THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865.

The Captured North Carolina Papers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27th —Nearly all of the exchanges found in the Wilmington (North Carolina) *Journal* office on the day of its capture, have been received here.

The tone of the North Carolina papers, such as the Fayetteville *Telegraph*, the Raleigh *Progress*, and others, show a determined spirit of resistance to Jeff. Davis. The *Progress* is outspoken in its hostility, and ridicules most bitterly Governor Vance's proclamation to the people to defend the State. It charges that a number of wealthy Secessionists across the Chowan river are making preparations to receive our troops and get within our lines to save themselves from Richmond taxation.

The *Progress* speaks in the most complimentary terms of Sherman's grand advance, applauds his rule at Savannah, and states that honorable terms of peace were offered by President Lincoln to the rebel Commissioners. On the whole, all of these exchanges show a strong peace sentiment in that State.

It will be seen, from the foregoing, what impression has been made upon our Yankee enemies, at Washington city, by an article which lately appeared in the *Progress*, of this city. We have long since ceased to argue with the *Progress*, and the kindred sheets; and the public well know why. Nor do we now mean to resume a left off task. But, as a public journalist, keeping the people informed of the *news*, we give, as an item of information, the above evidence of the Yankee estimation in which a North Carolina—Raleigh—journal is held. Our soldiers, and our people, will thus see that in Washington City, the Yankee press publishes, with exultation, the fact: That the "*Progress is outspoken in its hostility to Jeff Davis;*" that "*it ridicules most bitterly, Gov. Vance's proclamation to the people to defend the State:*" that it conveys the gratifying information, that "a number of wealthy secessionists, across the Chowan river, are making preparations to receive our (Yankee) troops, and get within our *lines* to save themselves from Richmond taxation;" and finally, that "*the Progress speaks in the most complimentary terms of Sherman's grand advance; applauds his rule at Savannah, and states that honorable terms of peace were offered by President Lincoln to the rebel commissioners.*"

We have only one word or two to say upon this last quotation: The "*grand advance*" of Sherman, which is thus spoken of "*in the most complimentary terms,*" is described by Lieut. Gen. Wade Hampton as one of rapine, devastation, robbery and murder, in which "a city was fired into without a word of warning, and then after its surrender, laid in ashes, leaving amid its ruins thousands of old men and helpless women and children." An advance in which "dwellings were fired and citizens robbed, and *others*, fair and beautiful women, unprotected and defenceless, were subjected to that most horrid ignominy, which death only can alleviate." Such ignominy as a dog never perpetrates upon his fellow. General Hampton says—addressing Sherman—"your line of march can be traced by the lurid light of burning houses; and in more than one household there is an agony far more bitter than that of death."

The *Progress*, in its issue of the 8th, publishes the correspondence of Gen. Hampton with Sherman, wherein General Hampton makes the above charges, as of his own knowledge, and it says, "it is brutal and cowardly to punish prisoners of war, and if *these two gentleman* go to work deliberately to murder prisoners thus unfortunately situated, it will be a disgrace to our civilization." *These two gentlemen!!!* It is true the *Progress* goes on to say:—

"If Sherman has been guilty of so great an outrage upon the rights of non combatants and so disgraced the calling of arms, let him and his government be held up to the scorn and execration of the world; and if, on the other hand, it was destroyed by stragglers from our army, by fanatical citizens or others, let the truth be known. We know nothing, positively, of the burning of Columbia, but hope the whole truth will be given to the public at an early day.

There was much property burned in Newbern, Wilmington and Charleston, but we believe that it is admitted that in all these places it was done by order of our military authorities, or by citizens. If Columbia be burned, it was doubtless done, however, by the enemy.

The *Progress* seems to be lothe to believe that Sherman would be "guilty of so great an outrage," *on his grand advance.* It says perhaps it may be that "it was destroyed by stragglers from our army, by fanatical citizens or others."

General Hampton says to Sherman, in tone of solemn accusation, which bears the impress of truth, sufficient to convince even the Yankee nation—"*You* fired into the city of Columbia without a word of warning.—After its surrender by the Mayor, who demanded protection of private property, *you* laid the whole city in ashes, leaving amid its ruins thousands of old men and helpless women and children, who are likely to perish of starvation and exposure." Upon this accusative testimony, so high, so pure, *we* have no such *hesitating* judgment as to need further conviction. It is in accordance with the brutal instincts which Sherman has everywhere shown.—Before this, he had exiled hundreds of helpless females, and banished out of their homes an entire community.

We set out with the announcement that we neither intended to argue with the *Progress*, nor call in question its opinion. The day has passed by, when we were in the habit of doing this. But, now that the day of *our* trial is at hand; now that, as the New York *Tribune* says, "the Federal army is about to *feel* the loyal Union sentiment of North Carolina," we give for news the estimate they put upon our *most distinguished citizens*, in order that our soldiers, and our people may see how to view us by the light of the Yankee "lustre."

Sherman in South Carolina.

From the Daily South Carolinian.

THE OCCUPATION AND DESTRUCTION OF COLUMBIA —ACCOUNT BY AN EYE WITNESS— INTERESTING INCIDENTS, &c., &c.

The arrival of a gentleman from Columbia, attached to this office, and the interesting facts of which he is the bearer, enabled us to complete in this issue the sad story of the fate of that fair city, the first chapter of which appeared in our paper of Sunday.

As before stated, the departure of our forces from Columbia took place on Friday morning, the 16th February. The noisy excitement which had marked the preceeding three days now gave way to those deeper emotions which found expression only in the heavy hearts and anxious faces of the people. Of the fate in store for them, all were alike ignorant; few were not fearful. Whether Sherman would carry out his threats to "burn the very stones" of the obnoxious State, or, on the contrary, pursue a mild and lenient course, were doubts which were yet to be solved. The citizens had not long to wait. The rear of our army having passed through between ten and eleven o'clock, a white flag displayed soon after from the steeple of the City Hall, announced the surrender of the town. About twelve the Federals entered. They had pontooned the river above or opposite Cotton Town, and with bands playing, drum corps peating, flying, and their men in step, the army marched down Main street to the Capitol square.—Here the celebrated "Star Spangled Banner" was once more amid much vocal patriotism, placed on exhibition from the roof, of both the old and new State Houses. For the purpose of enhancing the theatrical effect of the scene, or "adding insult to injury," or of gratifying some other curious fancy, the ceremony of raising the flags was, we are assured, performed by two negroes. The honor of first entering the city was claimed by the 14th corps. A singular feature of the military procession, and one of which we have heard no explanation, was the driving of a carriage profusely decorated with Northern flags, in front of the column.

THE PILLAGE.

General good order and quiet attended the entry, but as the troops were halted for several hours in Main street, stores and dwelling soon became objects of much attention, and the work of plunder commenced. From this time, until the last Yankee left town, persons nor property were safe from the impolite intrusions upon their welfare. Stragglers, "bummers," pontoon men, and the riffraff of the army were to be met in every street and almost every house. If they wanted a pair of boots they took them from your feet. Watches were in constant demand—in several instances being snatched from the persons of the best ladies in the city. Gentlemen on the street quickly learned to appreciate the old phrase "*tempus fugit*." Our cashier, the well known Nosy Public, P. S. Jacobs, Esq., was one of the pupils. He is said to have received two lessons; price—a watch each. Ear and finger rings were taken by force, and, in isolated cases, the dresses of ladies were torn from their bodies by villians, who expected to find jewels or plate concealed. Search for silver and provisions was made in every conceivable place. Ramrods were used as probes to indicate where boxes were buried, and gardens, outhouses, cellars, garrets, chimneys, and nooks never thought of by anybody but a thief in search of plunder, were turned so to speak inside out. In one instance, it is reported that a box of valuables worth a large amount was found under a door step. We learn that the estimate of this character of property stolen, is about two millions of dollars. Many of the robbers who perpetrated personal violence were intoxicated by liquor found in the city. Rev. Mr. Shand, the Episcopalian clergyman, while conveying a trunk containing the communion service of silver from the church to the South Carolina College, was accosted by a Yankee and a negro, who compelled him, under a threat of death, to give it up, which was done. While one of the cups was afterwards being used for drinking whiskey, a Federal soldier—an Irishman—recognized the sign of the Cross upon it, took it from the fellow, and carried it to Rev. Dr. O'Connell, the Catholic clergyman, by whom it was restored to the owner. This discription of pillage continued until the troops left.

THE CONFLAGRATION.

In the afternoon, the column which had occupied Main street, moved into quarters in the various public grounds and vacant lots.—No fires occurred on Thursday, save such as were ignited by our own officials. The first alarm on Friday was given soon after the entry of the enemy, and proceeded from the burning of row of cotton on Main street, between Washington and Lady streets. In fifteen or twenty minutes afterwards, the jail which had been used as a Confederate prison was set on fire. The bells rang, the engines promptly rallied, and proceeded as usual to their work, which was uninterrupted, except by drunken soldiers, who here and there cut the hose with their pocket knives; but all efforts to stay the flames were unavailing.—Among the prisoners released were Morris who murdered Hicks, several men confined on the charge of counterfeiting, and, it is said, a Federal prisoner. Why he was not removed with his comrades, does not appear. It is reported that he subsequently married a lady in Columbia.

The grand conflagration which destroyed the city commenced about dusk. The fire started near the rear of the jail. A high wind prevailed, and in a short time the flames were in full and unconquerable progress, spreading rapidly in three directions—up and down Main street and eastwardly. The fire department again rallied, and from ten until three o'clock in the morning the scene is described as appalling.—The sky was one broad sheet of flame, above which, amid the lurid smoke, drifted in eddying circles a myriad of sparks. These falling scattered the seeds of conflagration on every side. The monotone of the roaring, heaping tongues of flame, as they careered on their wild course, alone filled hearts with dismay. The air was like that of a furnace. Many of the streets were impassable. Frightened men, women and children ran in all directions, some only to flee again from the fresh attacks of the destroying element. Property thrown out of houses was either burnt or stolen. Many of the Federal soldiers maddened by liquor, dashed through the city with lighted torches to enflame the dwellings yet untouched. Hell's furies appeared to have broken loose, and to be indulging in a diabolic revel.

Morning revealed to some extent the broad sweep of destruction—four thousand or more citizens were houseless and homeless. From the State House to Cotton Town, and an average of two or three squares on each side of Main street, nothing but blackened ruins remained. Every vestige of the once busy street was gone.

The burnt district in general terms embraces both sides of Main street, from, and including the State House, to Boundary street, and a portion of Cotton town. The new capitol is partially demolished by powder. The Court House, City Hall, both hotels, South Carolina and Charleston depots, both of Evens & Cogswell's lithographic and printing establishments, Keatinge & Ball's, the Saluda Mill, the Convent and South Carolina office are among the buildings said to be destroyed. The residences of Hon. Geo. A. Trenholm, Hon. Wm. DeSaussure, Gen. Hampton, and Major Green, Commandant of Post, are described as burnt. These known to have escaped the conflagration are the South Carolina College, Lunatic Asylum and Female College. One of the Episcopal Churches is also thought to be unharmed. The buildings were fired on fire in detail. The last fires took place with several others on Saturday. No prominent residences were burned on Arsenel Hill.

INCIDENTS, &c.

The Sisters of Mercy were removed from the Convent to the residence of Gen. Preston during the conflagration, by order of Gen. Sherman, who is reported to have been "burned out" no less than three times during the night. If true, he certainly ought to be a purified man.

While the fire was raging many of the citizens took refuge in Sidney Park; some in the woods of the suburbs; but the next day the houses of those who had been spared were generally thrown open, and the sufferers invited to partake of such hospitality as circumstances would permit.

Several Yankees who were too much intoxicated to escape from the flames were burned to death. One of these was found in the office of the "South Carolinian" by our foreman.

Twenty-seven Yankees were instantly killed and about twenty more dangerously wounded on Saturday while moving amunition from the Arsenal magazine, and event, which with others that had occurred, threw a gloom over the entire army. One of their officers told our informant that they had lost more men in Columbia than during the entire campaign elsewhere.

During the stay of the enemy in Columbia, there was little communion between them and the citizens. About 400 of the latter, mostly foreigners, are understood to have departed with them. The army left on Sunday evening, quietly and without demonstration of any kind, and with such secrecy that the soldiers themselves did not know their destination.

A few stragglers remained behind, who were captured by the citizens. Gen. Sherman left with the citizens between four and five hundred beef cattle for their support.

After the evacuation by the Federal army, James G. Gibbes was requested to act as the Mayor, in the place of Hon. A. G. Goodwyn, who was prostrated by illness. That gentleman was performing the duties of the office at the last account. Many of the people are represented to be in destitute circumstances; but the citizens of Greenville and Newberry are understood to be moving promptly to their relief.

DEPREDATIONS ON THE LINE OF MARCH.

The Charlotte *Democrat* contains the following account:

In regard to the destruction of property through the country along the enemy's line of march, we are told that all cotton, gin houses and mills were burnt, also dwellings unoccupied. Where the owner of a house had left and put some one in possession to take care of it, the enemy would remove the occupant and burn it. Horses, mules and provisions of all kinds were seized wherever found. But few negroes were forced off—some went voluntarily. It is said the yankees generally treated the negroes very badly, compelling them to carry heavy burdens on the march, and when they broke down beat or shoot them. A gentleman who remained in Winnsboro while the enemy was there, says that they treated the negroes a great deal worse than the white people.

The army, in marching through the country, did not keep the roads unless they ran straight in the direction they wished to go. For whole days the march was through the woods. Companies of foragers were sent out in all directions to procure supplies. The army consisted of four corps—the 15th, 17th, 20th and 24th, besides Kilpatrick's cavalry. The rations of the soldiers appeared to be short, and those who were held as prisoners suffered for food—our informant going 4 or 6 days without anything to eat.

Our informant, Dr. Glover, was held as a prisoner until the yankee army reached Lynch's Creek (between Camden and Cheraw) in or near Chesterfield District when he was released by Gen. Blair, commander of the 17th corps. From the direction the army was then marching, he thinks they were making for Georgetown. The talk among the soldiers was that they were going to Georgetown, but there was no certainty about their destination.

The yankee cavalry remained a few days in Lancaster District, foraging and plundering, and were met two or three times by our cavalry and scattered. On Sunday morning, the 26th, Gen. Wheeler met a small body of the enemy's cavalry three miles this side of Lancaster C. H., and whipped them, killing 5 and capturing 7. The yankee infantry passed about six miles below Lancaster C. H.—none came nearer than that to the village

THE YANKEES AT WINNSBORO', S. C.

Believing that a short sketch from Winnsboro', S. C, in reference to the invasion of that section of South Carolina, by the yankee army, will not be uninteresting to your many readers, Mr. Editor, I herewith enclose you the account.

On Tuesday morning, Feb. 20, 1865, we were aroused from our breakfast table by the cry of "the yankees are coming!" Everything and everybody were then in utter confusion—each trembling for the safety of himself and family. We could see them riding through the street, and was, even at that early hour of the morning, congratulating ourself that all will be well, when we heard the footsteps of half a dozen men plunging through our house. Without knocking, or showing the least civility, the vandals went all through our premises, (as they did with every one in the District,) ransacking everything, and looking into every nook and corner of the house, breaking open trunks, looking into private drawers, and overhauling and tearing up the private papers of every one.

The enemy commenced burning, in our town, on Tuesday dinner time, and continually, from that time until Wednesday afternoon, (the time they left our Borough,) we could see the smoke of burning houses, and the springing up of new fires. In all, there have been from 18 to 20 houses, stores and private dwellings, burned. The enemy paid no respect to private property, but burned the houses when they were occupied by helpless women and children. They took off everything in the District—stealing from the citizens necessaries of life, and reducing every one almost to a starving condition.

The people in Fairfield District are now dependent upon the charities of the citizens of their sister State, where the vile tread of a hated foe has not polluted its soil.

Leaving Winnsboro, the enemy marched along the line of the C. & S. C. Railroad—The road is utterly demolished from the Borough to Blackstocks, from whence the enemy went in the direction of Camden, S. C. Their line can be easily distinguished by the smoking ruins left in their track. All along the road you see nothing but desolation and ruin.

I may be enabled Mr. Editor, to give you more full particulars for your next issue, as it is not well, at the present time, to give publicity to statements that I cannot vouch for.

Yours Respectfully,

J. E. BRITTON,

Editor Daily News, Winnsboro, S. C.

For the Confederate.

Second North Carolina Cavalry.

CAMP 2D N. C. CAVALRY,
March 7th 1865.

At a meeting of the officers of the Second North Carolina Cavalry, to pass resolutions condemnatory of the course of Major J. V. B. Rogers, Captain J. S. Gaines was called to the chair, and Adj't E. M Jordan requested to act as secretary. A committee having been appointed to draft resolutions, the following were presented and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The desertion of J. V. B. Rogers, late major of this Regiment, is calculated to call forth reflections upon the fair name of of North Carolina, and to cast a stigma upon the loyalty and patriotism of her sons, and in especial to the Second Cavalry; and whereas, justice to ourselves and our State demands that we should express our opinion of his dastardly conduct. Therefore

Resolved; That J. V. B. Rogers was a disgrace to the position he held, and and a dishonor to the commission he bore; that we are heartily ashamed that the Second North Carolina Cavalry has had written upon its muster rolls the name of a man so recreant to everything that is honorably and manly.

Resolved, That the wretch who thus deserts his flag in the hour of his country's peril, and takes refuge with the enemy and counsels him "to push on one month" to subjugate his mother land, carries with him the contemptuous scorn and curse of his old comrades, and deserves to live an object of execration, and abhorence to mankind and deserves to live in ignominy and die in want and despair.

Resolved, That the "deep damnation of his taking off" is a happy riddance to the Regiment, the State and the Confederacy.

Resolved, That, while we feel deeply humiliated that such a man should have been honored with a high position among us, we wish to assure our friends at home that we are not nor ever will be, discouraged by the conduct of such miscreants; that we are as firm and determined as ever to fight the war to the bitter end, and to stand by our infant republic, and follow its fortunes for weal or woe.

Resolved, That in the heat of our indignation, we cannot refrain from coupling by contrast the two field officers we lately had and lately lost—Rogers the TRAITOR and DESERTER, and Col. W. P. Roberts, who has just received his commission as Brigadier General, for gallantry and meritorious services. That we take this occasion to express our high admiration for our late Colonel as an officer, and our affection and esteem for him, as a man; that we anticipate for him a brilliant career in his new sphere of duty; and while we regret his loss to the Second, we are consoled with the confident belief that his promotion will advance the cause we all have so much at heart; that he leaves us with our best wishes and highest hopes for his continued success.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Raleigh *Confederate*, with the request that the Raleigh *Conservative* and Charlotte *Democrat* copy.

The following is the bill recently passed by the Confederate Congress to increase the military forces of the Confederate States. by the enlistment of negroes:

"*The Congress of the Confederate States of America, do enact*, That in order to provide additional forces to repel invasion, maintain the rightful possession of the Confederate States, secure the independence and preserve their institutions, the President is hereby authorized to ask for and accept from the owners of slaves the services of such number of able-bodied negro men as he may deem expedient, for and during the war, to perform military service in whatever capacity he may direct.

"SECTION 2. That the General-in-Cheif be authorized to organize the said slaves into companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe, and to be commanded by such officers as the President may appoint.

"SECTION, 3. That while employed in the service the said troops shall receive the same rations, clothing and compensation as are allowed to other troops in the same branch of the service.

"SECTION 4. That if, under the previous sections of this act, the President shall not be able to raise a sufficient number of troops to prosecute the war successfully and maintain the sovereignty of the States and the independence of the Confederate States, then he is hereby authorized to call on each State, whenever he thinks it expedient, for her quota of three hundred thousand troops, in addition to those subject to military service under existing laws, or so many thereof as the President may deem necessary, to be raised from such classes of the population, irrespective of color, in each State, as the proper authorities thereof may determine. Provided, that not more than 25 per cent. of all slaves between the ages of 18 and 45, of any State, shall be called for under the provisions of this act.

"SECTION 5. That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize a change in the relation of the said slaves."

PROMPT ACTION.—Week before last Gen. Beauregard issued an Appeal to the citizens of Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Cabarrus and Rowan, to furnish negroes to blockade the roads and fords leading to this place from the South and in two days upwards of 300 hands were here ready for service. It strikes us that if the people along Sherman's route from Savannah to Winnsboro had acted in this way, he would not have found his march such an easy one.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

THE VOICE OF THE PULPIT.—Of Spurgeon's voice Rev. Dr. Campbell says: "The matchless voice, whose lowest descent is distinctly heard in the remotest corner, and whose loudest thunder is still pleasant even to those within a few yards of him, crowns his emotional triumphs. It is full as the swell of an organ, and yet clear as the martial trumpet. The popularity of its possessor will end only with his life."

NOVEL IDEA.—As some of the ladies in Richmond are convinced that they can manage the legislative business of the country more efficiently than the present Congress, it is in contemplation to organize a "Ladies' Advisory Council," at which the more important subjects of legislation will be considered, and from time to time submitted, in the form of bills, for the action and ratification of Congress.—*Richmond Whig.*

TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, March 8.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the House bill to increase the military force of the Confederate States.

On motion of Mr. Caperton, the bill was amended, by insertion, provided, that no more than twenty-five per cent of the male slaves between 18 and 45, in every State shall be called for, under provisions this act. The bill then passed.—Yeas: Brown, Burnett, Caperton, Henry, Hunter, Oldham, Semmes Simmes, and Watson—9.

Nays: Barnwell, Graham, Johnson of Georgia, Maxwell, Orr, Vest, Wigfall—8.

The Senate passed the House bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to borrow specie to be applied to the redemption and reduction of the currency.

The House resolution, fixing the day of adjournment, was amended by inserting Saturday, the 11th, and was then adopted—yeas 10, nays 8.

From Georgia.

CHARLOTTE, March 8.—The Southern Express Messenger, from Augusta, brings news to the 3d of March. No news of interest has transpired west of the Savannah river.

The Georgia Senate passed a resolution, that it does not concur in the recommendation of Gov. Brown for a Convention of the people of Georgia—ayes 20; nays 82.

Several extensive fires had occurred in Augusta, supposed work of incendiaries.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, March 8.—Northern papers of Monday have been received.

The American says a week ago Sheridan turned over his department temporarily to Hancock; and with 12000 men started on an expedition, whose objective point was Lynchburg.

Official despatches from Grant report that deserters from every point state that Sheridan encountered Early on Thursday, between Staunton and Charlottesville, and defeated him. A large portion of his command was captured. Nothing else of interest.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, March, 9.—The House concurred yesterday in the Senate resolution for adjournment *sine die* on next Saturday. The negro bill returned from the Senate with amendment made the special order for to-day.

The Senate rejected the House bill to provide for the payment of horses killed or lost in the service of the Confederate States.

Mr. Wigfall submitted the following resolution which was agreed to:

Resolved, By the Congress of the Confederrte States that the thanks of Congress and the whole country are due, and are hereby tendered, to Lieutenant General Wade Hampton for his manly letter, of the 27th February, addressed to Gen. Sherman; and that in the opinion of Congress the Executive department should sustain Gen. Hampton in carrying out the policy indicated in his letter.

The House passed the Senate bill fixing the time for the commencement of the next regular session of Congress, with the amendment striking out November and inserting, October. The Senate amendment to the House bill authorizing the Secretary of Treasury to borrow specie to be applied to the redemption and reduction of the currency, agreed to. The bill to amend the act regulating the destruction of property under military necessity was rejected. The Senate amendment to the bill putting negroes in the army concurred in—yeas 40; nays 26.

THE FIGHT BELOW KINSTON.

OFFICIAL FROM GENERAL LEE.

RICHMOND, March 9.—The following was received this afternoon:

HEADQUARTERS, March 9.

Hon. John C. Breckinridge, Sect'y of War:

Gen. Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy yesterday, four miles in front of Kinston, and drove him from his position. He disputed ground obstinately, and took a new line three miles from his first.

We captured three pieces of artillery and fifteen hundred prisoners. The number of the enemy's dead and wounded left on the field is large. Ours comparatively small. The troops behaved most handsomely. Maj. Generals Hill and Hoke exhibited their accustomed zeal and gallantry.

(Signed) R. E. LEE.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, March 9.—Large quantity of manufactured tobacco recently sent to vicinity of Fredericksburg, was captured and destroyed on Monday night by a party of Yankees, from gunboats in the Rappahannock.

Official From Gen. Lee.

RICHMOND, March 11.—The following official dispatches were received last night:

HEADQUARTERS, March 9.

Hon. J. C. Breckenridge, Secretary of War:

Gen. Rosser reports that on the 6th, with a few of his men, he attacked the enemy near Harrisonburg, who were guarding the prisoners taken at Waynesboro, and captured a few prisoners. On the morning of the 7th, he again attacked them, near Reede's Hill, having detained them for a day and night at the river. He caused them to retire in haste, abandoning the only piece of artillery they had, and their ambulances. He annoyed them a great deal which enabled a good many of our men to escape.

(Signed.) R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS, March 10.

Hon. J. C. Breckenridge, Secretary of War:

General Hampton attacked Kilpatrick at daylight this morning, and drove him from his camp, taking his guns, wagons, and many horses, and several hundred prisoners, and releasing a great number of our own men, who had been captured. The guns and wagons could not be brought off for want of horses. Many of the enemy were killed and wounded. Our loss was not heavy. Lieut. Col. B. L. King was killed; Brig. Gen. Hume, Cols. Hayne and Harrison, Majors Lewis, Furguson and others were wounded.

[Signed] R. E. LEE.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, March 11.—In the House, on Thursday night, a message was received from the President, notifying Congress that he expected, at an early day, to send in a communication, which may require declaration and action, therefore requesting that the session be prolonged. A resolution to postpone an adjournment until Tuesday was adopted.

The House receded from its amendment to the Senate bill, fixing the time of the commencement of the next session of Congress.

The Senate resolution of thanks to Gen. Wade Hampton was concurred in.

In the Senate, to-day, the House resolution extending the session was concurred in.

A message from the President vetoing the bill to provide for the promotion of officers in certain cases, was after debate on the bill, again postponed—yeas, 11; nays, 5.

The House bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue eighty millions of Treasury notes to provide for the payment of arrears due the army and navy, passed—yeas, 9; nays 5.

The message from the President, vetoing the bill abolishing the office of Quartermaster and Commissary, which provides for the appointment of bonded agents in said departments was, pending consideration, placed on the secret calander, and the Senate resolved itself into secret session.

The House passed the appropriation bill for the expenses of the Government to the 31st of December, 1865. It also sustained the President's veto of the bill providing for the promotion of officers in certain cases—yeas 14; nays 45. After a short secret session the House adjourned.

The Negro Bill.

RICHMOND, March 11.—The bill putting negroes in the army, as passed by the Senate, is precisely the same bill passed by the House with the exception of the following proviso to the fourth section, which was concurred in by the House: *Provided*, that not more than 25 per cent. of the male slaves, between the ages of 18 and 45, in any State, shall be called for under the provisions of this act.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, March 11.—United States newspapers of the 8th have been received. They contain very little news.

The Herald gives an extended account of the inauguration ball at Washington and the monster celebration in New York.

The Canadian confederacy scheme has been rejected by the people of New Brunswick.

Hugh McCullough has been confirmed as Fessenden's successor.

An excursion party of 300, from Washington, visited Grant, at City Point, on the 8th.

Advices from Matamoras of the 30th January state that General Wegia, Commander-in-Chief of the Mexican forces, visited the Rebel General Slaughter, at Brownsville, and was received with a salute of 21 guns. After dinner, a Confederate would ask a vote for fifty thousand pound sterling flag was raised. Wegia made a speech, in which he said the Confederacy would soon be recognized. He invited the Confederate officers to a grand banquet at Matamoras.

Lincoln Vetoed the bill repealing permits to trade with the Southern States.

Gold on the 9th was 166.

From Europe.

RICHMOND, March 11.—European advices to the 25th have been received. The subject of Canadian differences was debated in the House of Lords. Earl Derby favored the adoption of vigorous measures, in view of the hostile feelings of Americans. Earl Degray said the government for Quebec defences, leaving the defences of Montreal to the Canadas. Lords Malmsbury and Ellenborough complained of the amount asked for. Earl Russell regretted the discussion, and said the said government had declined to make any movement while the Canadas declined to take measure themselves; but as they now show a different position, the government will assist them.

The debate caused a fall in consuls. No other news of interest.

From Mexico.

RICHMOND, March 12.—Northern papers of the 10th contain news from Mexico which confirms the report of the capture of Oaxaca, with a garrison of 7,000 men, the largest body of troops which defended the sinking fortunes of the Republic.

Maximilian has been recognized by England. He gave special audience to the British envoy, who presented an autograph letter from Victoria, addressed to the Empress Charlotte, as my beloved sister. Victoria expressed a belief in the establishment of the Empress as the beginning of a new and happy era for Mexico. She congratulates the Emperor on his elevation.

The Mexican papers publishes the last diplomatic consular appointments by the Emperor. No appointment was made by the United States.

The Tribune says Andy Johnston was demented by liquor when sworn in as Vice President. He made a senseless, discreditable harangue, and says if he has become a drunkard and does not reform he cannot remain Vice-President of the United States.

New Orleans advices of the 1st, say Gen. Canby and staff left that day for the vicinity of Mobile.

Orders have been received at New York to commence the draft on the 15th. About thirteen thousand names will have to be drawn.

Senator Harlan, of Iowa has been confirmed Secretary of the Interior in the place of Upsher, resigned.

Gen. Clay Smith of Kentucky has been appointed minister to Spain.

Pierre Soule and family had arrived in the city of Mexico.

Gold in New York, 188. No important news is published in the yankee papers.

From Europe.

RICHMOND, March 12.—The Paris correspondent of the London Journal says that Napoleon had a paragraph written in his address, expressive of his sorrow at the continuance of the war in America and reaffirming his neutrality, when the advices from Canada reached him, reporting the opening of peace negotiations at Fortress Monroe on their first legislative session. The news placed him in a delemma; his neutrality was likely to be of little avail, and not knowing how best to express the point of exigences concluded to remain silent.

The yellow book laid before the chamber has something upon the subject. It says it is decided, so long as circumstances were not more favorable, not to renew their efforts to open the way to an understanding. We have remained an active, but not indifferent speculator of the conflict in which so much ruin is accumulated. We have thought it our duty to turn our attention solely to the condition of our French subjects, as worthy of our interest. Owing to the peculiar situation of the Confederate States of the South, with which we do not keep up official relations, we can do nothing but register claims of French subjects in these States, reserving to ourselves to enforce them at some furture oppotunity.

CAMP NEAR CAPE FEAR RIVER.

HEADQ'RS C. S. NAVAL FORCES
March 2, 1865.

NOTICE.

All absentees from this command, who report themselves on board C. S. steamer "Patrick Henry" at Richmond within twenty days from this proclamation will not be punished. Those who remain absent will be arrested and treated as deserters.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer Commanding, &c

mar 4-d3:tw1t

Fayetteville Observer copy three times and send bill to Lieut McCorkle at Fayetteville for payment.