OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 10, 1862.

FACTS AND FANCIES.—We have had the usual number of fancy reports during the last few days; among which was one that the yankees had captured Roanoke Island, losing 600 men in the effort. This is untrue. Of the ability of our troops to defend the island, very little is known, except by the officials and those on the spot. We hope for the best, especially as, if defeated, our troops probably have no means of retreat; wherefore we suppose the place has been made very strong. The sinking of a dozen or two of the yankee steamers would be a glorious achievement. And we are prepared to hear of such a result.

Of facts, we have to record the evacuation of Fort Henry, a mud fortification on the Tennessee river, a point of not much importance.

The statement in the following letter, about a furious fight, may be founded on Com. Lynch's attack, mentioned elsewhere, which probably effected nothing.

Raleigh, Feb. 8, 1862.

Messrs E. J. Hale & Sons:—The business of the Convention this week has been important. The Danville Connection is a fixed fact; and under the recommendation of President Davis, Congress has appropriated one million of dollars for its completion. 1000 hands will be put to work immediately. The iron is ready, having been taken from the Baltimore and Ohio road.

The same number of hands are ready to put upon the Cheraw and Coalfields road if the restriction can be removed and allow the stockholders to build the road on the best and most profitable route. It is not true that the South Carolinians intend stopping the road at the Wilmington road. It is intended to run on the west side of the Pee Dee, crossing near the mouth of Little river. This will afford us a good navigation on the river, and will run through the upper end of Richmond and some 25 miles through Montgomery, now destitute of facilities.

The news from the seat of war is important. A messenger direct from Roanoke Island states that a battle was raging with great fury, and it was generally believed that we could withstand the attack, as none of their large sail could get in the Sound. Intense interest is felt as to the result. If the fleet should succeed, there will be great destruction of property, to prevent its falling into the hands of the Yankees. I heard one man say that he had 1500 barrels of corn that he would fire as soon as a landing was effected by them.

The 38th Reg't will leave on Monday for Washington.

Yours, S. H. C.

P. S. The following letter, received from Richmond this morning, has been handed to us just as we are going to press. It is glorious news, and we hope it is true.

"RICHMOND, Feb'y 8, 1862.—The official news is that the fighting is going on bravely at Roanoke Island, that the Confederates have set one of their [the Yankee] vessels on fire and are whipping them. There are 50 Yankee vessels to contend with."

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.—The Washington Dispatch says that Beaufort County has 840 men in the volunteer service, instead of 667 as reported by Gen. Martin. The white population of Beaufort is 8,172; so the county sends more than one-tenth of its people to the field.

The Milton Chronicle says it is certainly a mistake to put down Caswell at only 405 volunteers in the service. She has five companies, and the Chronicle thinks that she has sent at least 200 more than she gets credit for, including a number who entered in other counties, and excluding a number who joined Virginia companies.

By the way, there is a good deal of comparing of one county with another going on in the press, which is not very profitable and is generally very unfairly done. With opinions which it is not necessary to state as to the relative conduct since the war began of leaders or would-be-leaders of the old parties, we have never had a doubt that among *the people* of North Carolina, men of one party are as patriotic and as ready to serve in the ranks as those of the other. *The people* are very much the same, call them by whatever party name you please. But there are some of those who stay at home, who serve neither in the ranks nor in the higher places of the army, who are very anxious to show that in some obnoxious county too many persons have followed *their* practice, and not their precept, by also staying at home: so they compare it with some favorite county which has a large force in the field, and at once arrive at the logical conclusion that one county is inclined to Lincoln and that the other is enthusiastic for the South. They forget, perhaps purposely, that such comparisons are only just where the counties compared are on an equal footing. It is not just to compare a county in the large slave-holding portion of the State with a county in the section where the slaves are few. It has been the boast of the South that though the white population of the North doubled ours, it was only nominally so, for that *we* could send all our effective force to the war, leaving the labor of the field to the slaves. So is it between the large and the small slaveholding counties of the South. *We* can send to the field many more than they can or ought in justice to themselves or the rest of the State which they help to feed and clothe.

So if people *will* compare, let them take counties in like situations—Currituck and Camden, for instance, which lie side by side. Currituck has 1671 whites, 2524 slaves, and 162 volunteers. Camden has 2940 whites, 2127 slaves, and 219 volunteers. Currituck has 1711 more whites and 397 more slaves than Camden: but her volunteers are very considerably fewer than those of Camden. We might extend the comparison to Beaufort and Wayne, and other counties, but the above are sufficient. We don't mention the old party relations of the counties, for we have no desire to see any partisan quarrel about this or any other matter in these times: we refer to the subject merely to suggest to the zealous the proper field for their operations.

PRICES OF PRODUCE.—A letter to the Richmond Dispatch, from Georgia, says that the average price of cotton there for twenty years has been eight cents, and it is bringing that very readily now. It is bringing 9½ cents here, and a good deal has been brought from a distance, even from South Carolina, (where there is but little market for it during the blockade,) tempted by the high prices paid by the factories, and by several capitalists who are investing idle money in it. Should the blockade be removed within any short time, this speculation is likely to prove a very profitable one. Very many planters are, however, holding all that they are not obliged to sell, desiring to profit by the same chances of open ports. The Georgia writer fears that "the present buoyant prices and the prospect for the removing of the blockade will lead to the seeding of a large crop." We are not of those who would discourage the planting of a fair crop of cotton; but yet we think that every consideration of patriotism and profit should induce the planting of the very fullest crops of grain. Let us take care at least that, with the blessing of Providence, our people and soldiers may have an abundance to eat.

The same writer says the nicest pork was selling in Savannah at 9 cents a pound, though Savannah is blockaded and has a large Confederate army to feed. This does not look as if the yankees were going to starve us out, as they have threatened.

CONSISTENCY.—A fortnight ago the Wilmington Journal cried aloud to the Convention to legislate on the distillation of whiskey, so as to prevent a scarcity and high price of corn. Now it says emphatically, "The Convention has no *right* to legislate."

The Convention is in a fix. If it don't stop the distilling business, the Journal will have to pay more than 85 cents for corn, and then look out! If it does stop the distilling, it will do what it has "no right" to do, and raise the price of whiskey; and then again look out!

It can and it can't,
It will and it won't,
'T will be d——d if it does,
And 't will be d——d if it don't.

A PLEASANT FIX.—The N. Y. Herald's money article says,—

"Mr. Chase requires a million and a half a day to carry on the war, and owes now, to contractors, a sum variously estimated at from eighty to one hundred millions of dollars. He cannot borrow. The banks, without whose interposition no loan could be negotiated, have already invested their whole capital in government securities. To go abroad for money would be both idle and repugnant to the pride of the nation. He cannot raise money by taxation in time to relieve his wants. It is plain, therefore, that he must either follow the example of other nations, and issue his paper to his creditors, providing as best he can for its faithful payment, or he must notify Mr. Lincoln that peace must be made. Not a few of the noisiest declaimers against issues of government paper are probably less stupid than they seem, and are secretly working in the interest of the rebels.

"There are a number of persons who are embarrassing the government in the most annoying manner, by clamoring about the evils of a paper currency, and insisting that Mr. Chase shall pay coin, which he hasn't got and can't get. Less mischievous people than these are in the right place—in Fort Warren. The question is, which is the greater evil—to issue paper and make it a legal tender, or to stop the war and acknowledge the Southern Confederacy? One or the other must be done, and at once. Borrowing impossible; taxation too slow; the issue of exchequer bills, to be slaughtered in Wall street, too prodigal; there remains but one resource—the issue of treasury notes, made a legal tender—unless we are prepared to lay down our arms and admit the dissolution of the Union. The dilemma is unfortunate, undoubtedly; but in our present circumstances it is unavoidable."

The N. Y. World is terribly alarmed at the prospect. It says that wretchedness and bankruptcy are in store for the North if Lincoln's treasury note system is adopted; that it will add enormously to the cost of the war, by raising the prices of every thing; that it will reduce incomes, salaries and the pay of soldiers; that it will drive gold to Europe, that it will pluck up the Northern banking system by the roots, confuse trade and commerce, and finally put an end to the war and the Union within a short time, by prematurely exhausting the North and then leave it with a debt it cannot pay.

The Herald's Washington correspondent tells of discontent in the army, of powerful intrigues against Gen. McClellan, who is openly charged with having "shammed" his late illness, to excuse his delay in marching "on to Richmond." Senator Wade told the President, lately, that "he was within a mile of hell." The radical and conservative parties are nearly equally divided in Congress. In the House the conservatives have about 5 majority, and in the Senate the radicals have 6 majority. Col. Richardson, of Illinois, warned the House of Representatives, recently, of the danger of causelessly multiplying issues with the army, and terrible examples in past history are quoted, at every street corner, *of what angry soldiers have done when goaded beyond endurance by representative theorists.*

"STONE-WALL" JACKSON.—The origin of the sobriquet of this distinguished General is thus stated by the Richmond correspondent of the New Orleans Delta:

"Gen. Jackson, who commands the Army of the Valley, is a Virginian, and is familiarly known as Stonewall Jackson, and the brigade he commanded in the Army of the Potomac as the Stone-wall Brigade. The name originated in an incident related of the battle of Manassas. When Gen. Bee, who gloriously fell in that battle, was endeavoring to rally his men, he pointed to some Virginia regiments which were bravely maintaining their ground against overwhelming odds, and exclaimed, "Look at Jackson's Brigade; it stands immovable as a wall of stone.""

A universal feeling of regret has been produced by the resignation of Gen. Jackson; but the Richmond Dispatch of the 6th says that the resignation has not been, and there is every reason to believe will not be accepted. Of course, if so, the government means to remove the cause of complaint which induced the resignation.

It seems to us that there is something wrong about the War Department at Richmond. Gen. Walker of Georgia, a valuable and favorite officer, was driven from the service by having two junior officers in succession put over him. He was able to make so plain a case of it that his State gladly took him into its own service as General. Next Gen. Bonham of South Carolina is driven out, and then Gen. Jackson, both for similar causes. We say nothing of Gen. Pillow's resignation, for there is a difference of opinion about his qualifications; but we believe there is none as to the eminent fitness of the three others.

Let us remark however, that we don't think this the proper time for officers to be very squeamish about rank and precedence. Their country needs them all, and if they cannot have as high rank as they think they deserve, let them make sacrifices of their pride, and serve in some lower sphere. If they cannot afford to serve as subordinate Generals, let them fall into the ranks as "high privates," as many men fully their equals have done in this contest.

DOGS AND SHEEP.—The Richmond Whig has received an earnest letter from an old farmer, entreating that the Legislature of that State impose a tax on dogs, which he says prevent him and his neighbors from raising sheep. It is supposed that there are half a million of dogs in that State, and a tax of a dollar would therefore produce half a million of revenue, or, what is more likely, produce a quarter of a million and reduce the number of dogs one-half.

Similar propositions to tax dogs have often been made in this State, where there are probably 300,000 of them, and where their interference with the raising of sheep is generally complained of. We have no objection to the tax; but why don't the farmers try the experiment of letting their sheep run with their cattle, which is said to be a sure protection against dogs?

The Whig pleads for the hounds. It says they rarely kill sheep, and it would be a pity to interfere with the manly and noble sport of fox-hunting. Besides, it says that in some districts red foxes, unless hunted, would soon become so numerous and destructive that sheep-raising would be impossible.

The Winston Sentinel thinks we harbor "ill will, if not malice" towards its Editor. Nor only so: it "comprehends the motive." Well, it "comprehends" more than we do. For except his name and profession, we know no more of him than of the man in the moon. The Sentinel, then, is altogether mistaken. It is so bedeviled at home in consequence of its endorsement of the "Traveler's" libels on its neighbors, that it does not "comprehend" our rebuke. We don't care a pin whether the Editor volunteers or aids the volunteers. It is none of our business. We only remind him that as he was one of the South's peculiar friends before the war, and yet stays at home now that there is an opportunity to show the value of his friendship, it is in extreme bad taste to impute disloyalty to old Union men, for doing exactly as he does. He says he stays at home to attend to his family and his newspaper. We don't dispute the validity of his reason. We only ask that he graciously permit his neighbors to do the like, for like, or so far as he knows, better reasons. Is not that fair?

We think we may venture to assert, without fear of contradiction (except from the Fayetteville Observer, which *will* contradict *any thing* we may say,) that the weather is far from pleasant—that it is damp underfoot.
Wilmington Journal.

The Journal's memory is bad. *We* didn't contradict its statement that a certain committee of Wilmington gentlemen received every consideration and honor during their visit to Fayetteville. It was the Journal itself that positively contradicted that statement of its own—apparently unwilling that a truth which it had inadvertently stumbled on should remain uncontradicted. Nor did *we* contradict anything the Journal said about whiskey and the price of corn and the duty of the Convention to legislate on that question. It was the Journal itself that repented of its onslaught upon whiskey and contradicted itself by denying the right of the Convention to do what it had urged that body to do.

N. C. STATE CONVENTION.

Condensed from the Standard of the 8th inst.

On Monday, Mr. Howard presented a petition from Wilson, praying relief against distillation of grain into whiskey.

Mr. McNeill of Cumberland, a resolution that the Convention adjourn on Monday next, at 6 o'clock, A. M., and providing for its re-assembling on the happening of certain contingencies.

Mr. Batchelor a resolution instructing an inquiry into the expediency of amending the revenue law, so as to provide some other mode of ascertaining the value of slaves, than by valuation made by the owner or his agent.

Mr. McDuffie, a resolution asking the Adjutant General to furnish a list of the officers from this State now in the Federal service.

Mr. Leak of Richmond, a resolution that the Convention adjourn on the 17th of February, and that until then, it should confine itself to the consideration of measures demanded by the exigences of the times.

The Danville Connection occupied most of the day. Messrs. Gorrell and Badger spoke against fixing a terminus as proposed by several amendments under discussion. Mr. B. advocated the ordinance as originally introduced on the score of military necessity, and dwelt at some length on the fact that both the Eastern and Western railway lines which were so essential to the Confederacy in the transportation of troops and munitions, were menaced with destruction, and on the further fact that these, even were they safe, were wholly inadequate for government transportation. Mr. Mebane replied, in favor of the Company's Shops. Mr. Gilmer, against fixing a terminus. Mr. Howard against the charter, but in favor of Company's Shops. Mr. Reid replied, and Mr. Brown replied to him. Mr. Rayner spoke against the charter and was replied to by Messrs. Gorrell and Osborne.

On Tuesday, Mr. Dick presented a petition from Guilford, praying tax on the distillation of grain.

Mr. Woodfin, a resolution declaring that the Governor should issue the bonds of the State for the completion of the Western N. C. Railroads, in compliance with existing laws.

Mr. Durham "an ordinance regulating the salaries of Judges." [Reduces their salaries one half.]

Mr. Christian from the select committe on "the ordinance to repeal the 4th section of the charter of the Cheraw and Coalfields Railroad," reported back the ordinance referred and asked to be discharged.

Mr. Graham, a resolution inquiring of the Governor what number of troops, from this State, are paid or supported or supplied in whole or in part by the State, and what number by the Confederate States. Also, what arrangement or correspondence has taken place on the subject between the State and C. S. Government.

The discussion of the Danville Connection was resumed; Mr. Strange spoke against it, and Messrs. Kittrell, Dick and Ruffin in its favor. The proposal to make Company's Shops the terminus was rejected, 58 to 24.

Mr. Mebane proposed to fix the terminus at Lexington, or any other point not exceeding one mile East of Haw River, on the N. C. Railroad. Rejected.

Mr. Starbuck offered the following amendment: Beginning at Danville, Va., running thence *via* Leaksville, Madison, Germanton, Winston and Salem, to Lexington.

Mr. Starbuck urged the adoption of his amendment as indicating the best route for the proposed connection.

On Wednesday, a communication from Gov. Clark, relative to the condition of the Cape Fear & Deep river improvement, together with reports of engineers, &c., was read and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Mebane introduced an ordinance relative to the election of Governor and members of the General Assembly.

The Danville Connection ordinance was resumed. Mr. Strong spoke against it, and Mr. Jones of Rowan replied.

Mr. Starbuck's amendment was rejected. Other propositions of no particular interest were adopted or rejected, but no decision reached.

Of proceedings since, the Standard says:—

"On Thursday, the ordinance to charter the Piedmont Railroad, known as the Danville connection, was taken up and passed its second reading. On motion of Mr. Gilmer, the rule was suspended, and the ordinance was put on its third reading; and after some amendments, not affecting the general character of the ordinance, it was read a third time and passed—yeas 61, nays 35. This is a highly important measure. It was recommended by President Davis in his late message, as a military necessity. It is believed that the Road will be speedily constructed."

The Standard mentions that the name of Mr. McNeill of Cumberland was unintentionally omitted from the list of yeas and nays [copied into the Observer] on the ordinance to repeal the Stay Law. Mr. McNeill voted to postpone the ordinance indefinitely.

IMPORTANT RAILROAD MOVEMENT.—The Railroad Convention in Richmond last week was attended by officers from 18 roads. It was resolved to establish Rolling Mills, Machine Shops and Foundries, in each of four divisions, viz: 1, Virginia; 2, North and South Carolina; 3, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and part of Tennessee; 4, Mississippi, Louisiana, &c. The capital to be subscribed by the roads in each division; the Presidents of the roads to locate the works and manage them as a Board of Directors. If the roads fail to advance the capital, then advances to be made to individual enterprises, upon condition that the works shall furnish iron, &c. to the roads so advancing, at 50 per cent. higher rates than were current in July 1860, until the close of the war; and for three years afterwards at 80 per cent above cost.

It seems to us that the works for North and South Carolina will almost of necessity be located here. The mineral region of Deep River will supply the coal and iron, and this place will be a nearer and better point than any other from which to supply three-fourths of the roads in the division with the manufactured articles, and to receive the old rails for re-rolling. We shall doubtless soon hear more on the subject.

The Convention resolved to apply to Congress to confiscate and sell the interests of alien enemies in mines of minerals in the Confederate States, so as to enable citizens to work them.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Atkinson made his annual visitation to this place and Rockfish within the past few days. On Thursday and Saturday evenings he preached in St. John's Church, and again on Sunday morning and evening, on the latter occasion administering the Rite of Confirmation to 12 persons.

On Friday afternoon he preached in Christ Church, Rockfish, and Confirmed 6 persons.

BALANCED THE ACCOUNT.—We received a letter a few days ago from one who had been a subscriber before the adoption of our cash system, as follows:—

"Please to discontinue my paper, as I am a volunteer and going off in a few days. If ever I return home I will call and settle my account. I am a volunteer for three years."

Should this meet his eye in the camp, he is informed that we have settled his account for him by entering to his credit: "Paid by volunteering for three years." And that he has our thanks, moreover, for informing us of the fact, and not allowing the paper to be continued and to fall into the hands of some less honest person, who might neither pay for it nor volunteer.

The Standard states that Henry W. Miller, Esq., has been invited by a number of ladies and gentlemen in Raleigh and elsewhere to prepare and deliver a Lecture for the benefit of the Hospitals of the N. C. Volunteers. We unite with the Standard in the hope that Mr. Miller will comply with the request.

WHAT'S IN THE WIND?—The Cashier of the Bank of North Carolina advertises in the Standard for a special meeting of the stockholders at Raleigh on the 15th inst., "on business of the *highest importance.*"

PLEASANT NEWS.—The Charleston Mercury announces that a fine steamship has reached one of the Southern ports in safety, bringing 10,000 Enfield rifles and 60,000 pounds of gunpowder. The arms are already in the hands of those who know how to use them.

THE GOVERNMENT IN PURSUIT OF THE DISTILLERS.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 8th says that "the War Department will shortly issue an order directing the seizure of the corn now held for purposes of distillation, a step rendered necessary, not only by the pernicious effects of the unlimited manufacture of whiskey, but by the exorbitant prices which Government is thereby compelled to pay for an article indispensable to the sustenance of the army."

CONFEDERATE BONDS.—$20,000 worth (August issue) were sold in Charleston on Friday at par.

LATEST FOREIGN AND NORTHERN NEWS.

NORFOLK, Feb. 8.—From the New York Herald of the 6th, [says the Day Book] we select the following extracts:

The Nova Scotian from Liverpool on the 23d, via Londonderry the 24th ult., arrived at Portland yesterday.

The American Question.—Mr. Massey, member of Parliament, had delivered a speech before his constituents, in which he advocated that the European Powers should interfere to close the struggle between the North and the South, by recognizing the Confederate States, and breaking the blockade. The Manchester Guardian argues in a similar strain.

The Liverpool Post declares that the civil war must be stopped by mediation, if possible; by force, if necessary.

The London News continues to denounce the idea of recognizing the South.

The London Globe argues that the maritime Powers cannot be expected to respect the blockade unless it be really effective.

The London Times continues its denunciations of the stone blockade. The Morning Post says that matters in America are evidently approaching a situation in which the *de facto* government of the South may claim consideration in Europe.

Earl Russell had replied to the Liverpool Shipowners, who addressed him on the subject, that on hearing of the project for a "stone blockade" "on the 20th of December her Majesty's Minister at Washington was informed of the view taken of it by her Majesty's government.

"Lord Lyons was told that such a cruel plan would seem to imply despair of the restoration of the Union, the professed object of the war; for it never could be the wish of the U. S. government to destroy cities from which their own country was to derive a portion of its riches and prosperity. Such a plan could only be adopted as a measure of revenge and of irremediable injury against an enemy.

"Lord Lyons was further told that even as a scheme of embittered and sanguinary war such a measure would not be justifiable. It would be a plot against the commerce of all maritime nations, and against the free intercourse of the Southern States of America with the civilized world. Lord Lyons was desired to speak in this sense to Mr. Seward, who, it was hoped, would disavow the illegal project.

"Now, however, that the project seems to have been carried into effect at Charleston, Lord Lyons will be instructed to make a further representation to Mr. Seward, with a view to prevent similar acts of destruction in other ports."

The Times (City Article) of the 24th, referring to the heaviness of the English funds says:

"The fact that, if France or any other Power should demand the concurrence of England in disavowing the inefficient blockade of the Southern ports by the federal fleet, it would be difficult to find a logical plea for refusal, is apparently the main consideration that induces the public to look cautiously at future contingencies. The evidence seems complete that, if the present nominal blockade is to be respected, the provision of the Treaty of Paris that a blockade shall not be recognised unless it be real must be looked upon as cancelled, and an impression prevails that this result would be distasteful to all statesmen who recognise the claims of commerce and civilization.

"The meeting of the French Chambers on the 16th inst., and of the English Parliament on the 6th of February, may be followed by some important declaration on the subject. The initiative is thought likely to be taken by France, since the effects of the cotton dearth are more severe upon that country than upon Great Britain, where a great compensation is found in the impulse given to India. At the same time it is seen that this country can have little inducement to forego joining in an imperative enforcement of legal principles, as the popular and almost universal cry in the federal States seems now to be that every advantage which can be gained, whether from success at home or from the forbearance of foreign nations, is to be hailed as a means of hastening the time when the Trent affair can be "avenged." Still, notwithstanding this consideration, the feeling here would be in favor of leaving the Washington politicians to work their own way through their anarchy and bankruptcy undisturbed by foreign reclamations, if it were possible to do so without a sacrifice of principle."

The London Herald says the accounts from America are of a most desponding character, the commercial situation of New York being unparalleled.

The Paris correspondent of the London Post says:—

It is not true, as some journals represent, that the French government has taken any steps to bring about a reconciliation between the North and the South.

It is reported that the initiative in proclaiming the blockade of the Southern ports inefficient will be taken by France.

The belief gains ground that the French government will consider that the proofs of the fictitious character of the blockade have long been too complete and numerous to render it possible to be passed over without danger to those public and national rights, the quiet maintenance of which depends on a firm regard to precedents.

It was stated that the French Minister at Washington had been furnished with the formal disapprobation of the French Government at the conduct of the U. S. government in choking up Charleston harbor with stone and that he would join Lord Lyons in protesting against the act.

The French government journals of the 24th ult. continue to make the worst of the Charleston blockade.

The factory statistics of Manchester show that the shortening of the hours of labor in the factories is gradually extending, and in course of a week or two the movement was expected to become much more general and extensive.

The West India, a schooner loaded with Spirits Turpentine, had arrived at Liverpool, having run the blockade from Charleston on Dec. 24th.

The privateer Sumter having been ordered from Cadiz, reached Gibraltar on the 19th of Jan. During her passage she burned the American bark Neapolitan, from Messina for Boston with fruits. She also captured the bark Investigator, of Searsport for Newport with ore.

Six of the Sumter's crew deserted at Cadiz, and made their submission to the American consul. The captain of the Sumter claimed them as deserters; but the Spanish officials declined to give them up.

It is reported from Algiers that a prolonged cannonade had been heard off that coast, and a vessel was subsequently sighted believed to be the Sumter. It was supposed she had sunk her adversary.

A dispatch from Paris of the 23d ult., says Prince Napoleon is seriously ill.

France will send large additional forces to Mexico, and will take the lead in operations there.

215 colliers were buried alive in the Hartley mines, near Newcastle. After strenuous exertions, about 100 had been discovered. It was feared that the remainder of the numbers would be found dead in another portion of the mine.

A French steamer has been dispatched, with orders to sail for America in a few days, upon a special mission.

From Washington.—The feeling in Washington is strong in favor of a prosecution of the war and the suppression of the rebellion.

Bright, of Indiana, has been formally expelled from the Federal Senate, by a vote of 32 to 14. He made a stirring speech, in which he appealed to his State to uphold her honor and his fair name. The galleries of the Senate were crowded throughout the speech, and much applause was elicited.

Bennett's Herald says there is a powerful conspiracy in Congress to oppose Lincoln and break up the Union. That the Committee on Naval Affairs act as if more under the control of Lord Lyons than the U. S. Government, and that Senator Hale has managed to prevent the construction of the iron-plated frigates.

The Herald calls on Lincoln to take the responsibility and act on measures of finance and defence without the authority of Congress. It says, moreover, that if the rebellion is not immediately crushed, a war with England and France will ensue. It is plain that the European powers will raise the blockade.

Inexcusable delays in Congress will compel the Treasury Department to leave the armies unpaid, or issue paper money, without the authority of Congress.

Mayor Opdyke, of New York, writes that unless the floating debt is soon paid, it will be difficult to obtain supplies for the army at any price.

Chase has written another letter to the Committee of Finance, urging immediate action on the Treas'y Note bill.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—At Goldsborough, on the 1st inst., private John Welmon, of Capt. Waters's Co., 34th Regiment.

On the 23d Nov., Lee Watkins, of "Granville Grays," 23d Regiment, stationed near Manassas, in the 31st year of his age.

At Culpepper, Va., Martin Brittain, of the "Burke Tigers," aged about 19.

At Morehead City, on the 15th Jan'y, of Typhoid fever, Joseph F. White, son of Sherwood White of Chatham county, in the 24th year of his age. A member of the "Chatham Boys."

At Fort Johnson, private Jas W. Casey, of Capt. Chesnut's Co. F, 20th Regiment.

At Acquia Creek, Va., R. T. Aman and H. D. Costin, both of Capt. Ennett's Co. E, 3d N. C. State Troops.

☞ Tributes of Respect to Alex'r McKay, Thomas Garrett and Henry C. Morgan, of the "Richmond Boys," and to Jas. H. Curtis and Alex'r McKenzie, of Co. D, 23d Reg't, at hand this morning, too late for this paper.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

The Burnside Expedition.—NORFOLK, Feb'y 8.—A gentleman who left Roanoke Island Thursday afternoon about 4 o'clock, reports 4 of the enemy's gunboats in the neighborhood of the lower end of the Island, but that no attack had been made up to his leaving.

Another who left the Island at an earlier hour, states that 18 of the enemy's vessels came up toward the Island, and that they were met and attacked by Com. Lynch, who opened fire on them from the Sea Bird.
Day Book.

The Norfolk despatch to the Richmond Dispatch of the 8th says that Gen. Wise, who has been sick, is better, and making active preparations to receive the expected attack. A large number of vessels were below the Island.

The Examiner's Norfolk despatch says "no apprehension is felt here for our troops. It is believed they are abundantly able to take care of themselves."

From Tennessee.—MEMPHIS, Feb'y 7.—Fort Henry was captured by the Federals yesterday, after two hours firing. The Federals advanced and destroyed the Tennessee river bridge, thereby cutting off communication between Columbus and Bowling Green. Our force is retreating to Fort Donelson.

Twenty thousand Federals form the attacking column.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—Dispatches were received at the War Department yesterday of the capture of Fort Henry. No statement of loss is given, and it is supposed that the whole garrison escaped.

Fort Donelson, to which our force was retreating, is on the Cumberland river, and an important post, as it defends Memphis.

Fort Henry is nothing more than a mud fort near the Tennessee river, where it is crossed by the Memphis and Tennessee railroad; but the burning, by the Yankees, of the bridge is a more serious disaster, as the communication between Bowling Green and Columbus is, to this extent, interrupted. The expedition of the enemy, however, does not appear to have accomplished any important result, as the government made no pretence of seriously defending the point they have taken.

In the direction of Bowling Green there is said to be but little prospect of a fight, or of an early advance movement of the enemy. Rain had been falling almost incessantly, the season being unusually wet, and the soil, which in this section of Kentucky is composed of clay and limestone, was converted into something so nearly akin to mortar as to defy the evolutions of troops.

Through official and reliable statements, the force of Gen. Buell is ascertained to be 65,000 men.—*Examiner.*

The Situation of Affairs at Columbus.—In consequence of the conviction of Gen. Polk that the enemy intended to make an early and formidable demonstration against Columbus, our forces at that point have been very heavily reinforced within the last two weeks. Regiments from Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee have been pouring in, as well as some few Texas Regiments, who came through Arkansas. General Beauregard is at Columbus.

The Virginia Border.—RICHMOND, Feb'y 8.—Intelligence has been received in this city that a body of the enemy's cavalry, which, it was thought, had been driven out of the Sandy Valley by General Marshall, made an advance up Sandy river again last week, and succeeded in regaining possession of Prestonsburg and Pikeville. A number of the citizens of Prestonsburg are reported to have been taken prisoners. It is supposed that the enemy contemplates wintering in that place or Pikeville, while their cavalry will plunder and steal in the border counties of Virginia.—*Examiner.*

Federal Prisoners to be Exchanged.—NEW ORLEANS, Feb'y 7.—492 Yankee prisoners left yesterday for Norfolk to be exchanged.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—As there is considerable interest, says the Examiner of the 8th, to know to what extent the government proposes to extend aid to the railroads as part of the military defences of the country, we have obtained a copy of the President's special message on the subject.

We may add here that we are informed that the measure which the government has recommended for an appropriation of one million of dollars to establish railway communication between Danville, Va., and Greensboro', N. C., has met with considerable opposition in Congress. The bill was defeated on a motion to engross, but, it is said, is likely to be reconsidered. The following is a copy of the recent message of President Davis:

"*To the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States:*

"I herewith transmit a copy of a communication from Mr. William S. Ashe, urging the completion of certain railroads, as necessary for the proper transportation of troops and military stores, in the exigencies of the present war. I also transmit a copy of a communication from Mr. E. Fontaine, the President of the Central railroad of Virginia, urging the completion of twenty miles of the Covington and Ohio railroad, upon considerations of military necessity.

"I communicate to you, with these letters, a series of resolutions adopted at a Convention of Railroad Presidents, held in Richmond, on the 6th of December, asking for the assistance of the Confederate Government in procuring certain supplies which are indispensable to the maintenance of the railroad system of the country.

"That certain appropriations, which otherwise could not be constitutionally made by the Confederate Government, come within the range of its powers, when absolutely necessary for the prosecution of the war, there is no doubt. It is equally clear that, when this military necessity ceases, the right to make such appropriations no longer exists. To exercise this power when it exists, and to *confine it within the proper limits*, is a matter for the just discretion of Congress; and, to enable it to act upon the interesting subjects to which they relate, I transmit the communications and resolutions which accompany this message.

"I have already recommended that the Confederate Government should assist in making a railroad from Danville, Virginia, to Greensboro', North Carolina, upon the ground of a strong military necessity for completing an interior through line from Virginia to the Southern Atlantic States. I deemed this to be necessary not only on account of the superior safety of such a line from hostile inroads and invasion; but because of the great additional facilities which its completion would afford for the transportation of troops and military supplies. The road from Selma, Alabama to Meridian, Mississippi, is a link that has claims similar to the road already recommended to your assistance in a previous message. Whilst the completion of the twenty miles of the Covington and Ohio railroad, as proposed by Mr. Fontaine, might be eminently useful for military purposes, I cannot, in the present condition of the treasury, recommend that you should contribute by direct appropriation.

"The resolutions of the Convention of Railroad Presidents and Superintendents relate to a most important subject. If the railroads should be generally disabled from transporting troops and military supplies for the prosecution of the war, the result would be most disastrous. It is urged that the capital necessary to construct the establishments required for re-rolling rails and the manufacture of locomotives, cannot well be had unless the Confederate Government would make some advance for the purpose. With the machinery proper for rolling the rails there might be connected that which is necessary for rolling plates for uses which are wanted in the naval service. How far it would be proper for Congress to authorize advances to be made on contracts to furnish these plates or engines, it will be for that body to consider and determine. Some such advance might facilitate and secure the establishment of works which would, at the same time, furnish what is required by the government, re-roll the railroad iron and make locomotives for the use of the railroads. The exigency is believed to be such as to require the aid of the government, and is commended to your favorable consideration.
JEFFERSON DAVIS."

UP-COUNTRY PRICES.—A friend at Wilkesborough writes us that Corn sells readily there at $1, Pork 10 cents, Bacon 18, and Oats 40.

DIVIDEND.—The Commercial Bank of Wilmington has declared a dividend of 5 per cent.

The CHARLESTON FUND now amounts to $331,141 94. Among the latest acknowledgments is $112 from the officers and employees of the Arsenal and Armory at this place.

MARRIED,

On the 30th ult., by D. B. McIver, Esq., Mr. DUNCAN McINTOSH to Miss MARGARET T., daughter of Thomas Cole, Esq., all of Moore county.

At the residence of the bride's father, Mr. John Emerson, on the 24th Dec'r, by D. F. McIver, Esq., Mr. JOHN McINTYRE to Mrs. MARY ANN CAMPBELL.

DIED,

In this town, on Friday evening last, of pneumonia, Miss LOUISA C. VANN, in the 24th year of her age.

At the residence of her son, on the 27th ult., in the upper end of Richmond County, after a lingering illness of some months, Mrs. MARGARET HARBERT, aged about 80 years.

On the 26th ultimo, E. W. BOROUGHS, of Chatham county, in the 63d year of his age. After attending to his daily business, he went to bed as well as usual; and it was not known that there was anything the matter with him until the next morning, when he was discovered to be speechless. He died in that condition the night following, not having spoken in the time. A sure warning: "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye know not of, the Son of Man cometh." We hope our loss is his gain.—COMMUNICATED.

No. 10 PLOW POINTS,

AT WHOLESALE or RETAIL, for sale at the Eagle Works. ANDERSON & CORD.
Feb'y 10, 1862. 98tf

IRON! IRON!!
10,000 lbs. Genuine Swede Iron,
Suitable for Making and Repairing Plows,
For Sale at 12½ cts. by
W. MURCHISON.
Bennettsville, S. C., Feb'y 10, 1862. 1tpd

AVON E. HALL.
Forwarding & Commission Merchant,
WILL give quick despatch to goods consigned to him. Particular attention given to all produce sent him for sale. Consignments of Naval Stores, for sale or shipment, solicited.
WILMINGTON, Jan'y 19, 1862. 92tfy

Re-Enlisting for the War.—The Second Tennessee regiment, Colonel Bate, following the glorious example of the First Arkansas, has unanimously resolved to re-enlist for the war.

North Carolina Railroad.—We learn that Paul C. Cameron, Esq., has resigned the Presidency of this Road. In a few days we presume the Directors will elect his successor.
Raleigh Standard.

A Live Yankee in Forsyth.—On Saturday last, Messrs. Grabs and Stolts, of Bethania, passed through this place, having one of the escaped Yankees from the Confederate prison at Salisbury, in custody,—being on their way to Salisbury to deliver up said prisoner to the proper authorities.—*Salem Press, 7th.*

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—Feb. 10.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET

Bacon—New hog round 16 to 17.
Beef—By retail, 5 to 10.
Beeswax 20 cts.
Candles—Fayetteville mould 35.
Corn 1 10.
Cotton—Very little coming to market; prices range from 8 50 to 9 50 for strictly prime.
Cotton Bagging—30 cts.
Flour—Family 8 50, Super 8 25.
Hides—Dry 20 to 22; green 8.
Iron—Swedes 20 for narrow bar, 25 for broad, retail.
Molasses—N. O. retailing at 90 to $1.
Nails—$14 to $15 per Keg. Shot—None.
Pork—Selling in small quantities at 10 to 12½.
Peas $1 15 to 1 25. Rye 2 50 to $3. Oats 60 to 65.
Cotton Yarns—1 60 to 1 75 for all Nos.
Salt—Sound 3 50 to $4 per bushel.
Spirits—Peach Brandy, 2 50; N. C. Apple, $2; N. C. Whiskey, $1 35 to $1 50.
Sugars—Common brown 10; better grades, hhd. 12½.
Spirits Turpentine—20 to 21 cents.
Tallow—20 to 22. Wool—Unwashed, 30 to 40.
Brown Sheetings 20 to 21 cts. by the bale.
Shirtings, 3-4, 17 cts.
Corrected by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.

TEACHER WANTED.

A TEACHER is wanted to take charge of a small school, in the Academy on Haymount, recently occupied by Miss R. Tillinghast, for one session, to commence on the 17th inst. Apply to
J. G. SHEPHERD.
E. J. LILLY.
or J. D. WILLIAMS.
Feb'y 10, 1862. 1t
Presbyterian copy 1t.

SWEDE IRON.

BAR IRON 1½ to 3 inches wide.
Wide do. 7 to 8 " "
For sale by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.
Feb'y 10, 1862. 98-i3t

SHOES.

2000 PAIRS HEAVY BROGANS for sale, to arrive per Steamer North Carolina, on Wednesday next. T. S. LUTTERLOH.
Feb'y 10, 1862. 98-2t

SPRING GOODS.
JAMES KYLE
IS NOW OPENING HIS
SPRING GOODS,
Among which are:
PRINTED LAWNS:
Black and Black and White Ditto;
Irish Linens and Diapers;
Col'd and Black Silks.
The Col'd Silks will be offered at last year's prices.
Feb'y 6, 1862. 98-4t

2000 Yards of Bleached Shirtings,

A FULL YARD WIDE, of the best English Manufactory. Just received and for sale at a reasonable price, at GEORGE BRANDT'S,
Nos. 14 and 16 Hay St., Fayetteville, N. C.
Feb'y 10, 1862. 98-itf

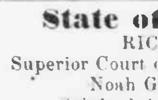
SHOES! SHOES!! SHOES!!!

400 PAIR BROGAN SHOES. Just received and for sale at
GEO. BRANDT'S.
Feb'y 8. 96-8t

At the New Store,
No. 22, Hay St.

LADIES can find 200 dozen Coats' Thread, from No. 1 to No. 20, black and white Flax Thread; English and American Pins; a fine assortment of Shirtings; Prints; Bleached and unbleached Drillings; Cotton Flannels, &c., &c.
Also, 700 yards of Fine all Wool Delaines, at old prices.
A call is respectfully solicited.
JACOB BRANDT,
No. 22 Hay St., one door West of J. Utley's Esq.
Feb'y 10. 1tpd

Raleigh and Fayetteville Stage Notice.



Circumstances require us *hereafter* to charge full fare to all passengers in our Coaches, and to revoke from this date all free tickets.
C. S. BARBEE & BRO.,
Contractors Route No. 5096.
Feb'y 8, 1862. 98 6mpd

State of North Carolina,
RICHMOND COUNTY.
Superior Court of Law, Fall Term, A. D. 1861.
Noah Gibson vs. James Butler.
Original Attachment Levied on Land.

IN this cause it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the Defendant James Butler resides beyond the limits of this State; It is ordered and adjudged by the Court, that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer, a newspaper published in the town of Fayetteville, for six consecutive weeks, notifying the said Defendant to be and appear at the next Term of the Superior Court of Law for Richmond County, to be held at the Court House in Rockingham, on the third Monday of September next, then and there to replevy, answer, plead or demur to said Attachment, otherwise the Lands levied on will be condemned to the Plaintiff's use, and execution issue accordingly.

Witness, R. S. McDonald, Clerk of said Court, at office, the third Monday in September, A. D. 1861.
98*6t] R. S. McDONALD, C. S. C.

CONFEDERATE TAX LIST.

THE ASSESSORS having completed the Tax List for the District of Fayetteville, all persons in said district are requested to call at the Store of A. M. Campbell and examine their lists, and if there is any error to point it out.

This will be the last chance to correct the list.
R. W. HARDIE, Collector.
Feb. 1, 1861. 96-i2w

AN ORDINANCE

To authorize the raising of a Battalion of six Companies or Regiment of Troops for twelve months.

BE it ordained by this Convention, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, That the Governor is authorized to receive into the service a Battalion of infantry, to consist of six companies, for 12 months, or a Regiment of ten companies, to be composed of volunteers who belonged to the First Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, (the Lafayette Light Infantry and the Independent Light Infantry of the town of Fayetteville included,) and such others as may enrol themselves with them.

Be it further ordained, That the said companies shall have the right to elect their Commissioned Officers, and the Battalion shall have the right to elect a Lieutenant Colonel and a Major, and a Colonel if a Regiment be formed; said officers of Companies and of the Battalion or Regiment to be chosen in accordance with the law now in force providing for the election of Officers by the twelve months' volunteers. Provided further, That the said Battalion or Regiment shall be transferred within convenient time to, and accepted by, the Government of the Confederate States.

THE FIRST BATTALION
N. C. VOLUNTEERS.

☞ The above Ordinance having been passed by the State Convention on the 12th inst., a rare chance is now offered to those who wish to enter their country's service. As it is probable that the State will finally want the services of the whole Militia of the State, it will be better for those who can, to join this Battalion, so that proper preparation can be made for comfort before entering the field for active duty. Those wishing to enrol their names can call at the Store of A. M. Johnson, Military Storekeeper, one door East of G. Brandt's; those from a distance can address me, for further information, per mail.

F. N. ROBERTS.
Dec'r 13, 1861. 83tt.