The Shreveport News.

Jno. Dickinson, Editor & Proprietor

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Attention!—Persons arriving with, or receiving, late southern or northern papers, will oblige us and benefit our readers, by loaning them to the editor, if only for an hour.—Items of news also solicited.

The Latest News!

This paper will pay liberally for news of any character furnished it, whenever used. In writing, be brief and to the point, and forward by the quickest means possible.

Thanks to several friends for late papers politely handed us for perusal.

Our friend J. P. Hyams, formerly of this place, but lately of Jackson, Miss., called on us last Saturday. He was one of the first to answer the call for volunteers, and has performed his part well.

Maj. Ewell arrived here on last Saturday. We were pleased to find him looking as well as ever. He informs us that he has brought ten millions of dollars for this Department.

On the 5th inst., the steamer Post Boy blew up, while wooding above New Orleans. Two men were killed. The Captain, Bennett, was thrown far into the river by the explosion, but succeeded in saving himself.

For the information of the uninformed we would say that Charlottesville which the enemy claim to have taken, reports of which we publish, is the capital of Albemarle county, situated on the Rivanna river and Central Railroad, eighty miles west north-west of Richmond, and celebrated as the site of the University of Virginia, founded under the auspices of Thomas Jefferson. The University was established by the legislature in 1817.

The N. O. Picayune says that a dangerous crevasse is impending above that city.

From the best information we can receive, neither Beauregard nor Sherman are killed, nor has a "big" fight, reported last week near Charlotte, yet taken place.

The dispatches we publish to-day are not of the most cheering character, and coming as they do through northern channel, it may be well not to place too much confidence in them.

It is very difficult to arrive at the truth when we are so cut of from mail communication from the cis-department. As an instance our dispatches published Tuesday, say that the bill to put negroes in the army had been lost, this was under date of 25th ult., taken from northern papers. Since then we discover the following paragraph under a later date, in the Chicago Tribune, which has a resemblance to truth, as it appears to follow in connection with the previous dispatch we published, and to which we allude. Here it is: "The rebel House of Representatives has passed another bill to place 300,000 negroes in the army. In order to satisfy the objections of Senators, this bill does not guarantee freedom to enlisted slaves, but leaves the question of emancipation open." It is very disagreeable for us to be compelled to look to northern papers for information relative to our own affairs, this however, cannot well be avoided, and we must submit to it until the "good old times comes."

THE YANKEE DEBT.—On the first of November last the public debt of the Lincoln government was $2,017,000,000. For the fiscal year the interest would be $75,900,000. Of this interest $57,000,000 were payable in coin, and $28,000,000 in currency.—The average rate of interest on the loans is 6 3-10 per cent, and the average rate on the entire debt 4 1-4 per cent. It is fair to assume that by June, 1865, the debt will be at least $3,000,000,000. The liabilities now average $84.04 per head—assuming that there are twenty-four millions of people in the Northern States. The natural increase of population is 3½ per cent per annum.

The Chicago Tribune says that a Montreal (Canada) paper has the following extraordinary lying statement: "If the Provisional Government is as well served by its spies as it pretends to be, it ought to be aware that there has been in this city, for some weeks, a Commissioner of the Federal Government negotiating with the leaders of the annexation party and obtaining information as to the feeling of the people of this province as to the union with the United States, and the probable amount of hostility they would show if this was attempted by invasion. This Commissioner proposes to be authorized to pay $100,000,000 for the Canadas, with liberal commissions to those who will assist the project of annexation.

We don't believe it!—The Chicago Tribune says that of the first detachment of 500 rebel prisoners which left camp Douglass first, 200 refused to be exchanged when they reached the front and conversed with some of the deserters they met. The tale they told them of the "desperate" condition and "sinking" fortunes of the Confederacy was so discouraging that they refused to re-enter the rebel lines. They were taken back and are again of Camp Douglass.

Any One Scared!—A Federal paper says that in discussing the fortification bill in the U. S. Senate, Reverdy Johnson stated that if the war should continue two years longer, it was by no means certain that we should not have a foreign war.—Advices from France, both public and private, indicate the purpose of the Emperor to recognize the Davis Confederacy if the rebellion is not quelled within a reasonable period. Mr. Johnson, therefore argued in favor of keeping sea-coast fortifications in good order, especially those of N. York.

Head-Quarters C. S. Army.

Hon. E. Barksdale, House of Representatives, Richmond, Va.:

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of the 12th instant, in reference to the employment of negroes. I think the measure not only expedient but necessary. The enemy will certainly use them against us if he can get possession of them, and as his present numerical superiority will enable him to penetrate many parts of the country, I cannot see the wisdom of the policy of holding them to await his arrival, when we may by timely action and judicious management, use to arrest his progress. I do not think that our white population can supply the necessities of a long war, without overtaxing its capacity, and impeding great suffering upon our people; and I believe we should provide resources for a protracted struggle, nor merely for a battle or a campaign.

In answer to your second question I can only say that in my opinion, negroes under proper circumstances, will make efficient soldiers. I think we could at least do as well with them as the enemy, and he attaches great importance to their assistance. Under good officers and good instructions, I do not see why they should not become good soldiers. They possess the physical qualifications, and their habits of obedience constitute a good foundation for discipline. They furnish a more promising material than many armies of which we read in history, which owed their efficiency to discipline alone. I think those who are employed should be freed. It would neither be just nor wise in my opinion to require them to serve as soldiers. The best course to pursue, it seems to me, would be *call for such as are willing to come* with the consent of their owners.—An impressment or draft would not be likely to bring out the best class; and the use of coercion would make the measure distasteful to them and their owners. I have no doubt but that if Congress would authorize their reception into service, and empower the President to call upon individuals or States, for such as they are willing to contribute, with the condition of emancipation to all enrolled, a sufficient number would be forthcoming to enable us to try the experiment. If it prove successful most of the objection to the measure would disappear; and if individuals still remain unwilling to send their negroes to the army, the force of public opinion in the States would soon bring about such legislation as would remove all obstacles. I think the matter should be left, as far as possible to the people and to the States which alone can legislate as the necessities of this peculiar service may require. As to the mode of organizing them, it should be left as free from restraint as possible. Experience will suggest the best course, and it would be inexpedient to trammel the subject with provisions that might in the end prevent the adoption of reforms suggested by actual trial.

With great respect,
Your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

NEWS ITEMS.

Philadelphia, March 3.—A special dispatch to the Bulletin says the Richmond Whig of the 1st, contains telegraphic dispatches from Fayetteville, N. C., stating that no federal force had advanced in that direction. The Dispatch says that Gen Singleton has arrived at Richmond. It adds that his mission is a commercial one. He is proposing to exchange bacon for cotton. All other papers intimate that his visit is of a private character.

W. C. Rives, of Virginia, has resigned his seat in the rebel Congress.

Washington, March 3d.—The Whig of the 1st says: The Petersburg Express of yesterday states that the advance which was threatened, two or three days since, has been checked, if not defeated, by superabundant rains, and, for the present, may possibly be abandoned; but the public need not be surprised to hear of the commencement of a battle at any moment.

The enemy has not withdrawn any of the forces he has moved to his left, but holds them in readiness for an advance at the earliest practicable moment. It is believed that he intends a flank movement some distance further down than the scene of his late operations.

We believe that our noble army is prepared to meet the enemy now as it ever has been, and to give battle as of old, never having known, and determined never to know a defeat.

New York, March 4.—Advices received here through private sources from Mexico, save that the war in the United States is attracting the special attention of the Imperial government. The police are directed to arrest all who express their sympathy with the rebel cause, and one man named Vaudez, has been condemned to a year's imprisonment for speaking favorably of the United States and predicting a speedy end of the rebellion. The Indian treasury is continually getting lower. The hostility of the Church party to Maximilian is on the increase. The friends of the Juarez cause here refuse to give credence to the reported defeat at Oaxaca.

The Chronicle of to-day says, in speaking of the reception at the Executive Mansion last night, that many colored persons appeared to pay their respects to the President and lady, among whom was Fred. Douglas and wife.

Paris de la Levne denies the statement that the French Government had any war vessels in pursuit of the rebel ram Stonewall, and the Cabinet of the Tuilleries does not consider that it possesses the right to pursue the ram Olinde, though, by commoning acid firing, out in French waters, violates the neutrality laws. We have the confidence to believe that, in the end, the Emperor will not be found, indeed, to be a violator of the laws of nations.

The Tribune's Washington correspondent says a number of Northern citizens have been shot down in cold blood in Southern prisons.

New York, March 5.—The Herald's Washington special says: Information has been received that Sherman's army has crossed the Neuse River, and that Sherman himself has reached Goldsboro'. The Herald's special says that the rebels are preparing to burn the cotton in Charleston and Wilmington, if they should be compelled to evacuate.

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The Richmond Whig of the 1st says: Raleigh Conservative, 1st, says Sherman's army crossed the Neuse River at Smithfield, and he is now in the vicinity of Raleigh. Our cavalry and brave troops in that quarter will be able to bring him or send him howling back to the coast. It is reported in Augusta, by telegraph, that the small forces left in front of Columbia have been expelled by the enemy, and Columbia has been evacuated. Even the reserves in front, should be surprised, which would probably render his affairs desperate in the extreme but we will not speculate farther in regard to the matter, which must cease to be matter for mere speculation soon.

New York, March 5.—The Panama Mercantile Chronicle of February 13th, has a report that the mission of Gen Sickles is to procure from the Columbian Government a concession of lands, on which to form a settlement of ten thousand of the negroes emancipated by secession. The report said, but the Chronicle doubts it, that one million dollars will be paid for the privilege.

War Dept., Washington, March 5.

Maj Gen Dix:

The following dispatches in relation to the reported defeat and capture of Gen. Early, by Gen Sheridan and the capture of Charlottesville, have been received by this Department. Gen Sheridan and his force commenced their movement last Monday, and were at Staunton when he heard from Maj Gen. Hancock, who was placed in charge of the middle military division during the absence of Gen. Sheridan, with his headquarters at Winchester.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

City Point, Va., March 5, 11 A. M.

Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Deserters in this morning report that Sheridan had routed Early forces and captured Charlottesville. They report four regiments having gone from Richmond to reinforce Early.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant General.

City Point, March 5, 7 A. M.

Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Deserters from every point of the enemy's lines confirm the capture of Charlottesville by Sheridan; they say that he captured Gen. Early and nearly his entire force, consisting of eighteen thousand men. Four brigades were reported as being sent to Lynchburg to get there before Gen Sheridan.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant General.

City Point, March 5, 4 A. M.

Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Rangers confirm the statement of deserters, as to the capture of Early and nearly his entire force. They say it took place on Tuesday, between Staunton and Charlottesville, and that the defeat was total.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieut. Gen.

New York, March 8.—There were rumors in the army of the Potomac on Sunday, that Sherman had defeated Johnston in a heavy battle, capturing fifteen thousand prisoners.

New Orleans, March 13.—The Picayune extra says that on Saturday last there was an attack on two of the batteries defending Mobile, by five monitors. Two of these silenced the batteries, driving the men from the guns. We obtain this information from one who was an eye-witness of the engagement.

Washington, March 7.—A man named Clemens has been turned over to the civil authorities by the military authorities, against whom evidence is positive that he had his plans arranged for the assassination of President Lincoln on his inauguration day. He is in jail here.

The London Times says the peace conference make it more evident than ever that neutrality is the only policy for England.

Chicago, March 6.—The The latest advices from Sherman's grand march shows that he is at Fayetteville, N. C. to which point Porter's fleet has pushed his way up Cape Fear river.

The Richmond Examiner says that twenty-six transports consisting six thousand troops, left Alexandria for Fortress Monroe. Their destination is supposed to be Grant's lines.

The New Orleans Times is informed that the assigned reason for Maximilian in delivering passports to our consul of Matamoras, is the non-recognition of French and Austrian authorities in Mexico, by our government.

The Times' Baghdad correspondent says it is reported that Generals Cavajal and Scobias are marching on Matamoras, where Gen. Mejia, with 4000 Imperial troops awaits their attack. Gen Hardee ordered no permits for vessels or merchandize to be granted by Matamoras until further orders.

Cairo, March 5.—Large numbers of refugees continue to arrive here from various points. Two hundred arrived from Arkansas last night.

Gen Roberts late commander of the division of West Tennessee, has arrived here. Gen Washburn has arrived at Memphis and assumed command of the district of West Tennessee. A hundred guns were fired yesterday at Memphis, in honor of the anniversary day.

Opelousas, March 16.—One Charles Leslie, who passed here lately, coming from Brazos de Bay, says that he read in a New Orleans paper, that 25 thousand French troops had just landed at Matamoras, and that there is a squadron of one hundred vessels in the Gulf of Mexico, coming from Europe.

Cairo, March 7.—Guerrillas are again active across in Kentucky. Parties from that side of the river to-day report a heavy force committing all kinds of depredations in Hickman on relentless conscription.

New York, March 7.—The dead City [illegible]

[illegible]

The Tribune's Washington special says: [illegible]

[illegible]

The Richmond Whig of the 1st says: [illegible]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

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