

**FALLING BACK OF OUR ARMY**

Capture of two hundred negroes, and other details of the capture of the Potomac, says:

The Fredericksburg Herald, in noticing the falling back of our forces on the Potomac, says:

That part of the army on the Potomac in the vicinity of Leesburg, the Evansport batteries, &c., evacuated their various positions on Friday last, and have fallen back.

The present location of the several brigades need not be named, but it would appear that we still have some soldiers near enough to capture adventurous Federals who roam too far from camp.

On Wednesday last, Sergeant Wade, with a squad of the Carolina Light Dragoons, captured two of the enemy, about one mile from the Evansport batteries. The prisoners proved to be Lieut. William T. Baum, of Philadelphia, belonging to Gen. Hooker's staff, and Mr. Gregg, telegraph operator of the same division of the Federal army.

These officers state that a negro belonging to a member of the 50th Georgia regiment had crossed the river Friday night, and told them of the evacuation of that section by the Confederates. That Gen. Hooker had put 300 of his men over the river, and that 1,000 more were expected to cross that day, Wednesday.

This is most likely correct, as from our batteries at Aquia creek, steamers were seen stopping and landing troops on Wednesday.

General Hooker (Federal) had no idea of an early evacuation, and had applied to General McClellan for permission to cross over thirty days ago. He is represented as having some 20,000 men under his command.

The two prisoners, Baum and Gregg, were brought to this place the same day of their capture, and were sent to Richmond yesterday.

The army of Manassas having also fallen back, there is an impression abroad that the Rappahannock river is to be the base line of operations, for both that and the Aquia department, under General Holmes.

We have reports that General Joseph E. Johnston is at a point not far from Rappahannock Station, on the Alexandria and Orange railroad, and between the Rapidan and Rappahannock rivers. And another, that he is falling back to Gordonsville.

The point occupied by Gen. Holmes, being a matter of rumor, but of knowledge, we will leave the enemy to discover.

We regret to learn the very serious loss of public property in the hasty evacuation, forgetting details and comments. The steamer "George Page" was burnt in Quantico creek, and of course her two fine guns lost.

**THE LATE BATTLE IN HAMPTON ROADS**

The steam frigate Minnesota, that was so badly injured by the Merrimac in the contest, is now in Hampton Roads, has sunk, and proved a total loss. Her armament was saved. This takes three of the most formidable of the Yankee frigates that were destroyed in the late engagement with the Merrimac, besides a number of smaller vessels.

A meeting was held recently in Carroll county, Mississippi, with reference to the war, the proceedings of which, for spirit and patriotic devotion, are truly an example for every part of the Confederacy. We make a single extract from the resolutions:

Resolved, That should the patriotic civility of the South, contrary to our earnest expectations, prove itself recreant, and the invading foe succeed in breaking through the lines of our defenses, and begin its march of conquest through our country, we do hereby solemnly declare it to be our fixed and unshaken purpose to present him a desperate battle, laying our fields waste with fire. And if there should be any found among us possessing an abject and craven spirit, who shall refuse or neglect to perform this act of necessary defense, we pledge our faith to each other that we will see it done on every plantation throughout the country; so that the enemy shall never obtain from us that cotton which is our wealth, and becomes to him the snows of war.

**Savannah Impregnable.**

A correspondent of the Atlanta Confederacy, who dates his letter from camp Jackson, a point near Savannah, we suppose, makes the unusual gratifying announcement:

Our land approaches are nearly secure, and the best points on the banks of the Savannah are literally burdened with heavy defensive ordnance. It is probably too well known among us that the Yankee gunboats are plated with steel and are oval in shape. We, however, can draw a tangent to any arch, and a perpendicular to any tangent; and, through these keys are spherical, they can be pelted by perpendicular shots. These large plates of steel have also been driven into the vessels, wood and all, by a single shot from a wall directed columbiad. The Yankee commodores understand these facts, hence they dread to "beard the Douglas in his hall, or the lion in his den." Hence we see them digging a channel through Wall's Cut, and shunting the impregnable Pulaski.

**To the Planters of the Mississippi Valley—Headquarters, Army of the Mississippi, Jackson, Tennessee, March 9, 1862.**

More than once, a people fighting with an enemy less ruthless than yours; for their rights are not more clear and sacred than yours; for homes and land not more worthy of resolve and unconquerable men than yours; and for interests far less magnitude than you have now at stake, have not hesitated to melt and mould into cannon, the precious bells surrounding their houses of God, which had called generations to prayers. The priesthood have ever sanctified and consecrated their conversion, in the hour of their nation's need, as one holy and acceptable in the sight of God.

We want cannon as greatly as any people who ever, as history tells you, melted their church bells to supply them; and I, your General, entrusted with the command of the armies embodied of your sons, your grandsons, and your neighbors, do now call upon you to send your plantation bells to the nearest railroad depot, subject to my order, to be melted into cannon for the defence of your plantations.

Who will not cheerfully and promptly send me his bells under such circumstances? Be of good cheer, but time is precious.

[Signed] G. T. BEAUREGARD,  
Official: General Commanding.  
THOMAS JORDAN, A. A. General.

**True Patriotism.**—It is stated that the Fourth Alabama Regiment, in the Army of the Potomac, proposes to re-enlist for the war, rejecting alike the fifty dollars bounty and the sixty days' furlough, saying that the cause is enough.

Gov. Shorter, of Alabama, has issued a proclamation, closing every gallery in the State after the first of April next. The stopping of the galleries in Virginia, the two Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, will now make whiskey a scarce article.

**A HALF MILLION OF MEN HAVE COME TO THE SOUTH**

...men have come to the South to man six or seven millions of men, women and children. The proportion of men capable of bearing arms in a community is usually estimated at one in five. Any community can spare for distant war one-fifth its population; but for war on its own soil, it can readily supply one-fifth its whole number. Therefore, the South can oppose one-fifth or sixth of its whole population for resistance, against one million of men. It can do this the more readily, inasmuch as its slaves remain to cultivate the earth.

This force cannot be ill armed in the best manner; but it is believed that our army of four hundred regiments will be pretty effectually equipped. The residue of our million of resistants will have to employ such guns and instruments as they may be able to lay hands on. Our object being the destruction of the half million of men invading our country, the work can be participated in by the imperfectly armed as well as the well armed, by irregular troops as well as regulars, by partisan companies and squads as well as organized armies.

It is mathematically and physically certain that the invading enemy can be destroyed if we but will his destruction. We have the numbers requisite to compass the object, and we have the facilities necessary to it. If we have not long range rifles to shoot down soldiers, we have clubs to beat out the brains of horses and mules. If we have not armies of equal numbers to cope with the enemy in pitched battles, we have intimate knowledge of the roads of his march, swift horses to mount, and the capacity, if not wanting in courage and enterprise, to destroy his transportation. If we cannot meet him in March, we can succeed in embarrassing him greatly by the end of April; and if he dares penetrate the interior of our country by June, we can envelop and destroy his forces by July or August.

An invading army is more easily whipped by avoiding decisive battles than by fighting them too often, if it be actively annoyed and harassed. This great General of the Revolution, GREENE, never won a decisive victory; yet the enemy was at ways the worse off after retreats than before the engagements. The fortune of WASHINGTON was nearly always to be driven back, yet he was always stronger after a great defeat than before. It is almost an axiom in warfare, that if an invading army does not crush its adversary in an engagement, it has really suffered defeat. The celebrated remark of PYRRHUS, "one more such victory and we are undone," had its natural sequel in his speedy retirement altogether from the Roman territories.

It is yet a problem whether the Southern people, by long peace and prosperity, have lost their heroic character; and this problem is to be thoroughly tested in the next three months. It must be confessed that we make no use of the advantages we gained in the first months of the struggle; and did not show ourselves proof against the blandishments of prosperity. It is now to be seen with what fortitude we shall bear the trials of adversity. If we rise superior to these, we shall conquer our foe and prove ourselves worthy of the liberty and of the country and institutions with which Heaven has blessed us. If we basely succumb to the pressure of misfortune, we shall deserve any fate that may await us, and demonstrate to the world that we were fit subjects for subjugation.

The task before us is an easy one provided only that we have the determination to perform it. A million of men, fighting for their homes and altars, can easily destroy half a million of invaders, if they but choose to do so. If they do not drive out such an invasion, and bring it to speedy grief, they will deserve subjugation. In this work every man can take a hand.—Energy, courage, daring, will soon execute the task, if they be only employed. Let the people remember this and do not dimmed. A more formidable danger threatened Greece under Xanthippus than ours own country, and the fate of that ruler is a warning to his modern imitator.

A still more threatening invasion was directed against Macedonia by Napoleon, and it was the aggressor that suffered ruin. Did not his intended victim, many times without our consent, by England, Switzerland by Austria, and Germany by Russia, but they were never subdued. Let the Southern people recollect these things and imitate the noble example supplied them by history. Let them remember too, that their safety lies in the destruction of the invading force, and that this is a work for their own hands to do, for it is as idle as it would be to hope for help from government, from foreign interference, or from any other quarter.—Richmond Examiner, March 19.

**GOVERNMENT STORES.**—The issue of stores at Nashville and Clarksville by the Confederate Government has been greatly exaggerated. We learn that all the pork and beef which the Government has received from the contractors was saved at Nashville.

The pork and beef lot at Nashville was the loss of the contractors, it not having undergone the salting and packing called for by the terms of their contracts.

The loss to them has been much overrated; \$500,000 will, we learn, more than cover the provision losses at Nashville. We have no data as to the losses at Clarksville.—Memphis Avalanche, March 17.

**THE BATTLE AT NEWBERN**

RALISBURY, N. C.: MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 24, 1862.

We are gratified to be able to state from the various sources of information to which we have had access, that our loss in this battle does not exceed about four hundred killed, wounded and missing. The killed are said to number from forty to fifty, the wounded from 50 to 60, and the missing, who were taken prisoners, about 200. Col. Avery is a prisoner. He was not wounded. A large portion of his command was taken prisoner. Major Carmichael was the only field officer killed. Our troops all fell back to Kinston, 25 miles this side of Newbern. At last accounts, stragglers were still coming in.

The loss of the enemy, according to the statement of their own men, is from fifteen hundred to two thousand. Newbern is entirely in the hands of the enemy, and they are carrying on a wholesale pillage of private property—breaking open houses and helping themselves to every thing they want. They have a force of about 25,000, and have thrown out pickets for eight or ten miles this side of Newbern.

Our troops lost all their baggage, tents, and every thing else but their arms. They have nothing except the suit of clothes worn in the battle. They must necessarily suffer in this condition, unless speedily relieved. The State cannot, we understand, supply them with another outfit without considerable delay. It is a case which appeals loudly to the liberality of patriotic citizens at home, and we are glad to say that Rowan has taken some steps to respond to it. The Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society is at work, and will, in a short time, do something for the relief of our defenders.

H. J. Pendleton (son of M. C.) and Miss Cranford, members of Captain J. M. Turner's company from Rowan, were wounded and captured by the enemy. They, with one other, a man from Carteret, who is supposed to have gone home, are the only loss sustained by Capt. Turner's company.

**ACHAN.**—Achan brought trouble and defeat on the army of Israel by the love of gold and silver, which he coveted in his tent; and the army of Israel was defeated until Achan's sin was removed. There are thousands of Achan in the Southern Confederacy, every one of whom is a trouble to the camp, a reproach to our cause, and a hindrance to our success. They have locked up the silver and the gold, and spend toiling days and sleepless nights in sipping together the glittering trash, thinking by this means, to secure themselves and their families, from the hardships and privations with which these perilous times threaten us. But their hope is not only vain, but an insult to the God who alone guides the storm, setting up and casting down whom he will.

We met with three miserable Achan's last Wednesday—rich original ascensionists, who would not give a cent for the relief of soldiers in distress; and for their benefit and the good of the public in general, we will publish in our next a valuable article on "Achan's Treason." If we are to succeed in this revolution we must all help. There is work enough for all. And those who have money must expect to pour it out! The love of money has been one of the great sins of our Country, and the war is sure to continue until the people relax their hold upon it, and freely spend for the public good, and to advance our enterprises for defence. The man who clutches his money bag at a time like this is sporting pecuniary ruin, bondage for his children, and a disgrace worse than death for himself. If the stinginess of the people should be the means of letting in the enemy, what will become of their money? Let every man make up his mind to spend, freely and liberally, for every purpose that tends to secure our independence and an honorable peace.

**Self Accident on the Western Railroad.**—A landslide on the Western Extension, six miles from New, caused a sad accident last Thursday morning, by which James Briggs (a member of Capt. J. A. Wood's company, of the 4th Regt. N. S. T.) lost his life. He was standing on the platform when the train struck the slide, and was caught between the cars. Both his legs were broken, and he was otherwise badly injured. He died in about one hour after the accident.

This, we believe, is the first accident, resulting in loss of life, on this Road.

The Richmond Examiner of the 19th inst. says that it was intimated in Congress on the 18th, that President Davis, after the adjournment of that body, would take the field in person, and probably assume the command of our forces in the West.

**THE LIQUOR ORDER**

General Order No. 11, issued from the Headquarters of the Cape Fear, under date of the 15th March, expressly prohibits any person from selling or giving any intoxicating liquor, of any kind, to any officer or soldier in this command, and further states, that any person found violating this order, will subject himself or his residence or place of business to military surveillance, and any liquor found in his possession to destruction.

Now, as far as stopping this liquor business goes we go with it heart and soul; for every day, and upon every great emergency, we find that this thing of drinking has done us much harm. Its ruinous influence may be traced everywhere in high positions not less than in low ones.

Still, we think the rule might be modified, without at all interfering with its efficiency. We learn that considerable liquor was destroyed here yesterday, and among it a quantity of high grade French Brandy. Good French Brandy is indispensable for hospital use, and cannot be replaced. It would have equally punished the offending party to have confiscated this brandy for hospital purposes, and, indeed, even as regards the whisky, while alcohol must be had and must be made out of whisky, the use of whisky already distilled would save just as much care as was required to make it. We think the rule might with advantage, be changed from destruction to confiscation, under certain restrictions and for certain purposes.

Of the circumstances of a case occurring yesterday we are not prepared to speak further, not being fully acquainted with them.—Rich Journal.

The Journal is certainly right: The destruction of liquor involves the destruction of more grain. For if all the present stock of liquors was destroyed, such is the independent need of the article for hospital and chemical uses, that more would have to be made. Let the Government close up the shops by whatever means it finds necessary, and confiscate the liquors. There is no necessity for destroying it, and it is therefore a useless waste. The same authority that exercises the right to destroy, could just as well confiscate and apply the property to a useful purpose. We content to some surprise that a military man should not see the folly of destroying liquors: those taken in Western North Carolina who have been employing barrels may have some excuse for such wastefulness, having no place to store, and no power to hold the liquors they capture. But even they might make an amendment in the mode of proceeding, instead of destroying, they would simply capture and send the barrels to the Governor, and tell him to keep it under bonds, or they would destroy it. We think Governor Clark would obey the command.

The State Journal misapprehends our position when it argues from our remarks of last week the necessity for a State Convention to reconcile conflicting views on the subject of the next Governor. We think there is no need for a State Convention. We would rather trust the people than a Convention. We know that the people of the State are honest, and if we show an error and point the right way in the right place, then the Convention proposed by the Journal, we earnestly beg that politicians would, for this one time, let the people alone, and let us see if they are not capable of making a good selection. Let the newspapers if they will, publish a list of the men in the State thought worthy by their friends to be Governor, and then let them "step up step" so far as the election is concerned, and leave the people to vote their unbiassed, unbiassed and unbiassed. They will be sure to make an election, even if 500 different names were voted for, and if let alone, they will find the right man. But just as certain as we show this who have "step up to grade" to get up a convention juggle, we shall have palmed off upon an man, rationally partisan to first and trouble us for the next two years.

**Yankee Prisoners.**—Again we warn the public to keep a sharp look out for runaway Yankee prisoners; for it would be impossible for the guard at the prison to prevent their escape. Eight more were captured and introduced to their quarters here last Friday. This community knew nothing of their escape until brought back—two by citizens of Ashe county and six by citizens of Rowan.—There was no public notice given of their escape, but we suppose the plain subscribers must have known of it, and probably sent men in pursuit of them.

**Public Meeting.**—There was a very large public meeting held in the Town Hall, Saturday night last, for the purpose of urging a more thorough system of police. The intended provided, and the action of the meeting, when put into practical operation, will most likely be effective.

EF Franklin, aged about 18 years, son of Osbe Hartman, a member of Capt. Swanerty's company, died at the "Soldiers Home" in this place, Monday last, after a long and painful illness, brought on by measles. He was a worthy young man, and member of the Lutheran Church.

**A Good New One.**—The Rev. Henry N. Fuerr, pastor of Philadelphia congregation, Newbern, died of paralysis, Saturday 15th inst. He received the stroke on Sunday before, while returning from church, and never spoke afterwards.

**Laborer.**—Field hands are in demand in this part of the State, and unless obtained from that part overrun by the enemy, thousands of acres of land will be idle during this year.