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Correspondence of the Fayetteville Observer. RICHMOND, February, 22. Editors:—While we repose confidence in our eastern defenses, our affairs in the West are not in so hopeful a condition.

There is no railroad in that country, and the roads being often impassable, the only mode of transportation is by river. It is not until we reach the mouth of the Mississippi river in Louisiana, that we find a railroad.

The Will of Habeas Corpus

Mr. Ferrissdale of Missouri, introduced a bill for the purpose of suspending the writ of habeas corpus in any town, city or military district, whenever in his opinion the public safety may require it.

Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays. The vote resulted—yeas 47, nays 62, less than two thirds voting in the affirmative.

This is a very sweeping proposition. It contemplates the abrogation of the dearest rights of every citizen of the Confederate States.

Every patriotic citizen is willing and anxious that all power necessary to the vigorous prosecution of the war should be conferred on the Executive. But we cannot understand how that end can be promoted by giving to one man the authority to deprive all the rest of the glorious birthright of liberty.

The President's Staff

A correspondent of the Fayetteville Observer gives the following description of the staff officers of President Davis: "Of what may be termed the President's staff is Adjutant and Inspector General Cooper, Quartermaster Gen. Myers, Commissary General Northrop, and Surgeon General Moore, all with rank of Colonel, as provided by Act of Congress—President Davis, however, assigned Gen. Cooper, who was a full General, to the duties of Adj. and Inspector General and as a superior officer always retains his higher rank with it when performing the duties of an inferior."

Valuable Papers Found

My son found a large number of valuable papers, supposed to belong to John Tyler Jr. of Orange county. These papers were found on the River and are of great value to the Government.

A Wife's Desponding Letter

The following lines were suggested upon reading a notice of a soldier being shot for desertion, who was induced to leave the army by a desponding letter from his wife. Oh, how the soldier's throbbing heart Had almost burst in twain, While thinking of that long loved wife, He ne'er might see again.

The London "Times" on Late Battles

It had fighting continued through several days, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, constitutes a great battle, the engagements between Murfreesboro' and Nashville may rank among the chief military events of the American war.

It is stated that all the negroes captured by the Confederates were immediately shot.

It is stated that all the negroes captured by the Confederates were immediately shot. We hope this is false, and we think it must be so. The slaves in the Federal lines are employed only as servants and team drivers, and even when it was proposed to arm and organize them as soldiers, the Proclamation of the Southern President expressly exempted them from the penalty with which the white officers of such regiments were threatened.

The Situation in Tennessee

The Chattanooga "Herald" says: We have news from Nashville. By a careful computation of reliable parties there are fifteen thousand inmates of Federal hospitals in that city, with a tendency to increase.

Extreme Abolitionism

There are only one division and two or three battalions of cavalry now in the city, besides the artillery, numbering in all about ten thousand men. Eight thousand more are at Franklin, and the main body near Murfreesboro'.

Capture of the Queen of the West

The "Mississippi" gives the following additional particulars of the capture of the Yankee iron-clad Queen of the West: On Wednesday of last week the Queen ran past Natchez and anchored two miles below. The DeSoto followed her, stopping just above the landing, where she destroyed flatboats and skiffs.

Incidents of the War

A touching romance in real life is afforded by the deaths of Captain Chalmers Glenn, of Rockingham County, N. C., and his faithful servant Mat. Reared together from childhood, Mat had shared in all the boyish pranks and frolics of his master.

The French in Mexico

The Houston News of the 2nd, has the following item of very important news: It is entirely different from the accounts we have received through Yankee papers of the operations of the French in Mexico. The Yankees report nothing but defeat and disaster to us. French and Spaniards. This reports nothing but victory.

Hawaii

Hawaii. The Hawaiian Islands are now in the hands of the United States. The Hawaiian people are being treated with kindness and respect.