

Scraps and Facts.

The American battleship Oregon dropped anchor in the port of Rio Janeiro last Saturday afternoon. The Oregon was in good shape and all on board were well. The captain had all along been on the lookout for the Spaniards and was prepared to make it wonderfully interesting for them.

A Paris dispatch of last Friday announces that extraordinary activity prevails in naval and military circles throughout France. Work at the Brest arsenal continues until a late hour every night and Sundays. Large orders for war materials have been placed and all the coast batteries have been supplied with provisions and munitions sufficient for several months. It is also announced that all the French warships recently mobilized are kept in fighting trim and ready for sea at a moment's notice, and that the reserves have been notified to expect a call for active service.

The American line steamer City of Paris arrived at New York last Saturday morning from Southampton after a rough passage of 7, days 17 hours and 45 minutes. She had on board 9 first cabin passengers, 40 second cabin, and 90 steerage passengers. Her cargo consisted of war munitions principally. She did not see anything of Spanish war vessels on the way. Most of the night sailing was done with lights out, and other precautions, including a wide detour out of the regular course, were taken to lessen the possibility of capture. The City of Paris will now be quickly converted into an auxiliary cruiser to be known as the Yale.

The naval appropriation bill was agreed to by the conferees of both houses last Friday. It carries an appropriation of \$66,277,558, and provides for vessels as follows: Three first-class battleships, four coast defense monitors, sixteen torpedo boat destroyers, twelve torpedo boats. The United States now has five battleships afloat; two others receiving their armor and armament (the Kearsarge and Kentucky), and three well under way (the Alabama, Wisconsin and Illinois). The Kearsarge and Kentucky will be ready for service within the next few months, and with the completion of the others, provided in the meantime none are lost, we will have in all thirteen battleships.

Spain is about to get herself into serious trouble with Great Britain. It is on account of an attack on the British consulate at Santiago, Cuba. When the Americans left Cuba, the consulate was turned over to the British consul. There was also a large quantity of provisions that had been contributed to feed the starving Cubans. Last Friday night the British consul, F. W. Ramsden, learned that the Spaniards proposed to seize the provisions for the use of the army. He forestalled this move by distributing what he had among those for whom they were intended. The mob became angry and attacked the consulate with stones, breaking out the windows. Consul Ramsden immediately telegraphed to the governor general of Jamaica for assistance, and within an hour the British cruiser Fallos was on her way to Santiago to look into matters. No advice as to the result have been received.

A Key West dispatch of April 30, says that within a week there would be a combined army and navy attack on Cuba. There have been various alleged descriptions of the proposed movement; but that those having the matter in charge have advertised it in the newspapers, is very doubtful. The massing of several thousand troops—about 8,000 in all—in the vicinity of Tampa and Key West, however, and the bombardment of different Spanish fortifications, shows pretty conclusively that the undertaking is under way. The understanding is that General W. R. Shafter has been selected to command the military force instead of General Merritt. General Shafter was approached by the newspaper men a few days ago with reference to the signing of their passes. He replied that there was time enough for that, and from intimations that were dropped on the subject, it was concluded that the newspaper passes to be issued would not be at all numerous.

The newest feat of the war, so far reported, was the capture of the Spanish steamer Panama by the little lighthouse tender Mangrove. The circumstance was reported by telegraph on the day it occurred; but the details are very interesting. The Panama is a big steel protected auxiliary cruiser. She left New York on April 20 for Havana with a cargo of munitions of war and provisions on board. She had a crew of 72 men on board, and was armed with two 14-pounder guns. The little Mangrove had on board a crew of only 13 impressed men, and was armed with two six-pounders. The business of the little vessel was to cut a cable and she had been over to within 20 miles of Havana for the purpose. When the Panama came along, the commander of the Mangrove ordered a shot across her bows. In order to fire another shot, the Mangrove had to turn completely around. The Indiana was about six miles away and started to the rescue; but before she arrived the Mangrove had compelled the Panama to surrender. The crew of the Mangrove was too small to man the Panama, and the necessary complement had to be made from the Indiana. The Panama and cargo are worth about \$1,000,000, and the amount will be divided between the crews of the Mangrove and Indiana. Each of the men will get a small fortune. When the captain of the Panama left New York, he swore that the Yankee pigs would never be able to capture him; but after his capture he went to raving that he was ruined and threatened that he would blow his brains out, which he took care not to do.

Captain Sampson gave the Spaniards another lesson in politeness last Friday afternoon about dusk. The Puritan had been ordered to see to it that the fortifications at Matanzas be not rebuilt. Then the New York took a trip along the coast close in by the shore. She passed Morro Castle within less than two miles. With a glass, the officers on board the vessel could easily see members of the garrison

moving about the fortress. What the New York wanted was for Morro to open fire; but Morro, for reasons satisfactory to herself, would do nothing of the kind. Then the New York passed Cabanas and Cabanas kept quiet also. Then the New York continued on for about 30 miles further, where there are some new fortifications. These are also called Cabanas. There were quite a number of mounted guns. The torpedo boats Erickson and Porter went pretty close under the guns, and the forts fired on them. This the New York considered bad manners. The little torpedo boats scudded in behind the New York and the New York steamed up still closer to the forts. Then she commenced business with her six-inch guns. In all she only threw eight shells; but all, save one, struck where it was intended to strike, and when the eighth shell had been fired the fortifications were all gone. Some dismounted cavalymen over in a cane-field, about a mile-and-a-half away, had the timidity to fire at the New York with their carbines. A couple of shells were dropped in amongst the cavalymen, and all who were still able to do so, ran away. It is not likely that the New York would have fired on the fortifications unless she had been fired on; but, somehow, Captain Sampson does not seem disposed to allow anybody to fire at him except with the understanding that he is to fire back.

The Yorkville Enquirer.



YORKVILLE, S. C.:
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1898.

The Associated Press these days seems to be run somewhat on the principle of "four men's words being better'n one."

Senator Tillman and McLaurin have asked President McKinley to appoint ex-Senator M. C. Butler to be a major general. The president took the request under consideration; but as to whether he will give the general the appointment, of course, is a matter of doubt.

It is claimed in Washington that in answer to the call for 125,000 volunteers, the governors of the respective states have already offered volunteers to the aggregate number of 400,000. It has been decided, however, that the number will not be increased, and the offers will be trimmed down to the 125,000 originally called.

According to Captain-General Blanco's official account, the shelling of Matanzas amounted to nothing. The only thing killed on the Spanish side was a mule. How much damage was inflicted to the Americans, the captain general says is impossible to tell; but their loss must have been considerable as the ships were forced to retire. It is reported in the London papers that the Spanish public generally believes that the fleet which has been at the Cape Verde islands for so long a time has, all along been, and is still, engaged in a blockade of the city of New York. The Spanish newspapers are not allowed to print the truth when the truth is at all discreditable to Spanish operations. In America, of course, the Spanish yarns are ridiculous.

Take note of this and remember it. It will be called to the mind of many later on. We are not making the suggestion because we would have it that way. The observation, is based on the history of the past, that it will prove to be a fact. McKinley may be the next president of the United States; but that depends upon a circumstance. It will not be a question of gold standard or bimetallic next time. If this war does not develop a popular hero in time for the next presidential nomination, we may look for it at the next election after that the successful candidate will be a man to whom is accorded the most glory as the result of the approaching military campaigns. The man may be deserving or he may not be; but when the people begin to agree upon the hero, we may look for that man to be president.

Manila, the scene of the terrible naval battle of last Friday night and Saturday, is the capital of the Philippine islands. The majority of these islands belong to Spain. They are about 1,200 in number and lie off the southeastern shore of Asia. The nearest cable connection is Hong Kong, China, some 630 miles from Manila. The cable belongs to Spain, and even if Manila has been taken, the other end of the cable is still in control of the Spaniards. A full and correct account of the battle cannot be sent out until correspondents or other witnesses reach Hong Kong. The distance from Manila to San Francisco is 6,320 miles, and to Hawaii 4,800 miles. The reports of the fight so far are conflicting; but there is no reason to doubt that the Spaniards have been defeated. It is possible that they have been completely annihilated.

It is altogether probable that the United States will be engaged in the war business for some time to come, and people may as well begin to make their arrangements accordingly. It is well to keep as thoroughly informed as possible as to the entire situation; but there is no need for people to excite themselves unnecessarily. Let them be patient, continue in the transaction of their every day business as best they can, and always be ready to respond to the calls for duty. How many more men may be needed before the trouble is over is, of course, one of these things which cannot be foretold at this time; but one thing is pretty certain, no individual will have to go outside the United States, either now, or hereafter,

except on his free will, and it is not improbable that the 125,000 volunteers, together with the regular army of 60,000 now being mobilized—185,000 in all—will be all the soldiers needed for quite a while.

GETTING THE NEWS.

One matter of very striking interest in connection with the war now in progress is that of collecting the news for the people, and in view of the many conflicting ideas on the subject, it is worth while to make some explanations.

A majority of the people in this section seem to think that the only news agency of any importance is what is known as the Associated Press; that the Associated Press only publishes news that is true, and, further, that such news is not published by the Associated Press, is without foundation in fact. But this idea is entirely erroneous, as we will endeavor to explain.

While an important factor in the collection of news, the Associated Press is really not even the most important. A number of the big metropolitan dailies, which take all the Associated Press news, each get up, through their own correspondents and other agencies, as much news in one day as the Associated Press is able to get up in two days; and not only that, the news of these papers is just as interesting and valuable as that furnished by the Associated Press.

In New York, Washington or other cities, all the big local papers are naturally competitors. This competition is of the fiercest character possible. To get their first with important news is the keynote to journalistic ambition. Any of the big newspapers can pay for the news of the Associated Press, and all of them take it. But that is only a drop in the bucket. With all containing the same news, one would be no better than another, and here the competition begins in all of its fierceness. Each paper knowing that increased circulation is the reward, concentrates its whole energies to the collection of other news not furnished by the Associated Press, and ahead of its competitors.

One metropolitan daily would no more think of swapping or selling news to another in the same city, than it would think of dropping out of the business. To do anything of the kind would be fatal. Consequently, while all have all the Associated Press has (that is if they want it—many of them throw a great deal of it away) they each also have much news that the Associated Press has not, and which they would not let the Associated Press have under any consideration.

But here comes up another element of news collection. While papers in New York and Chicago, for instance, are in competition with each other in their respective cities, there is no competition between the papers of New York and Chicago. The reason is obvious. The cities are about 24 hours apart, and in a section of live papers the life of one single issue of a newspaper is seldom more than 12 hours. Before the New York and Chicago morning papers have met each other half way, they have been milked of the cream of their news by afternoon dailies between, and they are back numbers. This fact then makes desirable the sale of more important news to each other. A Chicago paper will pay a big price for anything desirable that a New York paper has, and vice versa. But these trades are always made with the understanding that the news is not given out to the Associated Press. Otherwise, every sale of news will result in giving the same article not only to the paper to which it was sold; but also to all the papers in New York and Chicago, and every other paper in the country which cares to print it.

Take for instance the leading papers of Cincinnati and St. Louis. Every morning they publish, simultaneously, the more important news stories of all the leading papers of New York. They pay for it liberally, and thus, being out of competition, furnish a market which helps the New York papers bear the tremendous expense at which they have to collect their own special news service.

The Associated Press deals principally with official matters. It runs across, of course, many items that are collected by the other papers and serves them out to its patrons; but, as a rule, it is looked to for furnish various official developments. For instance, the big newspapers are of all shades of political bearing, and while some might be in the confidence of government authorities, for all to be out of the question. But still it is desirable to furnish many items of official information to all the papers, and the most practicable means to this end is necessarily the Associated Press.

This condition of affairs does not constitute any considerable advantage, as is easy to see. Being a confidant of officialdom, while the Associated Press is bound to be non-partisan, at the same time it can only publish what it gets the way it gets it, and often this matter is colored just as it would be colored by a partisan newspaper, except it is colored in the way the officials giving it out want it colored. Then again, it must be remembered that, left to their own discretion, officials only give out what they want published, and suppress a great deal that the public would be glad to know. It is here that the special service and enterprise of the metropolitan dailies comes in with important information which would not otherwise be given to the public.

At the present time there is an Associated Press correspondent on each of the American warships—especially the big ones—and, besides, the Associated Press has a dispatch boat with Sampson's fleet. On this dispatch boat there are also special representatives of stockholding Associated Press members. This fact shows that these papers want not only the Associated Press stories, but they also want stories from their own correspondents. But this is not all. Besides the Associated Press dispatch boat, various big metropolitan newspapers also have dispatch boats of their own along with the fleet, and the

Associated Press by no means has a monopoly of the news. Officials may give out their version of the incidents to the Associated Press; but then the independent newspapers, when they see fit, will also investigate matters for themselves.

For instance, take an illustration. In the last issue of THE ENQUIRER there was a statement that a man had been caught trying to file the locks of the magazine of the Puritan, and was court-martialed, convicted and sentenced to be shot. The Associated Press next day said this story was untrue. It admitted that a man had been caught monkeying about the magazine and the suspicious sailors were clamorous against him as a traitor. Further, it was stated that the fellow was under arrest, but there was really no reason for believing him guilty of treason, etc. Maybe the first story was true and maybe it was not. It is known that our navy includes men of all nationalities, and the fact, if fact it is, that there are spies on board, is calculated to give a great deal of uneasiness. Then, since the Associated Press is official, what is more natural than that it should be made the medium for the denial of a story, information of which is not calculated to inspire confidence. But we do not mean to say that the first story is true. We confess that we do not know.

But in addition to the Associated Press, there are other news-collecting agencies. On the eastern side of the continent their headquarters are New York and Washington. They serve principally the afternoon papers of the smaller towns. Much of their news they get direct. Some they collect from the morning editions of the big metropolitan dailies, and some they get from the afternoon papers. A great deal of the news they collect is necessarily the same as that collected by the Associated Press. They handle some that the Associated Press cannot afford to handle, for the reason it can acquire no legal title to it. Having already been collected by independent papers, the Associated Press should it undertake to send the same news back to those papers, would be in a rather peculiar position. Consequently, much of it is never sent out by the Associated Press at all. But as to its reliability? It is just as reliable as that of the Associated Press. Why should it not be?

These independent agencies are run by thoroughgoing newspaper men who understand their business, and who know that if they should fake their customers, their customers would quit them. But it is not our object to run down the Associated Press. That organization is a big thing. It is the biggest and most important single news-gathering agency in existence. Many papers in the smaller cities depend upon it entirely for their telegraphic news. Its news is far better than none at all. It fills an important field in newspaperdom generally. But it lacks much of being all in all. It gets things wrong sometimes just like other people, and it often fails to get there first with hot news of vital importance, and those who are disposed to discredit any news dispatch because it may not happen to be vouched for by the Associated Press will make a ridiculous mistake.

MERE-MENTION.

The Spanish government has decided to expel all United States citizens from Spain. The Russian press is worried over a suspected friendly agreement between the United States and Great Britain. It is reported that the departure of the Niagara from Rio Janeiro has been delayed by a breakdown in her machinery. The people of Key West are badly demoralized through fear of attack by Spanish warships. Miss Helton Gould has offered the United States government a donation of \$100,000. The president has expressed thanks; but suggests that the government can only accept the gift in the shape of a ship. The London Daily Mail says the Americans greatly underrated the defenses of Manila and Havana. The harbors of both ports are mined, and there are many 10 inch guns on the works. The man John Wals, captured at Port Eads as a Spanish spy, had in his possession numerous notes and undeveloped photographic films of fortifications about the mouth of the Mississippi. The government has purchased from Brazil 60 Whitehead torpedo boats, just manufactured for that country in Germany. The Republic of Hayti has declared neutrality; but under the provisions of an old treaty, must allow the United States the right to coal in Haytian ports. Fitzhugh Lee has been notified of his appointment as major general. The dispatches published Tuesday morning indicated the imminence of the bombardment of Havana. It is reported that the cable between Manila and Hong Kong has been cut.

MUST DEFEND THE FLAG.

A Rock Hill Negro Sends a Note to His Race.

Editor Yorkville Enquirer: No time now for the black man to talk about Jim Crow cars, disfranchisement, or anything else of a local nature, for the inevitable is upon us and must be met; not by the white man or the black man, but by the citizens of the United States of America. Therefore, we must stand by the stars and stripes and never let the old flag touch the ground. It is not the honor of any one state that is at stake; but the honor of this great nation. And as the black man lives under and is protected by this flag, he must be loyal to it and dance when the music plays. Any citizen, however humble his capacity, who will not answer the call of his country, is unworthy the consideration of a citizen and the protection of the government. The government needs beneficiaries in such times as these and not all beneficiaries. We must settle with Spain first; then we will have ample time to adjust our affairs at home. We must proceed now on general principles and not upon the grounds of localism. The Negro has taken the oath of "allegiance," and he must die by it. And if he expects the protection and friendship of the white man, he must stand with him when foreign invasions threaten.

S. A. CHAMBERS.
Rock Hill, S. C., May 2, 1898.

To Be Soldier Boys.

The following citizens of Yorkville left on Monday for Rock Hill, to enlist with the Catawba Rifles under the call for volunteers: J. E. Lowry, Jr., R. Kirk Lowry, Philip L. Moore, Crawford Moore, A. B. Culp, Lewis Ferguson, William Whiteaker, Charles Clawson.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

INDEX TO NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

John D. Cornwell and T. Gib Culp—Are announced as candidates for county supervisor.

John R. Lindsay, Clarence M. Kuykendal and Wm. M. Pratt, Board of Corporators—Give notice that books of subscription to the capital stock of the Carolina Life Insurance and Investment Association will be opened at the drugstore of C. M. Kuykendal today—4th instant.

Mrs. Dobson—Says that the rush still continues at her millinery store, and as a result she has had to secure extra help. New goods are coming in on every train.

Clarence M. Kuykendal—Is well supplied with the various blood purifiers required at this season of the year, and especially recommends Sharp & Dome's sarsaparilla, which is only 50 cents a bottle. He also talks to you about anti-ferment, which is recommended for diarrhoea, dysentery, etc.

Finley & Grist—Publish a notice to absent defendants in the case of J. K. Allison and J. B. Martin, as administrators of the estate of J. W. Allison, deceased, plaintiffs, against J. R. Dwyer and Wm. L. Gilbert Clock company and others, defendants.

Wm. A. Moore—At the rear of W. E. Ferguson's store, is prepared to do any kind of upholstering, and to repair any kind of vehicle, or any kind of implement.

Grist Cousins—Tell about a number of new things they have in the grocery line. They can also furnish you with side harrows, and axes of different sizes at right prices.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Messrs. J. A. Hope and Robert Conrad, of Lowryville, gave THE ENQUIRER a call on Monday.

Rev. B. J. Woodward, pastor of Union and Clover Baptist churches, will leave today for Norfolk, Va., where he goes to attend the Southern Baptist convention.

Mr. John M. McGill, of Shreveport, La., a native of this county and a son of Wm. McGill, who is visiting kindred and friends in this section, was in town yesterday.

Rev. Edward S. Reeves, pastor of the Baptist churches at Yorkville and Fort Mill, will leave for Norfolk, Va., this morning, where he goes as a delegate to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist convention which meets on tomorrow. Mr. Reeves will be absent until the 16th.

Except in the local papers, we note when the name of Captain Mobley, of the Catawba Rifles, is published, it is invariably "Fred" instead of "Frederic," as it should be. The publishers of the dailies might call the attention of their proof readers to this fact.

TERMS OF ENLISTMENT.

Following is the form of the oath of enlistment that has been prescribed in South Carolina for the volunteer army: STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA—Enlistment. I, _____, do hereby desire to enlist in company _____, regiment of South Carolina volunteer troops, do agree to take the following oath as required by law:

You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will bear true allegiance to the United States, and the state of South Carolina; and that you will support the constitution thereof; that you will obey the orders of the commander-in-chief, and of such officers as may be placed over you, and the laws governing the military forces of the state of South Carolina. So help you God.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 189____.

Enlisting Officer.

IS YOUR NAME HERE?

Up to Monday morning, the following citizens had been registered to vote in the approaching municipal election. There are 60 in all—considerably less than half the total number entitled to registration. The last day of registration is May 9; but nobody should put off such an important matter until the last day. Those whose names are not in this list should at once put up their old certificates, or state certificates and town tax receipts, and call upon Mr. F. McConnell. He will be found in the southernmost office of Law Range, and will be glad to issue certificates to all applicants who may be entitled to them. It is the duty of every citizen to register:

Dr. J. B. Allison, R. S. McConnell, T. W. Barron, W. H. McCorkle, W. B. McClure, R. S. Brunsen, T. B. Crawford, A. F. McConnell, T. W. Clawson, S. A. McElwee, T. C. Dunlap, W. H. McConnell, D. E. Finley, W. B. McCaw, J. B. Ferguson, F. E. McDow, G. H. O'Leary, L. M. Grist, C. G. Parish, L. Geo. Grist, W. D. Grist, O. E. Grist, J. W. Grist, J. W. Grist, Rev. B. H. Grier, G. W. Sherrer, W. S. Gist, W. A. Moore, F. A. Gosman, H. C. Glenn, W. S. Hart, W. O. Harshaw, John R. Hart, J. J. Hunter, W. W. Jenkins, Brooks Inman, W. M. Kennedy, J. R. Logan, J. E. Lowry, R. B. Lowry, W. G. Latimer, B. N. Moore, A. S. Withers, Geo. W. Williams.

THE CATAWBAS.

Following is the roll of the Catawba Rifles as it stood on Tuesday morning. It includes 100 names. Companies, however, must not exceed 88 names, and some of the names will be eliminated. The company is awaiting orders to go to Columbia and expects to leave today or tomorrow.

Fred Mobley, captain; W. M. Dunlap, S. T. Frew and Jas. S. White, lieutenants; H. Dunlap, F. D. Marshall, James Beckham, J. C. Adams, R. K. Lowry, John M. Mayers, Chas. C. Adams, Will. J. Edles, Arthur A. Moore, John Miller, Shell Patterson, J. C. Moore, C. K. Clawson, J. E. Lowry, Jr., W. B. Williams, Geo. V. Jordan, L. H. Sherer, G. S. Timmons, W. L. Turner, L. P. Creighton, W. J. Careton, Sims Crockett, J. A. Bradford, R. S. Tillman, J. W. Sumner, Walter Morgan, Roy Cunningham, W. H. Campbell, Wm. Banks, A. B. Culp, C. C. Knott, C. C. Horton, Israel P. Clie, Theodore McGraw, Chas. Nelson, W. J. Whitener, David Poptous, Wm. M. Roy, Peter Irlie, Morris E. Cobb, James F. Campbell, Joseph P. Glynor, F. Sadler, T. T. Morrison, Glennore B. Barlow, James L. Adams, J. L. Phillips, Fred Thompsons, Sidney Adams, A. A. Moore, Wm. J. Neely, J. Fred Pond, Eugene M. Holler, D. E. Jones, P. D. Barron, Robt. J. Misenheimer, H. M. Davis, Lewis W. Ayers, Robt. J. McGraw, J. C. Crowell, G. E. Fincher, W. L. Abernathy, W. M. Steele, T. B. Lumpkin, Thomas Kiser, Ernest Cook, J. L. Reid, J. P. Cline, Wm. B. Wilson, Jr., Clarence M. Mobley, Gordon McFadden, Arthur Parks, Green Sandifer, W. L. Black, R. A. Morrison, W. S. Craighead, Jr., Brevard Gordon, A. H. Sackett, Sam Steele, Frank Hull, J. M. Ivey, L.

G. Ferguson, W. B. Roddey, John A. Love, Harry McDonald, L. P. Huckleback, H. H. Hope, W. F. Culp, V. C. Miller, George Butler.

TO THE SOLDIERS.

Rev. O. G. Jones preached a timely sermon to the Catawba Rifles last Sunday morning. He took his text from Joshua 14, XII—Give me this mountain.

The Rock Hill correspondent of THE ENQUIRER sends the following summary:

After making touching reference to the Southern heroes, the Confederate veterans and their sons who are following in the footsteps of their fathers, the speaker presented Caleb as a model man and soldier. He presented his characteristics under the following heads:

1st. He was a faithful follower of the Master.

2nd. He was a courageous follower of the Master.

3rd. He planned great things and did great things for God.

4th. God gives great souls great things to do.

The speaker took the ground that this war was not sent on as a curse, but as an opportunity to set a precedent for the nations, so that no nation would ever again be allowed to oppress the weak.

The speaker claimed that it was providential, and that the result would be a glorious victory for civilization and the church of God. He closed by making a touching appeal to the soldier boys who are going now into danger.

He pled with them to place themselves directly under the providence of God, in the redemption and loving care of Jesus Christ.

GENERAL COWARD.

A strong petition was gotten up here last Saturday, and immediately forwarded to Washington, asking President McKinley to appoint Colonel Ashbury Coward, superintendent of the Citadel, to be one of the brigadier generals provided for in the Hull bill.

There was not a great deal of time for the circulation of the petition; but it was eagerly signed by all to whom it was presented. It is doubtful if there is a citizen of York county who would not gladly sign such a paper upon opportunity, and all will earnestly hope for the favorable action of the president.

Colonel Coward has had experience in war. There were many from this state who were his superiors in rank; but none—not a single man—who was his superior in military capacity. Some necessarily went above Colonel Coward under the legitimate rules of precedence; but many others got there through wire-pulling and scheming—something that has always been, and still is, as far from the character of Colonel Coward, as is even the possibility that under any circumstances he should fail to do his duty as he sees it.

If it is military ability that President McKinley wants, he need continue his search in this state no further, and if it is patriotic devotion to duty, Colonel Coward is his man. Of all the brigadiers that will be selected, there will not be one who is in any respect the superior of this ideal soldier.

What is said here is not based upon an individual opinion of Colonel Coward. The senior publisher of THE ENQUIRER has been with the colonel in war and has his opinion. Two of the junior publishers have been under the instruction of this same old warrior in civil life, and they have their opinion. But these circumstances are only a drop in the bucket. Not only old soldiers in York county, but all the soldiers of the state will bear testimony to the superior efficiency of the Fifth regiment, Colonel Coward's old command. And neither is this anything like the half. Colonel Coward is an extremely modest man, personally, and it is doubtful if he has ever spoken of the fact to any except his most intimate friends; but it is known here in Yorkville that he has among his most treasured possessions a personal letter from that greatest soldier of modern times—Robert E. Lee—telling him in the plainest possible terms that there was not a more capable colonel in the whole army of Northern Virginia.

Unless the news has been sent to the daily papers, Colonel Coward knows nothing of the effort that has been commenced in his behalf. The whole thing was sprung on the instant last Saturday by Judge L. D. Witherspoon, and the petition was on its way to Washington within a few hours afterward. Whether the president can be induced to make the appointment or not, of course nobody knows; but if he does, he will certainly get a brigadier who will prove a brigadier right.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

The York County Democratic convention met in the courthouse last Monday morning at 11 o'clock, pursuant to the recent call of the executive committee, and was called to order by Chairman Brie, who thought still very unwell, risked coming out for the purpose.

Mr. Brie explained that the object of the convention was threefold. 1. To elect delegates to the State Democratic convention, to be held in Columbia on May 18. 2. To elect a new executive committee; and 3. To elect a county chairman. Hereafter the county chairman has been elected by the executive committee; but under the constitution of the party, that official must be elected by the convention, after which he becomes ex-officio chairman of the executive committee. The first business in order was the election, and upon motion of Major T. C. Beckham, Mr. J. S. Brie was chosen unanimously. Upon motion of Captain Crawford, Captain W. H. Edwards was, in a like manner, chosen temporary secretary.

Mr. Brie explained that owing to the war excitement and apathy as to political matters, some of the precincts had failed to hold an election for delegates, and went on to suggest the next business as the appointment of a committee on credentials, to consist of one member from each delegation. Upon motion, the committee was appointed as follows:

John H. Steele, Antioch, J. B. Ford, Blairsville, Wm. McT. Bailey, Bethany, Not represented, Clover, W. J. Davis, Coates's Tavern, Not represented, Ebenezer, J. C. Wilborn, Fort Mill, D. G. Kimbrell, Forest Hill, L. W. Louthian, Hickory Grove, W. N. Elder, McConellsville, W. N. Elder, Newport, R. M. Anderson, Rock Hill, Iredell Jones, Smyrna, Not represented, Sharon, R. W. Whitesides, Tirzah, H. Massey, York, J. R. Logan.

After retiring and examining the record, the committee reported duly accredited delegates as follows, and the report was adopted:

Antioch—J. L. Moore, D. L. Black, J. M. Steele, J. S. Sandifer, John H. Steele, Bethany—J. A. Ratteree, Jos. Patrick, S. N. Johnson, W. N. Wallace, J. B. Ford, Bethany—Not represented.

Blairsville—J. B. Stephenson, J. D. Burgess, W. McBailey, T. A. Gwin. Clover—J. W. Lawrence, W. J. Davis, J. E. Beauguard, J. B. Robinson, W. D. Moore, E. B. Price.

Coates's Tavern—J. D. Cornwell, H. M. Lineberger, Nathan Williams, Robert Gentry.

Ebenezer—A. B. Fewell, J. H. Matthews, J. C. Wilborn.

Fort Mill—J. M. Armstrong, D. A. Lee, D. G. Kimbrell, J. R. Haile, T. G. Culp, D. O. Potts, W. H. Windle, S. H. Epps, B. M. Faris, C. T. Cook.

Forest Hill—L. W. Louthian, J. R. Cook.

Hickory Grove—T. P. McDill, P. B. Love, J. W. Leech, J. Ed Leech, R. L. Seagins, R. M. Whitesides, J. M. Whitesides.

McConellsville—J. McMoore, J. F. Ashe, W. N. Elder, P. M. Burris, Robert Conrad.

Newport—Jos. M. Taylor, J. M. Campbell, R. M. Anderson.

Rock Hill—A. H. Green, Iredell Jones, W. H. Edwards, J. B. Heath, J. B. Johnson, T. C. Beckham, W. J. Cherry, W. T. Pong, W. C. Hutchison, W. J. White, W. H. Stewart, J. J. Hull, J. T. Thomason, S. E. Wilson, W. H. Cowan, W. J. Rawlinson, A. E. Smith, J. F. Lee.

Sharon—J. M. Sims, J. H. Saye, J. D. Hamilton.

Smyrna—R. W. Whitesides, Julius A. Hope.

Tirzah—Henry Massey, J. J. Miller, W. M. Potts, Dr. T. B. Hough, J. P. Aycock.

Yorkville—R. L. Wilkerson, J. D. Hall, M. S. Carroll, D. C. Clark, W. J. Waters, W. C. Gist, R. M. Sherrer, C. H. Sandifer, E. A. Crawford, J. S. Brie, J. R. Logan, L. R. Williams, Wm. Dobson, B. N. Moore, W. W. Lewis, J. A. Barron, J. M. Hope, D. E. Finley, H. C. Strauss, J. E. Lowry.

Bullock's Creek—J. S. Bankhead, Kelly Inman, W. B. Good, W. D. Hope.

Upon the adoption of the report of the committee on credentials, the work of permanent organization was completed by the election of W. N. Elder as chairman, and W. H. Edwards as secretary.

Upon motion, a committee