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The Late Peace Interview in Richmond.
We publish to-day a letter from Mr. Benjamin, the Secretary of State, which may be regarded, we suppose, as an authorized account of the recent interview between President Davis and Messrs. Jacquess and Gilmore on the subject of peace.—The newspapers have also published a much fuller account of this interview, prepared by Mr. Gilmore, but we have not copied that, for the reason that much of it is no doubt exaggerated and colored by the peculiar views of the so-called commissioners referred to.

It is obvious that these persons had no official authority to speak for Mr. Lincoln, and it may be that if they spoke for any knowledge of his real sentiments and purposes, they were feeling their way to one point, while they indicated another as the only one which they would consent to consider at all debatable. For example, they knew that Mr. Davis would not consent to reconstruct the old government on the basis of the abolition of slavery, and he so replied to them; but they were not sure he would not reconstruct if slavery could be preserved, and the seceded States restored to all the rights which they enjoyed before they seceded.—They made no offer of this kind, nor did Mr. Davis refer to such an alternative; but it may be that they felt they were opening the way to such a result. They failed to draw him out.

At any rate, we are glad the two administrations are talking about peace, however remotely. All things, whether good or bad, must have a beginning. We believe now, as we believed twelve months ago, that no permanent or substantial peace can be established without the intervention of the States. The two extremes, represented by Mr. Davis and Mr. Lincoln, will never give us peace.

Nor do we believe that the Chicago Convention which assembled on the 9th, will do much to hasten peace. No doubt that body has taken ground for a cessation of hostilities at the earliest practicable moment; but the armistice for which it calls is only to precede a discussion which must result, if the views of that Convention are to be carried out, in a restoration of the Union with a guarantee for slavery where it now exists. Are the friends of the administration of Mr. Davis prepared for that? Are they ready to reconstruct on such a basis, or any basis? If not, they look in vain to the Northern national Democracy. We know something about that Democracy, and we feel sure that what we say is true. We fear they will never consent to a permanent dissolution of the Union. But these speculations are idle, for the plain reason that Mr. Lincoln will be re-elected. Even if the national Democrats had a majority in the United States, they would find themselves unable to contend with Mr. Lincoln's patronage, to say nothing of his bayonets. The election for President in November next will not be free. The freedom of suffrage will be trampled under foot there, as it was trampled under foot in this State at the recent election. Money and bayonets will carry the day. The Democrats will feel and know that their dearest rights have been disregarded, and that they are no longer free men, but they will be powerless to vindicate their liberties or avenge themselves; while the Lincolnites will exult at the prospect of four years more of war, fraud, and corruption, and will declare that the election was as "fair a thing as ever was." Lincoln will be re-elected and the war will go on. That is our opinion. We may be mistaken, and we hope we are; for though the Democrats are as firmly fixed as the Lincolnites are against secession or disunion, yet they are a much better order of public men, and the South might expect that they would treat her with more justice and generosity than the Lincolnites would, in any settlement that might be effected.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.—It seems from the latest news from Richmond, that the prospect of an early exchange of prisoners is not good. There are some thirty thousand federal prisoners at Anderson, Ga., and no doubt there are as many Confederates who are prisoners in the hands of the enemy. For some reason or other the federal authorities refuse to exchange.

WELL TIMED.—The following extract from a speech of the Hon. John Law, of Indiana, in the Federal House of Representatives on the 1st ult., was a severe rebuke to his abolition associates:—"Six" It is said by way of sneering at the loyalty of the Democratic party, by those who never put foot on the tented field, and never mean to, so long as they can cheat the government out of money enough to procure a substitute, that the Democratic party is the "peace party" of the country. While they "will spend the last dollar, sacrifice the last man, and die in the last ditch," to put down the "accursed rebellion." They are for "war" to the knife, and the knife to the hilt.

When Cato called his little Senate together, at Utica—at a time when Cæsar was marching upon the city—the fiery Sempronius proclaimed in furious and indignant eloquence, such as we frequently hear in this hall,—

My voice is still for war; God's own Roman Senate long debate Which of the two to choose—slavery or death? Go! Let us arise at once, gird on our swords, And at the head of our remaining troops, Attack the foe, break through the thick array, And drive the rebel to his own camp. Perhaps some arm more potent than the rest, May strike his heart, and free the world from bondage.

The conservative Lucius replied:—"My thoughts, I must confess, are turned to peace." The advice and counsel of Lucius was the special object of the warrior's indignation. The loyal Sempronius, who scorned to submit to meditation, and could not brook the idea of mediation, whispered into Cato's ear, "beware of Lucius, he is a traitor." The very next night Sempronius deserted Cato and joined Cæsar. While Lucius, the advocate of peace, remained and bravely fought for the liberties of Rome. There is a moral in this to which I would call the attention of every blatant radical of the Republican party who is crying out for more blood and denouncing the Democrats.

Gen. Hampton occupied a prominent position overlooking the field, and it was enough for the cavalry to know that the eye of their noble leader was upon them, and that his wise head and skillful hand controlled and directed all their operations. General Hampton will prove a most worthy successor to the chivalrous Stuart. The men not only have confidence in him, but they love him, and as long as his life is spared to command them, we may safely predict success in future for the cavalry where it is possible to command success.

Of the subordinate cavalry generals, it was my fortune to meet only with Gen. Berringer, of North Carolina. A most courteous gentleman, and one who enjoys to a greater extent the esteem and respect of his men, the service cannot boast. Gen. B. has done much service in the vicinity of Petersburg; and your people are much indebted to him and his men for their timely aid on the memorable 9th of June, when Kautz's raiders actually entered

THE RAILROADS AND EXPRESS COMPANY.—At a recent meeting of the stockholders of the Western N. C. Railroad Company the following resolution was adopted:—"WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the stockholders of the W. N. C. R. Company that it is injurious to their interest to farm out the property or franchises of their Company, to any independent Company, and believing the R. R. Company can transport all articles over the road with as much safety and despatch as the Express Company, and believing that all profits of transportation ought to be made by the R. R. Company; That the Board of Directors are instructed to terminate their contract with the Southern Express Company, after giving due notice, and that they confer with the North-Carolina R. R. with the view to make such combined arrangements with said road as to insure to all persons safe and expeditious transportation of their property, money and effects, over the road under the charge and management of their own agents and messengers."

The Express Company is a great convenience to the public. We think it doubtful whether any of the Railroad Companies can or will transport articles over the roads with as much safety and despatch as the Express Company has done.

WAR NEWS.

The late Fight at Reams' Station.
A correspondent of the Express, writing from Malone's crossing on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, under date of Aug. 30th, says:—"The people residing in this locality, have just received an idea of the war, which has most indelibly impressed it upon their minds. Heretofore they have not read the newspapers, and they have not heard the recitals of the wounded and convalescent, as they would pass back and forth to their homes."

We felt sure the Confederate authorities would protect this Railroad, but this feeling of security was greatly shaken, however, when on yesterday two weeks ago, we learned that Grant had suddenly swung around an entire army corps, seized the road, and proceeded to fortify. The subsequent unsuccessful efforts of our forces to dislodge the enemy, had the effect to still further depress us, and when, during the past five or six days, we learned that the enemy were gradually extending their lines down the road, hope gave way to a feeling of deep despair. We prepared for the worst, and many, we regret to say, have realized all and more than they expected.

Destruction of the Railroad.
A walk to-day, from the 14 Mile Crossing to Reams, a distance of four miles, showed truly a sad scene. On both sides of the track the enemy have swept fences and crops, leaving scarcely a vestige remaining. The crops, consisting chiefly of corn and sorghum, have been fed to men and horses, and the fences piled upon the railroad hills to assist in the burning.

The road is quite effectually destroyed as far as Mrs. Fannie Hutton's place, a distance of about 2½ miles south of Reams' Station. Above the station, I did not extend my walk, and therefore cannot speak from observation, but from all I can learn, the same destruction has taken place at least to the Yellow Tavern, making all about nine miles of the track destroyed. In some places I observed that the hills had not been destroyed, but for the greater portion of the distance, hills have been burnt, and the iron heated.

The Battle Yesterday.
The battle yesterday opened in this immediate neighborhood, as early as 11 o'clock, and was commanded by that gallant son of South-Carolina, Gen. Wade Hampton. He had at hand his brave assistants, Generals Butler, Rosser, Barringer, and also Chambliss' Virginia brigade, whose noble leader fell but a few days since on the north of James river, but by whom commanded yesterday, I have been unable to learn.

The enemy's cavalry were centred chiefly about Malone's crossing, with a strong force extending out on the county road leading to Brunswick stage road. This force was encountered a half a mile or more from the railroad and our cavalry dismounted and ordered to charge.

Like veterans they obeyed the command, and under the eye of their great leader, rushed forward with an impetuosity that proved irresistible. Upon nearing the railroad, there are no woods to protect an assaulting column, and the approach is up a steep hill. Through this open space and up this rising ground, our fighting troopers drove the enemy to and beyond the railroad, for a distance of half a mile or more. In the meantime, such of the enemy as had advanced to the south of the crossing, hearing the firing on their right, quickly drew in their lines, and fell back.

The way being now clear south of the crossing, Gen. Hampton quickly swung his column of dismounted cavalry around to the right of the railroad, facing in the direction of Petersburg, and continued to advance, the enemy falling back before him.

the suburbs, and saw the spires and steeples of Petersburg.

It is due to our noble sister State—North-Carolina—to say that the entire infantry column engaged in the assault on the left of the railroad, was composed of her sons. Never did men move forward with a bolder state, more ordered to charge, and never did troops fight with more distinguished gallantry. Any one who will visit the battle-field as I have done, and see the character of the work they had to perform, will concur with me in the opinion that the men who carried them in the face of such a fearful fire, from both infantry and artillery, are worthy of being placed among the bravest. As a Virginian, I am proud to award this humble tribute to the gallantry of the brave North-Carolinians who participated in this desperate fight. It is true that they have fought on every battle-field since this war commenced—commencing with Bethel, in June 1861, and closing at Reams' Station, August 1864—with as much gallantry and determination as the troops from any other State, but on yesterday, as none but North-Carolinians participated in the assault on the left, there can be no dispute as to who did the work. And the laden hail and iron storm they rushed directly on to glory and to victory.

The Troops Engaged.
The cavalry engaged on the part of the enemy, were commanded by the noted Colonel Speer, who is believed to have had a brigade. All accounts agree that they were soon routed, and that they moved off the way as fast as their horses could carry them.

The infantry consisted of the famous Second Corps, (Hancock's) and all prisoners concur in the statement, that it numbered between ten and twelve thousand men. They fought more valiantly than the cavalry, but were finally compelled to give way before the impetuous dash of the brave North-Carolinians, and although the engagement did not become general until about three o'clock, before night the entire corps were utterly routed and flying in wild confusion east of the railroad in the direction of Prince George.

They left all their killed and wounded, over two thousand prisoners and nine pieces of cannon in our possession.

The enemy's dead lay thickly scattered in all directions Friday morning. Many of them had fallen before the terrible fire of our artillery, (Pegram's battalion) and we saw several who had been cut in twain. The number of the enemy's horses killed was unusually large, and at the locality where most of the artillery were captured, we counted sixty-one of these animals piled up and lying around on about a quarter acre of ground.

Hancock's corps, it will be borne in mind, is considered the very best in Grant's army, and more than one prisoner with whom we conversed, stated that it was regarded as the "Stonewall Jackson" corps of the army of the Potomac. What an equivocal compliment to that deeply lamented and illustrious hero and patriot! It was Hancock's corps that made the attack upon Johnston's division at Spottsylvania Courthouse, and gained some advantage. It was there, too, that the jubilant Ingalls, Lincoln's Inspector General, telegraphed to Washington, "Hancock has made a ten strike to-day." He has used up Johnston, and is now about to pitch into Early!

The army correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch speaking of the battle of Reams' station, says:—"About 2 o'clock, all arrangements being completed, Lieutenant-General Hill ordered the line forward, and the command was promptly obeyed. The line moved forward in motion, was preceded by two squadrons of the seventh Virginia cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Marshall, of Faquier. This little body drove the enemy's pickets back, in gallant style, into their rifle-pits, in sight of the enemy's main line of battle. In this affair Colonel Marshall was slightly wounded. Having arrived in front of the enemy's line of works, Gen. Hill determined to assault them at once, and, accordingly, ordered Major General Wilcox to take two brigades and assault the enemy's works. Scales' (North-Carolina) and another (Georgia) brigades were selected for the work in hand. The dispositions being made, the order to advance was given, and the troops moved forward in good style, driving in with ease, and with great enthusiasm, the enemy's skirmishers and sharpshooters. At the moment they began their advance the enemy opened with artillery and musketry most rapidly. "His result, briefly told, was that our column was repulsed."

General Hill was determined, however, not to give up the struggle without another effort to disperse the enemy's position; General Beth was ordered forward with Cook's and McCrae's North Carolina brigades, (the latter Pettigrew's old brigade) and Lane's North Carolina brigade, (Wilcox's division), commanded by Conner, of South Carolina, was ordered to unite in the charge. McGowan's brigade was on the extreme right engaging the enemy's pickets and sharpshooters. The second charge was made somewhat to the right of the point where the first was engaged, but still very near it. The first look in the centre, and McCrae on the right, Cook in the centre, and McCrae on the right. Again, about 5 P. M., everything being arranged, and our officers having gone repeatedly up and down the lines and encouraged the men, telling them what they had to do and what obstacles they would meet, the order was given, and the men bounded forward with a yell that made the welkin fairly ring again, and plainly told, in advance, of a determination to achieve success which could scarcely fail of its result. And now, the enemy, having made off guard results, about the enemy, having made off shell, grape, shrapnel and canister; but our brave men held it not and press onward, determined to win a victory or fall in the effort. The abatis and undergrowth in front of the enemy's works had to be parted and avenues for entrance made in the face of a deadly musketry as well as artillery fire, but our braves, heedless of danger, and resolved on those works, pushed aside the abatis and destroyed the abatis and reach the works in small squads and not in line. Here a vigorous hand-to-hand fight ensued over the works with pistols, bayonets and the butt ends of the muskets, until a sufficiency of our force had gotten up to form the line of battle anew; then, springing over the enemy's works, they swept rapidly down them, capturing and driving before them all of the enemy's force engaged in the fight to a point some distance southeast of Reams' station; and, in order to encourage their hasty retreat and to increase their speed, whilst so laudably engaged, our infantry boys manned the artillery which we captured, and poured into the retreating for a raking fire. And here, at Reams' station, just as daylight was fast passing away, the fight ended with the following result: The enemy driven from a mile and a half, at least, of their lines, and their breastworks (constructed doubtless for permanent occupation) wrested from them, a loss of, at this writing, nineteen hundred prisoners, representing all our divisions of Hancock's corps, including quite a sprinkling of heavy artillery. Among their prisoners, seventy-five commissioned officers, not the least of which is Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, assistant adjutant-general to Major-General Hancock, commanding the Second corps; nine splendid pieces of artillery—five of them being elegant brass Napoleon's and the other four, fine three-inch rifle guns; eight stand of colors, upward of a thousand small arms, and some twenty horses. Many of the artillery horses were killed or disabled by our sharpshooters.

By the way, to do justice even to an enemy, let me say that I have it from all accounts that their artillerists acted with great gallantry, and fought hand-to-hand—using muskets.

North-Carolina Troops in the Battle.
The Petersburg Express pays the following tribute to the gallantry of our noble soldiers:—"It gives us great pleasure to notice the gallant conduct of the North Carolina troops in the Battle at Reams' Station. Gen. Lee, in his dispatch to the Secretary of War, states that Cook's McCrae's and Lane's brigades, all from North Carolina, together with Pegram's artillery, constituted the force that assaulted and carried the enemy's works. Too much praise cannot be awarded to these veteran commands for the intrepid manner in which they marched up to their work and accomplished it.—The soldiers from North Carolina have from the day of the first Manassas down to that of Reams' fought with a valor that was never surpassed, and they have well entitled themselves to the admiration and gratitude of their country. In every battle in which they have engaged, they have acquitted themselves nobly. There are no truer and more indomitable soldiers than they, as a score of bloody fields in this war gloriously attest. At Reams' they formed nearly the whole attacking force, and again distinguished themselves, as they always have done and will continue to do to the end of the war."

For further and better notice of the part borne by the North Carolina brigades in the battle on Thursday, our readers are referred to the letter from our correspondent, "Spectator," which will be found in another column.

Mobile.
The correspondent of the Montgomery Advertiser, writing to that paper, says:—"You have published much concerning affairs in this quarter, but very little approaching the truth. Permit me in behalf of history to drop you a few lines now and then, and which are not written with rose-water."

The long episode from St. Paul, which you gave your readers a few days ago, was very readable, but the romancer failed to say that the day after the desperate naval engagement, in which he represented our little navy to have been torn from stem to stern by the enemy's guns, the *Stonewall* steamed up under the enemy's flag and turned her guns upon our inner line of batteries, and the ill-fated *Tennessee* steamed off to Pensacola, and new lies at anchorage off New Orleans. If the fight was so desperate, it seems that little damage was done.

No one leather can or should be plucked from the plume of the gallant Buchanan. He did his best with what he had. Why had he nothing more? A shot across her rudder disables the *Tennessee* and lays her and her wooden consort at the mercy of three times their number of ships and guns. On such a slight chance depended the salvation of Mobile Bay. The public may ask why her rudder was left so much exposed, why we had no more iron clads like the *Tennessee*, why the government failed to pay contractors for ships that were at least as good as the *Tennessee*? But the public is tired of asking questions that never receive an answer from official quarters. Must citizens of Alabama keep their lips closed while imbecility is surrendering the gateway to their homes. As one of those citizens, in behalf of my beloved State, I demand an answer to these questions.

Why was it that Fort Powell, which commanded an important pass into the Bay, was left completely defenceless in the rear, so as to necessitate its surrender, when the enemy's fleet should sail past these forts? Why was it that the guns of Fort Morgan were not so placed as to command the entire channel through which the enemy was to pass? Why was it that the engineers asked for a fatigue force to complete the rear works of these forts, they were answered that the negroes had more important work elsewhere? Why was it that but one-third of the batteries around the city were ready for action when the enemy's fleet sailed into the Bay? Why was it, that not a spadeful of dirt was thrown up along the outer line of rifle pits before the enemy was within seven miles of the city? Why was it that when the enemy's guns were thundering in our ears, not a gun had been mounted upon the batteries on the Eastern shore, which commands the rear of the city? Why was it that the command of two important forts was given to an officer against whom warning had been given by responsible parties? Why was it that Gen. Page did not prevent the surrender of Fort Gaines by remaining there and waiting the denouement of Anderson's visit to the federal fleet? Why is it that on the eve of action the commands of old and tried officers are placed under strangers and men of no record promoted to responsible commands?

These are questions which can have no answer, except a woman's answer, *velo ergo* ad. I will it, therefore it is so. West Point turns up its haughty nose, walks by without an answer and repeats the history of New Orleans and Vicksburg.

Oh! for one spark of the energy of the Prince of Orange and Prince Maurice. Those men could fortify towns and throw supplies into beleaguered fortresses by novel expedients, such as could be employed by the Yankees. The Yankees stand open until the walls below nest in them. Fort Powell might have stood until now had her rear walls been built up. She could have been supplied with men and provisions, across the channel through which her garrison waded to escape. Then she would have kept the enemy from receiving supplies through Grant's pass by his fleet. Then his fleet through want of coal, provisions and shot would have been compelled to sail back under the guns of Morgan. But now, my pen trembles on the page. Powell is gone, Gaines is gone, Morgan will go so soon as the provision of the garrison is exhausted, and the Federal fleet rides within seven miles of the city."

Later News—Official From Gen. Hood.
RICHMOND, Aug. 30.—The following was received here this morning: ATLANTA, Aug. 28.—To Hon. J. A. Seddon:—"The enemy have changed their entire position, the left of their line resting near the Chattahoochee, near Sandtown, and their right extending to point change near the East Point railroad between East Point and Fairburn. They hold all the crossings on the Chattahoochee, but not with continued line. Dispatches of the 19th, from Wheeler, report the capture of Dalton, with a large quantity of stores, about 200 prisoners and 200 mules. He destroyed three trains of cars and twenty-five miles of the railroad. His command is in good condition." (Signed) J. B. HOOD.

SECOND DISPATCH.
ATLANTA, Aug. 30.—The enemy have occupied the West Point railroad and are fortifying and removing the track south. It was reported last night that the Federal cavalry were advancing in the direction of West Point.

Col. W. H. Coffey, of the 60th Kentucky regiment, is appointed Provost Marshal General of this army and assumed his position this morning. The Progress of this City thus sums up the situation around Atlanta:—"Some of the Georgia papers are jubilant over Sherman's late change of base, and are even predicting an early and disastrous retreat for him; but knowing that Wheeler has or soon will effectually destroy the railroads over which he gets his supplies. We would gladly accept these sanguine speculations, but after an examination of our maps and Railroad Guides, we are sorry to say that we cannot; but that, on the contrary, we are inclined to the belief that Sherman's change of position, like the late movement of Grant before Petersburg, is an advantage to him rather than to us. For some time he has been resting on the Georgia Railroad, which runs East from Atlanta, and by this change he has given up this road, thrown his left flank back to the Chattahoochee, North or Northwest of the town, and swung his right round to the West Point Railroad, where he is fortifying. He can well afford to abandon the Georgia road, for he has razed it so effectually that the damage cannot be repaired for months, while if he can reach and hold the Macon road, the only remaining line we have open, our army cut off, as far as a railroad communication is concerned, and would be soon compelled to fight, probably at great disadvantage, or retreat. East Point is six miles from Atlanta. The cars for West Point and Macon leave Atlanta on the same track, but at East Point, six miles out, the roads branch, the right going to West Point and the left to Macon. Fairburn is on the West Point road thirteen miles further on and nineteen from Atlanta; and as it will be seen that if Sherman's left rests upon that of Reams' point between East Point and Fairburn, he cannot be far from the Macon road, which branches off at the former place. Sherman's object, therefore, is evidently to extend his lines from the State road, over which he gets his own supplies, across the West Point to the Macon road, thus cutting off all communication save by the Georgia or Augusta's road, which he has so badly damaged as to prevent his being very service to our commander. The contest, then, will be for the possession of East Point, for the Macon road near that place, towards which Sherman is extending his lines; and instead of the Federal army being in full retreat we shall not be surprised to hear at any moment that a desperate battle has been fought or is in progress, on or near the Macon road, South of Atlanta."

From Petersburg.
Petersburg, Aug. 30.—The situation in front of the place and Bermuda Hundred unchanged. During the whole of yesterday the enemy poured a furious and continuous fire of shot and shell upon the town, doing however little or no damage. To day all comparatively quiet.

From the Valley.
Richmond, Aug. 30.—The Lynchburg Republican of Saturday, states that the Yankee cavalry advanced on Rogersville a few days since and retired the way they came. It is reported, on what is considered good authority, that Wheeler, with a large force of cavalry, was between Knoxville and Bristol, advancing into Kentucky.

Later from the North.
Petersburg, Aug. 31.—The *Chronicle of Sunday* says that Stanton telegraphed to a friend at Hancock Station on Thursday, but had repulsed the enemy in every attack. At half past five, p. m., a combined attack was made on his left and centre, which, after one of the most desperate battles of the war, resulted in the withdrawal of the enemy from the field, leaving their dead and wounded behind.

Hancock, in his report, says he withdrew at dark for reasons stated. He says that he lost 2000 horses and that the rebels hold some of our ground with their skirmish line. Our loss will probably reach 12 or 1500, though this is surmise. This is acknowledged to have been the most desperate fight of the war, resembling that of Spotsylvania in the charges, though the number engaged was less.

Meade telegraphs a safe guard has come in who reports the field strewn with rebel dead and arms. This shows how severely they were punished. He says the safe guard talked with rebel officers, who say their loss was greater than ever before during the war.

Grant says the enemy cannot stand the losses on the Weldon Railroad. Stanton estimates the rebel loss in the last two weeks at 10,000, and Federal loss at 5000. Dispatches from Chicago say McClellan will be nominated. War Democrats are pressing Dix, but he stands no chance. Gov. Campbell, of Tenn., Guthrie, of Ky., or Pendleton, of Ohio, will be nominated for Vice President.

A great peace meeting was held in Chicago on Saturday night. Garrett Davis, Vallandigham and Fernando Wood spoke. McClellan and Horatio Seymour are prominent candidates for the Presidency. The *Tallahassee* is reported to have captured 27 vessels. Later accounts report her at New Orleans. Richmond, Aug. 31.—The *Herald of the 30th* has a telegram from Chicago which states that the New York delegation were received with a perfect ovation from Detroit to Chicago at every station. Every delegation closed with cheers for McClellan. Thayer, of New York, several times asked the crowd, "who wanted Seymour nominated?" The cry was for Seymour emphatically, no—McClellan.

Dem. Richmond expresses a positive conviction that McClellan will be nominated. Sherman says the indications are that the rebels will leave the Valley. The *Herald* apprehends that the draft will be resisted in the city; and a conflict between the conscripts and the authorities will take place, which may seriously disturb the public peace. Stanton telegraphs Dix that he has not heard from Sherman for two days.

The Chicago Convention.
Richmond, Aug. 31.—The Washington *Chronicle* of the 30th press telegrams from Chicago of the 29th. The Convention is a committee to be organized in his remarks on taking the chair he urged harmonious action in order to succeed in the cause of the Constitution and the Union, and that laws may prevail over fanaticism and treason. Rev. Mr. Clarkson offered prayer for a speedy peace. A committee of one from each delegation was appointed to report resolutions. A number of resolutions were read and referred, including one by Long, of Ohio, for the appointment of a committee to be directed to Washington to persuade Lincoln to suspend the draft until it is decided at the coming election in favor of peace or war, by the election of candidates for the Presidency. The Convention adjourned until to-morrow.

The New York delegation took a vote as to its choice for the Presidency, giving McClellan 53, scattering 13. The Ohio delegation voted McClellan 16, against him 26; Indiana, McClellan 18, against 14; Illinois, McClellan 23, against 10. A special dispatch from Chicago of the 30th says the excitement is intense. Vallandigham had made speeches demanding peace on any terms. The outside sentiment is strong for peace. Pendleton, of Ohio, gains strongly for the nomination to the Vice Presidency. The committee on Organization will recommend Seymour for President of the Convention. The committee on resolutions held a long session. Vallandigham was defeated for Chairman, and Guthrie elected.

Richmond, August 31.—A communication from Judge Ould, addressed to the relatives and friends of Confederates confined in Northern prisons, will be published to-morrow, setting forth the efforts made by the Confederate authorities to effect an exchange of prisoners. Ould gave a copy of the letter sent by Mafford yesterday and is waiting for a reply to his last proposition.