THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, DEC'R 20, 1862.

WE WOULD respectfully refer our readers to the telegraphic news we present in another column for all the information we can now give them. We are without a paper from either the North or the South, and can only listen to rumours which are generally not worth the amount of breath employed in ventilating them.

This much is certain. The advance upon Goldsboro' is made with a force and a determination which exceeds all our previous anticipations, and indicates a design on the part of the enemy to make this State the theatre of an important part of their operations during the campaign which they propose to carry on this winter.—North Carolina and South-side Virginia are evidently to be the base, or least *a* base of operations against Richmond.

There was hard fighting yesterday in the immediate vicinity of Goldsboro', though with what result we have not yet been able to learn. We fear that the enemy's force is very heavy, and that he is constantly getting reinforcements. From information obtained from Newbern we are led to the inference that either the Suffolk army, or an important portion of Burnside's force is being transferred to North Carolina.

The enemy burned the two culverts on each side of the Goshen Swamp trestle work on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, seriously damaged the trestle-work itself, and tore up some two hundred yards of the track in one place and about seventy yards in another, or rather they made the railroad negroes do it. They built fires on the track at Mount Olive and Milton, though we have not learned the amount of damage done at these points.

It will be seen by our dispatches that the Yankees have succeeded in burning the bridge over the Neuse river, about 2 miles from Goldsboro'.

Upon the whole, our people appear to be maintaining their ground. They are fighting valiantly and well.

We regret to learn that Col. Radcliff was taken prisoner at Kinston, but has been released on parole. Lieut. Lippitt is said to be missing, but is believed to be a prisoner. Capts. O. P. Meares and W. S. Anderson are safe.

General Lee appears to have got Burnside into a big trap and to have given him a foretaste of tophet. Burnside will fall as soon as Pope or nearly so.

It appears doubtful from our dispatches whether any forces from Suffolk are among those advancing upon Goldsboro'. It is more probable that Banks' expedition is there in force.

The news from Fredericksburg is encouraging and likely to be true. BURNSIDE is certainly no match for LEE.—*Daily Journal, 18th.*

CÆSAR came, saw and conquered. BANKS and FOSTER came, saw, plundered, got whipped and "skedaddled."

They came up like hungry wolves, marking their path by desolation. Ruined homes, desolated farms, wrecked buildings, burned bridges, stolen negroes mark their track.

They plundered helpless women and children—they have been driven back by far inferior numbers of armed men. They have showed themselves to be robbers and Vandals, lacking even in the courage that history ascribes to those scourges of the Roman Empire, or popular opinion connects with the image of the bold highwayman.

But perhaps, after all, the Abolition forces did what they were sent for—carrying out their programme in full, desolating the country, exhausting its resources, and hoping to make men partizans of submission by causing them to feel the miseries attendant upon a war waged for independence. In this they will not succeed, while they will embitter the feelings of all and make them even more adverse than ever to the reconstruction of a Union that would join them by an unnatural bond to a people that they have seen guilty of such atrocities, and from whom they have suffered so many wrongs.

But although the Yankees have disappeared from the front of our forces near Goldsboro', there is no certainty as to where they have gone. Some even go so far as to think that they may bend their way in this direction. We do not think so. They will never attempt such a march by land unless indeed they be crazy, and BANKS is not crazy, although no match for GUSTAVUS W. SMITH in military knowledge or capacity.

After all the flourish of trumpets made over the BANKS' expedition, we are inclined to think that, in coming to Beaufort harbor it reached the point for which it was intended to sail, but that in failing to reach Goldsboro', it did not reach the point aimed at, and failed to accomplish the main object in view.

But they have done much injury to private property both belonging to individuals and to corporations, and in doing so they have no doubt carried out *one* part of their programme.

We expect to hear something of them soon. At present it is doubtful whether they are going to Newbern, Beaufort or ——. We hope the latter place may receive them before they do much more harm. We trust that their *final* destination may be their immediate destination.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we have semi-official information that the enemy beat a rapid retreat towards Newbern on night before last. It is supposed their next effort will be to take Wilmington. We are sure when the attempt is made, they will meet with a *warm* reception, equally as warm as at Kinston and Goldsboro', if not a little more so. They have made their boast that they would occupy this place on the 25th inst. We shall see.

THE YANKEES are informed, so they say—that the roads leading to Wilmington from the sea coast are all mined, or filled with masked batteries. They propose to get over this by putting Confederate prisoners in front and making them point out the situation of such mines or other works, or at any rate run the risk of the explosion or draw the fire of the battery.

Now that is a proposition that would disgrace a Tartar or a Hindoo, and yet it is gravely made and shamelessly avowed through the columns of a leading New York paper, an organ and supporter of the Lincoln administration and presumed to reflect its views and to be aware of its policy.

We have nothing to say about the mines or batteries alluded to. We can't quite inform our Yankee cotemporaries, but no doubt if they attempt to march upon Wilmington, they will find out whether or not they have been correctly informed. They may possibly find also that the taking of prisoners is a game that two can play at.

We don't want to see the enemy attack the Cape Fear, but if they *will* come, we opine they will find some little opposition. There will be an unwillingness to let them come in which may result in keeping them "out in the cold." Wilmington may be taken—that is the fortune of war, but that it will ever be surrendered we do not believe.

CANNOT our State exchanges be sent to us by *some* route or routes? As for instance, why cannot the Raleigh papers be sent either by way of Charlotte and Columbia, and so reach us from the South, or by the stage to Fayetteville, and so by the steamers or by the sulky mail, which goes three times a week. Or why can't we get even the Fayetteville papers. We think, indeed we feel confident that our isolation will soon cease, our road be repaired, and our communications restored, but just now, as the thing stands, "our sufferings is intolerable."

The Position.

We use the above phrase instead of "the situation," because the latter has, by its employment in the columns of the New York *Herald*, become little better than mere slang.

The position of things in North Carolina is shown by our despatches. Upon the whole, the enemy is unhappy and disappointed He is being reinforced, but his lines of communication with the seaboard are long and precarious and his position untenable. He must retreat towards Newbern. He cannot exist in the interior of this State.

Now, whether the enemy attempts an advance upon Weldon, an attack upon Wilmington, or an approach to Petersburg, and thence to Richmond, our forces are so placed that, moving upon an interior line, they can be at any menaced point in time to render his efforts abortive. An attack *may* soon be made upon Wilmington. It looks as though it would be, and yet we have no assurance of it. We have been so worried, bedevilled, annoyed, harrassed, and depopulated by this threat that, upon the whole, we are in the humor of the man threatened with a thrashing, who requested his enemy "if he was a-comin' to come along." If they are coming, we want them to come at once and let us see what we can do with them. During the epidemic here the most comfortable time we had was after we had wrestled with Yellow Jack and he had not thrown us—in plain terms after we had had the fever. So with an attack upon Wilmington, until the attack is made and repulsed, as we think it will be, we will, as a community, be nervous and undecided, and real estate will have no fixed value.

An attack upon Wilmington, fully and conclusively repulsed, with a satisfactory chastisement of the enemy, would, in a mere pecuniary point of view, benefit property here to an amount sufficient to pay for a loss or devastation equal to half a million of dollars. Bombardments are not such terrible things after all. Vicksburg had shot and shell thrown into it by the tens of thousands, and yet not as many persons were killed in Vicksburg by the bombardment as died here in one day of Yellow Fever. We do not wish to see the town attacked, but if it is attacked, we coincide fully in the course indicated by General Whiting—defend it to the last extremity and at any pecuniary sacrifice. If the defence of the military position jeopardizes the safety of town property, while the abandonment of the position involves evil to the Confederacy, we say at once, let the town, let the property go, before the country shall suffer. All we have got is here, and nearly all would be lost by the destruction of town, we might say that all would be.

So far we go. Millions—all we have or are—for defence, but unless for defence we see no use in destruction. If the burning of the town of Wilmington should enable our armies to hold the military position, or should even promise to do so, we should at once say—burn it. But if it should not do so, if no military advantage should depend upon it, we would be forced to submit to destruction, if ordered, but we could not obtain the assent of our judgment to its propriety or policy.

WE are informed by salt-makers on the Sound that at present the production is not more than one-third the full capacity of the works. They say that they cannot get transportation, and don't want to risk keeping large quantities on hand at this point or its vicinity.

We have no doubt the salt-makers believe that they state the motives of their action in good faith, but other people will say that the most of the rush for pork-saving is over, that the demand has somewhat slackened, and the disproportion between it and the supply has somewhat lessened, and that the stoppage of the Salt works is intended, by limiting the supply to keep up the price at famine rates.—Will "other people" be wholly wrong? We assure the Salt-makers that what we have stated is said and believed and will be acted upon, so far as action is practicable.

We have opposed the indiscriminate and unthinking hue and cry against salt makers. We thought it unjust and we think so still, but we would warn our salt-making friends that where there is so much smoke, there is apt to be at least some fire. They have wed a pretty wide row, and it would be better for them to add as little fuel to the flame of popular prejudice—whether just or unjust—as possible.

WE learn that on Thursday morning about an hour before day, the Steamer Kate McLaurin, with some sixty passengers on board and a heavy freight, sunk in the Cape Fear River about two miles below Elizabethtown.

So far as we can learn, the accident occurred from some neglect to the working of the pumps.

The steamer was run up to the bank, where she lay with her lower deck completely under water. All the passengers got safely to shore, though with some difficulty. A large proportion of the freight consisted of salt, which was melted, and we suppose lost. The baggage of the passengers was generally wet and damaged. The loss will probably exceed twenty thousand dollars.

THE election held Thursday for Commissioners of Town resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen, being the ticket advertised in the *Journal*:—Alfred Martin, S. D. Wallace, Wm. A. Wright, O. G. Parsley, B. G. Worth, Miles Costin, C. D. Ellis.

Owing to the public excitement in reference to the war, the vote was exceedingly small.

THE Iron Steamer *Cornubia* with goverment stores, shoes, blankets, medicines and iron plates, has arrived at a Confederate port.

By this arrival the London *Index* of the 30th of October and 6th of November have been received. We have no time to-day to make extracts, but will endeavor to do so at the earliest moment. The *Index* is strongly Southern it its tone.

51st Regiment N. C. Troops.

The following private dispatch has been received here from an officer in the 51st Regiment N. C. Troops:

GOLDSBORO', N. C., Dec. 18, 1862.

We fought the enemy yesterday, and lost ten men killed and forty wounded. Lieut. Boykin, Co. K., was seriously wounded. W. P. Frink and N. Sole, from Columbus county, were killed.

Report of General Halleck—Lincoln's Commander-in-Chief.

General Halleck has made a report to the Federal Secretary of War, giving a detail of operations since his appointment to the chief command of the army, of which we present an abstract:

He states that he started on the 24th of July to visit the army of the Potomac to ascertain if there was a possibility of an advance upon Richmond from Harrison's Landing, and, if not, to form some plan of uniting the armies of Gen. Pope and Gen. McClellan, who was of the opinion that it would require 50,000 additional men to go on. Halleck replied that there could not possibly be sent more than 20,000. McClellan asked to consider the matter till morning, when he agreed to go on with that number. On Gen. Halleck's arrival home he received a dispatch saying that at least 35,000 would be required.

The report states that such reinforcements could not be sent without leaving Washington and Baltimore almost defenceless, and Halleck's order for the withdrawal of the Army of the Potomac was issued August 3d; a previous order having been given far the removal of the sick; and transports in vast numbers supplied; but that a protest was received from Gen. McClellan on the 5th, and that the order was not put in force for eleven days, the 14th. On the 1st orders were given to Gen. Burnside to embark at Newport News for Acquia Creek, who arrived there promptly on the night of the 3d.

A review of the movements before Washington is made. He says that a part of the army of the Potomac was ordered to the front from Alexandria, and that Gen. Cox was ordered to come by rail, *via* Washington, from Western Virginia, with the main portion of his force Of Gen Pope's order on the 27th, to Gen Porter, to be at Bristow Station the next morning, he says, "for some unexplained reason, Porter, did not comply with the order, and his corps was not in the battles of the 28th and 27th," in which Gen. Pope "gained considerable ground," though the battles were not decisive.

Of the reinforcements from Alexandria embracing at length the whole Peninsular army, it is said "some of the corps moved with becoming activity; but the delay of others was neither creditable nor excusable." The soldiers actually engaged in those battles "fought with great bravery," but many thousands straggled away from their commands, and it is said that not a few voluntarily surrendered to the enemy, so as to be paroled as "prisoners of war" It is also added, "Had the army of the Potomac arrived a few days earlier, the rebel army could have been easily defeated, and perhaps destroyed."

The losses at South Mountain and Antietam are put at 1,742 killed; 8,066 wounded and missing—a total of 10,721.

The report states that the army rested on the North bank of the Potomac, near Sharpsburg, from the 17th of September until the 26th of October, and says that "the inactivity of so large an army in the face of a defeated foe, and during the most favorable season for rapid marches and a vigorous campaign, was a matter of great disappointment and regret."

Gen Halleck says he telegraphed McClellan Oct. 6, to cross the river. Gen McClellan disapproved the plan of crossing South of Blue Ridge, but proposed to cross at Harper's Ferry and move on Winchester, but did not cross until October 26, and then at Berlin, the passage occupying till November 3. During this period Gen. McClellan stopped communicating with the Commander-in-Chief, addressing the President. On the 5th his removal was ordered.

From the Richmond Dispatch
Gen. Wingfield Scott.

We choose to call this defunct strategist by the name his parents bestowed upon him, not by his own affected substitution. His parents were highly estimable people, and named him after an old and respected Virginia family, to which probably he was related. He substituted a name perfectly *unique*, such as man, devil, nor beast, ever bore before him, we suspect—a name as full of affection as the feathers which go so far to the making up of his *tout ensemble*. However, let us not quarrel with a name.

At the commencement of this war the Yankees believed they had secured a mighty prize in winning over old "Fuss." When Col. Harcourt, in the midst of a snow storm, galloped into the village of Baskinridge and carried off Gen. Charles Lee, the British boasted that they had gotten possession of the "Palladium of America." Even so the Yankees thought when Scott sold himself—body and bones, soul and honor, fuss, feathers, affectation, rattle-snake stories and all—to the Northern despotism. They made a great mistake; but it was a natural mistake. There probably never existed so over rated a man. Even the very officers that had taken up the cause of the Confederate States had a high opinion and a great dread of the man. They had the same awe of him that a school boy entertains of his teacher. He had taught them, and knowing nothing else but what they had learned from him, they presumed, as a matter of course, that he must know everything. There had never been a war on a grand scale in the country, and they had never had an opportunity of seeing war on a grand scale abroad.

We can now look at the exploits of Gen Scott through the medium of the mighty military transactions that have taken place within the last year, and truly they seem very diminutive. In the war of 1812 he was second in commond in the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane—hard-fought engagements between some eight or ten regiment, the sum total of the forces on both sides—on neither occasion reaching ten thousand men. It does not appear from any account we have read, that there was any manœuvering—anything calculated to bring out any other quality of a General than stubborn courage. Yet his services in these little affairs made him, in the eyes of a people unused to war upon a large scale, a great General, and entitled him, in his own, to make an exhibition of himself at Paris, when it was occupied by the allied armies, in the midst of such men as Wellington, Blucher, Schartzenburg, the Archduke Charles, and all the Generals that had been engaged in the wars against Napoleon, and whose names resounded through the earth like the sound of a trumpet. The mortification which he experienced on finding that his name had never been heard in Europe is described by Vincent Nolte in his work, and is amusing enough. But in this country his pigmy exploits continued to be regarded as miracles of generalship, although he was but second in command, and caused him to be still looked upon as a great tactician. His Mexican campaign, undertaken after Gen. Taylor had already destroyed all the best troops of the Republic, and was ready, with only half the troops required by Scott, to march to the city of Mexico, further increased his fame. Yet what was it after all? One of the most powerful nations in the world, with inexhaustible supplies of money and munitions, was engaged in a war with a feeble and degenerate race, half-armed, half-clad, and half fed, with no money to pay soldiers, and no officers to discipline them Scott waited until Taylor had explored the way. He found that Taylor had beaten them in four great battles, in each of which they outnumbered him in the proportion of two to one, and in at least one of which they were five to his one. He discovered plainly that no advantage of numbers could enable them to beat the American troops. He saw that victory was sure, under any circumstances, and he thought the opportunity excellent for adding to his reputation without running any risk of impairing it. If Taylor had been reinforced after the battle of Buena Vista, he would have entered Mexico in two months. But, instead of reinforcing him, Scott had taken away nearly all his regulars before that battle to contribute to his own individual glory. He beat the Mexicans in every battle. How could he do otherwise. He had one of the finest armies in the world: they were an unwarlike rabble. He had everything in the shape of arms that the improvements of science had created.—They had old tower muskets condemned and sold as worthless, also has the flag of the 10 whenever they were fired, and honeycombed cannon that had been left there by the Spaniards. He had the best educated officers in the world; they had no officers that had received even the rudiments of a military education. His soldiers were, by a large majority, Anglo-Saxons; the a degenerate race, half Indian and half Spaniard. It would have been a miracle had he failed. Yet, for succeeding, he was cried up as the great General of his day. We never could believe this. Every person who ever conversed with him, represented him as the greatest fool in conversation they had ever seen, and we could not conceive it possible that a fool in conversation could be a great man in any respect.

GEN. HOWELL COBB.—The Lake City Columbian, of the 11th, says: "This distinguished gentleman arrived at Tallahassee on Monday last, and, upon special request, addressed both branches of the General Assembly, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, at 12 M., on Tuesday. His remarks were eloquent and to the point, and, we trust, will tend materially to encourage our citizens and inspire new hopes and energy in preparing to meet and repel the invader of our soil. We heartily welcome General Cobb to our State."

Over three hundred Indians have been convicted by the Military Commissioner, at the Lower Sioux Agency, as participants in the late horrible massacres, and condemned to be hung. Whether they live or die, rests with the authorities at Washington.

Advices from Minnessota represent that the people, *en masse*, are in favor of the execution of the three hundred Indians, as per "Pope's" order.

☞"When I forget my country" says Parson Brownlow in his late speech," may my God forget me!" "Forget you," cries old Hunks, "*He'll see you damned first!*"

The Legislature has elected Mr. Jonathan Worth, of Randolph, State Treasurer, over Daniel W. Courts one of the oldest and best officers in the State. Mr. Courts' offence consists in having been an original secessionist. How long is the harmony of the State to be interrupted by this indecent partizan war upon men for opinion's sake? If the Legislature can find no more important and patriotic work to do, they had better adjourn and go home. From the eastern shores of the State the people are crying for deliverance from the barbarous wretches who are overrunning their country, and petitions to this end have been poured in upon the Legislature. That august body, however, have no time to devote to such *small matters*. What is the deliverance of the people from the hated presence and accursed tyranny of the Abolition army, compared with the importance of rewarding a *partizan* for past services! We can tell these gentlemen that their course is narrowly watched by the people, and that in some of their cases the verdict has already been made up. They have been weighed and found wanting. Their epitaph will be brief, but very significant: *He loved party better than country.—Asheville News.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE JOURNAL.

FROM GOLDSBORO'.—OUR TROOPS RE-OCCUPIED KINSTON, &C.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 17th, 1862.

Our troops re-occupied Kinston on Monday night, the Abolitionists evacuating and burning the bridge. Of Col Mallet's regiment 15 have already come in. Five Company officers, Lieut Bill among them, are reported killed.

LATER FROM GOLDSBORO'.—HEAVY FIGHTING.—NEUSE RIVER BRIDGE BURNED—ENEMY DRIVEN BACK, &C.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 17th, 1862.

The battle raged furiously all day, on David Everett's farm and in that vicinity—the right wing of the Yankees extending nearly to Neuse river, about four miles hence.—Between two and three o'clock six Yankees, under cover of a fence, reached the railroad bridge and set it on fire, entirely consuming it. Five of the rascals were killed on the spot. Later in the day our forces gallantly repulsed an attempt of the enemy to cross the county bridge, and drove them from their position on the other side.

Our troops fought like veterans, and when firing ceased at dark, they had gallantly maintained their ground.

At the battle at White Hall, yesterday, the eleventh regiment, Col. Leventhorpe, had seven killed, twenty-three slightly and one mortally wounded. Lieut. Means, of Mecklenburg, was the only officer killed. The slaughter of the enemy is said to be heavy. Our boys drove them from their pieces like frightened turkeys. Our loss in the 31st N. C. Troops was slight.

LATER.—The enemy has been driven three miles from his position this evening.

THE BATTLE NEAR GOLDSBORO'—THE ABOLITIONISTS SKEDADDLED—THEIR DEPREDATIONS, &c.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 18th, 1862.

The battle of yesterday resulted in the enemy taking the back track last night, for parts unknown. They are reported as having passed White Hall to-day, sixteen miles hence, on the Neuse river The greater part of yesterday was spent in an artillery duel, resulting in a very slight loss on our side. In the evening Gen. Clingman's brigade crossed the river, and by a masterly movement, caused the enemy to skedaddle, having lost less than thirty in killed and wounded—seven or eight only killed. The 52nd Regiment N. C troops suffered most, having lost about eighty killed and wounded, while charging one of the enemy's batteries across a field. This regiment behaved gallantly. A part of Gen. Davis' Mississippi brigade was on the field and behaved well. The Yankee hospital, near the battle field, gives evident signs of numbers of wounded among them. Four amputating tables were found. The Railroad for miles has been torn up, and the bridges destroyed. A fine mill, near the battle field, was burned, and numberless acts of murder and incendiarism. It is reported that our entire loss in killed, wounded and missing, does not exceed two hundred. If the Yankees had given our forces battle to day, their chastisement would have been equal to their crimes. It appears they came only to burn, murder and destroy, and they have succeeded only too well, thus far. Fight, they dare not.

THE BATTLE NEAR GOLDSBORO.'

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 19th, 1862.

A reconnoissance last night, by a squadron of the third North Carolina Cavalry, under Capt. Carroway, found the enemy encamped about two miles below White Hall. Citizens represent them as scared, out of food and ammunition. A rumor on the streets this morning says that reinforcements have passed Kinston, on the South side of Neuse river, to succor their skeddling friends.

As the smoke of battle clears away, it reveals a considerable slaughter among the Yankees. At White Hall, on Tuesday, one hundred of their dead was left unburied on the field, and a pit one hundred yards long, filled with dead, has been found. Only three companies of the 59th North Carolina and the 11th North Carolina were engaged. Col. Ferrebee of the 59th, with eighteen men of the 11th, fought the enemy for several hours, until reinforced by three of his own Company, who were subsequently relieved by the 11th, Col. Leventhorpe, under the immortal Bethel flag, who ultimately drove them from their guns into the woods. The 31st North Carolina, Col. Jordan, was on the field, but with the exception of one Company, seems to have taken no part in the action.

THE DAMAGE TO THE W. & W. R R.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 19th, 1862—3:20 P. M.

Col. Fremont, Chief Engineer on the Wilmington & Weldon R. R., has just arrived in town from Wilmington. He passed over the entire track to Neuse river on a hand car. He says that he can repair all the damages on the road in two days, and the bridge, over the Neuse river in six or 8 days. All quiet.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG.

RICHMOND, Dec. 17th, 1862.

Accounts from Fredericksburg represent that the Abolitionists thoroughly sacked the town before recrossing the river, and left their dead in the streets.

Two persons arrived from Martinsburg last night, say it was reported there when they left, that a serious row had occurred in New York upon the attempt to arrest John VanBuren. The report is not credited here.

NORTHERN NEWS—LOSS OF ABOLITION GENERALS.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17th, 1862.

The Enquirer has Northern dates to the 15th inst. They acknowledge a desperate battle and heavy loss, though giving no numbers, save the loss of two hundred and fifteen in one division while crossing. They were engaged all night in removing their dead and wounded. General Bayard was killed, and Gens Vinton, Kimball, Gibbons, and Caldwell, wounded; and Meagher, severely wounded; and the Irish brigade suffered terribly.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, says that we hope, as we believe, that the great and final struggle of the war is now going on; that Burnside will throw everything on the hazard, and expand every round of ammunition and every man on an honest and resolute effort to take Richmond, whatever may be the result.

ARRIVAL OF YANKEE PRISONERS.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17th, 1862.

Between four and five hundred of the Fredericksburg prisoners arrived here this evening. It is reported that many stragglers were captured yesterday. It is believed in official quarters that the enemy's loss on Saturday was over fifteen thousand. Heaps of the slain were unburied on yesterday.

THE ABOLITION ARMY LEFT FREDERICKSBURG.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17th, 1862.

Passengers by the train from Fredericksburg to-night brought no additional news. The Abolition army has entirely disappeared from the vicinity of the town. A vague rumor that they were marching down the north bank, in the direction of Port Royal, is not credited.

NORTHERN NEWS—THE ALABAMA AT MARTINIQUE.

RICHMOND, Dec. 17th, 1862.

The New York *Herald* of the 12th inst. says that the Federal loss in the battle near Fayetteville, Ark., was one thousand. Gen. Curtis claims a complete victory.

The news from Nashville indicates an immediate attack by the rebels, under Gen. Joe Johnson.

The Alabama ran into port at Martinique on the 17th November, after destroying two Yankee ships. The San Jacinto arrived the same day, and finding the Alabama in port, awaited her departure; but next day the Alabama got under weigh and escaped.

B. F. Flanders and —— Michael, unconditional Union men, have been elected to Congress in the First and Second Districts in Louisiana.

The accounts from Fredericksburg relate only to the crossing of the river and the bombardment of the town.

Gold closed at 132½; Exchange 146. Cotton 67 cents for middling.

The total vote in Louisiana was 3100 in the first district and 220 in the second. In eighteen hundred and fifty, the total vote was nearly 14 000.

The bill admitting Western Virginia into the Union has passed both Houses of Congress.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG—YANKEE DEPREDATIONS, &c.

RICHMOND, Dec. 18th, 1862.

The Yankees left large numbers of guns, knapsacks, and a quantity of ammunition, in Fredericksburg. They also left about six hundred of their dead in and about town.—Nearly every house was sacked and their contents wantonly destroyed. Every conceivable injury, that malice could suggest, was resorted to. In their retreat across the river they propped up dead bodies of their soldiers to represent pickets.

Mr. Yeatman, of Ky., offered a resolution in the Yankee Congress, that the process of emancipation recommended by Lincoln was not calculated to hasten the restoration power, and was an assumption of power dangerous to the perpetuity of free government. Laid on the table—94 to 55.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG—THE YANKEES RE-CROSSED THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

RICHMOND, Dec. 17th, 1862.

An official dispatch, received this morning from Headquarters near Fredericksburg, says that, as far as can be ascertained, the enemy has disappeared in our immediate front, and has re-crossed the Rappahannock. He may be meditating a passage at some other point.

FROM NORFOLK—EFFECTS OF BURNSIDE'S DEFEAT, &c.

PETERSBURG, VA., Dec. 17th, 1862.

A lady who left Norfolk on last Monday, says that Burnside's failure at Fredericksburg, produced a most stunning effect on the Yankees in Norfolk,—and that our people were greatly elated. The Yankee accounts say they were permitted to occupy Fredericksburg with but little opposition, but as soon as a large force got across, the rebel Gen. Lee opened upon them with two hundred and fifty pieces of artillery, while Stuart got partly in their rear and poured a murderous fire into the Union ranks. They say such havoc has not been seen since the war commenced. They report their loss in killed and wounded at more than 20,000.

There are rumors of heavy fighting all day near Kinston, N C, but no particulars. During last week reinforcements were constantly being sent to Suffolk. The report was that Petersburg was to be attacked from Suffolk, while another force was to be landed at City Point, under the protection of the iron-clads. Since Burnside's defeat at Fredericksburg, it is believed the programme has been changed.

PRESIDENT DAVIS.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 17th, 1862.

President Davis passed through Atlanta yesterday.

RAN THE BLOCKADE.—VALUABLE CARGO, &C.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 17th, 1862.

A large steamer has reached a Confederate port, with ten thousand blankets, a quantity of iron slabs for gunboat plating, and a valuable assorted cargo, principally on Government account.

By this arrival Nassau dates to the 13th inst., have been received. The Nassau *Guardian* announces the capture, by the Yankee gunboat Tioga, of the schooner Nonesuch, loaded with salt and coffee. The Nonesuch was captured within a mile of the shore and sent to Key West. The *Guardian* denounces the capture as an outrage in British waters.

ARRIVAL OF STEAMER HERALD—GENERAL COBB'S REMAINS.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 17th, 1862.

The steamer Herald arrived at a Confederate port to-day, with a valuable cargo.

Gen. T. R. Cobb's remains reached here to-day, and were received by a large escort of citizens and soldiers.

FROM VICKSBURG.—FEDERAL GUNBOAT DESTROYED, &C.

MOBILE, Dec. 17th, 1862.

A special despatch to the *Advertiser and Register*, dated Vicksburg, Dec. 16th, says that two of the enemy's gunboats went up the river on yesterday, and another left this morning. On Friday a Federal ram gunboat was destroyed on the Yazoo river by our torpedoes. On the 8th inst. the Federal transport Lake City, was captured at Carson's landing, on the Mississippi river, by Bowen's cavalry, with seventy-five thousand dollars in cash, and a fine lot of provisions and clothing.

GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 17th, 1862.

A dispatch from Columbia, to-day, announces that on the third ballot, Gen'l M. L. Bonham was elected Governor of South Carolina.

RATHER CENSATIONIST.

[Special dispatch to the Savannah Republican.]

SAVANNAH, GEO., Dec. 17th, 1862.

The Governor of Michigan has issued a proclamation, that if an armistice be not agreed to by the first of January, he will recall all the troops from that State.

FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

MOBILE Dec., 17th, 1862.

The Tribune learns from officers of the Mobile & Ohio R. R., that the train between Tupelo and Okalona was fired into on Monday evening by the Yankees, but nobody hurt. The Train proceeded on to Okalona, when the latter place was immediately evacuated, and everything removed to Egypt. Saltillo was taken on Monday morning, and Pontotoc below there, at eleven o'clock, by 2,500 of the enemy, which is said to be the advance of 9,000 who are making raids through that country. Shannon was attacked at 2 o'clock same day.

[Special to the Advertiser and Register.]

BRUTE BUTLER ISSUES ANOTHER PROCLAMATION.

MOBILE, Dec. 18th, 1862.

New Orleans dates of the 11th inst., have been received. The Beast Butler has issued the following order:

1st. All register enemies of United States men and women, with their families, who desire to go within the lines not to return, will be allowed transportation, and personal clothing, not exceeding fifty dollars in value, for each adult.

2d. Captains of posts are ordered to allow no person to land from any vessel arriving at this port, until he or she shall have taken the oath of allegiance to the U. S. Officers in command of out posts are to strictly enforce this order.

General order No. 105 compels the same Cotton Brokers who published in the Cresent, in October, 1861, cards advising planters not to send produce to New Orleans to pay $28,300 for support of the poor of the city.

FROM TENNESSEE—THE ABOLITIONISTS EVACUATING NASHVILLE.

MOBILE, ALA., Dec. 19th, 1862.

A special dispatch to the *Advertiser & Register*, dated Murfreesboro', Dec. 18th, says that Andy Johnson has issued an order assessing the secession citizens of Nashville fifty thousand dollars, on the pretence of providing for the relief of the poor and suffering. Prisoners from Nashville report the enemy as gradually evacuating the city in the direction of Bowling Green. They are removing their heavy guns across the river. This movement is supposed to be with the object of reinforcing Grant's army.

Wm. H Polk died on the 13th inst.

From the Knoxville Register, Dec. 13.

Crime and Treason in East Tennessee—Duties of the Confederate Court.

The mountain fastnesses which encompass East Tennessee, which shall be held as the last stronghold of freedom, should the declared policy of exterminating the whole population of the South ever approach its consummation, are now filled with brigands, who have fled thither to escape conscription in the South, and at the North. The caves and cliffs and sequestered glens, the deep and narrow valleys and rugged mountain sides are secure retreats for those who, actuated by none of the emotions of patriotism, prefer a life of idleness and crime to participation in a struggle whose results effect forever the destinies of mankind.

Deserters from the army of Rosencranz, and fugitives from the despotism of Lincoln, in Kentucky, and those who would evade service in Southern armies, have found inaccessible retreats in the mountains of East Tennessee.

The investigation now being made by the Grand Jury of the Confederate Court will soon direct the attention of the whole country to the dangers, not only to East Tennessee, but to the whole South, which are accumulating in the mountain districts that environ us.

Not only is the manufacture of saltpetre, which is found everywhere through the mountains in exhaustless quantities, attended with great and increasing dangers; not only are the operatives in the lead mines deterred from the prosecution of their labors; not only are the neighborhaods of our exhaustless coal deposits, the retreats of mountain bandits, but we have been advised that through the facilities for concealment *which* there exist, the counties North of us, and even this city to some extent, are flooded with counterfeit Confederate notes.

With the progress of the winter, these evils will be rapidly augmented. Hunger and cold will render desperate, both the deluded victims of Unionism, and the cowards who skulk from the duties of patriotism in the inaccessible retreats of the Alleghany and Cumberland mountains. Counterfeiting will not be the only insufferable crime perpetrated. The suspension of operations in the nitre caves, and lead, iron and coal mines, will be the least of the losses which this people must endure unless every agency at the disposal of the Government be called into requisition to suppress, if it be impossible to eradicate, evils which have already assumed threatening, hideous proportions.

Not only must activity and energy be infused into the military authorities; not only must the mountain passes be scoured by our cavalry under trust-worthy officers, whose object is not to rob, plunder and destroy; not only must the officers whose duty it is to enforce the Conscript Act exercise renewed skill and energy, but the Confederate Court now in session in this city must not adjourn, till justice is done to some of the many confessed traitors, counterfeiters and criminals of all grades whose name already adorn the calendar of crime.

Crime stalks abroad in the mountains and valleys. Each fugitive from Conscription is a "deserter," and by the military code is punishable with death, and at once he becomes an outlaw, and soon a criminal in the eyes of the common law.

Let not the Confederate Court adjourn till its whole duty to East Tennessee and the South has been discharged.

From the Charleston Mercury.

The Independence of Nations.

All nations have a common interest in the principle of the *independence of nations*. Smaller nations support it, because they are weak, and are therefore liable to be overwhelmed or partitioned out by stronger nations. The larger nations support it, because it is the only principle on which the power of nations can exist. Let it be understood that there is nothing sacred in the independence of nations, and that nationalities are as shifting as the sands of the desert, and wars must be perpetual, and civilization itself come to an end. Power is the parent of all the useful arts, as war is the grand instrument of barbarism. Hence the Saviour is called the Prince of Peace, not merely because his doctrines inculcate peace, but because the elevated virtues of Christianity, and religion itself, must wear out of a people during pertetual wars. The power, the civilization, the material as well as the spiritual interests of all nations, therefore, require that the independence of nations should be a thing practically recognized and respected.

But nations cannot be perpetual. Decay is the law of nations, as of individuals. Nations dissever, and the people compoing them often form two or more nationalities. How are the nations of the world to carry out the principle of the independence of nations in such a condition of things? The answer of the laws of nations is, "that nation or people should be recognized as independent who are practically so." When a people have a fixed government over them, with laws enforced by a regularly organized magistracy, they are a people, and entitled to be recognized as such by all other nations. It is no objection to their recognition, that they are at war, and may be conquered. This may be the condition of any other nation. How would it comport with the principle of national independence, that the independence of a nation should be repudiated and denied, so soon as it enters into a war, which, in the opinion of other nations, will probably end in its subjugation? Whether this result will take place or not, must be a matter of speculation, until it does take place; and until it does take place, a contending nation has a right to be considered as one of the nations of the world.

Such is now the condition of the Confederate States of America. They are an independent people—just as much so as France was when beleaguered by the Allies in 1794 and 1813. Every one knows that it was distinctly proposed to annihilate the existence of France as a people. France might have been annihilated—Was the nationality of France, therefore, denied to her? When Victor Emanuel, a few years since, brought down the armies of Austria upon him, we hesitated not to say that Sardinia was in far greater danger of subjugation, by Austria, than the Confederate States are now by the United States. Was the nationality of Sardinia questioned on account of her danger? Sardinia had a France to save her from the power of Austria. The Confederate States have the aid of no other nation; but they are competent to their own salvation, though it shall cost time and much blood and treasure. Upon every principle of the laws of nations, they have a right to be recognized as one of the nations of the world. To recognize them is the duty of other nations, on the plain broad basis of National Equity.

American Affairs in Europe.

[From the London Times.]

We have come to the end of the second year of the great "war of the Union." Misery beyond conception has fallen on a large section of the people; the most flourishing portions have been laid waste; the bodies of tens of thousands of brave men are mouldering in pits and trenches, wherever there has been a camp or a battle field throughout the border States; a debt unascertained in amount, but known to be enormous, has been contracted, and must be paid or repudiated; and, above all, fiendish hatred has been engendered between two kindred communities, which, whatever the event of the war, must poison all social intercourse for years, perhaps generations to come. And what is the result?—Mr. Lincoln and his party have been dominant as no set of men ever were before in a land peopled by the English race. They have governed twenty millions of their country with a revolutionary freedom from the trammels of law. They have seized their political opponents, dragged them from their beds at the dead of night, hurried them off to military prisons, and kept them there for months without even informing them of their crime. They have not only suspended the habeas *corpus*, but insulted and threatened the judges in the Union, the legal interpreters of the Constitution. They have carried on war with a barbarity at which the world has stood amazed, destroying harbors, burning riverside towns, putting the inhabitants of exposed places to hard labor, contrary to all the laws of war, and then wreaking a shameless vengeance on women. They have passed a confiscation act, to enable them to plunder their enemies, and they have forced on their Chief a proclamation which is to excite, if possible, an ignorant race to deeds of murder, lust, and r