zens to an important subject connected with the to cover contingencies, the Government proposes maintenance of our cause, and upon which abso- to take, at fifty cents per pound, all saltpetre lutely depends our capability of self-defence.

It is well known that we have within ourselves all the materials necessary for the manufacture of by the Government will be obvious upon a mopowder, which is the very life blood of war; but ment's reflection. If it was proposed to purchase some preliminary preparation is required before at fifty cents per pound all saltpetre delivered, they can be converted into the proper form for prior to January, 1864, and the blockade should use. Saltpetre, which constitutes three-fourths be raised within that period, importers could proparts of the whole, is not found in sufficient quan- cure it abroad at six or seven cents, and realize tities, already made, to meet the demands of the incalculable profit. If all saltpetre made within present enormous consumption, and our powder the Confederacy, from nitrous earths, commanded tent of their capacity. The sources from which much less expensive than the artificial one, and it can be obtained, however, are inexhaustible, requires a much shorter time, enormous amounts and only a little labor and capital are required to procure it in the amplest abundance.

The War Department, some time since, offered thirty-five cents per pound for all saltpetre de- no need of the amount furnished, and thereby in livered before the 1st of January 1862; but in curring a heavy and unnecessary expense; but, if order to induce its manufacture by our own peo- for what is made from artificial beds, the period ple at home, has proposed to give fifty cents per pound for all that is made within the Confederacy to embark in it, as the limitation must expire until January 1863, and for all made from arti- before the saltpetre could be prepared and furticial beds 50 cents per pound until January 1864. When it is remembered that saltpetre is sold in Well Bengal at three cents per pound, and actually taken in payment of taxes by Prussia and Sweden at six cents per pound, and that we have equal and while subserving their own pecuniary interests, facilities with them for its manufacture, the libe- advance the highest interests of the Confederacy. rality of the Government and the lucrativeness of the business will be apparent.

We subjoin below two communications, which deserve general and earnest attention, both from the importance of the subject and the high charac-

The first is a letter from Commander George of the Confederate States, to Gov. Letcher, of Virginia, and by him communicated to the Legisa distinguished chemist, to certain inquiries pro- bestowed, than the sweet potato. pounded to him upon this subject.

BUREAU OF ORDY'CE AND HYDROGRAPHY,)

RICHMOND, November 5, 1861.

Sir: The supply of nitre for the fabrication of gunpowder being limited to the uitrous earths found in the caves of the Coufederate States, of which the supply is uncertain, and, from a partial examination recen made, of a quantity not sufficient for the amount that will be required for a long war. I beg leave, very respectfully, to call the attention of your Excellency to the fact, and to suggest to you the propriety of estab-lishing artificial nitre beds in every county in Virginia.

During the war which followed the French revolution, the supply of foreign nitre was cut off from the Consi it in quantity and quality sufficient to meet the gigan-tic demands for an army of a million of men. This was done by artificial nitre beds. In France alone the vield was a thousand tons per annum. It was proportionate in Holland, Prussia, Sweden, and Germany. The prac-tice of extracting nitre from beds is still kept up in Europe, especially in Prussia and Sweden, where it (nitre)

is received in payment of taxes at a stipulated price.

It is true that one or more cargoes of nitre may pass the inefficient Lincoln blockade, but as the supply thus obtained is uncertain, while that of "beds" is certain, I submit to your Excellency if there would not be more wisdom in making nitre ourselves, than in relying upon

I will be pleased to furnish you with all the information on the subject that you may desire, that I can im-Part.

I have the honor to enclose you a copy of a letter I

addressed to Dr. A. Snowden Piggot, a distinguished chemist, who is familiar with the subject, and his reply. I am, very respectfully, your obd't serv't, GEO. MINOR, Commander C. S. N.

His Excellency, John Letcher, Gov. of Va.

RICHMOND, Oct. 28, 1861.

1. As to the best method of preparing nitre beds.

earthy bases. Under these circumstances, the forma-tion of nitric acid goes on regularly and uninterruptedand earthy bases, and an abundant supply of atmost the evening, when the sun has warmed the bed There conditions are fulfilled in practice by the con-

struction of heaps containing earths and putrefiable substances. A clay surface is selected, and a heap formed of loose porous earth, mixed with old mortar, air-slacked lime, soft porous limestone, wood ashes, dec., and interstratified with vegetable matters, such as corn stalks, tobacco stalks, sun-flower stems, &c., and vafrom slaughter houses, leather clippings, street scrapings, excrements, &c. The heap thus formed is kept moist by such liquids as urine, meat washings, sads of soft soap, or any other pure liable solution. Holes are made through it to admit the air and liquids to the centre of the mass, and it is frequently turned over. When a white efflorescence appears upon the surface it is scraped off, and so, as the ripening goes on, the heaps gradually diminish in size. The earth removed is subjected to a treatment by itself in new heaps for the purpose of concentrating the nitre prior to lixiviation. The most convenient size for these heaps is six feet high, six or seven wide, and fifteen long. It is estinated that twelve cubic fathous of such earth, will yield an annual product of a hundred weight. An estimate can be easily made from these data of the extent to which it is desirable to carry this process. It is customary to arrange a number of these heaps beside each other, leaving sufficient space between them for convenience of working. They must of course be protected from drenching rains and from floods, at the same time that they are fully exposed to the air.

An improvement upon this plan has been introduced

The heaps are there constructed with perpendicular sides towards the wind, but on the opposite face, in a series of steps. The watering all taking place upon the leeward side, and the drying on the windward side, not only causes a capillary flow in that direction, but also concentrates the nitre upon that face. The efflormixed with new decomposing matter, and added to the shelves or steps. In this manner, while the heap always retains its form, and constantly furnishes nitre, it is slowly but steadily changing its position.

2. As to the probable production of nitre. Four heaps of the size mentioned, viz: six by seven

3. As to the time required for ripening This varies from two to three years. Upon the Prussian plan, the lixiviation of nitre can be commenced sooner than this, because a sort of concentra tion, as already stated, takes place upon the windward wall, so that it is not necessary to wait for the conver-

sion of the entire heap. 4. As to the influence upon health. This will certainly not be greater than that of the ordinary heaps of barn-yard manure. Few large farms are without as much decomposing matter as woeld make

a hundred weight of nitre.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

A. SNOWDEN PIGGOT, M. D.,

Comd'r. GEORGE MINOR, Chief of Bureau Ord. and Hydr'y.

Upon an examination of the above communications, it will be seen that the time required for the production of nitre (or saltpetre) from artificial beds is much greater than from the nitrous earths found in caves, although upon thorough investigation it has been ascertained that even from artificial beds in the more Southern latitudes of the Confederacy, the process requires a much shorter period than in Prussia or Sweden, or the Northern portions of our own country. It is estimated that within twelve months from the first formation of the beds, saltpetre, ready for use in the manufacture of powder, can be procured in terfeit.

THE PRODUCTION OF SALTPETRE—SOMETHING | South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, | Louisiana, and Texas: but to encourage the in-Louisiana, and Texas; but to encourage the in-We beg leave to call the attention of our citi- vestment of labor and capital in this business, and

made in this way until the 1st of January, 1864. The propriety of the difference in price fixed mills, therefore, are not employed to the full ex- the same price for that period, as the process is would be made by that method, should the war terminate speedily, and the Government would be compelled to fulfil its contract, although having

We have called attention to this matter in the earnest hope and belief that our people will eagerly embrace the liberal offers of the Government, Richmond Dispatch

> FOR THE OBSERVER. SWEET POTATOES.

MESSRS. EDITORS:-You will please permit me, through your paper, to make a few remarks upon that valuable esculent, the sweet potato. As Minor, C. S. N., and Chief of the Bureau of Ord- many of our farmers are now in the battle field, nance and Hydrography in the Navy Department and a probability of more soon being there, I think it behooves those remaining behind to turn their attention to the cultivation of those products which lature of the State in December last, as an ac- will yield them the most for their labor. I think companying document to his message; and the there is nothing grown upon a farm that will make second, the reply of A. Snowden Piggot, M. D., a more handsome yield, according to the labor

I was reading in a Patent Office Report of a centleman that selected an acre from a field of ten, and dug and measured them to decide a bet. He rot 1200 bushels from his acre. What else could e have put his acre in to have got half such a erop? Although we may not raise 1200 bushels per acre, we can very easily raise from 400 to 600. They are not only an excellent luxury for the table, but also nearly as good as corn for fattening pork. I therefore am astonished that there is not more of them grown, taking into consideration the small amount of labor necessary to their production, compared with other products. Boiled pothe French of this article of prime necessity for carry-ting on the war, means were at once adopted for making will, I think, fatten hogs as fast, or faster, than all eorn, and at about one-third the cost. Potatoes, to be fed profitably to hogs, should always be ooked. In an experiment of cooked and uncookd potatoes fed to fattening hogs, it was found at the cooking increased their value 230 pr. ct. Having said thus much about their uses, I will

w make a few remarks about their production. 1st. The seed should be perfectly sound. There re a great many different varieties of the potato, and most persons have their notions about the kind they wish to plant. I think the African, or "ne-If you deem my suggestions worthy of consideration, gro choker" as they are commonly called, will produce most; they are likewise a very hardy potato.

2d. They should be bedded on a warm bed made as follows: Stand down plank edgewise as arge as you want your bed, and secure them by driving up stakes; or in other words, make you a ox as large as you want your bed, and in a sunny place convenient to water. Then haul stable manure and put in your box 12 inches deep. Pack Dr. Piggot's reply to Capt. Minor's inquiries it down well and wet it well with water, which will cause it to heat soon. Then place on this manure 2 inches of earth. Then your potatoes, SIR-In reply to your letter of the 26th in- and do not crowd them-the slips will have a bet-Then cover your potatoes from 1 to 1 inches with loose earth. They should not be covered too deep, as they are more apt to rot, and are based upon the peculiar re-actions of decomposing azotized matter in the presence of strong alksline and You have now only to attend to your bed and water it about three times a week to keep it from The getting too hot. This should be done in the morn- sands of the enemy with musketry, Col. Jordan ordered chemical conditions of the formation of nitre, then, are three decomposing moist azotized substances, alkaline tell the temperature of the manure. If done in ponies and two old mules—the other we carried off by you cannot so well tell. Keep it as near as you can at a blood heat. I have tried this method o bedding for 3 or 4 years, and have never failed to produce as many again sprouts. I think, as I would have done by the old way. I will remark that you may, if you see proper, dig down some 6 or 8 inches and let your bed be partly above and partly under the ground. The advantages of a hot-

1st. Your potatoes, when the directions are folwed, are much less liable to rot than when bedded the old way.

2d. They are from 2 to 3 weeks earlier. 3d. They sprout much faster, the heat of the manure causing them to sprout nearly as fast in the night as they do in the day time. 4th. You can get some three drawings in May

People should make it a rule to set out no slips after May goes out. The product is not only larger and finer but they get their growth and therefore keep much better than if planted late.

Remarks .- Land for sweet potatoes should be manured with a mixture of ashes and stable manure. It is the best manure of which we would be likely to get enough. Scrapings from under houses is probably the best. I omitted mentioning that sand answers an excellent purpose to mix with the dirt, half and half, that goes on the bed previous to placing on the potatoes, and likewise n the dirt to cover the potatoes. It makes them sprout better. Green cropping is of great advantage to a potato crop. Turn under a coat of oats, rye or wheat where you design planting. They should be planted in hills of one or two slips in a

Potatoes to make a good yield should be plowed and hoed three or four times. The common method of scraping down potatoes is wrong; you by fifteen feet, would produce above a hundred weight thus expose the roots, and the hill soon becomes dry through. But you should scrape up and leave the loose earth on the hill. This plan would not do were the patch allowed to get grassy, but you must work it after every rain and by keeping the surface disturbed they will not get grassy. They should be plowed with something like the common coulter plow. The land to suit, early setting out, and thorough cultivation are the things to ensure success.

Littering for sweet potatoes as you would for Irish does not answer well. I have tried the experiment and made an entire failure. It keeps the ground too cool. The manure in your warm bed can be taken up and applied to anything you wish, having got better by the process. Some may object to planting largely from the fact they can't keep them. But plant and make them and there will probably, by that time, be directions given you by which there will be but little more langer of their rotting than there is of your corn n your crib. MOORE.

P. S. I should have mentioned that the potaas has been stated, and our whole force, except a few toes should be bedded on a warm bed from the 10th to the 25th inst. If there be danger of late frosts the vines can be protected by covering.

The notes purporting to be issues of the "Pe tersburg Savings Bank," are spurious and coun-

THE BATTLE OF ROANOKE ISLAND. STATEMENT OF CAPT. LILES, OF ANSON. From the Wadesborough Argus.

LILESVILLE, N. C., March 1, 1862. Mr. FENTON: In compliance with numerous reuests, as well as my own desire to correct several isstatements, I proceed to give you for publication, a correct account of the battles of the 7th and 8th of February at Roanoke Island, and especially the part taken by the "O. K. Boys." About two weeks before the enemy made his appearance, my company and the "Hatteras Avengers," Capt. Chas. W. Knight, of Martin county, were ordered to Ashby's Landing, a distance of ight miles from our camp, and near two miles elow our lowest battery, Fort Bartow. Two brass field pieces, a 12 and 18 pounder, were put in my charge, and I was ordered to defend the Landing, and, at every hazard, to save the artil-An officer from the 8th regiment was detailed to drill squads from Capt. K.'s and my companies on the cannon, but he only visited us twice, spending each time about half an hour. All that our men really learned of Artillery drill was taught them in an hour, by Col. Jordan, and one or two short lessons by Lt. Kinney, of Wise's Legion, who came to the Island about three days before the battle. I had no horses, and the mongrel "Bank ponies" which Col. Shaw ordered me to press into service, were untractable and of little use. We felt that our position was an important and responsible one. This Landing, where vessels drawing eight feet could land at any time, had been neglected to the last moment, and then ninety men, badly prepared as above shown, were placed to defend it as long as possible, with strict orders to carry away the artillery, in case of a retreat being unavoidable. On Thursday morning, the 6th of February, at a very early hour, W. Riley Diggs, of the O. K's, being on the lookout, discovered two of the enemy's vessels coming up the Sound, some ten or twelve miles away. By aid of a glass, I soon made out four large steamers, and immediately dispatched a messenger to convey the news to camp. One by one, the vessels, of all sorts and sizes, rounded a point and came in view, until the number reached sixty-four. They were drawn across the Sound in a long line. One of our little gun beats went down to take observations, out did not, of course, venture within shot. There they lay, forming a picture rare and beautiful, though pro-bably not so fully appreciated by us as it might have been under different circumstances. At 8 o'clock on Friday morning, they began to move, and coming cautiously along, by 101 were nearly abreast of us, when the "ball opened." The men under my command were ordered to keep concealed, so as not to draw the enemy's fire, but it seemed impossible for them to do so. Look we must, and in looking, the wild grandeur and sublime novelty of the scene drew as unconsciously from our hiding places. The Yankee vessels lay from one to two and a half or three miles from us, and a few shells would have played havec with us. But we received no attention, and had nothing to do for several hours, but engerly watch the conflict. Fort Bartow replied most obly to the thunders directed against her, and our ittle fleet did good service. From my position I could see the effect of nearly every shot. I saw many strike the vessels, and often found myself hurraing for the gallant Hill and his men at the Fort.

had been disabled and hauled off, a small boat, containing some twelve or fifteen men, left one of the steamers and made for the shore at a point nearly half a mile above us, evidently with a view of trying the soundings utterly insufficient for any but very small boats. Col lordan, who had arrived at our post some time before, ordered Lieut Lindsay and myself to take twenty men each, and proceed through an intervening swamp, and capture or kill the boat's crew. This marsh was almost mpassable; but we get through at last, and were adcancing cautiously, in sight of the Yankees, who had ust landed, when two men, one attached to the 31st Reg't, and the other unknown to me, rushed forward allooing loudly, firing their guns at the enemy, and, of course, giving them the alarm. Lieut. L's detachment and my own. (all O. K's.) were now together and witha hundred yards or less of the enemy, and but for this piece of imprudence, we would have easily captured them. As they turned to flee, we rushed forward, thro mud and water, firing as we went, but all were got into the bost, and the living pushed off, and were soon out We killed four and wounded two. We imof range. ediately fell back under cover, expecting a shelling. having some thirty small boats in tow, all packed with men, started for the landing above us. Knowing they must cut us off from the rest of our forces, it being im possible to get our artillery through the marsh, and con sidering it folly for his small force to attack the thouponies and two old mules—the other we carried off by hand under a storm of shell and shot from vessels in

he Sound, none of which, however, did any damage. We retreated about one mile and a half, to the small cannon, together with a brass six pounder, in battery and hungry. We bivouncked there for the night, hav-

ing some refreshments sent us from camp. Early on the morning of the Sth, the advance guard of the enemy made its appearance-the "Richmond Blues" and "McCullough Rangers" were thrown out on either flank as skirmishers, and firing commenced. Several Regiments of the enemy were now drawn up at three or four candred yards distance, upon which our artillery opened, and us they came nearer, our small arms. were in the battery, my company, numbering 43, Capt Knight's about 50, (including detachments from each or the artillery,) a detachment from the 8th of say 10, in charge of the 6 pounder, and about 40 Rangers from Wise's Legion, Col. Shaw in command, and Cols. ordan, Anderson and Price being also present. Gal antly, nobly, gloriously, did every man fight, (except who ran like a whipped dog!) As far as the eye ould reach, the enemy stood in compact mass and we owed them down by hundreds. Often did they attempt o advance, but as often was death spread in their ranks, and they were repulsed. Like a hail-shower, heir minnie balls fell around us while shell and sho surtled o'er our heads going far from their mark, and clacing our reserve force-portions of the 31st, and 8th, half a mile in our rear-in more danger than ourselves. watched most particularly my own gallant boys, not rembling hand or faltering eye could I see. Nor was it different with the "Hatterns Avengers," who fought with the spirit and determination of brave men, under a brave leader, and a braver than Capt. Knight no men ever fought under. His voice was heard at all times cheering his men, and his example, with that of his lst Lieut. Latham, inspired all with courage. After about two hours, our skirmishers being hard pressed by overwhelming numbers were gradually falling back fighting nost galiantly, when the lamented Wise fell. His men ore him off and I saw them no more The enemy oushed Regiment after Regiment into the swamp on ither side to flank us, but they were for a long time driven back. For over three hours the numbers above mentioned kept at bay at least ten thousand of the enemy (as acknowledged by themselves.) and when at ast we were flanked, as a Major of one of the Regt's who did it, told me, they crossed that miry swamp or a bridge of dead men! Only three men of ours were kill ed at the redoubt-one of them the brave Selden, who ell near me, shot through the head. He, Capt. Schernerhorn and Lieut. Kinney, (all of Wise's Legion,) had ommand of our three guns. Capt. S., who has been fighting ever since he was old enough, and has five balls now in his body, had charge of the "O.K." detachment and complimented them very highly, particularly Jas. Flowers, who, he said, though much exposed, fought with the firm courage and unflinching coolness of a veteran. A compliment from such a man is worth some-thing. But all did well, and their country ought to be proud of them. Probably had others been in their places, the same might be said justly, but this is certain: the "O. K. Boys" of Anson and the "Hatteras Avengers" of Martin fought four hours and twenty minutes, and only retreated when the whole Yankee force was close upon them, and the field officers had left the bat-In ten minutes more the enemy would have surrounded us and cut us to pieces. Just before the re-treat, reinforcements arrived, swelling our numbers to probably 400 men, who did but little good. The retreat was conducted in good order, no guns were thrown away,

stragglers, proceeded slowly up the road expecting every

han which no order could have been more welcome

But this came not, and we went sullenly and silently to

our old encampment, where about an hour after our ar-

inute to hear the order to "fall in" for another fight

us with kindness, particularly Gen. Foster and the offi-cers of the 9th and 51st New York, the Pennsylvania, New Jersey and 21st Mass. Reg'ts. We were deprived of all small arms, upon a promise of having them returned whenever we should be exchanged, which promise was only partially complied with on our release. We had the mortification of seeing many of the articles prepared for the use of our sick and wounded by the kind women of Anson, seized by the rascally Zouaves, but as oon as complaint was made to Gen. Reno, he promptly ordered any man trespassing thus to be placed in irons. Our beautiful flag was gallantly borne away from the oattle field by Corporal H. M. May, but to our great regret was taken by the enemy after the surrender, and as and said that the money was worse than thrown . Cutter, Surgeon of the 21st Mass. Reg't informed ne, was sent as a present to the Governor of that State -a brother-in-law of my informant. It was never disgraced, and bore many marks of the conflict in the shape of bullet holes. We remained on the Island, much crowded, and closely guarded, until the Wednesday orning following, when we were removed, (the officers only.) to the steamer Spaulding, in the Sound, fully ex-pecting to start immediately for New York. We were llowed to take our baggage and servants. The ten days following were the most miserable I ever passed. Confined to the damp, dark and dirty lower deck, greatly crowded, fed on hard crackers, fat pork, (which they said was cooked before leaving the North, but which seemed to us raw,) and coffee twice a day—you may imagine

our condition. On Sunday, the 16th, Gen. Burnside came aboard and announced that we could all be released

I guard placed around us. The victorious army treated

n a parole of honor, of which the following is a copy Having been taken a prisoner of war by the forces of len. A. E. Burnside, on Roanoke Island, I do solemni ledge my sacred word and bonor, that if released, will give to no one any information I may have derived nor mention anything I may have seen or heard since my capture, that might injure the Government of the United States of America., and that I will not take up arm gainst the United States of America, or aid their eneies by word or act, until I am regularly exchanged according to the usages of war, the information, to me of said exchange to be beyond the possibility of a doubt. This was about the first intimation we had of anything of the kind, and upon the assurance that the same pri-cilege should be offered to our men, we gladly accepted re proposition But it was not until the next Thursday hat they moved with us-then, steamers, bearing a he prisoners taken, started for Elizabeth City, where, n Friday, we landed, and after a very tedious process f verifying rolls, we were released. The meeting here tween officers and men was in some instances very af ecting. You may be sure that we gladly took up ne of march homeward, and bore the many hardships and privations of the journey with more cheerfulness han under other circumstances. I must say, however, hat I cannot, by any process of ratiocination, arrive at conclusion which justifies a commissary in refusing t give released prisoners anything to eat, particula

hen telegraphed to of their wants, as in the case of tha fficial at Wilmington. At Portsmouth we were furnishd with a good meal. At Weldon, Col. O. H. Dockery most kindly prepared for and entertained my company. on Tuesday morning, from which time until our arrival at Florence, (36 hours.) we had nothing to eat. At the latter place a bountiful repast was spread for us, Col. Gamble, the proprietor of the hotel, only charging us half price—to his credit be it spoken. We are all now safely at home, with one exception, and impatient the rear of our exchange. Jos. E. Liles has not been see or directly heard from since the fight, though we have he strongest reasons for believing that he was alive a he Island, though sick, when we left. He was quit unwell with the numps on the day of the battle, though he fought most bravely; and was with us when we started to retreat. He was doubtless taken prisoner, and I fully hope and believe, for various reasons, that he will soon be returned to his home and friends. May this be so—for a nobler boy, or one more beloved, never pulled trigger on an enemy. I had several men woundd, though none seriously. Our whole loss, killed and

wounded, is about 49-that of the enemy but little. iny, under 2000 killed, and I know not how many wound This information was gained in various ways, a t was most studiously kept secret by most of the off ers, but is reliable. Capt. Knight's men, and the other n the battery, fired thirty to forty rounds of "buck a oall" cartridge, and for a large portion of the time, t saw them advancing the last time upon us, the order to "fix bayonets" was given, and I never saw it obeyed herce hand to hand conflict. All those pretty storie about crying and breaking swords, are gammon. I express no opinion as to Col. Shaw, only that I think he was not the man for the place, and that I hope he did the best he knew how. I could not make this communica tion shorter and do the two N. C. Co's engaged justice Most respectfully.

hause of the late proclamation which orders the delicacy, as the matter is considered to be one of Though, in proportion to the decreased number It appears to be generally thought by members of idle soldiers about the streets, as much liquor that the suspension of the tariff, at present, would as usual was dispensed, yet the military police lose us an important element of power in our made few captures. The cause of their want of treaty stipulations, that might, too, possibly be success is obvious-the only wonder being that used as a basis for propositions for foreign sucthey made any arrests at all. In the thinned cour in the existing war. We speak advisedly condition of our streets the muskets and bayonets when we notify our readers that propositions for of the different detachments were easily distin- the succour of foreign governments are likely to guishable a mile off, and the rumor of their ap- be soon considered in a secret session of Congress. proach preceded them long enough to give the so far as those propositions can be framed to avoid nost dilatory publican time to shut up shop. The anything like humiliation, and to invoke no conlively excitement produced by the progress of the cessions other than commercial favors. military reminded one of the good old times when the town used to be thrown into a ferment by the report that the "dog-catchers were out."

We heard of but two successful descents of this police, though we hope they effected others. Hearing that Mr. and Mrs. Winkers, the host and hostess of a groggery known in police records as "Solitude," were dispensing whiskey, the police proceeded to the house. The front door and windows were closed, but a suspicious noise, like unto the rolling of whiskey barrels, was heard within. Mr. Seal, one of the Mayor's officers, who had piloted the party, went round the back way and jumping the fence, (an exercise in which practice has made him perfect) succeeded in obtaining an interview with Mrs. Winkers. After some argument he persuaded this lady to throw open her portals to the government officials.

Leaving a guard over Mrs. Winkers' spirit, the police repaired to the well-known shop of Michael Kearney, who, time immemorial, has been badgering and bothering the Mayor of this city Kearney's shop is situated on the south side of the basin, on the corner of Canal and Eleventh streets. Walking into the shop, the police found a soldier drinking at the bar. The "gentlemanly bar-keeper," Mr. Kearney, delighted at the sight of so many customers, ingenuously inquired, "What the gentlemen would take?" Kearney's shop was shut up, and himself and his military guest, who, on examination, proved to have no pass

or furlough, were carried to the Provost Marshal. This activity on the part of the authorities in attempting to crush out the monster, alcohol. meets the hearty approbation of every good citizen and patriot. But we hear it on every hand inquired, is all the vigor and vigilance of the police to be expended on the grog shops, while the palatial gambling hells, where free feed and free whiskey are daily and nightly dispensed to soldiers, and soldiers only, are allowed perfect immunity? Why close the common tap-room, on the ground-floor, where the private is murdering himself with Stearns' whiskey at fifteen cents a glass, and pass with a wink the gorgeous saloon above, filled with captains and colonels sipping suicide in the specious form and flavor of Sandy Stewart's "Mountain Dew." We have said that only soldiers were admitted to the gambling-houses. This is a fact well known to our police, and confirmed by the several last descents made on these houses. When Kelley and his squad entered Loffiand's there were twenty or thirty men in the house, all in uniform, and but one of them of as low rank as captain. If this crusade against whiskey originated, and is to be prosecuted, for the good of the army, then certainly should the gambling houses be closed .- Rich. Examiner.

rival, to our indignant regret, we saw the white flag borne by us to meet the enemy. The surrender of all The Efficient Blockade .- A large vessel, drawthe forces on the Island was made and a strong Federal Charleston harbor.

FOREIGN AND NORTHERN NEWS. NORFOLK, March 6 .- Northern papers of yesterday have been received here.

PORTLAND, ME., March 4.—The Norfolk has arrived with Liverpool dates to the 21st. The Confederate steamer Sumter was still at

Gibraltar waiting for coal. estimates of expenditures caused by the Trent affair, amounting to £973,000, was agreed to. Mr. Bright denounced the policy of the Government, away. Palmerston said that Bright's opinions on Cumberland Island, and sent forward a detach were confined to himself. The gunboats prepared ment to occupy the town of Fernandina. Most for commission under the Trent difficulty had been directed to be dismantled.

An address to the Emperor of France by the Senate had been read. The debate commenced ten days since; consequently no resistance was of on the 20th of February. The address regrets fered. If the enemy should not burn the place the suffering in France on account of the war in they are welcome to it, as they will reap but little America, and the effect on the trade and manu- benefit from its possession .- Savarnah Rep., 4th. factories, but agrees with the Emperor that the friendly relations between the two countries renders neutrality incumbent on the part of France. The defeat of the Spaniards by the Mexicans confirmed.

RICHMOND, March 7.-Late English papers eport a more favorable aspect of affairs towards the South at the opening of Parliament than at first announced through Northern channels. Nearly all representative men express favorable views towards the Confederate States, and the reverse towards the Northern Government.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 21.—The sales of cotton for days reached 41,000 bales, of which 20,000 bales were taken by speculators and exporters. The market closed firm at a slight advance. The following are the quotations: Fair Orleans 141d; Middling Orleans 13; Fair Mobile, 131. No other quotations given. The stock of cotton in Liverpool is 479,000 bales, of which 178,000 are

NEW YORK, March 5 .- The Herald of this norning says that the late foreign news states manding General to direct the movements of the that Ear: Russell expresses himself satisfied about war before the President decides on the re-organ the sinking of the stone fleet in the Charleston ization of his Cabinet. With reference to the

The Herald's Paris correspondent says that the may say that it is reported in well-informed quar-Emperor Napoleon is the enemy of the Union ters that nominations have already been sent in to cause, and will show it after he humbles England

occupied Martinsburg on yesterday, without op-position. Andy Johnson has been formally apointed military Governor of Tennessee.

From Europe. - A gentleman in this city has received per the Contederate steamer Nashville, from a friend in London, an interesting letter, from which we have been kindly permitted to make the following extract.

"The Trent affair has retarded rather than astened the raising of the blockade of our ports. The measure, I have the best of reasons for beieving, was agreed upon some weeks ago between England and France-the former power to take the initiative. The settlement of the Trent difficulty on terms so disgraceful to the Lincoln government, renders it somewhat indelicate for her pointment, for Gen. Price has shown himself in view of such a triumph now to do so. I am daring and capable officer .- Dispatch. certain, however, that it will occur soon. All Europe will be united upon the subject."

We are not authorized to use names, but we feel at liberty to say, that the above comes from high authority, and from one as likely to be posted shots tell, and every discharge of our artillery opened a perfect lane through the Yankee ranks. When we realm .- Petersburg Express.

> Important Propositions-Foreign Succour. The question of the suspension of the tariff has also lately received large numbers of recruits. not yet been touched in the permanent Congress, and is not likely to be touched, unless in a connection that may somewhat surprise the public.

We learn that there is almost a unanimous disposition in Congress to extend propositions to Martial Law and the Grog Shops .- Till a late toreign governments for succour, these propohour Monday night, and all day yesterday, files sitions to be grants of peculiar commercial priviof soldiers, with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets, leges, and terms of years of free trade; but that paraded the streets in search of violators of the this disposition has been checked by motives of

osing of all places where ardent spirits are sold. treaty stipulations, and to belong to the Executive.

Richmond Examiner

Run the Blockade-Arms for the Southern ionfederacy.-Within one week, two steamers aden with munitions of war, coffee, merchandise &c., entered Confederate ports in the vicinity of New Orleans, and four more have passed out.

The steamers which ran in were the "Victoria' and the "Miramon," both from Havana-both neffectually pursued by the blockaders-each of which brought 25,000 pounds of powder and a number of rifles.

The trip of the Victoria was a very eventful ne, as she encountered a severe Norther which almost foundered her, damaging her machinery so badly that her final escape seemed almost providential. Escaping this danger, she ran in the track of some Federal cruisers but she managed to elude them. She sailed on the 7th of Feb'y. and on the night of the 12th approached her des tination, which was Fort Livingston below New Orleans. The water being very shoal, and the wo or three miles distant from the fort. Here she remained until next morning at eight o'clock, when a Yankee armed vessel bore down rapidly upon her, until about one mile distant, where she stuck, and commenced firing shot and shell at the Victoria, firing in all 283 shots from rifled guns, at that short range, only three of which struck. One shell penetrated a bag of coffee, above the owder stowed in the hold, to within two inches

the kegs, but did not burst. At 51 P. M. the enemy's boat suddenly retired. but returned at daylight with two others of lighter draught; but during the night, by the use of lighters, the Victoria was taken in with her cargo under the guns of the fort.

The Miramon was also chased but not fired ipon, escaping in the fog from her pursuer. We derive this information from Edwin De Leon, Esq., former editor of the "Southern Press," who came as bearer of dispatches from Europe. Rich. Enquirer.

A Noble Heart .- It is related that the followng anonymous note, written in a delicate hand, was found tacked upon the bosom of a garment furnished by the Georgia Relief and Hospital Association,) used in shrouding a young soldier who died recently, at the Georgia Hospital, in this city:

"Poor Confederate soldier, whether sick or wounded, when you wear this garment, remember there is one who lives and prays for you for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. I wish I knew you, but that is denied me; but I hope you may be preserved from all harm, and saved in Heaven. If it shall shroud the dead, may it be one who is robed in the beautiful garments of salvation. ing 16 feet of water, recently passed out of There, I shall hope to meet you, where we shall walk the golden streets above."-Rich. Whig.

WAR NEWS.

Gen. Price reported to have whipped the Yan. kees - MEMPHIS, March 6 .- The Captain of the steamer Vicksburg reached here this evening from New Madrid. He states that scouts had brought in the St. Louis Republican, which says that Gen. Price had a fight with the enemy and In the House of Commons the supplementary whipped them. He killed 1900, took many prisoners, and put them to flight, and is now in full pursuit of them towards St. Louis.

Fernandina Occupied .- A dispatch received here yesterday states that the enemy, had landed of the citizens abandoned the place some weeks ago, and the military was withdrawn from Ame lia Island (on which Fernandina is situated) about

The Evacuation of Co'umbus .- The evacuation of Columbus, Ky., is officially announced in the Northern papers, and the report says the Confederates are falling back. Several fires were visible in town, indicating the destruction of military stores and equipments, if not the town itself. The Federal troops were expected to occupy it immediately.

The Memphis Appeal of the 4th inst. confirms this. The place was evacuated on the 1st inst and the troops and guns moved to Island N_0 , 10 and other points below. The Appeal says that the new position is considered by Gen. Beautre gard as much more impregnable than Columbus inasmuch as a flank movement cannot be made against it with such facility. We look on Memphis and the Mississippi valley as safer to-day than they were two weeks ago.

The Office of Commanding General .- We learn that there has been some hesitation in Congress to pass the bill creating the office of Comdelay in the re-construction of the Cabinet, we the Senate, and that that of Mr. Mallory as Secretary of the Navy has, by a large vote, been re-WASHINGTON, March 4.—Gen. Banks's forces jected.—Rich. Examiner. The Examiner of the 7th says:-

The report, which we mentioned as a popular rumor yesterday, of the rejection of Mr. Mallory's nomination by the Senate, is incorrect, as we understand positively that President Davis has not as yet sent in any Cabinet nomination

Gen. Lee was expected to arrive in Richmond yesterday, having been summoned here, it is understood, by President Davis. He is named for the office of Commanding General, should the appointment be committed to the Executive.

General Price. - RICHMOND, Feb. 7 .- We are

nformed that Sterling Price has been promoted to a Major-General, and will be assigned to duty in Missouri. This is unquestionably a good ap-

Guilford in Motion .- Volunteering is still geing on quite briskly. The following gentlemen are forming volunteer companies for the war, with fair prospects of early success, viz:

Chas. E. Shober; Lt. James T. Morehead, Jr. Lt. Watlington; Dr. A. P. McDaniel; David Scott, Jr., (who was in the Bethel fight;) and perhaps. others. The old companies from Guilford have From present indications, Guilford will do her part in achieving the Independence of the Southern Confederacy .- Greensboro' Patriot.

Rockingham .- We are pleased to learn that a new impetus has been given to the patriotic citizens of Rockingham, by the late reverses to our arms, and that the whole county is aroused to en thusiasm in support of the war.

Samuel H. Boyd, Esq., has succeeded in rais ing a company of more than 100 as fine men as could be called into service. Col. John H. Dill lard has a company far advanced to completion Dr. James Courts and Dr. John W. May, and each also engaged in raising companies for the war, with fair prospects of success. - 16.

The Right Spirit .- We learn that the companies that volunteered to guard the prisoners here, are now volunteering almost to a man for the war. In this they have acted nobly, and shows our people that it was not cowardice that prompted them to offer themselves as guard, but that they are brave men, and are willing to tender their services in whatever capacity they may be needed in this struggle for their country and their homes .- Salisbury Banner.

The "Silver Grays" in the field .- An old citizen of Rutherford county, N. C., writes enthusiastically of the uprising of the people of that State since they heard of the disaster at Roanoke Island. He says: "I was at Burnt Chimneys. which had previously furnished over 200 volun teers, and it was a sight to see the Silver Grays coming up to answer to their names. I have son in the army, not yet fifteen years of age. am fifty-seven, and carry lead in my person, shot there by a savage; but I will be with Jeff. Davis in six troubles, and in the seventh will die before forsake him."

Good effect .- The Macon Telegraph states that immediately upon the reception of the news of the fall of Fort Donelson, an artillery company of 140 men was made up in Sumter county, Georto boat heavily laden, she struck on the bar, about gia. In Dougherty county forty-five came for-

Attempt to raise a Union Flag in East Ten nessee.—We have been informed that an attempt was made last week, by some Union men, to raise a Union flag in Jonesborough, Tenn., which led to a row between the Secessionists and Unionists resulting in the killing of three of the latter.

Parson Brownlow .- We learn through a gentleman just from Knoxville, Tenn., that Parson Brownlow is still lying very ill at his home, and is not expected to recover. His house is guarded constantly by a detachment of soldiers.

Lynchburg Virginian M. E. Conference Postponed .- The Southern Christian Advocate has a letter from Bishop An drew, postponing the meeting of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which was to have taken place at New Orleans on the first of April. The time and place

will be fixed on by a future meeting of Bishops. Closing the Distilleries .- Gov. Brown, of Georgia, has issued a proclamation ordering each distiller in that State to desist absolutely from the manufacture of ardent spirits after the 15th day of March, 1862. The Superintendent of the State Road is forbidden to transport any whiskey over that Road, and other railroad Superinten dents are requested to do likewise. In case of distillers refusing to obey this order, their stills are to be seized and sent to Rome. Ga., to be manufactured into cannon; and all liquor brought near military encampments is to be emptied upon

the ground. The shelling of Bowling Green by the Federals resulted in the killing of five persons-two ladies, a child and two negro men.