

The present high prices for such part the result of a mania for speculation, such as occasionally seems whose communities, and transports them into the wild and most silly extravagances. Distinguished instances of this speculating frenzy were those over tulips which seized the sluggish Dutch in Holland in the last century, and over the *morus multicaulis* plant which prevailed in the United States not many years ago.

It is impossible to analyze the state of the public mind which gives rise to these giddy and mad speculations. Each individual seems conscious of the folly acting the community and equally conscious of the folly of the community. Unable to resist the sweeping torrent of speculation, each one seems forced by the prevailing infatuation to throw himself upon the current, and help to swell its volume and increase its momentum.

The peculiarity of the present mania is that it is got confined to a single species of garden bulb, or to a single forest plant, but extends to all conceivable subjects of barter and purchase. Nothing is so insignificant in value as not to have attracted the attention of some person or other operating for a profit. A smart individual engrosses all the black-eye peas in the market; a more wealthy company of individuals obtain possession of all the sugar within reach. A small operator industriously hunts out and secures every mowing scythe to be found; a more ambitious couple of men engross all the nails in the South, and put up the prices from five to sixty and a hundred dollars. The vast profits secured by these legal frauds set the whole floored community agog for speculation; everybody is attempting to engross something or other, and every conceivable article of demand runs up to a fabulous price. The result is that every man in the community is swindling everybody else, and everybody else swindling him. It is only the more crafty who make fortunes—those who began their operations ahead of everybody else, and who have the discretion to sell out in time.

When speculation attains such full headway as it has reached at present, it cannot be subdued until it has run its full course. The present speculation is not far from a finale. Prices have gone so high as they can be carried. They will soon come down, and come with an appalling crash. Now, we hear nothing but of fortunes made.—Then, the story will be reversed, and wretched-looking men passing along the street will be pointed at as the noted bankrupts who lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in the great collapse.

The prevailing fever is not confined merely to speculating for profit. It has a wider range. In general, everybody is striving to get more money and to do less work. Salaried officers who do an hour's work in a day at their desk, at salaries ranging from fifteen hundred dollars up to thousands, complain of over-work and under pay. All salaried departments, private and public, are encumbered with double the men required, for the actual work performed, and although performing half labor, there is not a salaried clerk in the Confederacy who is not clamorous for more pay.

The condition of affairs is admirably favorable for heavy taxation. The stay-at-home classes, thus pampered by leisure and run mad for amusement, can only be brought to their senses by being made to bear their share of the war's burden. A heavy tax on profits will soon correct the vice of speculation; and men who have made millions will have to disgorge into the public treasury hundreds of thousands of their gains. The great millers and the great salt extortioners will have the war brought home to their pockets in the reverse manner from that with which they have been up to this time familiar; and the soldiers and men who have borne the burden and hardships of the struggle will about for joy at the spectacle.

It is time that the speculating classes, who have made only profit from the war, should be required to a part in its support commensurate with the gains they have derived from it. The taxation of these gains is the only mode of equalizing the burdens of war; and besides this character of justice which will attach to the measure, it will have a salutary effect of suppressing the wild spirit of speculation which has produced so much privation to the poor, and threatens to end in a general crash involving the whole community. A heavy tax will re-establish the currency, will equalize the burdens of the war, and will soon reduce prices to a sound and healthy standard. Let a good tax be laid; and let it be made heaviest on sales at a profit.  
*Rich. Examiner.*

**Strange Freaks of the War.**—The *Memphis Bulletin*, referring to a true and trite phrase that history repeats itself, says this is peculiarly the fact with regard to the history of our war. The scenes, the incidents, the defeats and successes of a year ago are being repeated to-day. The battle fields upon which so much valor has been displayed and so much blood has been shed, have again become the scenes of conflict. Thus we had two serious battles at Bull Run, two battles at Corinth, two at Vicksburg, and a third in contemplation, and lastly, we are on the eve of a second bloody drama at Charleston in which Beauregard introduced the first act by an attack on Sumter. Then, as now, Beauregard commanded at Charleston.

#### THE FIGHT AT FORT HUDSON.

We have received from our special correspondent at Fort Hudson the following congratulatory order, addressed to the heavy artilleryists who so distinguished themselves in the recent glorious engagement there with the Yankee fleet, and publish it as a paper of historic interest:

Headquarters 13th La. Bat. Artillery, Port Hudson, March 16, 1863.

To the Officers and Men of the 12th La. Battalion: After many months of patient expectation, the hoped for opportunity of meeting the enemy's fleet has come at last. The "unconquerable ships" that were to have swept all our batteries were to be destroyed last Saturday night, and after three hours of the hottest fighting, fled ignominiously, punished and crippled by your steady fire of the upper batteries. Two of their ships passed up under cover of the darkness, but where will they go? The batteries at Grand Gulf and Vicksburg await them, and if they come back they will be ours. Their fine frigate, the *Mississippi*, carrying 24 guns and crew of 300 men, was crippled and disabled by your shots and burned under your eyes, illuminating the scene of your glorious victory. Another large ship, the *Richmond*, disabled and sinking, was towed down to New Orleans, where she will tell our anxious friends that our Southern hearts are not to be awed into submission by the sight of Yankee gun-boats. Their other ships are busy "healing their wounds," uncertain whether to renew the attempt.

You have done your duty nobly and I am proud of being your commander. Your well tried patience at Yorktown gave me the assurance that you would behave creditably. Often, speaking of the prospects of our advance, I have exclaimed, "let the fleet come, and you will see if my boys can fight," but in Saturday's engagement my best hopes were more than realized. Your coolness under the terrific fire of the enemy's broadsides, your quiet and attentive demeanor, the joy that lit your eyes as you gazed upon the long expected foe, and saw your shots dealing him death and destruction, filled my heart with admiration and gratitude.

To the old Zouaves who left New Orleans with me, two years ago, the brave Louisianians who since joined me and the gallant sons of old Virginia, who have left their State to follow the fortunes of the battalion, I return my heartfelt thanks. They have upheld nobly the honor of the corps, and their name is indelibly connected with the history of the defence of Port Hudson.

Where all have behaved well, it would be difficult to single out instances of gallantry. Those engaged at the pieces and magazines and those awaiting their turn of service all did well, for all were at their posts, cool and ready, prompt and attentive.

Let us return grateful thanks to the God of battles, that our success has not cost a single life, and that no tear of regret dims our exulting joy. But the fighting has not ceased forever; a crafty enemy watches, and what he cannot effect by force he will attempt by surprise. The victory you have gained only binds you to greater deeds. Be watchful, and when the enemy comes, remember the night of the 14th of March, and you will be nerved to still greater prowess. That you will give up your lives rather than surrender the guns with which you have written your name on the pages of history, that victories still more glorious await, is the conviction of him who is proud of commanding you, and ready to die or conquer at your head.

(Signed) P. F. DeGOURNAY, Lieut. Col. Commanding 12th Battalion and Chief of Left Wing.—*Memphis Appeal.*

#### NORTH CAROLINA BRIGADES.

We are indebted to the Adjutant-General's office for the following statement, showing the brigades to which the North Carolina regiments belong. It will be seen that there are four regiments whose brigade commanders are unknown, and that one-fifth of our regiments are commanded by Brigadiers not of or from this State:—[*Standard.*]

R. A. Pryor's Brigade—1st and 3d; S. D. Ransom's—2d, 4th, 14th, 30th; A. Iverson's—5th, 12th, 20th, 23d; R. F. Hoke's—6th, 21st, 54th, 57th, and Wharton's battalion of sharpshooters; J. H. Lane's—7th, 18th, 28th, 33d, 37th; T. L. Clingman's—8th, 31st, 51st, 61st; Wade Hampton's—9th; J. J. Pettigrew's—11th, 26th, 42d, 44th, 47th, 52d; W. D. Pender's—13th, 16th, 22d, 34th, 38th; J. K. Cooke's—15th, 27th, 46th, 48th; W. H. F. Lee's—19th; R. Ransom's—24th, 25th, 35th, 49th, 56th; R. B. Vance's—29th, 30th, 60th; J. Daniel's—32d, 43d, 45th, 50th, 53d; B. H. Robertson's—41st, 59th, 63d; J. J. Davis—55th.

The following regiments are not brigaded: 10th, 17th, 36th, 40th.

The brigade commanders of the following are unknown: 58th, 62d, 64th, 65th.

The following regiments enlisted for the war: 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 17th, 19th, 33d, 40th, 43d, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 51st, 52d, 53d, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62d, 63d, 64th, 65th.

The following re-enlisted prior to the passage of the act of April 16th, 1862: 28th, 37th.

The following were 12 months regiments, and re-organized under the act of April 16th, 1862: 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 38th, 39th, 41st.

**Departure of the Milan.**—The French corvette *Milan* sailed from this port on Tuesday afternoon, having on board the French Consul, M. Sr. Andre, and family, also the Vice-Consul, M. De Sibourg, and family. The *Milan*, accompanied by the *Catinal*, will proceed to Port Royal, where the former will take in a quantity of coal from the *Catinal* and sail for Mexico. The *Milan's* passengers will be transferred to the *Catinal*. The latter will then go to New York, from whence the Consul and Vice Consul are ordered to report to the French Minister at Washington.

#### ADDRESS

To the People of N. Carolina by Gov. Z. B. Vance.

Those peculiar calamities which often befall a nation struggling for existence, are about to come upon us, in the shape of a scarcity of provisions and a threatened famine. Whilst it is still believed there is enough in the country, if fairly distributed, it is certain there is none to spare; and there is danger that insufficient preparation will be made for the ensuing season, and that a considerable proportion of the labor of the country will be devoted to the production of crops other than breadstuffs.

The Legislature having adjourned without taking action to prevent this much dreaded state of things, and it not being deemed expedient to call it together again so early after its adjournment, I have deemed it my duty to address you in this extraordinary manner, praying you, of your own will, to avert it. And I am confident that the large-hearted patriotism—the wonderful generosity which last year filled to overflowing the storehouses of our quartermasters, in response to my call in behalf of our naked soldiers, has not yet deserted the farmers of N. Carolina.

By universal consent, there is allowed to be but one danger to our speedy and triumphant success, and that is, the failure of our provisions. Our victorious soldiers now constitute the best army in the world; arms and munitions are abundant; time and experience has given us admirable leaders, and everything is prosperous and hopeful, except in the field and work shop. Everything depends now upon the industry and patriotism of the farmer. Now that so many brave arms which were wont to hold the plow have gone into the ranks, unless those still at home strain every nerve to produce bread, our cause may be ruined. Without bread, the soldier has neither strength nor courage; without bread the cries of his little ones at home will reach his ears in the distant camps, and cast a sickening chill upon his heart. No bravery, no skill, nor device, nor human wisdom, can cope with that dreaded enemy—famine.—While our brave defenders are facing death upon the field, we at home must sustain and feed them, or in vain will their blood be spilled. Our duties though less glorious and pretending, are equally as important and well defined. Though not battling with the living and embodied enemies of our country, we are yet in her service, and struggling with a far more dangerous and insidious destroyer. And as the soldier who strikes the conflict and deserts his comrades in the hour of battle, is a coward or a traitor, so equally is he who withholds his hands from the plow, or guides it to the production of those crops which produce money and not bread, though he may not so intend it. The humblest mother in all the land, who amid the harrowing cares of a helpless family, can find time to plant a few potatoes near her cabin door; the poorest little boy, whose infant and unskilled hands may plant a few hills of corn, or gather the sheaves of harvest, will each do a more acceptable service in the sight of God and his countrymen, and as worthy of more honor than he who raises a thousand bales of cotton or a hundred hogheads of tobacco, and ostentatiously donates a small portion to some "Aid Society."

The bright sunshine again warms and dries the earth. We must use it to our salvation or neglect it to our destruction. Plant, sow, dig, and plow; corn, oats, potatoes—any thing and every thing which will support life. Let everybody take to the fields, where the plow, not the maddening wheels of artillery, furrow the generous soil. These will prove the real fields of victory and independence. Hundreds of able-bodied young men in our towns and villages—non-producers—who having procured substitutes or exemptions, now idle their time about empty stores, or other unprofitable places, should be growing something, and adding to instead of diminishing the general fund. Let none be idle.—And above all, my countrymen, let none plant cotton or tobacco. Though the prices are high and the temptation great, your profits would be made from the blood of brave men and the suffering of helpless women and children. Your children and your children's children would reap an abundant and enduring harvest of scorn, and the remembrance of the manner in which your wealth was gained would burn in your conscience to the hour of death.

Whilst I thus appeal to you in behalf of the preparations for another year, it is also my duty to speak of the present. Ninety days will bring us to harvest, and I am confident we can reach it without actual suffering, if all parties will do as duty and Christianity prompt. Let all who have to spare, divide liberally with those who have not. Sell to the County and State agents when your neighbors are supplied, and do not wait for it to be impressed. Impressed it certainly will be, before our armies shall be disorganized by the suffering of their families for the want of that which you can spare, and for which a fair price will be offered you. Allowance your work hands and your negroes. They are no better than the soldiers who live on half their daily portion. Put your stock in the woods and upon grass the moment they can live upon it, and conscientiously devote the saving to your neighbor's children, whose father or brother is fighting your battles. Let the magistrates see that distillation is arrested, by issuing promptly process against every man who dares to waste the precious grains of life in defiance of law. Avoid above all things, mob violence. Broken laws will give you no bread, but much sorrow; and when forcible seizures have to be made to avert starvation, let it be done by your County or State agents. Should Providence favor our growing crops, a plentiful harvest will, I trust, and believe, greet our gallant soldiers, again victorious through another campaign, and bring us to the blessed day of Peace and Independence.

In order that the most effectual means in our power may be speedily and systematically adopted, both for the subsiding and distribution of our present supplies, and for securing a large provision crop for the next year, I earnestly recommend that meetings

of the farmers and planters of each County and neighborhood of the State be held immediately, to express their condemnation of cotton and tobacco planting, and to devise means of mutual aid and assistance in the trials of the coming season. Much good can be done in this way, and a wholesome public opinion set forth, more powerful, perhaps, to stave off our impending dangers than the fines and penalties of a statute.

Very respectfully,  
Your obt. servt.,  
Z. B. VANCE.  
Raleigh, April 2, 1863.

#### CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 6, 1863.

SALISBURY, N. C.

#### GOV. VANCE'S ADDRESS.

We respectfully ask the attention of every farmer in our country to the able address of Gov. Vance, which we copy from the *Standard*, of the 3d instant. We do hope for the honor of our country, that no man in Rowan County, will plant any more cotton or tobacco, than will be necessary for his own use. Our large planters should vie with each other in the production of large crops of Corn this season, as upon it depends the very salvation of our Country. Patriotism should prompt every one to this course, and humanity absolutely demands it at the hands of every man. Will any one, we ask, risk the independence of the South by planting cotton or tobacco? Upon it, we again say in all sincerity, all that we hold dear is staked. For if starved out by avarice or overrun by the detested abolition horde, property and all that freemen prize as dear as life itself is gone—irretrievably gone. For the honor of the State let all do what he can to save our country and its cause.

Mr. JOHN L. SLOAN of this County is another of the few men read of in the papers who will not grow rich by selling his farm products at famine prices. He has been and is yet, selling flour at \$10 per sack, and meal at \$2 per bushel. These are less than half the rates at which the articles are selling. May his children's children hear this story fondly told to them fifty years hence.

Negro Sale.—There was a sale of 23 negroes in Cabarrus last week, (the property of a Mr. Propert) all one family, including parents, grand parents and children, which brought the extraordinary aggregate of \$41,756 00, averaging a little over \$1,815. Two of the lot, 17 and 20 years of age, brought \$4,000 each. It was an estate sale, and the negroes were all bought up by the heirs.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

The President has approved and signed the Act of Congress, recently passed, regulating the issue and funding of Treasury notes. It is well, therefore, for the public to bear in mind that under the provisions of that Act all Treasury notes not bearing interest, issued previous to the 1st December last, will cease to be fundable in eight per cent. bonds or stock, on the 22d day of April, inst., but will be fundable in seven per cent. bonds until the 1st of August. The expectation of a premium upon these notes has been defeated by the concentration in Richmond of large amounts from all parts of the Confederacy. The flow in that direction will doubtless continue until the 22d of April.—*Char. Bulletin.*

#### Jacksonville Evacuated by the Yankees.

It has been known for sometime that Gen. Finegan was making arrangements to attack the Yankee vandals at Jacksonville, and we have for several days past been expecting an account of a fight in that neighborhood. Gen. Finegan had just made his arrangements to clear out that den of mongrels and thieves, and had his troops in order to make the attack, when the Yankees suddenly evacuated the place. We learn that all their forces embarked on their transports and gunboats on Sunday last, taking every thing they had with them, and carrying off their stolen property. It is thought that they embarked for Port Royal. Before leaving, they set fire to a number of outbuildings in various parts of the town, no doubt with the intention of destroying it. We learn that Gen. Finegan immediately went in and succeeded in stopping the progress of the fire, but not until a number of houses had been destroyed.  
*Savannah News.*

#### A DASH INTO WILLIAMSBURG.

On last Sunday morning Colonel William Tabb, of General Wise's command, with several hundred cavalry, made a dash into the town of Williamsburg. The Yankee garrison, though greatly outnumbering the attacking force, being taken by surprise, fled precipitately in the direction of Yorktown. Several of the fugitives were cut down and others taken prisoners. Colonel Tabb took possession of the postoffice, and having secured the mail and several thousand dollars in greenbacks, retired leisurely with his prisoners.—*Richmond Examiner.*

#### Georgia with North Carolina.

Governor Brown, in his recent message to the Legislature of Georgia in special session, opposes the endorsement of the bonds of the Confederate States by Georgia, as calculated to impair the confidence of capitalist and injure the credit of the State at home and abroad. He says it could do the Confederacy no good.

#### PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

If parents generally knew as well of their own business as it is not, the whereabouts habits and indulgences of their dear boy children, in day time and night time, it strikes us that there might be great improvements made in all these respects, especially in the particular of manners; and as manners to a great extent make the man, they should be taught early in order to have time to strengthen and mature. We say it, and we say it truth, without reference to particular individuals, that the dear little fellows who are permitted to go at large, to find amusements and associations of their own choosing, about this place, are in a fair way to run to rack, bitter weeds in the family and social portions. It is the most common and dangerous of all vices to rove in pursuit of excitement, mis-called taking pleasure; and in the instances we mean this self-willed inauguration of ways and means for it, will some day bring sorrow many a heart that now feels it is fondly doing its duty to these treasures indentured by the great Father for better purposes.

We beseech you reform in these things and become earnest, affectionate and firm workers in the discharge of such duties as look to the cultivation of different tastes—that look to the moral and intellectual saving of their young hearts and plastic minds from the moral leprosy and taints and dangers that beset their unguided ways—attend now and at once to the education of their physical, moral and intellectual being, and the day is not far distant in the future when they will grow up around you (though it may be in the season of your serene and yellow leaf) young men possessed of all elements that go to make up a character meet for the discharge and performance of all high and ennobling duties of life. And you will have the proud consciousness, if not before, at any rate, in passing away, that they are as brazils snatched from the burning; and may then, if not before, thank us for "a word to the wise."—*Charlotte Bulletin.*

We commend this to the serious attention of parents in this place, also.—*Watchman.*

#### Trading between Texas and Mexico.

Exchange of Cotton.—Gen. Magruder has issued an order allowing persons to transport cotton to the Mexican frontier. This has been done mainly from the necessity of getting supplies from Mexico, over the Rio Grande frontier, through the sales of cotton.

By the rules of this order importers of supplies or goods are allowed to export cotton to the custom house value of their original invoices at the port of entry, with one hundred per cent added—the cotton to be valued at \$100 per bale.—Persons thus exporting cotton can only take it to this side of the river, when they must go over and purchase their supplies, bring them across, and on exhibition of their original invoices, be permitted to export cotton to double the amount, valuing each bale of cotton at \$100 in specie.

Another recent order of Gen. Magruder is that all foreigners between the ages of 18 and 45, holding any office or employment connected with the army in Texas, (but not in the army) or enrolled for service, will be immediately deprived by their employers of such office, unless they take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States, and enroll themselves as subject to military duty, or furnish able-bodied substitutes not liable to conscription, unless the same shall have been appointed by authority superior.

#### FROM PENSACOLA.

A private letter in the *Mobile Tribune*, noticing the evacuation of Pensacola by the Abolitionists, relates the following acts of madness before leaving:

"They destroyed all the furniture they could lay their hands on. They destroyed by fire the business portion of the city, nearly the entire North-western portion, and all the large buildings in the city. They took off with them all the negroes and robbed the people of every thing within reach. They left no way to hold the 'Federal flag,' and declare that they would burn the place if any one dared to pull it down. The citizens who are loyal to the South are availing themselves of the chance to make their escape.

**Why Bread is Dear.**—The editor of the *Milledgeville Recorder* now at Marshallville last week a large building filled with sacks of government corn, and by contract 12,000 bushels, a great part of which is rotting. Any person acquainted with the nature of large milk knows that when, from heat or moisture, decay once begins, it is like heaven which permeates the whole family. This waste of the staff of life is positively a crime at this juncture, when the counties in upper Georgia are almost destitute of breadstuffs from the failure of the crops last year.

#### A SUCCESS IN THE SOUTHWEST.

A dispatch from Ponchatoula, on the Jackson and New Orleans railroad, dated March 29th, states that a regiment of our troops, commanded by Colonel Miller, of Vicksburg, had attacked and routed the enemy at that point, capturing a number of prisoners. The Yankees in their flight set fire to a large amount of stores that they had accumulated at Ponchatoula.—*Richmond Examiner.*