

THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

VOL. 1.—NO. 73

WILMINGTON, N. C. FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 26, 1865.

PRICE TEN CENTS

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WILMINGTON.

MAY 26

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

STAMPS.—We deem it an act of duty to caution the public against buying the old issue of postage stamps. It may perhaps not be generally known that they are perfectly worthless, and there are a great number of them floating about the country. It would be well for persons desiring stamps to be satisfied beforehand that they are getting the genuine article. If a letter is mailed with one of the spurious stamps, it is marked by the P. M. to be paid at its place of destination, when the person to whom the letter is addressed has to pay double rates—viz cents—for the letter.

THE MAILS.—Mails for New York, per steamer *Euterpe*, will close to-day at 12 M.
Per Hilton Head and the South, per steamer *John Rice*, at 9 A. M.

There will hereafter be a daily mail between Newbern and this city, by railroad. Mails for Newbern will close at 5 P. M. Mails from Newbern will be ready for delivery at 9 A. M.

We are without later dates from the North than the 19th inst., the news of which was published in our paper of Tuesday. We look with great interest to the next arrival as giving some further important facts in the history of the assassination.

THE LETTER LIST.—The list of letters remaining in the post office will be found in our columns to-day.

The steamer *Euterpe*, Capt. Eldridge, sails from her wharf this afternoon at 6 o'clock precise y.—Passengers must be on board at 5 o'clock.

Kentucky Riflemen.

The renown which Kentucky riflemen have obtained for precision and skill in handling the rifle has become world wide, and excited the attention and wonder of the warriors of other nations. In battle they have stood as cool and collected, although the first time in action, as the oldest veterans in Europe; pouring in their deadly fire with unerring aim.

"I shot that officer," exclaimed a rifleman, as he saw an officer fall at New Orleans.

"I shot him in the right eye," replied the other rifleman.

"And I shot him in the left eye," was the response.

After the battle, it was found that an officer had been shot in both eyes. This unerring precision can only be obtained by long practice and thorough drilling.

At the first settlement of the State, they were compelled to be constantly under arms, as it were, to guard against the wild Indian and murderous tomahawk. As the father, so the child grew up, taught in earliest infancy possible, to point the rifle and direct its aim. As ammunition was not always convenient to be had, the father would dole out to his son a certain number of cartridges for his rifle, for each of which he must bring home some sort of game, or get a load of hickory for every missing shot.

Many years ago I was conversing with my uncle on the wonderful skill of the Kentuckians.

He related the following anecdote:

"I was out in the wilds of Kentucky, some years before the war, on a surveying expedition, and had an opportunity of studying the character of the earlier settlers for a considerable length of time. It became necessary for me to go a few days at a log tavern, and to while away the time I took my rifle and explored the woods for game, of which there was an abundance. The landlord had a little son, about ten years of age, who accompanied me with his rifle and always had extremely good luck. On one occasion the fates seemed adverse to him, for perceiving a squirrel on a very high branch of a tree, he up with his rifle and blazed away, and down came the squirrel. The look of dismay with which he viewed the game, I shall never forget. Dropping the butt of his rifle on the ground, he burst into tears. In the utmost surprise, I inquired what the matter was. He answered—

"Daddy'll lick me."

"Lick you! what for?"

"Because I didn't hit him in the head."

I soothed him all I could, but the day's pleasure was over. On returning to the tavern I interceded for him all in my power to save him from the hickory, but it was of no use; the application must be made, if only for example.

"No, no, stranger; if I let him off I break a standing rule of our State. I was never let off and what was good for me is good for him. He must shoot right, or put up with what he gets."

The hickory was applied, but no bones were broken. Such training as that, which was universal in those parts, tells the secret of Kentucky rifle shooting.

STATE NEWS.

We clip the following items from the Northern *Times* of the 24th inst.:

Outrage—Negro Shooting.
On Sabbath, May 21st, a negro man named "Jack" returned to his former home, at the plantation of Jesse Lassiter, a wealthy citizen, about three miles south of Mosely Hall, to see a relative. Mr. Lassiter, as we learn, told him that all negroes were ordered to return to their former homes, as before the war; and commanded him to go to work. The negro declined, when Mr. Lassiter gave him a severe caning. The negro reported this to Capt. Brown, the commander of the post at Mosely Hall, who returned the negro with a letter to Mr. Lassiter, inquiring into the circumstances of the case—in contempt of which, Mr. Lassiter ordered the negro to some work, which he declined to perform, and started back. Upon this Mr. L. obtained a gun and shot him, three slugs entering his person, inflicting severe and dangerous wounds. On learning of the outrage, Capt. Brown had Lassiter promptly arrested, and he was a prisoner at Mosely Hall, yesterday, when our informant left. There have been threats of shooting, in that neighborhood, before.

Fatal Accident at Bachelor's Creek.
Yesterday noon a 12:40 freight train was moving slowly past the switch at Bachelor's Creek, one of the box cars from some unaccountable accident tipped, and it being filled with colored men, they made a rush, and three of them named Geo. Kennedy, Ros Whitford and R. Gregory were caught under the falling car and literally crushed to death. One man had his leg broken. They were employed on the Railroad, and were on their way to this city to obtain their pay.

Horrible Murder and Wholesale Robbery.
On Monday night a horrible case of murder and robbery was committed on the Washington road a few miles from town upon the family of a Mr. Grace. The particulars, as we got them are as follows:

Two white men, recognized by Mrs. Grace as a man, (a citizen) by the name of Wise, and one of the construction corps who has recently bought land and settled out in that neighborhood, by the name of John Denton, accompanied by two darkies, went to the house of Grace after night and on knocking at the door, it was opened by Grace's son, aged about 10 years, when they shot him through the head, killing him instantly. They then proceeded to rob indiscriminately, money and everything else upon which they could lay their hands upon.

The white men left in the direction of Washington and the negroes for New Berne. Detectives are in pursuit, and they may yet be brought to town.

One Stabbing.
On Saturday night a couple of darkies fell upon a poor soldier somewhere up the Trent road and after shooting him, otherwise maltreated him in a most shocking manner. He is thought to be in a very critical condition.—We did not learn the names of the offending parties.

John Minor Botts.

Richmond Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.] Every one is anxiously awaiting the advent of the new State Government and the resumption of law in the Old Dominion. The hope is very generally expressed that John Minor Botts may be called upon to act in some capacity in establishing the new status, and his once spurious and disregarded counsel will, it is believed, go very far toward harmonizing the feelings of the people. The fact may not be generally known that Mr. Botts, over a year ago, had prepared for publication a book, reviewing the progress of rebellion from 1832, and embracing an account of the disabused schemes of intriguing politicians, both North and South, which resulted in the great contest just past. From intimations of the character of the work it is one which will not only prove highly interesting, but one which will astound and startle the civilized world, exhibiting, as it will, the selfish depravity of many living and distinguished politicians. The publication of the work was deferred by Mr. Botts until the termination of the war, and there can now be no reason why it should be longer delayed. And while speaking of the book, an incident in connection with it will not be inappropriate:

Prior to the second arrest of Mr. B. by the rebel authorities here, he had taken the precaution to deposit his manuscript of the book in the hands of a Unionist of the city. When arrested at midnight, his private papers, with the exception of the MS., were seized, and himself hurried away to prison. On the day subsequent he was visited by an officer of the prison, who desired to know whether he had concealed any documents previous to his arrest. Mr. Botts at once replied that he had concealed one document which he had no doubt the authorities would like to peruse. "What is it?" eagerly queried the officer; "I must have it!" "It is," returned Mr. B., placidly, and speaking slowly as he looked the officer full in the eye, "A history of the Secession movement, and its public and secret advocates, North and South, since the days of 'John Bull.'" "Where is it?" we must have it!" again exclaimed the officer, impatiently. "You may have the MS. only on one condition, and that is, that you bring to me from your master, Jefferson Davis, a written affidavit, duly signed by himself, that he will, on receiving the MS., hand it over to the *Whig* and *Examiner* to be published without alter-

tion or mutilation!" "But would you dare to publish a work of such a character?" queried the officer. "Would I dare?" replied Mr. Botts. "I desire its publication." The officer seemed somewhat astonished at Mr. Botts' complacency, and inquired why he dared its publication. "Because, by God, sir," replied Mr. Botts, solemnly rising from his reclining position and shaking his clenched fists in the officer's face, "because its publication would create a revolution within a revolution, in which I could take a part!" It is needless to say that Jefferson Davis did not give Mr. Botts the required assurance. This incident is given, not for the purpose of glorifying Mr. Botts, but simply as a truthful circumstance to intimate the character of his book.

The Decline of Gold.

Gold is declining more rapidly than it ever advanced. There is no good reason why it should command a premium. The only causes of the original depreciation of greenbacks were doubts of the result of the contest, and fears that the resources of the nation would be insufficient to pay its heavy expenditures. These doubts and fears have been removed. Capitalists estimate the credit of governments as carefully as they do that of individuals, and in a free market make their charges for discount correspond with the risks they incur; but they cannot maintain exorbitant and unjustifiable rates. As the prospects of a successful issue have brightened, and as the ability of the country to honor all the drafts of men and money necessary to crush the rebellion has been more and more clearly demonstrated, the premium on gold has declined to an almost nominal sum. But the same reasons which have made it fall from 290 to 180, must finally make it fall to 100. The solvency of the Government, and its ability to maintain its credit are undoubted. Its currency admirably serves all the requirements of domestic commerce, and at the rate at which the National Loan is being taken, the whole National Debt can be funded in a few months, and specie payments resumed by the Federal Treasury, if such a policy should be deemed advisable.

There is plenty of gold in the country to answer all legitimate purposes—the amount being, it is supposed, greater now than when the war commenced. One of its most important uses, that of being equally current as a circulating medium in all sections of the Union, is more conveniently aided by the new national currency. Those who have been hoarding it away in the hope of getting an exorbitant premium, or in the fear of such disasters as would make it the only valuable money of the land, now see the fallacy of their calculations, and will soon be glad to rid themselves of a burdensome and inconvenient charge by depositing it in banks, or putting it into general circulation. It is gratifying to reflect that, in a mere pecuniary point of view, patriotism has proved the best policy. Those who, in the darkest hours of National credit, when prices were most inflated, subscribed for the Government loan, paid in gold but half of what their bonds in gold would sell for now. And those who operated financially on the theory of National ruin have learned a new meaning of the legend that "the man recovered the bite—it was the dog that died."—*Torney's War Press.*

An Enoch Arden of the Day.

An Iowa paper has the following story, which recalls the incidents of Tennyson's poem: "Thirty months ago, a German, living on White street, in Dubuque, Iowa, volunteered with the 21st Iowa Infantry, and went to the war. We shall call him Schmidt for short. He left a wife who was rather good-looking, quite industrious, very frugal, and childless. Time rolled on, and Schmidt, says the *Dubuque Times*, went with his regiment to Vicksburg. There he was shot one day, and was left for dead on the field. The sad intelligence was sent to his wife by his captain, and she immediately obtained the assistance of a lawyer, and secured his back pay and a widow's pension. She drew the latter regularly and, with what she earned, managed to live comfortably. In a few months she attracted the attention of one Schones, a miller by occupation. He wooed and won, and for him she gave up the pension. They were married last summer. The course of true love runs smooth with them until last Saturday morning, when, just after they had finished breakfast, Mr. Schmidt, the first husband, opened the door and walked in!

"Here was a fix! Mrs.—what would her name be in such a case?" shrieked Mr. Schones, turned pale and trembled, for Schmidt looked vengeance after he had surveyed the scene a moment and taken all its meaning in. After several minutes of silence, Schones revived, and boldly asked, "What is to be done?" Schmidt sat down and told his story. He was wounded, not severely, near Vicksburg, and taken prisoner, and the rebels carried him away with them. From time to time he had been in Southern prisons, until three weeks since, when he was exchanged. He came to Dubuque as soon as he could, and hastened to his home. He received no intimation of his wife's marriage until he entered the house that morning. As he concluded his story, his feelings overcame him, and he wept, and wept also. But it all ended in the second husband's refusal to give the wife up. She, we are informed, refused to express a preference and said the two men might settle the matter between themselves. For four days both men kept very close to the house, and had many ardent discussions over the difficulty. But the matter ended on Wednes-

day last. The returned husband offered Schones twenty-five dollars to evacuate the premises and leave him in possession of "Annie." Schones accepted the offer, pocketed the money, and left Schmidt is now with his wife."

A Remarkable Month of Great Events.

The month of April, 1865, will be one of the most marked in human history. Here is a summary of its great and thrilling events:

1. April 1. Gen. Sheridan attacks and routs the rebel forces at Five Forks, Virginia, capturing three brigades.
2. Assault along the whole line in front of Petersburg. Gen. Wright, Parker and Ord break through the rebel lines and a brilliant victory is achieved. Two thousand prisoners and fifty pieces of artillery are taken.
3. News received of the burning of the steamer General Lyon between Wilmington and Porters Neck, March 21. Four or five hundred soldiers perished.
4. The Union forces under Gen. Weitzel occupy Richmond, which, with Petersburg, was evacuated by the rebel forces. Great rejoicings all through the loyal States on account of the fall of Richmond.
5. Fire in Brooklyn, N. Y. Several thousand killed.
6. General Sheridan attacks and routs the forces of Gen. Lee and drives them across Sailor Creek.
7. Surrender of Lee and his whole army to Gen. Grant.
8. Extraordinary rejoicing throughout the loyal States on account of the surrender of Lee and the end of the rebellion.
9. Mobile occupied by the Union forces. General Stoneman occupies Salisbury, N. C., after a series of victories, he having advanced upon that State from the west. Vast amount of military property captured with the town.
10. Assassination of President Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth, an actor, and attempted murder of Mr. Seward, Secretary of State. Mr. Frederick Seward badly injured.
11. Death of President Lincoln.
12. The whole country in mourning. A very solemn day.
13. Andrew Johnson, Vice President, takes the oath prescribed by the constitution and becomes President of the United States. The flag removed by General Anderson from Fort Sumter in 1861, hoisted by him on the same fort with appropriate ceremonies.
14. Great fire in New York. Loss \$2,000,000.
15. Second great fire in New York. Loss \$1,000,000.
16. Arrest of Payne, the supposed author of the attempt upon the life of Secretary Seward.
17. General Sherman concludes a treaty with General Johnston, which is not ratified.—He is ordered to resume hostilities at once.
18. Funeral of President Lincoln at Washington.
19. The reward now offered for the arrest of John Wilkes Booth, the murderer of the President, is \$150,000.
20. The remains of the late President are taken from Washington on their way to Springfield, Illinois, where they are to be finally deposited.
21. John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of the President is shot and killed by a party of cavalry sent out to arrest him. Harold, an accomplice, is taken.
22. General Johnston surrenders to the Union forces with all the troops in his department.
23. The boiler of the steamer *Suliana* exploded on the Mississippi, setting the boat on fire. Fifteen hundred Union soldiers, just released from rebel prisons were lost.
24. President Johnson appoints Thursday, 1st June, a day of national humiliation and prayer.
25. Plot discovered to burn the city of Philadelphia.

The Exclusion of the Reporters.

The following is an extract from the record of the court in relation to the exclusion of reporters on the first day of the trial of the assassins:

"The Judge Advocate stated to the commission that the reason for the rule excluding reporters from the press admission to the room in which the commission was sitting, applied only to the testimony given yesterday, (first day,) which it was still desirable should not be disclosed to the public. He, however, thought the testimony hereafter introduced might be given to the public without any impropriety or any embarrassment to the Government. He, therefore, suggested that the President of the commission be authorized to grant permits for the admission of such proper persons, reporters of the press and others as could be admitted to the room without inconvenience to the members of the commission."

A Warsaw letter states that the Government has ordered the forest to be cut down which extends along the whole length of the frontier from Polangen to Tauraggen, in order to destroy the retreat of smugglers, who seek refuge in the woods when pursued by the frontier guard. The trade in lumber with Prussia is in consequence most active, the cheapness of the article having attracted a large number of dealers.

WRAPPING PAPER,

FOR sale at

THIS OFFICE.