DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH. N. C.

TUESDAY, AUG. 30, 1864.

The Press Not Free in Nogth Carolina. If the North Carolina Press is to be suspended we hop the work will be done effectually. An order has been issued from the Adjutant General's office exempting one editor and one printer from Home Guard duty, save when the county where the paper is published is invaded. Such force will not keep au S >10 Weekly paper geing, much less answering all the purposes of setring up, printing and mailing a Daily.

The Meckleuburg militia moves to-day and we suppose all the papers of Charlotte will sushand. Yates, of the Democrat, takes it goodnaturedly-is willing to go, but don't like the principle of interfering with "the freedom of the Press." We quote from his paper printed on Saturday, but dated the 30th :

Suspension .- The Home Guard of this county having been ordered out for service in the field. and as Editors and all printers within the age are liable to service of that kind, we are necessarily et liged to suspend the publication of the Democrut for a few weeks, at least until we return .--I dividually we have not the least objection to turning out, for it will afford us some relief from the uncessing toil of a printing office, but we dislike being compelled to deprive our subscribers even a porarily of the paper for which they have paid, and we do not like the idea of having the press" suspended by any power whatever.

The House Guard officers are not to blame, but the Legislature is responsible for this interference wi. the freedom of the press.

The editors and printers of Charlotte cannot b censed of wishing to evade their duty, beeaus heretofore they have always volunteered for survice when Morganton, Raleigh and other and wear t reat ned by railing parties, even an a the Home Guard was not called out.

P. S - After dismissing part of our force, we beern that Gov. Vance has ordered the exemp-(i -a of the editor and one printer for each paper is too late for us-we have made arrangements to go and we intend to go. We will suspend fore week anyhow.

The Democrat copies an article from the Times on the same subject, and add :

" The above, from our neighbor, is a correct statement f the case. As we have stready rewurked in another article, we are very willing to suspend our paper if the authorities construe the Home Guard lim so as to require it It is true, that in the various towns and cities in the Confideracy, even when assailed by the enem", the Press has not been interfered with by any sort calls i a men, but here in North Carolina it series necessary to suspend for the purpose of estching deserters I! Congress has declared that the Press shall be free and untrammetled, but our Legislature must have thought otherwise when passing the bill known a the "Home Gnard LAW.

For our own part, we had as soon take the 2.13 as to remain cooped up in a Printing Office. where we have been since we were thirteen years out; but we protest against the exercise of any ; wir that ffects the freedom of the Press, un-. She go by of treason or treasonable and incooliary loop asge. It is an established maxim but the Press in Republican governments shall free and untrammelled, and the Legislature of North C colina must amend the Home Guard le v unless it is determined to violate this principle and shack's the Press. As an individual

Benjamin on Jacques and Gilmore. We publish the answer of Benjamin, our Secretary of State, to Gilmore and Jacques, to-day. Benjamin admits part of what the two Yankee Commissioners say and denies a part, but we have no doubt but their narrative is about as correet as his They are Yankees and he is a Jew -both nart good and both part bad. It is evident that the Richmond authorities begin to want some kind of a peace very hadly, and we hope, when their plan shall be developed, the peace men of North Crrelina will not appear such "traffors" after all. We have no time or room for comments of our own, on Mr. Benjamin's rather ridiculous paper, but submit those of the Examiner as refreshing to the occasion. We do not adopt the Examiner's strictures on the "dapper geutlemen in grey," for fear the grand jury would get after us, but we confess to a more than ordinary gratification at its good points. We hope itewill not be considered warring on the government, or disseminating "treasonable" and "sedicious" sentiments to reproduce it :

As usual, Mr. Benjamin Secretary of State, has placed the country in a mean, base and humiliating position --Having nothing on earth to do in the way of the legiti-mate business of his office, he spends his activity in pish ing himself is to ternal scrapes, which, indeed, would be of little consequence if they affected him alone. In fyrtunately, however, owing to the public office which he (nominally) holds, his stupid blunders touch us all rath er closely. We find now the Secretary of State of the Contederate States engaged in a newspaper altercation with two spies, who lately sneaked into Richmond; and who came, as one of them affirms, armid with a letter of int odiaction to our Secretary of State from a Mr. The set does not tell the name of the yankee who introduc ed him; but we should greatly desire to know what Y inkee can commission a spy into our lines, and assure to him bandsome catment, and access to the President and oub the offices b. means of a letter to Mr. Benjamin. The at a tensent of this fact causes us an unpleasant semantion S (tan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do ; and our Secretary of State, having no State affairs to attend

to naturally by way of relaxation, falls easily into com-munication with any sort of loanny se undiels who hav-time to talk to him; especially such as are introduced by

there have made up $^{-}$ bundle of laterhoods to suit the taste of their fellow countriances; and thus we have the edifying p choice of the Confiderate Secretary of State entering into a controversy with those spices in the pub-ice join ca's ab ut the facts which they report. It is too have, here carried them graciously, on the introduction of his friend, Mr. — , procurred them an interview with the President and they are now making capital of their advective in the area of maximum tables. advesture in the way of magazine acticles and lectures at two ots-live conts per head. He cannot now invalidate the accuracy of the information which these spies have car ried North by alloging "the extreme inaccuracy of Mr. Gi'more's parrative.

Perhaps the most absurd thing in all this business is the manner in which Mr. Be jamin has addressed his long relatation of the stime. To Hon James M Mason Commissioner to the Continent, &c., &c., et celera "-Mason is not a Commissioner to an continent Mason has never read and never will read V. D. probability, either the narratives of the spies, or B njamin's refutation thereof Why dues not h a l Mr. Benjamin a reduction thereof why does not Mr. Benjamin send a communication to the newspapers at once, and scathe and sourch and sould these spice to the best of his ability? If anything can aggravate the prov-ocation of seeing a Cabinet minister of the Confederate States engaged in such an altercation at all, it is to see him put on such preposterous diplomatic airs, turning a paragraph into a protocol.

THE LATE PEACE INTERVIEW IN RICHMOND-CIRCULAR FROM THE STAT* DEPARTMENT. The following circular from the State Department will explain itself :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Richmond. Va , August 25, 1864. }

Bin ; Numerous publications which have recently ap peared in the journals of the U. S. on the subject of informal overtures for peace between the two Federations of States now at war on this continent, reader it desirable that you should be fully advised of the views and policy of this Government on a matter of such paramount i portance. It is likewise proper that you should be accurately informed of what has occurred on the several oc-

casions mentioned in the published statements. You have heretofore been turnish d with copies of the manifesto issued by the Congress of the Confederate State with the approval of the President, on the 14th June 1851 and have, doubtless, acted in conformity with the resolu-tion which requested that copies of this manifesto should laid befut foreign governments. "The principles. sentiments, and purposes, by which these States have been, and are still actuated," are set forth in that paper with all the authority due to the solemn declaration of the Legislative and Ex-cutive Departments of this Gov-erament, and with a clearness which leaves no room for comment or explanation. In a few sentences it is pointed out that all we ask is immunity from inter erence with our internal peace and prosperity "and to be left in the undisturbed enjoyment of those inalienable rights of life. literty, and the pursuit of happiness, which our common ancestors declared to be the equal heritage of all parties to the social compact. Let them forbear aggressions upor to the social compact. Let them for Dear aggressions upon us, and the war is at an end. If there be questions which require adjustment by negotiation, we have ever been willing, and are still willing, to enter into commansca-tion with our adversaries in a spirit of peace, of equity, and manly frankness." "Be manifesto closed with the declaration that "we commit our cause to the enlightened judgement of the world, to the sober reflections adversaries themselves, and to the solemn and righteous arbitrament of Heaven."

character or authority; but they are fully possessed of the views of the United States government relative to an adviews of the United Natzes government relative to an ad-justment of the differences now existing between the North and the South, and have little doubt that a free interchange of rises between President Davis and them-selves would open the way to such official negotiations as would ultimate in restoring races to the two sections of our distracted country. aur distracted country. They therefore ask an interview with the President,

and, awaiting your reply, are Most truly and respectfully,

Your obedient servants, JAMES F. JACQUESS,

JAMES F. JACQUESS, James E. GILMORE." The word "official" is underscored, and the word "peace" deubly underscored, in the original. After perusing the letter, 1 invited Col. Ould to con-duct the writers to my office; and on their arrival, stated to them that they must be conscious they could not be ad-mitted to an interview with the President without informing me more fully of the object of their mission, and sat istying me that they came by request of Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Gimore replied that they came unefficially, but with the knowledge, and at the desire, of Mr. Lincoln ; that they thought the war had gone far enough; that it could never end except by some sort of agreement; that the agreement might as well be made now as after further b shed; that they knew by the recent address of the Con-federate Congress that we were willing to make peace; that they admitted that proposals ought to come from the North, and that they were prepared to make these pro-posals by Mr. Lincoln's authority; that it was necessary to bave a sort of informal understanding in advances of regular negotiations, for if mominissioners were appointed without some such understanding, they would meet, quarel and separate, leaving the parties more bitter against ach other than before; that they knew Mr. Lincoln' views and would state them if pressed by the President to do so, and desired to learn his in return.

I again in-isted on some evidence that they came from Mr. Lincoln ; and in order to satisfy me Mr. Gilmore re Mr. Lincoln; and in order to satisfy me Mr. Gilmore re-ferred to the fact that permission for their coming through our lines had been asked officially by Gen. Grant in a let-ter to Gen. Lee, and that Gen Genant in that letter had asked that this request abould be referred to President Davis. Mr. Gilmore then showed me a card, written and signed by Mr. Lincoln, requesting Gen. Grant to aid Mr. Gilmore and friend in pasting through his lines into the Confederacy. Col Jacque as then said that his name was not put on the card for the reason that it was carnestly desired that their visit should be keepet; that he had desired that their visit should be kept secret; that he had come into the Confederacy a year ago, and had visited Petersburg on a similar errand, and hat it was fear d if his name should become known that some of those who ad formerly met him in Petersbucg would conjeture the purpose for which he now caue. He said that the the purpose for which he now caue. He said that the terms of peace which they would offer to the President would be homorable to the Contederacy; that they did not desire that the Confederacy should accept any other terms, but would be glad to have my promise, as the gave theirs, that their visit should be kept a profound so cret if it failed to result in peace; that it w uld not just that either party should seek any auvantag by di vuiging the fact of their overture for insace. if un-uncess assent d to this request, and then tist g and

Do I understand you to state distinct y that ALL OND ing with the President as to the proper mode of inaucu ating a formal negotiation for prace, charged by Mr. Lincoln with authority for stating his own view- and er-criving those of President Davis?" Both answered in the athrmstive, and I then said that the President would see them at my office the same evening a 9 p m.; than at least, I presumed he would; but i he objected, aft the state of the second of the words, but the objected and the second se

sion that Mr. Lincoin was averse to sending formal com-missioners to open negotiations, lest he might thereby be deemed to have recognized the independence of the Confederacy, and that he was anxious to learn whether the conditions on which alone he would be willing to take such a step would be yielded by the Conf-deracy; that with this view he had placed his messengers in a condi-rion to satisfy us that they really came from him, without committing himself to any thing in the event of a disagree ment as to such conditions as he considered to be indis ensable. On informing the President, therefore, of my conc usions, he determined that no question of form or question should b an obstacle to his receiving any over-tures that promised, howev or remotely, to result in putto the carnage which marked the continu

my an end to the carnage which marked the continu-ince of hostilities. The Fresident came to my office at 9 o'clock in the evening, and Col. Ould came a few moments later, with Mes-rs Jacques and Gilmore The President said to them that he had he ard, from me, that they came as messenger of peace from Mr. Lincoln ; that as such they were wel-come, that the Confederacy had never concealed its desire tor peace, and that he was ready to hear whatever they

bad to offer on that subject. Mr Gilmore then addressed the President, and is a few minutes had conveyed the information that these two gen-tiomen and come to Richmond impressed with the idea that this Government would accept a peace on the basis of a request action of the Union, the abolition of slavery, and the grant of an amounty to the states as repentant criminals. In order to accomplish the abolition of slarery, it was proposed that there should be a gener-il vote of all the people of both federations in mass, and the majority of the vote thus taken was to determine that as well as all other disputed questions. These were stated to be Mr. Linceln's views. The President answered that as these proposals had been prefaced by the remark that the people of the North were a majority, and that a majority ought to govern, the offer was, in effect, a proposal has the Confederate States should surrender at discretion, admit that they had been wrong from the beginning contest, submit to the mercy of their enomies, and avow themselves to be in need of pardon for crimes, that extermination was pref-rable to such dishonor. He stated that if they were the mselves so unacquainted with the form of their own government as to make propositions, Mr. Lincoln sught to have known, when giving them his views, that it was out of the power of the Confederate Government to act on the subject of the do mestic institutions of the several States, each State having exclusive juridiction on that point, still less to commit the decision of such a question to the vote of a foreign people; that the separation of the "States was an accom-plished fact; that he had no authority to receive propo-sals for negotiation except by virtue of his office as Pres-ident of an independent Confederacy; and on this basis alone must proposals be made to him. alone must proposals be made to him. At one period of the conversation, Mr. Gilmers made use of some language referring to these States as "rebels" while rendering an account of Mr. Lincoln's views, and apologized for the word. The Press ent desired him to a pologized for the word. The Presit ent desired him to proce d, that no offence was taken, and that he wished Mr. Lincoln's language to be repeated to him as exactly as possible. Some further conversation took place, sub-stantially to the same effect as the foregoing, when the President rose to indicate that the interview was at an end. The two gentlemen wers recommitted to the charge of Col. Ould, and left Sichmond the next day. This account of the visit of Messrs. Gilmore and Jacques to Richmend has been rendered necessary by publications made by one or both of them since their return to the U.S., notwithstanding the agreement that their visit was to be kept accret. They have, perhaps, concluded that as the promise of secrety was made at their request it was permissible to disregard it. We had no reason for desir-ing to conceal what occurred, and have, therefore, no complaint to make of the publicity given to the fact of the visat. The extreme inaccuracy of Mr. Gilmore's narra-tive will be apparent to yon from the foregoing statement. You have no doubt seen, in the Northern papers, an ac-You have no doubt seen, in the Northern papers, an ac You have no doubt seen, in the Northern papers, an ac-count of another conference on the subject of peace, which took place in Canada, at about the same date. between Messrs C. C. Clay and J. P. Holcombe, Confederate citizens of the highest character and position; and Mr. Horace Greeley, of New York. acting with anthority of President Lincoln. It is not deemed improper to inform President Lincoln. It is not deemed improper to inform you that Messus. Clay and Holcombe, although enjoying, in an eminent degree, the confidence and esteem of the President, were strictly acculate in their statement that President, were strictly accurate in the the Government they were without any authority from this Government to treat with that of the United States on any subject whatever We had no knowledge of their co for Mr. Greeley, nor of their proposed visit to Washington, till we saw the newspaper publications. A significant con-firmation of the truth of the statement of Messrs Gilmere and Jacquess, that they came as messingers f cm Mr. Liocola, is to be found in the fact, that the views of Mr Lincoln, is to be found in the fact that the views of Mr. Lincoln, is a stated by them to the President, are is exact conformity with the offensive paper addressed to whom it may concern," which was sent by Mr. Lincolr to Mes-ars. Clay and Holcombe by the hands of his private S c-retary, Mr. Hay and which was properly rega ded by those gentlemen as an inimation that Mr. Lincoln was unwilling that this war should cease while in his power to continue heat flits. continue hostilities. I am, very respectfully, Your obedicat servant, J. P. BoNJAMIN,

ATLANTA ... THE LAST YANKEE RAID.

The correspondent of the Uhronicle and Sentinel gives us a detailed account of the recent raid on the West Point and Macon roads :

Jonnsboro', Sunday, Aug. 21, 1864. In consequences of the operatious of another party of Federal raiders, Atlanta has been out off from the rest of the world since Thursday night last, for since that time we have had no communication with the rear, either by rail or telegraph.

It was known in this city early Friday morning that the West Point road had been out the previous night, and that the raiders had moved on in the direction of the Macon road ; also that active steps had been taken to intercept them, and being anxious to obtain information of what had occurred, and was still going on, I took passage on a supply train for the raiding front early this morning, which speedily landed its freight at the village-the principal scene of late operations.

The Yankee force moved out from the crossing at Campbelltown, and consisted of three thousand cavalry, a brigade of infantry, with seven pieces of artillery. On reaching the West Point road the cavalry pushed on, the infantry revaining on the line of the road, which they cut at various places along a distance of ten miles, from Fairburn down the road. The general impression is that this road will not be repaired at present. The infantry force then fell back to the river. On the route between the two roads, a constant skirmish was kept up by Ross' cavalry brigade, but his force was too weak to do more than attempt to retard their progress until forces could be moved down the road. Friday afterupon the main body of the enemy entered Jonesboro', where they remained until Saturday moraing undisturbe I, conducting themselves as they chose, while another party was operating farther iown the road The latter tore up a small portion of the road near Lovejoy's station, and also at Bear Creek, at which latter place they also instroyed a construction train, consisting of an engine, eleven platform and four box cars.

The main body at Jonesboro', in addition to destroying the track at intervals extending over a mile, also burned a dozen buildings, including the d pot, court house, three blacksmith shops, a warehouse and some unoocupied dwellings. But little government property fell into their hands. The citizons, however, were extensively quartered upon, the whole command, with their horses, feeding from private supplies which they were successful in finding in abundance Beyond their boasting and contemptible plundering of the ladies' trunks and wardrobes, their conduct was not so reprehe sible as on several other occasions that have fallen under my observation.

The concentration of our troops on Friday night caused the Yankees to leave Jonesboro early S. turday morning, and during the forenoon their scattered parties wore united east of the Macon road, near Lovejoy's Station Here they were attacked by Reynold's infantry brigade and at once put to flight, when, in their retreat, they suddenly found Ross' cavalry brigade in their rear This force, only numbering some five or six hundred, was at once charged by the desperate foe and literally run over, the conflict that occurred being a hand to hand fight, numbers on both sides being killed and wounded with pistol shots and sabres. In this affair the enemy were in too great a hurry to tarry long enough to use their strength, but gladly passed along, and suffering the greater portion of the gallant little command that had endeavored to intercept their retreat to escape

The retreating forces were pursued until after dark by a portion of our cavalry, in the direction of Decatur, and when the pursuit was abandoned they were about four mile north of McDonough on the road leading to the former place. As it is known there was no opposing force in their front it was supposed they would be able to

Petersburg. 21 1.1

We have nothing additional, at this writing from Petersburg. We heard, on Friday, the road at Reams' Station, 12 miles from the city. was in our possession, while it is supposed the enemy held their former line at Davis' farm. some two miles South of the city. This of course gives them the read at that point, but we trust they will not long be permitted to hold it. We have had no Petersburg papers for several days, but the Whig of Saturday gives us the follow.

The telegraph contains the glorious tidings

that the star of A P. Hill is again in the aseen. dant, and that, by one of those dashing rear movements which made Jackson immortal, he has given Grant a foretaste of the grand whinping which is in store for him.

The enemy must have anticipated some such demonstration on our part, as the Express of yesterday s ys :

"For several days past the enemy has shifted heavy bodies of troops from the right around to the left of his lines, as if in anticipation of some movement on the part of the Confederate forces, or to assume further offensive operations himself. Bodies of troops have not only been transferred from the lines South of the Appomattor, but also from Butler's department in Chesterfield county.'

On Tuesday afternoon a spirited cavalry en-gagement occurred on Tillofson's farm on our extreme right, about ten miles from the city .-Our pickets at that point were driven in by the enemy's cavalry in large force, when an engage-ment ensued-in which the advantages remained on our side. The engagement was short but spirited. The enemy was driven back with considerable loss. Our loss about seventy.

The Yankes headquarters, we learn, are new at the Yellow Tavern, six miles from Petersburg.

Grant has again commonoed shelling the city from the river batteries.

The Express says that the Yankees have re sumed their old habit of burning private d- 1ings. It gives Mr. Perkins, who resides ... the Yellow Tavern, as one of the heaviest autorers.

Nothing in addition to what was already known by telegraph was received by the train, last night, from Petersburg, concerning the brillingt movement performed by A. P. Hill on Thursday evening. His route, we learn, was up the Dinwiddie county read, thence across the country to the Stony Point road, which brought him upon Grant's rear. Gen. Lee's official dispatch tells the rest.

Fifty-nine of the prisoners captured by Pickett, near Chester, were brought in yesterday even ing. They were accompanied by two deserters, who had availed themselves of the provisions of Order 65.

The Grand Jury of the county of Pittsylva nia should look after that fellow over in Danville who edits the Register, for, according to a rule which has been suggested here, he is guilty of sedition or treason, or both. Here what he says about that litle fat descendant of Abrahain that wears the big watch chain and presides over the State Department :

A Georgia paper expresses the belief that the editorials lately appearing in the Rielmond Sen-tinel, a semi-official organ, written to persuade the people that we are to have an early termination of the war, are from the pen of Secretary Benjamin, of the State Department. Now if this conjecture be true, we are prepared to account for the over sanguine views expressed almest daily in that journal. We do not know whether the articles in question are gotten up with a view to put the people in a good humor and m-ke them ; leased with the government and patient under their own privations and sufferings, or whether the author has a fixed belief in an early peace. This much we do know : Mr. Benjamin told us from the first we were to have no war; he has said all along that hostilities were on the eve of coming to a close, (which prophecies have all been belied by their perverse continuation,) and we can only say that, if he is the oracle giving out the distum of peace, peace, we had as well make up our minds, so far as his advice is concerned to the contrary, to a few more bloody and hard dought campaigns. Mr. B. is disposed to be enthusiastic. He and Seward in the outset told their respective countries the war could not last over a few months at farthest, and the results have dumfounded them both. We can only say that we hope the write under discussion has some better lights before him than those which illuminated the brain of the sanguine Secretary, in the earlier periods of the struggle.

of the Press, we do object to it on the ground but it affects the freedom of the Press Anart from that we care nothing about it."

we find no foul with the law, but as a member

We trust the dreams of the Editor may be weet while in the "tented field " Glory must be plucked from the bluzing cannon's mouth

On the same subject the "veteran" of the Times discourses as follows :

" Preparing to Leave .- As we are preparing to leave for the field duty-to "fit, bleed and di "--- for the good of our country, we have not had time to give much atten ion to the columns. of our paper. We fill out with the letters of our correspondents and selectio s.

When we are gone we hope our friends will remember us, as we surely will them, and not fail to send to our stnetum suitable contributions for our culinary department at least as often and as inviting as we expect to contribute through our columns from the army.

We will soon have peace in consequence of the concentration of the Hornets of Micklenburg. and when we return all pr per acknowledgments. will be made.

We appeal to our friends to see to it that our family do not suffer for the want of bread during our absence, assuring them that their bills will be promptly cashed on presentation at our residence."

We trust that the same power that moved the ravens to feed Elijah will protect the little ones of our friend during these troublous times.

But seriously : while all this is going on and is permitted in North Carolina, the Press in Richmond, Petersburg, Charleston and Atlanta has been left perfectly free while the enemy's -hells heve fallen in their streets.

Some of our country friends must have a havd time to make both ends meet. We heard of one off ring apple brandy in the market, yesterday, at the modest price of one hundred dollars a gallon. If his fruit crop is large and he sells at these figures we hope he will be able to worry slon ... We think a little Old Nash not very bad to take, but would caution all wayfaring men against the New Dip.

The Vote for Governor.

The Secretary of State has received the official vote for Governor of all the counties but 13 -The offici I and unofficial vote of the State gives Gov. Vance a majority of 39.825 over Mr. Helden, and Alleghany to hear frem.

arbitrament of Heaven." Within a very few weeks after the publication of this manifesto, it seemed to have met with a response from President Lincoln. In the early part of Let month a let-ter was received by General Lee from Lieutenant General Grant, in the following words :

Grant, in the following words; HEARQUARTERS AUMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, City Point, Va., July 8, 1864. } General E. E. Lee, commanding Confederate forces near Peteraburg, Virginia: General: I would request that Colonel James F. Jacquess, Soventhy-third Illinois volunteer infantry, and J. R. Gidmore, Esq, be allowed to meet Colonel Robert Ould. Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners, at such place between the lines of the two armics as you may such place between the lines of the two armies as you may designate. The ebject of the meeting is legitimate with the duties of Colonel Ould as Commissioner.

If not consistent for you to grant the request here ask-ed, I would be that this be referred to President Davis for his action.

Bequesting as early an answer to this communication as you may find it convenient to make, I subscribe my self, Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, U S. GRANT,

Lieutenant General, U. S. A. On the reference of this letter to the President, he authorized Colonel Ould to meet the persons named in General Grant's letter; and Colonel Ould, after seeing them returned to Richmond and reported to the President, the presence of the Neerstary of War and myself, that Mezers. Jacques and Gilmore had not said anything to him about his duties as Commissioner for Exchange o Priceners, but that they asked permission to come to Richmond for the purpose of seving the President ; that they came with the knowledge and approval of President Lincoln and under his pass ; that they were informal measurements, a no with a view of paving the way for meeting of to mai commissioners authorized to negotiats for pate, and desired to communicate to President 1 avis th views of Mr Lincoln, and to obtain the President's views in return, so as to arrange or a meeting of commis-sumerse . Colonel Ould stated that he had told them reeat div that it was useless to come to Richmond to talk of peace on any other terms it an the recognized indepen-dence of the Confederacy, to which they said that they were sware of that, and that they were, nevertheless, were, sware of that, and that they were, nevertheless, connuclea it is their interview would result in peace. The President, a this report of Col. Ould determined to per-mit them to come to Richmond under his charge. On the evening of the 16th of Jaiv, Colonet Ould con-ducted the second less to a betel in Richmond, where a room was privided for them, in which they were to re-main under sure time, during their stay here, and the next morning received the following letter:

"Sporswood House, Richmond, Va., July 17, 1864. }

Hon J P Benjamin, Secretary of State of Confederate States of America :

Dear Sir : The undersigned, James V Jacquess, of Illinois and James & Gilmore, of Massachusetts, most respectively solicit an interview with President Davis. They visit Richmond as private citizens, and have no official Hen. JARES M. MASON, Commissioner to the Continent, &c., &c., Paris.

GOOD CHANCE FOR INVESTMENT. -- We direct attention to the advertisement of French Broad lands for sale in this paper. No better or portuni.y is likely to offer for an investment. Address McK. Johnstone, Spartansburg, S. C.

reach Sherman's left without further interrup-As this is Kilpatrick's first raid we may tion. look for loud vaunting in the Yankee press of his having committed incalculable damage to two railroads, made a complete circuit of our army, &c., &c., whereas the truth is he accomplished but little as a raider, and was forced to seek shelter by retreating in the direction he did.

A working force commenced repairing the Macon road early this morning, and the announcement has just been made-two o'clock, p. m.-that the last spike has been driven As I write our cavalry, four brigades under Gen. W. H. Jackson, is moving out of town, enroute for the flanks of the army at Atlanta, where they are needed more than here. For the protection of the road Reynold's infantry brigade will be left, and, by keeping out efficient scouts and having a train always ready to transport the troops to any point threatened, they certainly should be able to prevent another successful raid. These interruptions, although effecting nothing as regards the fate of Atlanta so far as they have gone, are annoving, and it is absolutely necessary to keep a lookout for them or they may so damage the road as to make a retreat from Atlanta neces-

In this movement the enemy's loss is estimated at forty killed, one hundred and seventy-five wounded and eighty prisoners. Our loss is about one hundred and seventy-five, all told. We lost one piece of artillery and captured one regimental flag. But the train is about leaving and I must off for Atlanta. ROVER.

The 1st of October is the beginning of the rental year in Macon, and the Confederate says the owners of houses are already putting their prices at from twenty-five to thirty-five hundred doilars. We do not see how persons in the army or mechanics are to pay such prices and the owners of property should be ashamed to ask them. The pay of a Lt. General will not pay rent and support a family at such rates.

MORGAN HEARD FROM .- The Ashville News of the 25th says : Gen. Morgan now holds all of East Tennessee above Bull's Gap. He is repairing the Railroad, and seems preparing to holo the country permanently.

While farmers and mechanics are very properly called out, in Georgia, to assist in repelling the enemy, gentlemen of the theatrical profession are exempted.

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FREEH FROM THE STILL .- Barly Monday moreing, Main rtreet was crowded with wagons from North Carolina, laden with apple brandy, fresh and burning from the distilleries and bound for the Richmond market. The barrels were rolled out at the railroad dep. t, and the total quantity of the liquor was not much short of three thousand galfons. There are no legal restrictions against the manufacture of ardent spirits in North Carolina.

We understand that there has been a heavy decline in the Richmond ma kets, so that it is doubtful whether the profits anticipated will be realised upon this lot It is said to sell there now at \$50 per gallon .- Danville Register.

There is a law in our statute books against the manufacture of grain into ardent spirits, but we regret to say that in many sections but little attention is paid to it. "New Dip," er apple brandy, is about as common here as water, and much of it but little stronger.

FATALITY OF THE WAR. - The Washington Chronicle says the 72d Pennsylvania has arrived in that eity, and been placed on duty there for two weeks, when its term of service will expire. They went into service 1,500 strong, and have received nearly a thousand recruits; but sow number only 160 men.

The new Mexican Emperor signs himself Maximiliano.

The ladies of Selma, Ala., are making eartridges.