THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., JULY 6, 1866.

Governor Holden despairs of North Carolina.

Ex-Provisional Governor Holden, of North Carolina, is in this city, and gives rather a gloomy account of the political aspect in that quarter. The ex-Governor is in fact a decided sorehead. He believes it almost impossible for any good thing to come out of that political Nazareth.—The disfranchisement of at least one-half of the citizens of North Carolina is, he asserts, a condition precedent to the re-establishment of law and order. The State Convention adjourned *sine die*, submitting its proposed changes of the State constitution to a popular vote on the first Thursday in August. Under this constitution the State officers will be elected on October 18th, and the Legislature is to meet on the third Monday in November.—One of the amendments provides for negro testimony, full and complete. The Governor is in the city looking after his nomination, which is hanging fire in the Senate. He has received assurances, it is understood, that his appointment will be confirmed if he complies with certain conditions laid down by the radicals, such as publicly advocating the new amendment and obligating himself to use his personal influence to secure its adoption by the North Carolina Legislature.

Washington Cor. of the New York Herald.

If Ex-Provisional Governor Holden's capacity for evil was limited to his influence in North Carolina, such extracts as the above would trouble us little. The unfortunate prominence, however, he has attained by the very unfortunate, but at the time, very natural appointment of Mr. Holden as Provisional Governor of the State by the President, in connection with the readiness he has exhibited to sell himself out at very cheap rates to the Radicals, is calculated to do our State harm at the North. It at least furnishes an excuse for the present proscriptive spirit manifested towards our people.

While Provisional Governor, and the future looked bright for political preferment, we heard nothing of disfranchisement. Pardons were recommended or withheld, without regard to the former political *status* of the applicant, but with a view to their future usefulness in the aspirations of his Excellency. Under an ordinance of the Convention, making the official publication of the pardon sufficient evidence to give the right of suffrage, just previous to the gubornatorial election in November, the papers of the State were filled with those who had received executive clemency, when in fact many of these gentlemen to this day remain unpardoned, and a very large poportion of the others were pardoned subsequently, at the earnest solicitations of Governor Worth.

Until the election of Governor Worth over his Provisional Excellency, Mr. Holden was satisfied of the loyalty of the State, enthusiastic over the result of the election for members of the Convention, under his policy, and especially well pleased with Governor Holden and his prospects for election, under his convenient system of manufacturing pardons. But now, that North Carolina has cast him aside, and to-day he is the most unpopular of all the public men who have ever been before the people of this State—in disgrace with his former political associates, and despised by those who have made his inordinate thirst for office and conceited vanity, the convenient stepping-stone to official preferment—he thinks that the disfranchisement of at least one-half of the citizens of North Carolina a condition precedent to the re-establishment of law and order. The disfranchisement of one-half of the people of North Carolina would result in breaking down the law and order which now prevails in this State, which Governor Holden well knows, but would not result in the election of Governor Holden to the Executive Chair, which he believes would be the case, and is the secret of his opinion. Governor Holden may himself select out one-half of the voters of the State to be disfranchised, and the remaining half would defeat him largely in any of his aspirations.

It is understood, however, that dispairing of securing the disfranchisement of the "disloyalists" of the State, he will go to San Salvador, if the Senate will allow, and will readily give his promise to advocate the new amendment and use his personal influence (?) to secure its adoption by the North Carolina Legislature.

We take it for granted that Governor Holden, lobbying in person to secure the confirmation of his nomination, has no conscientious scruples in regard to the "test oath." Can it be possible that this man, who did more to "fire the Southern heart" than any other person in North Carolina; who carried us out of the Union and signed the Ordinance of Secession; voted men and money to carry on the war, and voluntarily pledged the "last man and the last dollar" in order to secure its successful end, will now solemnly swear he has given no countenance, encouragement, or support to the rebellion? Or has he, like some other North Carolinians, received a special dispensation from the high priests of Radicalism, which enables him to swallow the oath and his conscience at the same breath?

We hope the appointment will be received and accepted. We care less for the means than the end. We would like for him to be Minister to San Salvador for the rest of his natural life. As a cotemporary has said, if the San Salvadoreans can stand it, we can.

Professed Friends of the President.

We doubt not that President Johnson, if he attaches enough importance to affairs in North Carolina to inform himself of their condition and the various parts taken by individuals, would think many of his professed friends manifested their regard for him in quite a questionable shape.

It is well known that no two civilians are held in greater detestation in the South, and justly so, than Mr. Secretary Stanton and his Honor, Judge Underwood. They have evinced more malignity, and descended to lower meannesses than even Thadeus Stevens himself, and everything they have done has been done *con amore*. 'Tis true they are officers of the Government, but no one has pretended to hold the President responsible for their actions, except, of course, in such matters as they were obliged to act directly under his instructions. The multiplicity of affairs pressing upon the attention of Mr. Johnson is too great to allow him to control the conduct of all his subordinates, especially conduct extra official.

In spite, however, of all this, and knowing the odium attached to Stanton and Underwood throughout the State, the *Standard*, the professed, ardent friend of the President, insists that he is responsible for both Stanton and Underwood, especially in regard to the treatment of Mr. Davis. We hesitate not to say that if the Southern people thought Mr. Johnson responsible for the acts of Mr. Stanton and Judge Underwood, their feelings towards him would be far different from what they now are; as it is, he may well be proud of the position he holds in the good opinion of a people so lately his enemies. We can imagine no motive consistent with friendly regard for the President or for the South, for seeking to cast upon him the detestation and abhorrence felt for Stanton and Underwood. We may expect to learn next that in like manner the President is responsible for the barbarous atrocities of Sherman and the brutal licentiousness of Kilpatrick.

Thirst for Office.

The Yankees through Stevens and Sumner have formally announced that Southern men are unfit for political associates for themselves, and the first, highest duty of Southern self-respect is to accept this decision as just, because true. It is the medicine our people need to cure them of an unmanly seeking after political honors.—*Memphis Avalanch.*

We concur fully in the above. Truer words were never spoken, or at a time when they were more needed. We regret it; but it is nevertheless true, that too many Southern men have manifested an unmanly seeking after political honors, and to attain them, are to-day, willing to sacrifice the present and future welfare, and the honor and the reputation of their country at the bidding of the Radicals. It is a crying shame for Southern men so eagerly to seek even political association with a set of men who regard them as criminals. Common decency as well as common self-respect, to say nothing of interest, would dictate that a dignified course was the true and proper one for us under the circumstances. We are unskilled in the arts of cringing and fawning and sycophancy, and whenever we attempt to play the part, we are sure to be hissed from the stage, especially by an audience of such *amateurs* and *connoiseurs* as our Radical brethren make up. We only know how to play the part of plain honest, straight forward men, and we can appear to advantage in no other character.

The Mayflower did not land at the South, but it was at Plymouth, the villain and other skilful players commenced exhibiting their parts, which, they and their descendents have kept up to this day. Plymouth Rock is the rock upon which the Union split.

We can make nothing by cringing to the Radicals. We have already done enough, and said enough, many of us too much; let us then abandon the unmanly seeking after political honors, pursue an independent course and preserve a dignified silence until right and reason once more prevail, and such terms are presented as are becoming for a free people to offer, and for a free people to accept.

The Philadelphia Convention.

A few days since in publishing the call for a Convention of the conservative men of the country, to be held in Philadelphia on the fourteenth of August, we noticed it editorially, and while protesting against some of the dogmas contained in it, we recommended an earnest participation on the part of the South, in the proceedings of the body. We construed the call to be an earnest appeal to all the friends of the President and those who approved of his policy of reconstruction, to unite in a spirit of harmony and union, in order to frustrate if possible the designs of the Radicals. We desired to see the President strengthened and the Radicals rebuked by the convocation from all parts of the United States, of the truly conservative men. We thought then, and still think, much of the moral strength of the movement is lost, if the national character of the Convention is destroyed by the failure of a favorable response on the part of the South. There is a grandeur and force in the spectacle of a truly National Convention again assembling and acting in perfect harmony and accord, and will do much in dispelling the prejudice now existing in the minds of the people of the North against those of the South.

It would seem, if the Northern journals, which appear to be the exponants of the friends of the Convention, are correct in their interpretation of the call, that Southern men who have been in armed hostility to the Government, or who have sustained those who have been, are not invited and will not be admitted as delegates to the Convention. If this be so, then the South has but little interest in the proposed movement, beyond a warm sympathy with its ultimate objects. If the leaders of the Convention movement propose to regard as loyal only those who can or will swear that they have never aided or sympathized with the South in her late struggle, then the call is not addressed to ninety-nine one-hundredths of the people of this section.

On this point, we were in hopes that the Democratic address would have been explicit. We desire to know who is included in what the *National Intelligencer* designates as "men whose loyalty is unquestioned and unquestionable." Who are to be the judges of loyalty? Are such men as Holden, Dick and Settle to represent North Carolina, for they claim to be the only loyal men in this State? Are we to be confined in our selections to the insignificant few who were hostile to the Confederacy, or worse, to those who, since its downfall, for purposes of self advancement, or through the influence of cowardly fears, have pretended to have been so? In this event we are frank to say our people will have nothing to do with it.

We desire most heartily the restoration of the Union and the admission of the Southern representatives and a participation in the Government, and so far as this is the object of the Convention we most fully endorse it, but if, in securing Southern representatives in Congress, it is to be coupled with the ability or willingness of the representatives to take the test oath—if either our own or our representatives loyalty is to be tried by the present test oath or any other which may be desined—then we ask not to be represented either in the Convention or in Congress. Such representation would not only be worthless, but false. Certainly no representation is to be preferred to *misrepresentation*.

We cannot, therefore, endorse fully the call until we are advised distinctly and plainly the whole intention of those inaugurating the movement.—If the conservatives of the North have not yet buried their prejudices and restrict their call to those among us who do not comprise a tithe of our population and a much less proportion of the intelligence and virtue of the South, then we must wait yet longer. We can form no such connection. Injustice and contumely may be suffered but not with our own consent.

We sincerely trust that no such illiberal and hostile spirit actuates the leaders of this movement. We hope at an early day to have such a satisfactory explanation of the purposes of the Convention, and the elegibility of delegates that we can give the movement our unqualified support. And without further explanation, we are inclined to the opinion that delegates should be selected and sent on from the South—"wise, moderate and conservative men," who will represent the true and loyal sentiment of the section, and if they are excluded from the Convention on account of former political sentiments and actions, then the conservative men of the North will act with a full knowledge of our wishes and aims, and will be responsible for all consequences.

Reconstruction in North Carolina.

A telegram to the *Tribune*, from Washington on the 3d, says "a delegation of North Carolinians is here anxious to ascertain upon what terms that State can be restored. Mr. Thaddeus Stevens informed them that the State must adopt the Constitutional amendment, and that it would also be necessary for Congress to pass an enabling act by a two-third vote setting forth who in the State shall participate in a convention to form a new constitution.

"On being requested to designate who should thus be recognized as competent to reconstruct the State the delegation conferred together, and to-day sent to Mr. Stevens the following draft of a necessary section for the enabling act:

No one shall be eligible to a seat in the Convention or permitted to vote for delegates thereto, or upon the ratification of the Constitution that the Convention shall submit to the people, who at any time before the rebellion, as an officer of the United States, or of the State in other capacity, had taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States subsequently thereto voluntarily engaged in the rebellion, or intentionally gave aid and comfort thereto, or who has held under the so-called Confederate Government the position of President, Vice-President, member of the Cabinet, member of either branch of Congress, Judge of the civil courts, foreign agent or officer of the army above the grade of Colonel, or of the Navy above the grade of Lieutenant, or the office of Governor, Secretary of State, or Treasurer of the State, while in rebellion, or who resigned any position under the United States, and took part in the rebellion, or who, at any time, voluntarily engaged in molesting, restraining, threatening or injuring any citizen, his family or estate, because of his opposition to the rebellion, or because of his efforts in behalf of the Union, unless it shall be made to appear that such person ceased to aid the rebellion, and exerted himself for a restoration of the Union before the 1st day of January, 1865.

We do not know who the "delegation of North Carolinans" is composed of. We do know that ex-Provisional Governor Holden is in Washington and suppose he is fixing up a scheme for his confirmation as Minister to San Salvador. One other schemer has been in Washington in the iterest of the Radicals of the Convention, and may still be there, and who is especially interested in the admission of the State, for in its early admission rests his only hope for a seat in the United States Senate. That man is Mr. John Pool, who is more radical in his hatred of the Southern people than Sumner and Stevens. John Pool was elected a Senator through as gross misrepresentation of the wishes of their constituents on the part of a number of members of the Legislature as representatives were ever guity of, for the term ending on the 4th of March, 1867. If he does not get his seat before that time he bids a long farewell to all his honors, even before they are reduced to possession.

We would like very much if some person who is able to do so, will furnish the names of this patriotic and loyal delegation, who are attempting to inaugurate an insurrection against the present State Government, which the Constitution of the United States requires of the President to suppress. Radical hate is indeed pushing its malignity to its greatest length, in endeavoring to hasten the ruin of the South by tampering with the intemperate ambition of dead and dying politicians.

Artificial Limbs.

We copy in another column from the Wilson *Carolinian*, an article in regard to artificial limbs now being furnished the maimed and disabled soldiers of the State, which, if the rumors referred to are true, require the very earliest attention on the part of the Governor.

We have not heard of any complaint in regard to the matter, and suppose from the time at which they have been furnished, there has not as yet been a distribution in many sections of the State. We trust, however, if any of our unfortunate soldiers have been the recipients of limbs of a clumsy character and which show in their manufacture a want of skill or care, they will immediately make it known, as we are confident that Governor Worth will have the matter looked into at once.

We learned while in Raleigh a few weeks since, from Maj. Ryan, the efficient gentleman who has especial charge of the distribution of artificial limbs, that the Governor had made the most patient and earnest efforts to procure all the information necessary, in order to secure both the soldiers and the State against imposition. He not only made the contract with one of the most noted manufacturers, and for the highest recommended and thoroughly tested patents, but upon terms advantageous to all parties. In order to secure well fitted and good limbs, they were required to be manufactured in Raleigh under the eye of the proper officials and accessible to those requiring them. Still, as the Governor and his assistants have had no experience in such matters, and must necessarily be but indifferent judges of the workmanship and skill displayed in their manufacture, we hope if any have been imposed upon they will make it known.

In reference to the alleged misconduct of the officer on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, alluded to in the article of the *Carolinian*, we are confident it has been thoroughly investigated by the President and Superintendent. We trust, however, and believe that it is a mistake, as our experience is that a more efficient and gentlemanly corps of officials is not to be found with any similar corporation in the country. Their worth and efficiency have been established through many years of close and approved attention to duties. We hope and believe there is not an employee on the road who would do aught unkind to these gallant men, who have suffered and lost so much in the service of the State.

The Philadelphia Convention.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the address of the Democratic Senators and Representatives to the people of the United States, and the communication of our correspondent in reference to the proposed Convention at Philadelphia, in August. This is a matter of much moment to our people and one which should receive their earnest consideration. We will, to-morrow, submit some further remarks of our own on the subject, and will be glad to hear from others in regard to the matter.

THE FOURTH.—The observance of the day, on Wednesday last, was indeed a quiet one. With the exception of a display of fire-works by a few private individuals and the usual excitement shown by the freedmen on all holidays, no exhibition of feeling was given vent to by our citizens.

Many of the merchants kept their places of business open during nearly the entire day, and were it not for the explosion of a few "crackers" from time to time, and occasionally the sight of a procession of freedmen, surrounded with others of a smaller tribe, who continued to rend the air with the most unmusical yells, we would never have known the fact of a holiday being at hand, i. e., judging from mere observation.

There was no jubilee, no expression of joy, no national festivities, which could not be expected of a people who have no cause for rejoicings, and who at one time considered themselves apart from the present nationality, and who are yet excluded from a place in the councils of the nation to whose unjust requirements sufficient sacrifices cannot be made by an honorable people, who are left hopeless, powerless, and bereft of all worldly wealth, with nothing to boast of but their honor and the late heroic deeds of their kindred.

The Fourth of July then, an occasion which in former years, the mere mention of the name would send a patriotic thrill through the heart of every true American citizen, was passed by almost entirely unnoticed by the native residents of our city, who merely took advantage of the partial suspension of business to enjoy a season of rest and recreation. Quiet was the order of the day withi them, and a strict silence on all subjects touching nations feeling was rigidly observed.

As far as we had occasion to observe, there were no fights, and but little drunkenness. The freedmen, ever excitable in their temperament, and exuberant in their manifestation, may perhaps have indulged themselves to some extent in their imbibitions, and love of pugulistic encounters, when apart to themselves while celebrating the day, but we have yet to learn of any disorderly proceedings on their part within the limits of the city. In fact they conducted themselves in a manner worthy of notice, and it is an established fact that this class of people are more respectful in their demeanor, and better behaved in this community than in any city, North or South. They seem to be aware of their true position as well as that of the whites, and act in a manner conducive to harmony and good feeling between the two races.

The German citizens, who are generally speaking, devoted to the established government, celebrated the day by a picnic, wherein the party were composed of those of their own sect. Plans for pleasure were carried to effect by other parties in visits to the sound, excursions down the river, &c., while the greater portion of the population remained at home, reserved and quiet in their demeanor, enjoying the season in real and unfeigned social enjoyment.

A CASE OF HORSE-STEALING.—Our readers will no doubt recollect having seen a statement in our columns, a few days since, in regard to the stealing of a horse, by a white man, from a freedman in this city. We then stated that the horse had been hired by the thief, with the avowed intention of visiting the Cemetery, and also that after a prolonged absence the owner of the horse was naturally anxious to hear of his whereabouts.

The horse was stolen on Wednesday, and on Friday morning the freedman to whom the animal belonged, one William Jones, started in pursuit. Suspecting that the route taken by the thief was that in the direction of Newbern, all haste was made along the line of travel between this place and that point. The precaution was taken by Jones to provide himself with the proper papers necessary in ferreting out the thief. Through these he was enabled to obtain information from the people residing along the line of travel, of his whereabouts, and learned that he had been seen with the horse, and had given his name as Henry Smith.

Arriving at a point distant twenty-two miles from Newbern, in Onslow County, he found the missing animal at the place of Mr. L. B. Hudson, and learned from that gentlemen, that the horse had been left in exchange for one owned by him, by a man calling himself Henry Smith. On an inquiry into the facts connected with the case, the horse was immediately restored to its rightful owner, and assisted by Mr. Hudson, the freedman continued his search for the thief. After proceeding to Newbern and Kinston, it was ascertained that the true name of the thief was Louis T. Womble, that he is a native of Kinston, a printer by trade, and that about five weeks since, he had been released from jail in Newbern after giving bail for his appearance at Court, having been arraigned for an offence similar to the one which we have recorded.

The said Womble was a few months since employed as a compositor in this office, but did not retain his situation for any length of time. He is quite young, scarcely of age, and appeared to be rather a wild youth, and profligate in his habits. His family are worthy and respectable persons, on whom the shock of his crime will fall heavily.

Womble is still at large, but will no doubt be apprehended in a few days. We would advise the citizens of this, and the Eastern part of the State to be on the watch for him.

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.—In pursuance of the Ordinance of the Convention, Gov. Worth has issued a Proclamation, directing the holding of an election, on the first Thursday in August next, for the ratification or rejection of the Amended Constitution, as submitted by the Convention.

The Proclamation will be found in another column.

ONSLOW COUNTY MAILS.—We are indebted to the kindness of an esteemed friend in Kenansville, for information in regard to the runing of the Onslow Mails, which we publish for the benefit of our readers.

The Mail leaves Kenansville on Monday of each week, at 7, A. M., and arrives at Jacksonville on Tuesday at 11, A. M.

Leaves Jacksonville on Tuesday of each week, at 1, P. M., and arrives at Kenansville on Wednesday at 11, A. M.

The Philadelphia Convention.

Editors of the Journal—

I was somewhat surprised to see from your paper, of the 30th June, that you favor the appointment of delegates from our State to the National Union Convention, to be held in Philadelphia. I agree with you in thinking the defeat of the Radical party paramount to all other questions, and that, to the accomplishment of this object, all our efforts ought to be directed, and I admit, too, that this is the object for which the Convention is to be held, but I doubt whether many Southern men can conscientiously give their assent to the propositions laid down as essential articles of belief of the new faith. If we cannot give the assent, do we belong to that class to whom the invitation, to appoint delegates, is extended? Will our delegates be allowed to take their seats? If the call had been extended to those "who sustain the Administration in maintaining unbroken the Union of the States under the Constitution which our Fathers established" all would have been well; but the signers of the call were not satisfied with that—they have prescribed such qualifications for the delegates that very few Southern men are eligible.

There are nine cardinal points in the National Union creed, and to only four can I give my unqualified assent (to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th). In the others, truth is so mixed with falsehood, that the one cannot be separated from the other. As you know, I believed the war was legally, rightfully and justly begun; in other words, that I believed in both the right of secession and in the policy of exercising it; in States rights and State sovereignty to their fullest extent. I still think that is the true policy of the old Constitution, and thinking so, I cannot subscribe to these Philadelphia propositions. They require even more than the President required of me before pardoning me, although taken in an armed organization attempting to establish a new government. He required only my parole for future conduct, not insisting upon a recantation of my past opinions, or apology for past conduct. My assent to the Philadelphia propositions would involve both, and I am not yet prepared for either.

I do not intend to be misunderstood, for I consider myself a loyal citizen, and desire nothing so much as the restoration of peace and its attendant blessings to the land. My oath binds me to be a good, law-abiding citizen and I do not intend to disregard it; but I do not believe in "works of supererrogation." The amnesty oath contains every plank necessary for the platform of a national party. Requirements not laid down there are unneccessary and involve too great a loss of self-respect for Southern men voluntarily to yield to.

But suppose we could send delegates, and they could be admitted, is it certain that the union of any Northern men with Southern men would not have an injurious effect at the North? Would the North trust any Southern men who had been participators in treason? Could the South trust any man who had not participated in the war, in some shape? It is not to be supposed that the South intends to assist the Radicals. We shall be united against them. This new party, then, is to operate at the North. They can do nothing here, for we have no votes, according to the ruling power now in Congress. Will it not be better for them to fight out the battle on their own soil, in their own way, unencumbered by any entangling alliance?

In any event we could extend only moral support; that we have cordially given the President, yet it does not seem to have benefitted him much in his contest—doubtless if the South had a vote it would be given for the National Union Candidate. This could be well understood and every beneficial result accomplished without forcing our people to say they believe certain things, when in point of fact they do not believe them.—If we are united here, all that is necessary is to point out the man to be voted for. I admit that much good might be accomplished by the free interchange of opinions among Conservatives from the different sections of the country, but I very much fear that any Convention that admitted respectable Southern men as delegates, would be able to accomplish but little before the Northern people.

Preparing for Adjournment.

WASHINGTON, July 2.—The Republican Senators held a caucus this morning with a view to arrange the public business before them, before fixing a time for the adjournment of the session.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the North Carolina railroad will be held at Hillsboro' on the 12th of July.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

The Prussian Army—General Description of the Theatre of War—The Course of the Prussians Through Saxony.

[Military Correspondence of the London Times.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE FIRST ARMY, GARLITZ, June 19.

It must be born in mind that in the theatre of war there are three rivers of the name of Neisse. They are all, either directly or indirectly, affluents of the Oder, and are, therefore, not unlikely to be confounded with one another. The most westerly of the three is that which flows past this town.—It rises in Bohemia, passes by Zittau, forming near that town the defile by which Napoleon in 1813 penetrated into Bohemia, flows by Ostritz, Gorlitz, Priebus and Muskau, communicates with the Spree by the Cottbus Canal, and finally falls into the Oder. The next river of this name towards the East is an affluent of the Katzbach, itself an affluent of the Oder. This Neisse is distinguished as the Wuthende, or raging Neisse. It rises near Hohenfriedberg, celebrated for the victory gained in 1745 by Frederick the Great over the Austrians, passes by Jauer, and joins the Katzbach about seven miles above Liegnitz. It was between Jauer and the confluence of these two steams that the battle of Katzbach was lost by Macdonald in 1813. The Neisse river which runs past the fortress of Neisse, the present headquarters of the Crown Prince, rises in the mountains south of Glatz, passes by that fortress, and by Neisse, and joins the Oder about 12 miles below Brieg. It is to this river that the principal defiles leading through the Riesen Gebirge into Central Silesia are due. The Prussian advanced guards occupied Dresden last evening, and Prince Frederick Charles has thus gained possession of the line of railway which forms the lateral communication through Saxony. The advance has as yet been unopposed; the Austrian General still tarries behind the mountains. Great movements have been going on among his troops, but no indication of an advance has as yet been given. Now, it appears as if the Austrians will have a difficult task before them should they attempt to deprive the Prussians of the advantages which the latter have already gained, for Prince Frederick Charles is this morning firmly fixed in Saxony, and has evidently no intention of allowing his hold on this country to be lightly shaken off.

The general cause of events in the occupation of Saxony has been as follows: On the evening of the 15th, when the Saxon Government had rejected the Prussian *ultimatum* and knew that the army of Prince Frederick Charles was concentrated on the frontier, means were adopted to impede as much as possible the advance of the Prussian troops. Saxon pioneers were set to work upon the railways which lead from the frontier upon Dresden. Of such railways there are two, that which follows the valley of the Elbe and joins the Leipsic line at Riesa and that which from Gorlitz leads by Bautzen upon the capital of Saxony.—At nightfall the Saxon pioneers commenced their work, but in the dark, and, under constant apprehension of being broken in upon by the Prussian advance guards, they made but little progress.—The rails were taken up, but were neither carried away, nor twisted, nor broken so as not to be again immediately available. At 11 o'clock at night the wooden bridge which carries the railway branches to Leipsic and Chemnitz across the Elbe, near Rieza, was set on fire by means of petroleum. Its destruction was not accomplished, for only two piers were burnt, and the whole bridge was again made passable by the evening of the next day.

When the work of demolition went slowly on in Saxony, heavy masses of Prussian troops were drawing together, and closing down to the very frontier line of that kingdom. Between Gorlitz and the border on the west, Prince Frederic Charles marshalled three strong *corps d'armée*, while near Strehla, on the north, Gen. Von Bittenfeld divided his force into three columns, so as to advance with a broad front and as quickly as possible on the railway junction at Riesca. During the few dark hours of the short Summer night the last preparations for the invasion were made; the main bodies of the troops were all collected together about midnight, and the soldiers piled arms to rest and wait for dawn. Few, slept a dull and heavy murmur continually rose from the crowded columns, and told the subdued but deep excitement which pervaded the hearts of the men; and this excitement was not without a cause, for all thought the Autrian was in Dresden, and that there would be a battle on the morrow. The time passed slowly, and it seemed as if day would never break. At last the first faint streaks of dawn appeared, the troops eagerly fell into their ranks, and, before the sun had risen, the advanced guards were pushing briskly over Saxon ground.

The pioneers who were engaged on the railways fled before the foremost troops got near them, fortunate to avoid being taken. What Saxon troops there were on the lines of the advance also retreated quickly toward Dresden.

Bittenfeld, from the north, reached Riesa about 9 o'clock, and occupied that town in force. Below the town two pontoon bridges were quickly thrown across the Elbe, part of the troops crossed to the right bank and pushed on to Grossenhain, while another portion were directed up the left bank of the river toward Meissen. Hardly had Bittenfeld's troops established themselves in Riesa, when a detachment of the Field Railway Corps arrived from Berlin who immediately commenced the restoration of the lines which had been torn up on the railway, while pioneers were set to repair the burnt portion of the bridge.

In the meantime the columns of the main army were advancing in Cusatia Lobau was occupied before midday, and Bautzen in the afternoon.—But Prince Frederick Charles proceeded cautiously, for he knew that the passes from Gabel and Reichenberg led against his left, and that he must guard against an Austrian attack from that direction. To cover his communication from Gorlitz and to shield his left flank, he pushed a strong detachment along the Zittan road to a point little beyond Ostritz. On Saturday he did little except to estsblish himself in his position. On Sunday a detachment was pushed out to the right to feel Bittenfield's left, and the Prince pushed troops to Bischofswerda, on the Dresden road, while the advanced guard of Herwarth occupied Meissen. Yesterday a simultaneous advance was made on the capital, the advancing columns met with no opposition, and last night the Prussian colors floated over Dresden.

The telegraph tells us that the Austrians intend to postpone the commencement of active operations until a Federal contingent of 50,000 men can be put in the field to assist in the operations against Saxony. To-day Austrian movements have been reported in the direction of Reichenberg, but all reports from the outposts must at present be received with considerable caution.

From Hanover we hear that Gen. Manteufel has passed Luneburg and is pressing southward, and that the town of Hanover was last night occupied, after a twelve hours' march, by Gen. Von Falkenstein. This General commands the Prussian corps which I mentioned in a previous letter as being in process of concentration at Minden.

The Prussian Gen. Von Beyer, with the corps which was concentrated at Wetzlar, has occupied Giessen, Marbourg and Cassel, and has thus cut off the direct railway communication between Hanover and Frankfort-on-the-Maine. The Hanoverian army, which was at Gottingen, is making an attempt to get to Fulda, whither the troops of Electoral Hesse have moved to join it, but the railway from Gottingen to Fulda runs through Cassel, and it does not appear improbable that, cut off from the south by Von Beyer, and pressed in the rear by Falkenstein and Manteufel, the Hanoverians may be obliged to either lay down their arms, or cut their way through with the sword. Bavarian, Wurtemberg and Darmstadt troops are collecting round Frankfort. A Bavarian *corps d'armee* is said to have been yesterday pushed forward to Fulda to aid the retreat of the Hanoverians. To understand the difficulties of this retreat it must be noticed that two lines of railway lead from Gottingen into the valley of the Maine; the one by Cassel, Marbourg and Giessen, to Frankfort, is already in possession of the Prussians at these three stations; the other, by Cassel, Bebra, Fulda and Hanau, is occupied by the Prussians at Cassel.

Whether the Hanoverians can reach Bebra and Fulda without being attacked in flank during their march from Gottingen to Bebra, seems to depend solely upon the number of men Beyer can afford to detach from Cassel. The Bavarians seem to anticipate the probability that the armies of the enemies of Prussia will have to retire across the Maine, and to take up the line of that river against invasion from the north, for the massive railway bridge over that river at Lichtentals is mined, and, it is said, is ready to be fired. This bridge carries the railway leading from Cassel by Bebra, Eisenbach and Coburg to Bamberg across the Maine.

In Silesia strong Austrian patrols have pushed up to the outposts of the Crown Prince, but no demonstration of an attack against his position has been made. Probably they were only sent out to obtain as much information as they could of the numbers and positions of the army of Silesia, or of the Second Army, as it is now officially termed, the army here under the Prince Frederick Charles being the First Army.

The Austrian Army—Position of the Army of the North—Junction of the Saxon Army with the Austrian—Rumored Plan of Operations.

Military Correspondence of the London Times.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE NORTH, OLMUTZ, Tuesday, June 19, 1866.

Until an attack is intended to be delivered, or a menaced point protected, Olmutz is well fitted to be the point from which to organize and direct an army, which is face to face with the Prussian boundary line. In the centre of a circle, of which the railways to Vienna, Prague and Cracow are raddii, and these cities points in the circumferences, the commander of the *Nord Armee*, like the spider in the web, is sensitive to the touch of the farthest extremities, and well prepared to direct his troops or to present himself wherever needed at the shortest notice.

Only two great roads by which an army could enter Moravia lead over the Sudeten Gebirge, and both pass through Olmutz, so that it stands in the direct route of an invader, and must be taken if his artillery and heavy stores are to pass.

Before the days of rifled guns the fortress itself was strong enough for all purposes, but long range cannon must be kept at a respectable distance, and a series of more than 30 lunettes, with central casemated batteries, have been or are being built round it at distances of from 6,000 to 8,000 paces from the *enceinte*.

All is now activity here. The silence is broken; war is a *fait accompli*; the troops are moving, and on Thursday next, headquarters will be changed, as I imagine, in a westerly direction.

The Saxon army has formed a junction with the Austrian, and the actual clash of weapons cannot be long delayed.

Oablenz arrived to-day, and is to take command of the Tenth Corps d'Armee. The Sixth, about 40,000 strong, marched through to-day from Weisskirchen, a distance of about 22 English miles, and go on to-morrow, but as to whither the oracle is mute.

The men look well and hearty. The army generally is free from sickness, and desirous to be led against the enemy. People still say that the attack is to be made on the edge of the Silesian wedge, but till I see it I shall not believe it.

Field-Marshal Benedek's headquarters move on Thursday to Trubau, in Bohemia.

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