From the Savannah Republican.

THE SALT QUESTION.

Mr. Editor: Having read numerous articles in the papers on the manufacture of salt, and that many of our enterprising planters and citizens are already engaged in making that indispensable article, I perceive there are many who entertain doubts as to whether it will answer all the purposes of curing and preserving meats in this climate; which is a very important thing to our planters at this present time, as they will, early in the fall, commence preparations for putting up their provisions for next year, and they should know, ere it is too late, whether this salt will answer their wants.

I ask a small space to lay before our people a few important facts in regard to this sea-coast salt and its proper uses, which I am sure will prove of great value and interest to them. It will save them time and money; also ensure them a good supply of provisions that will not spoil in this climate.

I have had an experience of a number of years in curing, salting and packing all kinds of meats at the North (previous to this war,) for Southern and Foreign markets, therefore I am able to state, from a practical knowledge of the various kinds of salt, that the salt being manufactured on our coast and in the interior, is almost worthless for putting up meats in this climate, unless they use a portion of coarse Turk's Island Salt with it; for it is not substantial enough to retain its proper strength but a short time, as it dissolves immediately after putting it into brine or pickle; therefore there is nothing to sustain the meat.* The brine will not preserve the meat unless there is sufficient salt upon the meat that will not dissolve or evaporate.

I have examined several samples of this sea-coast salt, some of which resembles flakes of snow, and some is as fine as any ground table salt that I ever saw; but it is not fit for packing meat with. It is as good as Ashton's or Worthington's Liverpool Salt for making brine or rubbing the blood out of the meat, and if is better than either of the above for family use. It has not the requisite strength for retailing the virtues of meat packed in brine. It does not contain solids, and there is but one kind of salt that is suitable for the purpose; that is Turk's Island Salt, which is of a hard rocky nature and will not dissolve.

To put up Mess Beef or Pork with this fine sea coast salt, is like throwing the meat to the dogs, for in this warm climate it will spoil in a few weeks, unless every particle of blood is drawn from the meat, before packing, and none but persons who have had large and extensive experience in curing meat are capable of judging, for the two most essential points in curing meat is to preserve its real nature and sweetness, and protect it from generating heat. If the least amount of blood is left in the meat, the pickle will very soon become sour, and the consequence is the meat is bound to spoil.

Northern packers use Liverpool Salt for curing their meats, but not for packing purposes. And this sea-coast salt being much finer than Liverpool, it is not half as strong, and is only fit for brine and rubbing meat with, and it requires a double quantity to that of the Liverpool. And I would advise all our planters who contemplate using this coast salt for curing their Bacon, Hams and shoulders with, to use double the quantity to that of ordinary Liverpool, otherwise their meat will be a dead loss. I would also advise them not to attempt to put up Mess Beef with this sea-coast salt, unless they have Turk's Island Salt to pack it with, as it will prove a perfect failure in this climate.

The majority of our planters will only cure Bacon this fall, therefore I propose giving them a receipt for putting up the best quality of Bacon and Sugar-cured Hams that ever came to the Southern market, and put up with sea-coast salt: *For putting up Bacon and Sugar cured Hams.*

Let our planters, after killing their hogs, follow this simple method of cutting them up; divide the carcase into two halves as usual, then separate the hams and shoulders from the sides, take each side and divide it in four parts by cutting lengthwise and across through the middle, making two flank and two back pieces to each side. By cutting this way, you do not have the spare ribs, to "gnaw over," but make your bacon much sweeter.

To cure them, rub them thoroughly with salt, in all the open places and elsewhere, then pile them up on some boards properly arranged, so as to let them drain, being careful that the flies do not sting them, allow them to remain so for two days, then pack them into a barrel or hogshead, according to the quantity you wish to cure,) till it is full, then fill it up with pickle*, putting some kind of pressure on top, to keep the meat below the surface of the brine, let it remain this way for two weeks, then take out the pieces and let them drain†, then put them into an empty barrel again without any salt, and fill it up with sugar pickle‡, and let them remain so for a week or ten days, then take them out and hang them up in the smoke-house, and smoke them gradually from four to six days. Corn cobs make the best smoke. They should, after hanging in the smoke house for a week or so, be taken down and packed in an air-tight cask, and placed in some dry shed or barn, until required for use or for market.

The above is the original Northern process of curing "Sugar-cured Hams," and if our planters desire a choice stock of well cured hams and bacon, they will obtain them by following the above process.

By this method of curing, 2,000 lbs. of choice, sweet bacon can be put up at the low cost of $20, reckoning all the things used at the present high rate of prices. The cost being one cent per pound for curing from 100 lbs. to 50,000 lbs., and that, too, as fine and choice a meat as ever came to this market.

Now, if this is not worthy the notice of our planters, then I must say that "salt won't save them."

There are other processes of curing and putting up Mess Beef, Mess Pork, Smoked Beef, Dry Salted Meats, &c., by Northern packers for foreign markets, which I should be happy to bring before our planters and citizens, provided it will meet with your approval.

Respectfully yours, WESTPHALIA.

*This pickle is made as follows. To 20 gallons of water, add 70 lbs of this sea coast salt, (if Liverpool salt, half the quantity;) add 7 lbs of the cheapest kind of sugar; add 4lb saltpetre and 1lb saleratus or bi-carb. soda.

Put them in a large kettle and boil by a brisk fire, keeping it well stirred till the scum commences to rise, then skim the scum off till it ceases to rise, after which it should be put into a barrel to cool.

†The pickle which remains in the barrel will be of blood, and should be immediately reboiled over, taking the scum and blood off as fast as it rises to the top. When the scum ceases to rise, the pickle will become very clear. It is then carefully dipped out, as a great part of the blood adheres to the side and bottom of the kettle, and should be kept from mixing with the pickle again. This pickle, when cold, is poured upon the meat. But under any circumstances, *never pour warm or hot pickle upon meat.*

‡This sugar pickle is simply the same as above, except that there is a double quantity of sugar added when the meat comes to this process of cure.

Yankees Baffled.—The Baltimore Sun of the 25th has the following:

A few days since an expedition was fitted out at Newbern, N. C., to operate against Kinston, but on approaching the town discovered several batteries which could not be forced, and the expedition returned to Newbern.

HIGHLY INTERESTING FROM THE ARMY.

The Charleston Courier's very able and reliable army correspondent, "Personne," is now with our victorious army in Virginia. The Courier has two letters from him dated before the battles, from which we extract the following interesting paragraphs. Under date of Aug. 17, he writes:—

"Deserters arrive in our army every day, frequently forty and fifty, at different points along our line, and all tell the same story of disgust for the war. Many of those who are captured refused to be exchanged, and say they prefer to take an oath of allegiance, or remain in confinement, than to be returned to the North. These facts speak volumes, and it is not difficult to imagine—although we have all along been too much given to delusive anticipations—that the termination of our troubles is near at hand. Before the Federal Government can avail itself of its draft of 800,000 men, I have every reason to believe that we shall be threatening Washington, if not moving upon Baltimore itself. Drafted men in such a cause will be utterly valueless. They will be little better than a frightened herd of sheep at the very first shot, and will require twice their number in the rear, with fixed bayonets, to prick them up to duty. One of the straws which indicate which way the wind is blowing flew in my pathway, during the last few days. A noted Marylander offered to make a wager with me of $1000 to $100 that in less than sixty days the Confederate flag would be flying over the Custom House in Baltimore. Pressing him for his reasons in making such an apparently preposterous statement, he declined to give them, but said he was betting upon a certainty and would invest $20,000 in the same way. It is a significant fact and doubtless based upon some knowledge to which the gentleman is privy, but of which prudence forbids a revelation. There is a great eruption of these apocalyptic individuals in Richmond society just now, and they exercise a most salutary influence. People breathe easier, talk more confidently, and through the rifts in the breaking clouds seem to see "the beginning of the end." You will not blame me, then, for predicting that within the aforesaid sixty days, Providence permitting, your "Army Correspondence" will be dated from the other side of the P'tomac."

From his subsequent diary, Aug. 21st and 22d, we copy as follows:—

Nothing can be more picturesquely beautiful than the bivouac at night. Thousands of troops line the woods on both sides of the road for miles. Camp-fires are glimmering in the trees, muskets are stacked along the edge of the forest, and the men are disposed in every conceivable manner. Some are rolled up in their blankets and already dreaming away the fatigues of the day; some are sitting around the camp-fires watching the roasting ears, and discussing the "coming events which cast their shadows before," and some are among the trees, moving to and fro in the grey film of smoke that has arisen from the myriad fires and rests upon the earth. Between the dusty figures of the soldiers, the various occupations in which they are engaged, the road filled with wagons and guns, the appearance of the illuminated trees and bushes, forming against the deep gloom of the night a fantastic back ground, and all the details combined with the almost unnatural beauty, the spectacle resembles one vast embroidered transparency that has been worked by goblin hands. Art, with her most opulent tents and fixtures, arrayed in her richest trappings, can never hope to equal those of the curious and careless efforts of nature. We live on what we can get—now and then an ear of corn, fried green apples, or a bit of ham broiled on a stick, but quite as frequently do without either from morning until night. We sleep on the ground without any other covering than a blanket, and consider ourselves fortunate if we are not frozen still before morning. The nights are both damp and cold.

August 22.—To-day, another busy scene. The army resumed its march at daylight. Longstreet's twelve brigades moving toward the Potomac on the right, and Jackson on the left. The latter has passed the Rapidan Station on the Virginia Central Rail Road, and is pressing on Northeast of Culpeper. Several small skirmishes have taken place on the front, and eighty or ninety prisoners went by on their way to the rear. Among the Yankees captured by Jackson were two men, who, as soon as they fell into our hands, commenced to ask after their old comrades in an artillery Company. An inquiry being instituted they confessed that eight months ago they were soldiers in our army, but that being tired of service had deserted and joined the ranks of the enemy. Without further ado, the General ordered them to be hung to a tree, which was done in the presence of a large portion of his army.

In Longstreet's division, there has also been active work. The enemy several times attempted to check our advance, but were signally repulsed. Pickett's, Wilcox's, and Pryor's brigades, were severally engaged at different periods of the day, and lost a few men killed and wounded. At Mountain Run, a small branch which joins the Rappahannock, a Federal battery of six pieces commenced this afternoon to throw shells by way of diversion, but were promptly engaged by the Donaldsonville battery, (Louisiana,) Capt. Moss, and soon after retired. In this affair General Roger Pryor had a narrow escape. While sitting on a fence by the roadside, a shell burst immediately over his head, and the fragments dashed into the ground around him on every side, but fortunately without doing injury. As he wears a light felt hat, and was plainly in sight of the artillerists, the presumption is that he was made their mark. Gen. Wilcox, likewise, received similar attentions. He was riding in advance of the army, attended by a single trooper, when the latter discovered one of the Yankee pickets peeping over the top of a boulder. "Shall I bring him down?" said the soldier. "No," replied the General, "better not waste your powder, the distance is too great." Hardly were the words out of his mouth, before "whiz"—a Minnie ball flew within three inches of the General's ear, and lodged in the bank behind him. Subsequently he was wounded in the arm.

Among the incidents of the day which have kept the men in good humor, and eager for a fight, was a charge by a regiment of cavalry upon two companies of the 13th Mississippi Regiment. Thinking they had the Confederates surrounded, the Yankee Colonel demanded a surrender. "Surrender, be d—d," was the response. "Mississippians don't know how." In a moment more the yankee cavalry were dashing forward at full speed. Our men allowed them to come up within short range, and then opened. Thirty or forty saddles were emptied in less time than you can tell it, and without waiting for a repetition of the dose, the regiment took to its heels, and amid the cheers and jeers of the boys got out of sight in the most industrious manner possible.

"To-day has been further signalized by the hanging of a spy—a man named Charles Mason, of Perrysville, Pennsylvania. It appears that as one of the couriers of Gen. Longstreet was carrying an order, he was met by this man who inquired "whose division do you belong to?" "Longstreet's." The courier then asked, "whose division do you belong to?" "Jackson's," was the reply. A gray Confederate uniform favored this idea, and a conversation ensued. As the two travelled together, the courier observed that there was a disposition on the part of his companion to drop behind, and finally he was astonished by a pistol presented at his breast, and a demand for the delivery of the papers he carried in his belt. Having no other resource, the latter surrendered the documents, when the spy deliberately shot him in the back and ran. Soon after the courier was found by some of his friends, and narrated the particulars of the affair, describing the man so minutely, that when subsequently arrested, he was known beyond a peradventure. He had, for instance, two defective front teeth, was a pale-faced, determined looking and quick spoken person.

A search was at once instituted, but fortunately he fell into our hands by his own foolishness. It is stated—but I do not vouch for this—that this morning the spy rode up to Gen. Jones, who was at the head of his column, and said: "General, I am the chief courier of Gen. Jackson. He desires me to request you to order your column to be reversed at once." The order was of course given and the pretended courier rode away. His next exploit was to ride up to the Colonel of one of our regiments, and give him the same command he had given Jones. The Colonel was a shrewd officer, however, and remarked: "I am not in the habit of receiving my orders from Gen. Jackson." "Well, sir, those were my orders from him to you." "What cavalry are you from?" The courier hesitated a moment, and said, "from the Hampton Legion." "In whose division and brigade is that?" asked the Colonel. This confused him still more, and he could only reply, "I don't know—I have forgotten." Being then taken into custody and examined, several papers were found upon his person written in short hand, and an abbreviated long hand, embracing the information he had obtained. A pair of lieutenant's shoulder straps were also concealed in his pocket. These discoveries being made, the man confessed that he was a yankee, and belonged to the Union army, but in the capacity of an independent scout. He admitted further that he had observed and reported the movements of our army, but denied having killed the courier. He claimed that it was done by a party of Texans with whom he was traveling.

These various facts being conclusive, the court martial by which he was tried had little hesitation in finding him "guilty," and sentencing him to be hung. The execution took place this afternoon, under the direction of Gen. Evans, in the presence of his brigade and a large number of soldiers. The prisoner was mounted on a horse, his hands tied behind him, and he was driven beneath a tree. The rope which was little larger than an ordinary bed-cord, then being adjusted, he was ordered to stand upon the saddle. As he did so, a soldier gave a sharp cut to the animal, and in a second more the spy was jerking convulsively from the limb above him. He met his fate with great stoicism, and appeared perfectly satisfied with what he had accomplished, but to the last denied all participation in the act of shooting Longstreet's courier. He said that he had an uncle and aunt who lived in Clark County, Virginia, that the latter had made him the Confederate uniform which he wore.

At no time since the march commenced have the main bodies of the two armies been more than five miles apart. When one reflects that the enemy have a force greatly superior to our own, that we are twenty or thirty miles from our depots of supplies, and that the army has to be subsisted day by day from these points, by the slow process of wagon transportation, it is easy to conceive the confident spirit and determination that animates both our Generals and soldiers. A reverse is not dreamed of.

How the Yankees Fared at Vicksburg.—The Memphis (Yankee) correspondent of the Chicago Times writes:—

"A good deal has been said in connection with the Vicksburg affair, about sending troops there and reducing the place by a siege. This is all very well for those who know nothing of the climate and the country, but they who have been there are keenly alive to the perils of that campaign. None have ventured it and come off unscathed. Our flotilla is full of wan countenances, and death has been among its brave men to an alarming extent. Officers and men have both suffered. The former have been seriously ill, and the latter have died like rotten sheep. The soldier fared no better, and some of the regiments went back with almost decimated ranks. This is the true history of the siege of Vicksburg.

The Yazoo river was fitly named by the red-skinned hunters who traversed its tortuous channel in days gone by. Yazoo—Death river. What could be more significant? Their symbolical language never fails them, and in this instance it was well applied, for, if it be not a river of death then none exist. Old settlers tell me that no man can drink its water in the hot season and live longer than a few months. It is impregnated with such rank vegetable matter, gathered from the tropical luxuriance which borders its banks and those of its tributaries, that its water is conveyed into slow poison, which is sure to destroy human life. If you would find a counterpart to its sombre shades and its stained, murky waters, you must go into the depth of swamps, which it drains, and look upon the green scum and crawling reptiles who shun the sunlight and breed pestilence and death alone. The simple substance of it is, that an army of twenty-five thousand men would find their graves between now and the first of October, without ever facing an enemy. The flotilla has already accomplished its destiny in that line, and, if an army is to be maintained anywhere in that locality it must be removed from the river, and provided with pure water—and you might dig until you lost daylight in that red hot soil, and not find enough to wet the palm of the hand.

The results of the expedition were these: Gained—nothing. Lost—the Carondolet shot to pieces, the Louisville disabled, the Benton riddled, the Tyler demolished, the Essex and Sumter thrown away, and the rams Lancaster and Queen sent into dry docks for weeks. The loss of the Essex alone, to the river flotilla, is irreparable. She has been under reconstruction for six months, and has cost a mint of money, and on her first trip she was cut off and compelled to go to New Orleans. The gunboat flotilla is actually ruined, and we shall know it to our sorrow before sixty days pass over our heads.

An Unusual Sight.—At the Post Office, last night, an unusual sight was witnessed—nothing less than an U. S. mail bag packed with yankee letters, which was captured on the Rappahannock lines. The letters are of late date. One from Genesee county, Ill., dated the 18th inst., says that county has raised nine companies under the last call, and that "when the Government gets in earnest the rebellion will be put down and traitors hung." A letter from a soldier at Battle Creek, Tenn., Aug. 9th, says: "We have all the army here that was at Corinth, and 200 field-pieces. More infantry is expected in a few days." A letter dated Lincoln county, Mo., Aug. 18th, from a son to his father, says the draft by the U. S. Government was very injudicious, as "Davis will get six men to Lincoln's one." He adds that he would rather see Indians than Federals in Missouri, for they could not steal or murder more—Dr. Ben Todd, according to this letter, was taken out of bed by the Federal troops on the 15th and shot dead. It adds that "he was a Southern man, but had taken the oath, and was staying at home, attending to his business." The writer says "it is thought in this State that the mails will be in the hands of the South in less than a month." A touching letter from "sister Hannah," at Manchester, N. H., begs "my dear brother" to come out of the army, and not wait for the fate which befell "poor Charlie," her other brother, who was killed in an engagement. She hopes he won't think she is writing like a "poor, weak, foolish girl," and offers up a prayer for his safety. Another epistle, with no date, from a mother to her son, tells him that his father died at home on furlough. She says, too, that "the cavalry are riding around with hand-cuffs for deserters." A great many of the letters are in German, and directed to members of the "Garibaldi Guard," 39th New York volunteers, at Winchester, Va.

Richmond Dispatch.

Hon. John Bell.—A correspondent of the Richmond Whig writes from Rome, Geo.:—

The only incident relieving this monotonous trip was a pleasant surprise in meeting our venerable friend, John Bell of Tennessee, who, driven from his home by the ruthless invader, has found a refuge in the recesses of North Alabama. His present place of residence is Gadsden. There is a considerable change in the appearance of the old gentleman since we last saw him in congressional halls at Washington. His step is feeble, and the hand of care has laid its touch upon his countenance, not yet furrowing, but still leaving there its impress of anxiety and sorrow. Though his frame is somewhat relaxed by the trials that have come upon him in his age, his voice is still calm and clear, and he still utters determined resistance in his statesmanlike views on the condition of the country. We were glad to meet the old gentleman, and on our weary march the next day, often remembered his encouraging words, "Sir, we are free and must be free."

Yankee Barbarity.—In a speech in the House on Saturday last, Mr. Russell of Va. said:—

Some few weeks ago, a gentleman of high character, and of the most respectable connexions, was captured at his home in a portion of the State which I represent. He was tied to the fence, and, in the presence of his brother, who was likewise a captive, and in the presence of two women, loyal to the South, and whose husbands were serving in the Southern army, they began to shoot at the man, and as if to torture him to the utmost extent, they shot first at his feet, then at his legs, and it was not until they had tortured him by lodging eleven balls in his body, that they sent one to his heart, to relieve him from sufferings by death.

Hospital Investigating Committee.—Senate—Messrs. Simms of Kentucky, Hill of Georgia, and Clay of Alabama.

House—Messrs. Wright of Georgia, Farrow of South Carolina, Goode of Virginia, Smith of North Carolina, and Bell of Missouri.

Oath of Office.—We presume it is not generally known, says the Raleigh Standard, that the Legislature, at its last session, passed an act requiring all Judges, Justices, and others holding office in this State, to take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States, before proceeding further in the discharge of their duties. The law is a very proper one, but we confess we did not know of its existence until our attention was called to it by a friend, a few days since. We give the law, as follows:—

An Act to amend the Revised Code, Chapter 76, entitled Oaths.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That all Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts, and all Justices of the Peace, and all other persons holding any office in this State, who are required to take an oath of office before proceeding to discharge the duties of such office, shall be required before proceeding further in discharge of the duties of the office, to take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

[Ratified 21st Sept. 1861.]

Yankees in Beaufort County.—The presence of the Yankees in Washington continues to afford facilities for the escape of large numbers of negroes from all parts of the county, and from Pitt and Martin counties. The Yankees are confiscating and appropriating to their own use the produce of the farmers of that section. A friend informs us that recently there were about 1000 Yankee troops at Washington. Another states that they have lately been reinforced by 500 cavalry. He also informs us that Stanly has certainly given notice to the people of Beaufort, and perhaps to other counties, that they must take the oath of allegiance to the Lincoln government, or leave, of course without their property. The object is to possess themselves of the property of our people, or compel them to ignore their own government, which will, of course, subject them to the draft now being enforced in Norfolk and Princess Anne counties, and throughout the Northern States.—*Raleigh Standard.*

The Yankee Raid in Onslow.—An intelligent and reliable citizen of Onslow informs us that the enemy did not land in the county more than 500 or 600 men, during his recent raid. Five or six steamers made their appearance near Swansboro' on the 22d ult., but did not land in force until Saturday. They destroyed Mr. Barnum's salt factory entire, at Swansboro', and then went up Queen's creek, and landed on Mr. I. N. Sanders' farm, destroying much of the standing corn—passed on to Mr. Hawkins' and Col. Sanders' salt factories—destroyed the former, and damaged the latter considerably. Fortunately, the destruction of salt factories was not so great as reported, some of them being at points they did not reach. They plundered houses, killed the hogs and cattle, and stole everything they could well remove, taking off about 50 negroes with them. They left on Sunday.—*Ibid.*

The West and the War.—The people of the mountains are turning out *en masse*, it appears to us. Col. G. N. Folk, of Buncombe, has just organized the "First Battalion of N. C. Cavalry," of which he is Lieut. Colonel. The battalion consists of six companies of eighty men each, every man of whom has furnished his own horse, &c. They are armed with the celebrated Enfield rifle and are ready for duty. They were organized at Asheville on the 18th ult. Col. Folk informs us that a full regiment of Partizan infantry has been formed and organized since his battalion was formed. L. M. Allen, Colonel; Marcus Erwin, Lt. Colonel. Col. F. tells us this is one of the finest bodies of men he ever saw. They compose a full regiment, and are also armed with the Enfield rifle.

Col. R. G. A. Love is at the head of another full regiment, which has been organized within the last month. This is said to be a number one set of men. Wesley Clayton is Lieut. Col., and Wm. McDowell, of Macon, is Major. This regiment will be ready for the field very shortly.

Dr. Joseph McDowell has had in camp for several months, at the Warm Springs, a battalion consisting of six companies of infantry and two of artillery. They are in a thorough state of discipline and capable of any amount of hardship. Dr. McDowell is Lieut. Colonel and Harry Deaver, Major.

The foregoing presents a very creditable little chapter in the history of Western North Carolina's efforts for Southern independence. And now we can write down truthfully *sixty-one regiments from North Carolina*, with men enough in detached companies and in course of organization to make nearly a dozen more. What do the Yankees think of our Union sentiment?

State Journal.

Inauguration of Gov. Vance.—Gov. Vance will probably arrive in this City on Friday or Saturday next, and will take the oaths of office on Monday next, the 8th instant.

We understand the inauguration will take place in the Capitol Square, and will be public. The oaths of office will be administered by Chief Justice Pearson; and the inauguration will commence about twelve o'clock. A large concourse of people will no doubt be present on the occasion.

We learn that the fine band of the 26th regiment, stationed near Petersburg, will be present on the occasion.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Yankee Outrages.—Amidst the many outrages perpetrated by the Yankees in their late retreat below Richmond, may be cited the robbery of Dr. C. M. Jones, a member of the New Kent Cavalry, and his brother, Wm. Jones, Esq., who resides on the Pamunky, near Elkham. Dr. Jones was absent with his company, leaving at home only his wife and family. The Yankees robbed this family of all the negroes, nine in number, stole the ploughs from the corn-field, sacked the house of its furniture, and even carried away the children's clothing. They served Mr. Wm. Jones similarly in taking off all of his negroes. Two of the negroes belonging to the latter have recently escaped and returned, and say that the Yankee thieves have placed about 1,000 negroes in the woods near Fortress Monroe, where some are actually starving and all suffering severely from privation and sickness. Dr. Jones is now in this city at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. B. M. Morris, severely ill.

Noble Exception.—The Jackson Mississippian understands that the merchants of Raymond, Miss., have not marked up an article which they had on hand before the war, and are selling to customers on the usual credit of twelve months; and that on articles purchased since the war began they have only put their ordinary per centage on the prime cost, and sell them on the same credit.

A Chance for a Substitute.—We give the following advertisement, from the Bayou Sara Ledger.

$5000 *for a Substitute.*—I will pay the above sum for a substitute. He must be sound so as to pass inspection. One half of the money to be paid when he gets killed, and the other half when he comes back. S. N. WHITE.

Arrests in the North.—Hon. J. H. Allen, a member of the Federal Congress from the Cairo (Ill.) district, and Judge Mulkey, of Cairo, were arrested on the 15th. The charge was disloyalty and discouraging enlistments.

NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, Sept. 2.—Northern papers of Aug. 30th have been received.

The N. Y. Herald's correspondence indicates that the greatest excitement prevails among the Unionists in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties, Va. Families were fleeing to Washington, abandoning everything. The panic was caused by the raid of Stuart's cavalry on Bristol's Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

A train from Warrenton Junction for Alexandria escaped capture by dashing under a full head of steam to Manassas Junction, where it ran violently into another train, producing a general smash and a heavy loss of life. Stuart's Cavalry subsequently occupied Manassas Junction. At both places they captured a large amount of stores and a number of prisoners.

Pope's official dispatch, dated August 29th, claims a victory over Gen. Longstreet, and the capture of one thousand prisoners, many arms and one piece of artillery. He says that Heintzleman's corps would move against Jackson, six miles west of Centreville, at daylight, and he did not see how Jackson could escape without heavy loss.

Northern newspaper accounts admit a defeat and panic of Gen. Taylor's (of New Jersey) brigade in the preliminary battles, the General himself losing a leg; the capture of 500 of their men and over 1000 contrabands; that Sickles's brigade was reduced to less than a regiment, &c.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Times says that several States are much farther behind in raising their quota of troops under the new call, and that it has been represented that there will be very few where drafting will not have to be resorted to.

A Democratic mass meeting was held in Philadelphia on Saturday. Resolutions were adopted denouncing the secessionists and abolitionists, in favor of free speech, and an energetic prosecution of the war. Among the speakers was Charles J. Ingersoll, who declared that the object of the war was to free the negroes. He denounced the Federal Government as the most corrupt and despotic ever seen here. He was subsequently arrested for uttering these sentiments.

Resistance to the Draft.—Great excitement existed in the North growing out of the draft, and matters were fast drifting to a bloody issue:

WILMINGTON, (DEL.) August 29.—One of the largest meetings ever held in this State convened in the City Hall to night, at which resolutions were adopted denouncing Governor Burton as a Rebel and a tool of Bayard, and appointing a committee to lay the proceedings of the meeting before the President and Secretary of War. Resolutions were also adopted expressing a determination to resist the draft as made by the Governor.

From Europe.—By the arrival of the Kangaroo we have European dates to the 14th ult.:

A letter from Lord Russell to Secretary Seward, dated July 28th, is published. He refers to the evidences of the increasing bitterness of the strife in America, and says that the approach of a servile war, so much insisted upon by Mr. Seward in his dispatch, to which this is an answer, only forewarns us that another element of destruction may be added to the loss of property and waste of industry which already afflicts a country lately so prosperous and tranquil. He claims that Her Majesty's Government has maintained an impartial neutrality, but desires, in the language of Lincoln to the Governors of thirteen States, the bringing of this unnecessary and injurious civil war to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion.

The Federal gunboat Tuscarora had suddenly left Queenstown, owing to orders from the customs officials.

Agents are now in England making contracts in behalf of the United States Government for a supply of arms, &c. The contracts are proposed with a clause that they shall be null and void in case of a war with England.

It is asserted that the Confederate envoys have demanded a recognition of the Southern Confederacy, but that England refused to accede to their demands, while France did not give a reply.

Another correspondence between United States Minister Adams and Earl Russell was published. Mr. Adams wrote in May, while Earl Russell's letter is dated July 28. The "Times" characterizes his remarks as dry and caustic.

The "Times" editorially endorses Mr. Roebuck's late speech at Sheffield, as far as his lecture to the North is concerned, but totally dissents from his arguments in favor of mediation, which it considers would do more harm than good.

The St. Petersburg "Journal" reiterates that the desire of the Russian Cabinet is to see the conflict ended by prudent and honorable compromise. Russia's desire is not to divide, but bring together and reunite adversaries who ought to remain brothers.

Many of the cotton mills in Lancashire have stopped.

Commercial.—Cotton—The sales on Wednesday and Thursday were 16,000 bales. The market was buoyant and slightly higher, owing to the great advance and excitement in Bombay and Calcutta.

The Steel Clad Fleet.—The Augusta Constitutionalist is disposed to credit the telegraphic report of the arrival of a Confederate fleet off the mouth of the Mississippi. It refers to the fact that the steamer Oreto, recently released from custody by a British Court of Admiralty, at Nassau, N. P., where she had been seized for an alleged violation of British neutrality, is a Confederate war vessel; that the steamer Scotia was at Barbadoes on the 8th of July, with Capt. Semmes on board, who represented himself, while in port, as Capt. Eustice, but left his card, with his proper name and compliments, as he steamed from the harbor; and that the steamers Merrimac and "No. 290" sailed from a British port about the 1st of August, and have eluded the United States steamer Tuscarora, which went in pursuit of them. "These are all represented as war vessels, and, with others, may constitute the 'steel-clad fleet,' which is now said to be lying off the delta of the Father of Waters, for the purpose of operating against the Yankees."

Deserters from the Yankees.—Seventy-four deserters from Pope's army arrived at Gordonsville Friday. They expressed themselves tired of fighting, and represented the condition of Pope's command as one of almost entire demoralization. The license allowed the men to plunder and rob as they pleased had worked badly on the morals and discipline of the army, and had rendered it almost a mob, kept together and controlled only by frequent and heavy punishments.

Richmond Dispatch, 1st inst.

Desertion of Unionists.—Three hundred and sixty Union men from Pierpoint's dominions joined General Loring a few days since, and our intelligence is that these deluded men now see the error of their ways, and are daily flocking in crowds to our standard.—*Ib.*

Rumored Resignation of McClellan.—The Hartford "Post," of the 20th instant, says:

"We have private, but direct and reliable information that Gen. McClellan will resign the command of the Army of the Potomac as soon as the new change of position is effected. The visit of the President to the Peninsula, soon after the battle-week, is said to have had connection with this event."

FROM MANASSAS

RICHMOND, Sept. 1.—We once more date our intelligence (say the Richmond Enquirer) on the historic plains of Manassas. Our forces under Gen. Lee occupy the old ground upon which they distinguished themselves little more than a year ago, and on Saturday celebrated the event with a sanguinary battle upon the heights of Bull Run. The Confederate troops were mainly under the command of Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson, and those of the enemy under Banks and Sigel. The extent of the intelligence which comes to us, is, as usual, meagre; but it ends with the gratifying assurance that the enemy were completely routed and driven from the field. Again we would call upon the authorities to afford us means of obtaining immediate and definite information respecting the conflicts in which, as we may be engaged. It is unnecessary to discuss the causes or designs of the battles which occur, if incompatible with the public interests. But that is wanted are the facts and the results—inasmuch as no battle can occur without the knowledge of the enemy, nothing could be more modest than the appeal of the public and the press for at least as much as the enemy know.

Two thousand prisoners were on their way to Gordonsville on yesterday, said to be recaptured runaway negroes. Where or how they were taken, no one could inform us.

The Lynchburg "Republican," of to-day, (Monday,) received last night, says:

Reports were received here by the Orange on Saturday night, that Gen. Stuart had advanced on the Orange railroad to the Bull Run bridge, four miles below Manassas, had burned the bridge on Thursday, and continuing his advance to the neighborhood of Dye's Station on the railroad, there concealed his men and arrested the approach of several trains from Alexandria, of the contents of which he had received information. As soon as they had passed his position, Gen. Stuart commenced tearing up the track in their rear. The trains reached the bridge and not being able to pass, and the officers on board finding that something was wrong, determined to return to Alexandria; but before backing the trains for several miles, found the track torn up and their retreat cut off. Gen. S. then approached with his men, and being superior in numbers to the enemy, they surrendered without firing a gun.

The number of prisoners captured in this exploit is reported to be two thousand, together with all the officers, regimental and company, and a quantity of arms and ammunition which were being taken to Pope. Two trains numbering some thirty-five or forty cars, and four engines, were taken, all of which were destroyed. Gen Stuart returned to Manassas after this brilliant exploit without losing a man.

There are also reports of a severe battle at or near Bristol Station, four miles this side of Manassas, on Friday, between the division of Gen. Ewell and the enemy. Gen. E. is reported to have been twice driven from his position with severe loss, but being re-inforced finally drove the enemy from their position, capturing seven batteries and five thousand prisoners.

Reports vary as to the locality of this fight, one placing it at Bristol Station and the other at or near the Plains, on the Manassas Gap Railroad. If the fight really occurred, as stated, we are of the opinion that the latter is the correct location. Reports are various also as to the troops engaged. Some having it that Jackson, A. P. Hill, and Ewell were all in the fight, and others that the battle was fought by Ewell alone.

The Latest from Northern Virginia.—RICHMOND, Sept. 2.—It was semi-officially announced yesterday morning, [says the Richmond Examiner,] that the President had, on Saturday, received a dispatch from Gen. Lee, stating that the enemy had been defeated in three separate efforts to break through our lines, in the direction of Alexandria. We could learn no further particulars of the battles, except that Gens. Ewell, Trimble and Taliaferro had been wounded, the two first severely, the last slightly.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VA.,
GROVETOWN, 30th Aug., 10 P. M.
Via Rapidan

To President Davis: This army achieved to-day, on the plains of Manassas, a signal victory over the combined forces of Gens. McClellan and Pope. On the 28th and 29th each wing under Gens. Longstreet and Jackson repulsed with valor attacks made on them separately. We mourn the loss of our gallant dead in every conflict, yet our gratitude to Almighty God for his mercies rises higher each day. To Him, and to the valor of our troops, a nation's gratitude is due.

R. E. LEE

From Cumberland Gap.—If correct, the news from Cumberland Gap is scarcely less important than that from Manassas. Late last night it was asserted that news had been received in official quarters to the effect that the Yankee General Morgan had attempted to cut his way through our lines, and that he was repulsed with great slaughter, after which his entire command, amounting to some ten thousand men, with their arms and equipments, surrendered to our forces under General E. Kirby Smith. There is every reason to believe that this statement is correct, as it is well known that Morgan's position was decidedly precarious; but in view of the many similar reports received from the same quarter it should be taken with much caution.

Richmond Dispatch, 2d.

The Yankees Driven from Stevenson, Ala.—BRIDGEPORT, Aug. 31.—Gen. Maxey's brigade, under command of Col. McKinstry of the 3d Alabama regiment, attacked the enemy, 12,000 strong, at Stevenson, with infantry, artillery and cavalry, at eleven o'clock to day. After four hours' shelling the enemy evacuated their fortifications, leaving on the Nashville trains, common roads, and through the woods. A large amount of ammunition and stores were captured.

We had engaged the 33d and 4th Alabama, 25th Tennessee, Major Gunter's dismounted partizans, Capt. Rice's cavalry, and Freeman and Durr's battery, the whole numbering nine hundred men. Our loss was two wounded and none killed. The Yankee loss is unknown.

The Yankee fortifications at Stevenson were very strong. Our troops displayed great gallantry. Capt. Freeman's battery was worked with great skill and signal effect. Harry Maury commanded the 32d Alabama, with coolness and marked ability, exposing himself greatly to the Yankee fire. His conduct is much eulogized.

A General Killed.—The N. Y. Times says during Saturday the 23d, Brig. General Bohlan, while serving in the immediate vicinity of the ford and bridge at the Rappahannock station, was killed by a rebel shell.

Personal.—Gen. Joseph E. Johnson has been assigned to an important command, in a new field, which will doubtless be made known in a day or two.—*Richmond Whig, 2d.*

Major General T. H. Holmes.—This officer arrived in this city a few days since, and on yesterday assumed command of the department composed of Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana and the Indian country. We regard him as one of the ablest and most experienced officers in the Southern army, and are gratified that he has been assigned to the command of this department.

Little Rock Democrat, 13th Aug.