

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.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1862.

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

See new advertisements in to-day's paper. They are all important.

The following description of genuine and counterfeit C. S. notes, we publish for the information of the public, and our readers would do well to preserve it:

FROM ENGRAVERS AT RICHMOND—Description furnished by Hoyer and Ludwig, engravers of genuine C. S. Treasury Notes.—20. Hearts between X X on right hand, lower corner do not join; in counterfeit, they do. L. G. in counterfeit—cotton bale plain. In genuine only the L. and that by aid of glasses.

50. Genuine, two sailors, one with mallet, has hair well down and smooth; in counterfeit, blown up as in a gale.

100. Cotton waggon, mule and cotton press and mule near; cotton press blurred and spokes of waggon wheel clumsily done in genuine and two stones at foot of sailor in left hand corner. In counterfeit, mule and press distinct and well executed, and three stones at foot of sailor.

Kadrid Bey, late a captain in the Imperial Body Guard of the Sultan, has written a letter to Lincoln tendering his services to the Federal army. It is very propable the President will assign him to the staff of Gen. McClellan, who has been in Constantinople.

Mr. Foster introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives of the Confederate States, which in substance is as follows:

That the Military Committee be requested to inquire, and report to this House at a day as early as practicable, as to the expediency and policy of authorizing the President to call out and place in the service of the Confederate States, during the war, all the male negroes who are resident or owned in the Confederate States, between the ages of 20 and 30 years, at the time the said call shall be made, for the purpose hereinafter mentioned—that is to say, as teamsters, cooks, nurses in the various hospitals, and laborers or mechanics in the arsenals, on railroads, in workshops, forges, furnaces, foundries, and manufactories of the Confederate States, or which may hereafter be under their control, engaged in the production of salt, saltpetre, lead, iron, leather, and such other articles necessary and proper for the efficient and successful conduct of military operations against the public enemy, under such legal limitations and restrictions as should secure the owner of property a just and reasonable compensation for the labor of said negroes, on the one hand, and the Confederate States their services on the other, during this momentous time.

Mr. F. W. Spilker will accept our thanks for a Richmond paper. Mr. M. Manheimer has laid us under obligations for the same favor.

By reference to the advertisement it will be seen that Mr. M. Levy, has just received a lot of articles by a schooner which run the blockade at Galveston.

Any person having a negro girl for sale or hire are referred to the advertisement in to days paper.

Hon. J. H. Allen, a member of the Federal Congress from the Cairo (Ill.) district, and Judge Mulkey, of Cairo, were arrested on the 15th. The charge was disloyalty and discouraging enlistments.

The Sky Looks Clear.

During the past five or six days, news of the most cheering character has been received and published by us, showing conclusively that we are destined to prove the victors in this great struggle, though it may require a long time to settle things satisfactorily. The enemy have become so dismayed of late that they no longer possess the professed courage boasted of in the beginning of this terrible war. They find that though it is a matter of ease to devastate the farm of some farmer in an unprotected spot, they cannot make the sons of the South flinch when drawn up in battle array. They have also been sadly disappointed in discovering the resources of our country.

The celebrated Generals of the North, have thus far not exhibited any metal by which they can frighten our people, nor have they shown the requisite valor to entitle them to the title they bear; while, on the contrary, we have leaders of whom we may be justly proud. Even haughty Europe, in comparing the Northern and Southern armies eulogises our Generals, and when they condescend so far we can depend that some of our leading military characters stand unsurpassed in the world,—which many may think, is saying too much.

What will they say when they hear of the glorious news from Manassas and Cincinnati, if true.

It has accidentally leaked out that Abe Lincoln speaks of resigning:—this is published in a Northern paper. Lincoln is urged to this course, because his party differs much in their opinions, thus overtaxing his energies, and thinks that tendering his resignation is the best policy. The dissatisfaction of the people in the North; our successive victories, driving the enemy before us at every point, and appearances generally, leads us to think that "The Sky Looks Clear."

Special Correspondence.

COLEMBUS, GA., 14th August, 1862. MR. J. DICKINSON,

Dear Sir: You will please receive the following Extracts from Northern papers, also a few lines from my humble self, which might be of some interest.

Great War Meeting in Washington.—Ex-Gov. Boutwell of Mass. would here say that if it had not been for slavery there would have been no treason, and when slavery shall cease to exist there will be no traitors. (Cries of good and applause.) The beginning of this War is slavery and freedom is its end. There will be no peace until, throughout the length and breadth of the Republic, the cry shall come up that "slavery has ceased."

You have to take your choice, either to abolish slavery in the seceded States, and invite their negroes from the North, or allow the North to be overrun with fugitives from the South. Say to them, "There is Territory you may have safely for your own use," and give the white men of the North the unrestricted enjoyment of their rights.

To save the Government, slavery must die; go by the board. The war will last as long as slavery, unless you take it by the throat. He had belonged to the Democratic party. If you declare with courage that slavery shall cease, let this be the war cry. (Applause and Music)

Gen. Shepley military governor of Louisiana—There was no ground for despondency, hope, confidence and ultimate triumph. He among other things, alluded to the planting and defence of the stars and stripes in the so called seceded States.

A strong rope and a short shirt, in New Orleans, tells the fate of a man who dares to haul down the American flag. (Applause and laughter)

It having been announced that General Shepley was the man who hung Mumford, for hauling down the "national flag," the immense assemblage gave three cheers, but Shepley said the honor belonged to Gen. Butler, not to him.

By this time Mr. Editor, I hope you have read the famous proclamation of Gen. Butler, in regard to his setting negroes at liberty in New Orleans—in fact he having set several women free who went to him with a very simple excuse. How long can the people of New Orleans put up with such treatment, that is why private property is protected as Commodore Farragut promised, when allowed to take possession in New Orleans. It is truly astonishing that there is not a patriot in New Orleans who will rid this Southern Confederacy of at least that tyrant Butler, his name would be inscribed upon tablets of gold equal to that of Wm. Tell when he liberated the Swiss of the tyrant Lessler. But

it would not be surprising to hear of one of our Southern women undertaking the dangerous task, similar to the Heroine that we find in the Old Testament, by the name of Jael, or Joel, allied by blood to the priestly line Israel, who slew with her own hand, Sisera, the powerful and cruel General of her nation's foe and thereby delivered her country from servitude.

The Federal Government, through the Secretary of War has called on the several States for 30,000 nine months militia and a special draft for 30,000 militia. Large Amounts have been promised by the Government as bounties; immense amounts of money has, also, been collected in the principal cities of the Northern States for the enlisting volunteers, but they don't succeed as well as they imagined, although they promised from \$140 to \$200 per annum bounty money, clothing, and all comforts that privates could reasonably ask for, but so far they have only succeeded in the State of New York in raising 22,000 men. In Illinois a very small number—in the city of Chicago some commanders appointed, were weeks at work and raised only 10 or 20. In parts of Missouri citizens club together to resist the enrollment act. I hope they know by this time why McClellan could not get reinforcements when before Richmond; as Lincoln said in his Washington speech; the Secretary of War had no troops to spare at the time. The Government must proceed to drafting as it is a hard matter to raise any more volunteers for several reasons. A good many foreign Consuls North are in favor of secession, for instance, the British Consuls at Philadelphia and a good many more, their offices are crowded from morning until late in the evening from persons calling upon them for protection from the Militia Law—and they certainly have to do it as all the applicants are not citizens of the United States, and have nothing to do with the war except their home should be threatened and all those able to get off, are rapidly dispersing to foreign countries and taking their treasures with them. Emigration from foreign ports are none at present time. I think you know full well that the Federal Government has a good many foreigners in their ranks, some went of their own free will, some were persuaded to go, others were driven to go from stern necessity, to keep from starving and having families to depend upon them for support, also persons who have worked in factories were forced to go; also these (small fry) who showed the last sympathy for the South were imprisoned or put in the army. Therefore, I conclude they will not get the sufficient number as fast as expected. Now in future you will have a sure enough Yankee army, at least four-fifths of them will be Yankees, and according to the latest Northern newspaper reports, it would not be out of the way to hear of revolutions breaking out in the largest cities of the Federal Government. Because the people of the working class are tired of the war, with the exception of abolitionists and those are generally the leaders now. One thing is certain, they are awful frightened at those general bands or marauders as they call them, as they do terrible work amongst them, often routing their best disciplined armies, as the Yankee generals don't consider our generals have a right to parole prisoners, and they not considering therefore the oath binding, it is generally believed that they (guerrillas) will hoist the black flag. Our guerrillas have been within a few miles of Cairo, in Cincinnati the Bankers have sent a good deal of their specie to Chicago, in Louisville they are uneasy; in St. Louis—the inhabitants thereof having been set trembling. Taking Gen. Prince prisoner and killing McCook is some of their work.

Shortly we will hear for the third time the "on to Richmond" by the Fredericksburg, and for the first time, our on to Washington—our generals are wide awake. In Georgia, at least near Savannah, Gen. Meier calls upon all the planters to send 20 per cent of their negroes to work on fortifications and all that is to spare, the Confederate States pays them which are working, by the months wages. Mobile, like Vicksburg, is determined never to surrender, and they are prepared, so I have been informed. It is a good deal of idle talk saying our troops have no arms or common flint locks and munitions of war. Since the war commenced in every instance where we were attacked, we always have been prepared with guns and ammunition, at great expense of course.

Today I had the pleasure of greeting our fellow townsman, Colonel Julius E. Andrew's Commander 15th Texas reg. He asserted that his regiment was armed with the best rifle rifles that he had seen—he is stationed at Chattanooga.

Next Monday the C. S. Congress will meet at Richmond; I may be there on some business. I reckon Congress will call out the men from 35 to 45 or 50, to offset the 660,000 Lincoln army.

Let us call out aloud to the Lincoln army as Jonathan did to the Philistines: "Come forth and let us fight our battles in open field!" In the name of the Lord we will destroy you and your hosts!"

The City of Columbus has two factories which turn out daily about 200 Sabres and 50 Mississippi rifles; spurs also, and fine brass cannon are made here. There is a manufactory here where they made lowells, jeans, stripes and other woollen goods—Several large foundries, Sash and shuntle manufactory. The Quartermaster here told me that within the last three weeks he had sent over 30,000 complete suits away from here for the army, to Virginia, Arkansas and to Gen. Pike, Indian Territory. All the hides this side the Mississippi river are seized and belong to our Government in order to be worked into shoes.

The following is taken from the Louisville Journal: To John Morgan, Gen'l, and to all whom it may concern:

We have just a few candid and most significant and salutary words "Acting Brigadier General C. S. A. John Morgan," as you style yourself, to address you and the misguided band of outlaws, marauders, bushwhackers, and miscreants whom you control. And these words although stern and plain, will in the end, prove paternally kind and friendly if you heed them. The first are: Leave this State—immediately, unconditionally—go! And the reason why we thus command you is that your living body cannot stay within the limits of this commonwealth. The second are: Having left this State, stay—entirely, permanently, unconditionally—out of it! There is but one other alternative, that is: The commonwealth must and will have your body, dead or alive. Remember it, and let your treacherous sympathizers and secret allies throughout the State remember it also. You were born in Kentucky, but are unworthy of your illustrious nativity. You have utterly and forever forfeited your citizenship, and all your rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness under this jurisdiction. You have expatriated yourself to betray your nation, State, and the high and loyal regard of your ancestors. You have joined the service of a "Government" (so called by its supporters) claiming to be entirely independent and foreign; and under the shade of its black, accursed cross barred flag, you are desecrating and devastating the land and soil which hold the consecrated relics of your fathers. You assault, capture, plunder, maltreat, and either with your own hand, or through your inhuman condottors and agents, some times assassinate your fellow citizens, burn their homes, destroy their property, and fight, impoverish and distress their wives and children. This is what you are doing whether you know it or not. Acting Brig. Gen. C. S. A. John Morgan! Again we say to you, misguided young man, as much for your good as for ours, and more in mercy than in anger—prodigal, profligate, apostate, traitor, ingrate and brigand—go, Yours, AMICUS

For the Semi-Weekly News.

Laci Fatui.

MR. EDITOR: It is a well attested fact that travelers over prairies, especially in Western Texas, are often attracted out of their path by the appearance of a beautiful silvery lake in the distance. Its waters are without a ripple and reflect all objects beyond it, like a mirror. Occasional islands add to the variety and beauty of the scene. But, alas! after riding for hours and sometimes half a day, the weary and thirsty traveler discovers that his eyes have deceived him,—there is no lake in the prairie.

When I first heard of this singular appearance some months ago, I attributed it to refractions and reflections in the atmosphere as in the case of mirage; but my informant assured me that such could not be the cause, since there was no real lake at any reasonable distance beyond the apparent one and, moreover, it did not appear in the air but on the ground. I then consoled myself with the belief that there was some mistake about it; but recently I had an account of several similar appearances from a source which I could not doubt,—I have never seen one myself. I was gratified, in the last case, at being able to satisfy my mind as to the causes of the deception, which I now propose to give.

I was walking through the capital in Raleigh in 1857, whose ground floor, as many of your readers may know, is composed of large blocks or tiles of rough granite. Many of these are somewhat worn, so that the floor is far from a smooth surface. Its length I do not remember, but it was sufficiently distant from door to door to lead me to suppose that by looking in at one door, with my eye nearly on a level with the floor, there would be, near the other door, points enough occupying the same plane, to produce a reflecting surface. In other words, I thought that distance would destroy the irregularities in the granite. I made the trial and lo, Washington's statue which stands fifteen or twenty steps from the south door—I looking from the north—was reflected from the floor as if from water! The same effect was produced by the other end of the floor. A leaf of letter paper, which few persons would substitute for a looking-glass, will reflect objects in the same way.

So a prairie, if it is tolerably level and far enough off, it will become smooth enough to reflect objects beyond it, and any points in it more elevated than the reflecting surface will themselves be reflected and appear as islands. Respectfully,

B. F. G., Of 25th Texas Cavalry.

SERVILE INSURRECTION.—We learn from a gentleman just down from Bastrop, that a horrible and deeply plotted scheme of a servile insurrection was detected in that county one

day last week. It extended from Cunningham's to Austin, and was brought to light by some gentleman who overheard two of the negroes talking in reference to the proposed insurrectionary movement. The plan was, that the negroes should secure all the fire arms, knives, &c., that they could get their hands on, and so soon as Allen's regiment should leave Austin, they would kill their masters, and all others who might be in the way, take their horses and go over to the Yankees, or make for Mexico.

About 60 negroes were implicated, 45 of them, upon a separate examination, making about the same statement, as related above. What has been done with the negroes, we have not heard.

This should be a hint to the people throughout the State, to put out active and vigilant Patrols in every county, to be on the alert day and night.—Lagrange True Issue.

GEN. CASS ON THE WAR.—It has been known that Gen. Cass has recently very heartily espoused the cause of the North in this war. At Hillsdale, Michigan, the venerable statesman made a speech, from which we quote:

Patriotism and policy equally dictate that our force should be such as to enable us to act with vigor and efficiency against our enemies, and reduce them to unconditional submission to the law. Foes will then be converted into citizens by the restoration everywhere of the Constitution to its legitimate authority, as it came from the hands of the framers. And shall this appeal be unheeded? A long life has taught me to know my countrymen better than to fear they will not answer to the calls made upon them. Our business now is with the present and the future. The differences of the past, if not forgotten should be adjourned till the standard of the Union again floats, unopposed, from Maine to Texas, and to the Pacific ocean.

Gen. Bragg has disbanded the 21st and 11th Louisiana regiments on account of the alleged deficiency of Confederate field officers. The men have been scattered and dispersed to fill up other regiments. They were not even allowed to select their own companies.

OUTRAGES OF POPE'S ARMY.—The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times admits the outrages committed by Pope's army in Virginia. In a letter he says:

The apprehension expressed in my letter of July 29th, about the ill effects to be expected from the execution of Gen. Pope's order permitting the soldiers to plunder, are already beginning to be realized. Nor are the men much to blame. They invariably quote Gen. Pope's order, a printed copy of which, cut from a newspaper, every man carries with him, as justifying them, and even enjoining it upon them to subsist upon the enemy. Every farm, every farm house, every dairy, every smoke house, every plantation, every dwelling, if it comes within their track is remorselessly plundered of every portable article, and it is fortunate for the owner if his houses and barns are not burned down over his head. As it is, he is left with his family to starve, and with no clothes except those on the persons of his family. Every domestic animal, every horse, every chicken and pig, is either killed or driven off. The country, as left by our troops, is a desert. Is this the way to restore the Union? Does any one believe that those people, thus despoiled of everything, will ever again become willing citizens of the Government whose soldiers thus ruined them? I repeat, the Union can never be restored, unless these practices are instantly stopped, and full restitution made for the damage already been inflicted. What does Mr. Seward think of such practices? Is this "humane" way of carrying on the war? Is this his "conciliatory" method of "winning back our erring fellow citizens?" Truly, indeed, the world is standing appalled at the "magnanimity" displayed by the men in power under this administration.