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To whom all letters on business must be addressed.
JAS. FULTON, Editor....A. L. PRICE, Associate Editor.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., MAY 7, 1863.

THE reports of casualties at the recent battles in Virginia arrive slowly, as might have been expected. The only it ms we have in addition to those already given are as follows:—

FIRST REGIMENT N. C. T.—Company E, Captain F. D. MOORE and Lieutenant JOSHUA G. WRIGHT severely wounded.

THIRD REGIMENT.—Lieut. Colonel THRUSTON, reported wounded slightly in foot. Maj. WM. PARSLEY slightly wounded. Captain JOHN F. S. VANBOKKELEN, Company "D," slightly wounded. Lieut. ARMOND DESBOSKITT, Company "H," received a slight bruise on left arm, but did not leave his company.

EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT.—Lieut. JOSEPH JACOBS, Company "I," slightly wounded.

RECENT events leave no reason to question the fact that the emissaries of the Lincolnite Government are busily employed in recruiting in Ireland for the Yankee army, and that one of the results of their misrepresentations has been a growing spirit of discontent and insubordination throughout the Northern and Western portions of the island. The operations of these agents can hardly have escaped the notice of the British authorities, nor can the latter have failed to perceive that the strongest inducement held out to join the Yankees is based directly upon considerations of hostility to England. It is in effect this—that these Lincolnite recruiting agents say to the more ignorant and excitable of the Irish people: Join us now to whip those Southern rebels, and when we get through with that job we will in turn help you to whip the English out of Ireland. That these agents are insincere—that the conditions would never be fulfilled, we most certainly believe, as certainly as we believe that very many thousands will be deceived and taken in.

We know it has been denied that any such operations are going on, and that one Northern official went so far as to deny with great emphasis, all knowledge of such transactions. His Government, he said, had plenty of men and wanted no help. This is only humbug. They will try to get men from any and all quarters and they will prefer that the business of killing and being killed should be taken by deluded emigrants than that they themselves should be compelled to go into the field.

That there is a feeling of irritation and estrangement growing up between the British Government and the Washington Cabinet there appears to be no reason to doubt. This feeling we think, has its origin quite as much in the complications arising or likely to arise out of the manœuvres in Ireland as in any or all other causes.

GENERAL HOOKER has made his advance across the Rappahannock and he has gone back again without having achieved a victory, though, of course, he will not acknowledge a defeat. *That* will be found out by even the Northern people after a time.

There would appear to have been rather a series of battles, separated from each other, both in time and place, than any one great and decisive engagement at one time and place. The first heavy fighting was no doubt at the point where Jackson got in the enemy's rear at "the Wilderness." The next and perhaps even more stubborn fighting was for the possession of Mayre's Hill, near Fredericksburg, which was taken by the enemy, and retaken by our troops after the most stubborn fighting

As yet it is impossible to indulge in any intelligent speculation as to the probability of an early renewal of the combats on the Rappahannock. It is not by any means certain that all Hooker's army has retreated across the Rappahannock. General LEE's dispatch simply says that "we have re-occupied Fredricksburg, and no enemy remains South of the Rappahannock in its vicinity." It is more than probable that a Yankee force remains South of the Rappahannock some miles above Fredericksburg, and may even be entrenching.

In all human probability, however, HOOKER's army will "change its base" ere long, after having made a show of renewing the fight in its present position. It would not surprise us any morning to hear of his appearance at the White House on the Pamunkey River within thirty miles of Richmond. That is HOOKER's pet line of advance against Richmond, and he may be permitted to try his fortunes on that field if he can succeed in convincing Mr. Lincoln of the safety of Washington.

The cavalry raid by the enemy in Virginia does not appear to have resulted in any substantial advantage for them. Communication has again been opened along the lines of our railroads, and it will be strange indeed if a large portion of the raiders are not captured before they succeed in making their way to their own lines. General STUART's laurels will be in jeopardy if he fails to give a good account of them, as Forrest has been doing of the raiders in Western West—one whole expedition having been gobbled up by him

The consideration in which General JACKSON is held by the whole country is sufficiently indicated by the great anxiety displayed to learn the extent of his wound and its probable result. Perhaps there is not another man in the service, not even General LEE himself in whom so great an interest is felt. It is not exactly that General JACKSON is believed to be abler or braver than others of our generals, although a high order of ability combined with unquestioned courage is conceded to him. In addition, to all this, however, his career has been marked by an unusual amount of "luck," almost amounting to Fatality, but generally resulting in complete success; so almost invariably has General JACKSON been successful, that a half notion, not only of his invincibility, but of his *invulnerability* was beginning to obtain believers

Of course this latter notion was only a notion. No man is exempt from the chances of war or the dangers of the battle field. Still, although people knew this, they had not yet used to General JACKSON's providential escapes or what was commonly called his luck, that the news of his being wounded excited a sentiment of surprise as though it must be some mistake—it was the wrong man.

But although the General is wounded he is not killed, nor even likely to die. We may look for many more wounds ere things get to be work done for the Confederacy by means of "stonewall" JACKSON.

The Exemption Act.

The following is a copy of the Act amendatory of the "Exemption Act" of last session, as passed by Congress on Thursday:

AN ACT TO REPEAL CERTAIN CLAUSES OF AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO EXEMPT CERTAIN PERSONS FROM MILITARY SERVICE," ETC., APPROVED 11TH OCTOBER, 1862:

1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That so much of the act approved October 11th, 1862, as exempts from military service "one person, either as agent, owner or overseer, on each plantation on which one white person is required to be kept by the laws or ordinances of any State, and on which there is no white person not liable to military service, and in States having no such laws, one person, as agent, owner or overseer, on each plantation of twenty negros, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military service;" and also the following clause of said act, to wit: "and, furthermore, for additional police for every twenty negros, on two or more plantations, within five miles of each other, and each having less than twenty negros, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military duty, one person, being the oldest of the owners or overseers on such plantations," be and are hereby repealed.

2. For the police and management of slaves there shall be exempted one person on each farm or plantation, the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a disabled soldier or a person absent from home in the military service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more slaves: *Provided*, The person so exempted was employed and acting as an overseer previous to the 16th April, 1862, and there is no white male adult on said farm or plantation who is not liable to military duty, which fact shall be verified by the affidavits of said person and two respectable citizens, and shall be filed with the enrolling officer: *And provided*, The owner of such farm or plantation, his agent or legal representative, shall make affidavit and deliver the same to the enrolling officer that after diligent effort no overseer can be procured for such farm or plantation not liable to military duty: *Provided, further*, That this clause shall not extend to any farm or plantation on which the negros have been placed by division from any other farm or plantation since the 11th day of October, 1862: *Provided, further*, that for every person exempted as aforesaid, and during the period of such exemption, there shall be paid annually into the public treasury by the owner of such slaves the sum of five hundred dollars.

3. Such other persons shall be exempted as the President shall be satisfied ought to be exempted, in districts of country deprived of white or slave labor indispensable to the production of grain or provisions, necessary for the support of the population remaining at home, and also, on account of justice, equity, and necessity.

4. In addition to the State officers exempted by the Act of October 11th, 1862, there shall, also, be exempted all state officers whom the Governor of any State may claim to have exempted for the due administration of the Government and laws thereof; but this exemption shall not continue in any State after the adjournment of the next regular session of its Legislature, unless such legislature shall by law exempt them from military duty in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

From the Charleston Mercury.

Clingman's Brigade.

This fine body of North Carolina troops took their departure yesterday for another post of duty. It has chanced that during their stay in this neighborhood, they have not had the opportunity of encountering the foe, but the cheerfulness and alacrity which they have always evinced in the discharge of their military duties justify the confidence that, had the occasion arisen, their behaviour would have been such as not to unbosom the reputa ion of the staunch old State which has sent them forth to battle in the common cause. We take pleasure in publishing the following correspondence:

HEADQUARTERS CLINGMAN'S BRIGADE, May 18th, 1863.

[*General Order No. —*]

The Brigadier-General Commanding takes pleasure in communicating to the Brigade the special orders of the Immediate Division Commander. A compliment from one so distinguished, and so widely known in the world as Gen. Beauregard, who has recently, on two occasions, reviewed the Brigade, ought to stimulate into the highest exertion to merit a continuance of such praise. Though while in this Department we have not had any opportunity to meet the enemy, yet it has been a source of great satisfaction that by our presence here we have been able to reciprocate the prompt and efficient aid rendered by the gallant troops of South Carolina and Georgia when our own state was threatened by a large hostile force. It has been our good fortune, while here, to witness the signal defeat of the boasted invincible Iron clad armada of the Yankee Government. Having met with great kindness here, having been both at his place and Savannah held in reserve, and thus relieved from outpost and other fatiguing duty, ample leisure has been afforded for improvement in drill and discipline.—When, therefore, it may be ag in our fortune to meet the robbers and murderers who are endeavoring to exterminate us in order that they may occupy our country, it is to be hoped that the action of this Brigade will be such as to carry the expectation of every North Carolinian, and merit the applause of our brave and noble compatriots throughout the Confederacy. T. L. CLINGMAN,

Brigadier General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT FOUR CAROLINA, GA. & FLA.

[*Special Orders No 55.*]

VIII. Brigadier General Clingman is relieved from duty in this Department, and will report, with his Brigade to Brigadier General Whiting, at Wilmington, N. C.

The Commanding General parts with this fine Brigade with the hope that in losing it from his command the good of the cause will be subserved, and an opportunity afforded for distinction and substantial service against the enemy of the Confederate States.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish prompt transportation.

By command of General Beauregard.
(Signed) JNO. M. OTEY, A. A. G

[EXTRACT.]

HEAD QUARTERS, JAMES ISLAND, Fort Pemberton's Home, April 30, 1863.

[*Special Orders No. 62.*]

* * * * * * *

XI. Brig. Gen. Clingman's Brigade has been relieved from further duty with this command, by orders from Department Headquarters. The Brigadier General Commanding joins in the regret of the Commanding General at the loss of this Brigade to the Department, and begs to assure the officers and men of his best wishes for their future success, and his earnest hope to be again associated with it in battling for our common cause.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier General Gist
(Signed) MALLORY P. KING, A. A. G.

From the Montgomery Advertiser

Gen. Johnston's Position.

There is evidently as much confusion in the popular mind, as among the generals of this department, in regard to their relative duties and responsibilities. The ears of the public have been much quieted by the confidence reposed in Gen. Johnston, who has been supposed to be responsible for the conduct of the armies both in Mississippi and Tennessee. We are at last in possession of some facts on this subject which it is proper we should make known, in order that the errors of our situation may, if possible, be corrected, and, in any event, the responsibility be cast upon the proper shoulders. Up to a very recent date, Gen. Johnston occupied the position of nominally being in command of the whole of Department No. 2, at the same time having no power to control the action either of Gen. Pemberton without his immediate personal presence.—If he were in Mississippi and issued an order, it might be respected as long as he were present to see it enforced, but the moment he turned his back, Gen. Pemberton might undo all he had done, by setting on foot a different plan; so also of the army in Tennessee; and General Johnston would have no authority to remove either Gen. Pemberton or Gen Bragg for incompetency. It is thus easy to see what injustice might be occasioned, both to the service and the reputations of these respective Generals by the anomalous positions in which they have been placed.—Gen. Johnston's command was virtually suspended in the air, for it could have little practical bearing upon the fortunes of a campaign, and he would nevertheless be held responsible if there was failure, and receive credit which might not be due him if there was success. He could not be expected to keep an eye over all portions of the department, and have personal command of the armies, for this would at once supersede Gen. Bragg and Gen. Pemberton, which he has no power to do, and besides, to command two such armies over such a tract of country would be an absolute impossibility. The effect of all this must be, that Gen. Johnston would have no army, and would be left in the position of a mere *Inspector General* of the department.

There have been reports, recently, apparently well founded, that Gen. Bragg had been ordered to Richmond, and if this were the case it may be that the Government now sees the necessity of giving Gen. Johnston a command in Tennessee, but of this we know nothing. We presume as long as Gen. Johnston is present in the army of Tennessee he can command by virtue of his superior rank, and of late he has shown no disposition to absent himself long at a time from that important field of operations until the battle should be fought on which so much depends.—This, however, only shows the importance of limiting his duties and responsibilities to a more reasonable sphere, and sending some other equally competent general, such as Beauregard, G. W. Smith or Longstreet to command the army in Mississippi. This arrangement we have no doubt would be a most agreeable one to Gen. Johnston and would be highly beneficial to the interests of the department. Too much is at stake for affairs to remain in this department in the confused condition they have so long been, without dangerous consequences to the security of this invaluable section of the country, and we hope steps have been taken to remedy the evil, which must be so apparent to all in the light of the facts we have stated and the events daily transpiring in Mississippi.

The Government Committee.

This Committee, appointed by the recent public meeting, met on Monday afternoon and adopted the following scale of prices for the month of May: Bacon and lard $1 per pound; corn $3 per bushel delivered at the nearest Rail Road Depot; peas $3; fodder $3 per hundred delivered; and the Committee will allow 2 cents per mile for every 100 pounds transportation for meat and lard. It is proper to state that some of this Committee are very much opposed to the scale of prices as entirely too high. The Committee will be glad to purchase at the lowest rates for which the patriotic will sell, but if they *have* to compete with the speculator, they thought it best to allow such prices as would insure the Government the provisions it may require.

Sumter (S. C.) Watchman.

THE KEOKUK GUNS.—The two great guns of the Keokuk (11 inch Dahlgrens) have been relieved from their very useless position under the salt water, and have been brought to this city. They are excellent pieces of shooting ware, and are cheap. Our boys think this the best way of getting guns, and only regret that the Yankees did not cast off more ballast of this kind in their somewhat embarrassed retreat from that little reconnoissance on the 7th of April. The labor of raising and removing these guns has been done and superintended in great part by our fellow citizen, Adolphus Lacoste, who deserves special mention for the perseverance and industry and resources he has exhibited in a work which many pronounced hopeless. The old shattered hull of the Keokuk, and the few moveables left, if any, may remain as part of the treasure trove of old ocean. We leave the "great experiment" on which Yankeedom relied to its rest in the sandy bed, on condition that it retains its sinking qualities and does not attempt to rise.—*Charleston Courier.*

Our Military Command is

We hear frequent conversations and discussions, even among our officers and soldiers, about the number and rank of our principal military commanders. We are not sure our own knowledge is very exact upon this subject, but we have always understood that we had five full Generals in the Confederate army, and that they rank as follows:

GENERAL COOPER.
GENERAL LEE.
GENERAL JOHNSTON.
GENERAL BEAUREGARD.
GENERAL BRAGG.

These appointments were made in the three first in stances, according to senority in the United States army. General Cooper, being the senoir in that service, takes rank of all the others, although he has never since he belonged to the Confederate army been in the field. General Beauregard was promoted to a full General on account of distinguished services in reducing Fort Sumter, and obtaining a victory over the enemy at Manassas. Gen. A. Sidney Johnston was next to Lee in rank. On his death at Shiloh Gen. Bragg was his successor, but his commission bearing date from his appointment, he is the junior of Beauregard, who was a full General and second in command to Sidney Johnston at Shiloh.

We have seven Lieutenant Generals, who are placed in our list according to rank. Our readers will probably be surprised to see that Stonewall Jackson stands fifth in point of rank, but such we have always understood to be the position assigned him by the President. In this the President may be right, and we hope he is, but the voice of the people would have said to Jackson "come up higher."

Their rank, as we understand it, is as follows:

LIEUT. GEN. LONGSTREET.
" " POLK,
" " E. K. SMITH,
" " HARDEE,
" " JACKSON,
" " PEMBERTON,
" " HOLMES.

Alive and Kicking.

"Old Fuss and Feathers" has again turned up, and this time in a more ridiculous manner then ever. At the "Union League" meeting in New York, the other day, he appeared wrapped up in the "Stars and Stripes" before that swinish multitude. The scenic effect of such an incident was, of course, grand. Nothing excites a crowd of gaping Yankees so much as a sensational novelty suddenly exhibited before them. On this occasion the whole affair was arraigned beforehand by the managers, who found the rain and conceited old man very willing to perform the part selected for him. Ostentatious display has always been one of his chief passions and propensities.

The following account of the matter is taken from the reporter's notice.

General Scott, wrapped in the American flag, was one of the attractions of the evening. Here is the way that trick was done:

The chilly air perceptibly affected the General, and he desired a gentleman near him to bring him a shawl. None being at hand, a large sized American flag was handed out from the window, and some quick-witted friend wrapped it closely round and about the shoulders and limbs of the veteran who had so often upheld it on the battle field, while the crowd below, struck with the happy occurrence, showed their approval of the chosen standard in oft-repeated cheers.

A LEAN TRIO.—The Richmond correspondent of the Knoxville Register perpetrates the following pleasantry at the expense of three of our highest officials:

It the Yankees knew to what extent famine may be endured, and how very little can sustain human life, if they had all seen our President and Vice President, and our Secretary of War, the idea of resorting to famine, as an agent of hostility to a people whose leaders are the very impersonations of hard times, would never have been adopted. President Davis is the shadow of a man, Vice President Stephens, who reached the capitol to-day, is imponderable, and Mr. Seddon's bones rattle when he descends the stairways of the Spottswood. The genii of famine conduct this revolution.

THE BLOCKADE POLICY.—The Richmond correspondent of the Knoxville Register repeats and extends, without qualification, a statement that other correspondents have indirectly hinted at.

It is a statement that should not be made without unquestionable authority, and we hope, therefore, the authors of it will feel themselves in honor and duty bound to present their specifications, or to retract.—The statement is as follows:

The blockade running business will be restricted It is well understood that the Yankee Government furnishes private signals to vessels freighted with fancy goods, which enable them to pass the blockading squadrons. Cotton and gold are thus extracted from the South, and in return we receive all descriptions of trifles, nothing that we need, but everything we fancy.—The Government should regulate this trade by which our enemies get Cotton and gold, and we nothing

General Forrest.

"N'Importe," writing to the Mobile Advertiser & Register, from Tallahoma, the 24th ult., says:

Gen. Forrest has been again assigned to an independent brigade, and he will now no longer report to Van Dorn. This is right; and now release Morgan from Wheeler's authority, and all will be well, and bickerings between our cavalry leaders and their friends will cease, and the old dash of Forrest and the wily skill of John Morgan will brighten the hopes of our partisen exploits.

In Gen. Van Dorn's corps, the cavalry armed with sabres and pistols have been brigaded and placed under Gen. Frank C. Armstrong, who can handle them if any one can. It is the intention that this brigade of light dragoons shall encounter the Yankee regulars, who are similarly armed, and a tournament at close quarters—at "hence point"—is looked for. The balance of the command remain as formerly, mounted infantry, one of the most useful branches of service.

PEANUTS.—No one who raised peanuts last year will deny that they return more profit for less labor than any other crop that can be produced. Let there be plenty of them this year. They are good for stock—Besides they make the best kind of oil—peanut oil being considered a much better oil than sperm; and as long as there is such a demand for the article, peanuts will bring a high price. Let every planter have a large patch of peanuts. He will find it the most profitable crop he can raise.—*Chron. & Sen., 1st May.*

The Charleston Defences

"Winyah," the correspondent of the Mobile Advertiser, writing from Charleston a few days after the battle, says:

Not more than one tenth of the number of guns which the Yankees say opened upon them were really fired at them. The fire of the heaviest and largest batteries had been reserved until they should venture closer in. They never came closer than within 900 yards of Fort Sumter. They did not encounter any ropes, nets, piles, torpedoes, or any other submarine obstruction of any description. They might, however, have encountered a pleasing combination of all those obstructions had they dared to come 500 yards nearer to the Fort. In a word, their whole account is one tissue of amazing fal choods, from beginning to end.

SIGNIFICANT PARAGRAPH.—The New York Express of the 18th ult., has a paragraph among its Washington correspondence, which says:

"Much anxiety is felt here for the reply of England to the despatches sent out by Mr. Seward, as on their temper and terms depend the question of peace or war with that country. The mere fact of the recall of Mr. Adams, our minister, and the sending home of Lord Lyons would not necessarily produce war, but in that event it is believed the United States Government would be compelled to declare it."

The paragraph evidently refers to some imbroglio with England, growing out of the arrest of Commodore Wilkes, which had not yet been made public at the North up to our latest advices from there.

HOW TO TAKE A SWEAT.—Try to decipher the telegraphic despatches from Jackson, Miss. If that don't open the pores nothing will.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE JOURNAL.

SOME DETAILS OF THE FREDERICKSBURG BATTLE.

RICHMOND, VA., May 6, 1863.

The Dispatch issued an extra this afternoon giving the first details of the battle at Chancellorsville yet received. The correspondent says the fight was in many respects one of the bloodiest of the war. Our loss was heavy, both in officers and men. The enemy had thrown up entrenchments, and constructed abattis, which, after severe fighting, were carried by our troops. Among the prisoners is Brig. Gen. Hays, who commanded a brigade in Couch's corps. Privateers represent some forty regiments, mostly foreigners. On the lower end of the line where Gen. Early commanded, there was some hard fighting on Sunday morning. In the afternoon Marye's heights were carried by the enemy, and a number of Mississippians were captured. Six pieces of the Washington Artillery were taken at the same time On Monday morning the fight was renewed and the heights retaken, and the pieces recaptured, with a number of others. Five Yankee batteries are reported captured on the upper line. From another source I learn that about six thousand prisoners, in all, have been captured. General A. P. Hill has resumed command. Gen. Heth, was not much hurt, he is still in command. Gen McGowan was slightly wounded. The 18th Mississippi killed more than their own number. Col. Stafford of the 14th Louisiana was killed; also, Col. Walker, of the 10th Virginia, and Col. Mallory, of the 55th Virginia.

LATEST FROM THE BATTLE FIELD.

RICHMOND, VA., May 7th, 1863.

The correspondence of the Whig gives farther details of the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. Hooker accomplished the capture of Marye's heights by a ruse, on Saturday evening. He sent a large force towards his right, recalled them during the night, and threw them rapidly across the river on pontoons. The battle commenced at daylight. Barksdale's brigade checked them some time, with volleys, bayonetts and clubbed muskets, but was forced to fall back before overwhelming numbers; not, however until the ground was piled with Yankees slain

Our loss was one hundred. All but two companies 18th Mississippi was captured. Col. Griffin's Adjutant and Stuart was killed; Maj Campbell was wounded. All but seven of the first company of the Washington Artillery was taken prisoners, including Capt Squires

The Yankees showed no quarters to our men. The guns of the Washington Artillery were not retaken. Most of our casualties in battles around Chancellorsville were slight wounds in hands and arms, but few, comparitively, were killed.

The loss of the enemy was equal to that of any previous battle of the war. The fields were literally strewn with their dead. Prisoners captured were mostly two years' and nine months' men, whose term of service would soon expire. They say they were put in front by Hooker at every point. The main body of the enemy having been driven to the river, they remain hemmed in by our army, and are afraid to advance and yet fearing to attempt to recross.

Gen. Lee has remarked, that the present position of affairs in the field is entirely to his satisfaction.

THE YANKEES ENDEAVORING TO REACH THE GEORGIA STATE ROAD

ATLANTA, May 6, 1863.

Gen. Forrest has received reliable information that 2500 Yankees were coming through Talladega, Ala., to destroy the State road. Col J. C. Rust of Forrest's staff, who came down to Marietta, telegraphs to Gen. Johnston for reinforcements. Gov. Brown was on the train and promised all available troops. The military and people are prepared to meet them.

ARRIVAL OF PRISONERS AT ATLANTA, GA.

ATLANTA, GA., May 6th, 1863.

Seventeen hundred prisoners have been captured by Forrest, some of whom arrived here last evening

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

CHATTANOOGA, May 6, 1863.

All is quiet in front. The weather is cold and cloudy.—Fifty prisoners, captured at Danville by Forrest, arrived here this evening, chiefly Alabamians. Capt. Forrest a brother of the General, it is feared, was mortally wounded in the recent fighting.

CONVENTION OF DRUGGISTS.

AUGUSTA, May 6th, 1863.

The Druggists' Convention assembled to-day. A large number of delegates from all sections were present. The officers were elected. President, E. H. Heinitsh, Vice Presidents, Messrs. Williams, Stephenson, Hatch, Carter and Jones. A Committee was appointed to draft a Constitution.

FROM VICKSBURG.

VICKSBURG, May 6th, 1863.

It is reported that Col Ferguson destroyed two transports and two barges at Greenwood, crippled an other, and drove off the gunboats. Nothing important here. The army below has not advanced across Big Black, at last accounts There was but one boat in sight across the river to-day.

A correspondent of the 16th Mississippi, captured at Port Gibson, subsequently made their escape from the enemy, and is now with the regiment.

Lt. Col. Patton of the 20th, taken at Port Gibson, escaped and rejoined his regiment on yesterday.

OFFICIAL FROM GEN. LEE.

RICHMOND May 7th, 1863.—10 o'clock, P. M.

The following official dispatch was received to-night:

CHANCELLORSVILLE, May 7th, 1863.

To His Excellency, President Davis:

After crossing Hedgewick across the Rappahannock on the night of the fourth I returned on the fifth to Chancellorsville. The march was delayed by a storm which continued all night and the following day. In placing the troops in position on the morning of the 6th, to attack Hooker, I ascertained that he had abandoned his fortified position. A line of skirmishers pressed forward until they came within range of the enemy's batteries, planted on the North side of the Rappahannock, which, from the configuration of the ground, completely commanded this side. His army, therefore, escaped with the loss of a few additional prisoners.

Signed, R. E. LEE,
General.

THE DRUGGISTS' CONVENTION.

AUGUSTA, May 7, 1863.

At the afternoon session of the Druggists' Convention, important features were presented; among them the restriction of the sale of medicines except to educated druggists who shall fix the standard quality of pharmaceutical preparations, and the development of our resources for Materia Medica. A committee was appointed to receive specimens of medicines and chemicals manufactured from the natural resources of the South.

From the Augusta Constitutionalist.

OUR COMMISSIONERS IN ENGLAND.—When a distinguished citizen, representing the feelings and interests of a new Republic, sprung into life amidst a great war, maintaining itself in a manner to stir the blood of kindred men everywhere, lays before the Foreign Office a list of numerous vessels passing in and out, during several months, through a so-called blockade, the Nineveite resurrectionist, Mr. Layard, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication in regard to the blockade of the Southern coast of America!—When a new list is presented, and Earl Russell's attention called to his own unwarrantable interpolation of the agreement of Paris, to which the Confederate Government, upon an informal request of Great Britain, had assented, Mr. Layard again has the honor, etc; and so doubt distractedly says to his fellow-barnacles, "Oh, here's this Mr. Mason been here again, wanting to know, you know. Oh my, but it is too bad; he mustn't come here, but he must go somewhere else, where they'll tell him to come here."

STATE FLAG.—On the assembling of the Massachusetts Legislature last week, the State flag, on which its coat of arms is emblazoned, was flung from the staff on the cupola of the State House. This was contrary to the usual custom, and many of the citizens expressed their indignation at its usurpation of the place of the "Stars and Stripes."

For the Journal.

The Hour of Sun Set.

BY A CONFEDERATE PRISONER

At even time I love to sit, and watch the day decline,—
And see the sporting sunbeam blend, with tree, with flower, and vine—
When lightly leaps the shadows forth, along the glenn and rill;
One moment on its pearly face, anon athwart the hill.
They move with lengthened step and gait, while bidding earth adieu—
The sun with smiling face the while glides gently from my view;
Then, oh then! I look around upon the sombre earth—
Made lonely by the absence thus, of former scenes of mirth;
And with a solemn heart and mind, I lift my face on high—
And watch the saffron tinted hue, come o'er the Western sky;
And then with eager eyes my gaze would penetrate afar,
The dawning ray to catch of my right *taitsmanic star*—
Then, oh then, I love to watch it beauties rare impart,—
Life springs anew to nature's throne, though sad may be the heart,
And melancholy though I feel at such an hour as this,—
It smiles as though it would not mar this melancholy bliss;
Ah yes! at such an time as this, at twilight's peaceful hour—
When birds have hushed their song of love, to their sweet paramour,—
"The cattles lowe" no longer sounds o'er hill, nor field, nor dale;
And fairies then no longer ride, upon the evening gale.
But when the whippoor-will doth sing, oh then I love to think
And at the brook of time to kneel my soul would thought-full drink,
Of pleasures past! Of hopes to come! with pain and happiness,—
Of fond desires for *loved ones*, my heart would surely bless,
At such an hour when night has shut the pearly gates of day,
And in the far off West I spy its faint and glimering ray,—
Receding as the dancing stars "take post" along the sky.
Then bows below the Western hill's, with faintly echoed sigh—
Yes then I feel at such an hour, as thoughtfully I roam—
At such a calm delightfull time, *they miss me most at home.*
When mind, and heart in tenderness views an ethereal life
At sun-sets, pure impressive hour, I miss THEE *most dear wife.*
When nature's gathering harmony as twilight draweth near,
Then *closer* 'round the *heart* doth cling fond images of *one most dear.*—
Yes *dearest one!* when sombre hues announce evening tide:
It that lone hour I know that I am missed most from thy side—
When busy scenes of day have closed, methinks a *lovely band*—
I see, my *Bettie's anxious look, my little ones 'round her stand*—
And then with earnest studious thought, directs their eager eyes—
Far down the Western slope of hills—the overhanging skies—
They scan, then steadily they gaze upon a *star so lone*—
And in endearing strains doth speak in *loves grand mistic tone*;—
"My little gems of love and hope,"—thus speaks their gentle Ma:
"In days now hidden in the past, have I and your kind Pa,"
"In love's bright circle wandered forth,—when the bright sun had set,"
"And watch'd for that bright evening star—my mind returneth yet,"
"That once *he* said, though long ago—'whene'er *that star you view,*
My eyes by intuition taught—be there directed too;
With little *Laura by your side, and Minnie on your knee.*
Perchance at *that same eve and hour, I* GAZE *and* THINK OF THEE.
No wonder then upon its dark, there mirrowed forth so prettie—
I often see the lovely form of MY BELOVED BETTIE.

M.

Gratiot St. Prison, St. Louis, Mo., April 17th, 1863.

For the Journal.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A negro man who says he belongs to Mr. A. P. Brown, near Columbia, S. C., was brought here yesterday by some members of Capt. Galloway's Company of Coast Guards. He had been engaged in making salt on the coast. He joined a portion of Captain Galloway's Company, thinking they were Yankees. He is now here under the same delusion; he addresses us as Yankee gentlemen, and appears to be highly elated with his success, to the infinite delight of our boys, who declare he is in the right church but the wrong pew.

BRUNSWICK.

GENERAL BRAGG'S OFFICIAL.

Our readers will remember that in General Bragg's Official Report of the battle of Murfreesboro', which we published a few days ago, Major Generals Cheatham, McCown, and Breckinridge were strongly and directly censured, as being responsible for the defeat in the bloody engagement. It cannot be supposed that these Generals who have sustained themselves as gallant soldiers in the minds of the people, by their heroic conduct on the bloody fields of Belmont, Shiloh, Baton Rouge and Perryville, will be permitted to stand so charged, without the most scrutinizing investigation of the grounds on which these charges are made. A correspondent in the Knoxville *Register* of the 2d instant in speaking of these Generals, says: "If they are brave and skillful officers their services are invaluable to the country; but, on the contrary, if they are unequal to the proper discharge of the grave duties imposed upon them by the commissions they bear the most imperative considerations of public interest demand that others more competent should be put in their places

"If, on the other hand, Gen. Bragg has, from any cause, done injustice to them in this report, his punishment should be in proportion to the means he possessed of acquainting himself with all the facts, and to the injury done.

"It is not my purpose to enter upon a discussion of the issues between General Bragg and the censured Generals. I feel no further interest in the controversy than must be felt by every citizen of the Confederacy. That controversy will be conducted by others more interested than I, and its decision by the people will be, I doubt not, impartial and just. It cannot be determined until all the facts are known; and the sole purpose of this communication is to state the reasons that influence me to invite a suspension of public opinion until the accused may be heard Gen. Bragg makes a strong case against them, and, if his facts are accepted, it is difficult to perceive what defense they can make.—But magnanimity is not one of the virtues for which Gen. Bragg is noted; and those who know that at least two, and probably all, of the censured officers had incurred his ill will by giving an affirmative answer to an inquiry propounded to them by him in a circular, whether the feeling in the army towards him was such as to make it desirable to the service that he should be transferred to another command, and that other causes of bad feeling towards them existed, will not accept his censure as necessarily just."

Southern Confederacy

From the Richmond Examiner.

Gen. Pemberton in South Carolina.

——, SOUTH CAROLINA, April 28th, 1863.

To the Editor of the Examiner:

You well much gratify and oblige a subscriber, and one who reads your editorials with great interest, by noticing the case of four slaves stolen and held or exported by the Yankees. How, in the event of peace, can or shall we deal with them for the property taken by them? Are they not to be held accountable, as England was in the last war, and be made to restore them, or pay for them? Perhaps a word in your valuable paper as to the *possibilities* of the matter in respect of the Yankee pockets might work as a caution upon them in the present project of raiding.

IT IS KNOWN IN RICHMOND, AS IT IS IN THE STATE, AND PUBLICLY TALKED OF, THAT GEN. PEMBERTON, BEFORE HIS REMOVAL FROM HIS COMMAND IN CHARLESTON, (May 23, 1862), ADVISED AND URGED THE ABANDONMENT OF ALL THE FORTIFICATIONS WHICH HAVE SO SUCCESSFULLY REPULSED THE YANKEE FLEET. IS HE THE MAN TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH VICKSBURG? I KNOW OF NONE IN THIS STATE WHO THINKS SO.

Very respectfully.

Dead Yankees vs. Guano.

You ask if dead Yankees, like garbage or guano,
Won't make the ground rich where they moulder? Oh, pshaw, no!
In place of producing corn, clover or wheat,
Is immortal deception, they spring up in *cheat*
So thus you may know by this short apologue,
Though a rogue will ingrain, there's no grain in the rogue;
And if you hoped harvests from Yankee, you're wi'er,
For though *fertile* in *lies*, he is no fertilizer.

A citizen of Mobile, a few days, ago, found, by actual experiment, that he increased in weight two pounds in five minutes. The first weighing was on the scales of a merchant who had nothing to sell by weight at that time. The second weighing, five minutes after, was on the scales of a dealer who had large supplies of bacon, lard, &c., at very large prices. It is a fact worthy of general attention that the presence of bacon, ham, lard, &c., should have such a disturbing influence on the scales.

"The Finest Army on the Planet."

The New York Herald, (editorial) of the 20th April, contains the following:

How goes the war? What is the prospect? Do the combinations of the spring campaign, as they are gradually unfolded, give us satisfactory assurances of great victories and a glorious peace, or of another summer of disappointments and disasters? We answer that we have an abiding faith that the days of the rebellion are numbered, and that the end draws nigh. General Hooker, who commands the 'finest army on the planet,' is preparing for a forward movement *which cannot be successfully resisted;* for his force will advance this time, not in broken detachments, scattered over half the State of Virginia, but *en masse* on the road to Richmond.

"The best army on the planet" seems to have been struck by the tail of a comet, Mr. Herald.

Confederate Congress.

"S. L." the able Richmond correspondent of the Knoxville *Register*, pays the following compliment to the Confederate Congress which has recently adjourned:—

WHAT MAY BE SAID OF CONGRESS.

In these last days of the session there is a striking contrast between the modes of legislation of this and the Federal Congress. During the closing week of a session of the Federal Congress, indescribable confusion reigned both in the Senate and House. The great mass of the members knew nothing of what was being done Everything was entrusted to the several committees, and the lobby bought, bribed and brow beat every committee of the two Houses. Here in Richmond, on the contrary while business is rapidly dispatched, every member is intent upon any measure under consideration.

It is more apparent now than ever before, that the wholesale denunciations to which this Congress has been subjected by the press and its correspondents, are unjust, and he who denies it has only to institute a comparison such as I have suggested. Even now, such is the good order prevalent, a mere spectator can comprehend thoroughly every proposition, with the policy which it is designed to promote, even in this last week of the session. Whatever criticisms may be pronounced upon Congress, they justly affect individuals alone, and cannot derogate from the claims of a majority to the respect and confidence of their countrymen

All measures pending are briefly discussed and deliberately acted on. Hence the amendments to which the cumbrous tax bill has been subjected.

It is stated that a house is being prepared in Vera Cruz for the reception of General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. From this announcement, we suppose he is about to turn up again, wooden leg and all. It was the French, we believe, who deprived him of his leg when they were at war with Mexico on a former occasion.—*Memphis Appeal.*

We are heartily tired of hearing people abuse the speculators. The worst enemy to our cause and our currency—is the idiot who pays enormous prices for what he can very well dispense with, thereby showing his contempt and lack of appreciation of his country's