

**Important Order.**

The U. S. War Department has issued the following important order:

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Adjutant General's Office, August 15.

**GENERAL ORDERS, No. 107.**—First—Officers of the regular army will, as a general rule, receive leaves of absence to accept the rank of colonel in volunteer regiments, but not lower grades. Non-commissioned officers and privates will be discharged on receiving commissions in volunteer regiments.

Second—The oath of allegiance will not be administered to any person against his own will. It must in all cases be a voluntary act on his part. Nor will any compulsory parole of honor be received, but oaths taken and paroles given to avoid arrest, detention, imprisonment or expulsion are voluntary or free acts, and cannot be regarded as compulsory. All persons guilty of violating such oaths or paroles will be punished according to the laws and usages of war.

Third—The laws of the United States and the general laws of war authorize, in certain cases, the seizure and conversion of private property for the subsistence, transportation and other uses of the army; but this must be distinguished from pillage, and the taking of property for public purposes is very different from its conversion to private uses.

All property lawfully taken from the enemy or from the inhabitants of any enemy's country, instantly becomes public property, and must be used and accounted for as such. The 52d Article of War authorizes the penalty of death for pillage or plundering, and other articles authorize severe punishment for any officer or soldier who shall sell, embezzle, misapply or waste military stores, or who shall permit the waste or misapplication of any such public property. The penalty is the same whether the offence be committed in our own or in an enemy's territory.

Fourth—All property, public or private, taken from alleged enemies, must be inventoried and duly accounted for. If the property taken be claimed as private, receipts must be given to such claimants or their agents.

Officers will be held strictly accountable for all property taken by them or by their authority, and it must be returned for, the same as any other public property.

Fifth—When foraging parties are sent out for provisions or other stores, the commanding officer of such party will be held accountable for the conduct of his command, and will make a true report of all property taken.

Sixth—No officer or soldier will, without authority, leave his colors and ranks to take private property, or to enter a private house for that purpose. All such acts are punishable with death, and an officer who permits them is equally guilty as the actual pillager.

Seventh—Commanding officers of armies and corps will be held responsible for the execution of the orders in their respective commands.

By command of Major General Halleck; General in Chief of the Army.

E. D. TOWNSEND,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

The U. S. Navy Department yesterday received a number of official dispatches from Coms. Farragut and Porter, in relation to the part taken by the naval vessels in the battle at Baton Rouge, the destruction of the Arkansas, &c. One of the dispatches announces the death of Commander Richard Wainwright, U. S. N. He died on the 10th inst., after two weeks' illness.

Great preparations are being made in New York for the reception of Brig. Gen. Corcoran. The Irish civic societies will be out in full force. He will be escorted into the city by the First New York cavalry. Mr. Stetson, of the Astor House, has offered the free use of his hotel for the accommodation and headquarters of Brig. Gen. Corcoran while in that city.

The New York Herald calls for an investigation into Flag Officer Davis's conduct at Vicksburg. The Herald says: "Flag Officer Davis is evidently not the man to command a fleet in important operations of this kind. The facts, as they have transpired, bear too unpleasant a similarity to a story of him at Port Royal not to force us to this conclusion. It is stated that while he was second in command to Commodore Dupont, he was sent with several vessels to make a reconnoissance up the Savannah river. He took with him an experienced pilot, and, on reconnoitering the river, found that the Confederates had placed obstructions across the channel. Satisfied with ascertaining the fact, he gave the order to return to the fleet, when the pilot remonstrated with him, stating the obstructions could be easily removed during the night, and Savannah captured. 'Say nothing about it,' replied Davis, 'we have taken Hilton Head, and that will suffice for the present.'" The Herald does not vouch for the story, but thinks there is sufficient cause for an investigation.

The Chicago Board of Trade, at a recent meeting, unanimously passed a series of resolutions expressing their thanks to Gen. Turchin, "for the energetic and decisive measures against the rebellion which led to his alleged persecution by Gen. Don Carlos Buell," and tendering him a public reception on his return to Chicago. Gen. Turchin is expected to arrive in that city during the present week. The statement that Gen. Turchin had been acquitted on the charges preferred against him, it is now said, is untrue. The court-martial found him guilty, and dismissed him from the service. It is held by his friends that his promotion as Brigadier General annuls the decision, as it was dated July 19, nearly a month prior to the finding of the court-martial.

The New York World thinks that the coming two or three days are probably the most critical and perilous period of the war.

Gov. Stanly, of North Carolina, is expected in Washington in a few days.

President Lincoln is reported as saying: "I regard Gen. Banks as one of the best men of the army. He makes me no trouble; but, with a large force or a small force, he always knows his duty and does it."

Donaldsonville, La., has been bombarded by Com. Farragut, and a portion of it destroyed.

Extraordinary changes have already been brought about in our once happy country by the war, which could hardly have been conceived as possible a few years ago. Men who were friends are now enemies, and family relatives, the dearest and most intimate, are severed. In all the ramifications of society, where there was formerly an orderly and an agreeable condition of acquaintance, derangements have taken place, and the whole fabric of social life is singularly altered.

A London comic journal thinks "the right man in the right place" is a husband at home in the evening.

The first delivery of postage currency was made in Washington on Monday in exchange for coin. A dispatch says that parties offering coin in exchange will have the preference at the Treasury Department.

It is stated that deserters from the Federal army are numerous in Charles county, Maryland, and find assistance in avoiding detection and capture.

**From Europe.**

By the steamer Europa at St. Johns we have European advices to the 10th.

It is stated that Mr. Slidell had an interview with the Emperor Napoleon, upon whom he urged the recognition of the Southern Confederacy as an independent power by the Government of France. Napoleon is said to have admitted the cogency of the argument held forth by Mr. Slidell in favor of such a course, but said that the greatest barrier to the recognition of the South had been the objections of England.

Lork Palmerston, in a speech delivered at Sheffield, again advocated non-interference in American affairs. Mr. Roebuck also made a speech on the same occasion, but took an opposite view from that of Lord Palmerston, and urged the claims of the Southern Confederacy to be such as entitled them to a recognition by England as an independent Government.

Another account says that the Confederate envoys at Paris and London had demanded the recognition of the Southern Confederacy.

It is said that England refused the demand, but France had not yet replied.

The United States steamer Tuscarora arrived at Kingstown on the afternoon of the 9th.

The London Times of Saturday the 9th instant, reviews the conduct of America in regard to the commerce of Nassau. It questions the policy of carrying out the powers of belligerents to the full extent, but says that Lord Palmerston is perfectly right in tolerating a claim which it may be hereafter the interest of his own country to enforce.

The Confederate steamers Merrimac and "No 290," both succeeded in escaping from the Tuscarora.

It is stated that Garibaldi refused to obey Victor Emmanuel's proclamation. It is also stated that he held a council of war on the 4th at which it was determined to march on Rome notwithstanding the remonstrance of Turin.—The enthusiasm for Garibaldi in Sicily is tremendous, and it is reported that he will soon be at the head of 50,000 men. His volunteers number 6,000 men. He has chartered six large vessels, and designs landing in the gulf of Palermo, or Messina, and march on the Roman States. It was reported that a conflict had taken place between the troops and a band of Garibaldians, in which the former lost fifty muskets.

Young men had almost entirely disappeared from Palermo.

The French Journals are very anxious regarding Italian affairs. The Opinions Nationale deplores the fatal hesitation in making the French Government shrink from the necessary evacuation of Rome.

The Paris Bourse closed very dull on Saturday; Rentes were quoted at 68f. 25c.

COMMERCIAL.—COTTON.—The quotations of fair and middling Mobile and Uplands are respectively 19½ for fair, and 19 for middlings.

The sales of cotton on Saturday were 4,000 bales, including 3,000 bales to speculators and exporters.—the market closed quiet, at unchanged quotations.

Manchester advices are favorable, the market for cotton goods and yarns still having an advancing tendency with small sales.

HAVRE.—The sales of Cotton for the week have been 3,000 bales: Orleans tres ordinaire, 151f.; Bas, 140f. The market is quiet and upward, with an advance of 1f. The stock in port foots up 43,000 bales.

The New York Herald states that the independent war party are getting up a movement in favor of A. T. Stewart for Governor, whom they intend to run without the leave of the democratic or republican party, or any other political organization. The Herald favors the movement.

Col. Corcoran has concluded to furnish the material for the publication of his experience in Southern prison.