.

On motion the following persons were appointed as a committee to draft resolutions for the consideration of the convention, Geo. Makepeace, J. W. Leak, E. M. Holt, Thos. Hogg, S. T. Hawley and J. McDonald.

On motion the convention adjourned to meet again at 8 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 8 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The convention met according to adjournment. The committee appointed to draft resolutions, submitted through their chairman the following resolutions:

Resolved That we will sell all the products of our several mills at a profit not exceeding 75 per cent., and further that we give the orders of the State the preference.

Resolved. That we will use our best endeavors to discourage speculation in Factory fabrics, and to secure this end we will sell in quantities to such Agents only, as will prevent them reaching the hands of speculators.

Resolved. That we believe the following prices are in conformity at present with the Exemption Act, to wit:—4-4 sheetings 35c. per yard; Cotton yarn No. 6s to 7s at $3 25 per bunch of 5 lbs. No. 8s to 10s at $3 50. No. 11s to 14s at $3 75.

Resolved, That C. W. Garret, A. Q. M. at Raleigh, be requested to publish once a month, the list of prices he pays each Factory for their goods.

Resolved, That all manufacturers not here represented be requested to comply with the requisitions of the exemption act.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be published in the Greensboro' papers, and that the other papers in the State be requested to copy.

On motion, the Convention adjourned.

C. P. MENDENHALL, *Ch'mn.*

THOS. M. HOLT, D. CURTIS, } *Secr's.*

M. V. Mooney of the Yadkin Manufacturing Co., and R. R. Gwyn of the Elkin Man. Co., being casual present though concurring in the above personally, have no authority as delegates, cannot, therefore, pledge their respective companies.

From the Knoxville (Tenn.) Register, Nov. 20.

Malicious Conduct of Major Rucker.

Some days ago Major Rucker was in conversation with a fair, fat and forty buxom widow of an adjoining county, when by accident, she mentioned the age of one of her admirers, stating that he was not quite thirty-nine. The Major made a mental note of the fact, and soon departed. He went straightway in pursuit of this juvenile admirer of the attractive widow, whom he had before learned was a little more than forty years of age. When he arrested Mr. Johnson, Rucker stated that he regretted to inform him that he was under the painful necessity of conscripting him. "I have learned," said Rucker, "from widow ——— that you are only thirty-nine; she says that you told her so, and I feel it my duty to take you down to Colonel Blake."

"Oh! ah! yes," said Mr Johnson; "in fact, sir, to tell you the truth, sir, I did lie just a little to widow ——— I wanted, yes—I wanted to get married—you understand, don't you Major."

"I don't understand anything about it," said Rucker, "you must go with me."

Mr. Johnson's knees smote one another, and in tremulous accents, he besought Major Rucker to permit him to send for the old family Bible. This was agreed to. In the meantime Rucker and his new levy proceeded to Col. Blake's Headquarters. By the time they reached Knoxville, Rucker became satisfied that his follower was not less than three score years and ten. The widower's hair dye was washed away, his false teeth had been removed, his form was bent by the immense pressure of mental anxiety.

Col. Blake wished to know why this antedeluvain had been brought to him; but so complete had been the metamorphosis of the gay widower, that even Rucker blushed when he looked upon him.

The Family Bible came, and there it was written in the faded scrawl of Mr. Johnson's grand mother "Silus Johnsing born in Bunkum, Nawth Calliny; Anny Domminy 1783!"

THE FIRST IRON-CLAD OUT.—The iron-clad steamer Passaic sailed from New York on the 28th ult., on a trial trip to Fortress Monroe. The New York *Herald*, speaking of the trip, says:

The buoyancy of the vessel was very marked, and during the heaviest sea experienced on the voyage, at no time did the water reach an elevation of more than two feet above the deck of the vessel. The vessel experienced a few hours' rough weather, and during the time behaved exceedingly well. It was regretted by those on board that it could not have blown quite a gale, so as to give her a good trial amid the bufleting waves.

The ventillation was also found to be up to the constructor's mark, and no unpleasantness was felt from this cause. The vessel steered well, minding the helm with celerity and certainty; but a larger wheel will be put in the pilot-house. The compass worked admirably, the attraction, or rather duration, being only about one quarter of a point. She steamed well, and in every respect fulfilled the highest expectations. The next thing that is to follow in her history will be active offensive service, in which there can be no doubt but that she will prove herself all that could be desired of her.

She may possibly act in conjunction with the Army of the Potomac, and should the Merrimac No. 2 make her appearance on the James river, so that Capt. Drayton can bring the Passaic into action, then look out for rebel splinters.

SEWARD'S THREAT.—The Montreal (Canada) *Advertiser*, in speaking of Mr. Seward's threat in case the foreign nations recognized the South, and the good effect recognition will have, remarks thus:

Mr. Secretary Seward, eighteen months ago threatened the Powers of the world with war if they dared to recognize the South, or treat them other than as rebels to the just authority of the Federal Government; he has since altered his tone, and the Federal Press is instructed to declare that recognition amounts to nothing making the position of the Confederate States no better, and Federals no worse, and that therefore it is not fit to be made a *casus belli* against the nations that may recognize the Confederacy. Recognition, however, will not only inspirit the South, but it will depress the North; it will give an entirely new character to the war by removing from it the stigma of revolt, and by raising the Confederate States to an equality in all respects with their adversaries, and will entitle them to the good offices of the recognizing Powers to put an end to a strife which, so far as the North is concerned, will have no longer an excuse. Recognition will not long precede intervention; a people who have won the right to a place among the nations of the world, and had their position admitted, will not long be suffered to be the victim of a contest directed against them as rebels. Recognition will secure the practical independence of the Confederate States as certainly as it did that of the United States.

River Defenses.

Every Southern river ought to be prepared for the light draught gunboats the enemy is making ready to send to them. Experience has shown that batteries alone will not answer against vessels propelled by steam. You may sink one-half, but the other half passes. To make batteries availiable something must be done to arrest the gunboats and bring them under fire while not in motion. The simple method is to put obstructions in rivers close under the guns of batteries. The means of obstructions are numerous and ample. Sunken stones, heavy timber rafts, piles, etc., can be used—anything to bring the gunboats to a halt under the close and accurate fire of the batteries. And to make assurance doubly sure, it is best not to trust to a single line of obstructions, but to fortify and obstruct wherever a strong natural position presents itself, always selecting bluffs for the batteries when practicable. The defeat of the enemy at Vicksburg, and their repulse at Drewry's Bluff below this city, illustrate the advantage of elevated positions for batteries against gunboats.—The advantage is double. We are much safer when they have to fire up, and they far more vulnerable when we fire down. Every navigable stream is an invitation that will be surely adopted, unless it is blocked and defended efficiently. It should be remembered that it is infinitely easier to keep the enemy out than to get them out.—*Richmond Whig.*

From the Boston Traveller.

A Scrap of History.—What the Yankees think of the Southern Capital.

Of all the Southern towns that have become famous since the Revolution, perhaps no one has greater claims to attention than that upon which the eyes of the world are now fixed—literally fixed, and no metaphor; for upon the fate of that town may depend the future of the whole world—Richmond to wit: the capital of the State of Virginia, a community that will endure; and also of the Southern Confederacy which may not have many weeks of life in it.—Richmond is not one of the old places of America, and did not become the capital of Virginia until a period that is yet within living memory. The place was begun in 1733, but it was not incorporated until 1742; and it was made the capital of Virginia in 1779, when it could have contained but a few hundred inhabitants. Nor was it a fast growing town, as it had less than 6,000 people at the close of the eighteenth century, when the event of the third Presidential election had prepared the way for the incoming of "the Virginia dynasty" of Presidents. But the town had even then a certain solid and respectable position in America, which it has ever since maintained, while in some respects it has increased its influence. Being the capital of Virginia being then in every sense the chief State of America and full of men of talent—most of whom had distinguished themselves in the contests of the Revolution and for the Constitution—it was impossible that Richmond should not attract as much American attention as it does to-day, though from a very different cause. A great deal has been said about the power which Virginia then had in the country, but was it not a natural state of things that she should be powerful, remembering what she then was, and what she continued to be down almost to the middle of the present century? Her Revolutionary services had been great, we may say transcendantly great, when we cast the mind's eye over the roll of the first class men, in various capacities, whom she sent to take leading parts in the work of making the American nation: Washington, Jefferson, Patrick Henry, George Mason, R. H. Lee, George Wythe, Henry Lee, and others; while Madison had been one of the framers of the Federal Constitution, and perhaps the ablest man in the House of Representatives. Monroe, too, was distinguished as a national legislator, and Edmund Randolph, though not a faultless man, was respected for his talents, and for valuable services, which, on various occasions, he had rendered to his country. John Marshal had laid solidly the foundation of one of the greatest reputations that an American is ever likely to have.

It would require much space to mention merely the names of other prominent Virginians who were then eminent, or rising to eminence, and some of whom became not unworthy successors of the men of the revolutionary age—such men, for example, as John Randolph, Wm. B. Giles, L. W. Tazewell, John W. Eppes, and William Wirt. The supremacy that Virginia then held was a legitimate supremacy, the ascendency that great talent ever has held, and which it ever will hold; and to complain of its existence was then as foolish as it would be now to speak of it as the result of usurpation, or of political exclusiveness, or of the existence of slavery. Virginia being what she was, it was in rule that her capital should be the grand centre of American political life though the town was then not so large as are many Northern towns of the third class, that have no weight beyond what they hold from their votes.—No town in the free States ever held a position like hers, or was looked to, and looked up to, as was the town on the James river, or the *Jeames*, as they call it with the true Yellow push pronunciation. It was there that disunion was warmly discussed while Washington was yet alive, and before the constitution had completed its tenth year, and two generations earlier than Richmond was elevated to the dubious honor of becoming the capital of the Southern Confederacy. Those outrages on American political principles, the alien and sedition laws, created much discontent, and the movements of the Southern leaders, in opposition to them partook of a secession character, though not of any deeper dye than belonged to certain Northern movements of after days. Whether the Southern men would have been any more liberal than were the Federalists, in 1798, had they possessed power, is a question for the persons who love to speculate on what might have been if certain things had never been; but it is the fact that they, whether from being in opposition or not, did take the liberal side in the great question that then divided the world, while most of the leading men of the North took the side of despotism, and would have been glad to see England and her allies victorious over France. This it was that threw the Northern Democracy and the Southern aristocracy together and created a Union that was to end in disunion.—Originally that combination which became so offensive in our time was a natural alliance, and but for the increase of cotton culture it would probably have worked well for the country for many years yet to come.

The society of Richmond has ranked as high as that of any other American town for seventy years or threabout. It contained as many cultivated men and women as could be found in many places of much large population. The press was powerful—the Richmond Enquirer, Mr. Ritchie's paper, having a national reputation, he conducting it for more than forty years. No other American journal ever had so great an influence as that which belonged to the Enquirer for the greater part of its existence down to 1845, when Mr. Ritchie went to Washington, to take charge of Polk's hand organ, the Union, by which he lost his reputation, and did not find a fortune. The Whig, which was established much later than the Enquirer, was of great weight on the anti-Democratic side. There were and are, several other papers published at Richmond—a baker's dozen in all—most of which have more than local reputations; the Examiner, in particular, having been notorious for many years for the savage ability with which it has assailed the North and free labor, and upheld slavery and "Southern rights."

Religious societies, educational institutions of various kinds, and places of amusement, are very common in Richmond, or were so in the early months of 1861. The city was very prosperous, and had its full part in the material growth of the country. Its business was large, and it had a world wide renown because of the respectability of its flour trade, and the vastness of its doings in tobacco. It was a town of mills, and forges, and machine shops, etc., etc., as we have learned to our cost since the war began, as Richmond has furnished the rebel armies with many of those things that render armies useful in the field. The position of the place, at the lower falls of the James, and at the head of tide water, did much to promote its commercial growth; and its natural advantages were improved by the making of canals and railways; the Richmond traders, though the flower of chivalry, of course, showing themselves to be as shrewd in matters of business as if they had been born under the shadow of Bunker Hill Monument, and had read Poor Richard's advice not a furlong from Plymouth Rock. The population of Richmond at the time that the place was made the capital of the Southern Confederacy, must have been hard upon 40,000. It would be difficult to say what it is now; but after the war shall be over, let the event of it be what it may, no doubt Richmond will soon become as prosperous as ever she was, and rise to a greater eminence than ever. Her natural advantages warrant such a conclusion, not to speak of the go-ahead character of her population, who are Yankees in fact, whatever they may be in name.

THE MISSOURI MASSACRE—HEROIC SELF-SACRIFICE.—We learn from a late number of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* that one of the victims selected by the Federal General McNeill for his butchery in Missouri was a man who had a wife and several children dependent altogether upon his daily labor for their support. A young man knowing the condition of the family, offered himself to McNeill as a substitute for the husband and father, was accepted, *and was one of the ten who were shot*. The Cincinnati paper, with more independence than we should have looked for from that quarter, says the history of that atrocious murder would not be complete without the relation of this incident of heroic self-sacrifice; neither would the infamy of McNeill be fully understood and appreciated without its recital. One of the reproaches of the Administration is, that McNeill was allowed to remain a single day in service after this inhuman affair had been brought to its notice. From the same source we learn that at the late Fremont celebration in St. Louis, McNeill was present, and that during the occasion he proposed to drink with a brother officer. The result of that invitation was a marked one. The officer invited by McNeill to drink recoiled from the offer as if in contact with dishonor, and denounced him as a murderer, and unfit for the society of an officer of the American Army. He told him further, where he could be found if McNeill considered himself insulted by the way he had been treated.

The London Times on Butler.

We don't recollect to have seen a more pointed and pungent paragraph than the following, which is copied from the London *Times*. This man, if ever he visits Europe, will be like Haynau, a kindred spirit, the mask for the hisses and curses of the populace of its cities:

* * * Nothing is clearer in law and ethics than that an oath extorted by unlawful coercion is void.—Nothing is more essential to the sacred charity of an oath than that this should be thoroughly and universally understood, otherwise an oath would cease to be the bond of society, and would become the instrument of thieves and brigands. But it is a horrible outrage for a wretch like this Butler, who probably has never in his life done one act of manhood, to drive up a whole population, under the muzzles of cannon and under threats of being utterly despoiled, to commit a sort of white perjury. These people had all, no doubt, taken the oath of allegiance to the Government of their choice, and they have now swallowed by force an oath of allegiance to a Government they hate.

Even Butler can not suppose that an oath thus extorted can give him any further right, moral or legal, over these people. It is a senseless humiliation and a useless insult—no more. It is not only an act of tyranny, but an act of tyranny without an advantage.—The Northern people ought to be ashamed of themselves for keeping this stupid ruffian in such a post. A gentleman with little tact might by this time have let loose 3,000 000 cotton bales, finding out some compromise which would have tempted both parties, duties to the North and purchase price to the South; but while this miserable creature is in command, New Orleans can serve for no other use but as a warning to all Southern cities what submission to the North involves.

MCNEIL THE MISSOURI MURDERER.—It is stated, on the authority of a Washington journal, that General McNeil, who ordered the execution of ten Confederate prisoners at Palmyra, Miss., is responsible for his action to the Missouri State authorities, under whom he holds his commission. The Leavenworth *Enquirer*, of November 21, states that he has been surrendered to the Confederate authorities, first having been put in irons; but the statement is probably premature.

From the New York World.

The Murder of the Black Race.

The *Evening Post* frankly admits that the ultimate object of the radicals is the destruction of the colored race on this continent. It says:

As the Indians were crowded westward, and out of our bounds, by the irresistible advance of the white man, so will the blacks be whenever that powerful protective system with which the slaveholders have guarded them is removed. It is the destiny of the free white working men of this country to possess it; the efforts of the slaveholders have hitherto robbed them of one-half of it—the richest, fairest half—and devoted it to the blacks. It is the slaveholders who have preserved the negro from decline among us; it is the slaveholders who have increased the blacks from seven hundred thousand in 1790 to four millions in 1860.

So it is admitted that those terrible fellows, the slaveholders, whose chains, whips and bloodhounds we have heard so much about in anti-slavery novels and poems, are after all the real conservators of the negro race, while the Abolitionists, with all their professions of philanthropy, contemplate their destruction. The *Post* is right. The freeing of negroes means their extinction as a race in North America; the history of the present war proves that, beyond all peradventure. From Arkansas around to Port Royal the same complaint reaches us, that the negroes within our army lines are in rags and starving, and that the soldiers abuse and hate them. A card in yesterday's *Tribune*, from the agents of some negro missionary society, begging for money and clothes, says:

There is about a thousand in Hampton, quartered in tents, and a still larger number at Norfolk—seven hundred and eighty at Norfolk and three hundred and seventy quartered in a large storehouse and in barracks.—Could the benevolent look upon these pitiable objects of charity, tattered and shoeless, destitute of decent clothing and compelled to sleep on hard boards, bricks or ground, without a pallet, or hardly a rag under them, their hearts would bleed, "and eyes unused to weep o'erflow with tears."

It is not improbable that there are sixty thousand freed negro families within our lines in this condition, and, under the operation of the emancipation proclamation, as our army advances this number will double and treble. These poor