

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1864

RESIDING

The following copies of our Weekly Journal are missing from our files...

Our Credit Abroad.

From what we have been able to learn by conversation with intelligent gentlemen who have recently returned from Europe, the impression among Confederate officers, agents, officials and citizens now in Europe seems to be that about the only plan to sustain Confederate credit abroad and restore it at home is for the Government to become the sole holder and exporter of all Cotton, Tobacco, Naval Stores, etc.

We need not speak at this late date of the mutual aid and reaction of foreign and domestic credit. The value of our currency at home is felt to depend upon the price of foreign exchange—exchange, for reasons easily understood, being somewhat higher than gold.

How the proposed of this or any similar measure propose to work it out, is more than we are able to say or surmise. It will be a very difficult matter to arrange, if it can be arranged at all.

The recent presence of General Butler in Newbern, together with the known fact that troops have for some time been concentrating at that point, as well as Washington, and it is said, at Beaufort Harbor, leaves little room to doubt that an advance of a most serious character is contemplated, and on the eve of execution, by the enemy in North Carolina.

The enemy may advance in the direction of Kinston and Goldsboro', or he may not. But in whatever direction his main force may come, we may expect feints to be changed into real attacks, it expedient to make at other points, so as not only to distract the attention of our commanders, but also to hold out the stronger prospect of cutting the Railroad at some one or more points.

We do not contemplate a voyage to Europe for the purpose of buying her. She is too small for this trade being only 22,791 tons burthen, 679 feet in length, and 92 in breadth.

We believe people used to say here that after three black frosts came rain. We have changed all that now. We have had as many black frosts this winter as the clerk of the weather has chosen to send, without having had them wiped out or washed off by either rain or thaw.

The explosion, etc. It seems that the concussion Monday morning was occasioned by the burning of a Yankee gunboat which had grounded north from the wreck of the Benigno, near Lockwood's Folly Beach.

The Adair met with an accident to her machinery while being chased by the blockade, after having had her passengers on the coast. Her officers were compelled to beach her. She was boarded by the enemy, who broke into the liquor they found on board, and all got drunk.

While we are threatened by an armada of the enemy under their most hard and brutal, yet apparently most appropriate representatives, the outlaw Butler, we are also threatened by the inception of a movement which is even more threatening to our liberties, our fortunes and our souls.

At last it rains and thaws and is sloppy generally. It don't seem as if this was an improvement. It is weather that tries men's soles pretty severely, and with the tariff upon boots and shoes, it tries their pockets also.

At the meeting of the Senate on the 9th inst., we were very much astonished as anybody can be, still we refrain from any remarks beyond what may be necessary to explain our own course in the premises.

The communication referred to was written by a gentleman (Rev. James Sinclair) who had in a previous communication, on the same subject, stated that he was a near neighbor of Mr. King's, and was therefore supposed to be cognizant of the facts.

At about half past five o'clock this morning a concussion was felt here that caused every house in town to shake, jarring the doors and windows and waking up the sleepers.

At yet we have been unable to find where the explosion occurred, for explosion it certainly was. It was heard at Fort Fisher from the direction of Smithville, and apparently from a point beyond that place, and beyond Osceola.

The shock was evidently caused by the explosion of a magazine or the blowing up of a ship with powder on board, either blockader or blockade-runner. It was no magazine on the river or at Fort Fisher, and from the direction of the sound as heard at the Fort, it may be beyond Smithville or Fort Caswell.

The Fayetteville Presbyterian commenced its seventh volume last week. The Presbyterian is not only an able and worthy organ of the influential denomination whose name it bears, but apart from its religious character, it well conducted and spirited journal. We are glad to see that it again appears upon a full sheet, and that it is well supported and bids fair to weather the storm.

We are pretty much thrown upon our own resources for the materials wherewithal to make up a paper, which resources are bound to be developed to such an extent that soon we will not care ADAM THINGS for exchanges or anything else. We will be independent of the blockade, and make our own thunder, or knock thunder out of something or other.

It is a trouble some in cold weather and fatiguing when it is hot, and like the people that pretend to land independence by means of the blockade, we care not how soon it is raised and we are put in communication with exchanges and correspondents. Scissors! Yes scissors are not only scissors, but they are "punks," ye verily, "some punks," that is, if your contemporaries will only be good enough to bring you along something that you can compliment them by stealing.

Seriously, we labor under some difficulties and hindrances, but do the best we can and no one can be expected to do better. All will come straight, we trust, and that soon.

It requires a man with no small amount of energy to get through with the business that devolves on the office at this place at times, but Mr. MACOMBS seems to go along cheerfully and in good humor. The disorganized state of things since the war commenced, and so much occasioned by the Express that does not properly belong to it. Originally intended for parcels, and such matters, it now carries a manner of freight, for the reason that otherwise persons feel an assurance of things sent going in time, or at all, if they have to go over more than one road.

The Raleigh Standard says that the administration presses of this State, and among them the Wilmington Journal, are doing sundry things. If, instead of charging such things upon its readers, what the Wilmington Journal actually says, then we feel convinced that no misunderstanding could occur.

We had almost forgotten it, or perhaps had never thought about the matter, but our exchanges inform us that this is leap year, so that a modest man like unto the present writer has a sort of chance once in a way. No knowing what might happen in this wet weather.

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TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THOMPSON, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM CHARLESTON. CHARLESTON, Jan. 9th, 1864. No firing of consequence to-day. The Yankees are still at work upon their batteries. The position of the fleet is unchanged.

LATER FROM CHARLESTON. CHARLESTON, Jan. 10th, 1864. Eighteen shells were thrown into the city at intervals of half hours, last night, and twenty eight this afternoon, between three and five o'clock. Nobody hurt. No other news of interest. The shelling was renewed at eight this evening.

FROM CHARLESTON. CHARLESTON, Jan. 11th, 1864. Three shells this morning and six this afternoon, were fired at the city. No body hurt. Some firing was heard in the direction of Light House Inlet, believed to be our batteries opening on the enemy on Black Island. Nine shells were fired yesterday afternoon from a 36-pounder on Sumter. Seven struck. The fleet was quiet.

FROM CHARLESTON. CHARLESTON, January 12, 1864. The enemy have kept up a continuous shelling of the city since last night, and are still shelling at 7 o'clock P. M. Shells thrown are 100 pounders, and Ward small rifle projectiles. No casualties. No movements by the fleet. Twenty-four Yankee prisoners, captured near Georgetown, are expected here to-day.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS. RICHMOND, January 9th, 1864. In the House this morning the bill to place in service citizens of the United States and foreign countries, was taken up, and, after considerable discussion, was referred back to the committee, with instructions to report a bill allowing those claiming allegiance to leave the country, and, on failure to leave, to go into the army. Yeas 37, nays 29.

A communication from Gen. Wise, addressed to the Virginia Legislature, was read in the House, in which he denounces, without reserve, the memorial of Gen. Hardee, and other officers of the Tennessee army. He says that, from nearly three years experience in the army, he cordially joins in recommending so wise a policy, and protests against reorganization by election. He thinks the elective system bad, and the officers who were appointed better than the President could elect, and that these officers are delays and disasters are justly chargeable to the elections in the spring of 1862. What we most want is a thorough reform in the army, from the departments down to the pickets, and especially in the commissary, quartermaster, ordnance and medical departments. The House adopted a joint resolution in relation to the war, declaring that we are engaged in a struggle for the preservation of liberty and civilization, and no sacrifice of life or fortune can be too costly to secure these blessings to posterity; that in the judgment of Congress our resources, if developed with energy and unhesitatingly with care, and applied with fidelity, are more than sufficient to support the most protracted war, and exerts the people by every consideration which can influence freemen and patriots to a generous support of the Government in the legitimate exercise of all constitutional powers. A vote was taken by yeas and nays, and it was adopted unanimously.

FROM RICHMOND. RICHMOND, Jan. 12, 1864. All quiet in front. No change in the enemy's lines or camps. Mosby is still harassing the enemy's rear. Two more prisoners were sent in by him this morning.

Gen. Morgan's Visit to the Libby Prison. On Saturday, the city's guest, General John H. Morgan, escorted by His Honor, Joseph Mayo, Mayor of Richmond, and accompanied by R. C. Scales, Esq., Mr. Bruce M. C. from Kentucky, and a number of others, paid a visit to the Libby Prison, where an opportunity was afforded them of inspecting that famous receptacle of Union sentiment and the parties who give it vitality. These, in round numbers, foot up considerably over a thousand, an aggregate sufficient to make a most respectable regiment, so far as mere numbers are concerned. Gen. Morgan and party arrived at the prison about 11 o'clock, and, on making their wishes known, were immediately conducted on a tour of inspection. General Morgan, on arriving up stairs, where the prisoners "most do congregated," was immediately conducted to the prison of the whiteman Brigadier General Neal Dow. An introduction took place, when Morgan observed, with one of those inimitable smiles for which he is so noted, "General Dow, I am very happy to see you here; or, rather I should say, since you are here, I am happy to see you looking so well." Gen. Dow, in reply, said that he had not without apparent embarrassment, "General Morgan, I congratulate you on your escape; I cannot say that I am glad that you did escape, but since you did, I am pleased to see you here." The conversation then became general between the two, during the progress of which the whiteman Brigadier General Neal Dow, an introduction took place, when Morgan observed, with one of those inimitable smiles for which he is so noted, "General Dow, I am very happy to see you here; or, rather I should say, since you are here, I am happy to see you looking so well." Gen. 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