SUBJUGATION AND RECONSTRUCTION.

From the Richmond Sentinel.

No wilder hallucination could take possession of the human mind than a belief that we could ever again live with the yankees on terms of equality, or come under the same government with them except as a conquered people. Differences of habit, sentiment and feeling, and diversities of interest, which wise legislation and conservative statesmanship might have reconciled, have, under the counsels of madmen, fit to disturb the peace of all the world, hardened into an enduring antagonism. Violent and exclusive opinions at the North have borne their legitimate fruits. Force has been substituted for reason and all the healing arts of statesmanship. War has torn the two peoples asunder, and placed between them an ocean of blood that will remain—forever. For never can true reconcilement grow, 'where wounds of mortal hate have pierced so deep.'

Let us not deceive ourselves in this matter. Let no weak dreamer drug himself with the anodyne of reconstruction, nor lay to his soul the flattering hope that life would be tolerable without our independence.

Mr. Lincoln has, indeed, vouchsafed to tell us, that the war will cease when we lay down our arms. So the war "ceased" after the battle of Hastings; but the universal spoliation of property, the deprivation of all personal privileges, and the tolling of curfew bells, illustrated the object for which the war was undertaken, and kept long in memory the bitterness of that peace by which it was followed. And so the war "ceased" when the followers of Monmouth laid down their arms. It was in the "peace" which followed subjugation that Jeffrey rode his bloody circuit and left a name of infamy which humanity blushes to own. And so, too, the war "ceased" when the Poles, after their memorable struggle for independence, at last yielded the contest; but for the conquered, the "peace" thus secured meant spoliation, murder, torture, exile—a living death in the dreary mines of Siberia!

But worse than all this; worse than anything to be found on the darkest and the saddest page of human history, would be that "peace" that *we* should gain by abandoning our struggle for independence and bowing the neck to our enemies. Then Mr. Lincoln, in his own elegant phrase, would "run his courts," and through their instrumentality complete the work of robbery and spoliation and ruin. Not only will all our property be swept from us into the public coffers of the yankees, or divided out in portions and rewards to a hireling soldiery, but judicial murders will be the order of the day. All the dark and malignant passions of a vindictive people—drunk with blood and vomiting crime—will be unleashed upon us like bloodhounds upon their prey. Times will return again like those spoken of by Tacitus when he says: "Men impelled by personal hate, and armed with terror, carried rapine and plunder in every direction. Virtue was a source of certain ruin. The guilty acts of informers and their wages were alike detestable. Slaves were practised upon against their masters, and freedmen betrayed their patrons; the ceremonies of religion were violated; the sea crowded with exiles, and rocks stained with the blood of murdered citizens." If any one shall think this a fanciful illustration of what would be our condition if subjugated, let him remember that our enemies have already declared their murderous intentions in advance, and disgraced their statute-book by laws which not only authorize, but require, what would result in scenes darker, sadder, more terrible and appalling, if possible, even than those described in the mournful page of the Roman historian.

They have done these things in the 19th century of the Christian era; and so far from a blush of shame, they glory in their infamy, and impatiently long for the day when premeditated crime may take the form of rapacious and bloody fruition. Men are seldom better than they paint themselves; and if they evidence such purposes when policy would counsel moderation and suggest concealment, what may we expect when there is no longer a motive for reserve, or a restraint upon rapacity and revenge?

Between reconstruction and subjugation there is no reason why we should draw a distinction. It would be a distinction without a difference. Lincoln has taken anxious pains to assure us of this. The only reconstruction, the only peace he will allow, is by submission. This is *subjugation*. The reconstruction of Southern dreamers, is not conceived of at the North. But even could we submit upon terms—which would not be allowed us—such reconstruction would be only subjugation in a form scarcely respectable enough to be called a cheat. Both mean slavery to the North—a life without honor, and a future without hope. There would be no practical difference between it and unqualified submission. How vain the effort, how foolish the wish to reconstruct, upon any terms, a Union which perished through the *bad faith* of those whom we should have to trust again!

The world knows how the foundations of the old Union were sapped and destroyed by the moral and political heresy of a *higher law creed*, which derided the solemn obligations of covenanted faith. In politics, broken faith is the unpardonable sin which cannot, must not, be forgiven. It is the *foundation* of all political association. Without it there can be no tranquility, no safety. Charles I lost his crown and his head because when his royal word was solemnly given, it could not be believed. James II. lost his throne, because the honor, the interests, the liberties of England required new guaranties. And so, we withdrew from the late Union, because, by the bad faith of those who now seek our destruction, the guaranties on which we relied for our security became unavailing and worthless.

Before the world, and calling Heaven to witness, we have solemnly declared, and impartial history will bear witness to the truth of the affirmation, that the bad faith of our late political associates destroyed our association with them. We could no longer trust them, and hence were compelled to dissolve our political relations with them. Less than ever could we trust them now. We have nothing that we can do but maintain our separate existence at all hazards, and to shrink from an association with them as we would shrink from a ruin worse than death. Let us pledge ourselves, if need be, afresh to this resolve. Let us swear by the memory of our immortal dead, by the sufferings of the past, and the hopes of the future; by our ravaged fields and desolated homes; by the tears and sorrows of widowhood, and the cries of helpless orphanage; by the blood of the slain that calls to us from the ground—that we will never, never, have part or lot in any government, which in its every department—executive, legislative and judicial—is under the sole and exclusive control of those who can offer us no guaranty for the future, but the broken faith of the past. This is what manhood and liberty require. This was the spirit that fired the hearts of those who fell so nobly at Thermopylæ, and of those who conquered so gloriously at Marathon. And such, too, the spirit which dictated the ever memorable reply of the heroic William, of Orange, when, poising himself upon the centre of his own great soul, he solemnly declared before God that he would never abandon his country however desperate her cause; but would defend her to the last extremity, and die in the last ditch. We have but to catch this spirit, to reconsecrate ourselves to our liberty, and to pass from heart to heart the sacred fire of devotion to our country's cause, and we will, we must, be free. Let it be remembered, that the boon of liberty is *never* denied to those who are worthy of it—and they alone are worthy of it, who, in her sacred cause, are determined to do or die. It is so written in the book of fate. It is so recorded in the history of nations. It is so revealed in the providences of God, and proclaimed in the moral agencies which sway the destinies of the world.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES NAVY.

From the Richmond Sentinel.

The circumstances connected with our naval enterprise, require a reticence that mantles much of the merit of our achievements. These circumstances make of the Secretary of the Navy's reports, a sealed book, and frequently subject all connected with the service to temporary obloquy. But the time of triumphant explanation will come some day. Meanwhile, there are some things which may be now said, some facts that ought to be mentioned, because they can be safely mentioned.

The total expenditure, on account of our navy, since the beginning of the war, does not exceed $80,000,000—or as much as it had cost the enemy to build its condemned Monitors up to June, 1864. What have *we* to show for this sum? In noble efforts, that the open hostility, if not the secret perfidy, of Foreign powers have frustrated, we could show enough to do full credit to the whole amount. That, however, would be profitless in all except proof of glorious endeavor. But we can show this: the destruction of 191 vessels, belonging to the enemy's commerce. That, for a direct blow dealt at the very vitals of our foe, is much: there is much more within it and beyond it and because of it of an equally telling character.

We have to be concise and cautious, but may be precise at the same time. Take, then, a hurried *resume* of some particulars to which we have gained access. The steamer "Sumter," under the gallant Semmes, captured 17 vessels in her cruise, from July 3, 1861, to January 17, 1862—3 ships, 5 brigs, 6 barks and 3 schooners—for a half year's work. The "Alabama," under the same naval hero, captured 63 vessels, from September 1862, to January, 1864. The greater number of these were very valuable ships, and all but 9 of them were burnt at sea. In the number is included the U. S gunboat "Hatteras" (8 guns, 108 men and 18 officers) which was sunk, in open fight, on the 11th January, 1863. To this list of the Alabama's captures, have to be added 2 vessels brought by her tender, the Tuscaloosa. One of her captures was subsequently commissioned as a cruiser under our flag—as in the case of other captures by other cruisers.

The steamer "Tallahassee," under the command of the intrepid Taylor Wood, captured 37 vessels, during the month of August, 1864. His dashing cruise along the American coast, Northward, was shorn of its richer fruits by the chilling courtesy of the British authorities in Nova Scotia, on whose unfair conduct we had occasion to animadvert, at the time. Of the captures made by Commander Wood, 2 were ships, 4 brigs and 4 barks, the remainder being, for the most part, sea-going and large tonnaged schooners. Only 5 of the whole number were bonded and 2 released, all the rest having been burnt or scuttled.

The "Chickamauga," under the command of John Wilkinson, who has no professional superior in the service, in a short cruise, last November, captured 7 vessels—1 ship, 4 barks, and 2 schooners. The "Georgia," in a few weeks, captured and destroyed 7 ships and 2 barks. The "Florida"—but enough of such details. Here are the shorter mathematical results of all: 58 ships, 32 brigs, 41 barks, 57 schooners—pilot boats and small steamers "extra"—all disposed of at sea by a power which has, popularly, "no navy."

To estimate the value of these sea-captures let us strike an average. The "Jacob Bell" (one of the most valuable) was set down as worth, at least, $2,040,000, ship and cargo: the "Orelea," at proven value, $950,000; the "Star of Peace" at $900,000; the "Anglo Saxon" at $85,000—others more and others less. Allow for the few bonded, and then draw a moderate average—say $500,000 for each ship and cargo, and you have about $30,000,000 worth of property in ships destroyed at once. The brig "Estelle" was valued, under mark, at $130,000; the "Windward" at $44,000—say, for each brig and cargo, $50,000, and you have $1,600,000 additional. Carrying out the great moderation of this estimate, set each bark down at $40,000 and each schooner at $25,000, (several of both were three times either amount,) and you have an aggregate of $34,605,000 destroyed, *directly*, by our navy. Is that nothing? Ask the New York Chamber of Commerce and take its doleful answer. But that is only as to the *direct* loss inflicted. How are we to give, or get, any approximate estimate of the indirect damage done to the enemy's commerce? Only by indirect means, and we take these to be such:

In 1850 the aggregate United States tonnage sold to foreigners was 13,467: in 1860 it was about the same; while, in 1863, it was 1,500,000. This covers the "waite washing" process, and has sent more than one line of American clippers, usually sailing from New York or Boston, or Baltimore, to sea as Liverpool or London vessels. Has that change of figures no tale to tell for the little navy? Does it say nothing "eloquently well" for "indirect loss?"

But, more: In 1320 there was employed in the United States coasting trade (deducting the Southern coasts) an enrolled and licensed tonnage equal to 406,978 (tons and 95th;) in 1840 this had augmented to 983,518; ten years later it stood at 1,300,210; and in 1860 it had swollen to the splendid proportions of 1,735,863. What is it now? On yankee semi official authority, in 1863, it had dwindled down to what it was in 1840. In giving these diminishing numbers the Shipping Journal (Weymouth, England,) significantly says: "The ravages of Confederate cruisers will soon have frightened the Federal coasting trade into its narrow dimensions of 1830."

Still more: The New Bedford Standard, of a recent date, (as quoted in the United States news of this journal on the 14th inst.,) tells us that, whereas the tonnage engaged in the whale fishing in 1846 was 230,218, it does not *now* reach 80,000 tons. In the first of this set of figures we detect an under statement; for the official records show that, in 1846, the American tonnage in the whale fishing was 439,580. It would not do to note the vastness of the fall—its force had to be lightened. To allow this fact its full weight, we should remember that, in 1846, whale oil (sperm) sold at 60 cents—now it sells, according to the above Bedford paper, at $1 95½ a gallon; and bone that sold in 1846, at a dime a pound, now brings nearly $2.

To these self-reasoning waifs add this most suggestive one: "The insurance on vessels trading with the States is alarming," cries the Portland Gazette, of September 21st, 1864. "None of us can be blind enough not to see that our own direct shipping interests are in a ruinous condition, as well from the effects of exorbitant insurance as from the cowardly prudence of ship owners.

"The policy pursued at Lloyd's, which sets the example for the insurance office, is an evil that may do us permanent harm if it is not at once corrected. Between the poltroonery of ship owners, and Confederate *privateers*, our shipping interests *must* give way. At present we know of few American ships, genuine American bottoms, except such as carry guns aboard. Is not this deplorable?" Very; but, we hope the condition that has brought it about, will increase daily, until only peace shall make room for other genuine American vessels than gunboats.

We have exhausted our space, but by no means the evidence, direct and indirect, which we could adduce in proof of the pleasing fact that our little navy has been vehemently, yet, in some sense, noiselessly at work, wherever it could accomplish most. The subject, with the attestations that pertain to it, is one to which we shall recur.

YANKEE RAIDERS IN VIRGINIA.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Jan. 25, 1865.

Messrs E J. Hale & Sons: I received this morning a letter from a niece, living in Madison county, Va, on the Upper Rapidan, giving an account of the doings of the yankees in their late raid through that section. The lady alluded to in my niece's letter, and who defended herself and premises from yankee intrusion, is well known to me. Her husband belongs to the gallant Mosby's command. I make some extracts which you are at liberty to publish if you think proper.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

WM A. BANKS.

"Jan'y 10th, 1865.

* * * "We have had a very cold winter, accompanied with a great deal of snow and ice, but this has not prevented the yankees visiting us. They came in a few days before Christmas by way of Sperryville and down the Robinson river, spreading desolation as they came. There is not a house in their track which was not plundered by them. They carried off a great deal of clothing and bed-clothing with them and such as was not carried off they tore up. Provisions and provender were destroyed, crockery broken, and knives, forks and spoons carried away. Some wealthy families have not a change of clothing or a blanket to cover with.

Every house at Madison C. H. was robbed except two, one belonging to Mr. E——, taken for headquarters, and the other was cousin C——'s. She armed herself with a pistol and stood in her door and dared them to enter, which challenge they thought it prudent to decline. Cousin S. R—— has nothing left in her house. The yankees took everything from her that they did not destroy. It was very cold the night after the scamps left and she had to sit up by the fire. They emptied her beds and stirred them up with molasses and lampblack. I could not begin to tell you in the short limits of a letter the damage they did in a week. They sent us word that they would pay us a visit, but our Southern boys broke up their programme. *****"

Georgia.—MACON, Jan. 26.—Gov. Brown has called a meeting of the Legislature here on Feb. 14, to finish up the business interrupted by the yankees at Milledgeville.

The Grand Ladies' Bazaar in Columbia closed on Friday evening last. The affair was a great success, netting, as one of the Columbia papers hints, something like a quarter of a million of dollars.—*Charleston Mercury.*

Volunteering in New York.—In the Bureau of Military Statistics at Albany it is estimated that $65,000,000 in local bounties was paid to volunteers in the State of New York during the past year.

The independence of the Confederacy is to be achieved more surely by the sheer force of endurance than by anything else, and even if we should fail to accomplish it by the signal strokes of military fortune, it will be worked out at the last; and that much more speedily than is generally supposed, says the Richmond "Examiner," by a simple competition of the real resolution of the South with a confidence in the North, now bloated and swaggering, but really on the verge of the last and fatal necessity.

TAKEN UP,

AND committed to the Jail of Duplin county, as a runaway, a negro man who says his name is GEORGE, and belongs to Miss Bettie Rogers of Robeson county, N. C. The owner of said negro is notified to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away, otherwise he will be dealt with as the law directs.

JOHN W HINSON, Shff.

Kenansville, Jan'y 27. 5-7tpd

Sale of Bank Stock and other articles at Auction.

ON Tuesday the 7th day of February next, at the Market House in the Town of Fayetteville, at 12 o'clock M., I will sell for cash,

10 Shares of the Capital Stock of the Bank of North Carolina.

6 Shares of the Capital Stock of the Bank of Clarendon.

1 Stove with pipe complete; weights and beam for Scales, good as new; 1 or 2 cutting Knives of the best patterns, and perhaps other articles

W. DRAUGHON, Aust'r.

Jan'y 25. 4 ts

Handsome Silver Plated Ware

AT AUCTION.

ON Thursday next the 2d February 1865, will be sold at Auction, a beautiful Tea and Dinner set of DOUBLE PLATED SILVER WARE, consisting of TEA and WATER POT, Cream Potted Sugar Dish, Sugar Tongs, large Pitcher, Salver and Napkin Rings

JNO H COOK, Aucr.

Jan'y 26. 4 2t

Fayetteville Arsenal and Armory,
Q. M. Office, Jan'y 24, 1865.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office until the 5th day of February 1865, for the delivery at such times and in such quantities as the Quartermaster may require, of one hundred and fifty cords of OAK WOOD, and three hundred cords of PINE WOOD. Said wood must conform to the standard measurement, viz: 8x4x4.

J. M. McGEHAN,
Capt. and A. A. Q. M.

4 1t22

For Rent.

A DESIRABLE DWELLING in the centre of town, containing eight large rooms, with necessary outhouses. Apply to WM A. WHITEHEAD.

Jan'y 26. 4tf

Fayetteville Candle Factory.

PERSONS wishing to have candles moulded will please leave their tallow with

A. M. CAMPBELL.

Jan'y 25. 4-8tpd

An Overseer Wanted.

I WANT to employ an OVERSEER. He must be a clear of conscript, and sober, steady and attentive; one in whom confidence can be placed. Early application is desirable. JAS. G COOK.

Jan'y 26. 4 2t

A Piano Wanted.

I WANT to purchase a GOOD PIANO, which I will pay for in Confederate money or in cotton. The cotton is in a safe place and may remain there until wanted. JAS. G. COOK.

Jan'y 26. 4 2t

Superior Salt.

ON consignment, and for sale or barter for corn or bacon, at the office of

MOORE & CASHWELL.

Jan'y 26. 4-1mpd

WANTED,

HIDES to tan on shares. Terms ⅓ Leather or its equivalent in cash. We can tan it in a very short time if desired by Hickle's patent. Persons wishing their Hides tanned can send them to our address to Egypt Depot, where they will be taken from and leather delivered at our expense. Our address is Beaumont, Chatham County W. D. WATSON & CO

Reference Messrs G W Williams & Co, Fayetteville.

Jan'y 25 4 2mpd

The Enterprise Cotton Factory

is now prepared to exchange for corn or bacon the

Finest Numbers of Spun Yarn,

suitable for Spring and Summer Cloth. This Thread is of a superior quality, not surpassed by any in the Confederacy.

[illegible]

AVON E. HALL,
Forwarding & Commission Merchant,

WILL give quick despatch to goods consigned to him. Particular attention given to all produce sent him for sale. Consignments of Naval Stores for sale solicited, [illegible]

[illegible] 18 [illegible]

THE INSANE ASYLUM OF NORTH CAROLINA.

From the report of the accomplished Superintendent of the Insane Asylum we cull some facts.

On the 31st of October, 1862, there were in the Asylum 195 patients. Since that time there have been admitted 81. There are now in the institution 180, of whom 96 are males. Of the 96 discharged or died within the last two years, 23 were recovered, and 48 died. The large number of deaths was caused by the extraordinary prevalence of diseases of a Typhoid type. A number of admissions have been made from the army, and it is stated that the proper authorities are taking the necessary steps to establish in this State an Asylum for the insane soldiers of all the States.

Of the 276 patients under treatment within the last two years, it is noticeable that a large majority, 161, are unmarried. 21 widows are reported insane, while only 3 widowers are found in that unfortunate state.

The following table will show the forms of insanity under which the patients suffered:

Mania,	175	Dementia,	33
Epilepsy,	17	Imbecility,	33
Melancholy,	9	Suicidal,	3
Puerperal,	1	Homicidal,	3

The causes of insanity have been various, and suggest sad reflections to a thoughtful mind. We notice disappointment in love, loss of husbands, (not of wives,) of property, of parents, of friends, of children, jealousy, pecuniary difficulties, hard study, use of opium, intemperance, disease, and as we feared, no less than sixteen have been deprived of reason by THE WAR.

Among the countless evils of this great strife, our noble Asylum is struggling to alleviate the sorrows of the unfortunate insane. Although few other things may be saved from the wreck, all must pray that war shall not blast that.

Ral. Conservative.

Death of A. M. Gorman, Esq.—We record with unfeigned regret the death of A. M. Gorman, Esq., the Junior Editor of the Confederate of this city. This announcement will be received with general regret and surprise. It was only last Friday that he was closely engaged in his arduous labors in his office. That night he complained of being unwell and took his bed. Up to Monday night, although his disease developed itself as erysipelas, no apprehension was felt. But on Tuesday morning it assumed a most violent form which continued to increase, causing great pain and suffering and terminated his earthly existence between eleven and twelve o'clock that night. Mr. Gorman was in the 51st year of his age. He was a native of this city, learned the printing business when a boy, with the late Joseph Gales, Esq., of the Register, and for some years after attaining his majority, lived in Georgia, where he first married. He returned to this city some years ago, and in 1848 established the Spirit of the Age, a paper which, under his able management, maintained for years a deserved popularity in the State and in the South. For nearly a year he has been associated with Col. McRae in the conduct of the Confederate, to the popularity of which paper he has contributed much.

Mr. Gorman was an excellent citizen, a man of a genial and kind spirit, benevolent and charitable, and a warm hearted friend. A more devoted husband and father we have not known. Losing his first wife, he married an accomplished lady of Virginia some nine years ago, whom he leaves a sorrowing widow with four children to lament their loss. The death of such a man is a public loss.—*Ral. Conservative.*

Death of Benj. A. Kittrell.—Benjamin A. Kittrell, Esq., of Lexington, died, some two weeks ago, at his house in that place. He was a young gentlemen of liberal University education and was largely read in polite and elegant literature. He had not been at the bar many years, but he had made considerable reputation as a clear-headed counsellor. Socially, he was a gentleman of a genial and sunny nature. He was fond of his friends and a true hearted companion. All who knew him will mourn, that he passed so early from this theatre of action to the eternal home of mankind.—*Greensboro' Patriot.*

Mr. Kittrell was formerly President of the Bank of Lexington, and in the State Convention of 1861 was a Delegate from Davidson County. He was a native of Granville.

North Carolina Troops.—The Richmond Dispatch says:—

"In the fall of Fort Fisher the troops of the Confederacy have lost a fort, but not their honor. North Carolina, in particular, has reason to be proud of the prowess of her sons. This is not the first, the second, nor even the fiftieth time, that the soldiers of that State have proved the mettle whereof they are made. There are no better soldiers in the Confederacy or the world. There is very little gas or humbug about North Carolina; but, at the pinch of the hill, she is always strong and true. We have no words to express our admiration of the stern and steadfast heroism she has exhibited in this war."

North Carolina Resolutions.—In the Confederate Senate, on the 21st inst., Mr. Graham presented resolutions of the N. C. Legislature urging the passage of a law to allow pay to soldiers discharged from the army on account of being disabled, such as is given to those who are placed on the retired list, but not actually discharged; also, a resolution of the same, urging the brigading in brigades from their State of all N. C. troops. Also, a resolution of the same relative to the expenses of executing the conscript law in North Carolina.

Military Discharges.—In the House of Representatives last week, Mr. Smith of Georgia reported from the Military Committee the following bill, which was passed:

"The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the non-commissioned officer, musician or private who has lost, or may hereafter lose, in the line of his duty in the military service, an arm, leg, hand or foot, shall be discharged from said service upon his application therefor, and, after such discharge, shall be exempt from military service of any kind whatever."

Resigned.—Rev. W. R. Gualtney, Chaplain 1st N. C. Troops, and Capt. A. Jarrett, Co. C, 26th N. C. Troops, have resigned.

Ral. Conservative.

Heavy Sleet.—This section of the country was last week visited by the heaviest sleet which has fallen within the memory of our oldest men. A great deal of timber has been broken down by it. We believe sleets presage good fruit crops.

Greensboro' Patriot.

Sleet.—The sleet of Friday night and Saturday was the heaviest and most damaging to timber of any known in this section for many years. The shade and fruit trees in town were nearly all damaged, and in many cases ruined. Forest trees were also damaged, and sometimes uprooted by their accumulated loads of ice. The telegraph lines South and East were broken in numerous places.—*Salisbury Watchman, 24th.*

For Sale.—The Tarboro' Southerner is now offered for sale and unless disposed of privately, will be sold at public auction on Tuesday of February Court.

General-in-Chief.—Congress last week removed the injunction of secrecy from a bill passed to provide for appointment of a General-in Chief of the armies of the Confederate States, as follows:

"The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an officer who shall be known and designated as General in-Chief, and who shall be the ranking officer of the army, and who, as such, shall have command of the military forces of the Confederate States.

"SECTION 2. That the act providing a staff for the General who may be assigned to duty at the seat of Government is hereby repealed, and that the General-in-Chief who may be appointed under the provisions of this act shall have a staff not less than that now allowed a general in the field, to be assigned by the President, or to be appointed by him, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate."

Gen. Johnston.—The injunction of secrecy has been removed and the following resolution passed by Congress made public:

"Resolved, That if the President will assign General Joseph E. Johnston to the command of the Army of Tennessee, it will, in the opinion of the Congress of the Confederate States, be hailed with joy by the army and receive the approval of the country."

Cabinet changes.—It was reported yesterday that the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State, had sent in his resignation. We think this is true, though we have no positive information on the subject.

It is understood that Mr Seddon was induced to resign by action taken by the Virginia Congressional delegation. These gentlemen, it appears, sent in to the President an official announcement that they had lost confidence in all the members of the Cabinet except Mr. Trenholm, and asked for a change. Mr. Seddon being informed of this action, immediately sent in his resignation.—*Rich. Dispatch.*

The Exemption Bill.—The House of Representatives, says the Richmond Dispatch, has passed an exemption bill, which provides radical changes in the present exemption law. It repeals absolutely the fifteen-negro law; provides that no mail contractor under forty-five years of age shall be exempt, and limits the power of detail hitherto rested in the hands of the President and Secretary of War. We have no reason to believe the bill, in its present form, will pass the Senate. The sense of the Senate, as recently incidentally expressed in debate, is in favor of leaving untouched the exemption law now in force.

Recognition.—A report is being circulated that France and England intend after the 4th of March next, to recognise Lincoln as the President of the Northern States and to recognise the South as an independent nation. This is founded on a Paris letter, published in the Northern papers two weeks ago. Paris newspaper correspondents notoriously draw upon their imaginations for their facts.—*Rich. Dispatch.*

A Circular from Gen. D. H. Hill.—Gen. Hill, now commanding at Augusta, issued on Tuesday last a circular of which the first paragraph is as follows:—

"All non-combatants are respectfully requested to leave the city immediately. If their removal be delayed until the emergency shall have arrived, no railroad facilities can be allowed them. In the class of non-combatants are included all young gentlemen who have no relish for the trenches. These are exhorted to leave at once under the escort of the old ladies."

Deaths of South Carolina Soldiers during the War.—The following is a recapitulation of the whole loss, as classified by the "Roll of Honor" agent:

Brigadier Generals	4
Colonels	20
Lieutenant-Colonels	15
Majors	10
Captains	128
Lieutenants	343
Staff Officers	86
Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates,	7,074
Total	7,675

Yankee News from the West.—MOBILE, Jan. 24.—Memphis papers of the 21st report that Thomas has arrived at Eastport and that an attack will be made on the flank of Hood's army within a fortnight. The yankee Gen. Meagher with several thousand troops from Chattanooga is reported to have arrived at Nashville en route to join Sherman at Savannah via New York. A raid on Memphis by Forrest is expected.

What the Yankees think of Traitors.—A yankee letter from Savannah says:—

A large number of citizens have expressed a desire to take the oath of allegiance, or have already done so. Mr. G. B. Lamar, one of the most prominent, as he was one of the earliest rebels in the State, has applied to be permitted to take the oath, but permission has not as yet been granted. He is too ready to change his coat, as all his interests lie in town. He has a quantity of cotton he may desire to save; but he will be unable to accomplish his cherished design. His record is too clear and conclusive to promise success in his efforts to pull the wool over the eyes of the authorities.

Nearly all the traders in town have taken the oath, and have promised to open their places of business and carry on trade as before. The Hebrew persuasion is well represented in this class, and not one has presented himself who has not, from first to last, remained a firm Union man—a regular Gibraltar, against which the waves of secession and rebellion rolled and broke in vain. They were never cajoled into the rebel ranks, nor driven in by threats. Such a band of pure, unselfish patriots, and honest, straightforward men never existed before; and Savannah feels honored, I doubt not, to-day, in being the asylum for these spotless patriots to pass their last days in. One, an Alderman, is accused by many of raising the first rebel flag in the city; but this accusation cannot be true, because he says he is a Union man. Others have been unfortunate enough to place their autographs to little documents, suggesting investigations into charges of disloyalty to the rebel Government, which documents are now in military hands, to be used in good time.

Gen. Sherman.—The Georgia paper of yankee proclivities has been telling the people out there that Gen. Sherman is opposed to meddling with slaves. Gen. Sherman himself has written a letter, denying the report that he was opposed to changing the *status* of slavery in the South, and saying that he is in favor of putting all the able-bodied negroes obtainable in the army.

Tennessee Yankee Convention.—The Tennessee Convention passed, by nearly a unanimous vote, a resolution that no person should be considered as qualified to vote until he shall take a stringent oath declaring himself unreservedly in favor of the Union and all laws and proclamations issued by President Lincoln or Congress since the war began.

The California papers publish "marriages," "births," "divorces," and "deaths" in regular order. This is systematizing the thing.

WAR NEWS.

Gen. Hood's withdrawal from Command of the Army of Tennessee.—HEAD QR'S, ARMY OF TENN, TUPELO, Jan'y 23.—Soldiers! at my request I have this day been relieved from the command of this army. In taking leave of you accept my thanks for the patience with which you have endured the hardships of the recent campaign. I am alone responsible for its conception, and strove to do my duty in its execution. I urge upon you the importance of giving your entire support to the distinguished soldier who now assumes command. I shall look with deep interest upon all your future operations and rejoice at your success. JNO. B. HOOD, Gen.

The James River Fleet.—RICHMOND, Jan. 25.—The Confederate fleet in James river attempted to pass the obstructions yesterday. The wooden gunboat Drewry, carrying 1 gun, ran aground, was abandoned and blown up. The iron clad Fredericksburg passed the obstructions, but returned in consequence of the Virginia and Richmond running upon the Shoals between the Dutch Gap canal and Howlett's. They get off at high tide and returned with the Fredericksburg to their usual moorings.

Sherman's Movements.—CHARLESTON, Jan'y 25.—A large body of troops from Savannah are reported moving on the Augusta road.

A raid against Weldon.—PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—A large yankee raiding party, infantry and cavalry, is reported moving up the Chowan in the direction of Weldon.

From Wilmington.—Reports current on the Street this morning relative to the reappearance of some 60 sail of the enemy's fleet, were not confirmed by any information received at headquarters here, from Gen. Hoke, up to 8 o'clock this morning. On the contrary, everything is reported quiet below, and no change in the fleet.

Journal, 26th.

From the Roanoke.—The only additional intelligence we have of the yankee movement towards Weldon is that a force is pushing on from the direction of the Albemarle sound. They had crossed the Chowan river at last accounts.

Goldsboro State Journal, 26th.

A friend of ours in Eastern North Carolina, writing under date of the 24th inst., says:

"There is certainly a Yankee raid to Weldon or Halifax, as six thousand Yankees landed at Colerain, sent thirty or forty cavalry to Harrellsville, who captured three of Capt. Beamon's men and returned. We captured one of their men.

A report now reaches us that the whole party, 1,500 cavalry, 4,000 infantry, and 15 pieces of artillery, are advancing by Bich Square."

We presume that the authorities are properly informed, and looking after the affairs in that quarter.—*Ral. Conservative, 27th*

From the United States.—RICHMOND, Jan. 26.—U S papers of the 23d say that the greater portion of the large vessels of Porter's Wilmington fleet has returned to Hampton Roads. They report that 5 blockade runners, ignorant of the fall of Fisher, ran in at New Inlet and had been captured.

A letter from Philadelphia says that Mr. Blair has full authority from Lincoln to give safe conduct to Washington for peace commissioners from President Davis. The National Intelligencer, announcing Blair's second visit to Richmond, says "we have good reason authorizing us to say that Mr. Blair goes to Richmond upon no hollow, heartless mission, but upon one of substance, giving people hope that an opportunity will be afforded for closing the war by negotiation." The Herald says that Seward has most friendly relations with the managers of the Intelligencer.

A Cairo telegram of the 21st says that Thomas's Army is going into winter quarters now building at Eastport on the Tennessee River, and will not probably move from that point.

The Toronto (Canada) Leader says that the British Gov't has ordered 30 gunboats carrying 3500 trained men to the Lakes on the yankee frontier.

Gen. Henry Wilson is re-elected Senator from Massachusetts. Gold has advanced to 210.

The spirit of the Army.—RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—The 53d Va. Reg't have unanimously adopted resolutions declaring their purpose to fight for liberty and self government as long as the Confederacy can furnish a cartridge, and to every dishonorable offer of peace on submission, made by the enemy, they will reply with the crack of the rifle. The last resolution reads: "These are our sentiments, and we call upon the people at home and the authorities to support and rally to us; and, with God's blessing, we will bear the Southern Cross through fire and blood, till each star upon it shall glow and shine forth in the firmament of nations."

Gen. Lee's Opinions.—RICHMOND, Friday, January 6.—A distinguished member of Congress called on Gen. Lee a few days ago, to talk over the state of the country. Gen. Lee said he saw nothing in the military situation to justify despondency, much less despair. His only fear was that the disease of depression might be permitted to spread among the people. If this could be prevented, he was sanguine of success. The member of Congress was opposed to the use of slaves as soldiers, but Gen. Lee's arguments induced him to withdraw all opposition. Gens. Longstreet and Ewell concur with Gen. Lee.

Correspondence Charleston Mercury.

The Blair Mission.—RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—There have been no reliable developments relative to Blair's mission, though it is generally supposed he is prepared for re-union on such terms as the Confederate authorities may submit.

Sec'y of War.—RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—Mr. Seddon continues to act as Secretary of War. The position was certainly tendered to Gen. Breckinridge.

Change in the Command of the Second Corps.—A letter from Gen. Lee's army announces that Maj. Gen. Gordon has been placed in command of the Second corps, lately commanded by Lieut. Gen. Early.—*Richmond Examiner.*

Foote again on the Wing.—The Hon. H. S. Foote, of Tennessee, left the city yesterday morning by the Fredericksburg train, *en route* for Prince George county, Virginia.

Richmond Paper, 25th.

Yankee Steamer captured.—The Memphis Democrat says that the steamer Verango was captured and burned by guerillas on the 8th inst., near Skipworth's landing. The passengers and crew were taken prisoners. Among the former was a cotton speculator from New York—name not given—from whom the guerillas took sixty thousand dollars in greenbacks.

Trans-Mississippi.—Col. W. A. Broadwell, Chief of the Cotton Bureau, Trans-Mississippi Department, has purchased and introduced into the Department, pledging payment in cotton, 18,800 pairs of blankets, 60,000 pairs of shoes, 150,000 yards of shirting and towels, 150,000 pounds of powder, 200,000 pounds of lead, 5,000,000 percussion caps and a large quantity of guns, 140,000 yards gray army cloth and sattinet, and a large quantity of hardware, copper, saltpetre, and a great quantitity of small stores.