WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1864.

The Sun_No Mails_Our Troops in Northern Virginia.

At nine o'clock this forenoon the sun was seen distinetly by the naked eye, a fact for which even we ourselves, who are near-sighted, can youch from personal

knowledge. owing, no doubt, to the weather. The rails must be and merged all other feelings in those of devotion to the perfectly casted with ice, as is every piece of wood, Confederate cause, and anxiety for its success. It is due case here on the scaboard, it must be still more so in the be classed as a mere politician, nor did we ever know interior. We must abide our time with what patience him to indulge in bitterness or vituperation against the we can muster up.

ning through them.

very little, indeed, below freezing point. The mud in even the most hopeful. the streets is still mud and the most disagreeable sort

sign of moderation or even of change.

the Assyrians and Egyptians used for many purposes devotion to their country. in their dry climate. But this is only a petty annoy. We allude to these matters with no disposition to ance compared with that to which those are subjected reflect, "for party purposes," upon the eminent gentlewho have to bide the peltings of the pitiless storm, man (Hon. WM. A. GRAHAM,) who succeeds Mr. DAVIS and we allude to it simply by way of explanation, and in the Confederate Senate, but simply to illustrate the ca had thrown the weight of their influence into the thing. It has authorized President Lincoln to declare er danger than is to be apprehended by Richmond or not of complaint.

meeting one of our young friends, Captain Poisson, just to be cast upon those sneeringly denominated "destrucfrom the army of Northern Virginia, which he left on tives." Mr. Davis, never a Democrat-not an original Monday last. It was snowing then, and " cold as secessionist, but, on the contrary, one who held on to blazes," but the men were cheerful, and upon the whole- the hopes of the Union until all hope had failed, was comfortable. Owing to the wise and fortunate provi, elected by a Democratic Legislature-a so-called " Des sion made by North Carolina in getting goods for her tructive" Legislature, and turned out by a conglomerate troops through the blockade, the wants of her soldiers so-called "conservative" Legislature! Let the facts speak were generally supplied. Notice had been given that for themselves. He is appointed to the Attorneyshoes and blankets would be distributed, in which articles a deficiency had heretofore existed. In this con- cast a vote under the old government, or while old nection much credit is due to Governor VANCE, and it | parties existed. And yet President DAVIS is denounced is cheerfully accorded by us.

It is really refreshing to mark the hearty and cheer- let facts speak for themselves. ful tone of our young men who occasionally get a furlough from the [army of Northern home, who have borne no hardships and exposed their eyed mule haunted us. We once dreamed of it. But the States of America. field. Many, too many, sleep in honored graves, al calling itself B. F. BUTLER. though no monuments yet mark their resting places; And yet our dream did injustice to the mule, for but there is reason to be thankful that so many still though resembling Butter in the obliquity of its vis- customed to feel that the growth of American power their slaves; but I will not allow my countrymen to be survive, and, we trust, will survive to wear the honors | ion, it never spoke a bad word in its life-never got | under the Union was so rapid as to become extremely | so misled by grandilequent vituperation as to believe they have so nobly won .- Daily Journal, 8th.

gone; and that others will go off to avoid the conscrip- The donkey is neither mean, cowardly nor ferocious, tion, or to escape the existing troubles; but we think, BUTLER is all these, and more too, therefore BUTLER is in fact we know, that our cotemporaries at a distance a worse " beast " than the mule, or his father the jackare greatly mistaken in supposing that many of them ass. We sak pardon of the cross-eyed mule, for com- became manifest to all mankind that there is between will leave through the blockade. The orders on that paring him, even in a dream, to the cross eyed hyena of head are altogether too stringent, and their enforcement | New Orleans and Norfolk. here too strict to permit that game being carried on—
In fact we do not think that "Baren Konig" is So far as we have heard from our troops in the army

the North only by coercion—then the lovers of human freedom—the upholders of the right of self-government or have not a natural and indefeasible right to determine or have not a natural and indefeasible right to determine minions. here too strict to permit that game being carried on second Jordan, in that it is " a hard road to travel."

"HERMES," the Richmond correspondent of the be confined to these, would still operate beneficially. Charleston Mercury, writing under date of the 1st instant, says:

At the War Department it is believed that the main attack of the enemy will be upon Wilmington, and such is the opinion of the N. C. delegation. What preparations coast from Wilmington to Savannah, I cannot say.

only to be hailed. of a day ever memorable in the annals of the country. support of either course, but it seems to us that the Its glories should be kept in remembrance to stimulate sentiment of the country would favor the mode by conthe men of the present day to emulate the exertions that gressional enactments, rather than by Executive reguachieved them, and to keep alive hope, by showing that lation. nothing is impossible to brave men fighting for their country. In this spirit the Louisianians, now denizens of the town of Wilmington, celebrate the day, and keep up the old association .- Daily Journal, 8th.

No NORTHERN MAIL YET .- The detention on the to feel for others? Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road yesterday was caused body else was burt, which was providential.

GRO. DAVIS, to the position of Confederate Attorney sense that any other body of common sense who had a General is received by the press of the country. His roof to cover him would be under the cover of said tion, the Southerners, with Mr. Wise, the Governor of by a concession of the demands of Ireland, the British Dear Sir :- Permit me to express publicly my grad. merit and qualifications are recognised in a most kindly roof, yet, strange enough, away after eleven o'clock we Virginia. at their head, co-operated with the nobler ministry had appointed a Lord Lieu enant in Ireland ification at the appearance of Mr. O'Brieu's letter unon and liberal spirit, generally, indeed without exception, heard some party or parties "squeeling" and snortling in the American question. When I read the letter and so far as we have seen.

the Democratic party, until the occurrence of the cir- thing like mill-pmd energetically pronounced, we went cumstances which, culminating in the present war, si- to sleep. As yet there are no mails from either North or South, lenced the voice of mere party in every patriot's breast, metal or stone about town. Of course if this is the to Mr. Davis to say that in all that time he could never members of the party opposed to him. When delegates Wasn't it dark last night? could it have been dark- were sent to a peace conference by a Legislature coner? We think not. A transformation is apparent this taining a decided Democratic majority, Mr. Davis was morning in the appearance of the trees and shrubbery. elected as one of those delegates. While serving in All those not quite denuded of their leaves, and some that capacity he became convinced of the certainty and that are, claim affinity in form with the weeping willow, imminency of the crisis, and on his return to Wilmington their twigs and branches, which fermerly pointed up- addressed an immense audience in the Theatre, proclaimwards, being all turned down droopingly, owing to the ling his convictions of the hopelessness of any attempt great weight of frezen water which they have to sus- at conciliation, owing to the fixed determination of the tain. A little more and some of the loftier evergreens, North neither to respect the sacred rights nor listen to having bent as much as their nature will allow, must the past demands of the South. We recollect the ocbreak. Some slender twigs which we examined this casion as though it were yesterday. It was a very and by Gen. Meagher. morning looked like long icicles, with a thin thread run- few weeks before the issuance of Mr. Lincoln's proolamation, which set the seal upon the matter, and And yet the actual cold is by no means intense- closed the door against the hope of reconciliation with

Mr. Davis was chosen one of the first Confederate of mud. In no place is the surface of the ground suffi. Senators from North Carolina, drawing the short term ciently hardened to make the walking good. The cold | He was chosen by a Legislature having a large Demo rain, as it falls slowly on the trees, fences and other ex- cratic majority, and life-long Whig though he had been, posed places where ice has already formed, becomes was supported by the representatives from such exchilled a very few degrees and adds its weight to the treme Democratic counties as New Hanover, Duplin &c., &c. That was bad for Mr. Davis. Those by Some years ago the Wilmington and Weldon R. R. whom he was supported were willing to throw aside trains were considerably detained in passing on trestles party, and did throw it and-they would not obey or embankments through certain swamps on the line, the behasts of a certain rule or ruin clique-they opthe trees on each side, made heavy by the ice accumula- posed making party issues-therefore they were called ted on their branches, having bent down to the track, by this clique " destructives," and Mr. Davis, as not getting in the way of the cars and even some branches either bowing down to the clique aforesaid, calling itwholly broken down getting on the rails themselves .- | sell "conservative," although in fact he was more tru-It is not improbable that this may be the case to-day, ly conservative than it, nor cursing and denouncing and, perhaps, for some days, for the weather gives no those with whose principles he agreed, although they memory would have been consecrated in the annals of But no one knows better than Gen. Mengher that the State is the deliberate resolve of several millions of were called " destructives," was marked for destruction It is trying to be deprived of our usual mail facilities. by the conservatives who ruled the roast last winter .-It is not easy to get out a paper wholly without ex- He was turned out sans ceremonie. The reception changes, reminding us of the Egyptian brick-making of which his nomination to a cabinet appointment has the children of Israel, to whom Pharaoh would give no met with from the Senate and the country, shows that straw-for they put straw in their brick in those days, neither agree with the Holdenite party of North Carothat is, their sun-dried bricks or adobes-which both lina in their war upon public men, whose only fault is

Speaking of cold, we had the pleasure yesterday of lina, and to show how unjust is the stigma endeavored Generalship by President Davis, with whom he never daily and hourly as a mere partizan! Again, we say,

A Cross-Eyed Mule.

Virginia, to visit their homes here. It stands out in | since for a stray mule described said animal as crossstriking contrast to the querulous tone of too many at eyed, which it no doubt was. But the idea of the cross lived from their infancy. He has yet to learn that the humiliating to all lovers of freedom to find one of the persons to no dangers. All honor to our noble boys in our dream it was an untrustworthy animal, and kept from whatever section of the State or of the Confede- twisting and turning itself around, getting drunk, England in their sympathy with the rebels of the South ness the invasion of the North by half a million of col- possessions and from their homes. racy they may have come. This town and this section and appearing with the same cross eyes, arrayed (it, not | This charge proceeds from a misconception of the state ored troops, armed and led by their former masters. need not be ashamed of their representatives in the the eyes,) in the garb of a federal major general, and of feeling that prevails in this country. There are few | God forbid that I should say a word in favor of sla-

very seldom. And if its father was a jackars there are special these States have been sever- tion of slavery in America. As for our friend Meagher Going Off.-We suppose that some parties have worse animals than the aforesaid steed of Balaam .-

not the only party who feels aggrieved by General of Northern Virginia, the feeling in regard to putting WHITING, or that the unbending firmness of in the principals of substitutes is universally and strongthat officer has not indeed made enemies among ly for that measure. This is due less to any calculation and under subjection, would be a greater evil. Instead, to me to be a question which does not a limit of arguthose who had made arrangements to leave the country. upon the subject, so far as a knowledge of its necessity therefore, of hounding on the combatants to mutual ment on the part of those who; like i. F. Meagher, Persons cannot leave the country through this port for filling up the ranks is concerned, than from a belief destruction, we carnestly pray that the Americans may have contended that Ireland and Poland have a moral unless they have a perfect right to do so. Those liable that men have hired substitutes that they themselves where they perish for a cause which is not sauctioned to service will find the blockade through Wilmington a might speculate, and thus take advantage of the necessities of soldiers and their families. That this is so in Parties will be much more apt to seek an exit through too many cases, cannot, we fear, be truthfully denied .the enemy's lines, if at all. After they have done so To say that it is so in oll, would be to go too far, as all hate the Americans—and they are not a few—rejoice to adians the right to declare their independence, or to asthey will find that they have jumped out of the frying- unqualified denunciations or sweeping assertions are apt to do. While we agree with the general sentiment It will be seen that Congress has taken the matter that, as things have turned cut, it is unfortunate that grengthens the relative ascendancy of English—pow- a right—that Canada tion, as has won for all who abet him, the always glad to meet his fellow-citizens, and falked over carnestly in hand, and will apply the most stringent the substitute laws were enacted at all, we feel convince er. Those Englishman, also, who hate Ireland and enjoys such a right execution of mankind. ed that there have been cases in which they have operated beneficially to the community; and, if they could

generally decided upon among the soldiers in the field. that this is as much a military necessity as the putting but the charge of Gen. Meagher by declaring that he vedly exhibited. This conversation is given as second have been made to defeat this or any other attack on the of men in the field, for without them armie; could is acting a part which is acceptable to those whom he hand. Gen. Meagher did not hear it himself. The inneither be moved nor supplied. They all knew that to calls the "Orangemen and Tories of England." NEW ORLEANS .- The very name of the Crescent make the supplies which the roads transport, the in City once brought to the mind only thoughts of victo- dustry of the country must go on. They all know that Meagher is exciting them with such earnestness to take monopoly of the country must go on. ry and visions of glory. The laurels of its ancient de- we are greatly deficient in skilled labor. These con- part in the civil war of America, with a view to prefenders are still green, and the deeds of their sons on siderations must be apparent to all men of common many a battle-field during the present war show that sense. The true ground is that no exemption they are not unworthy of their illustrious descent .- should be granted as a personal favor, but simply Still, although no dishonor attaches to the people of upon the ground that the person left out New Orleans, recent events, which have subjected it to of the army is of more benefit to the country out of the at least as galling a tyranny as that which it escaped ranks than in them. Congress, after all, will probably nearly fifty years ago, cause thoughts of somow and pass some exemption law. It is simply a question whehumiliation to mingle with those feelings of pride with ther Congress shall define the grounds and limits of exwhich the anniversary of the battle of Chalmette used emption, or leave them to be defined by the Executive. In either case, we shall not call in question the motives Well, this is the 8th of January-the anniversary of Congress, for arguments may be brought forward in

> THE man who got out of bed this morning calmly and without a shudder, is a dangerous character. That man can have no sympathy with or feeling for himself, and if a man don't feel for himself, how can he be expected Shields, has been treated with much indignity by the then subsisted between the Northern and Southern are about to emigrate from Ireland against taking any the battalion was filed out and dismissed, the

Most people took it coolly-how could they do otherby a tree which had broken down and fallen across the wise? Nothing but a stern devotion to principle cartrack, some fifteen to twenty miles from Wilmington, nied any man through the necessary and accustomed The engine and tender of the merning down mail train ablutions. Every now and then through the night, a were thrown off the frack, and the engineer and fireman | crush told of the breaking of some limb, or the fall of

of ice.

IT GIVES US SINGERE PLEASURE to mark the mannet | Night before last was a night, as we remarked once the copicus vocabulary of vituperation which he coma which the appointment of our fellow citizen, Hon before. It would have struck anybody of common in 1854 the Kern Market on the consideration of this question. Let us suppose pated from it: around in a promiseuous manner, causing us to get up find a kindlier feeling towards Ireland than at Charles- to the national interests - would Magher have re- published in the Irishman, of the 17th October, I have For many years we knew Mr. Davis as a political and look around for the " ire." - We are happy to say ton, where the names of Shields and of Meagher were proached them if they had made the appointment of that it was a document that required an answer on the opponent, we being a supporter and he an opponent of that we did not find it. With an exclamation some- mentioned with an exclamation some-

From the Dublia Nation, Nov. 7. THE AMERICAN WAR.

ANSWER OF WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN TO GENERAL MEAGHER.

KILLARNEY, Oct. 28, I863. to enlist under the Federal banners upon their arrival

I perceive, also that you have endorsed the opinious contained in that depatch with your approval. Neverthelsss, I addr ss this communication to you in full confidence that you . I give to the public an opportunity of considering ideas that are totally at varlance with those which have been put forward by you

Two years ago I ventured to address such of the po which had rent in twain the United States, rather than that they should continue to massacre each other.

My suggestions were received with deference, but can scarcely complain that they were not adopted when the mediation of the Enperor of the French was offer of this kind would be considered intrusive.

Whilst such a spirit is evinced by the Federals, those friends of America who desire to witness the termina ed, might induce many thousands of Irishmen to sacri- tical indulgences in the land of their birth. fice themselves in a contest for which their intervention is not demanded by any obligations of duty.

of the globe, might have been averted.

I felt it to be my duty to take issue with Genera! advice did not prevail over the exhortations of our elo-

formidable to England. On the other band, the that this present war is a war undertaken for the aboliance of these States, because they found the increasing streag and of the United States a grarantee tell to be the great or the friend of those "who grow hare, in whose person all the rights which belong to a against English oppression, which, under sleck and hau ty on the eweat of the black skin; the protection of Ireland. But after this war had un- he had inhersed an estate to which a few hundred slaves hapily broken out—when, from the course of events, it were attached. I am by no means convinced that he South and North an alienation of celling which cannot though the separation may be injurious to us.

of I eland deeply lament the destruction and rapine which now desolate America, those Englishmen who Canada, yet Gen. Meagher would not deny to the Conwitness the fury with which the Northerns continue to sociate themselves with the States of America. It is carry on the war, because the exhaustion of resources difficlut, therefore, to understand by what process of which war produces to both the contending parties, reasoning be can satisfy himself that Ireland enjoys such such a system of measures agains the noble Polish na. He thanked them for the pleasant surprise. He was they are not a few-are delighted to find such a man but the States of America, which never, for a moment, as Meagher stimulating his fellow-countrymen to rush refl; quished the title of sovereignty that belongs to The matter of exemptions does not appear to be so an enemy of England. Naturally, therefore, they regenerally decided upon among the soldiers in the field. joice when they learn that the number of their enemies relates a private conversation that was held at New How different a caree is diminished weekly by the operations of a relentless York by Mr. Toombs, a distinguished Southern, whose war. We, then, who wish for peach, are entitled to resympathies with Ireland and Irishmen have been unreser

> An impression prevails in the minds of some of our deluded fellow-countrymen to the effect that General movement solely in order to preserve for themselves a ica for a model of political institutions, and for an idenpare them for an invasion of Ireland. A more absurd I heard myself against those which General Meagher remode of preparing them to attack an enemy was never | ceived through report from a friend. When I was in devised by the imagination of man. It is not told how Georgia, in the year 1859, I had the pleasure of spend many Irishmen who enlisted in the Southern armies ing two days at the house of Mr. Toombs, and two days have been sent into another world by Meagher's bril at the house of Mr. Stephens, Vice President of the gade; but it has been stated-I believe on his own au- Confederate States. Our conversation naturally turnthority—that he carried twelve hundred fine young ed much upon the relations which then existed between Irishmen into the battle of Federicksburg, and that he the Northern and Southern States. My hosts, one of brought out of that engagement unharmed only two whom had retired from public life, said nothing that hundred and fifty. Could the worst enemies of Ireland | could induce me to think that their minds were effectdesire that the Irish should be spurred to destruction ed by considerations connected with official patronage by infatuation more insane than that which thus in- but they complained much of the calumnies which were duces Irishmen to butcher each other in this accursed daily vented against the Southerns by a portion of the war ?

are ignorant respecting American affairs, and abstains volt against them-they complained of the injustice, from imputing base motives to our desire that peace commercial and financial, which the Southern States for the course which he has adopted. Had he received contingency—as an event which would probably impose Federal Government, and whilst we wonder at the for- States. giving disposition that has been displayed by our galmen from entering a service in which they will be placed | cording to Gen. Meagher, the Southerners were occu-

tribution of honors and emoluments. pretty severely though not dangerously injured. No- some tree, overburdened and pressed down by the weight were accustomed to receive with kindness and hospi- conceive that any imputation of "lawless ambition and were accustomed to receive with kindness and hospi- conceive that any imputation of "lawless ambition and imputation of "lawless ambition and "lawless ambition ambition" "lawless ambition "lawless ambition and "lawless ambition ambition" "lawless ambition ambition "lawless" "lawless ambition ambition "lawless" "lawless ambition ambition" "lawless ambition" "lawless ambition ambition" "lawless ambition ambition" "lawless such decorous reserve towards the Southerners, who but, even if they had been brought forward, I do not tality the exiles of Ireland. Upon them he exhausts lust of power," of "selfish and insatiable ambition,"

ern States sought to prescribe the Irish-born popula- stead of the amicable adjustment which then took place To the Editor of the Irishman :tion. It is not forgotten by me that nowhere did I with Englishmen, or with Irishmen who were opposed dressed by Mr. Meagher to Mr. Smyth, which was failed to excite among the party to which Meagher has ed to the arbitrament of the sword the questions that opinion from an Irish exile, whose brilliant talents and

proud and overbearing in their manners than the rich- Island in relation to Cork. not found this remark on my own observation, for I ex- pages with a view to justify the Secession. When I mad of the great majority of those of his country me perienced nothing but courtesy in all parts of America. ma e a tour in the Southern States of North America who think for themselves upon the horrible subject. price the designation aristocrats, and Irishmen will hon | don last week whether Englishmen would or ought to or them the more on account of this appellation, when tolerate the secession of Kent from the political unity they learn that many of the most prominent families in which new holds together the several counties of Engtion of this war are silenced; and I should not have the South quitted the richest homes of England and land. I answer without hesitation that such a secesbroken this silence if Gon. Meagher had not made an Ireland because they loved religious and political free sion ought to be prevented by force, whilst Kent enjoys appeal to his fellow countrymen, which, if left unanswer- dom better than the delights which belong to aristocra- equality of rights with the other inhabitants of Britain;

Gen. Masgher is more sure of exciting amongst us South Car line or Maine brjoys a right to withdraw prejudices against the Southerns when he calls them from the Union, yet, as a practical question, it is not I cannot calculate at less than 200,000 the number slave owners than when he designates them as ar isto- unnatural that the other members of the United States of Irishmen who have already fallen in this horrible crats. The Irish people feel an invincible aversion to should endeavor to prevent by force a secession which warfare. These men have fallen in the prime of life - the institution of slavery; and if this war were really may be injurious to the whole Union. But since, after in the vigor of youth and strength. Had they fallen a war of emancipation, there would be few in Ireland a succession of bloody engagements, it has been seen in contending for the freedom of their country, their who would not pray for the success of the Northerns that what appeared at first to be the whim of a single patriotism. Their heroism would have been admired present war is not a war for the emancipation of the people-since it has been seen that, though contending even by those who hate our nation-but truth compels slaves, but that it is a war which is carried on for the under many difficulties and disadvantages, the Southern me to say that these brave men are now regarded as purpose of upholding the Union. No one knows bet- leaders have displayed more able statesmanship and mere mercenaries, who, for the sake of a handful of ter than Gen. Meagher that a large majority of those more skillful strategy than have been exhibited by their dollars, enlist themselves in a strile, the sole object of who are fighting in the ranks of the Northerns regard adversaries when it is manifest that they possess all which is to determine whether one-third of the citizens the abolitionists of slavery as a mischievens and fanat- the qualifications which render a people fitted for selfof the States shall be governed according to their own free choice, or shall be coerced to submit to a connect hold and enforce the detestable "Fugitive Slave Law," government—an attempt to coerce them into enforced bold and enforce the detestable "Fugitive Slave Law," tion and to a Government which they repudiate and and all the other appliances incidental to slavery, pro- intolerable tyranny. At the time when, in 1861, I advided that the slaveholding States would return to the dressed a letter on this subject to Mr. Saward, it was I shall not inquire how many of these Irishmen have Union. Had it been a war of emancipation, Congress said by the Northerns that the war would be been induced by the eloquence of Gen. Meagher to fling would have seized the opportunity afforded by the se terminated in three months; yet now, after themselves into a premature grave, but I feel convinced cession to enact and promulgate the freedom of every the lapse of thirty months, it is doubtful now, as in 1861, that if the Irish population of Ameri slave in the United States. But it has done no such what'er Washington is not exposed to greatcharacter of parties as they now stand in North Caro- scale in favor of peace, the miseries of war, which have that the slaves of rebels, over when he has no sway. Charleston; and although the Northerns hold military devastated a region that ten years since enjoyed a great- are free, but the slaves of the loyal upholders of the occupation of many important posts in the Southern er amount of material prosperity than any other portion Union, who are subject to the legislation of Cougress, territory, they do not appear to have reconciled to their are still consigned to everlasting bondage.

Englishmen or Anglicised Irishmen who do not rejoice very. The one redeeming advantage which I have conin the separation which has taken place between the templated as a possible result of this conflict is, that it Northern and Southern States, because they were ac- may induce the Southerns voluntarily to emancipate overladen with cumulative epithets of declamatory inand if, like some of his friends at Mobile and Charleston. would emancipate them.

Having thus endeavored to disconnect from the main be reconciled - when it became evident that the South | question at issue the various fallacies and prejudices by even if conquered could be retained in connection with which it has been surrounded, I now address myself to might be a great calamity, its maintenance by such what form of government is most conducive to their in means as are employed by Russia in order to retain Po- terest, and acceptable to their feelings. This appears to

of Ru-sia. Permit me farther to observe that, whi'st the patriots There is, perhaps, no part of the world in which the pressure of metropolitan dominion is less felt than i ference which he wishes his readers to draw from it is,

Now, I may be allowed to set off conversations which Northern press. They spoke with indignation of the General Meagher excuses us on the ground that we incentives by which their slaves were encouraged to reshould be restored in the Western world. Following underwent, as a consequence of their connection with his example, I will not impute to him improper motives the North-they spoke of the Secession as a probable the honors which are due to his eloquence and to his upon them many sacrifices : but they stated that these gallantry, his motives might have been questioned, but sacrifices would be accepted by the South as an alterwe have been led to believe that Meagher, as well as native preferable to a continuance of the relations which

These conversations were held more than a year beant Brigadier, we feel bound to dissuade our country- fore the election of Mr. Lincoln-at a time when, acforemost in every post of danger, and last in every dis- pants of all the influential positions of the General Government. I do not remember that the interests connect-But if our oratorial friend spares us, he shows no ed with official patronage were brought into discussion,

were then at issue between England and Ireland?- heavy suff rings have given him very strong claims no. In the letter which you have recently published, Gen- Neither is Mr. Toombs to be blamed for having taken on Irish sympathy. And it has been answered by the eral Meagher repeatedly designates the Southern rebels into account this element in considering the relations man who, beyond all others, is best entitled to specific

as aristograts. Now, I am unable to discover upon between the Southern and Northern States of America. for the frish nation. Upon the question of the America. what manifestations of Southern feeling he founds this | Equally unreasonable are the reproaches with which can war, as upon almost every other political question charge that the secession is an aristocratic, and not a the Southerners have been assailed, because at the time the sentiments of Mr. O'Brien are the sentiments of popular movement. It seems to me that there has sel of the secession they took possession of the 'oris and the great majority of the people of Ireland. He is the dom been an insurrection which has, with such unani arsena's which were situated in the Southern territory. representative man of the Irish nation, as truly as mity, embraced all classes of society as the s cession of These forts and arsenals belonged as much to the any emperor, king, president, or prime minister of a second sec My Dear Smyth-I perceive that our friend T. F. the Southern States. If this be so, it is unworthy of a Southerners, and as the secession of the independent nations of the world. And, if no My Dear Smyth-I perceive that our friend I. F. the Southern States and to condescend to raise projudices against the naturally gave to the Northerners the arsenals and nation lies in base subjection under the foot of the form meagner, not satisfied with having made, in America, a state had to condescent to the for dock-yards, which were situated in the Northern States, eigner, at least we may boast that not the proudest of series of brilliant orations in favor of a continuance of Southerners by calling them aristocr ts. It is the more dock-yards, which were situated in the Northern States, eigner, at least we may boast that not the proudest of the civil war that has raged during nearly three years inconsistent because he taunts the Emperor Napoleon so it gave to the Southerners those which are situated free nations has a manlier representative than ours with being a parvenu, and because it is well known to in the seceding States. If the Irish insurrection of Mr. O'Brien replies to Mr. Meagher frankly, deliber which is evidently intended to induce Irish emigrants his friends that General Meagher himself feels it to be 1848, had been successful, would not General Meagher ately, conclusively. Whatever Mr. Meagher has not a subject of honorable price that he is descended from have laughed to scoru any one who should have re forth as an argument Le examines with courtesy and the chiefs of Ikerrin. For my part, I believe that the proached him for taking possession of Spike Island, be- refutes with dignity. He tells the real meaning and term aristocrat is just as applicable to the Northern as cause it was called by the English a British fort .- object of the war now raging in America, the real cause it is to the Southerns, and I have been told that the Fort Summer stands in relation to Charleston in a posi- at stake between North and South, the influence and moneyed aristocracy of New York are more purse tion exactly similar to that which is occupied by Spike the fortunes of the Irish abettors of the w.r. and est and most aristocratic planters of the South. I do Let it not be supposed, however, that I write these American trouble commenced. I believe he spenks the

But General Meagher wholly misunderstands the nature in 1859. I carnes by implored my Southern friends to For my own part, I fear that I could not write with liticians of America; as have shown a disposition to of Irishmen, if he supposes that he can raise in their renounce the idea of a separation, which could not fail such temper upon that subject. I am, heart and some pay respect to my opinions an earnest prayer that they minds a prejudice against a party by calling them ariswould submit to amicable adjustment the questions tocrats. An Irishman naturally loves the "old slock" Republic. When I learned that, instead of endeavor-- nor is this surprising, for many of our peasantry feet | ing to obtain redress for real or imagicary grievaness that though they have lost property and station by the by peaceful negotiations, the forces of South Carolina fidelity of their ancestors to their country and to their had fired upon Fort Sumter. I thought it extremely religion, still as noble blood flows in their veins as that natural that the inhabitants of the Northern States they refuse. which is to be found amongst the proudest potentates should meet force by force in the maintenance of the declined by Congress in terms which indicated that any of Europe. The Southerns may, therefore, accept with Union. Mr. II. W. Beecher asked an auditory in Lonand though I maintain, speaking theoretically, that dominion any important section of the inhabitants of No one knows better than General Meagher that the the revolted States. The question, therefore, recurs Meagher on this point, immediately after his first ora- condition of the emancipated slave in the North is more which I put to Mr. Seward in 1861: Assuming that tion in Boston in favor of the war. My remonstrances humiliating to a sensitive spirit than the enforced sub you will, sooner or later, conquer the Southern States, were at that time unavailing. He raised his brigades! jection which is maintained in the South. He knows how do you propose to govern them? If you leave to introduced to the concourse by the Mayor. He came to Where are they now? Yet I feel convinced that the that, with a few individual exceptions, the Northern them the rights of self-government, which they have ward, amid prolonged cheers, and said : Fellow-c. transtime will arrive when all Irishmen will regret that my Emencipator will neither eat, pray, nor travel with men hitherto enjoyed, they will be more dangerous to you I thank you for this reception. I hope that my future estern of color-even though they be as well educated and as nowlling associates than they could be in the guise will prove that I am not unworthy of the honor you have reflied as the most accomplished of the white popula- of open enemics. There remains, therefore, no other done me. Again I thank you for this manifestation of kind Nothing but a sense of duty could place me in an lion. He knows that the President has held out no policy by which there territories can be governed ex- ness. Brief speeches were made by Genls. A. P. Hell, J. tagonism to a comrade who shared many of my hopes other hope to the emancipated slaves of the South than cept that which was formerly adopted by England to- E. B. Stuart, and Branch, Judge Moore, Gov. Hawes of and disappointments; but as there are some in Ireland, that of compulsory removal to some land distant from | wards Ireland, and which is now practiced in Poland by | Kentucky, Ex-Gov. Letcher, and others. Gen. Morgan was and in America, too, who pay attention to what I say, the homes of their childhood. He knows that the con- Mouravieff and Berg, under the sanction and approval then escorted back to the Ballard House, where he re I feel it to be incumbent upon me, at a time when thou dition and prospects of the emancipated slave are such of the tyrant Alexander. This is the policy of confis- ce ved namerous calls. He is in fine spirits and excellent sands upon thousands of Irishmen are quitting our that of the many millions of slaves to whom the present cation, devastation and extermination. That lean and health, shores, to declare that it would be infinitely better for war has afforded an opportunity of fleeing from servi- hungry adventurers should covet the rich possessions of them to remain at home earning a shilling a day than tude, only a few thousands have sought to escape, the Seuthern planters, and urge forward a system of A gentleman advertising in our paper a few weeks to be seduced by the glitter of military trappings - by though they have been stimulated by the Northerns, confiscation and extermination which will resemble the the solicitations of crimps and manistrokers—or by the not only to flee from their masters, but a proper to plunder plantation of Ulster and the cruelties of Cromwell, is invocation of the most splendid oratory -to perish as and to massacre the families amongst who me they have extremely natural; but it is a speciacle painful and Southerns may prefer to trust themselves to their slaves representative men of the Irish race—himself an exile Gen. Meagher complains that the Irish peop'e have rather than submit to Northern domination; and that and a Catholic-vindicating a course of policy similar identified themselves with the Orangemen and cories of before this horrible struggle shall be ended we may wit- to that which expelled the natives of Ireland from their I have spent much time in analysing the letter of

General Meagher, because, although it is addressed to a private friend, it was evidently written as an appeal to the public opinion of this country. Though it is vective, it is a production which has evidently been prepared with care and deserves a deliberate response. of Ohio in opposition to the claims of Mr. Vallandig- conscription. me to find that our comrade, who was once the champion of human liberty, has enlisted himself as the deender of every sort of tyrannical usurpation-T. F. Meagher, the young tribune, once the champion of his change in the fleet. country's freedom, has become the advocate of a system of Government which carries into effect its policy-

By coording into the ranks of the Federal army through the instrumentality of conscription, all who cannot afford to purchase their deliverance by an enormous ransom; and by driving, under the terror of mil-

tion of the United States, were guaranteed to each in-

Lastly, by fraternising with the tyrant of Russia, who is at this moment engaged in carrying into effect briefly, but pointedly, to the remarks of the Color

Alas! that we should ever have witnessed such back. past knowledge of the militia force, and the patriolic sliding on the part of an Irish patriot! If such be the gentlemen composing the various commands, gave him into the shambles in which butchery awaits them. They them individually, ought to be debarred from the enjoy results of Republican freedom (so called) in America, no reason to doubt their fidelity, or that they would be know that every Irishman who has fled to America is ment of a similar right. With very questionable taste we shall soon learn to be reconciled to the worst forms to cheerfully respond when called upon. He had often

easing the love and confidence of several mill Americans, native as well as Irish born, he might have applied his persuasive diction to the restoration of peace. instead of urging these millions to flong their sons into the fire which now burns before the altar of Moloch .that the chie, men of the South stimulated the secession He might have taught the Canadians to look to Amertification of interests, instead of repelling them by the taxation, by the conscription, by the monopolising tariffs, and by the less of personal liberty, which have followed, as consequences from this civil war. He might bave gladdened the beart of all who belonged to the oppressed nationalities of the world by nobly vindicating the cause of human freedom on behalf of those who suffer in every clime, instead of standing foremost amongst those who welcome to America the emissaries of the cruci desnot who now tortures a brave and noble

The enemies of Ireland will rejoice that he has made such a choice between these alternatives; but though he may find defenders and apologists amongst a few attached friends, our heads droop with shame when we find one of our chosen chiefs thus leading the support of his great abilities to the cause of the oppressor rather than He exhorted the people everywhere in and out of to the protection of the oppressed. To no one has the army, to do their whole duty, to strike boldly and vislanguage employed in America upon many occasi ns by General Meagher since the commencement of this be no doubt that an All wise God would, in his own war given more pain than to myself; and since he has invited an expression of the opinion of his countrymen, I no longer feel myself at liberty to preserve silence. Exrnestly, therefore, do I warn all those who rart in the disastrous contention which is now going on in America, even though they may be tempted by the rhetoric of one of Ireland's most gifted sons to fling themselves into the abyss in which so many who have gone before them have perished. Believe me, my dear

friend, very sincerely yours, WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN. P. J. Smyth, Esq., Irishman.

KILBRONEY, Rostrevor, Nov. 4, 1863. part which he recommended the Irish to take when the

me it is misery to think of the hundred thousand of my countrymen who have taken up arms to kill the men of the South, and insult their women, and lay waste their homes, in order to force them to submit to a yoke that

I am, dear sir, truly yours,

TELEGRAPHIC Reports of the Press Association

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

Change C. H., Va., Jan. 8th, 18-4

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Enow fall to the depth of four inches last night. The weather is milder to-day, and the snow disap; caring .-Blankets and overcoats are needed for the soldiers. No mil tary movement of any kind. CAPTURE OF YANKEES.

RICHMOND Jan. 8th, 1864.

A telegram from Gen .Lee announces the capture, in Harly County, of one hundred and twenty-five (125) cattle, and bundred and twenty-five (125) mules, and two hands ! (200) prisoners. The despatch does not state who commen ded the forces making athe capture.

GEN. MORGAN IN RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Jan. 8th, 1864 Gen. Morgan, Lady and Staff arrived here last night about eleven o'clock from Danville. He was received at the de-Ballard House, where a number of distinguished officers and civilians awaited his arrival. He was conducted to the reception room, where he received the warm greetings of old friends and new acquaintances. This forenoon General Morgan, accompanied by the Mayor, was escorted by a battalion of infantry to the City Hall, in front of which an immense crowd had assembled. At noon Gen. Morgan was

CONFEBERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 8th, 18 1 Nothing of importance transacted in the Senate in open session, and went into secret session at an carly hour. In the House the bill to repeal exemptions was taken up and discussed during all the morning hours. Several ma tions to postpone and recommit it were made, and various amendments proposed. The hour for the special order at-'ived before any important action was taken, and the House went into secret session. The discussion developed the fact that strong opposition exists to passing so sweeping a bill, and it is believed it will be greatly modified before it is finally acted on. The arguments of several members this morning against placing such power in the hands of one or two men, as to say who shall or shall not be ex-man In this respect it contrasts (avorably with an election | were peculiarly exmest and impressive. After the second quio recently addressed by Mr. Meagher to the electors session was over a bid was presented and referred to prohibit volunteer side, on Generals' staff, of men liab

No news. Ho firing to-day. The Yankees are bear

Reception of fillith at the Gubernatorial Mandon.

The officers of the several militia regiments of 11 c mond, and the officers of the Public Guard, all under command of Col. Thomas J. Evans, formed in front of the City Hall Tuesday morning, about 11 o'clock, and preceded by the Armory Band, waited upon Governor Smith. Colonel Evans, in a neat and appropriate speech, tendered the services of the militia to the live ernor whenever they were needed for the delenes of the city. He referred, briefly, to the prompt manner of which the officers and men composing the various em mands, had always responded to every summons in-By superseding the rights which, under the constitutupon them, and closed by saying, that the new to ve ernor would always find them ready and willing to their duty witen called upon. .

The Governor from the steps of the mansion, resident matters with them in the good old Virginia style, it's in the good old days long past, watched the volunteer How different a career lay open to our Liend. Post force of this city, going through the various military evolutions, during their parades on the public square with a peculiar satisfaction, for he then had an innate feeling that when their good old mother called upon them to beat back a ruthless, invading foe, no matter when it came, they would not be found laggards in the race for glory and benor, but would be ready when eat

I am one of those, said the Governor, who have been proved at this secondary life, which I am called upon lead. I had rather be in the field with those brave men, whose patriotism I have seen tested more than once, in the fiery lurnace. I love the men of my old brigade, for I know them to be "good men and true -ready to do or die for the holy cause in which we are engaged. But still, gentlemen, you will always find me ready and willing to do my duty, in whatever position I am called upon to occupy. He only asked the support of his fellow-countrymen, whom he knew were willing to sacrifice all to aid in beating back the hirelings of Yankeedom.

He reverted briefly to the atrocities committed by the Vandals in the State of N. C., and called upon the people everywhere to bear those things steadily in min orously for "God and our country," and there would good time, bless as with peace and independence.

The officers were then marched into the reception room, where they were severally introduced to the Clay ernor. After a few moments spent in friendly converse. meanwhile playing an inspiring air.

GEN. BRECKINRIDGE .- It is a mistake, as has been stated in some of the journals, that Gen. Breckinridge has been relieved of his command in the army of Ten-

Corron.-Middlings were quoted as firm at \$1 cents in New York on the 30th December. Black pepper 2914, and quipine at \$2 521/4 a \$2 60 per ounce.