

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

J. N. DICKINSON EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Our Agents:

- Mr. N. SELIGMAN, Shreveport. Mr. J. H. LOFTON, Bellevue. Mr. H. C. CLARKE, Vicksburg. Mr. D. D. O'BRIEN, New Orleans. Mr. JOHN W. TABER, Natchitoches. Dr. W. S. DONALDSON, Mansfield. F. B. BAILEY, Huntsville, Texas.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1862.

When subscribers see a Red pencil mark on their paper, it signifies that the time paid for has expired.

Mr. S. Armitage will accept our thanks for a late Mobile paper.

We will be under lasting obligations to our friends, for any papers they may send to our office. Should they get possession of any Northern or Western papers, they will oblige us and our many readers, by permitting us to glance at them. By so doing, the community, through the medium of our paper, will learn much of interest that is transpiring abroad—in Yankee land.

Our fellow citizen, Lieut. Culp, has shown us a specimen of the swords manufactured by Mr. B. F. Lisman, of Muskete, Navarro County, Texas, for the use of the Cavalry Light Horse, Capt. Denson. The workmanship of the weapon before us will compare favorably with any we have ever seen, and excels many that come from "crack" establishments. Texas can boast of her enterprises and her mechanics, and deserves a vote of thanks from the whole Confederacy, for the prominent part she has taken.

One hundred of these swords were made for the company mentioned. In conclusion, we would recommend the establishment of Mr. L. to all who wish anything in his line.

Our friend, Mr. Geo. Headrick, has our thanks for a late paper.

We would direct particular attention to the advertisement headed Gunsmiths wanted. Messrs. Short, Biscoe & Co. offer liberal wages to good workmen.

Mr. John W. Wheaton, was elected Controller, by the Board of Trustees, on the 19th instant, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. W. W. George.

No less than 80,000 lbs. of molten lead were among the spoils of our late victories near Richmond.

The papers say that gold has been found in the brick clay which underlies the city of Philadelphia, to such an extent as to warrant the belief that in the ten square miles area occupied by the city, there is ten times more gold in the city than has been found in California. The experiments with the clay has been made under the direction of an officer of the U. S. Mint.

JOHN H. MORGAN.—A correspondent of the Louisville Express gives the following description of Morgan as he appeared at Georgetown:

He mingled unarmed among the motly crowd collected to view the great bugbear of the age. His dress was plain, with no military insignia but a single row of buttons on his well fitting cavalry jacket of mixed green and grey cassinere, which he wore unbuttoned. He wore no vest and had on a black silk watch guard and diamond pin. His hat a black felt pinned on the left side and ornamented with a crescent of quilled work in porcupine or palm leaf. His carriage was graceful, but all the time he seemed more busied in looking after his command—the minutest details of which seemed not to escape him—than thinking of the figure he cut.

The Conscription Act.

Various and many are the views entertained regarding the ultimate effect of this act. We are of opinion, that instead of resulting in good, it will prove contrary to expectations, providing our construction of the law is correct. By reference to the law before us, (for which we are under many obligations to Adjutant and Inspector Gen. S. Cooper,) we read:

"That all persons under the age of 18 years or over the age of 35 years, who are now enrolled in the military service of the Confederate States, in the regiments, squadrons, battalions, and companies hereafter to be reorganized, shall be required to remain in their respective companies, squadrons, battalions and regiments for ninety days, unless their places can be sooner supplied by other recruits not now in the service, who are between the ages of 18 and 35: And all laws and parts of laws providing for the re-enlistment of volunteers and the organization thereof into companies, squadrons, battalions or regiments, shall be and the same are hereby repealed."

By this means our army loses some of the best, and well drilled soldiers, who are replaced by incompetent persons, who have to undergo training, and consequently will not be fit for service for a long time. Another idea that occurs to us, from close observation is, that instead of increasing our strength it weakens. Thus: where one is sent as a conscript two return from the army. It may be that the majority have enlisted in volunteer companies, still this does not appear to us. Were those, already in the service retained, in addition to the conscription, then there would be a material difference. If we are dull on this point, we admit it.

We may add, for the information of all who have asked our opinion on the subject, that we think it very probable that another call will be shortly made for persons between the age of 35 and 50. It is reasonable to expect this, from the argument brought forth in this article, regarding conscription as limited to persons between 18 and 35. As we intimated when the question was brought before Congress, it should have read every able bodied man, irrespective of age, and this we think will be the final conclusion of the authorities at Richmond. Every person who can possibly bear arms, will be needed to meet the enemy, with the force he contemplates bringing into the field, before the work is over. Then, the welcome shout can go forth,

"Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead; Run hence, proclaim, cry it about the streets!"

Communicated.

The Ladies of Keachi.

MR. EDITOR: Before taking up the line of march for the scene of war, I should like to place upon the record of these memorable times, a soldiers grateful recollections of the kind attentions, and hospitalities of the ladies of Keachi and its vicinity, to the now 25th Texas Cavalry, C. C. Gillespie, commanding. "The women of the revolution" burn in the contest for liberty, in '76, is a noble tribute to the heroic virtues of women. The historian whose foot prints are now doubtless marking the events of our own times—telling of battles fought and victories won, will be pleased to turn aside ever and anon, from the dreadful carnage in his pathway, and yield his page with the self sacrificing and chivalrous women of the Southern Confederacy. And the galaxy of female virtues crowding upon his vision, none will shine more resplendent than "the women of Keachi."

Yes ladies, you have visited us in our camps—ate with us the soldiers' meal—encircled us with your smiles—thrown over "wars grim visage," those charms that shut up to the soldier every other feeling but liberty or death. In our tents, hospitals, and at your private dwellings, you have ministered to our sick, anticipated their wants, and supplied every need—placed in their hands the word of life, and told them of heaven. And when life sank apace, the dying soldier felt the tender touch of thy sympathies upon his brow, and slept sweetly as you pressed gently, his lids to wake no more. We will never forget you, and amid the din of war and clash of arms, will remember that we are your defenders.

LIBERTY TEXAS.

At Jas. G. Fullilove's, near Keachi, Aug. 22nd 1862. Houston Telegraph please copy.

UNITED STATES FLAGSHIPS.—The following are the chief flagships of the United States naval forces at present:

Table with columns: Vessel, Rate, Where. Includes Lancaster (Steam frigate, Pacific), Constellation (Sailing corvette, Mediterranean), Saratoga (Sailing corvette, East Indies), Minnesota (Steam frigate, Goldsboro), Monitor (Iron-clad, Wilkes James River), Benton (Iron-clad, Davis, Mississippi), Hartford (Steam corvette, Farragut's), Octorara (gunboat, Porter's mor. ft.), Monarch (Ram, Elliot's fleet), Wabash (Steam frigate, Dupont's Gulf).

It will be observed that there are only two sailing vessels in this list.

Read School notice of the Daughters of the Cross.

A Deserter from Pensacola.

A friend, says the Mobile News has shown us a letter from Fort Morgan, written on Saturday, the 9th inst., of which the following is an extract:

Seven blockaders are in sight this morning. It is said that ten Yankees deserted from Pensacola and came this way. One came to this Fort, and is now in the guard-house. Since writing the above I have heard further particulars. There was only one deserter. He was conducted to the Fort by our pickets. He had an interview with a midshipman, from whom he understood that the fleet had been ordered to collect at Pensacola for six weeks, and he, (the deserter,) believed it was the intention of the fleet to operate against Mobile. There were eighty vessels ordered to rendezvous at Pensacola. It must be Farragut's and Porter's fleets, as they have not eighty vessels under one command. He speaks of a shot fired into the Richmond that must have been a good one.

It is believed at Pensacola that the Yankees will eventually whip us out. They cannot get correct news; what newspapers come are received by the officers, and articles not proper to be seen are cut out. I believe this young fellow is a South Carolinian. He had been in the ordinance, and his officers found shells in his department loaded with sand, and he was looked on with suspicion. He received a letter from his father which was opened by the officers, and the contents did not strike them favorably. He appears to be well informed and intelligent. Our officers are inclined to think he escaped to avoid punishment.

The Confederate Money.

Can any of the wise men inform us how many different plates there are, of the Confederate money? Nearly every day, we see a different kind. The reason that many persons show a hesitancy about keeping on hand the bills of this class, we judge, is attributable to this fact, more than for the want of faith in the success of our cause. With this view, of the matter, and an important one too, if properly considered, we do not think any person should be judged so harshly, as many would desire. It was decidedly a faux pas, on the part of the person to whom was entrusted the task of having these Bills printed, that more than one plate for each denomination, was ever adopted. And therefore it devolves upon our government, for its own good, and for the safety of the people, to devise some clue for the detection of spurious bills. So long as a step of this kind is not resorted to, we must expect to see, on the part of some, a disinclination to retain in their possession, any large amounts of Confederate money.

We were shown a \$20 bill, the other day entirely different to any we have heretofore seen, which was pronounced a counterfeit, still we could gather no particulars about it. The LaGrange Reporter, alluding to the same subject, says:

There is but one remedy for this evil, and it is this: Let Congress, during its approaching session, draw in and suppress all the old issues, and get up uniform styles of the whole of the Confederate currency. It is the only way in which the people can be protected and the Government maintain its credit.

This we think is a good suggestion. It properly carried out. Let the Southern press give a little of their attention to this important improvement in the currency of our country, and we think the result will prove favorable, and the reputation of many an honorable person saved, who, would otherwise, be damned.

Meeting of the Shreveport Bar.

At a meeting of the Shreveport Bar, and the officers of the Court, held at the office of J. C. Beall, Esq., on the 14th August, 1862, on motion, Jas. I. Weems was called to the chair and N. E. Wright appointed Secretary.

On motion, Robt J. Looney, A. B. Levisse, and H. A. Drew, were appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

The committee, after retiring a few moments, returned and reported the following preamble and resolutions, which, after being read, were unanimously adopted, viz: WHEREAS, We have received the painful intelligence of the death of Henry Carlton, and feeling it due to the memory of our deceased brother, to give expression to our feelings of sorrow at the remarkable event of his decease.

Be it Therefore Resolved, That it is with emotions of the deepest regret that we receive the intelligence of the death of our worthy brother at the Bar, Henry Carlton.

Be it Resolved, That we sincerely bear testimony to his many virtues—to his honorable and upright character as a member of our bar—to his honest integrity as a man and a gentleman—and to his modest unassuming deportment as a christian, and deeply feel that our bar has lost an honorable brother, our community a citizen it regrets yet cherishes, and his family a father that earth cannot replace to them.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved family our condolence, and would blend our fond regrets with theirs, to lighten, if possible the load of anguish under which they now suffer.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this meeting be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased, and also request that the proceedings be placed upon the Minutes of the District Court of our parish.

Resolved, that the city papers be re-

quested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

On motion of J. C. Beall—Resolved, That the meeting adjourn to meet at the Cemetery at 10 o'clock, A. M., to assist at the burial of the deceased.

JAS. I. WEAMS, Ch'man.

N. E. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

We would again warn our readers against placing any confidence in the many reports of mediation which now and then come before the public. Sometime such reports, under the head of telegrams, make their appearance in our paper, not, however, with our knowledge, for under a press of business, such items will escape our notice, until after the appearance of our paper. We have concluded to exclude all such stuff from our columns, and when we firmly believe there is any truth in it our readers will have our opinion on the subject.

Doubtless, from present appearance, communication with Vicksburg is again cut off. If it is not, we expect it will soon be the case.

Tobacco is selling here at \$2.50 per plug.

We understand that Newton, the Musician, who amused the citizens of this place for a short period, sometime since turned out to be a spy, and was hung in Ellis county. It seems that another very fine gentleman, of the sort, stopped at a house and asked permission to remain all night. The lady's husband being absent she refused, when he said he would stay and get off his horse. She told him if he approached the house she would shoot him. He made the attempt and she did shoot him, when he believing himself mortally wounded, confessed to being a spy, and said there was another, whom he described the description suited Newton, who was taken up and hung—Texas Times.

What do we Gain by the War?

What do we gain by the war? We gain A name and a place on the page, Where nought but deeds of glory shine, And a fame for a wondering age.

What do we gain by the war? We gain A Star in the Courts of Earth, And nations will join in our jubilee, On the day which gives us birth.

What do we gain by the war? We gain All, all that a nation can crave, Our liberty! religious liberty! And the world for our flag to wave.

What do we gain by the war? We gain The fruits of a nation's blith, Our mother has bared her bosom to us, And we feast on the riches of Earth.

What do we gain by the war? We gain Freedom from vulgar sway, And virtue shall rule in our noble land, Where none but the pure can stay.

What do we gain by the war? Oh! God To gain at such fearful cost? We may smile on the living returned to us, But oh! let us weep for the lost.

E. O. M.

AN INCIDENT.—About the time Gen. Banks left the Valley to evade the hot pursuit of "Stonewall" Jackson, three Yankees went to the farm of Mr. Crane, Sheriff of Jefferson co. and demanded a favorite horse. Mr. C. refused to comply with the demand, when the thieves went to the stable and took the horse out, but that gentleman determined not to surrender his horse without a struggle, shot one of the marauders, and wounded him severely. The other two left the premises hurriedly, but soon returned strongly reinforced, and after capturing Mr. Crane, fired his barn, containing about twelve hundred bushels of wheat, and his corn-crib with 200 barrels of corn. Mr. C. was taken first to Harper's Ferry, where he was closely imprisoned in the enginehouse of John Brown notoriety, and from thence sent to Baltimore for trial before Gen. Dix. After hearing the testimony that officer said, "Mr. Crane, I ought to hang you." "What for?" asked Mr. C. "Why, for not killing them all, if you could," was the General's reply, and Mr. Crane was released and sent home.—Richmond Dispatch.

The Taunton Republican gives the following refreshing story, which we commend to the attention of those in the habit of "tipping the mug." A man went into one of the beer shops in town and called for ale. It was brought to him in a common pint measure. He drank a little, and thinking it tasted queerly, he asked the storekeeper what was the matter with his beer. The answer was that it was flustrate, being just bought in Boston. This satisfied the customer, and he swallowed the remainder of the beer. When he got through, seeing something in the bottom of the measure, he asked what it was. "I declare," said the shopkeeper, "I forgot to take out the soap the last time I shaved!"

FORBIDDEN TO PUBLISH THE STOCK MARKET.—While I am upon stocks, I may remark that the editors of the New York evening newspapers of Thursday, the 31st instant, were warned by the Superintendent of police not to publish that day the ordinary money articles. That was the day we were first fully advised of the disastrous results before Richmond. Never before, since New York was a city, had evening papers omitted to publish the stock market. Bankers and brokers were in dismay; but the public were prevented from knowing till next morning how much public securities had that day fallen.—N. Y. cor. Syracuse Courier.

TRUTH.—Occasionally the army correspondents of the Yankee papers do let some truths drop. One of the mendacious men who travel in Pope's train, writing from the Philadelphia Inquirer from Madison Court House says:

A very great evil exists to a great extent in the Army of Virginia. I allude to the practice of procuring (through itinerant traders and city hucksters) every denomination of spurious paper and broken bank notes, as well as fac simile notes of of the Confederacy, and passing them indiscriminately upon the unsuspecting inhabitants, poor as well as rich, old and young, male and female. Your correspondent is cognizant of several instances where this has been perpetrated, in return for kind nursing by poor aged women. Unless this system is checked will not the whole country be overrun by the hordes of counterfeiters and swindlers on the close of the war.

A STEP WELL TAKEN.—We understand that Gov. Letcher has made application to the Secretary of War to deliver over to the authorities of Virginia, traitors who have been taken in arms against the State, and all the Yankee prisoners now in and near this city, who, there may be ground for suspecting, have been engaged in violating those statutes of Virginia that make criminal and punishable such acts as inciting slaves to rebellion, enticing them to leave their masters, using incendiary language, passing counterfeit money, &c., &c. There is no doubt that many of these prisoners are guilty of these offenses, and that they as well deserve to be hung as old John Brown did, for violating the same laws. And as these offences have been perpetrated near this city and in communities of loyal citizens, it might not be impossible or difficult to obtain, in some cases, the necessary proof. The Secretary of War is, of course, familiar with these statutes, and we do not permit ourselves to doubt that he properly appreciates the rights of the State. Under these circumstances, has he any option but to accede to the application of the Governor?—[Richmond Whig.

BRIG. GEN. PRICE.—This officer, who was captured by our forces in the fight at Southwestern Mountain on Saturday last, is an officer of the old U. S. army. In the Mexican war he acted as Adjutant General of the brigade commanded by Gen. Sterling Price, whose confidence and esteem he possessed. When the present war broke out Price was a Captain of Dragoons, at Fort Leavenworth, and afterwards became commandant of that post. In his intercourse with the people of Missouri and Kansas he is represented to have acted with gentlemanly courtesy, and had the respect of those who opposed the policy of his Government. Such was his leniency towards the Confederates in Missouri that he incurred the suspicion and ill will of such tyrants as Siegel, Lane, &c. These facts we obtain from an officer connected with Gen. Price's staff during his celebrated Missouri campaign.—[Richmond Dispatch.

MAJ. GEN. T. H. HOLMES.—This officer arrived in this city a few days since, and yesterday assumed command of the department composed of Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana and the Indian country. We regard him as one of the ablest and most experienced officers in the Southern army, and are gratified that he has been assigned to the command of this department.—True Democrat.