THE DAILY JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1862.

NOTICE.

As we have NO AGENTS, all persons subscribing for the Daily or Weekly Journal, to any person or persons not connected with this office, must look to such persons or persons for their papers, as we will be responsible for no receipts given by persons not connected with the Journal.

WE are in receipt of a letter from Colonel Collett Leventhorpe, commanding the 34th Regiment N. C. Troops, now stationed, and being stationed at the time of the Newbern fight, at Hamilton in this State, seventy miles from Newbern. Col. Leventhorpe's letter is dated on the 20th—on the 19th, a day before such letter was written, and three days before it was received, we had anticipated its object by making the correction desired, which was rendered necessary by a purely accidental mistake in the number of a regiment, the Thirty-fourth being put for the Thirty-fifth, thus showing that we are more anxious voluntarily to repair any unintentional injustice or correct any accidental error, than even the parties themselves, who might be the sufferers by such error or injustice, could be to have it repaired or corrected.

IT IS PRETTY HARD to keep the run of the thousand and one rumors which are constantly getting afloat, and which are credited with force of emphasis and circumstantiality of detail that is surprising. Let us give an instance of how the thing works:—

We had reason to know that the Virginia would not and could not go down from Norfolk before to-day, if so soon. Will on Wednesday last a gentleman of intelligence and veracity told us positively that she had gone down. That he had his information from a party just from Norfolk, who had seen her down about Craney Island the evening before with her steam up. This was told to us in good faith, yet we knew it was not so.

Next the news of the escape of the Nashville from the blockade at Beaufort harbor was received. The Nashville went out between two blockaders who fired on her and she returned the fire. This we soon heard gravely retailed with variations, the Virginia taking the place of the Nashville. When this mistake was pointed out the party insisted that it could not have been the Nashville that returned the fire, because all her guns had been taken away, and she merely employed as a dispatch boat, thus mixing her up with the Gordon or Theodora. So the thing goes.

IT WILL be seen by "General Order, No. 13," that in pursuance of "Special Order, No. 60," from the Adjutant and Inspector General's office at Richmond, Gen. S. G. French has assumed command of this military district.

General French is an experienced officer of the old army, and served with distinction through the Mexican war in the artillery regiment to which the lamented Ringold belonged. We are assured that he enjoys the full confidence of the President, and will do all that energy and skill can effect for the defense of the section committed to his charge.

LEAD.—There is considerable apprehension expressed of an impending scarcity out of which to mould bullets. We would make a suggestion, which we think is worthy of consideration, or may become so. More than one half, probably two-thirds of the newspapers throughout the Confederacy have been forced to yield to the pressure of the times. The weight of metal in each office will range from one to ten thousand pounds. This is lead, with a trifling admixture of antimony, which, we think, might be easily removed by a process which the skill of our chemists could readily devise.

Say there are an hundred offices in the Confederate States not used, with an average of three thousand pounds of metal. That would give three hundred thousand pounds, and that again would turn out nearly five millions of ounce balls. We do not know whether the type metal as it stands is too hard, although we read in the accounts of lion and elephant hunters in Africa, that they hard-ball their balls on purpose, even for rifle practice, so that we are not sure that the slight hardness of type metal could be any great objection, especially for smooth bore muskets. The amount of metal we have stated might easily be doubled. The cost of old types is not very much above that of lead, but perhaps that might be some slight objection. It is worthy of consideration in case of necessity.

For the Journal.

Editors Daily Journal,

GENTLEMEN:—Your issue of to-day contains some comments upon the great tardiness of our military authorities upon the subject of bomb-proof batteries on our coast and rivers.

It has occurred to most of us, no doubt, that such is the fact—viz: *we do not do like to erect such batteries*—Why is it? Why should experienced officers not profit by their experience when they can? If there be anything that can withstand iron-clad gun-boats, it is these same *casemated batteries*, and if they are built of earth with wooden embrazures, let these embrazures be *casemated* also. This can be done with railroad iron most effectually, and at a small cost. The batteries on Big Island and at old Brunswick should each have a few guns so covered, and if armed with 8 or 10 inch columbiads, the iron-plated gun-boats *cannot pass up the river*, if they should ever be so fortunate as to get inside our harbor.

In the Cape Fear region be defended *to the last extremity*. It is the last place on the seacoast within the State remaining to the Confederacy. It is the very salt spring for the whole State. With our batteries properly armed and manned, and with 30,000 men in the State, within striking distance, this can be done against a fleet of two hundred sail and 50,000 men. Let no feeling of despondency seize on our people because *other places have fallen*. Every place has its peculiar features. We have learned, or should have learned by other's misfortunes. Rally! Stand to your guns, and all will be well!

F.

March 21st, 1862.

THE PRIVILEGE OF THE PRESS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—On the 14th inst. the Governor and Executive Council adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the editors and owners of newspapers in this State be informed, that if any of their employees shall fall under the conscription, the Adjutant and Inspector General will be instructed to withhold from Confederate service such of said conscripts as the editor or owner of such newspapers shall declare by affidavit to be absolutely necessary to carry on their respective establishments, and that he work cannot be done by workmen within their reach and otherwise exempt; *Provided*, The number withheld shall not exceed seven for the Charleston daily papers, five for the Columbia daily papers, and two for each country paper; *And provided*, The conscripts withheld from Confederate service shall be subject to be detailed to such local and special duty as may not seriously interfere with the business of the respective offices.

LEMONS AND LIMES.—We are informed that throughout our State, particularly in the eastern and southern portions, there has been a fine crop of lemons and limes grown this year, which are now being permitted to rot, there being no market for them, in consequence of the blockade.

We have been requested to suggest to the owners of such fruit the propriety of expressing the juice from them and bottling it up. There are thousands of old bottles that are now useless, and there would be no difficulty in the way in this respect. It would require but little labor, will keep well, and meet with a ready sale throughout the Confederacy, particularly to our armies. We hope our contemporaries throughout the State will call attention to this matter.

Florida Dispatch.

A CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

The Newbern Daily and Weekly Progress.

It is sincerely believed by the public that the nefarious enterprise of Burnside into Newbern on Friday last has compelled the temporary suspension of the Progress. This was a barbarous and villainous proceeding of old Burnside, inasmuch as it has deprived the public of the advantages of a good paper, besides the inconvenience to the citizens of Newbern.

By the discomfiture of our armies at Newbern, I have lost everything I had in the world—presses, type, stock and other office material and furniture, and other property of all kinds, is all gone—but still I hope to be able to make arrangements at an early day to issue the Progress at some point not very remote from the old stand; this will depend however upon the extent to which Burnside is able to penetrate the bowels of the land.

Having lost all I have, I must urge all who are indebted to the Progress office, to make immediate settlement. Though in the army my address will be for the present, Goldsboro', N. C.

Papers in the South that received the Progress in exchange will please copy or notice this card.

J. L. PENNINGTON.

Goldsboro, March 11, 1862.

The Wounded in the Hospital at Goldsboro'.

The following wounded have been brought up from Newbern and are now in the Female College, which has been taken for a hospital and placed under the superintendence of Dr. Wm. H. Moore, Surgeon in C. S. A., from Goldsboro'.

Daniel L. McKoy, from Iredell county, of company I, 7th Reg. N. C. S. T., wounded by a minnie ball in the elbow.

John Mixon, from Pitt county, company E, 27th Reg. N. C. S. T., wounded in shoulder and breast, the ball passing entirely through his body. He has the ball, and says he intends to kill a Yankee with it if he ever gets well.

Neil Medlin, of Moore county, of company C, 35th Reg. N. C. S. T., his foot was shattered by a shell and the leg has been amputated below the knee.

Kinchen Cobb, from Greene county, of the militia, has a flesh wound in the thigh and a very severe wound in the elbow, which will probably demand amputation.

Lieut. Wm. A. Stewart, and Corporal Andrew Jackson Stewart, brothers from Ashe county, in company —— 27th Reg. N. C. T., the former wounded in the elbow and the latter in both legs—all flesh wounds.—The corporal says he killed one Yankee after he was shot, they were wounded they say in trying to bring off Wm. Jones of the same company, who fell mortally wounded.

Julius A. Parker, from Iredell, of company L 7th Reg. N. C. T., wounded in elbow by a minnie ball.

Manly Hatten, from Alexander county, of company G, 37th Reg. N. C. T., wounded in hip some time ago, by falling off a wagon—re-injured in the retreat.

Sergt. Roderick McRae, from Moore county, of company C, 35th Reg., wounded severely by a minnie ball passing lengthwise through his forearm.

John Hitchey, from Catawba, of company C, Brem's Artillery, wounded very severely in leg, the ball passing in at his ankle and coming out on the other side near his knee. He ran after he was wounded 300 yards, mounted an artillery horse and rode into Kinston. He thinks he fired at least 90 balls at the enemy before he retreated. All of Brem's artillery was captured he states but two pieces which guarded the bridge.

G. J. Banks, Sergt of Wake, company D, 26th Reg. N. C. T., wounded in hand, ball cutting off his thumb.

Willis P. Burt of Wake, company D, 26th N. C. T., wounded in back, by a minnie ball.

Charles E. Jones of Moore county, company H, 26th Reg. N. C. T., wounded in head just over the ear.

The following are from the list in the Hospital at the Fair Ground:

Elias Crawford of Davidson, company —, N. C. T., 7th Reg., flesh wound in the thigh.

Jas. C. Jones, Alleghany county, 37th Reg., company K, flesh wound in the thigh.

W. C. C. Wilson, Mecklenburg county, 7th Reg., company H, flesh wound in the leg.

Arch. D. McLeod, Cumberland county, 33d Regt. company G., wounded in the hand, 3 fingers shot off.

B. A. Brookshire, Alexander county, 37th Regt. company G, wound of the leg.

L. B. Smith, Chatham county, 26th Regt. company E., finger shot off.

John Goy, of Iredell, flesh wound in the arm, 33d Regt. company A.

J. L. Henry, Iredell county, 33d Regt. S. T., flesh wound in the arm.

David Ricoard, of Iredell, 33d Regt. S. T., flesh wound in the arm.—*Goldsboro' Tribune.*

From the Richmond Dispatch.

From the North.

We are in possession of late New York papers, from which we copy the following:

THE BATTLE IN ARKANSAS.

The Federal General Curtis makes his report to General Halleck as follows:

HEADQ ARTERS ARMY OF THE SOUTHWEST, PEA RIDGE, ARK., March 9, 1-62.

General: On Thursday, the 6th instant, the enemy commenced an attack on my right wing, assailing and following the rear-guard of a detachment under Gen. Seigel to my main lines on Sugar Creek Hollow, but ceased firing when he met my reinforcements, about 4 P. M.

During the night I became convinced that he had moved on so as to attack my flank or rear, therefore, early on the 7th, I ordered a change of front to the right, my right, which then became my left, still resting on Sugar Creek Hollow. This brought my line across Pea Ridge, with my new right resting on Head Cross Timber Hollow, which is the head of Big Sugar Creek. I also ordered an immediate advance of the cavalry and light artillery, under Col Osterhaus, with orders to attack and break what I suspected would be the reinforced lines of the enemy. This movement was in progress, when the enemy, at 11 A. M., commenced an attack on my right. The right continued mainly at these points during the day, the enemy having gained the point held by Col. Carr, at Cross Timber Hollow, but was entirely repulsed, with the aid of the commander McCulloch, in the centre, by the forces under Col Davis. The plan of attack on the centre was gallantly carried forward by Col. Osterhaus, who was immediately sustained and supported by Col Davis's entire division, supported also by Gen. Seigel's command, which had remained till near the close of the day on the left. Col. Carr's division held the right under galling, continuous fire, all day.

In the evening, firing having entirely ceased in the centre, and the right being now on the left, I reinforced the right by a portion of the second division, under General Asboth. Before the day closed I was convinced that the enemy had concentrated his main force on the right. I commenced another change of front forward, so as to face the enemy where he had deployed on my right flank in a strong position. The change had only been partially effected, but was in full progress, when, at sunrise on the 8th, my right and centre renewed the firing, which was immediately answered by the enemy with renewed energy, along the whole extent of his line. My left, under Gen Seigel, moved close to the hills occupied by the enemy, driving him from the heights, and advancing steadily towards the head of the hollows. I immediately ordered the centre and right wing forward, the right turning the left of the enemy, and cross fire on his centre. This final position of the enemy was in the arc of a circle. A charge of infantry, extending throughout the whole line, completely routed the whole rebel force, which retired in great confusion, but rather safely, through the deep passable defiles of cross-timber.

Our loss is heavy. The enemy's cannot be ascertained, for their dead are scattered over a large field. Their wounded, too, many many of them be lost and perish. The force is scattered in all directions, but I think the main force has returned to Boston Mountains.

Gen. Seigel follows him towards Keithville, while my cavalry is pursuing him towards the mountains, scouring the country, bringing in prisoners, and trying to find the rebel Major-Gen. VanDorn, who had command of the entire force at this, the battle of Pea Ridge.

I have not as yet, statements of the dead and wounded, so as to justify a report, but I will refer you to a dispatch which I will forward you very soon.

Officers and soldiers have displayed such unusual gallantry, that I hardly dare to make distinction. I must, however, name the commanders of divisions. Gen. Seigel gallantly commanded the right, and drove back the left wing of the enemy; Gen. Asboth, who is wounded in the arm, in his gallant efforts to reinforce the right; Col. and acting Brigadier General Davis, who commanded the centre, where McCulloch fell on the 7th, and pressed forward the centre on the 8th. Col. and acting Brig.-Gen. Carr, is also wounded in the arm, and was under the continuous fire of the enemy during the two hardest days of the struggle.

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio and Missouri may proudly share the honor of victory which their gallant heroes won over the combined forces of Van-Dorn, Price and McCulloch at Pea Ridge, on the mountains of Arkansas.

I have the honor to be, General, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL R. CURTIS,
Brig. Gen.

HARNETT GREYS ATTENTION!

THIS Company will parade until further orders, on every Monday and Thursday at 3 o'clock, P. M. Every member not legally excused, must *be present*. By order

CAPT. SHACKELFORD.

Jno. Appen, O. S.

March 22d, 1862. 135-1t

FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND THE NORTH.—The North is very much afraid of foreign intervention in this war, and is alarmed lest the great distress of the manufacturing classes of England may furnish a cause for the intervention of the British Government to break the blockade. The New York *Herald*, in discussing the subject, says:

The war commenced on the 19th of April, 1861; it ought to be ended by the 19th of April, 1862. The amount of cotton now on hand in the warehouses of Liverpool and Manchester is sufficient to keep the Lancashire mills at work, at their present rate of running, until the latter part of May. As that period approaches, the impending distress of the manufacturing population of England will furnish powerful motives for the intervention of the British Government to break the blockade. The over-mastering instinct of self-preservation will assert its force, and pretexts will not long be wanting for war with the United States and an alliance with the South. Recent events have shown on how precarious a footing are our relations with Great Britain. It behooves us to strike vigorous, rapid and effective blows while we have but one enemy to contend with, and no formidable third party interferes.

We were much offended at hearing a distinguished officer, when, the war had just begun, lamenting the enthusiasm and inconsiderateness with which our people entered into it. We now see and feel that he was right. Our furore and enthusiasm clouded our judgments, made us overrate ourselves and underrate our enemies, and begat rashness and rashness. No doubt, at the time of their appointment, our stump orators believed themselves quite a match for several Yankees, & probably our intelligent readers then concurred in the opinion. They and the public, since passion has cooled, and judgment and reason resumed their sway, have learned better.—Our armies will soon be filled with new levies, while those opposed to us have been subjected for many months to excellent drill and discipline. We must not have ignorant and inexperienced officers to command, train and discipline ignorant and inexperienced troops.

DeBow's Review—in advance.

The British steam sloop Racer, Capt. Lyons, arrived off this port yesterday, from Bermuda. Her Majesty's Consul, Robert Bunch, Esq., communicated with her during the afternoon.—*Charleston Con., 21st.*

SKIRMISHES NEAR NASHVILLE.—The New Orleans *Picayune* has a special from Decatur on the 11th, giving the particulars of two gallant affairs which have recently occurred near Nashville.

On the previous Sunday, Capt. Morgan engaged the enemy on the Murfreesboro' pike road, six miles from Nashville, and after a brilliant skirmish, succeeded in capturing thirty-eight prisoners, among whom was one of Gen. Mitchell's aids. He also destroyed a large provision train. The enemy being soon after reinforced, re-captured sixty of their men, who were under a guard of only ten men. Capt. Morgan succeeded in bringing in thirty-eight prisoners, after a hard chase, in which he eluded the enemy, who at one time had nearly surrounded him. He lost four of his own men.

On the next day a detachment of forty of Colonel Scott's Louisiana cavalry, under the command of Capt. Gustavus Scott, made an attack upon the enemy on the Franklin pike, six miles from Nashville. The Federals, one hundred and twenty strong, were routed, twenty of them killed, and forty of their guns captured. Their tents were also burned. Our loss in this affair was two killed.

RETURNED HOME.—We learn that Mrs. C. G. Kennedy, late matron of N. C. Military Hospital, on Perry street, has vacated her position there and returned to her home in Wilmington. This is much to be regretted, as she is not only an accomplished and refined lady, but a kind and tender nurse, and a faithful spiritual adviser. We fear the authorities will find it difficult to secure a successor equally worthy of her place.

The N. C. Hospital has now about two hundred patients.—*Petersburg Express.*

The Evacuation of New Madrid.

We have the Memphis *Appeal* of the 16th instant, through the kindness of a friend, giving some of the particulars of the encounter of New Madrid.

The fight on Thursday, the 15th inst., at that point was mainly between the gunboats under command of Commodore Hollins, and the enemy's artillery. Our loss was three killed and a few wounded. The enemy made several attempts to take the place by storm but were driven back.

Early Thursday evening Gen. Jeff. Thompson sent in a scout with information that large Federal reinforcements under Gen. Seigel, were advancing. About 10 o'clock at night another messenger came in, and reported Seigel's force to be forty regiments of infantry and four of cavalry, who were within two miles, and were expected to arrive by midnight and storm the place.

All the mounted guns were immediately spiked and abandoned. A portion of the ammunition, most of the baggage, and about 100 mules were also left behind.—All the men except a few pickets were brought off safely.

Southern Confederacy.

THE FRIGHT OF A PEOPLE DETERMINED TO BE FREE.—Soon after the Roanoke Island disaster the Gov'r of No. Carolina called for five Regiments of Volunteers for the War. A gentleman who left Raleigh yesterday informs us, that in response to this call, *eight companies* have tendered themselves to the Governor within the last three weeks, of which eight or nine were offered and accepted yesterday. And there are *plenty of guns now to arm them with.*

Such are the people whom the detestable Yankees wish to subjugate!—*Fayetteville Observer, 20th inst.*

FLOYD'S BRIGADE.—We have it upon reliable authority that Gen. Floyd has been ordered with his command, to Knoxville, Tennessee. Some accuse Floyd and the government suspends him from his command, but when there is any hard fighting on hand that gallant defender of his country is sure to be called upon to help do it. His brigade has been fighting hard ever since it entered the field, and has done more hard service, fought more battles, got into more hard places and got out of them, than any other brigade in the field.—*Lynchburg Republican.*

FROM THE UPPER RIVER.—The Gen. Quitman arrived at the landing yesterday, from the upper river, her trip having extended as far as Tiptonville, a short distance below Point Pleasant.

One of the officers informs us that a heavy cannonading was heard at New Madrid, before the boat left, which lasted from four until ten o'clock A. M. Thursday. His opinion was that the heavy guns of the gunboats were engaged in shelling the enemy. Up to the hour of the departure of the boat, no information as to the result had been received.—*Memphis Appeal, 15th inst.*

Improvised Generals.

Intelligent reader, if you were required to make a pair of negro's brogans, would you not reply that you could not make them; because you never learned the shoemaker's trade? Supposing you to be honest, patriotic, intelligent, over fifty years of age, and wholly unacquainted with the practice or science of military matters, and you were offered an appointment as captain, or colonel, or general in the Confederate army, with a salary of one, two, or three thousand dollars per annum, would you not unhesitatingly reply, "I know nothing of the art of war, am too old to learn, and will not, for the sake of filthy lucre, betray my country?" "Appoint somebody else who has learned military affairs, either at school or in camp." Are stump orators gods, born like Minerva, Bellona or Mars, full-armed, all-wise and invincible chieftains; and you, my intelligent readers, made of different and baser clay, can you conceive it possible for a mere mortal, past fifty, to become a good soldier, a great general, without previous study, or practice, or experience? Certainly not. If a single one of our improvised officers makes a good leader from the start, he must be like Joan of Arc, inspired from above. But the day of miracles and of inspiration has passed, and we are doomed to frequent reverses and defeats, until our young stump-orator officers have learned the art of war, and the old ones are slaughtered off.

The war will last so long as mere demagogues occupy high places, either in civil life or in the army. When we get rid of them, we shall see light ahead, and feel hope reviving. We shall, in the meantime, learn a useful lesson, gain valuable experience, yet pay most dearly for it. But peace breeds demagogues, as surely as cheese breeds maggots; and if this war be succeeded by a long interval of peace, a new brood of stump orators will grow up out of the rottenness and corruption of pacific times.

From the Columbus, Ga., Sun.

The Next Crop of the South—Cotton or Corn

Plant corn, all be free, or plant cotton, and be slaves. This is the naked issue of the question, "how much cotton shall we plant?" It has been argued upon the subject, the events of the past few weeks have completely dispelled them, and we have now the fact, "stare us in the face." All the value of southern soldiers will be powerless against grim hunger and gaunt famine, such as will overwhelm and crush us, if we insanely raise cotton instead of corn. In years past, no little sport has been made of the North's argument, that their hay and potato crop was equal in value to our cotton crop; the decisive reply has been, "you are obliged to eat those crops, while cotton commands cash."

Just so long as we had a market for cotton, we had an infinite advantage, for we could buy and eat bread and meat that we fell short of raising; and after this we had a surplus of cotton, which returned to us in money, *for cotton was king and demanded money*; but now as the tables are turned—we have plenty, yes, *four millions of bales of cotton*, and we can neither eat nor sell it. Happy we, if we could do either, for we need both bread and a market.

We would willingly exchange cotton for corn to-day to a large amount, yet then there is still some *discussion* of the question "*how much cotton shall we plant*," and this too, in the full view of the appalling fact, that if the plantations around us were called on to supply meat, *at any price*, for the soldiers, who are leaving us this week, to fight our battles, they could not—as Judge Crawford eloquently told us the other day—furnish one hundred pounds per man. Now add to this fact another equally appalling, viz: that we are completely cut off from the states on which we have always depended for bread and meat, and is it not enough to make us question the sanity of the man who asks, *how much cotton shall we plant?*

Is cotton King? We believe he is, but, like other Kings, he must be fed. The production of Tennessee and Kentucky in 1859 was in round numbers, 111,000,000 bushels corn, 4,000,000 bushels of wheat, and $13,000,000 worth of slaughtered animals. Every one knows that the chief market for these products was found in the Gulf States—and we could not have lived without them unless we had *abstained from raising cotton*. Now how much does any planter expect to get of bread and meat from these States, out of the coming crop? and yet we have much discussion of *how much cotton shall we plant?* Add one other fact: in less than sixty days we shall have not less than 500,000 men in arms "for the war." This vast body of men will be not only non producers, but consumers, thus making a fearful difference "for the war" in the feeding material of the Confederacy! and yet men say "*how much cotton shall we plant?*" Can such things be, and not excite our wonder? Has judgment fled the minds of men? and must we shut our eyes against a painful truth, and ignore the prophecy of a nation *starved into submission*, while we discuss "*how much cotton shall we plant?*" The cordon of a million that would starve us, is now around us. Federal fleets threaten us in every seaport and mile of coast in the Confederacy, while numerous columns will, armed with McClellan's artillery, line our Northern border, from Harper's ferry down to the Kanawha country, on the Gap, and sweeping down to Nashville, swing up in a vast column to the mouth of the Missouri, and on beyond to the Indian country. But no man doubts the issue; there is but one ground of apprehension throughout our army, and it is the fear that the cotton States should fail to come up to their solemn and unavoidable duty. *For it is their duty to feed the armies who shall vindicate our independence.* The union of Federal armies makes this plain. Whatever we may achieve of success, on the borders, or in the border States, who supposes that a crop of grain can be raised this season, in either Missouri, Tennessee or Virginia? The advancing and receding tides of Federal and Confederate forces, leave desolation in their track; and, hear it—hear it—ye cotton planters of the sunny South, who formerly were fed from Tennessee, *must now feed yourselves and Tennessee, and Virginia besides!* Fail to do this, and history's page will record that the Federal boast of starving this people into submission, was accomplished by your own suicidal policy. With this danger staring us in the face, shall we continue to enquire "*how much cotton shall we plant?*"

That this contingency stirs the heart of the Confederacy, no one can doubt, who is at all awake to what is transpiring around him; but if men were fully alive to our dangers, certainly there would be an end of all discussion, and a universal determination to plant—*not one acre of cotton this year*; and yet a recent meeting of planters in Houston county, unanimously resolved "to plant but four acres to the hand." Why, this would, at the lowest figure, give us a crop of between one and two millions of bales—if acted upon throughout the cotton States! Put such resolves by the side of others who declare, that every one shall "plant more corn and less cotton than usual, so that each one shall be able to raise his own meat!" and where will it leave us? where? Let the bitter wail of an enslaved posterity answer. There must be a revolution of opinion and action, or we shall perish.

Happily there is no clashing in these questions—rightly considered—between patriotism and interest. The planting community has been accustomed for a generation, to look at cotton as the only profitable crop and neighbors as mere contingents.

He who could make a heavy cotton crop considered all else safe—for cotton would buy everything else. Ordinarily this was true; for the section, which of all others, was adapted to cotton, could most profitably raise that staple and buy all necessaries out of their surplus.

But revolutions, such as this now in progress in our country, affect all interests, and upsets an routine policy, and he is wisest who takes broadest view and shapes his action accordingly. Passing now the claims of patriotism, it is plain that the planter's prosperity depends upon his planting no cotton this year, and substituting grain crops. The present position of the planting interest is without a parallel. Four millions of bales of cotton now on hand—in the country!—and the time at hand to plant another crop! and with this coupled a scarcity of bacon and grain, and the usual countries of supply not only cut off, but likely to prove dependent for food upon us—whom they formerly helped to feed! Who ever witnessed the like folly? To raise another bale of cotton this year to add to the supply now on hand, is to the last degree suicidal policy. It is at this fatal moment taking the shadow for the substance, without the power even to revoke the mistake.

How often, since last September, we have heard the prediction that the "blockade would be raised in sixty days"—"Europe would have cotton," etc., etc. The latest news from Liverpool shows us a stock of 1,750,000 bales American cotton on hand there, besides a much heavier stock of East India and other cottons; and with this we have also the fact that the present East India crop is more than double that of last year—with a still further prospective increase. Why should we suppose England to be influenced by the Quixotic motive of mere sympathy for a people fighting to be free? Let us not deceive ourselves. England is true, as she ever has been, solely to English interests. She suffers much for lack of cotton, but she is her own judge of the profit and loss of suffering and feeding hungry operatives—she thinks she avoids the expense of a war with the United States—and confiscation of Federal stocks in English hands!

Reason, then, knowing that she may be pressed into breaking the blockade, the watches with Yorn expectancy, to see the planters put in another crop, thereby warranting her in the calculation of getting her needed supply cheap enough to amply reimburse her every outlay and expense, while she is getting rid of her goods manufactured from high priced cotton. At the same time, the high price have stimulated the production of cotton in her East India possessions—rendering her less dependent upon America for the staple.

With what exultation will the English manufacturer learn of a half, or even a quarter crop of cotton—put in by the Southern planter! The prospect ahead will amply pay for present stringency and distress. An essential element in the calculation will be that the addition of what may be raised this year, will be a sufficient make-weight upon the market, to keep price depressed for years—as consumption will not quite keep pace with production and the stock will therefore gradually, but surely, increase. Suppose the planter has now under the 100 bales, for which he might expect 10 cents after the ports are opened, if it is known that no crop is planted this spring—but if the ports are opened and the present crop shipped under expectation of a growing crop of even one-fourth of the usual quantity, it would be in keeping with past experience to see the planter's 100 bales of old, and 20 bales of new cotton, put on the market and sold at five cents. He would thus receive $5,000 for one hundred bales in the first case, and $3,125 for one hundred and twenty-five bales in the other. But if in the uncertain future the corn crop should fail, as in 1860, where would be the planter and the country? It is plain that time, land and labor, given to cotton this year, cannot but result in heavy loss—even leaving out of the count such contingencies as a fresh burst of war over Europe, which would materially reduce the demand there for our cotton.

Let us suppose Memphis and the fortifications above it to fall, leaving New Orleans a beleaguered city, and perhaps to be captured. This would give the enemy free gunboat range up the tributaries of the Lower Mississippi, cutting us off from Texas, the great wool producing, cattle-growing portion of the Confederacy. Add to this an unfavorable grain season, and a limited crop of it planted, while we had, in the language of the Houston County resolutions, only "four acres to the hand" of cotton growing, nothing to eat for our half million army, and the country full everywhere of cotton.

What a prospect! What could keep the country from falling into the depths of subjugation and despair! Should the blockade and war continue, of what value will cotton be? All sales will cease. We can neither pay taxes with it nor barter it for corn or for meat. While, under any circumstances, corn will be the most profitable crop, interest, as well as patriotism, safety and independence, should silence discussion of "*How much cotton should we plant?*"

Let each planter determine to plant none, but put every acre in corn. Some say, "If I plant all corn my neighbor will take advantage of it, and plant more cotton." Should your neighbor seek thus to deceive, let it *add to your determination*, for if he does so, your corn will be only the more valuable, while the cotton will be proportionally less. To those who say, "We live too remote from market to make corn profitable," I would reply, the demand for it will extend to the uttermost parts of the Confederacy; and in every part, the largest profits will inure to the raising of cattle, hogs and sheep, for driving to markets, however remote. Let no planter measure his conduct by what his neighbor may or may not do; but let all, rather, come squarely up to the solemn fact that upon the decision they make may hinge the independence of these fair fields of our loved South, the peace, purity and happiness of our households, and all the hopes of our children who shall come after us.

LADIES FINE SHOES.

Feb. 10th, 1862.—132-tf STOKELY & CO.

WAGES OF NEGROES.—Negro property has not, it seems, depreciated in value in East Tennessee. The Athens Post of the 7th says: "At a sale in this county, on the 27th of February, some negro property brought the following prices: Dick, aged 20 years, $1,500; Betty, and child 8 months, $1,131. A lot of five was sold at Knoxville, a few days since, for the round sum of $5,000; and we notice sales at other points at correspondingly high rates. So, despite the war and other depreciating circumstances, negro property keeps up."

WAKING UP.—The Milledgeville *Southern Union* believes that the planters of the country are beginning to realize in earnest the responsibility which now rests upon them. It is a fearful responsibility. If they do their duty, their children will bless them; if they fail short posterity will curse them. To-day, the issue of life or death is in their hands. A great nation and people hang trembling on the issue. The indications are more favorable. The *Union* fears that some hesitate and still hold back. If we had the gift of prophecy we could not convince the deaf and doubting. But oh, the misery that is in store for our beloved country and people, if, when the summer is ended and the harvest over, there is not bread to drive the ghost of starvation from our doors.

Well, the issue is with the Southern planter. Let him grow another cotton crop, and starve the army and the people of the South, and how many more crops will he grow? Like a gambler, he can stake his all on the hazard of a die; but losing, can he redeem himself?

ECLIPSES.—There will be five eclipses this year, as follows:

1. A total eclipse of the moon just before and after midnight on July 11. Total eclipse begins an hour and seven minutes after the beginning, and lasts one hour and three minutes. Total duration, three hours, seventeen minutes.

2. A partial eclipse of the sun, June 26, in the morning. Invisible in America, but visible in the Indian Ocean.

3. A partial eclipse of the sun, November 21. Invisible in America, but seen in the great Southern Ocean.

4. Partial eclipse of the sun, November 20. Invisible in America, but visible in Asia generally.

5. A total eclipse of the moon, early in the morning of December 6—visible. The eclipse becomes total one hour and nine minutes after the beginning, and lasts one hour and thirty-two minutes. Total duration, three hours and forty minutes.

THE PATRIOTS.—The typographical society of Memphis has about 90 members, 60 of whom are now in the Confederate army. They are numbered among the most patriotic men in the South, for they respond nobly to any call of their country. There are now about thirty of them left in the city, most of whom have families. The society has donated from their funds $25 to every member who would enlist, and were it not for their wives and little ones, the newspapers of the city would be compelled to suspend while hostilities lasted for want of printers.—*Memphis Avalanche, 8th*

AN INCIDENT AT DONELSON.—The *Mississippian* says:

Captain McGowan, of the Quitman Invincibles, belonging to the 14th Mississippi regiment, was shot dead. Lieutenant McGowan, of the same company, was shot down, wounded, and taken from the field of battle.—Lieutenant Alexander Trotter, of the same company, in a hand to hand fight, shot down five of the enemy in one pile with a navy repeater. While thus engaged he had a negro boy, his servant, who ran up to assist his master, and while fighting manfully by his side was shot down by the enemy, when his master with one wipe with his bowie knife, killed the man who slew his servant.

THE SPIRIT IN MISSISSIPPI.—We have good news from Mississippi. The planters are piling up their cotton and getting it ready for the faggot the moment the enemy advances. They are also sending their slaves up the river to work on the fortifications; and they say they are ready to make any sacrifice the government may require. Should the invader continue his advance, he will be lighted on his way by frowning batteries and blazing cotton, which shall be unto him a cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. The little cotton at this place is being shipped to the Sunk Lands in the upper St. Francis river, in Missouri, where it will be beyond the reach of friend or foe, except in the wet season, and may be easily destroyed.—*Mississippi Paper.*

COMMERCIAL.

Latest dates from Liverpool ..... Feb. 23
Latest dates from Havre ..... Feb 21

FAYETTEVILLE, March 20.—Bacon 22. Beef Cattle—In demand. Beeswax 20 cents. Corn—90 to $1. Cotton—None arriving. Cotton Yarns $2. 4 4 sheeting 24 to 25 by the quantity; 3 4 Shirtings 20. Cotton Bagging—30 cts. Candles Fayetteville mould 30. Flour—Super $ 50, with a firm market. Hides—Dry 20; green 8. Iron—Sweedes 5 to 20 by the quantity. Irish Potatoes—1 50 to 2 50 per bushel. Molasses—$1 by retail. N. O. Syrup 1 25. Nails $14 to $15 per key. Pork—12 cents. Peas—$1 to 1 10—Rye 2 50. Oats 65. Rice—4 cts by the cask. Sugars—Stock on hand very light and prices have advanced. Salt—Coarse $1 to 3 50 per bushel. Spirits—Peach Brandy $3; N. C. Apple 2 50; Whiskey 1 50 to 1 75. Spirits Turpentine 17 to 18. Tallow 20 to 22. Wool—Unwashed, 30 to 40.

Observer.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

HEAD QUARTERS,
DISTRICT OF THE CAPE FEAR.
WILMINGTON, N. C., March 22, 1862.

GENERAL ORDER,
No 13

THE UNDERSIGNED, by virtue of Special Order No. 60, Adjutant and Inspector General's office, Richmond, dated March 15th, 1862, hereby assumes command of the District of the Cape Fear, embracing the Counties of New Hanover, Onslow, Brunswick, Robeson, Cumberland, Bladen, Columbus and Sampson.

S. G. FRENCH,
Brig. Gen'l Com'dg.

March 22.—165-1.

Fayetteville Observer will please copy one time and send bill to this office for collection.

GUANO.

NOW is the time to manure your land. SOMBRERO and MANIPULATED GUANO for sale in lots to suit by

KIDDER & MARTIN.

March 22, 1862.—165 3t $16*

SUNDRIES.

LOT CHAIN CABLE;
Half keg Epsom Salts;
Lot of Wine;
Plough Shares;
6,000 Full Size open;
10 reams Blue Ruled Letter Paper;
Part box Window Glass;
1 Plough;
2 Letter Copying Presses. For sale by

March 22d JOS. R. BLOSSOM & CO.

WANTED

TO PURCHASE, a small House and Lot, conveniently located. If terms and so forth can be made satisfactory. Parties wishing to sell, can address (postage paid,) HOUSE, Box 5, Wilmington P. O., stating terms and location.

March 22 1861. 165-3t*

PLOUGHS OF ALL KINDS, at WILSON'S.
PLOUGH CASTINGS, at WILSON'S.
HOES, AXES, PITCHFORKS and GRIND STONES, at WILSON'S.
ALL KINDS OF CHAINS, at WILSON'S.
BAR LEAD AND SHOT OF ALL NUMBERS, at WILSON'S.
POWDER AND CAPS, at WILSON'S.
KNAPSACKS AND HAVERSACKS, at WILSON'S.
ALL KINDS OF MILITARY TRAPPINGS, at WILSON'S.
ALL KINDS OF SADDLERY GOODS, at WILSON'S.
SEINE TWINE AND SHOE THREAD, at WILSON'S.
ALL KIND OF LEATHER, at JAMES WILSON'S

Old Leather, Saddlery, Trunk and Harness Establishment,
March 22, 1862. No. 5 Market Street.

SALT—SALT—SALT.

A SUPERIOR quality—best made on the coast, at a moderate price. Apply to

PETTEWAY & MOORE.

March 22.

ATTENTION INDEPENDENT GUARD.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE ABOVE COMPANY NOW absent on furlough must return immediately.

By order of
Lt. F. Brown, O. S. Capt. J. G. BURR.

March 22, 1862.—165-3t

SALT, SALT.

500 BUSHELS in store and to arrive. For sale at current rates by WORTH & [illegible]

Feb. 24th, 1862.