#### AFFAIRS NEAR RICHMOND.

Unusual movements and activity had been observed in the rebel lines round Richmond during the past few days preceeding our last advices, indicating designs of some new enterpoise on the part-of Gen. Lee, and it is surmised that, alarmed parts of Gen. Lee, and it is surmised that, alarmed by the progress of Sherman's and the other national forces, he has concluded that the time for giving up both Richmond and Petersburg, and falling back to Lynchburg or some other defensible position, has at last arrived. General A. P. Hill's corps of his army is said to have been under orders on Thursday of last week, to be prepared to march a hamment's notice, and causiderable to march at a moment's notice; and considerable commotion within the rebel lines was displayed. There are also rumors that Lice meditates an attack on Grant. All these matters, taken in connection with the fact that the rebel journals have received orders from the authorities to be particularly reticent regarding military affairs, give color to the belief that something more than ordinant is in present in the state line. nary is in process of execution within their lines. The influx of rebel deserters, however, remains unintermitted. Washington's birthday was celebrated with great spirit throughout the Potomac and James ormies. As part of the festivities, the rebels in front of Petersburg were trented to a vigorous shelling early in the morning.

CERTAINLY.

The South Carolinian of February 9th, printed at Columbia, holds forth in this strain:

We see no real, tangible cause for despondency. The great heart of the nation, the bone and sinew of the country, the veterans in the field—all, all are hopeful; yea, sanguine of ultimate success. Why should we despond? Is not our cause just, and will not the God of rattles defeed the right? Our material is yet ample, and adequate and sufficient—our resources abundant; and let but the popular pulse of our gallantarmy—all vibrate with unanimity—and depend upon it, the day will not be far distant when the bright sun of liberty and independence will shine upon us.

Wonder how, then

de how they feel on the subject about

No Questioning.—it frequently happens, especially under military rule, that orders are necessarily issued affecting the business pursuits and personal habits of those in no wise connected with personal habits of those in no wise connected with the army, the reasons for which are not apparent to any but the highest military authorities. There is always a reason for such orders, and most generally it has no relation to the citizen or citizens most affected. It is not right always to suppose that restrictions are imposed to punish a population, or any part of it, or to take revenge upon them for any real or fancied wrongs. They arise usually from imperative inclinary necessities, and their imposition is as distrateful to the authorities as to those most affected. We advise the citizens of Wilmington to refrain from questioning zens of Wilmington to refrain from questioning the propriety of any order that has been or may be issued touching their rights and privileges, but to yield a willing obedien e thereto. They have the assurance that the officers in command here, from General Schofield down, are capable, high-minded and benevolent, and that no restrictions will be imposed but such as are rendered absolutely research for the property of the prope but by necessary for the safety and good order of military and civilians alike, and to promote the general welfare of the national cause. We may not see the reason for all these orders, but the reason nevertheless exists, and the orders will be

Not Bad for Bull Run Russen.—It is the opinion of Bull Run Russell, says the New York Herald, that with the Federal occupation of Charleston and Wilmington the rebellion will be shut up in a receiver. Just so: and then the receiver will be exhausted, and then the rictims enclosed will die for want of air or corn bread, which is all the same.

all the same.

More Blundering in Congress — Every day or two we have some new evidence of blundering in Congress. It has just committed a stupid act which throws some of its previous doings in the shade. It has by one vote — 72 to 71—decided to repeal that portion of the Cenfiscation act which declares that the confiscation of real estate shall not continue beyond the lives of rebel owners. The constitution of the United States (article 3, section 3.) declares that "no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attained." It appears incredible that legislators can be found ignorant enough to pass a law in violation of so clear a provision of the constitution. But a may be that the object is to repeal the Confiscation use altogether. In that view such oddities of legislation may be explainable.—N. Y. Horald, Feb. 25.

New Markett for Iron and Copper.—A Paris letter says:

A great many workshops in the centre of Paris are at present buy in manufacturing satt copper ornaments in initation. of gold—certings, chains and rings of the same—foughter with table ornaments, all for the Chinese markets.

A lighthouse of sheat iron, for lighting one of the most dangerous points on the coast of Africa, has been commenced in one of the great ron works of taris. The same establishment has received orders construct several large cases of sheet iron to be entitle Egyption the preservation of corn.

SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA.

[The following cheering verses were written by Adjulant Byers, of the 5th lown, while confined in the rebel prison camp at Columbia, S. C.; and being set to music were frequently sung by the prisoners as a relief to the monotony of their situation. It was sung at the Wilmington Thea-ter, on Wednesday Evening, producing immense applause and two encores:

pplause and two encores:]
Our camp fires shone bright on the mountain
That frowned on the river below,
While we stood by our guns in the morning,
And eagerly watched for the foe;
When a horseman rode out from the darkness
That hung over mountain and tree,
And shouted, "boys, up and be ready,
For Sherman will march to the sea."
And shouted, &c.

Then forward, boys! forward to buttle,
We marched on our wearisome way.
And we stormed the wild hills of Resaca,
God bless those who fell on that day!
Then Kenesaw, dark in its glory.
Frowned down on the flag of the free,
But the East and the West bore her stand
When Sherman marched down to the se
But the East, &c.

If [Still onward we pressed fill our banners Swept out from Atlanta's grim walls, And the blood of the patriot dampened. The soil where the traitor's fing falls: But we paused not to weep for the fallen. Who slept by each river and tree. Yet we twined them a wreath of the Laurel, And Sherman marched dewn to the sea. Yet we twined, &c.

Proud, proud was our army that morning
That stood by the cypress and pine,
Then Sherman said, "boys, you are weary,
This day fair Savannah is mine!"
That schoed o'er river and sea,
And the stars on our banners shone brighter
When Sherman marched down to the sea.
And the stars, &c.

THE DESTITUTION OF OUR RELIEVED PRISONERS

WILMINGTON, March 2d, 1865.
To the Editor of the Herald of the Union.

The inhumanity and wickedness of this rebel-lion can find no better illustration than the prislion can find no better illustration than the prisoners now being brought within our lines. Taking the appearance of these men, wan, ragged and reduced to mere skeletons by stairation, and exposure, and to hear their staries of the barbarous and heartless treatment to which they have been subjected, and it proves this recopie of boasted chivalry—the rulers and men of important positions in the South—to possess the lowest character for humanity, and the highest for malignity. The authorities are doing all that can be done

ther for humanity, and the highest for malignity. The authorities are doing all that can be done for these suffering men. The Sanitary Commission has its agents who are devoting day and night in their work of mercy. A large number of men are engaged in making shirts and other clothing, and the very best arrangement possible, under the circumstances, has been made for feeding them. Some tomporary buildings at the band ing them. Some temporary buildings, at the head of Market street, are used for this purpose. The matter is under the control of Lieutenant A. Cantwell, A. C. S., 23d A. C., and ander his very efficient management five hundred men can be fed every hour. A large ration of bread and beef, with coffee is given each man. A visit to this place would well repay any one who wishes to see how starzed men cat.

J. R. G.

#### The French-Mexican Cession.

The French-Mexican Cession.

The Times says: "The question of the cession of Lower Culifornia to France is not considered to have been settled even by the unqualified assertion telegraphed from Paris, that the news on the subject is whally unfounded.—
Indeed, it can be positively shown to have had some foundation, whatever may be the ultimate extent of its realization. Mr. Gwin, after the Southern secession, of which he was an advocate, visited France, and energetically laid certain plans before the Emperst, which, according to advices from Paris, were at all events, received with very great atfuntion. It is like wise believed that means were furnished to him to proceed upon the mission which has led to the present announcement. In any case the public, remembering the number of formal statements and contradictions that precoded the transfer of Savoy to France, will, for a considerable time, regard the matter with reserve. According to some impressions, the most probable arrangement is that France will not immediately take an absolute cession, but will guarantee a new loan to Mexico on the security of the provinces named."

MAXMILIAN AND THE POPE.—The Paris Memorial Diplomatique announces that the Emperor Maximilian has addressed an autograph letter to the Pope, in which he lays before Plus IX, the imperative necessity which compelled him to adopt the measure alluded to in his communication to his Minister of Justice as to the conversion of church property into crown lands. The young Emperor's arguments are couched in terms of the most profound respect, yet, true to Hapsburg blood, he does not yield one iota of his prerogative as Sovereign, and tells his Holiness that the State of affairs in the internor of Mexico, and the urgent necessity of concilia-

ting without loss of time, the opposite factions over whom he had been called to reign, domai ded the measure he had adopted, and which he had not the slightest intention of retracing.

#### The War in the Southwest.

The steamer Robert Burns, from Memphis, had three hundred and forty-six bales of cotton for Cincinnati and thirty-nine for Evansville.

A secuting party under Captain Newell, of the Eighth New Hampshire, left Vidalin early in the menth to patrol along the Black river.—They have returned in a terrible state of dilapidation, having subsisted four days on horse and mule ment alone, in a swamp surrounded by rebels.

idation, having subsisted root any and mule meat alone, in a swamp surrounded by rebels.

Brig. Gen. Meredith has been relieved from the command of Western Kentucky. His successor is unannounsed.

Colonel McArthur, late commander of the post of Columbus, Ky., and Captain Goss, a provost marshal, arrested by Gen, Meredith, recently, have been fully exonerated and have returned to Columbus.

The trial of General Paine is progressing.—
Thus far not a single charge against him has been sustained.

Memphis, Friday, Feb. 24, 1865. (Via Carro, Feb. 26.)

The Bulletin of this morning says that the Robel leaders have lately issued orders to have all the detachments of their troops in West Tennessee, together with such conscripts as they have gathered, sent South without delay. We have reason to believe that a large portion of the Robel forces lately about Memphis have already gone. Their destination is said to be Mobile.

The raid into Arkansas developes the fact

Mobile.

The raid into Arkansas developes the fact that much suffering exists from the scarcity of

CAIRO, Feb. 26, 1865.

The steamers Liberty and Belle St. Louis from Memphis, have passed up with 313 bales of cotton for Evansville. The latter had 71 bales for St. Louis.

A Vickshure

bales for St. Louis.

A Vicksburg correspondent says:
Deserters from Dick Taylor's army declare there is no intention on the part of the Rebel authorities to abandon Mobile. That city always has been the depot of arms and military material of all kinds, and that the cannon and supplies recently taken to Selma formed no part of the armament and stores intended for the use of Mobile. The Rebels believe Selma will be assailed soon, and are trying to put it in a good defensive condition without weakening Mobile.

good defensive condition without weakening Mobile.

The same correspondent says:
The report that Forrest has 25,000 men under him is untrue. He has not over 2,000. Eick Taylor and Forrest together cannot number 25,000. It is conjectured that one of two corps, which recently left Columbus, Miss., has gone to Mobile.

Three iron-clads have been stationed at the mouth of the Red River to frustrate any raid on that stream.

It is rumored that Brig. Gen. Meredith has been reinstated.

The steamer Luminary from New Orleans, 19th, has arrived, en route to St. Louis.

Much excitement costs at New Orleans in consequence of publicity given to the exposure made of a scoret society opposed to the Union, but recent developments prove that it is ruled by Confederate symputhisers, whose object is to get political power, and through that power protect the secessionists of that city from their just deserts.

### The Occupation of Columbia, S. C.

[From the Richmond (V.a.) Sentinel, Fel "Official intelligence was receiped War Office last night that Sherning was an yesterday morning, advancing town near Winnsbore, a point on the railry ing to Charlotte, and thirty miles norm. Columbia.

"Charlotte is thronged with rafuguess from Columbia, who report that some of Wheeler cavalry plundered the city" before the evaluation.

"Charlotte is thronged with ratugess from Columbia, who report that some of Wheele eavalry plundered the city before the earlier cavalry plundered the city before the earlier.

"Up to Tuesday last it was uncertain whether Columbia would come within the immediate range of Sherman's purposes, and consequently the public mind was not prepared for such an early solution of the question. The Government had, however, just two weeks ago taken the precaution to remove its specie deposited there, amounting to several millions of dollars, and within the past few days all of the dies and plates belonging to the Treasury Department, together with the supplies of Treasury notes on hand, were all safely convoyed away.

"The enemy being in possession of Branchville, Orangelung and Kingsville, procluded movements on the roads leading to Charleston, and an unfortunate accident upon the Charlotte road cutting off nearly all the rolling stock of the road from Columbia, prevented the authorities from making use of that avenue to sake other valuable materials in the city. A large quantity of medical stores belonging to the Government were there on hand, of which part were saved, and the rest, for want of time and transportation, destroyed. The presses and fixtures for printing the areasury notes in the establishments of Evans & Cogswell, and Keating & Ball, were necessarily abandoned, together with the other extensive machinery of those well known works. The first named establishment had one hundred and two printing presses, and unquestionably the largest and best equipped publishing house in the South.

"The enemy's force operating west of Columbia reached the banks of the Congarce, opposite the city, on Thursday evening, and threw in a number of shells, to which our batteres responded. A portion of this column moved up the river during the night and crossed the Saluda and Broad rivers, the main tributaries of the Congarce, which neet near Columbia, a few miles above the city. During the movement General Beaurequate evacuated the

withdrawn to a position some twenty miles

day.

"The enemy's force entering Columbia consisted of General Sherman's main army, a large portion of which immediately moved up the Charlotte Railroad, while another portion has maked down in the direction of Charleston. The latter city has doubtlesse ere this been expensed."

The will of the late James W. Wallack, proprietor of Wallack's theatre, Broadway, has been admitted to probate in the Surrogate's Court. It divides his estate between his two sons. John Lester Wallack, the actor, and Capt. Henry Wallack, of the British army, the theatre being included in the portion of the former.

A bill is pending in the Indiana Legislature disqualitying any person in that State from holding office who, since March 4th, 1861, has aided in any way the enomies of the United States, or who has been a member of a disloyal organization.

organization.

Are Eleven persons were killed and several injured on the St. Louis and Chicago Railroad on the 16th instant, by the breaking of a rail.

#### COMMERCIAL.

STOCKS.

CLOSING PRIOR: AT GALLAGHER'S NEW YORK EVENING STOCK EXCHANGE. NEW YORK, February 25;

Gold.... New York Central. Brie Hudson Michigan Southern Illinois Gentral Stocks steady <sup>®</sup>gold firm.

#### TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS

# THEATRE.

FRUIAY EVENING, MARCH 3, 1805 will be presented the Laughable Play of THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

Dance, - Miss Selina Warner Song, Mr. R. L. Van Osten

To conclude with the Protean Farce of

ADMISSION.

Parquette, Centre Gallery,

Doors open at 7: Curtain rise at 71/2 o'clock. March 3rd, 1865.

SATURDAY EVENING, MAROH 4th,

OUR PAROLED PRISONERS,

# TO SUTLERS AND OTHERS!

SELLING OFF CHEAP:
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
THE BALANCE of cargo belonging to
DILLINGHAM & CO.,

Purveyors i Purveyors to the Navy.
Consisting of '
Fine Groceries and Provisions, suitable for Officer
Messes and Family use. On board
SCHOONERS CAROLINE & CORNELIA.
March 3rd, 1865.

March 3rd, 1895.

MUSICAL NOTICE.

PROF. J. BENEDICT's prepared to tune Piano's, and will also give instruction on the Piano; Violin and Guitar.

Ordew left at Whitaker's Book Store, or addressed to me personally at the Theatre, will receive prompt attention.

Prof. of Music and Leader of Orchestra, at the Theatre.

March 3rd, 1865.

S10 REWARD.

S10 REWARD.

T OST, on the evening of March 1st, at the Theather the building, in the crowd, an OPERA GLASS: Black Moreceo Case, and marked under the slide with point offknife "Gilly."

The above reward will be paid if left at the Headquarters of Major General Couch.

Wilmington, N. C., March 2nd, 1865.

4-3t

WANTED,
Apply at the Box Office, between 10 A.M.,
March 3rd, 1866

WANTED,
Apply at the Box Office, between 10 A.M.,
4-1t

SCOTT & BALDWIN'S

## Ladies, Misses and Children's OUTFITTING ROOMS St. Nicholas Block, 505 Broadway.

MRS. E. WINTLE,

(Formerly of "Genin's Bazaar,")

UNDER whose Superintendence the above Departments are conducted, is pleased to announce to her former patrons and the Ladies of New York generally, that, in connection with the numerous ARTISTES under her direction, she is prepared to furnish, promptly,

Ladies, Misses and Ghildren's Outfiting to Order,

LADIES' UNDER LINEN,

Of fine Quality, Kept in Stock, ready for immediate use:

BRIDAL TROSSEAUX.

O. S. BALDWIN,
Formerly of Wilmington,
38 Market Street

THE OFFICE OF ORRELL & HAWES, Lighters, is at the Clarendon Saloon. Persons having business in their linewill call at the above place
No. 8, Market Street.