

The Western Democrat.

OFFICE
ON THE
WEST SIDE OF TRADE STREET

CHARACTER IS AS IMPORTANT TO STATES AS IT IS TO INDIVIDUALS, AND THE GLORY OF THE ONE IS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF THE OTHER

\$30 for SIX MONTHS.

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1865.

THIRTEENTH VOLUME--NUMBER 661.

THE WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

Published every Tuesday,
BY
WILLIAM J. YATES,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS FOR SIX MONTHS
\$30 IN ADVANCE.

Transient advertisements must be paid for in advance.
Advertisements not marked on the manuscript for a specific time, will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT.

Jefferson Davis of Mississippi, President.
Alex H Stephens of Georgia, Vice President.
J. P. Benjamin, of Louisiana, Secretary of State.
J. C. Breckinridge, of Ky., Secretary of War.
G. A. Trenholm, of South Carolina, Secretary of the Treasury.
S. R. Mallory, of Florida, Secretary of the Navy.
Gen. Davis of North Carolina, Chief of the Department of Justice or Attorney General.
J. H. Reagan, of Texas, Postmaster General.
The President serves six years.

MEMBERS OF THE SECOND CONGRESS.

SENATE.
ALABAMA.
R W Walker
Robt Jamison
ARKANSAS.
R W Johnson
A H Garland
FLORIDA.
J M Baker
A E Maxwell
GEORGIA.
H V Johnson
B H Hill
KENTUCKY.
H C Burnett
W E Simms
LOUISIANA.
Edw D Sparrow
T J Semmes
MISSOURI. W P Johnson, (Vacancy)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thomas S. Bocock, Speaker.
ALABAMA.
1 Thomas J Foster
2 Wm R Smith
3 W R Cobb
4 Marcus H Cruikshank
5 Francis S Lyon

ARKANSAS.
1 Felix I Batson
2 Rufus K Garland
FLORIDA.
1 St. George Rogers
2 Robert B Hilton
GEORGIA.
1 Julian Hartridge
2 Wm E Smith
3 kmar H Blanford
4 Willford Anderson
5 J T Shewmaker

KENTUCKY.
1 Willis B Machen
2 George W Triplett
3 Henry E Read
4 George W Ewing
5 James S Christman
6 Theodore L Burnett

LOUISIANA.
1 Charles J Villere
2 Charles M Conrad
3 Duncan F Kenner

MISSISSIPPI.
1 John A Orr
2 Wm D Holder
3 Isaac Welch
4 Henry C Chambers

MISSOURI.
1 Thos L Snead
2 N L Norton
3 John B Clark
4 A H Conrow

NORTH CAROLINA.
1 Wm N H Smith
2 Robert R Bridgers
3 J T Louch
4 Thomas C Fuller
5 Josiah Turner

SOUTH CAROLINA.
1 Jas M Witherspoon
2 Wm Pucher Miles
3 Lewis M Ayer

TENNESSEE.
1 Joseph B Heiskell
2 William G Swan
3 A S Colver
4 John P Murray
5 Henry S Foote
6 E A Keeble

TEXAS.
1 John A Wilcox (dec'd)
2 C C Herbert
3 A M Branch

VIRGINIA.
1 Robt L Montague
2 R H Whitfield
3 Wm C Wickham
4 T S Ghoslen
5 Thomas S Bocock
6 John Goode, Jr.
7 Wm C Rivers
8 Daniel C Dejanetto

37 old members and 40 new members.

DEER'S FURNACE.

SIX MILES EAST OF LINCOLNTON, N. C.
My Furnace is now in full operation, and I am prepared to exchange iron of all kinds for Bacon, Corn, Oats, &c. Castings of all kinds will be furnished for provisions or money.
Molasses Mills, Boilers, &c., cast to order on moderate terms.
I have on hand a lot of Farming Iron, such as Plow Moulds, Tyre, &c., which will be sold for money.
J. W. DEER.
Spring Hill Forge, March 27, 1864

PROVISION AND COMMISSION HOUSE.

OPPOSITE THE MANSION HOUSE, SPRINGS BUILDING,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
W. BOYD
Will attend punctually to buying and selling
Tobacco, Cotton, Nails,
Iron, Cotton Yarn, Domestic
Specie, Bank Bills, Bonds,
Stocks, &c., &c.

Permit me to say to my immediate fellow-citizens that I have been raised among you, my habits and way of doing business are well known to you; and from a long experience in business I hope to share a liberal patronage.
I am prepared to store Tobacco, Sugar, Salt, Cotton Yarns, &c.
Rooms opposite the Mansion House in Springs' brick building.
Business hours from 9 o'clock a. m., to 5 o'clock p. m.
REFERENCES.—Col. L. S. Williams, Capt. John Wilkes, John M Springs, H B Williams, Messrs Young, Wriston & Orr, James H Carson, President Branch Bank, J J Blackwood, President Bank of Charlotte, Rev. Geo M Everhart, Rev. R H Griffith, Charlotte; Hon. F M Barringer, Charles Dewey, President State Bank N C, Raleigh; John A Everett, Goldsboro; J J Lawson, President Bank of Yanceyville, N C; Rev. Thomas Hume, Petersburg, Va.; L D Childs, Columbia, S. C.
Jan 16, 1865

AUCTION HOUSE,

And Brokerage, Charlotte, N. C.
Third Door from Springs' corner.

C. F. HARRIS & CO.,
Will buy and sell on consignment and commission,
Cotton, Tobacco, Negroes,
Gold, Silver, Bank Bills,
State and Confederate Bonds, &c. &c. &c.
Orders from a distance are respectfully solicited.
C. F. HARRIS, Concord, N. C.
A. W. BURTON, Lincolnton, N. C.
W. SLOAN, Charlotte, N. C.

REFERENCES.—Wm Johnston, Esq, President C. & S. C. Railroad; B S Gules, Supt. W. C. & R. Railroad; L F Bates, Supt. Southern Express Company; Drucker & Heilbrun; J J Blackwood, Pres't Bank of Charlotte; T W Dewey, Cashier Branch Bank of N. C.; S A Harris, Mayor of Charlotte; R M Johnston, Columbia, S. C.; and I. Cohn, Augusta, Ga.
January 9, 1865

"GARRETT DAVIS."

This well-known Horse will serve the public during the ensuing season, commencing the first of March. He will stand at my stable in Charlotte, and persons bringing their Horses to town can be accommodated at any time.
Terms.—One hundred dollars for the use of the Horse during the season, and \$10 to the groom—in all cases to be paid in advance. Provisions at market prices will be received in payment.
Jan. 23, 1865.

Southern Express Company.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nov. 21, 1864.
On and after this date all Boxes which are securely fastened and strapped, containing stores for the N. C. Troops in the field, marked to the care of Surgeon General Warren, Raleigh, will be forwarded without expense to either shipper or consignee, and will have preference over all other freight excepting that of the same class from other States.
Nov 21, 1864

SALT! SALT!

In exchange for Bacon, Pork, Corn or Molasses.
YOUNG, WRISTON & ORR.
Nov 28, 1864

CARRIAGE WORK,

Wagon-work and Wood-work of all kinds, and Blacksmithing.

The subscriber has removed his Workshops to the stand formerly occupied by Charles Overman, near the Presbyterian Church, where he is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line. Repairing will always receive prompt attention.
He will work at old prices and take provisions in payment at the same rates, or he will charge an equivalent in Confederate money.
CHARLES WILSON.
Charlotte, Jan. 9, 1865

Notice.

All persons leaving Charlotte by Railroad are required to obtain Passports at the Provost Marshal's office. By order, Lieut. G. W. GRAGSON,
Oct 17, 1864 Provost Marshal.

THE KEY-STONE.

A MASONIC MONTHLY MAGAZINE.
On the first of January, 1865, I shall commence the publication of a Monthly Magazine under the above title, to be devoted to the interest of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. I believe that every good Mason will agree with me in the opinion that such a publication will be beneficial in enlightening our less informed brethren, and in dispensing many a calm, kind word of cheerfulness to the hearts and homes of thousands of worthy brothers, their widows and orphans. It will be my earnest purpose to bring to bear whatever humble ability I may possess to make it a reliable custodian of sound Masonic Law and Tenets, ever adhering closely to the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft in all their pristine strength and symmetrical beauty.
Trembling, lest I err, in clothing myself for so responsible an office, I shall engage upon the Key-Stone such skilled editorial talent as shall keep the lights well trimmed and brightly burning, with the sincere hope that as our work goes forth each month, from the quill of our labour it may pass an improved inspection and be acceptable to the head and to the heart of every good Master at whose home or hands it may be received.
TERMS:
One copy six months, \$15 00
12 copies six months, 150 00
Single copies, 2 50
Masons, Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Encampments will please send in their subscriptions at once.
Address W. M. B. SMITH, Proprietor,
November 21, 1864. Raleigh, N. C.

COPPERAS.

TAYLOR & ASBURY are now prepared to furnish by the ton or otherwise, a fine article of Copperas, superior to any English offered in market. Druggists and Apothecaries supplied with a chemically pure article. Address TAYLOR & ASBURY,
May 5, 1865 Charlotte, N. C.

The Western Democrat.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

In a debate on the Oregon Bill, in 1848, Daniel Webster said: "I understand that one-half the people who settled in Illinois are people, or descendants of people, who came from the Southern States. And I suppose that one-third of the people of Ohio are those, or descendants of those, who emigrated from the South." We dare say that a large proportion of the people of other North-western States are, in like manner, Southern citizens, or men of Southern descent.

The most formidable armies we have encountered in this war are made up of Northwestern men, and Kentuckians and Tennesseans. It is the hands of her own children that have given the South more trouble than all the Puritan, European and African troops combined.

HOW THE YANKEES TREAT "UNION" PEOPLE.

—We had occasion to set forth, a short time since, how the Yankees treat *union people*, so called by themselves, but whom we more appropriately style *loyalists*, as our fathers did the *loyalists* in 1776.

We have now other instances to record of the tender dealings of the Yankees with their *union, loyal* friends.
It has happened that they have passed through a portion of the Quaker settlement of Wayne, and not having regard for the Quaker sentiment, or their exemption, because of "conscientious scruples," against fighting for their country, they tucked some of them up, and literally hung them, until they disgorged silver dollars—bright pure coin—to the amount of thousands.

Now there are *loyalists* here in the city of Raleigh, who regard "Sherman as the peace negotiator, whose hearts it does good to see him advancing at the rate of twenty-five miles a day."

Some of these have silver laid away, and others sterling exchange.
It is quite as easy to choke a man into signing a triplicate bill of exchange, as into telling where his dollars are hid, and Sherman's are just the boys to negotiate such bills.

In this connection, we understand that in Fayetteville the Yankees encountered Mr. A. A. McKethan, who told them, "I am Southern born and bred. I have two sons in the army, and if I were young enough would be there myself," and they let him alone. The Yankees have not lost all respect for courageous patriotism.—*Raleigh Confederate.*

SOLDIER'S CLAIMS.

The undersigned having been appointed "Commissioner to investigate, collect and distribute Claims of Deceased Soldiers," gives notice that after the 20th Feb., he will be prepared to furnish the blanks whereby the wives, children, executors or administrators of deceased soldiers may have their claims placed in proper form to be filed in the Auditor's office in Richmond, and will use every effort in his power to have the same promptly paid.

Persons applying for blanks must forward a 20 cent postage stamp (or two 10 cent bills) to prepay the postage on the same.
A Register of all claims will be kept, and at any time the state of a claim may be ascertained.
HENRY E. COLTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.

Headquarters Reserve of N. C.,

RALEIGH, March 14, 1865.
Special Orders, No. 44. [Extract.]

All Confederate officers and men delivered at Savannah, or Charleston, during November and December last, and all delivered on James River prior to the 1st inst., having been duly exchanged, it is hereby ordered that all such men shall be immediately assembled at Camp Stokes, Greensboro, and Camp Holmes, Raleigh, where they will receive their orders. The special attention of all Enrolling Officers is called to this Order and Circular No. 12, Current Series, Conscription Office, Raleigh, N. C. Quartermasters will furnish the necessary transportation.
By command of Lieut. Gen. Holmes,
March 20, 1865. CHAS. S. STRINGFELLOW, A. A. General.

Headquarters, Reserve, N. C.,

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 17, 1865

General Order, No. 5.
Special attention is called to the 34th Article of War, and General Orders No. 78 series of 1864, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, which will be strictly observed in all correspondence with these Headquarters.

All communications not properly endorsed and forwarded through the prescribed channels, will be returned without action, and a repetition of the offense will subject the party to trial for a violation of orders. Letter paper will be folded in three, and footcups in four equal folds and endorsed thus:
1. Post or Station and date of Letters.
2. Name and Rank of Writer.
3. Analysis of Contents.
By command of Lieut. Gen. Holmes:
Feb. 20, 1865 12t CHAS. S. STRINGFELLOW, Maj. & Asst. Adj. Gen.

NOTICE.

We positively forbid all persons—white and black, poor and rich—from fishing in our Mill Pond. Any one caught violating this notice will certainly be prosecuted. We can no longer bear the deprivations that have been committed on our premises.
Oct 24, 1864. PARKS & WALLIS.

WHEAT!

The subscriber is prepared to purchase the new crop of Wheat at the highest market price. Farmers will find it to their advantage to call at the CHARLOTTE STEAM MILLS before selling.
Jan'y 1, 1864 JNO. WILKES.

CHARLOTTE HOTEL,

BY J. B. KERR, Proprietor.
This old established and well-known Hotel is still kept open for the accommodation of travelers. The table is supplied with the best market and times afford.
Sept 26, 1862 Jf

GRAIN, LARD, &c.

On the 25th inst., the Medical Purveyor will be prepared to purchase Corn, Rye, Barley and Lard, for which market prices will be paid; and Sugar, Coffee, Rice, Salt, Cotton Yarn and Cloth will be given in part payment when desired.
J. T. JOHNSON, Surg. & Med. Pur.
Med. Pur's Office, Charlotte, March 12, 1864.

BLANK DEEDS, Warrants, Ejectments, &c. for sale at this Office.

THE TREATMENT OF OUR PRISONERS AT THE NORTH

During last summer, a crusade was commenced by the Northern press against the "barbarous treatment" of their prisoners at the South. A congressional committee was appointed to investigate the fact; and, in order to arouse the Northern people, this committee had several of their sick and emaciated returned prisoners stripped naked, and photographs taken of them. These pictures were circulated as specimens of the appearance of all the prisoners held in the South. The Confederate Congress appointed a committee lately to report upon the condition and treatment of prisoners of war held by both Governments, and also upon the violations, by the enemy, of the rules of civilized warfare. The report of our committee has been printed, and we copy from it some extracts:

"In exchange, a number of Confederate sick and wounded prisoners have been, at various times, delivered at Richmond and at Savannah. The mortality among these on the passage, and their condition when delivered, were so deplorable as to justify the charge that they had been treated with inhuman neglect by the Northern authorities.

Assistant Surgeon Tinsley testifies: "I have seen many of our prisoners returned from the North who were nothing but skin and bones. They were as emaciated as a man could be to retain life, and the photographs (appended to "Report No. 67,") would not be exaggerated representations of our returned prisoners, to whom I thus allude. I saw two hundred and fifty of our sick brought in on litters from the steamer at Rockets. Thirteen dead bodies were brought off the steamer the same night. At least thirty died in one night after they were received."

Surgeon Spence testifies: "I was at Savannah, and saw rather over three thousand prisoners received. The list showed that a large number had died on the passage from Baltimore to Savannah. The number sent from the Federal prisons was three thousand and five hundred, and out of that number they delivered only three thousand and twenty-eight, to the best of my recollection. Captain Hatch can give you the exact number. Thus, about four hundred and seventy-two died on the passage. I was told that sixty-seven dead bodies had been taken from one train of cars between Elmira and Baltimore. After being received at Savannah, they had the best attention possible, yet many died in a few days."—"In carrying out the exchange of disabled, sick and wounded men, we delivered at Savannah and Charleston about eleven thousand Federal prisoners; and their physical condition compared most favorably with those we received in exchange, although, of course, the worst cases among the Confederates had been removed by death during the passage."

Richard H. Dibrell, a merchant of Richmond, and a member of the ambulance committee, whose labors in mitigating the sufferings of the wounded have been acknowledged both by Confederate and Northern men, thus testifies, concerning our sick and wounded soldiers at Savannah, returned from Northern prisons and hospitals: "I have never seen a set of men in worse condition. They were so emaciated and emaciated that we lifted them like little children. Many of them were like living skeletons. Indeed, there was one poor boy, about seventeen years old, who presented the most distressing and deplorable appearance I ever saw. He was nothing but skin and bones, and, besides this, he was literally eaten up with vermin. He died in the hospital in a few days after being removed thither, notwithstanding the kindest treatment and the use of the most judicious nourishment. Our men were in so reduced a condition that on more than one trip up on the short passage of ten miles from the transports to the city as many as five died. The clothing of the privates was in a wretched state of tatters and filth."—"The mortality on the passage from Maryland was very great, as well as that on the passage from the prisons to the port from which they started. I cannot state the exact number, but I think I heard that three thousand five hundred were started, and we only received about three thousand and twenty-seven."

The Rations given to Federal Prisoners.—The evidence proves that the rations furnished to prisoners of war in Richmond and on Belle Isle have been never less than those furnished to the Confederate soldiers who guarded them, and have, at some seasons, been larger in quantity and better in quality than those furnished to Confederate troops in the field. This has been because, until February, 1864, the Quartermaster's Department furnished the prisoners, and often had provisions or funds, when the Commissary Department was not so well provided. Once, and only once, for a few weeks, the prisoners were without meat; but a larger quantity of bread and vegetable food was, in consequence, supplied to them. How often the gallant men composing the Confederate army have been without meat, for even longer intervals, your committee do not deem it necessary to say. Not less than sixteen ounces of bread and four ounces of bacon, or six ounces of beef, together with beans and soup, have been furnished per day to the prisoners. During most of the time, the quantity of meat furnished to them has been greater than these amounts; and, even in the times of the greatest scarcity, they have received as much as the Southern soldiers who guarded them. The scarcity of meat and of breadstuffs in the South, in certain places, has been the result of the savage policy of our enemies in burning farms filled with wheat or corn, destroying agricultural implements, and driving off or wantonly butchering hogs and cattle. Yet, amid all these privations, we have given to their prisoners the rations above mentioned. It is well known that this quantity of food is sufficient to keep in health a man who does not labor hard.

Falsehoods Published as to Prisoners Freezing on Belle Isle.—The statements of the "sanitary commission" as to prisoners freezing to death on Belle Isle are absurdly false. According to that statement, it was common, during a cold spell in winter, to see several prisoners frozen to death every morning in the places in which they had slept. This picture, if correct, might well excite horror; but, unhappily for its sensational power, it is a clumsy daisy, founded on the fancy of the painter. The facts are, that tents were furnished sufficient to shelter all the prisoners; that the Confederate commandant and soldiers on the

island were lodged in similar tents; that a fire was furnished in each of them; that the prisoners fared as well as their guards; and that only one of them was ever frozen to death, and he was frozen by the cruelty of his own fellow prisoners, who thrust him out of the tent in a freezing night because he was infested with vermin. The proof as to the healthiness of the prisoners on Belle Isle, and the small amount of mortality, is remarkable, and presents a fit comment on the lugubrious pictures drawn by the "sanitary commission" either from their own fancies or from the fictions put forth by their false witnesses. Lieutenant Bosieux proves that, from the establishment of the prison camp on Belle Isle, in June, 1862, to the 10th of February, 1865, more than twenty thousand prisoners had been, at various times, there received, and yet that the whole number of deaths during this time was only one hundred and sixty-four. And this is confirmed by the Federal Colonel Sanderson, who states that the average number of deaths per month on Belle Isle was "from two to five—more frequently the lesser number." The sick were promptly removed from the island to the hospitals in the city.

Under the Libby Prison.—Your committee proceed next to notice the allegation that the Confederate authorities had prepared a mine under the Libby prison, and placed in it a quantity of gunpowder for the purpose of blowing up the buildings, with their inmates, in case of an attempt to rescue them. After ascertaining all the facts bearing on this subject, your committee believe that what was done under the circumstances will meet a verdict of approval from all whose prejudices do not blind them to the truth. The state of things was unprecedented in history, and must be judged of according to the motives at work and the result accomplished. A large body of Northern raiders, under one Colonel Dahlgren, was approaching Richmond. It was ascertained, by the reports of prisoners captured from them, and other evidence, that their design was to enter the city, to set fire to the buildings, public and private, for which purpose turpentine balls, in great numbers, had been prepared to murder the President of the Confederate States and other prominent men; to release the prisoners of war, then numbering five or six thousand; to put arms into their hands, and to turn over the city to indiscriminate pillage, rape and slaughter. At the same time, a plot was discovered among the prisoners to co-operate in this scheme, and a large number of knives and slungshots (made by putting stones into woolen stockings) were detected in places of concealment about their quarters. To defeat a plan so diabolical, assuredly the sternest means were justified. If it would have been right to put to death any one prisoner attempting to escape under such circumstances, it seems logically certain that it would have been equally right to put to death any number making such attempt. But, in truth, the means adopted were those of humanity and prevention, rather than of execution. The Confederate authorities felt able to meet and repulse Dahlgren and his raiders if they could prevent the escape of the prisoners.

The real object was to save their lives, as well as those of our citizens. The guard force at the prisons was small, and all the local troops in and around Richmond were needed to meet the threatened attack. Had the prisoners escaped, the women and children of the city as well as their homes; would have been at the mercy of five thousand outlaws. Humanity required that the most summary measures should be used to deter them from any attempt at escape.

A mine was prepared under the Libby prison; a sufficient quantity of gunpowder was put into it, and pains were taken to inform the prisoners that any attempt at escape made by them would be effectually defeated. The plan succeeded perfectly. The prisoners were awed, and kept quiet. Dahlgren and his party were defeated and scattered. The danger passed away, and in a few weeks the gunpowder was removed. Such are the facts.—Your committee do not hesitate to make them known, feeling assured that the conscience of the enlightened world, and the great law of self-preservation, will justify all that was done by our country and her officers.

Means for Securing Cleanliness.—The next charge is, that the Libby and Belle Isle prisoners were habitually kept in a filthy condition, and that the officers and men confined there were prevented from keeping themselves sufficiently clean to avoid vermin and similar discomforts. The evidence clearly contradicts this charge. It is proved by the depositions of Major Turner, Lieutenant Bosieux, Rev. Dr. McCabe, and others, that the prisoners were kept constantly and systematically polished and cleansed; that in the Libby there was an ample supply of water conducted to each floor by the city pipes, and that the prisoners were not only not restricted in its use, but urged to keep themselves clean. At Belle Isle, for a brief season, (about three weeks,) in consequence of a sudden increase in the number of prisoners, the police was interrupted, but it was soon restored, and ample means for washing both themselves and their clothes were at all times furnished to the prisoners. It is doubtless true that, notwithstanding these facilities, many of the prisoners were lousy and filthy; but it was the result of their own habits, and not of neglect in the discipline or arrangements of the prison. Many of the prisoners were captured and brought in while in this condition. The Federal General Neal Dow well expressed their character and habits. When he came to distribute clothing among them, he was met by profane abuse, and he said to the Confederate officer in charge, "You have here the scorpions and rakings of Europe." That such men should be filthy in their habits, might be expected.

A New way to make Catfishes wash well.—In fuse three gills of salt in four quarts of boiling water, and put the catfishes in while hot and leave until cold. In this way the colors are rendered permanent, and will not fade by subsequent washing.

Josh Billings gives some advice to a young lady as to how she shall receive a proposal: "You ought to take it kind, looking down bill, with an expression about half-killed and half-scared. After the pop is over, if yure luvyer wants tew kiss you, I don't think I would say yes or no, but let the thing kind or take its own course."

Freshets in the North.—The heavy freshet and thaw inaugurated by the opening of the recent mild weather, have caused immense damage, extending through a wide extent of country in the United States. Throughout various States, as far east as New Hampshire, and as far west as Missouri, the rivers have been swollen to an extraordinary height, and the increased volume of water and accelerated currents have carried everything before them, overflowing thousands of acres of lowlands, inundating cities, towns and railroads, and sweeping off vast amounts of property. One hundred miles of the Erie railroad, and several miles of the New York Central and other principal routes of travel were, on last Saturday, under water.

FROM THE SOUTH AND WEST.

On the 20th a number of negroes built a raft on Briar creek, about 100 miles below Augusta, floated it out, and attempted to navigate the Savannah river down to Savannah to reach the Yankees. The raft struck a torpedo which blew it to pieces, and not one of the party has been heard of since—all lost.

A Yankee force under Grierson came out from Memphis through Ripley, Miss., and made demonstrations against Tupelo. They were met by Chalmers with a part of Forrest's command, and hastily retreated towards Memphis.

The Yankees burned, destroyed and evacuated Dalton several days ago.

Two transports came up Big Black river, 9 miles from Canton, Miss., and removed 1,200 bales cotton placed on the bank for Government purposes. Our troops were ordered not to interfere with the movement.

Preparations for the defence of Mobile are very complete. Provisions for a six month's siege are on hand. Gen. Taylor has done everything possible for the successful defence of the city.

The grand jury of Madison county, Ga., at the late term, presented Col. Durrrough and his cavalry command as a nuisance.

The Ranger, a new Confederate man-of-war, is cruising on the ocean. Two Yankee vessels have been dispatched to watch the New England coast.

Negro balls, under the auspices of yankee officers, are the order of the night at Charleston.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.—The Bristol correspondent of the Richmond Whig says Stoneman was at Mossy creek on the 18th, with 4,000 cavalry. His destination supposed to be Salisbury, N. C. Persons direct from Knoxville report the arrival there from Chattanooga, within the last few days, of a large number of troops. North Carolina and Lynchburg are said to be the theme of conversation among officers and men.

From the Raleigh Confederates.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 23, 1865.
Mr. Editor: Information received from Fayetteville, tells the writer, that, while in that town General Sherman had an interview with a lady, the mother of an officer of our army, in which he told her that "he came through the South now with moderation; disposed to burn no private property, and to respect individual rights; but, if that course did not have the effect to subdue the rebellious spirit of our people, he would come again, and burn with an unparrying hand. If that course did not have the desired effect, then he would come again with the knife unsheathed, and would put to death, without regard to age or sex, the inhabitants of the country."

His language, to use his own expressive words was, that "he would come with the torch," but if that coming had not the effect, "he would come as the savage."

Ye Gods! Can the untamed tiger know any more ferocity than that to which he is born? Can fiends of hell know any more brutal and devilish malignity, than that to which they are by nature born? Can Sherman, with all his damnable devilishness of nature, and hypocritical sanctity, become more brutal and fiendlike than now.

The people of this land should rise up as a man, and visit all the terrible vengeance of a long pent up wrath on him and his barbarian followers.—They should strike him such blows, and visit defeat and death on him and his legions with such an overwhelming retribution, as will forever preclude the possibility of his redeeming his christian like promises, to the down trodden people of our sister South.

To wage war in a civilized manner—against such a ruthless foe, man, is basest cowardice—retaliation—fearful retribution should overtake this incarnate fiend.

RETRIBUTION.

SAVED THE FLAG.—C. B. Latham, company H, First North Carolina troops, was captured at Gettysburg with the flag of his regiment in his grasp. Seeing escape impossible, he tore the flag from the staff and concealed it on his person. Several times he was searched by the Yankees, but they invariably overlooked the flag. Paroled for exchange, Latham returned to Richmond, with other Confederate prisoners still clinging to the dear relics of his country's flag that he had so long concealed and preserved with honor. From Tarboro', North Carolina, Latham wrote to his commander, Col. H. A. Brown, informing him of the safety of the flag, and announcing his determination to carry it into battle again as soon as his far-lough expired and he entered the ranks again.—*Raleigh Conservative.*

Richmond papers say that the enlistment of negro troops for the army goes bravely on in that city.

PLENTY OF PROVISIONS.—The Lynchburg

Republican, under the caption of "Curious Facts," has the following:

In his official report of his late raid to James River, Sheridan says that he found provisions for man and beast in great abundance all along his march! This is a beautiful commentary upon the liberality and policy of some of our people. When Gen. Lee calls for provisions to feed his needy army, we are told that large sections of the country have nothing, and that this man and that have given them all, but when Yankee raiders come along they find meat houses and corn cribs or cellars filled with an abundance. How is this? How is it that our people prefer to feed our enemies to our friends?—prefer to have their provisions taken from them by Sheridan to giving them to Lee?

FRESHETS IN THE NORTH.—The heavy freshet and thaw inaugurated by the opening of the recent mild weather, have caused immense damage, extending through a wide extent of country in the United States. Throughout various States, as far east as New Hampshire, and as far west as Missouri, the rivers have been swollen to an extraordinary height, and the increased volume of water and accelerated currents have carried everything before them, overflowing thousands of acres of lowlands, inundating cities, towns and railroads, and sweeping off vast amounts of property. One hundred miles of the Erie railroad, and several miles of the New York Central and other principal routes of travel were, on last Saturday, under water.