FROM THE RALEIGH STANDARD.

After the most careful effort to obtain particulars which can be relied on, we find that much yet remains unknown. What we state as true, comes from undoubted sources; rumors cannot be relied on.

As early as Tuesday afternoon, the 11th inst., it is said ten or twelve vessels of the enemy were reported in the river fifteen miles below Newbern. On Wednesday the number was increased to fifty, some say seventy-five. On Wednesday evening or Thursday morning it is reported that the Yankees ascended Slocumb's Creek, burnt Dr. Mas. ter's fine nfill, and destroyed the railroad at Croatan and the military preparations which had been made; -a point nearly midway between Newbern and Carolina City. Here, we believe, Capt. Evans' cavalry had been stationed as a picket, who were driven off by superior force, two of his men said to have been wounded by the shells. The enemy effected a landing on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning of some 15 or 20,000 troops. either on Slocumb's or Otter creek, but we are inclined to think it was on the former. Previous to landing, the whole region was thoroughly shelled below our batteries, forcing Col. Sinclair with his regiment, sent to prevent a landing, to retire to the entrenchments within four or five miles of Newbern. The shelling was kept up all day Thursday below the batteries. We have no in formation that any of the batteries except Fort Thompson fired a shot, as no vessel came in range until Friday, when all of them below Fort Thompson had been out-flanked and rendered powerless by the enemy in the rear. Thus showing the miserable and ruinous engineering as well as bad generalship, with which Eastern North Carolina has been literally crushed. The breastworks, where it was intended to give

the enemy battle, extended from Fort Thompson westward some two or three miles across the railroad, to an impassable swamp. Fort Thompson had several heavy guns covering its rear and commanding the entrenchments on the side the enemy was to approach—the fort and entrenchments being four or five miles below Newbern. To defend the entrenchments Gen. Branch had Cols. Sloan's, Lee's, Campbell's, Sinclair's and the Craven (militia) regiments, besides others from Wayne, Le noir and Johnston, east of the railroad, and Cols. Vance's and Avery's on the west, Col. Avery being in the rear of Col. Vance; though one account is that Col. Avery had been assigned the position at the railroad, that being really the post of honor and of most imminent danger. Besides these, Col. Spruill's cavalry were stationed in the rear. except that the companies of Capts. Hayes and Cole, we learn, had been dismounted and placed in the trenches to aid the infantry. The artillery companies of Capts. Brem and Latham were assigned positions at some points on the line, of which we are not advised. But strange to say, the break in the line of entrenchments at the railroad was entirely unprotected either by artillery or infantry. We learn that Col. Thompson, the engineer, commenced on Thursday morning to place cannon at that point, but did not succeed in getting them in position; hence, at the railroad there was no impediment whatever to the enemy.

One of our informants was ordered to the field

on Thursday, being a member of the Craven regiment of the militia. His regiment, strange t say, the militia, was placed nearest the railroad, being however, no nearer than two or three hundred yards. This was really the most exposed and dangerous part of the ground. Col. Vance occupied a position west of the railroad near the swamp, but too far from the railroad to afford it any protection, or to watch the advance of the enemy through the break. The gentleman above alluded to states, that during the day on Thursday he heard that some ten of our pickets below had been driven in or taken. What arrangements were made for scouts or picket duty in the neighborhood of the enemy on Thursday night, he did not know or hear. The troops, however, went to sleep that night not supposing that the miles of them. Next morning he arose early, and with a friend, a Colonel of one of our regiments, went to a spring to wash. While washing they heard the discharge of musketry-they immediately ran to their positions, the Colonel to his command, and our friend to his position on the right of the militia regiment, being one of the nearest to the railroad. They ascertained that in their absence the line had been formed and the order was given for the men to discharge their pieces and load. Whether any one, officer or private, knew that the enemy was at that very time within 500 yeards of our entrenchments, is not known. Another account is, that at 7 o'clock, three of the enemy's officers rode up within 2 or 300 yards of our lines, and calmly surveyed our entrenchments, and immediately disappeared. In a few moments after their disappearance, and the discharge of our musketry, the enemy's artillery opened upon our lines, and at once the engagement began on both sides along the line.

Our informant says that soon after taking his position, casting his eye over his right shoulder, he saw a large number of armed men creeping in quick time by the railroad into our trenches. He directed the attention of his commander to it, who remarked that he thought it must be Col. Avery's men, who had been assigned that position. But almost immediately the bullets came whistling over their heads, and he discovered the "stars and stripes" rolled up, when the militia was ordered to fire. They continued to load and fire, and in a short time he discovered the militia falling back. Whether they were ordered to do so or not, he does not know, as he heard no order of any kind from an officer-no one to rally or encourage the men. The Athens Guards, of which he was a member, seemed disposed to stand firmly, and he thinks if the men could have heard a rallying cry from any quarter they would have stood. His company with a few others were the last of the militia to fall back from the entrenchments, and soon he heard the voice of Col. Sinclair ordering his men to follow him. He called to the Colonel, asking what was then to be done? The Colonel replied that the enemy had out-flanked us, and he had been ordered to retreat. It was about 10 o'clock, when our informant with others of his company arrived at the railroad cars, which seemed to have been kept there to convey the wounded or the retreating to Newbern. Most of the militia were there, and Col. Sinclair's regiment, and Gen. Branch and his staff. He heard something said about making a stand at the Cross Roads, but the excitement becoming more and more intense, the cars | tery from communication with the entrenchments started taking all who could crowd on, and pushed for Newbern. The fight was at that time going on fiercely between Col. Campbell's, Col. Vance's, Col. Avery's and Col. Lee's regiments, and the enemy. It is said that Col. Campbell ordered a charge which was handsomely executed, sheep. The rear guns of Fort Thompson were used upon the enemy. Capts. Brem's and La- ed two 32 pounders. These, together with the tham's companies it is said fought well, many of light artillery, did good service. their horses being killed and several of their men men, and of some of the officers.

an early stage Col. Vance was surrounded by th enemy. At this juncture, we are told, his voice am with you for victory or death." Col. Avery heroically rushed to his assistance, when both regiments became fiercely engaged with the enemy. The struggle must have been a severe one, but we are assured that both of those regiments and Col. Campbell's cut through the surrounding hosts, and have made good their retreat to Kinston. The loss of those two regiments we fear is severe, vet the statements are so contradictory, we are We are not able to give a satisfactory account. grieved to record the reported death of Colonel Avery, Lieut. Col. Hoke and Maj. Carmichael. It is reported also that Capt. Rand's company from this County, in Col. Vance's regiment, suffered severely—there are several reported deaths n that company-but we are still in hope all these statements are but rumors. If it be true that Col. Avery, Lt. Col. Hoke, and Maj. Carmichael are among the slain, the State and country suffer a great loss. They were brave spirits nd valuable officers.

We learn that Col. Lee's, Col. Sloan's, Col. Sinclair's regiments and the militia made good heir retreat from the field, across the Railroad bridge to Newbern. The hour of Gen. Branch's arrival with his staff at Newbern we have not learned, but we understand he ordered the burning of the turpentine, cotton, the gunboats buildig, the Railroad bridge and a portion of the town. Campbell's, Vance's, and Avery's regiments, we learn, were cut off from Newbern by by the enemy. the burning of the bridge, and they were comcelled to retreat up the south side of Trent. We state these things as we have heard them.

One of the most unaccountable things in the whole matter, is the failure on the part of the Commanding General to notify the defenceless inhabitants of Newbern to leave on Tuesday evenng when the Yankee vessels first appeared. But illed to rest as many of them were, no warning was given until Friday morning when the retreating troops rushed through the town without stoping to warn them of approaching danger. Hunney could get off, carrying their helpless children

The Yankees did not attempt to pass a fort intil they found our forces had been routed. About midday, or perhaps as late as one o'clock, they came up without hindrance. After all the alk and gammon about sawyers and obstructions n the river below Newbern, and of forts, and orpedoes, &c., that would blow the Yankees up, fter the reut of our little army they came right ong, just in the track which had strangely been open for our own vessels, without encountering single obstruction. At once they commenced shelling the town. What damage was done by that we have not learned. It is also charged that they shelled the cars with women and children them. We understand the square on which stood the old Washington Hotel, near the Court House, was all consumed, except the mansion of the late John Stanly, then occupied by Mr. Harrison. This we learn was done by citizens or the nilitary by order of Gen. Branch. The enemy, it is said, after taking possession, arrested the pro gress of the fire in the town, and also prevented

the entire destruction of the Railroad bridge. Col. Sinclair, it is said, determined to make a stand this side of Newbern, but the general current of the Military forces pressed on out of harm's way and did not stop until they reached Kinston, 30 miles above Newbern, on the river. There, it is said, Gen. Branch has determined to make a stand. but it is hoped a superior military eye will be placed there, to convince him of the utterly Utoian character of such a scheme, unless the river s effectually blockaded below and the Railroad bridges destroyed. In that case the enemy cannot harm him, or he the enemy, except at long taw.

The disaster is a most sad one. We have look-I for it, with the certainty of an already demon strated truth, and shall always expect such results just so long as the government places the defence of this State in the hands of political gamesters or military superannuates or nincompoops, who cannot or will not do their duty. That line old town Newbern, once the pride of the State, is gone! Fort Macon, Beaufort, Morehead and Carolina Cities are perfectly at the command of the enemy, while the Wilmington and Weldon Road is within his grasp and the way to Raleigh open to him. Our losses or that of the enemy are not known. It is believed that we have not lost more than 300 men in killed, wounded and missing. Our tents, artillery, equipage, many of our cavalry horses, and commissary stores, we suppose were deserted, and are now in possession of the enemy. We learn that portions of all the regiments had reported at Kinston. The government was sending reinforcements rapidly to ben. Branch, supposing that he could at least hold out a day or two; but the job was over in two hours, so far as the defence was concerned, and the Commanding General and staff were looking for safer quarters. How much damage we have lone the enemy, we have had no means of knowing. The belief is, that a number were killed and wounded, and one prisoner taken who claims

to be an officer. P. S. We learn that Col. Vance, with about five hundred of his men, is at Kinston. Capt. Oscar Rand, of this county, it is said, was killed while fighting nobly at the head of his company. He killed two of the enemy after he had been shot down. Some thirty or forty of his men are missing-among them Fabius and Hamilton Whitaker, and Silas Holleman; but as the men are still coming in, we hope they are allve.

We have heard nothing as to the other companies of this regiment, and nothing as to Campbell's and Avery's regiments, except that Col Haywood and Lieut Haywood are said to be safe. and that Col. Avery is missing and thought to be killed. It may be, however, that he is wounded and a prisoner, but one report is that he had died of his wounds. We are glad to learn that Lt. Col. Hoke is not among the killed. Our loss in killed, wounded and prisoners is

aid to be three or four hundred.

From the Norfolk Day Book.

Col. W. F. Martin who reached this city yesterday afternoon, reports having had a conversation with Hon. Mr. Dortch, in Goldsboro' yesterday, in which the following account was given:

The enemy landed about 22,000 men below Newbern, and by this means cut off the lower batand making the abandonment of this battery a military necessity. They shortly after began their attack upon the second battery, which was also abandoned, and then advanced upon the shore battery, which was situated at the head of the entrenchment. Here our forces made a stand and by which he drove the enemy before him like the fight began. This battery was arranged so as to fire both upon the land and river, and contain-

By some means—that of treachery beyond being killed and wounded. Col. Sloan we be- doubt-the enemy were informed of the exact lieve was absent from his regiment, and being in locality occupied by our militia-about seven hun- appears that after the surrender, he, with other the rear of the entrenchments, is not supposed to dred in number-and upon this point they made have been in the hottest of the fight, though we their fiercest attack. The militia stood their cach chopper being guarded by an armed Hessian; have heard allusions made to the gallantry of his ground pretty well for awhile—indeed as well as but happening to think of his old father and mocould be expected of militia-but finally gave way, ther at home, Mississippi put his axe into the ments exhibited great gallantry and courage. At latter, however, finally rallied again.

The enemy did not use their gunboats at all against the batteries for some reason, but simply was heard above the roar, "Stand firm, my men-I followed up as they were silenced. Obstructions had been placed in the river to prevent their prodiscovering his position, it is said, gallantly and gress-leaving only a very narrow channel for rectly up in the channel which had been left open movements of the enemy. -thus giving the amplest evidence that they had been informed of what had been done by us. It is supposed that they obtained this information from a couple of negroes who escaped to them the are now about to face the enemy. You shall have

day before the fight. execution with the two 32-pounders, while Col. Campbell's 7th North Carolina regiment made a rilliant charge. The enemy could not stand the charge, but broke and fell back, but afterwards allied and were reinforced by numbers greatly superior to our own, and Col. Campbell was driven back into the entrenchments.

The fight continued for some time. Finally the Federals possessed themselves of the point tailed to cover the retreat. At first the retreat was made in good order, but a panic occurring among the cavalry, the regiments became somewhat disorganized. The cavalry having passed over the bridge, burned it, and thus cut off the retreat of two regiments and forced them to retreat into Jones county. This, we presume, gave rise to the statement that they had been captured

After the gunboats had passed the batteries and the obstruction in the river, they lay along ide the wharves and threw shell into the town. These shells were directed at the cars filled with non-combatants-women and children-not a soldier among them, and this fact, it is stated by those who ought to know, the Federals were not ignorant of.

Our forces numbered about 4200, including the nilitia, and were commanded by Gen. Branch. Of this number some eighty were killed and one or two hundred wounded. The number of prireds of defenceless, respectable females were left soners taken is not known as yet, but is certainly there, while others too fearful of the consequences not very large. All the horses were killed at f remaining, started on foot or by any means two batteries of light artillery, and all the gunners. The wounded were all recovered, and have been removed to Goldsboro', where they are represented as being well cared for.

Our informant assures us that all the cotton. naval stores and provisions at Newbern were fired before the place was evacuated, and their entire destruction is almost known with certainty. Mr. Dortch conversed with a couple of citizens

f Newbern who left there after Burnside had represent their loss as exceedingly great-one them estimating it at over six thousand. A ederal officer who was captured by Col. Campell's regiment corroborates the statement of heavy the militia they were whipped.

attery fired but twice, the enemy being then out f range. He also says,-

Col. Z. B. Vance's and Col. Avery's regiments re said to have fought with great bravery, taking battery of six pieces at the point of the bayonet, out it was afterwards regained by the Yankees, who had been much strengthened by heavy rein-

nd nearly all his men killed by the enemy's

harp-shooters. Capt. L. escaped. Capt. Brems's battery of six guns was also est, and about 60 horses.

got possession of the county, they called upon of him the county's quota of revenue for the dessicable Pierpont Government. The Sheriff inormed them that he had paid in the revenue of the county to the State of Virginia, at Richmond, when he was told that his own and the property of his securities should be sold to raise the amount.

In Charlestown, they had destroyed the printng material in the offices of the Virginia Free ress and Independent Democrat, and are using the material of the Spirit of Jefferson in publishing a paper. They have arrested a number of the citizens of the county, and have sent some of them to Fort Warren.—Richm'd Dispatch.

From Loudoun county we learn that the enenny have arrested a considerable number of our itizens in that quarter. Among them was John Janney, Esq., the President of the Virginia Convention. Mr. Janney's health is very delicate, and he was also confined to his home by the illness of his wife. We are informed that he was visited by some officers of the detested crew who have invaded our State, and requested to provide food and other accommodations for them. They told him that they called on him with the greater bleasure because they knew him by fame as a good Union man. Mr. Janney replied that he had no lot or part in their Union; that he with is State belonged to another; that he had nothng for them; no aid or comfort in any way; that ne knew he was in their power, and that they could exercise their pleasure upon him. The secondrels carried off the venerable and distinuished man as a prisoner.

One account says that after confining him for a while in the Leesburg jail, they discharged him. How long will the vengeance of Heaven still slumber? - Rich'd Examiner, 18th.

Federal vessels in Hampton Roads. - NORFOLK, March 17 .- Seven Federal sailing ships and tour teamers are in the Roads below Fortress Monroe. They do not venture to approach Newport News. A French war steamer is above Fortress Monroe.

Anxious to "Trade."-A recent number of the Augusta Field and Fireside has the following amusing paragraph:

About 500 prisoners left New Orleans last week, on their way to Fortress Monroe to be exchanged. They passed through Augusta on Thursday morning, creating considerable excitement. We heard several incidents which transpired, in their free intercourse with visiters at he depot, some of which were highly illustrawares "merely as a means of getting a little pockdon't be insulting people by offering your Yan- first fellow. kee wares in this country. We have quit that sort of trade."

A young Mississippian, who was taken prisoner at Fort Donelson, has arrived in Memphis. It prisoners, was detailed to chop wood for the camp, Cols. Campbell's, Vance's, and Avery's regi- which had its effect upon the volunteers. The Hessian's head instead of into a log, and traveled. He goes into the service again.

OUR LATE NAVAL VICTORY.

It is seldom that we have a fuller and more intelligent account of any engagement of arms from an eye-witness than we have obtained from Mr. George Wright, the chief pilot of the Virginia our own vessels to pass-and it was thought that or Merrimac, who, throughout the late naval batthey would come in contact with them; but to the tle, was at a post not only of imminent danger, surprise of all they avoided them and came di- but of the most convenient observation of all the

When going into action and passing Sewell's Point Captain Buchanan made a speech to the men. It was laconic. He said: "My men you no reason to complain of not fighting at close quar-Our men having rallied, were doing terrible ters. Remember you fight for your homes and your country. You see those ships—you must sink them. I need not ask you to do it. I know you will do it."

At this time the Congress was lying close t the batteries at Newport News, a little below them. The Cumberland was lying immediately opposit the batteries. The Virginia passed the Congress giving her a broadside, which was returned with very little effect, and made straight for the Cumoccupied by our militia, and then the order was berland. On getting within some twenty-five or given for our men to retreat, and the cavalry dethirty yards of the Yankee frigate, the Virginia discharged her rifled bow gun, throwing a shot News, have held back his invading masses, and of one hundred and sixty pounds into her, just above her water line. Continuing her speed she ran into the Cumberland, striking her a little forward of her foremast; backed out and in fifteen minutes thereafter this Yankee vessel, against who, by a vigorous movement upon the capture whom an old grudge had long existed for her participation in the burning of the Navy-Yard, sunk beneath the water, her guns being fought to the last, and her flag flying at her peak.

Having dispatched the Cumberland, the Vin inia turned and made for the Congress, which had got aground. Running within fifty yards of her, the Virginia discharged her rifled bow gun at her, and turning again brought her starboard broadside to bear upon the doomed vessel. At this moment the Congress struck her flag and hoisted a flag of truce. The steamer Beaufort was moderation and self balance of his character, and ordered alongside the vessel to take charge of the prisoners and to set her afire; and while the flag truce was flying the party were perfidiously fired upon from the batteries on shore and Minic rifles in the hands of the Yankees on the beach. with the disastrous results which have already been stated. The Congress was set afire by throw ing two or three red hot shot into her. The illunination of the scene was splendid; the explosion ther magazine, a little past midnight, aroused kept cool and collected during the entire fight, ave vent to hearty cheers.

On the next day (Sunday) the contest occurred etween the Monitor (the Eriesson battery) and taken possession, who stated that the Yankees the Virginia. The Yankee frigates, the Roanoke and St. Lawrence, had retreated to Old Point-"the apothecary shop," as it was facetiously styled by our men-and the Monitor had gone up on Saturday night to assist the Minnesota, which was oss on their side, and that our battery did terrible still aground. The engagement between the Monirayor, and that up to the time of the retreat of tor and Virginia continued for the space of two hours, the distance between the two vessels vary-Mr. Charles O. White, who says he command- ing from half a mile to sale and sale. In about d a battery within a mile of Newbern, has arrived an hour after the commencement of the engage in Petersburg and informs the Express that his ment, we silenced her battery for the space of thirty-five minutes, after which she fired two guns, and made for Old Point.

The Virginia is in the dry dock for repairs. Her iron plates are said to have withstood, with the most complete success, the effects of the terrific cannonading of the enemy, some of the sections only being riven. Her smoke stack and ventilators were riddled by the enemy's balls, so Capt. Latham's battery of six guns was lost, as to give them the appearance, as our informant describes them, of huge nutmeg graters.

Richmond Examiner, 17th

Scene in a "German Hell," or Gambling Palneaning of a "picker up of stragglers," in gam- It may not be possible to prevent it. We would Jefferson county the enemy are ruling with an blers' slang? I shall tell you. The "picker up therefore suggest to the people of the surroundiron rod. It is stated that a few days after they of stragglers" examines attentively all players. ing counties to be constantly prepared to arrest When a gold coin is forgotten by a gambler, and any whom they have reason to believe is an esdoubled several times by the bank, the "picker caped prisoner. Keep your guns ready, and up of stragglers" marries the mass and takes it, compel every suspicious traveler to give good acf trent et un which imprisons the masses. The trate - Salisbury Watchman. nexperienced player, seeing the croupier's rake change the position of the coins, thinks he has ost, and he leaves the table. "Stragglers" are found too, where those who play upon several chances inadvertently forget one side. You know now what "picker up of stragglers" means, and I can tell you my story: a Russian, who was playing large sums, held in his hand several bank notes for a thousand francs each, folded four times and very much flattened. One of these notes fell on the floor: the Russian did not observe it; but a "picker up of stragglers," who was nodestly staking five francs by the side of his pulent neighbor, saw it, and followed it with is eyes until it fell on the floor. How could he get possession of it? It would be imprudent to pick it up; he might be observed and denounced to the owner of the winged bank note. So he took it into his head to spit upon it, and to press his foot hard upon it, so as to fasten the bank note to the sole of his boot-a not very poetical operation, but an operation which was well coneived and adroitly executed. Unfortunately his novements were seen and watched- by a brotherin-trade. It was in vain he kept on his feet, and naintained his right foot on the floor as if it were lued to the spot, he was at last obliged, in order pick up the two five franc pieces he had on the able, to bend his body forward and raise his foot. The second "picker up of stragglers," adroit and rapid as a cat who watches a mouse, took rapid change of position to gather this bank note on his

This is not the end of the adventure. The first of the two thieves began to think of quitting his stand to place his booty (literally boot-y) in security. He took every sort of precaution. He moved off, dragging his foot on the floor after him, like a wounded partridge which trails the wing and he kept his hand on his knee, as if he was suffering a sudden pain. It took him ten friend in this city yesterday morning. Bishop minutes to move ten paces. But, after this short Meade was the son of a zealous and not undistin and painful walk, he reached a neighboring sofa guished patriot of the Revolution, Richard Kidwith the delight of the shipwrecked mariner who at last enters safe harbor. You should have seen his face, when, pretending to arrange his boot in Clarke) county, Va., Nov. 11th, 1780; graduated manner easier to his foot, he felt under his sole for the treasure trove! The effort he made to later was ordained to the ministry of the Protessuppress a scream of agony must have torn his breast. The adventure did not end here either. You have seen children play dick, duck and drake tive of the characteristics of the northern and on a pond; the stone slides and bounds several outhern people. They had tooth-picks, bone times before it finally disappears. The same rings, and various little nick-nacks, which they thing occurred here. A third rogue saw the had "contrived" during their confinement, and note at its second ricochet; he went up to the sewhich they offered for sale. One gentleman-to | cond rogue, and said: "Two hundred francs, or I whom a sleek Puritan was recommending his denounce you!" The second rogue quickly said: -"Agreed, but not another word," and paid him et change"—handed the fellow five dollars and the desired money. The third rogue pocketed it, said: "Take that, and buy what you want; but saying: "Fear nothing, I'll be as silent as the

Whiskey and Politics .- One of the persons who brought to this place the news of the fall of Newbern, after reciting all the circumstances as seen by himself and obtained from other eye witnesses, concluded with this remark: "And gentleso long as whiskey and politics control our army interests.

have been the cause of nearly all our disasters. Salisbury Watchman.

The appointment of Gen. Lee Commander-in-Chief is one which we hail with great satisfaction. the following account of the evacuation of Win-In the old army he was justly regarded as second only to Gen. Scott, and we believe that was the the enemy: opinion of the Lieutenant-General himself. As an engineer officer, he has confessedly no superior, and in every respect, we are inclined to think, is the best selection that could have been made. everything indicated an advance movement on The same objection that was made to Gen. Washington has been alleged against Gen. Lee-too much caution; but it proved an advantage in the by's cavalry and a strong body of the enemy's first Revolution, and may be equally so in the second. The most cautious General in the Federal ranks is Buell, and he has been the most successful. Gen. Lee is a man of great modesty of character, but extraordinary energy, courage, and self-possession. In the early organization of our defences in Virginia, he scarcely gave sleep to his eyes; yet so noiselessly and unostentatiously were his duties discharged, that no one knew, except by their results, what had been accomplished. The public never saw Gen. Lee, but they saw the fact that lines of defences arose round their frontiers which, up to the present moment, have confined the enemy to Alexandria and Newport made his stereotyped cry of "On to Richmond" the laughing stock of the world. Subsequently ordered to South Carolina, which was then menaced by the enemy, under Sherman and Dupont, back. of Port Royal, might easily have captured Char- Jackson's entire command was summoned from leston, he has left that country in such a state of defence that Charleston is considered almost impregnable, and even Savannah, which had become to make a stout and in all probability a successful, resistance to the foe. In addition to the fortifications, a large army has been organized and diseiplined, and stationed at such points as are neessary for the efficient defence of the State. The whole military career of this officer, the signal the purity, disinterestedness and dignity of his life, should ensure to Gen. Lee the entire con-

idence of the Army and the people of the South. That the command-in-chief of the whole army is now placed in the hands of a military lead-tired in the direction of Strasburg, bivouacking er, is of itself a subject of profound congratulation. on Tuesday night about four wiles from Winches The federal Government, from the beginning, has ter. On Wednesday morning, about 8 o'clock, had but one military head, and he of course an about 8,000 of the enemy marched into the town educated soldier. We rejoice that the South is about to adopt the same common-sense course, a cool reception. persons asleep in Norfolk; and our men, who had and to have at the head of all her military operations one man, and he a man trained in camp and accustomed from his youth up to the science and practice of war .- Rich'd Dispatch

Escaped,-Several of the Yankee prisoners attempted to escape from the prison in this place some days ago. Three of them were immediately arrested, while only two got away. These, by some means, were not missed for several days But on Wednesday last they were brought back Having nearly exhausted themselves in wandering about through the woods and fields to escape notice, they finally called at a Farm house in Iredell county, near 'ool Spring, and surrendered. The people of that neighborhood had, however, ound out that suspicious persons were among them, and had formed companies to scour the country; so that the men probably acted very wisely in giving themselves up as soon as they did. There are still three others out.

And just here let us put the public on guard in relation to the yankee prisoners. There are now about 1,500 at this place. They are all occupying one or more buildings, in a fifteen acre ot, enclosed with a board fence 10 feet high. The guard, also within the enclosure, may be strong enough to restrain so large a number of discontented, restless men; but there have been, ce .- * * * Do you know what is the and probably will be again, more or less escaping. Stragglers" are usually formed after a a refuit count of himself or march before you to a magis-

> Serious Railroad Accident.-We understand that a terrible accident occurred on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, last Saturday morning. Two trains collided on a piece of tressel work, near a place known as Joyner's Crossing, and the smash was terrific, the locomotives becoming so ville. interlocked as to render it almost impracticable to separate them without destroying much of their most valuable parts.

The train from Goldsboro' was one hour and a half behind time, and that from Weldon was running ten minutes ahead of time. The former train was one of unusual length, and the latter onsisted of six or seven coaches.

Fortunately, no lives were lost, but the escapof the passengers is viewed as miraculous by those present. The engineer of the Jeff. Davis was padly hurt, and several others sustained injuries. but not of a serious nature. The Express, baggage and mail cars shared in the general smash but the coaches escaped without injury. Petersburg Express.

Catawba Braves .- Capt. A. T. Bost has just ompleted the organization of the 7th Company n the patriotic little County of Catawba. has 100 men. His officers are, Alexander Routh, 1st Lieut.; James M. Hoover, 2d Lieut.; and M.

N. Smyer, 3d Lieutenant. His company will pass through this place in a few days on their way o Raleigh .- Salisbury Watchman.

Another Edgecombs Company .- Capt. Vines's company passed through this town on Monday last on their way to Raleigh .- Tar. Southerner

Death of Rt. Rev. Wm. Meade, D. D .- The State and the country will be grieved to know that the venerable and beloved Bishop Meade is no more. He breathed his last at the house of a der Meade, the friend and confidential aid of Washington. He was born in Frederick (now at Princeton College in 1808, and three years tant Episcopal Church by Bishop Madison of Virginia. In 1829 he was unanimously elected assistant Bishop of Virginia; and in 1841, upon the death of Bishop Moore, had the sole charge of the diocese .- Richmond Whia.

John Bell's Patriotism .- A member of the Hinds Light Guards," writing to the Raymond Gazette from Murfreesboro, thus speaks of the of it .- Richmond Examiner, 17th. Hon. John Bell and lady:

I cannot close this letter without alluding to the noble conduct of Hon. John Bell and his most excellent lady. Mr. Bell procured medicines and the services of physicians at his own expense, while Mrs. Bell attended about two hundred sick in the Court House, who had no medicine, no nurse, no physician, and nothing to eat; yet she, like an angel of light, came alone among the sick, nursed, fed them, and, with her husmen, we are doomed to witness just such disasters band, secured for them all the medicine they received. About forty of the above mentioned sick belonged to the 22d Mississippi Regiment. I We verily believe that whiskey and politics speak of the above, for it came under my own pickets on Edisto island on Sunday, and brought

EVACUATION OF THE LOWER VALLEY

From Mr. Henry D. Beall, we have obtained chester, by Gen. Jackson, and its occupation by

For several days previous to Tuesday, the 11th the enemy had been concentrating large forces at Bunker's Hill, Smithfield, and Berryville, and the part of Gen. Banks. On Sunday a skirmish came off near Smithfield, between fifteen of Ashtroops, in which the latter lost one man killed and one prisoner. The gallant "Black Horse" Caval. ry, after inflicting this damage on the enemy, retired in good order. On Monday, the Yankee pickets were thrown nearer the Confederate outposts, and as a consequence several of them were allowed the honor of a personal interview with Gen. Jackson.

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On Tuesday, the enemy at Smithfield and Bun. ker's Hill formed a junction about six miles from Winchester, and about two o'clock attacked the pickets of Ashby's cavalry, about four miles from he town. A sharp skirmish ensued, in which the enemy lost several killed and wounded. On the Confederate side there was no loss, except one horse killed. Detachments as skirmishers were sent out, but the enemy in strong force continuing to push on, the skirmishers were compelled to fail

Whilst this skirmish was progressing, Gen. their camp to the expected field of conflict, and never did men respond with more enthusiasm to any summons. Our informant describes the scene s defenceless as Nashville, was put in a position at this juncture as exciting in the highest degree, The gallant and indomitable "Stonewall" Jackson superintended in person the selection of positions for the different batteries. His whole force, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, amounting in all to about 5,000 then, for four hours occupied their positions on the field; but the enemy, 18,000 strong, declined to advance to the attack, and night closed with the two armies about two miles apart. The close of day brought an imperative order from those high in authority for the evacuation of the place, and with regret the army reand took andisputed possession. They met with

> On the afternoon of Wednesday, Gen. Shields's column advanced towards Newtown, but were met and driven into Winchester by Col. Ashby's command. On the same day, Gen. Jackson marched to Cedar creek, on the valley turnpike, sixteen miles from Winchester and two from Strasburg, where he was encamped up to Thursday night.

> Large militia reinforcements have been sent forward to Gen. Jackson from the counties of the upper Valley, which, with the noble volunteers under his command, it is hoped, will be sufficient for the protection of the remainder of that beautiful Valley from the polluting tread of Yankee mercenaries and cut-throats.

> Not the least agreeable information imparted to us by Mr. Beall, is the effect late movements have had upon the spirit of the people. Volunteering going on with great spirit. The call of the Governor has aroused the most lukewarm, and entire companies of the militia have enrolled themselves for the war in the volunteer service. General Garnett's brigade, almost to a man, have re-enlisted for the war, whilst Col. Burke's brigade have manifested the high spirit of patriotism which might have been expected from true men engaged in a cause so holy.

Before evacuating, Gen. Jackson succeeded in removing all his stores, baggage, &c., so that not a dollar's worth of public property fell into the hands of the enemy. -Rich. Dispatch, 17th.

The Enemy Advancing on Knowville .- RICH-MOND, March 17 -The following dispatches have been received by Congress.

"KNOXVILLE, March 15 .- Yesterday the en emy, two thousand strong, crossed Cumberland mountain, at Wheeler's Gap, and captured two cavalry companies. They are supposed to be the advance guard."

"KNOXVILLE, March 15 .- Couriers last night report the enemy to be only twenty-five miles distant. They are estimated to be from four to six thousand strong. They are advancing on Knox-

Dispatches from Tennessee .- RICHMOND, March 18.-Dispatches were received yesterday at the War Department from General Kirby Smith, at Knoxville, Tennessee. The dispatches are meagre. They confirm the advance of the enemy in the direction of Knoxville. Two thousand of the enemy had got through Wheeler's Gap, and General Ledbetter had left Knoxville with two thousand men to encounter their advance. General Smith was about to repair to Cumberland Gap. Rich. Examiner

Further advices from Arkansas .- MEMPHIS. March 12 .- A despatch from Fort Smith says Capt. Rodgers arrived in charge of the ammunition train, and the official account of the battle of Elkhorn. The fighting was terrible. The Confederates were mostly armed with rifles and shot guns. They charged the enemy again and again, clubbing their guns and driving them back from their first position.

The enemy had taken a second and stronger position.

When it became known to his troops that Gen. McCulloch had fallen, they were frantic with rage-fighting like demons-charging and putting to flight five times their number.

Fearful that McCulloch's troops would be dis organized, Van Dorn deemed it advisable to withdraw. He renewed the attack next day, and retired in splendid order, under cover of his artillery. The attack was considered a brilliant manœuvre McIntosh at the head of his command, fell ear

Prisoners report the Federal loss at six thousand The Confederates attacked the enemy on all ides, passing around them.

Van Dorn says he is not whipped and cannot be, with reinforcements.

We will soon have the Confederate train on Boston Mountain, out of reach of the enemy. This news is reliable.

Unfounded Rumor from Arkansas. - A report was generally circulated vesterday that the Confederate army in Arkansas had gained a great victory. No good foundation could be found for it. It may be that such a victory has been gained, but no authentic dispatch has been received here

New Madrid, Mo., evacuated by our forces .-AUGUSTA, March 17 .- A special dispatch to the Savannah Republican, from Memphis, Tenn., dated March 15th, says that New Madrid was evacuated by the Confederate forces on Thursday night last All our small arms and ammunition were saved but the artillery was abandoned.

Capture of a Party of Yankees .- CHARLES TON, March 17 .- Lieut-Col. Bennett, of the 51st Pennsylvania regiment, Lieut. Riley, of the 47th New York, and S. H. Wells, Federal Government agent and cotton broker, were captured by our observation for two days during my stay in Nash- here to-day as prisoners of war. They were riding in a buggy when captured.