RALEIGH WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 20, 1861.

The Raleigh Register.

Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace, Unwarp'd by party rage to live like brothers."

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 16, 1861. THE CONVENTION SHOULD PUT DOWN THE EXTORTIONERS.

We again invoke the attention of the Gourention to the operations of the extortioners and land-sharks in our midst. Some law must be passed to remedy this fearful wrong, or Judge Lynch will open his court and try his docket, an event most earnestly to be deprecated. We have amongst us men who, although born and reared in the South, are out-Yankeeing Yankees in their horrid lust for gain, and in their sphere of action are doing the South more mischief than the Yankees have inflicted or can inflict. These men are as bad as the Tories of the Revolution, and if justice were done to them, they would incur the fate of tories. Let the Convention, then, promptly take action on this subject, and pass some such ordinance as we suggested in our last paper, to wit : that on information filed before a Justice of the Peace that any party is monopolizing any of the prime necessaries of life for the purpose of extortionate speculation, three disinterested freeholders shall be summoned, who, having examined the invoice of the article or articles alleged to be held, (said invoice having been verified by the oath of the hold. er,) shall, under oath, decide what per centage of profit would be just and fair, and after such decision, said Justice and freeholders shall proceed to dispose of said article, or articles, to persons who will make oath that they need what they purchase for their own individual or family wants-giving proference to those who propose to buy the smallest quantities. A law like this, we verily believe, would choke to death the brood of vampires which is preying upon the very vitals of the country. With regard to that Indian dress with bow and arrow; Virginiaarticle so essential to life itself, Salt, the dress of scarlet, in allusion to her bloody battlemonopolyzing villains, when they charge ground, coat of arms of the State in black and twenty dollars per sack, will not "break" a gold, in her hand a leaf of the Tobacco Plant; sack-will not sell a peck or bushel. The North Carolina-Pine burs and leaves on the purchaser must pay his twenty dollars per sack, or go without a grain of salt. Now, while life can be sustained on a diet of bread and water, the bread must have salt in it .-Some idea may be formed of the length to which exorbitant speculation is tending by the following calculation which we hear some of the vampires are making. The calculation is, that as many farmers raise but a few hogs, they will not be able to buy salt with which to cure them, and will therefore be compelled to dispose of them as pork; that a great deal of pork will be thus brought to market, and be disposed of at prices very greatly below the proportional price of bacon, or salted pork. Then the vampires, or their agents, will be on hand to buy this green pork, which, after being converted into cured pork by their salt, they will dispose of at their own price, and thus there will be another speculation on a speculation on two of the prime necessities of life. Will not the Convention correct this frightful evil ? We are not wedded to any particular remedy. All we want is some law which will obviate the necessity of Lynch law. There is no use in mineing words, and we can assure the Convention that the people are clamorous for some legislation that will rescue them from the grasp of the monsters who are prowling about in our midst "seeking whom they

may devour." THE HEROES OF GREAT BETHEL.

Its term of enlistment-six months-having expired, the glorious 1st Regiment of N. C. Volunteers was mustered out of service at Weldon on Thursday last. The Companies from the Eastern part of the State sought their homes by the way of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, and those from the Centre, and West, four in number, arrived here on Wednesday morning. Considering what they have gone through, the men looked remarkably well.

It is said that on parting with the Regiment, Gen. Magruder shed tears copiously. It is believed that a large majority of the

men will re-enlist. Since the above was written, Company C, "Charlotte Grays," and Company D, "Or- will impose some extra duties upon the citizen ange Light Infantry," of the 1st Regiment, soldiery, but with a proper system it need not arrived here, homeward bound.

We are authorized to say that the recent calling out of the militia into active service by Gen. Hill was without the knowledge or sanction of the Governor, and that as soon as he heard of it, he immediately directed the Adjutant General to write to General

We learn that Capt. Clark M. Avery, late of the 1st "Bethel" Regiment N. C. Voluntoers, has been appointed Lieut. Colonel in the Major Hoke, of the same Regiment, Major in the near this city will go into operation in about two eight child en to mourn

Gatlin to revokei t, which was done.

LES TABLEAUX VIVANTS.

The exhibition of Tableaux took place at the Chapel of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum on Tuesday evening, according to announcement, and was exceedingly beautiful. The participators in the exhibition were shildren, the eldest of whom was scarce fourteen years of age, and the power displayed by them in controlling the features and limbs was most extraordinary. Where all was beautiful, it would be invidious to single out any one scene for especial commendation. We cannot, however, help from remarking that the Southern Confederacy" and "King Cotton and his subjects" were a feetle of the tallest of the living pictures. The Chapel was densely crowded, and the receipts were upwards of two hundred dollars.

Since the above was written we have been favored with the following description of the first seene, "The Southern Confederacy :"

In the back-ground, an arch of white, suppor ted by pillars, and decorated with the Confederate olors and evergreens, with the motto in golden letters, "God, And Our Rights." The central and most prominent figure in the group representthe Confederacy entire; skirt of red and white, boddice of blue, spangled with eleven large colden Stars; on the head, cap of Liberty, of red and gold, a drawn sword in the right hand an olive branch in the left. Falling successively behind her, so as to form three fronts of a circle, were the eleven States of the Confederacy, each being revresented by a young girl dressed in purwhite, wearing a tri-coloured scarf over the shoulder, and bearing in one hand some emblem or product of the State she represented, while with the other, she touched lightly the shoulder of the figure next in advance, as if significant of the union existing between them; each also being a sovereign and State of the Confederacy, wore a crown with a single large Star in front. The various embiems of the eleven States were as follows: South Carolina-State coat of arms made from the genuine Palmetto leaf on the shoulder in the hand a scroll with the word "Sumter" in letters of gold; Georgia-Rice-Plant, and other grain; Alabama-Cotton bolls and buds; Florida-Oranges and wild vines ; Mississippi-With a minature pair of scales in the act of weighing cotton; Louisiana-Crescent, and sugar cane; Texas-"Lone Star" and ear of corn ; Arkansasshoulder, scroll in her hand with the word "Bethel" in golden letters : Tennessee-A bunch of wheat. Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri were dis-united from the others, yet represented in the Southern Confederacy as rightfully belonging to it. Maryland-dress of deep black, wreath of sea weed, and necklace of shells-attitude of dejection, gazing sadly, helplessly at her chained hands; Kentucky-dress of gray, arms folded in indifference, in token of her original position of neutrality; Missouri-skirt of black boddice tri-coloured, decorated in front with the half (or more correctly speaking three fourths) of a Star -wreath of gray and silver, in the act of drawing hers word from the scabbard.

PROTECT THE RAILROADS.

The timely advice given in the annexed article from the Wilmington Journal, applies to every Railroad in the South, We cannot be too careful of the safety of our railroads : for conviction and four for acquittal.

PRECAUTION-OUR RAIL ROADS. It will be seen by our telegraphic dispatches in another column, that by the traitorous, felonious and incendiary course of the tories of East Tennessee, the Confederacy is deprived of the use of one of the mest important of its three main lines of Railroad communication between the Northern and Southern portions of its territory. This is evidently the result of a concerted plan between tomestic traitors and Lincolnite spies, simultaneous with the raid upon South Carolina.

We are now thrown upon the two lines through North Carolina, which, under the circumstances, secome not merely corporate property, or the means of public convenience, but are in fact the indispensable necessities and corditions of public safety. Anything that would seriously cripple their power of transportation would also seriously jeopardize the common cause, and embarrass the operations of our military authorities and civil

No risk must be run. Our people, as a people, tre loyal-none more so-but with an enemy such as we have, placed in circumstances such as those by which we are surrounded, that general belief will not do to depend upon. A few desperate and unprincipled men, not one in a thousand, might, for a time, tie the hands and paralyze the exertions of the nine hundred and ninty-nine true and loyal men. How many men would it take to burn down any latticed bridge on any road ?-Can any merely private watch, kept up by rail-road companies, whose energies are all strained already to their utmost tension, effectually guard sgainst the efforts of the desperate, the malignant, the traitorous, the unprincipled, the bribed ? Evidently the answer must be in the negative.

We would respectfully suggest to the civil and military powers "whom it may concern," to provide such efficient patrols of the militia of the State, in parties relieving each other from night to night, as shall effectually guard all the approsches to all the more important railroad bridges in the State, allowing no one to approach within a certain distance either by land or water. This soldiery, but with a proper system it need not press onerously upon any particular individuals or companies, and the service performed may be as important in its results as any equal amount of

rvice on the tented field. We have no doubt but that Governor Clark will give the necessary authority for calling upon the militia for this service, and as little that Generals Gatlin, Anderson and Hill will use it promptly and discreetly, if in their opinion it

should appear necessary to use it at all. From the considerations we have offered, we are forced to the conclusion that it is necessary, and we therefore respectfully, but most earnestly press the matter upon the attention of the civil and minitary authorities.

We learn that the Powder mill erected weeks, the many triple to the design

REPORTED YANKEE INVASION OF AC COMAC COUNTY.

Intelligence was received in the city last night and conveyed to the War Department by Mr. Fisher, a member of the convention, who arrived vesterday from Eastern Virginia, that a large ros of the enemy, about 4,000 strong, had invaded the Eastern shore of the State, crossing from Somerset county into Accomac. We give the the report, without being able to ascertain any other circumstances of its authenticity than those implied in the statement of its source. It is stated that our available force for the defence of the Eastern shore, including Colonel Smith's regiment stationed there, is about 1,800 men. It would doubtless, be impossible to send reinforcements across the water. We learn that the Government is disposed to regard the report is an exaggeration at all founded in fact.

Accomac, geographically, belongs rather to Maryland than Virginia, and if the Yankees have invaded it with the force reported, they will hold it, and probably the adjoining any protection from shells or bombs. redeemed from her thraldom. The Yankees having the control of the Chesapeake, no Southern troops can be sent to the relief of the Eastern shore of Virginia.

SOUTHERN PRINTED ALMANAC. We call attention to the advertisement of

Turner's North Carolina Almanac. This Almanac has heretofore been printed in Philadelphia, but this year it was got up at this Office, and as our perhaps too partial friends say the job has been very well executed, we suppose we must believe them.

COL. BOWMAN.

It will be seen that Col. Bowman, now prisoner at the Fair Grounds, is among the thirteen Yankee prisoners selected to be confined in cells and treated as prisoners accused of infamous crimes. The retaliatory measures adopted by our Government are the result of a melancholy but stern necessity.

OFFICIAL VOTE IN THE 6TH DISTRICT. We subjoin the official vote for Congresss in

the sixth District :	3 1	
	McLean.	Dick.
Forsyth,	531	446
Stokes,	497	144
Rockingham,	824	315
Caswell,	403	267
Person,	254	195
Alamance,	260	348
Guildford,	351	697
	3120	2412
McLean's majority,	708	

TRIAL OF OUR PRIVATEERSMEN.

We have already announced, that the Charleston Privateersmen, forming the prize crew of the Enchantrees, have all, with one exception, been convicted, in Philadelphia, of piracy on the high seas. Of the man who was acquitted-one Eben Lane-a Philadelphia paper says:

It was tolerably clearly shown, that he was not in sympathy with the pirates, but used his skill as a navigator to deceive the piratical crew; at night turning the vessel's head north, and in the day putting her course south again for Charleston .-This made her passage an extraordinarily long one, and was the cause of her being captured by a United States vessel off Hatteras. Under the circumstances shown, an acquittal was asked and readily obtained from the jury. The defendant is a native of Massachusetts.

We have also learned by telegraph that the triin New York of the crew of the Charleston privateer Savannah, has been concluded. On the 31st ult., the jury are reported to have stood eight

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. CURRITUCK COUNTY, SUPERIOR COURT OF LAW, FALL TERM

A. D. 1861.

The Grand Jurors for the County of Currituck respectfully present, that although conceived in a spirit of justice and humanity, the law commonly known as the Stay Law passed at the late session of the Legislature, is not only incapable of accomplishing the ends designed by its framers, but is he fruitful source of fraud and injustice; that instead of relieving the poor soldier enlisted in his country's cause, it really oppresses him by pre-venting the collection of debts due him at home, upon which he relied for the support of his wife and children while he encountered the hardships and dangers of the field; and that, in short, the wrongs and injustice of the said law are infinitely greater than any advantage that can possibly flow

The Grand Jurors aforesaid do, therefore, repectfully petition the Convention of the State of North Carolina (soon to assemble) to repeal, alter or modify said law, to the end that individual faith and credit-the only sure foundation of State faith and credit-may be preserved, and a healthy tone

arge.	the business transactions of	ne peopi
Signed)	E. W. JONES, Foreman, BENJ. N. BRAY, ISAAC SNOWDEN. TULLY WILLIAMS, JOSEPH WILSON, CORNELIUS JONES, JOHN BUNNILL, SAM'L THOMPSON, PETER TATUM, J. C. BURNILL, JOHN SIMMONS, JASPER GUARD, N. N. HAMPTON, E. B. SIMMONS, STEPHEN G. FORBES, THOS, L. SANDERSON,	Grand

A new Post Office has been established at Dunnsville, in this county. J. H. Bell, Esq., is appointed Post Master.

Robert Johnson and C. B. Mitchell have been elected by the Arkensas Legislature, to represent that State in the Confederate Senate.

SUICIDE .- A most melancholy case of suicide occurred in this county on Thursday of last week. John B. Houston committed suicide by banging imself on that morning. He had been laboring for some time, under a very great and troubled state of mind in regard to his religious condition. The deceased was aged about fifty years, comfortably situated in lite, had always led a moral correct life. He leaves a devoted wife and

(From the Charleston Mercury.) THE BATTLE OF PORT ROYAL.

The Battle of Port Royal will be remembered as one of the best fought, and best conducted battles, which have signalized the war in which we

If Gen. Ripley had been appointed a General in command two months sooner, every thing would have been in a better state of preparation. But these two previous months were wasted in doing nothing for our defence. Within the time left to him, Gen. Ripley did all that untiring enorgy and skill could accomplish, to put our coast in the state of partial preparation our enemics will encounter. The two islands of Hilton Head and Bay Point, with their extreme limits, constitute the two points which guard the entrance to Port Royal Sound, about three miles in width --On these two points, two Forts were erected-Fort Walker on Hilton Head-and Fort Beauregard on Bay Point. The time we possessed, enabled us to make them only earthworks, without

The Island of Hilton Head was commanded county of Northampton, until Maryland is Gen. Drayton. The officers immediately super-Fort Walker, were Col. Wagener, Major Arthur Huger and Capt. Yates, of the regular service, especially detailed by Gen. Ripley to aid in directing the artillery. Col. Dunovant commanded at Fort Beauregard, but he generously allowed Capt. Elliott, of the Beaufort Artillery, to direct and conduct the batteries of the Fort.

The day was beautiful-calm and clear, with carcely a cloud in the beavens-just such a day s our invaders would have ordained, if they could, to carry on their operations.

In such a sketch of the battle as, amid the excitement and thousands of baseless rumors, we are a cannon, by which hot shot was driven on the enabled to present to our readers, a brief review of the earlier events of this memorable week will not be uninteresting.

PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS OF THE ENEMY. The great fleet of the enemy passed our Bar on Sunday, the 3d inst., and on the following day was anchored off Port Royal entrance. About 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, Com. Tatnall, with his "mosquito fleet" ran out from the harbor and made the first hostile demonstration. The immense armada of the invaders, numbering, at that time, thirty-six vessels, was drawn up in line of battle; and as our little flotilla steamed briskly up to within a mile of them, and opened its fire, the scene was an inspiring one, but almost ludicrous, in the disparity of the size of the opposing fleets. The enemy replied to our fire almost immediately. After an exchange of some twenty shots, Commodore Tatnall retired, and was not

About seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, several of the largest Yankee war steamers having come within range, the batteries of Forts Walker and Beauregard were opened, and the steamers threw a number of shelfs in and over our works, inflicting no damage upon Fort Walker, and but slightly wounding two of the garrison of Fort Besuregard. This engagement lasted, with short intervals, for nearly two hours, when the enemy drew off. The steamers made a similar, but shorter reconnoisance, on Wednesday evening, but hout any important results. On the next day (Wednesday,) the weather was rough, and the fleet lay at anchor five or six miles from shore .-During the day, several straggling transports came up, swelling the number of vessels to forty one. All Tuesday night, and all day Wednesday, and Wednesday night, our men stood to their guns, momentarily expecting an attack, and obsining only such scanty rest and refreshment as chance afforded. THE DAY OF THE BATTLE.

Thursday dawned gloriously upon our wearied but undaunted gunners, and all felt that the day of trial had at last arrived. Scarcely had break fast been despatched, when the hostile fleet was observed in commotion. The great war steamers formed rapidly in single file, and within supporting distance of each other, the frigate Minnesota, the flag ship of Com. Dupout, in the van. As the long line of formidable looking vessels, thirteen in number, most of them powerful propellers, with a few sailing men-of-war in tow, swept rapidly and majestically in, with ports open and bristling with guns of the heaviest calibre, the sight was grand and imposing. This was at half past eight o'clock. Until the Minnesota came within the range of and directly opposite to our batteries on Hilton Head, all was still. Suddenly, the fifteen heavy guns of Fort Walker, which had been aimed directly at the huge frigate, bleched forth their simultaneous fire, and the action was begun .-Almost immediately afterwards, the batteries of Font Beauregard, on the other side of the entrance, also opened their fire. The entry at first did not reply. But, as the second steamer came opposite to Fort Walker, the huils of the first three were suddenly wrapped in smoke, and the shot and shell of three tremendous broadsides, making, in all, seventy five guns, came crashing against our works. From this moment, the bombardment was terrific and incessant. One by one the propellers bore down upon our Forts, deliverning their fire as they passed, until nine had gained the interior of the barbor, beyond the range of our guns. The Minnesota, still followed by the others, then turned round and steamed slowly out, giving a broadside to Fort Beauregard, as she repassed. Thus the battle was continued, the enemy's vessels sailing in an eliptical curve, pouring one broadside into Bay Point, and then sweeping around to deliver the other against Hilton Head. This furious fire from some four hundred guns, many of them of the 11-inch Dahlgren pattern and some even of 13 inch bore (for a sabot of that diameter was found in Fort Beauregard). was maintained incessantly, and the roar of the cannonade seemed most continuous. Meanwhile. our garrisons were making a gallant defence .-They kept up a vigorous and well directed fire against their assailants, and not withstanding that their best gun was dismounted at the beginning of the action, they succeeded in setting fire to several of the ships. Whenever this happened, however, the enemy would haul off and soon extinguish the flames. The effect of our guns was, in many instances, plainly visible from the Forts. Al though the sides of the Minnesota are of massive strength, several of her ports were knocked into oue. Nor was she the only vessel upon which this evidence of the power of our fire could be seen .-Many of the other steamers were likewise badly

After some time spent in sailing round and de-livering their broadsides in rotation, in the manner we have described, the enemy's steamers adopted another and more successful plan of attack. One of them took a position inside the harbor so as to enfliade the batteries of Fort Walker, while several opened a simultaneous enfilading ire from the outside. Besides this terrifle cross fire, two of the largest steamers maintained the fire in front of the Fort. Thus three furious converging streams of shot and shell were rained amongst the brave little garrison for hours. The vessels came up within a haif mile of the shore, but nearly all our guns had, by this time, become dismounted, and we were no longer able to reply

with serious effect. Soon atter 11 o'clock, the batteries of Bay Point were silenced. The fire of Fort Walker as far as the guns that remained were concerned was not a whit slackened until one o'clock. By that time the dreadful condition of the fort became too apparent to be longer disregarded. The guns lay in every direction, dismounted and useless; the defences were terribly shattered, the and still the iron hail poured pitilessly in.

FORT WALKER ABANDONED.

In this strait, it was determined to abandon the fort. A long waste, about a mile in extent and commanded by the enemy's guns, intervened between the garrison and the woods. Across this they were ordered to run for their lives, each man for himself; the object being to scatter them as much as possible, so as not to afford a target for the rifled guns of the fleet. The preparations for running this perilous guantlet were soon made .-Knapsacks were abandoned, but the men retained their muskets. Each of the wounded was placed in a blanket and carried off by four men. The safety of the living precluded the idea of remo ving the dead. And thus, the gallant little band quitted the scene of their glory, and scampered off, each one as best he could, towards the woods. The retreat was covered by a small detachment who remained in the Fort for an hour after their comrades had left. Among those who remained were Capt. Harms, with six men, Lieut. Melchers with four men and Lieut. Bischoff, with four men. These worked three guns until about two o'clock, when they also quitted the post.

The abandonment of Fort Beauregard was equalty a necessity. The garrison were exhausted and in momentary danger of being cut off .-When Col. Dunovant ordered a retreat, tears of mortification and indignation filled the eyes of Captan Elliott at the sad necessity. The retreat was admirably conducted, and rendered entirely successful by the prudent energy of Capt. Hanckel, one of General Ripley's Aids, who had got together some twelve flats at Station Creek, by which the troops passed safely over to St. Helena Island. From there, they passed to Beaufort Island, and reached the train at Pocotaligo without the loss or injury of a man. In this Fort none were killed, and but five were wounded, and two of these were wounded by negligence in loading powder, without the wet wad preceding it.

EVACUATION OF BAY POINT. The rest of the story is briefly told. Late Thursday night the garrison of Fort Waiker had collected at the landing, in the hope of being able to reach Bluffton by water. Luckily, several small Confederate steamers were within hail .-But here a ludicrous mistake occurred. The retreating troops imagined the little steamers to be son and brother, all mixed in inextricable con-Yankee gun-boats; while the crews of the steamers were convinced that the troops were a body of disembarked Yankees. Acting upon this double delusion, a deal of mutual reconnoitering was made, and it was only after a vast variety of Bluffton followed. Thence the troops marched to souls! Hardeeville, 17 miles distant. The road along which they dragged their exhausted frames was filled with a heterogeneous throng of fugitives of all conditions, carriages, carts and conveyances of every description that could, by any possibility, be pressed into service. The spectacle was s

Thus ended the defence of Port Royal. The mortification of the disaster is lessened by the consciousness that our troops deserved success.

What injury we did to the enemy, we do not know. Our firing was, of course, less efficient than theirs. 'Our troops were volunteers-theirs were picked artillerists. Yet, it is very remarka Die Dom troops. This battle, in this respect, was much like the battle of Fort Sumter. How so many cannon could have been distnanted and rendered useless, and yet so few of those who worked them injured, seems very marvellous. Our troops did their duty faithfully and bravely, and fought until to fight longer would have been sheer folly. Though encountering immense odds, no signs of cowardice marked their conduct. Officers and soldiers emplified the ancient character of the State, and deserve our profound gratitude and ad-

SUCCESSFUL DEPARTURE OF THE BERMUDA.

The Lynchburg Republican has been permit ted to publish the following extracts from a private letter, written by an officer in the Confede rate Navy, giving an account of the manner in which the Bermuda ran Old Abe's blockade: C. S. STEAMER HUNTRESS.

Savannah, Ga., Nov. 3, 1861. Dear -: I have only time to write you a very hurried letter. We came back from a successful expedition a while ago. We went down last night to carry the Bermuda out, loaded with about 2,000 bales of cotton. We confidently expected a fight, as the plan was for us to attack the blockading vessels, while she was to pass out .-We went down to Fort Pulaski about dark, the five vessels of our musquito fleet, the B. follow-

A heavy gun was fired from the battery at Warsaw, which was the signal, but on going out we found none of the vessels, as the night was dark, rainy, and stormy, just the thing for us, and their attention, I suppose, was drawn off by the signal gun. So we fooled them and gave them the slip completely, all of us returning in higo spirits and "nobody hurt," as we certainly anticipated engaging them last night. The old Flag-Officer is in high spirits, and we are off again today to Brunswick or Beaufort, S. C., where the old gentleman comtemplates an attack. Our vessels are flimsy concerns, and one shot would play the very mischief with any of us, so this is

extremely hazardous work. This vessel has to be laid up for a few days for repairs, so we are to be distributed to the other vessels for the present expedition. This is the third now in as many days, and this place is in considerable excitement, I can assure you.

I'wo days ago one of Lincoln's steamers attacked one of our batteries at Warsaw, just here, but was driven off. No one hurt on our side, but we could not tell whether any were with them. We saw the vessel as we were coming up, but could not go down near her, as our pilot said he did not know the channel. He is an old darkey, and I suspect, more afraid than ignorant. He was scared like the mischief last night, and I don't blame the old fellow much, for his station is a very dangerous one.

THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF SECESSION .- The London Standard, of the 2d of October, has a "leader" in reply to an essay in McMillan's Magzzine, on the American question and the right of secession. We quote the following extract: A State withdrawing from an alliance of a per-

and precedent, be justly compelled to return by war, if other means fail.

If half a Confederacy secode, however, both policy and justice would be better satisfied by a peaceable separation; and the case of the Federal American) Government, in the present war is as doubtful as any case ever was. It rests its defence on the unconstitutionality of secession, and every act of coercion it has yet attempted is, at least, equally unconstitutional. *

The fact that the South cannot be attacked without breaking the very compact by which the attack is justified is surely a strong reason for letting it alone.

Dr. J. A. Lindsay, of Greensboro, N. C. Surgeon in the U. S. navel service, was arrested in New York recently because he offered bis resignation. As soon as his vessel, the Saratoga, reached New York from the coast of Africa, Dr. L. tendered his resignation, and was imme-

THE BATTLE AT LEESBURG-INTEREST-ING DESCRIPTION-AN AFFECTING INCIDENT, &c.

The Charleston Courier, of Tuesday, the 5th nstant, has another letter from its special army correspondent, ("Personne,") dated Leesburg, October 20, which far surpasses all others from the pen of that gentleman, in vivid description and intense, soul-thrilling language. Below will be found some extracts, which are richly worth the room they occupy in our columns: "

EVIDENCES OF DESTRUCTION AROUND THE BATTLE

In passing over the ground the first thing which attracts attention is the shattered condition of the trees and bushes. Limbs hang by a mere shred; in many instances trunks are perforated with a dozen balls; the bark has been torn off by glancing bullets, and occasionally you see great blots of blood and brain splashed around, where some unfortunate fellow has taken shelter to secure a shot. In one hawthorn bush no taller than a man, and not more than three feet in diameter, none of whose limbs were larger than your thumb. I counted the marks of forty-six bullets. In a double sapling not as large as a man's body, behind which a Yankee had concealed himself just on the edge of the woods, I counted between the first limb and the ground thirteen bullets; while under a large oak tree, whose foliage almost touches the earth, a complete carpet is formed of leaves and limbs which have been

OFN. BAKER'S HORSE-THE BURNING TRENCHES A short distance, perhaps two rods from the edge of the cliff which runs down the river, lies the horse of Gen. Baker, in a gulley; a fine bay animal, shot through the body in several places. The same ball that killed the one is said to have also entered the other. Further down the brow of the declivity are four more horses stiff in death. which were used to draw the howitzers and rifled cannon to their positions in the field. Another object eloquent with the horrors of war, is the long broad trench in one of the gulleys which contains the Yankee dead. Here lie the bodies of husbands, fusion, no stone to mark their resting place, no word of record to tell the living age or name. -Bloody, disfigured, disgusting corpses, they have been rolled in, and covered from the sight with the earth their steps have polluted and their arms strategic approaches, that they reached the con- would have soaked with the blood of its rightful clusion that it was "all right." A quick trip to owners. Lord, have mercy on their wicked

In speaking of the cliff down which the Yankees tumbled in their precipitate retrest, "Personne" says : The appearance of the place is as if an avalanche

had passed over it. The ground is torn up, bushes torn down, rocks are displaced, shrubs are trampled out of existence, while portions of cloththing, cartridge boxes, bayonets, straps, stockings. shoes, caps, coats, shirts, bread, crackers and ham, are scattered in profusion on every hand. Cartloads of these articles have been, and are still being gathered. It was at the base of this cliff where a large number of the prisoners were taken. to cross after the surrender was formally made. but a few well directed shots brought the recreants back to the shore. Many stripped naked. threw their clothing upon the embankment and swam over; others carried their clothing with them, and I yesterday four da dozen pair or more of shirts and drawers lying in a field upon the island. Many of the prisoners, as well as those who escaped, threw their guns into the river, and probably three or four hundred have been since escued from their watery bed. I saw several frawn out with poles torked at the end, while large numbers of overcosts, blankets, and accoutrements have been added to our previous stock. In fact, almost every man in the brigade is now armed with a handsome Belgian or London Tower gun, and covered with a Yankee overocat. The number of guns captured is not yet known. as they are indiscriminately scattered among the troops, but it is supposed that we have twelve or fifteen hundred. THE CAPTURE OF PRISONERS.

The capture of prisoners continued until nearly two o'clock on Tuesday morning ; in one instance company of forty men, consisting of volunteers, among whom were Captains, Licutentants and other officers, taking two hundred and fifty of the Federals in one body. About ten o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, Captain Vaughn, of Providence, Rhode Island, appeared with a flag of truce and thirty men, asking permission to bury their dea . This was readily granted, and for several hours they were engaged in the work Some seventy five or eighty are said to have been buried on this side of the river, and about forty on the island near the shore. Their ambulances were running across the island all night, carrying the wounded. Captain Vaughn himself estimated that the number of wounded was greatly disproportionate to that of the killed. He thought their loss at least six or seven hundred aside from the prisoners taken. How true this is we have no means of knowing, but the ground was strewn with bodies from twelve o'clock until the final charge at sundown, and they were removed as rapidly as circumstances would admit. A HAND-TO-HAND ENCOUNTER BETWEEN A CON-

FEDERATE CAPTAIN AND A YANKEE OFFICER. One personal encounter is worthy of record .-As captain Jones, of company B, 17th Mississipi, was passing through the woods at the head of his men, he met another party headed by an officer. The two halting instantly upon discovering their close proximity, Jones exclaimed, "For God Almighty's sake, tell me quick-friends or enemies-who are you?" The other replied, "We are friends," and at the same time advanced. A little boy, named Joseph Ware, who was behind the Mississippian, instantly cried out, "Captain, they are not friends; don't you see they have not guns like ours. They are Yankees—let me shoot." Again Jones exclaimed, "Who are you? Speak quick, for I can't keep my men from firing. "I'll let you know who we are you d-d rebe said the Yankee officer, for such he was, and suiting the action to the word he sprang upon and seized Captain Jones by the collar. For a second or two a scuffle ensued between the officers, when the latter broke loose. At the same instant one of the Mississippians dashed out the Yankee's brains with the butt of his musket.

mauent nature may, according both to principle PRESTONSBURG, KY., TAKEN BY THE FEDERALS-THE CAPTUE OF THE SALT WORKS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA THREATENED.

The Tazewell (Jefferson ville, Va.) Democrat of the 8th instant says:

A rumour has reached this place, seemingly from reliable sources, that the Lincolnities have taken possession of Prestonsburg, Ky., and that the Confederates have failen back to Pike.

Since writing the above a gentleman has ar-rivied who confirms this rumor, and gives the startling intelligence that the Confederates have retired before a superior force, from Pike into Buchanan county, Virginia. The advancing column of the enemy is reported to be be 10,000, fully armed and equipped. The Confederate force new in Buchanan county is not sufficient to contend successfully with the pursuing foe, and if active measures are not soon adopted, our worst fears of their advance on the salt works and East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad may speedily be