

Rates of Advertising.

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Tributes of Respect (except those of soldiers) charged as advertisements. Also obituary notices exceeding six lines in length, will be charged for at the rates of TEN CENTS per line of manuscript.

The money should accompany the notice. Mere announcements of deaths or marriages are solicited as items of news.

MEETING OF THE CABINET.—The country will be rejoiced to hear that the Cabinet of the Confederate States of America has at length been discovered and, unless reports be incorrect, has been in session several consecutive days. It is not stated when the last session of this dignified body occurred, nor where it has been in the interim, nor how the important discovery of its hiding place was effected. Enough for us to know that it has been dragged from its concealment and put to work. There is much business to be done, and the signal ability displayed by each member of this great body, during the last two years, gives every assurance that the business will be done to the satisfaction of the President. The interchange of opinions on military questions will be especially agreeable and useful.

A contemporary suggests that the business of Congress can be much expedited by permitting the members of the Cabinet to appear before the Houses and explain themselves. If we are not mistaken, there is a constitutional provision allowing the members of the Cabinet to make their appearance on the floor of Congress and explain measures not well understood or defend measures assailed. The experience which Congress has had while in session, but especially during the vacations, may incline it to consider favorably the suggestion of our contemporary. Perhaps an occasional colloquy with Cabinet officers will obviate the necessity of vesting the President with absolute powers or of organizing an Executive Committee to share responsibility with the Chief Magistrate. Indeed free intercourse with the Cabinet may tend largely to dissipate the too prevalent idea that the Cabinet is wholly irresponsible and has never been permitted to do more than express opinions, which were invariably treated with contempt. Friendly association in the House may give Congress a better appreciation of the abilities of the Cabinet and give the Cabinet a livelier apprehension of the power of Congress. Perhaps through the several members, standing before the bar of the House, Congress may be able to reach certain subjects which could not heretofore be touched. More intimacy between the various branches of the Government would be pleasing to the people and might be beneficial to the cause. It is not less unwise than unkind to throw the whole burden of responsibility upon the President. The members of the Cabinet are willing and anxious to share this responsibility, and eager to defend themselves before the bar of the House. Courtesy demands that this boon be not denied them.—*R. Whig.*

WAR IN THE WEST INDIES.—It may be remembered that sometime since the Spanish military authorities, claiming to act in accordance with the invitation of the people of the Dominican Republic, landed a force there and declared the territories of the Republic annexed or re-annexed to the crown of Spain, for the Spanish Government had never formally acknowledged the independence of its former colony. The territories claimed by the Dominican Republic constitute the Eastern portion of the island of San Domingo or Hayti and comprise three-fifths of the island, though with less than one-fourth of its population, being in fact identical with the portion of the island formerly belonging to Spain, the Southern and Western portion at the same time belonging to France, but now forming the Black Republic or "Empire of Hayti."

It would appear that the Spanish officers in Saint Domingo have been abusing their power in every way, treating the Dominicans as a conquered people, plundering and oppressing them without measure.

The Dominicans, claiming that the act of their President Pedro Santana, in inviting in the Spaniards, was not the act of, or authorized by the people, but on the contrary a treacherous surrender of their rights and liberties, have taken up arms and have hemmed in the Spanish troops in the city of San Domingo. An act of independence has been issued by the Dominicans at Santiago, setting forth these facts—denying the right or power of President Santana to deliver up the country to Spain, and dwelling upon the acts of outrage and oppression perpetrated by those sent to represent the Spain power among the Dominican people. The manifesto, which is signed by a large number of Dominicans, including the most wealthy and respectable of the people, appeals to the world at large, and especially to the Queen of Spain, against the injustice and outrages of her representatives in first imposing a foreign yoke upon an independent people, and next in exercising the power thus acquired in a tyrannical, oppressive and rapacious spirit.

General Prim, the Spanish Commander in those parts has sought permission from Hayti to cross 5,000 troops over her territory to act against the Dominicans, but has been refused, for Hayti claims a right of government over the whole island, and thus it is that the milk and molasses colored people of San Domingo are sought after by all manner of men both black and white. The Haytians have been unable to conquer them, and if the Spaniards succeed they will make a bad bargain.

[Wilmington Journal.]

The Confederate States Army, located at this place some two and a half years since, and which has grown to be a vast concern, has been removed to Columbia, S. C. The principal reasons inducing the removal were, as we are informed, the difficulty of transportation and scarcity of provisions. Two very weighty arguments, it must be conceded.—*Asheville News.*

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF GOV. BROWN.

The Governor has addressed a special message to the Legislature on the subject of taxation. He desires the repeal, by the Confederate Congress, of the law for taxation in kind. We give extracts:

I am obliged to conclude that the tithe system adopted by the Congress of the Confederate States, was an unfortunate error which can only be retrieved by an entire and early change of policy.

I think it safe to estimate that at least one-third of the amount of the tithe or tax in kind, of this State, will be wasted and lost, on account of the want of store room, and the mismanagement and carelessness of the government agents, who, unfortunately, are seldom practical planters, but are, in very many cases young or inexperienced men, who have but little practical knowledge of the business in which they are engaged. The result is that large quantities of shelled corn are thrown together in heaps, and left to rot and spoil, or to be wasted by hogs and other stock on account of the insufficiency of the store rooms to protect it. Fodder or hay in bales is hauled to the common place of deposit, and is there thrown out without cover, and permitted to take the rain as it falls, and is soon rotten. Potatoes and other like productions collected in places remote from the army are almost an entire loss. Much of the meat, if collected at the time fixed by law, will be thrown together in heaps before it is well cured, and will be tainted and spoiled.

This system is not only working badly, and causing the waste of a large quantity of provisions greatly needed by our people, but it has, so far as I am able to learn, given general dissatisfaction.

The people are perfectly willing to pay in the currency of the country any amount of taxes which the necessities of the Government may require, till we are through this struggle. But they are not willing to pay a tax in kind which is very burdensome to them to deliver, and which, after all their toil, they often have the mortification to see wasted without benefit to the Government or any one else.

In the present condition of the country, it seems to me, that there is but one course left for the Government to adopt, which will do justice to all, sustain our cause, and be sustained by the people; and that is, to repeal the tithe law, go into the market and purchase its supplies at market value, and impose a tax payable in currency sufficient to absorb all that portion of the currency, which it cannot induce the people to fund, and which is in redundancy of healthy circulation.

As a matter of interest we give below the towns with a table of distances on the railroad leading from Chattanooga to Atlanta:

From Chattanooga	Miles.
Boyce	5
Chickamauga	10
Johnson	15
Ringgold	18
Catoosa	22
Tunnel Hill	27
Dalton	31
Tilton	34
Evans	47
Calhoun	56
Adairville	60
Kingsport	69
Cass	79
Cartersville	86
Elberton	97
Allatoona	98
Acworth	100
Big Shanty	103
Marietta	118
Rufus	124
Vinings	130
Atlanta	133

A FIGHTING GOVERNOR.—We are pleased to hear that the chivalry of Tennessee was represented in the late battle by its gallant Governor, Isham G. Harris. We are told that he was upon the field during the whole battle fearlessly performing duties which he had voluntarily assumed, but which, as he had no connection with the army, he could have honorably avoided. He is a model Governor and has never failed to participate in any battle which promised directly or remotely the redemption of his State. At Shiloh he fought by the side of the lamented Albert Sidney Johnson, and when that chieftain was wounded received him in his arms. At Perryville he was again found amid the carnage of blood, and at Murfreesboro, once more breasted the leaden storm.—*Rebel.*

ARMY LETTERS.—We are requested by Col. W. E. M. Word, special agent of the Post Office Department, to say that the Postmaster General has established a post office to be called the "Northern Army of Virginia," and appointed Capt. John L. Eubank, of Richmond, Postmaster. Said office is to be located near Gen. Lee's army, and go with it wherever it may, and the Postmasters in this State and in other States, finding letters in their offices for this army, will confer a favor on the soldiers by sending them direct to this new post office, and thereby expedite their delivery.—*Richmond Sentinel.*

WATERLOO A NECESSITY.—Victor Hugo, says the Mobile Register, misses the point entirely in his vindication of the battle of Waterloo as a necessity in the providential arrangement of things. The French have persistently refused to admit the letter "W" in their alphabet, and it was necessary that they should be whipped by Wellington, and at Waterloo, to teach them a better orthography than they had imposed upon the map of America in such names as Quiesconsin and Ouachita. Brissot—the Brissot, in his volume of travels in America, even spelled the name of our great Chief "Ouachinton." The guillotine served him right.

THE BLOCKADE.—James S. Rogers, late Secretary of New Inlet Division of North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, writes to *Harper's Weekly*, that from the beginning of February to the 24th September, an aggregate of eight steamers and quite as many sailing vessels had been either captured or destroyed while in the act of violating the blockade; and that in the six weeks immediately preceding the 18th of October, several fast and otherwise efficient steamers had been added to the fleet off Wilmington. In the six weeks since that time it is evident that the blockading fleet has been still more largely increased. It is evident that no effort will be spared to curtail, if not effectually to stop the trade carried on between this and foreign ports, chiefly those of the British West Indies.—*Wilmington Journal.*

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The City of New York, from Liverpool Nov. 18, via Queenstown, Nov. 19, arrived here early yesterday morning. Her news has been anticipated, but the foreign facts received by her are three days later.

The King of Denmark died on Nov. 15. He succeeded as King of Denmark by the father of the Princess of Wales, under the name of Christian IX. But his right to succeed the late King as Duke of Schleswig and Holstein is contested by the Prince of Augustenburg, who has already been recognized as Duke of Schleswig and Holstein by the Government of Saxo-Coburg.

The subject of the proposed Congress is still warmly debated by the Continental journals; but according to letters from Paris, all the invited, with the exception of Italy, are waiting to see what course will be taken by the British government. The *Pays* reminds its readers that Lord Clarendon made this same proposition in 1856. In Paris the rumor that Lord Palmerston was about to visit the Emperor at Compiegne, is denied.

The Russian government is said to be preparing for war. The Continental journals talk of the increasing armaments of the Czar with alarm. The 3d reserve corps is ordered to be placed on a war footing. It will consist of twelve regiments, each containing three battalions.

In the French *Yellow Book* there is the correspondence between France and the United States, referring on the one hand to the supposed alliance between Russia and America, and on the other to the assumed agreement between France and the Confederates. Mr. Dayton denies the rumor of a Russo-American Alliance, in the same way M. Drouyn de Lhays denies that the sentiments of the French Government have changed. There has not been any arrangement for the cession of Texas or Louisiana.

A friend writing to us from Ireland county relates the particulars of the case of a man who charged a poor discharged soldier \$5 for a quart of Brandy, which he required for medical purposes. It is stated that the man who sold the brandy has two sons, "Tankard," who are doubtless on congenial terms with the enemies of the South. This being so, it would not be wonderful if the father, here in North Carolina, is "not exactly sound on the goose;" or that he should extort on our worn-out, broken down soldiers, who come limping in from the battle field. However, he is true to our course, then his ungenerous dealings with the poor soldier indicate a degree of meanness which will show itself in other ways.

We venture to say he is too niggardly to subscribe and pay for a newspaper; but that he will steal an editor's labors by borrowing newspapers from a neighbor, or by going to the Post-office and reading them there, or hear some one else read them.—*Waldman.*

What do you think of the man who charged poor wounded, sick soldiers, on their way from camp to their homes, one dollar for sitting by his fire? This was actually done in Salisbury, a short time ago, by a tavern keeper. The men were Ansonians, one of them weak, sick and helpless and unable to do anything, being the only son of his mother, and she a poor widow—yet a brave and daring soldier—one of those whose names are inscribed on the Roll of Honor. We think this is the essence of meanness.

Our Wadesboro' friend should be careful. There is danger of "slandering a whole community" by using such language as the above. But may be it does not apply to "Salisbury," N. C. An "explanation" is deemed necessary.

"NEAT CATTLE" AND THE CONFEDERATE TAX.—The Confederate Tax Collector for this County, Col. D. G. Maxwell, has furnished us says the *Charlotte Democrat*, with the following letter from Commissioner of Taxes, for publication for public information:

Office Commissioner of Taxes,
Richmond Nov. 12, 1863.

D. G. Maxwell, Charlotte, N. C.—Sir: In reply to your letter of the 7th inst., you are informed that the term "neat cattle" means all cattle of the bovine species and includes bullocks, steers, cows, heifers, milk cows and calves, all these are to be valued and taxed under Sec. 12, except working oxen, actually employed in the production of articles taxed in kind. The law contemplates only the cattle held or used on the 1st day of November, and does not include calves killed and consumed by the tax payer prior to that time. You are not allowed to exempt anything that the law does not exempt, and it taxes all cattle as above stated. Cattle are not exempt, no matter what they are intended for, nor is any other animal, mule or mare, unless actually used in and employed in cultivating the farm. When the amount of cotton is so very small as not to be worth the trouble or expense of assessing, it should not be noticed, upon the principle of *de minimis non curat lex*. Respectfully, THOMPSON ALLEN, Commissioner.

DANVILLE ITEMS.

SALE OF THE TUNSTALL HOUSE.—The "Tunstall House" was sold privately a few days ago for twenty thousand dollars. Messrs. Parish & Waddill were the purchasers.

The furniture belonging to the House was sold at auction on Tuesday and Wednesday, at enormously high prices.

[*Danville Appeal.*]

DR. JAMES C. GREEN.—Dr. Green of this place who was held as hostage for the notorious Dr. Rucker, reached here last week, after an imprisonment of eleven months. He is in good health and seems to have suffered but little from his long confinement.—*Appeal.*

AT WORK.—We notice that the officers in charge of the Yankee prisoners have squads of these men at work of some sort every day, usually cleansing and policing their prison grounds. The Yankees are always glad enough to get out of doors where they can catch a breath of pure air. The rascals are said to be good at burrowing, several plans of their having been discovered for escaping from confinement by undermining the walls of the prisons.—*Register.*

Small Pox and Typhus Fever still prevail in a most fatal manner among the prisoners of war at this place. Two escaped men were taken up and returned to prison, a few days ago, both of whom now have small pox.—*Register.*

SOMETHING TO EAT.—A large quantity of hard bread, mess-pork, coffee, &c., has lately been received at this place for the Yankee prisoners confined here. It was sent from Richmond, and is a part of the supplies received from Yankee land, sent hither by the Government for their prisoners.—*Register.*

Corn in Green county, Ala., is commanding from \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel, delivered at the crib. The crop is heavier than it has been for years.

THE ESCAPE OF MORGAN.—Gen Morgan and his staff made their escape from the Ohio Penitentiary on the night of the 20th ultimo—at least so say the Yankee papers, which give the following account of the affair:

The most plausible theory mentioned is that they escaped in time to take the Cincinnati train, via Dayton, which started from Columbus at 2 o'clock on Saturday morning.

That their escape was connived at by sympathizers, there is little doubt. The manner of their escape was ingenious, but, after all, simple enough, based upon the almost certain theory that they were correctly informed as to the ground they had to work through. They, by patient labor for nearly four weeks, by means of small pocket knives, dug through the floors of their cells, composed of about one foot of stone and brick, down into a four foot sewer.

Two weeks ago one of the escaped prisoners asked the guard for a few boards to cover the bottom of the cells, giving as an excuse that the dampness was injuring their health. The unsuspecting guard granted their request, and the boards were used to cover up the holes they were cutting.

On the night of the final escape, on retreating to their several cells, Dick Morgan managed to change with his brother John from the lower to the upper tier.

After getting into the sewer, they crawled to the heavy grating and masonry at its mouth, but found they could not escape by that route. They, however, made a hole upward to a heavy pile of coal, which rolled in on them to such an extent that they were forced to go further back into the yard. They then excavated the soft earth clear under the main wall, and so correctly was the distance calculated that they came out into the open roadway one foot from the foundation. One of the party, Captain Hines, was by trade a brick-mason, and seems to have had the management of the whole affair. A note signed by that worthy, written in a fine commercial hand, was left behind, as follows:

CASTLE MERION, CELL NO. 140,
November 27, 1863.

"To Captain Merion, Warden of the Penitentiary:—Commencement, November 4th, 1863; conclusion, November 20th, 1863. Number of hours for labor per day, three; tools, two small knives. 'La patience est amer mais son fruit est doux.' (Patience is bitter but its fruit is sweet.)

"By order of my six honorable Confederates, "T. HENRY HINES, "Captain C. S. A."

The following is the bill as introduced by Mr. Sherwood to amend the Home Guard Act:

A BILL
To amend and explain "An act in relation to the militia, and a Guard for home defense."

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That neither the Governor of this State nor the officers acting under an act ratified on the 7th day of July, 1863, entitled "An act in relation to the militia, and a Guard for Home Defense," shall call out for drill or muster the persons enrolled under said act, oftener than once in three months, except when called into actual service to repel invasion or to suppress insurrection.

Be it further enacted, That those citizens enrolled under said act, and their officers shall arrest all deserters from the Confederate army, and recant conscripts in their respective Captain's districts; but for this duty, shall not be marched out of their districts aforesaid.

Be it further enacted, That all persons actually appointed by the Justices of the several County Courts in this State, to attend to the wants of the poor, and the families of the soldiers, whilst faithfully discharging the duties of said appointments, shall be exempt from the duties prescribed by said act.

Be it further enacted, That the surgical board of each militia regiment in this State shall have the exclusive power to determine and declare by their certificate those persons in their regiments who shall be exempt from service under said act, on account of mental or physical inability.

FINANCES OF NORTH CAROLINA.—The first instalment of the Comptroller's Report is published in the Standard of last week. It shows enormous receipts and disbursements, the increase arising, of course, from the contract with the government for clothing the troops from this State. We make the following condensed statement:

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1862,	\$1,565,855 97
Receipts of L. F. Fund to Sept. 30,	455,968 54
" Public Fund to Sept. 30, '63,	16,308,440 88
" Sinking Fund to Sept. 30, '63,	1,700,739 68
	18,570,705 07

Disbursements of Literary Fund,	268,677 43
" of Public Fund,	2,875,889 97
" of Sinking Fund,	2,875,369 95
Leaving on hand	\$16,970,705 07

Of the balance on hand there is due to the Literary Fund \$250,974.06; to the Public Fund \$3,671,450.93, and the Sinking Fund is overdrawn \$47,055.04.

There is a Way Side Home and Hospital in Columbia, S. C., at which over 30,000 soldiers have been fed and lodged free of expense to them or to the government. It is all done by the Ladies of that city.

Brig. Gen. R. B. Vance, for some time past in charge of this Military District, has been ordered to the army of Gen. Bragg, and Col. J. B. Palmer succeeds him as Commander of this District.—*Asheville News.*

Major Stephen Elliott, at Charleston, has been promoted to Lieut. Colonel.

The Mills House, Charleston, was closed Saturday.

Gen. Johnston has suspended the order for the imprisonment of slaves in western and north-western Mississippi. The order was issued in view of the conscription of negroes by the Yankees.

More salt is made and turned out daily in Alabama than is needed by the people, and a large amount is shipped to Georgia and Mississippi.

Tennessee has furnished 112,000 troops for the Confederate service, and is truly entitled to the appellation heretofore awarded her of the "Volunteer State."

N. C. CONFERENCE.

The N. C. Conference, M. E. Church, closed its session on Monday evening. The next Conference will be held at Mocksville. The following are the appointments for the ensuing year:

RALEIGH DISTRICT.—N. F. RAIN, P. E.
Raleigh Station, Braxton Craven, W. H. Wheeler, Nom.
Raleigh City Miss, Alex. R. Raven.
Raleigh Colored Chapel, Wm. E. Fell.
Raleigh Circuit, J. P. Moore.
Louisburg Station, T. W. Guthrie.
Tar River, T. P. Ricard.
Person, John Tillett.
Hillsboro Station, Wm. C. Wilson.
Hillsboro Circuit, Wm. M. Jordan, W. Harris, Nom.
Missionary to Dept. of N. C. Wm. Closs.
Missionary to Dept. of Cape Fear, J. N. Andrews.
Missionary Chaplain to Hoke's Brigade, J. J. Hines.
Missionary Chaplain to Clingman's, " J. B. Alford.
Chap. to 12th Reg. N. C. T., Jeffrey H. Robbins.
Chap. to 22nd Reg. N. C. T., Franklin H. Wood.
Chap. to 50th Reg. N. C. T., A. D. Betts.
Chap. to 44th Reg. N. C. T., E. S. Webb.
Chap. to 45th Reg. N. C. T., E. C. Dodson.
Chap. to 46th Reg. N. C. T., Calvin Plyler.
Chap. to 58th Reg. N. C. T., To be supplied.
Chap. to 32nd Reg. N. C. T., W. B. Richardson.
Chap. to 7th Confederate Cavalry, J. B. Baile.

GREENSBORO DISTRICT.—P. DOW, P. E.
Greensboro Station, M. C. Thomas.
Guilford, Zeb. Rush.
Forsythe, One to be supplied, D. W. Douch, C. M. Anderson, Nom.
Winston, John W. Jenkins.
Stokes, R. N. S. Stevenson, S. H. Hulsebeck.
Madison, J. E. Maton.
Wentworth, W. C. Gannon.
Yanceyville, P. J. Carraway.
Leasburg, J. P. Simpson.
Agent for Greensboro Female College, Jno. S. Long.
R. T. Heflin, transferred to Texas Conference.
Marcus L. Wood, Missionary to China.

TRINITY COLLEGE DIST.—WM. BARRINGER, P. E.
Trinity College and High Point, J. W. Lewis.
Asheboro, C. H. Phillips.
Franklinville, Isiah H. Hill, T. L. Troy, Nom.
Uwharrie, J. F. Keenan.
Davidson, C. M. Pepper.
Thomasville and Lexington, N. H. D. Wilson.
South Guilford, C. R. King.
Alamance, Wm. H. Barnes.

SALISBURY DISTRICT.—IRA T. WYCHE, P. E.
Salisbury Station, B. R. Bruton.
Rowan, J. A. Cunningham.
East Rowan, Jno. R. Brooks.
Mocksville, R. G. Barrett.
Iredell, W. D. Meacham, W. W. Albee, Nom.
South Iredell, Laurence F. Way.
Alexander, Carson Parker.
Jonesville, Jas. T. Smoot.
Wilkes, T. L. Taylor.
Surry, To be supplied.
Elkin, M. B. Sherrill.
Sauratown, To be supplied.
Staatsville, J. B. Bobbitt, C. P. Jones, Nom.

WASHINGTON DIST.—L. L. HARRIS, P. E.
Washington, Arent Chapel.
Bath, Mastamuskiet.
Neuse, Columbia.
Portsmouth, Ocarooke and Hatteras, Plymouth.
Roanoke, C. T. B. Kingsbury, N. A. H. Goddin, Nom.

Warren, Lemon Shell, T. B. Reeks, Supernumerary, B. F. Long, Nom.
Wartenton, J. B. Williams.
Henderson, Jos. H. Wheeler, Jas. Reid, Nom.
Granville, T. W. Moore.
Nashville, M. J. Hunt.
Tabor, E. A. Yates.
Greenville, E. A. Wilson.

NEWBERN DIST.—C. F. DERMES, P. E.
Centenary, Andrew Chapel.
Newbern Circuit, Trent, Wm. F. Clegg.
Beaufort, Ann St. John Jones.
Purvis Chapel.
Straits, Cape Lookout, Morehead City.
Jones Miss, Wm. M. Walsh.
Kinston & Lenoir, N. A. Hooker.
Snow Hill, Jos. Wheeler.
Wilson, Jas. W. Wheeler.
Goldboro, A. W. Mangum.
Swainsboro, D. Johnson, G. W. Deems, Nom.
Smithfield, L. S. Burkhead.
Contantona, E. B. Culbreth.
Agent for Soldiers Tr. Assn. J. W. Tucker.
L. W. Martin, in the lines of the enemy.

WILMINGTON DIST.—D. B. NICHOLSON, P. E.
Wilmington Front Street, R. S. Moran.
Wilmington Fifth Street, Miss. S. D. Peeler.
Topsail and North Hanover, W. H. Moore.
Onslow, Wm. A. Smith.
Duplin and Magnolia, J. B. Thomas.
Sampson, W. M. Robey, Dan. Culbreth.
Bladen, Jas. B. Bailey.
South River Mission, R. P. Bibb.
Elizabethville, S. M. Frost.
Whitehall, J. H. Dalley.
Smithville, F. J. Gatties, W. M. Moore, Nom.
Cape Fear Mission, To be supplied.

FAYETTEVILLE DIST.—W. H. BONDITT, P. E.
Fayetteville, H. T. Hudson.
Evans Chapel, To be supplied.
Fayetteville Circuit, J. W. Tinnip.
Cape Fear, W. S. Chaffin, Gaston Farrar, Nom.
Hillsboro, Oscar J. Brent.
Deep River, S. B. Gatties, T. C. Moore, Nom.
Rockingham, H. H. Gibbons.
Montgomery, Isaac W. Avest.
Troy, Geo. E. Wyche.
Robeson, P. H. Scoville.
Chapel Hill, R. A. Willis.

Gen. Bragg having been relieved of the command of the Tennessee army, Gen. Hardee takes his place. On assuming command Lieut. Gen. Hardee issued the following general order to the soldiers of the army of Tennessee:

"Gen. Bragg having been relieved from duty with this army, the command has devolved upon me. The steady purpose, the unflinching courage and unsullied patriotism of the distinguished leader who has shared your fortunes for more than two years, will long be remembered by the army and the country he served so well. I desire to say on assuming command that there is no cause for discouragement. The overwhelming numbers of the enemy forced us back from Missionary Ridge, but the army is still intact and in good heart; our losses were small and were rapidly replaced. The country is looking to you with painful interest. I feel I can rely upon you. The weak need to be cheered by the constant successes of the victors of Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro and Chickamauga, and requires such stimulant to sustain their courage and resolution. Let the past take care of itself. We care most to secure the future. W. J. HARDEE, Lieutenant-General.

MR. PATRIOT: Why is your regular army correspondent like a pair of spectacles? Because you see-by-us. (Eusebius.)

The latest Paris fashion for the season is "feminine whiskers."

The Legislature of the State of Georgia has passed a resolution requesting the Governor to order under arms, and cause to be enrolled immediately, every able-bodied male inhabitant of the State over the age of fifteen years, who is not now actually in the service of the State or of the Confederate States.

FINANCES NORTH AND SOUTH.

There are some persons who will say, in reply to this, that we are fighting, with a currency far more depreciated than the Yankee currency is, or is likely to be—and that if we can keep the war, with a depreciated currency, the Yankees can do likewise. So they can—if they choose to do it. But they will not choose to do it. The North is fighting for conquest and empire. We are fighting in self-defence and for independence. We are in the same position as the Colonels in the time of the Revolution. Their currency was worth little or nothing—but they kept on fighting, and finally succeeded in winning their independence. Money has been happily called "the sinews of war"—we say "inapplied," because it is a mistake. The sinews of war are enough food and raiment to sustain human life, and an unconquerable resolution to perish rather than be conquered.

The value of Yankee money, on the other hand, depends exclusively upon their ability to conquer the South—that is in their opinion, it depends upon that. In our opinion, it depends upon nothing at all; and has a basis of redemption more unshakable than the "fabric of a vision." Whether they succeed or not, their money is equally worthless. The last golden dollar that jingles in Mr. Chase's Treasury will be worth more in five years from today than the accumulated millions of "greenbacks" that he has uttered, all put together.

Our own people—wise in general politics but lamentably ignorant in that especial branch of politics which relates to finances—are to blame for the present depreciation of Confederate currency. A singular spectacle is indeed presented—that we can negotiate a loan in Europe at nearly par, while the North cannot negotiate one at all. Our bonds—worthless if we are whipped—sell for nearly their face, while Yankee bonds are a drug upon the foreign market, and not even a bid is made for them.

Yet when we look at home, Yankee money is worth nearly its face in gold, while Confederate money is at a ruinous discount. We repeat it is our own fault—not the fault of the North, nor the fault of Europe. We have been so long the commercial and financial slaves and vassals of the North, that all the manhood of our own nation seems to be taken out of us, and we are yet the cringing, servile followers, in all questions of finance, of the dishonest operators of Wall street. We must drive them and their operators, and their fraudulent money-changers, from our minds, even as our Holy Saviour drove the money-changers from the Temple which they defiled and desecrated.

The South must assert itself financially, as it has asserted itself politically. The Government has cotton enough to make a heavy inroad upon the public debt. Add to this resource a system of taxation—absolute, direct taxation—that will reduce the volume of the currency. Let our people cease to make money by preying upon the necessities of our soldiers and their families, and resolve to sacrifice all, sooner than this brutal and inhuman war upon us should succeed. We have a country such as God Almighty, in His goodness, has not vouchsafed to any other on his foot stool. All that is needed is patience, endurance, fortitude—an absolute yielding of everything, as secondary to the final triumph of the cause. That triumph, sooner or later, is one of these things written down in the book of Fate, and neither Northern enemies or Southern traitors can prevail against it.

The difficulty of procuring iron in the Southern Confederacy, to be used in casting shells and round shot, gave the officers in the Ordnance Department a vast deal of trouble till General Beauregard came to their relief. He has contracted with Gilmore and Dahlgren, of the Yankee army and navy, for several tons of metal per day, and those contractors are delivering at Fort Sumter, free of charge, and without the slightest injury to the old fort or its defenses.

There is said to be a couple in Jeffersonville, Ind., who have been engaged to be married for the past five years, but no time has occurred within that period when they were both out of the State prison at the same time.

It has just been discovered that a

MARRIED.
On the morning of the 29th ultimo, by Elder R. C. Bayley, at the residence of Dr. E. Westmoreland, in German, the Rev. W. W. FETTER and Mrs. DELANA SOUTHERN, all of Stokes county, N. C. On Nov. 26th, 1863, by G. D. Boyd, Esq., at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. HUGH K. ADAMS, to Miss BETTIE F. GREEN, all of Rockingham North Carolina.

1864. ALMANAC. 1864.
DIARY AND MEMORANDUM BOOK FOR 1864
COMBINED.
Calculated by DAVID RICHMOND, of Louisiana County Va., will be issued on Monday, Dec. 21st next.

It will contain the Officers of our Government, Members of the new Congress, Rates of Postage, Census Returns, Interest Table, Important Letters, and other valuable information to all classes. Neatly bound in suitable style FOR THE POCKET, and will answer the purposes of a Pocket Book, Memorandum and Book of Reference combined. Printed on good writing paper and in the best style of the art.
Single copy, \$2.50; 12 copies, \$17.50; 50 copies, \$60; 100 copies, \$100. Postage, 10 cents per copy.

THE SOUTHERN ALMANAC FOR 1864.
(Being the above Almanac omitting the Diary only.) In nice pamphlet form, on fine book paper, containing 24 pages, at the following reduced rates, making it the

CHEAPEST ALMANAC PUBLISHED!
Single copies, 30 cents; 12 copies, \$2.50; 50 copies, \$12.50; 100 copies, \$20. Postage 4 cents per copy. In ordering, send Confederate money or Postage Stamps. Address all orders to
JOHN S. SCHAFFNER,
Eagle Printing Works, Republican Building,
79-80 W. 3rd St., Lynchburg, Va.

Mendenhall, Jones & Gardner,
GREENSBOROUGH, N. C.
Have on hand and to arrive, the following DESIRABLE GOODS, which they offer at prices to suit the times, either by wholesale or at retail:
24 for French cassimere HATS—finest in the Confederacy.
1 bale 5-4 super heavy gray English CLOTH;
Purple and Cherry Gray and White Welsh Flannel;
4-4 Bleached Shirtings;
Country Flannels and Jeans;
Ready-made COATS for boys;

1-4 BRITISH FANCY AND PURPLE PRINTS;
Bik ALPACCA and MERINOS;
GENT'S COLLARS;
BOSOMS; CUFFS;
KID GLOVES;

Bik and fancy TIES, GRAYVATS and SCARFS;
Coat, Vest, Pant and Shirt Buttons;

Bik PATENT THREAD;

TOOTH BRUSHES & FINE COMBS;

HONEY, BROWN WINDSOR AND VARIATED SOAPS;

COTTON, LAWN AND LINEN FLOCKS;

PINS;

POCKET-BOOKS;

HUG SHES;

PLUSH;

40 boxes ext LOG WOOD;

SADDLERS SILK AND NAILS;

TACKS—assorted from 3 to 12 oz;

SNUFFERS;

BUTCHER KNIVES;

HAND SAWS;

ALLSPICE;

NUTMEGS;

CLOVES;

SALT;

SODA;

SAFETY FUSE;

SNUFF IN BLADDERS;

5 lbs. BEST COPPERS;

50 lbs. BEST COPPERS;

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Valuable Town Property for Sale.
Two acres of LAND being a garden, in a high state of cultivation, including a good fence, lying on the first street running with the Greensboro College, adjoining with the lot of William Amos and others. For further particulars apply to Levi M. Scott at Scott & Scott's law office, dec10 79-25w

Negroes Wanted.—We wish to employ two stout active negro men for the ensuing year. 79-4f INGOLD & CLENDENIN.

THE PATRIOT.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1863.

It is notoriously true that the management of the railroads in this country, so far as relates to the actions of the railroad authorities proper, is and ever has been, the most bungling, careless, negligent and unmindful of the proper duties of the roads as common carriers for the public. Before the war such was the case in an eminent degree, and since the country has been in a state of excitement, it would seem that the managers of the railroads have seized the opportunity as a pretext for unwarranted license in the way of detaining freight, refusing to receive and forward goods, and indulging in this peculiar pastime to their heart's content. As an instance we may state that on the 4th inst. a quantity of paper was received at the station in Raleigh consigned to this office. We are now writing on the 10th, and up to this time we have heard nothing from the paper. It may have been sent on to Charlotte, or perhaps to Weldon, or quite possibly it is carefully stowed away in the Raleigh depot under a pile of bacon or hides, or it may be lying on the platform of the building. There is no reason why this paper could not have been delivered to us on the 5th. But so much only by way of introduction.

These evils have all along been tolerated by the people, first because it was useless to propose a remedy, and secondly because the Express Company came to their relief. If speed, promptness and certainty are required in the transmission of an article, from a lady's ring to a hoghead of molasses, it is only necessary to put it on the Express and the safe and punctual delivery of it may be relied on. It is a convenience and public necessity which cannot be dispensed with. And aside from the advantages derived from it by the people, it is indispensable to the Government in these times of emergency for the speedy and safe transportation of money, valuable freight or even supply stores, which if placed in charge of the railroad authorities, would in all probability never again be heard of—or if not entirely lost, would not be delivered at the proper time.

The various advantages which people at large derive from the system of delivering packages by Express cannot be enumerated in a few words. The disadvantages under which they would labor if dependence were placed entirely on railroads could not be put down on a page of this newspaper. And yet in the face of these facts, one Mr. Costner, Commoner from Lincoln, has introduced a resolution in the Legislature, the pith of which is, that in his opinion the Express is doing manifest injury to the public interest!

Mr. Costner is no doubt actuated by good motives; but he certainly has a strange conception of the services rendered by the Express Company; so strange is his idea in fact, that we doubt whether he lives near a railroad, and whether he has the faintest idea of railroad management, as most of persons experience every day to their annoyance and inconvenience. In what way Mr. Costner supposes the public interest is injured by the Express we are at a loss to conceive. If he alludes to matters as regards a war footing, he might easily learn that in the entire State there are but fourteen persons liable to conscription in the service of the Company; and regarding the interference with the public service, when this is said, all is said. If it is desirable or necessary to increase the revenue by taxing the Express, let a nominal tax be laid; but to tax it so as to prevent it from serving the public, would be doing an injury to the people too grievous to be borne. According to Mr. Costner's resolution he would inquire into the "legality and justice of Railroad Companies farming out their respective roads to Express Companies." &c.

There is no illegality in such proceeding, nor is there any injustice in the matter; but to the contrary they would do a good thing for the people to "farm out" their entire establishments, and retire from the miserable farce of pretending to serve the public.

The State Journal, which paper we never do, has been, we learn, ever since the meeting of the present session of the Legislature, making low and characteristic attacks on such gentlemen as Mr. Sherwood, Dr. Grissom and other Conservative members of the House, charging them with being enemies of Gov. Vance, and stating that Judge Person, one of the Governor's real friends has gallantly "defended" the Governors. We presume that Messrs. Sherwood and Grissom, whom the Journal particularly delights in traducing, would feel mortified if that paper were to say anything in their praise, its acridity being beneath their contempt. As to the absurdity of the Journal's charge, however, it may be proper to state so far as relates to Mr. Sherwood, that when he canvassed

his county, he daily made speeches in favor of the election of Gov. Vance, while at the very same time Judge Person was urging that the election of Vance would be a Lincoln triumph.

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY.

Very few counties in this State occupy a more favorable position than Rockingham. She has contributed liberally of her men and means for the defence of our invaded country—the most of her men having voluntarily gone into the service before volunteering was prohibited; and in respect to taxes for the support of the Government, the amount paid by Rockingham is much greater than many of the interior counties, while it is being paid in more promptly. All the taxes as far as due, have been paid.

FASTING TO-DAY.

The Governor of North Carolina has taken "a step in the right direction," in his proclamation for a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. He makes no suggestions to the Lord about what he ought to do for us "as the manner of some is."

In arguing the political justice of our cause, we have persuaded ourselves that we are a remarkably deserving people in the sight of heaven. But have we any right to arrogate to ourselves a piety superior to that of the northern people, or any other people? Nay, verily!—rather should we humble and abase ourselves in the sight of righteous heaven for our wickedness. The Maker and Father of all regardeth alike the people of the North and the people of the South. Among nations, as among individuals

"He sees with equal eye, as God of all,
The hero perish, and the sparrow fall."

Let us seek truly to understand the will of God, and cultivate a patient spirit of submission to that will, and not glory so much in our righteousness, and be so absorbed in the hate of our enemies. Let us, in the language of the Governor, "make earnest and fervent supplications unto God, that he will stay his wrath which has been heavy upon us, and especially, that He may in His wisdom, open the way for the speedy restoration of peace to our desolated land, on such terms as will best promote His glory and both the spiritual and temporal welfare of his creatures."

Is there a good man, any where on God's footstool, that cannot join heartily in this petition?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We had intended laying this document entire before our readers to day, and had made the necessary arrangements with the typographical force at our command; but the miserable apology for a mail agent who went up the road this morning delivered the wrong mail for this place, and a copy of the Message did not fall in our hands until 6 o'clock in the evening. We are therefore reluctantly compelled to continue a portion of it until our next issue. The Message is unusually lengthy.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The proceedings of the Legislature for the past few days are unimportant. The only matter of interest acted upon is the exemption of certain State officers. The bill as passed in the House makes the following exemptions:
Justices of the Peace appointed prior to May 11th, 1863; County Trustees and Solicitors; Registers; Tax Collectors; one Deputy Sheriff in counties where there is no tax collector; Constables who gave bond prior to May 11th, 1863, and their successors in office; one Deputy Clerk for each court when necessary; one county Commissioner, distributing funds and provisions for the relief of soldiers' families; agents appointed by the Legislature for any purpose; Commissioners of the Militia and the Home Guard; Mayor and Police of Raleigh, Wilmington, Salisbury, Charlotte, Fayetteville and Goldsboro; Counsellors of State; Board of Internal Improvements; Literary Board and employees of the State Government.

THE NEWS.

From all points everything is represented as being exceedingly quiet. Nothing from Northern Virginia. Nothing from Charleston. The enemy have ceased firing on Sumter. Bragg's army inactive. Nothing from Longstreet; but he has certainly reached the siege of Knoxville, and is marching in the direction of Virginia.

The following is the official vote of this District for members of Congress at the last election:

	Gilmer.	Brown.
Person,	352	17
Rockingham,	38	46
Stokes,	118	27
Forsyth,	303	160
Alamance,	280	45
Guilford,	643	389
Casswell,	146	748

We also append the vote of Guilford county:

	Gilmer.	Brown.
Greensborough,	228	13
Jamestown,	14	60
High Point,	35	90
Ross's,	12	12
Friendship,	22	22
R. Gilmer's,	40	25
Glenn's,	24	41
Brace's Cross Roads,	37	00
Monticello,	21	04
Thompson's,	37	00
Coble's,	13	62
Double Springs,	10	00
Aray vote,	146	41
	643	389

I will leave for the army of Virginia on Tuesday the 5th of January next. Persons desirous of sending boxes, &c. to the Second N. C. Cavalry, to the Greensborough, will please have them at the depot at Greensborough, on the day before, weight and marked.

DOCTOR J. LAMBERT
A member of Second Cavalry.

Beast Butler is represented as making vigorous preparations at Norfolk for a winter campaign North Carolina.

Salt at Turk's Island is quoted at eight cents per bushel, exclusive of the crown duty of 10 percent. of value.

Tommy, how's all your folks? All well but Growler—he's got the bow-wow complaint.

At a late auction sale in Abbeville District, S. C. a lot of about forty negroes were sold at an average of about 2,600.

The following are the names of the members of Congress elected from Texas: Wilcox, Herbert, Branch, Sexton, Baylor, Morgan and Wright. Branch and Baylor are new members.

On Thursday last, at an election held in Catawba county, for member of House of Commons, in place of Geo. Hooper, resigned, Col. H. L. Roberts was elected, beating his opponent, Casper Wilson 181 votes.

FROM THE RAPIDAN.

Passengers by the Central train say that affairs have resumed the quiet state existing previous to the late move of General Meade.

We learn from a gentleman who was present, that on Friday evening, a small force of Yankee infantry attempted to cross at Racon Ford, but were repulsed by the small brigade of Louisianians commanded by Gen. Hays. Several of our men were wounded—none killed. Eight or ten dead Yankees were seen on the field.

There was nothing relative to the movements of the enemy, by the Fredericksburg train last evening.

[Richmond Sentinel Monday.]

FROM GEN. LONGSTREET.

The public interest in the line of military operations is almost exclusively centered in the expedition under Gen. Longstreet. From all information in our possession, it is probable that he is retiring from Knoxville in a direction which we leave the enemy to find out for themselves.

Undue uneasiness has been felt in regard both to Gen. Longstreet's remaining at Knoxville, and his retreating. The success of his expedition was based on the hypothesis in Grant would at least be held in check at Chattanooga. This failing, the best course to be pursued was that force under his command, and his ability as an officer, independent of other assistance within reach, warrant the belief that successful.

So far, we have no reliable news of any disaster or reverse to his command, since the expedition was undertaken.

We refer to the telegraphic column for further intelligence that may come from this or other points of interest.—Whig, Va.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States.

The necessity for legislative action arising out of the important events that have marked the interval since your adjournment, and my desire to have the aid of your counsel in other matters of grave public interest, render your presence at this time more than ordinary welcome. Indeed, but for serious obstacles to convoking you in extraordinary session, and the necessity for my own temporary absence from the scene of operations, I would have invited you to an earlier meeting than that fixed at the date of your adjournment.

Grave reverses befall our arms soon after your departure from Richmond. Early in July, our strongholds at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, together with the entire command, were surrendered to the enemy. The interior position of Jackson next fell into their temporary possession. Our unsuccessful assault on Helena, was followed at a later period by the invasion of Arkansas; and the retreat of our army from Little Rock, gave to the enemy the control of the important valley in which it is situated.

The resolute spirit of the people soon rose superior to the temporary despondency naturally resulting from these reverses. The gallant troops, so ably commanded in the States beyond the Mississippi, inflicted repeated defeats on the invading armies in Louisiana and on the coast of Texas. Detachments of troops and active bodies of partisans kept up so effective a war on the Mississippi river as practically to destroy its value as an avenue of commerce. The successful operations of General Sherman on the eastern shore of the Gulf, and the capture of the enemy's fleet on the Mississippi, afforded an inspiring example of the ability to repel the attacks even of the iron-clad fleet on which they chiefly rely; while on the northern frontiers, our success was still more asked.

The able command, who conducted the campaign in Virginia, determined to meet the threatened advance on Richmond, for which the enemy had made long and costly preparations, by forcing their armies to cross the Potomac and fight in defence of their own capital and homes. Transferring the battle to the British, we succeeded in compelling their rapid retreat from Virginia, and in the hard-fought battle of Gettysburg inflicted such severity of punishment as disabled them from early renewal of the campaign as originally projected. Unfortunately, the communications on which our success depended, having been cut off, our operations were interrupted by extraordinary floods, which so swelled the Potomac as to render impassable the fords by which his advance had been made, and he was thus forced to a withdrawal, which was considered a tactical success, and which was the result of the capture of supplies, and with a constant but accepted tender of battle. On more than one occasion the enemy has since made demonstrations of a purpose to advance, invariably followed by a precipitate retreat to entrenched lines on the approach of our forces.

An effective check thus opposed to the advance of the invaders at all points, was such as to afford hope of their early expulsion from portions of the territory previously occupied by them, when the country was painfully surprised by the intelligence that the enemy had evacuated Gettysburg, and had surrendered that important and easily defensible pass without firing a shot, upon the summons of a force still believed to have been inadequate to its reduction, and when reinforcements were within supporting distance and had been ordered to his aid, the enemy retreated, including the commander being still held prisoners by the enemy. I am unable to suggest any explanation of this disaster, which laid open Eastern Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia to hostile operations, and broke the line of communication between the seat of Government and Middle Tennessee.

This easy success of the enemy was followed by an advance of Genl. Rosecrans into Georgia and our army evacuated Chattanooga and availed itself of the opportunity thus afforded of winning, on the field of Chickamauga, one of the most brilliant and decisive victories of the war. This signal defeat of General Rosecrans was followed by his retreat into Chattanooga, where his impelled position had the immediate effect, of relieving the pressure of the invasion at other points, forcing the concentration, from the armies in the Mississippi Valley and in Northern Virginia. The combined forces thus accumulated against us in Tennessee so greatly outnumbered our army, as to encourage the enemy to attack. After a long and severe battle, in which the enemy was inflicted on him, some of our troops inexplicably abandoned a position of great strength, and by a disorderly retreat, compelled the commander, to withdraw the forces elsewhere successful, and finally to retire with his whole army to the mountainous region of the North Carolina coast.

It is believed that if the troops who yielded to the assault, had fought with the valor which they had displayed on previous occasions, and which was manifested in this battle on the other parts of the line, the enemy would have been repulsed with very great slaughter, and our country would have escaped the misfortune, and the army the mortification of the first defeat that has resulted from misconduct by the troops. In the meantime, the army of General Burnside was driven from all its field positions in Eastern Tennessee, and was forced to retreat into the mountainous region of the North Carolina coast, where it was threatened with capture by the forces under General Longstreet. No information has reached me of the final result of the operations of our commander, though intelligence has arrived that he has been successful in driving the enemy from the mountainous region of the North Carolina coast, and that he has not equalled the expectations confidently entertained at the commencement of the campaign his progress has been checked. If we are forced to regret losses in Tennessee and Arkansas, we are not without ground for congratulation on our successes in Louisiana and Texas. On the sea coast we are exhausted by vain efforts to capture our ports, while on the northern frontier he has in turn felt the pressure and dreads the renewal of invasion.

The indomitable courage and perseverance of the people in the defence of their homes have been no less conspicuous in the unanimity with which the Legislature of Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia have recently given expression to the popular sentiment, and like manifestations may be anticipated from all the States. Whatever obsequy may be displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of

mercy, life and liberty to the hope of enslaving us, the experience of mankind has too conclusively shown the superiority of the more advanced and more home, liberty and independence to permit any doubt of the result.

Foreign Relations.—I regret to inform you that there has been no improvement in the state of our relations with foreign countries since my message in January last. On the contrary, there has been a still greater divergence in the conduct of European nations from that impartiality which alone deserves the name of neutrality, and their action in some cases, has assumed a character positively unfriendly.

You have heretofore been informed that, by common understanding, the initiative in all action touching the contest on this continent had been left by the powers to the two great maritime nations of Western Europe, and that the Governments of these two nations had agreed to take no measures without previous concert. The result of these arrangements has, therefore, placed it in the power of either France or England to obstruct at pleasure the either or to prolong the continuance of hostilities on this side of the Atlantic, if the policy of either each, too, thus became possessed of great influence in shaping the general exercise of neutrality rights in Europe, as to render them subservient to the purpose of aiding one of the belligerents to the detriment of the other. I referred, at your last session, to some of the leading points of the course pursued by the French and English, which betrayed a partisan leaning to the side of our enemies, but events have since occurred which induce me to renew the subject in greater detail than was then deemed necessary. In calling to your attention the action of those Governments, I shall refer to the documents appended to President Lincoln's messages, and to their own correspondence, as disclosing the true nature of their policy, and the motives which guided it. To this course no exception can be taken, inasmuch as our attention has been invited to the sources of information by their official publication.

In May, 1861, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty informed our enemies that it had not "valued any other than an intermediate position on the part of the Southern States, and assured them that the sympathy of this country (Great Britain) were rather with the North than with the South."

On the 1st day of June, 1861, the British Government interdicted the use of its ports "to armed ships and privateers, both of the United States, and the so-called Confederate States, and their prizes." The Secretary of State of the United States, fully appreciated the character and motive of this interdiction, when he observed to Lord Lyons, who came to the same character which had been adopted by France, would probably prove a death blow to Southern privateering.

On the 14th of June, 1861, the United States Minister in London, informed Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs, that the fact of his having held interviews with the commissioners of this Government had given "great dissatisfaction" by the United States to the British Government, and that a proclamation of this nature would be viewed as a "gross insult" to the "spirit, and to the honor" of the United States. In reply, the Secretary of State informed the Minister that "he had no expectations of seeing them any more."

By proclamation, issued on the 19th and 27th of April, 1861, President Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of the entire coast of the Confederacy, extending from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, embracing, according to the returns of the United States coast survey, a coast line of three thousand five hundred and forty-nine statute miles, and the number of rivers, bays, harbors, inlets, sounds, and passes is one hundred and eighty-eight. The navy possessed by the U. S. for enforcing this blockade was stated in the reports communicated by President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States to consist of twenty-four vessels of all classes in commission, of which half were in distant seas. The absolute necessity of such a blockade, in face of the authoritative declaration of the maritime rights of neutrals made at Paris, in 1856, was so glaring that the attempt was regarded as an experiment on the forbearance of neutral Powers, which they would promptly resent if it were not justified by the fact that the Governments of France and Great Britain determined that it was necessary for their interests to obtain from both belligerents "security concerning the proper treatment of neutrals." In the instructions which accompanied the dispatch on this matter to the British Consul in Charleston, he was informed that "the most perfect accord on this question exists between Her Majesty's Government of the Emperor of the French," and these instructions were accompanied by a copy of the dispatch of the Secretary of State to the British Minister in London, dated the 17th May, 1861, stating that there was no difference of opinion between Great Britain and the United States as to the validity of the principles enunciated in the four articles of the declaration of Paris in reference to blockade.

Your predecessors of the Provisional Congress, and the Congress of the Confederate States, have approved the resolutions which abandoned in favor of Great Britain and France our right to capture enemy's property when covered by the flags of those Governments were understood by us to be required from both belligerents. Neutral vessels were to be captured to the extent of the belligerent right of capturing their vessels when conveying the property of our enemies. They were exposed, on the part of the United States to interruption in their unquested right of trading with us by the declaration of the paper blockade above referred to. We had no reason to doubt the good faith of the proposal made us, nor to suspect that we were to be the only parties bound by its acceptance. It is true that the instructions of the neutral Powers informed their agents that it was "essential under present circumstances that they should withhold great caution, and avoid raising the question of the recognition of the new Confederation," and that the understanding on the subject did not assume for that reason the shape of a formal convention.

But it was not deemed just by us to decline the arrangement on that ground, as little more than twenty days had then elapsed since the arrival of our Commissioners in Europe, and neutral nations were fairly entitled to a reasonable delay in acting on a subject of so much importance, and which, from the point of view, presented difficulties of great magnitude. We do not fully appreciate. Certain it is that the action of this Government on the occasion and its faithful performance of its own engagements have been such as to entitle to expect on the part of those who sought in their own interests a mutual understanding, the most scrupulous adherence to their own promises.

I feel constrained to inform you that in this expectation we have been disappointed, and that not only have the government which entered into these arrangements yielded to the prohibition against commerce with us, which has been dictated by the United States in defiance of the law of nations, but that this concession of their neutral right to our detriment has on more than one occasion been claimed in intercourse with our enemies, as an evidence of friendly feeling toward them. A few extracts from the correspondence of Her Majesty's Ministers in London, will suffice to show marked encouragement to the United States to persevere in his paper blockade, and unmistakable intimations that Her Majesty's government would not confess its validity.

On the 21st May, 1861, Earl Russell pointed out to the United States Minister in London, that "the blockade made no doubt be made effective, considering the small number of harbors on the Southern coast, even though the extent of 3,000 miles were comprehended in terms of that blockade." Her Majesty's Minister in Washington communicated to his Government, that in extension of the barbarous attempt to destroy the port of Charleston by sinking a stone fleet in the harbor, Mr. Seward had explained "that the Government of the United States had adopted an operation, undertaken to blockade upwards of three thousand miles of coast. The Secretary of the Navy had reported that he could stop up the 'large holes' by means of his ships, but that he could not stop up the 'small ones.' It had been found necessary, therefore, to close some of the numerous small inlets by sinking vessels in the channel.

On the 6th May, 1862, so far from claiming the right of British subjects as neutrals to trade with us as belligerents, and to disregard the blockade of the United States, the British Government had been forced to this explicit confession by our enemy of his inability to render it effective. Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs claimed credit with the United States for friendly action in respecting it. His Lordship stated that "the British States government, on the allegation of a rebellion against the Government of the United States, had endeavored to maintain a blockade of three thousand miles of coast. This blockade, kept up irregularly, but displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of

when enforced, enforced severely, has seriously injured the trade and manufactures of the United Kingdom. Thousands are now obliged to seek their poor rates for subsistence, owing to the blockade. Yet Her Majesty's government has never sought to take advantage of the obvious imperfections of this blockade, in order to declare it ineffectual. They have, to the loss and detriment of the British nation, scrupulously observed the duties of Great Britain towards a friendly State."

Again, on the 22d September, 1862, the same noble Earl asserted that the United States were "very far, indeed," from being "in a condition to ask other nations to assume that every port of the coasts of the so-called Confederate States is effectively blockaded."

When, in view of these facts; of the obligations of the British nation to adhere to the pledge made by their Government at Paris, in 1856, and renewed to this Confederacy in 1861; of the repeated and explicit avowals of the imperfection, irregularity and inefficiency of the pretended blockade of our coast, I directed our Commissioner at London to call on

Death Scene.

Dying, still slowly dying,
As the hours of night wore by,
She had laid since the light of sun set
Was red on the evening sky:

Till after the middle watches,
As she softly near her bed,
When her soul from its prison fetters
Was loosed by the hand of God!

One moment her pale lips trembled
With the triumph she might not tell,
As the light of the life immortal
On her spirit vision fell!

Then the look of rapture faded,
And the beautiful smile waxed faint,
As that in some convent picture,
On the face of a dying saint.

And we felt in the loneliness midnight,
As we sat by the silent dead,
What a light on the path going downward
The feet of the righteous shed!

Then we thought how with feet unshrinking,
She came to Jordan's side,
And taking the hand of the Saviour,
Went up on the heavenly shore!

From Charleston Observer.
Charleston in the Siege of 1863.

I give you a few notes of a late visit to the city whose fate now attracts so many thoughts.

Charleston, as the reader probably knows, occupies a narrow tongue of land between Ashley and Cooper rivers, where they empty. The country back of the city is low and marshy. The site of the city terminates in a point, called "the Battery" even before the war, and furnishing at that former period a place of public promenade, but now devoted to purposes answering to its name.

As the hack conveys the stranger through the streets, or as he walks the streets, even at an early hour at night, he is struck with the want of illumination about the buildings. The greater part even of the private dwellings show few if any lights. This gives one of the first signs of a siege-bound city. Daylight shows whole rows of stores and shops shut up, with the exception of here and there an open door, through which the street passenger discovers rather empty shelves and counters; and some entire blocks of buildings look almost entirely deserted and empty.

King street, which has a good many provision stores and hucksters' shops, is almost the only one that has anything of a lively look. To the upper end of this and other streets many of the public establishments, printing offices, &c., have been removed, to be out of the way, in case of renewed shelling of the city.

The wharves, which once, years ago, I had seen crowded with busy darkies and piled with cotton bags, are now empty and lonely, and the forest of masts which then lined them has disappeared. The scene here is enlivened a little, only now and then, by the grouping of the passengers who come, at intervals, to take the steam ferry boat, which still plies to Mount Pleasant and Sullivan's Island, on the north side of the harbor.

The churches show a mere sprinkling of their former congregations—most of those in attendance being of the soldiery. Only here and there a lady is seen in the pews, and but an occasional one in the streets. The pavements would look quite lonely except for the transient military population constantly seen. But when one enters the houses, the desertion is most apparent. The greatest part of most families—ladies, children, servants—are gone. Here and there a gentleman stays, with a servant or two, to take care of the premises, and look after some of his affairs—though even he will go occasionally to look after his family, at some place of their sojourning in upper Carolina or Georgia. And Charleston will, perhaps, have much reason to be obliged to Gen. Gilmore for the few shells that he projected into the city sometime ago.

It was a timely warning to the people of the city. Not only are they gone, but almost all the furniture and valuables of every sort. Even carpets and curtains are removed, and the interior of the dwellings is generally quite naked. Everything, in fact, looks quite forlorn; and this impression is deepened by walking through the part of the city which was the scene of the great conflagration, where the walls of buildings, public and private, stand yet in their ruined condition. These, and conspicuous among them the walls and front colonnade of the old Circular Church, as seen especially under the mellow sunset light or the soft moonlight of those autumn evenings, carried one's mind back to old Pompeii and the silent desolation of its resurrection state.

I had felt, and still feel, the common sentiment, which its own people, I believe, concur in, that Charleston should be sacrificed rather than be surrendered. But when one walks her streets and surveys those noble public buildings and those elegant private mansions, surrounded by beautiful yards and embowered in trees and shrubbery which were still verdant, and where roses yet bloomed, I found that it cost my feelings quite a struggle to hold to this conclusion.

As the stranger passes along Meeting street, which is one of the principal avenues of the city, he notices water flowing from a large hydrant into a capacious trough, where numerous horses and mules are brought to drink. It is from an Artesian well, some 1300 feet in depth, and has an impregnation of soda, if not other minerals, which renders it quite medicinal in some cases of dyspepsia, &c.; and not only for men, but quadrupeds,—harry having become almost obsolete here since this fountain began to gush.

I spent a day in a most interesting excursion to the north side of the harbor, which the mainland part and Sullivan's Island, separated from it by a narrow inlet crossed by a bridge—is yet all in our possession. And from the ramparts of Moultrie, with a glass, I had a grand view of James Island, still ours also, and Morris' Island outside of it, with Wagner, Gregg and the new batteries on its nearer and narrow end—with the blockade vessels and the besieging fleet—the guns from Moultrie and James' Island booming away now and then.

I cannot describe these points now.

N. L.

To bless God for mercies is the way to increase them; to bless him for miseries is the way to remove them. No good lives so long as that which is thankfully improved—no evil dies so soon as that which is patiently endured.

A Few Words About Words.

The word "brat" is not considered very elegant now, but a few years ago, it had a very different signification from its present one. An old hymn, or *De profundis*, by Gascoigne, contains the lines:

"O Israel, O household of the Lord,
O Abraham's brat, O brood of blessed seed,
O chosen sheep, that loved the Lord indeed."

We will give another instance in which the gradual change of signification in a word, makes what was once highly appropriate and reverent appear now absolutely profane. The word "cunning" formerly meant nothing sinister or underhanded; and in Thoreau's confession in Fox's *Book of Martyrs* is the sentence:—"I believe that all these three persons [in the God-head] are even in power, and in cunning, and in might, full of grace and of all goodness."

It is a somewhat noticeable fact, that the changes in the signification of words have generally been to their deterioration; that is, words that heretofore had no sinister meaning have acquired it. We have given above an exemplification of this in the word "cunning." "Demure" is another of this class. It was used by earlier writers without the insinuation which is now almost latent in it, that the external shows of modesty and sobriety rest on no corresponding realities. "Explode" formerly meant to drive off the stage, with loud clappings of the hands, but gradually became exaggerated into its present signification, "Facetious," too, originally meant urbane, but now has so degenerated as to have acquired the sense of buffoonery, and Mr. French secures indications that it will ere long acquire the sense of indecent buffoonery. "Frippery" now means trumpery, but odds and ends of cheap finery, but once it meant old clothes, of value, and once it meant the term at present not worth, which the gossip formerly implies. The word "gossip" formerly meant only sponsors in baptism. They were supposed to become acquainted at the baptismal font and by their sponsorship act to establish an indefinite affinity towards each other and the child. Thus the word was applied to all familiar and intimate, and later obtained the meaning which is now predominant in it.

"Homely" once meant secret and familiar, though in the time of Milton it had acquired the same sense as at present. "Idiot" from the Greek, originally signified only a private man as distinguished from one in public office, and from that it has degenerated till it has come to designate a person of defective mental powers. "Innocent" once meant to kindly not angry, but good passions as well; Fuller uses it in the sense of "to incite." "Indulgence" originally signified a freedom from passion or pain, but now implies a condition of languid non-exertion. "Insolent" was once only "unusual." "Knave" meant merely a boy; and many other words might be mentioned, the significations of which have in time become so altered and exaggerated as to require a skilled philologist to trace out their original meaning.

The derivation of "lumber" is peculiar. As the Lombards were the bankers, so they were also the pawnbrokers of the middle ages. The "lumber-room" was then the place where the Lombard banker and broker stored his pledges, and "lumber" gradually became to mean the pledges themselves. As these naturally accumulated till they got out of date or became unserviceable, it is easy to trace the steps by which the word descended to its present meaning.

"Obsequious" is another instance of degeneration in the signification of words. It implies now an unmanly readiness to fall in with the will of another, but in the original obsequium, or in the English word as employed two centuries ago, there was nothing of this; it rather meant obedience and mildness. Shakespeare, speaking of a deceased person, says:

"How many a holy and obsequious tear,
Hath dear religious love stolen from mine eyes,
As interest of the dead!"

"Property" and "propriety" were once synonymous, both referring to material things, as the French word *propre* does now. Foreigners do not often catch the distinction at present made in English between the two words, and we know a French gentleman in this city who recently meeting with some pecuniary reverses, astonished his friends by telling them that he had lost all his "propriety."

A poet everybody knows is a person who writes poetry, and, according to the good old customs, a prosier was a person who wrote prose, and simply the antithesis of poet. The word has now a sadly different signification, and it would not be considered very respectable to term Addison, Irving, Bancroft, or Everett "proseers." "Zounds" (often heard in England than here) Mr. Swinton considers an abbreviation of "God's wounds," which certainly sounds blasphemous, if used as carelessly as its contraction. The practice of swearing has given rise to some shameful colloquations of words which, though not numerous, are too familiar to the ears of every one living in a large city. People, however, do not swear as they did fifty years ago, and the inexcusable and wicked custom is now seldom heard except in the lowest haunts of vice. The word "Gally" is considered a vulgarism, but not an instance of profanity, this is because it is not generally known that it is a negro phrase for "God;" and "Gosh" may mean about the same thing.

PUTTING OFF REPENTANCE.—A hermit was conducted by an angel in a wood, where he saw an old man cutting down boughs to make up a burden. When it was large, he tied it up and attempted to lift on his shoulders and carry it away, but finding it very heavy, he laid it down again, and then tried again to carry it off. This he repeated several times, always adding something to the load, after trying in vain to raise it from the ground. In the meantime the hermit, astonished at the old man's folly, desired the angel to explain what this meant. "You behold," said he, "in this foolish old man, an exact representation of those who, being made sensible of the burden of their sins, resolve to repent, but soon grow weary, and instead of lessening their burden, increase it every day. At each trial they find the task heavier than it was before, and so put it off a little longer, in the vain hope that they will, by and by, be more able to accomplish it. Thus they go on adding to their burden,

till it grows too heavy to be borne, and then in despair of God's mercy, and with their sins unrepented of, they lie down and die. Turn, my son, and behold the end of the old man whom thou sawest heaping up a load of boughs." The hermit looked and saw him in vain attempting to remove the pile, which was now accumulated far beyond his strength to raise. His feeble limbs tottered under their burden; the poor remains of his strength were fast ebbing away; the darkness of death was gathering around him; and after a convulsive and impotent attempt to lift the pile, he fell down and expired.

Children's Reproofs.

I was one day reproving a little orphan boy for using such words as "goodness," "mercy," as exclamations. I told him it was only a mild way of swearing, which, if unchecked might lead to open profanity; that those exclamations referred to various attributes of God, such as his mercy, goodness, and graciousness, and should not be so thoughtlessly used.

He seemed grieved and ashamed, for he had not thought that in saying these things he was taking God's name in vain, and disobeying the command of Christ to let our conversation be, "Yea, yea"—"Nay, nay."

As we were talking, a prating boy who stood near said, "But, ma'am, everybody, even good Christians, have little ways of swearing. They say, 'ups, my word,' and 'to save me,' and I heard you say, 'mercy' once."

I felt reproved, as I stood in the presence of a little child who had so plainly rebuked me. I owned my error, and asked him to remind me if he heard me use any of the unnecessary and forbidden words again. Perhaps some other parents who are jealously watching the conduct of the "little ones at home," and striving to train them for Christ, may profit by this innocent reproof.

I know one little girl whose teacher had taught her to check the beginnings of sin against the third commandment. One day when she came home from school, where she had been watching and correcting herself, she said, "Mother, you say, 'bless me,' and Miss Brown says it is wrong to say any such things." Instead of being offended, her mother replied, "I know it, Jessie, and am very sorry I have the habit; and if you will remind me when I say it, I will give you sixpence each time for your mission-box." So Jessie did as she was bid, and her dear mother overcame the habit, but it cost her more money and watchful effort than she thought possible.

Grotius.—There are many places of great historical interest also, which were passed on this lower portion of the Rhine, among which may be mentioned particularly Dordrecht, or Dort, some two hours above Rotterdam, where the celebrated Synod of Dort was held in 1618, and the castle of Lovestein, a few miles higher up, where the celebrated and learned Grotius was imprisoned from 1619 to 1622, and from which imprisonment he was delivered by the ingenuity of his wife. It was here that Grotius composed his celebrated work "Jus Belli et Pacis." While engaged on this work he was accustomed to have conveyed to him in a chest, books which he had borrowed for reference. His watchful wife observed, after some time, that the guards allowed the chest of books to pass without that rigid scrutiny which had at first been observed.

Thinking nothing was in it but huge volumes of learned yore, they at length permitted it to pass without opening it at all. At length permitted it to pass without opening it at all. At length the good Frau Grotius caused some air holes to be bored in the chest, and her husband to be deposited in it in place of the books. It was then carried out, accompanied by the maid, whom she had led into the secret, while the wife remained at a window (which is still pointed out) watching the result of her experiment. One of the soldiers, taking hold of the chest to lift it into the boat, observed that it was uncommonly heavy. "O!" said the maid, "it is the Arminian books which are so heavy;" when the soldier replied, with a laugh, little suspecting that his words were true, "perhaps it is the Arminian himself." However, the chest, with Grotius in it, was safely deposited in the boat, with Grotius in it, was safely deposited in the boat, and when fairly out of danger, the girl made a signal with her handkerchief to her mistress that all was right.

GOING TO CHURCH.—"Mother, I don't want to go to church." The speaker, a little bright-eyed boy, looked up into his mother's face with evident doubt as to the propriety of saying what he had said. His mother, who had often heard the same remonstrance, sat down and drew him to her knee, saying, "Charley, father and I tell you that it is best for you. Don't you think we know best?" Charley made a petulant reply, and although obliged to go, yet went in a very unfavorable mood.

Years passed away. Charley had lived to be a man, and had long gladdened his mother's heart by living the life of a Christian. Children growing up around him, were taught to tread the path in which he had been led before. One Sabbath, a friend spending the day with him, asked: "Why do you endeavor to get all your children to church, whether they wish to go or not? You know that many do not approve of such a course." Turning to his friend, he replied:—"Because I owe it to my mother that I was saved from infidelity by the respect for the Christian religion instilled into my heart when she sent me constantly to church."

SELF-DENIAL AND BENEVOLENCE.—Rev. John Newton relates that a friend of his once dined with Dr. Butler, then Bishop of Durham; and though the guest was a man of fortune, and the interview by appointment, the provision was no more than a joint of meat and a pudding. The Bishop apologized for this plain fare, by saying that it was his manner of living, and that being disgusted with the fashionable expense of time and money in entertainments, he was determined it should receive no countenance from his example. Nor was this conduct the result of covetousness; for, large as were his revenues, such was his liberality to the poor, that he left, at his death little more than enough to discharge his debts and pay the expenses of his funeral.

BE SURE YOUR SIN WILL FIND YOU OUT. As Clinton's mother was walking in her garden she caught a glimpse of her son, with two other boys, smoking cigars. This boy, I suppose, would be about fourteen years of age, and being at a business, he wore an apron. The bad habit of smoking had been strictly forbidden. At first they did not see her. When they did, they tried to run away; but his mother called Clinton in a loud voice, to stop, so he stood still. He knew he had been doing wrong, and his first impulse was to get rid of the cigar.

What do you suppose he did with it? It is very strange, but it is true, that people who are caught doing wrong, never act as they thought they would, if found out. It is as true of grown up people as of children. It is very easy for persons to make up their minds what they will do if caught in a crime; but strange to say, they seldom do the thing they planned, and most often do the very thing that proves them guilty.

Clinton might have thrown away his cigar, I suppose, before his mother reached him, or instead of that, he thrust it under his apron, and pushed it under his belt. He did not do this because he thought it was the best plan, or because he thought at all, it was what is called an impulse.

"Clintny," said his mother, "have you a cigar?"

No, said the little boy. One sin always leads to another.

"Clinton," said his mother, solemnly, "is this the truth?"

No, mother, I haven't got any," persisted he, "Fred and Benny had though."

Just at that moment a little blue smoke came curling from under Clinton's apron. He turned pale as he saw a hole burning in his apron, and there was the burnt end of a cigar under it.

Ah! Clinton, your sin found you out.

I will not tell you how Clinton was punished; only you may know he did not smoke any more cigars.

"I think he was a silly fellow to put a lighted cigar under his apron!" a child says. "I would have hid it better than that."

No you wouldn't. You do not know what you would have done. Unless you have been a great while learning to deceive, and grown cunning, you would not have been any wiser.

When a child or man, who is generally honest, commits one sin, and wishes to hide it, the very thing he does to hide it often becomes the means of his being discovered. It is quite remarkable how often this is the case. It is one of God's ways of detecting crime. He has made the mind so, that when the conscience is guilty, it cannot act as when it is clear. It is never safe to say, "I shan't be found out." Yes, you will; most likely you will tell on yourself, as Clinton did.

"When you want to sin in safety, go where God is not." But since God is in every place, you may be sure your sin will find you out.

HOW TO BECOME GREAT.—Some years ago, Edmund Stone, a boy eight years of age, was running about the garden and grounds of the Duke of Argyll. He was the son of the duke's gardener. The little fellow was ignorant of every thing but what grew in the garden, or might be seen in his father's cottage. His parents had no means of educating him; but a servant of the duke's household out of compassion, taught him his letters, and the elements of reading. Reading became a habit, and formed within him the desire and love of knowledge.

While they boy was thus storing his mind with information of various kinds, the duke built a new wing to his mansion. The lad looked on day by day, as the work proceeded and seeing the architect make use of the rule and compass in his calculations, he inquired what it meant. The mystery was solved, and he was told that the science of arithmetic was explained in books. He borrowed an arithmetic, and by persevering study mastered its contents.

Geometry was then mentioned to him, and procuring a book on this subject, he soon mastered that in like manner. Learning that the best books on this science were written in Latin, he bought a Latin dictionary and grammar, and labored diligently until he had acquired the language. Some one told him there were excellent scientific works in the French tongue; so he got possession of French dictionary and grammar, and learned that language also.

His industry accomplished all this between the ages of eight and eighteen, while learning his trade as gardener, under his father. One day the duke coming into the garden, saw a Latin copy of Sir Isaac Newton's "Principia," lying on the grass. Thinking it belonged to himself, he ordered it to be carried back to the library. The young gardener stepped forward, and said, "Your grace, the book belongs to me." "To you?" replied the duke; "do you understand geometry—Latin—Newton?" "I know a little of them," said the youth, who felt that he had made but small attainments, in view of the wide fields of knowledge opening before him. The duke, who was a scientific man, questioned him on the subject of mathematics, and was astonished at the force, the accuracy, and the simplicity of his answers. He then asked him of his past life, and learned from the lad's own lips, the history above given.

His account charmed the duke, who drew the uncovetous genius from obscurity, and provided him with an employment which gave him time for the cultivation of the sciences. The same talents were discovered in him for music, painting, architecture and all the sciences which depend upon calculations and proportions.

Such is the history of Edmund Stone, the well-known mathematician. He lived to an advanced age, preserved an unblemished reputation, and rendered important services to science. Among his works are a Mathematical Dictionary, a treatise on Fluxions, another on Euclid, and a work on the use of mathematical instruments.—He died in 1768.

CAPTURE OF DR. PETERS.—Dr. Peters, who killed Gen. Van Dorn, was captured a few days since on his plantation upon the Mississippi river, where he was engaged in selling wood to the Yankees. He professed to his captors that he was desirous of getting back into the Confederacy, that he might have his trial, but it would seem as if he could have found his way back long ago had he desired it.

Holiness the Measure of Power.

An individual professor takes his place in the church. He has wealth, and uses it for the benefit of the organization; he has talents, and they are generally devoted to the defence of the church; he has popular influence, and he uses it to gather proselytes to the faith. But his piety is superficial. Words escape him every day which show that they come from an impure fountain. He is, in spirit, a man of the world, and he has very little power to reform men. He may induce them to attend his church, and even join it; but, in all his efforts to reform them, he feels that he is weak, and they turn away in disgust, or look to others for their models and advice. But let this same man improve in piety, and his power to do good at once begins to increase. Let him approximate nearer and nearer the standard of christian perfection, and it will be seen that his spiritual power increases in exact proportion.

On the other hand, take a man whose heart is entirely consecrated, whose holy example commands universal respect, whose simple, unpretending efforts move all who hear his voice in prayer, or praise, or exhortation. Now, let him yield to temptation—admit corruption in his heart—and how soon it is seen that he is shorn of his strength. Just in proportion as he recedes from this elevated position in christian holiness, his power of usefulness diminishes. Nor can he supply this deficiency by any other element. He who loses his piety may strive to save his power by increase of zeal, enlarged charities, by the severest austerities; but it is all of no avail. He makes himself a living proof that holiness is the measure of power.

A comparison of two men in the ministry will strengthen this conclusion. One is a man of shining talent, of gentle address of popular eloquence—the other, ordinary in all these respects—in all natural qualities the inferior of his brother. But he is a man of God—a man of faith; his soul is filled with love—"perfect love that casteth out fear;" he moves among the people like a spirit from eternity; his rebukes of sin fall with dreadful force upon the hearts of the wicked; his sermons, his prayers, his exhortations, his tears, all indicate the presence of an extraordinary power, and thousands are converted, sanctified and saved through this instrumentality.

But the other man sees no such fruits of his labor. Souls may be converted, but he feels that it is in spite of him, rather than through his instrumentality. He wonders at the difference. He increases his exertions, elaborates his sermons with more labor and research, improves his rhetoric and oratory, but all to little purpose. He may increase the admiration of his hearers but he cannot subdue their hearts, bring them weeping to the foot of the cross, and present them with joy as the trophies of the Redeemer. But let him seek and obtain the Holy Spirit—let fire from God's altar touch his lips, and purify his soul—and he is a new man. He does not throw away his talents, his genius, his learning, but they are all sanctified. With the simplicity of a child, and a heart overflowing with love he preaches the truth; and it is in "the demonstration of the Spirit, and with power," and a glorious reformation follows. He is another living proof that holiness is the measure of power.

[Evanglist.

LAST WORDS.—Talk to me now in Scripture language alone," said a dying Christian. "I can trust the words of God, but when they are the words of man, it costs me an effort to think whether I may trust to them." This was the testimony of one who died in the morning of life. "Charles bring me the Bible," said a dying mother. The weak sufferer laid her thin pale hand on the blessed book, and said, "I rest in Christ." How pleasant are the last hours of a Christian; and how often have they borne to the trembling assurance that death has no sting, and the grave no victory! Who would not bear the cross on earth, to wear a crown in Heaven?

BY THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA.

A PROCLAMATION.
WHEREAS, IT BECOMES A CHRISTIAN People under all circumstances to acknowledge the superintending care and sovereignty of Almighty God, and especially to confess our transgressions and humble ourselves before His chastening hand in seasons of affliction and calamity:

Now, therefore, I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, moved by these considerations, as also by the request of the General Assembly and to concur in the action of other Southern States, do issue this my proclamation setting apart Thursday the 10th day of December next, as a day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer; earnestly requesting its sincere observance by all the good people of the State; that all worldly employments be suspended, and that all Ministers and Clergymen of whatsoever denomination, will open their Churches, and assembling their congregations, make earnest and fervent supplications unto God that He will stay His wrath which has been heavily upon us, and especially, that He may in His wisdom, open the way for the speedy restoration of peace to our desolated land, on such terms as will best promote His glory and both the spiritual and temporal welfare of His creatures.

In testimony whereof, I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, Governor, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief, hath set my hand and caused the great seal of the State to be affixed.

Done at our City of Raleigh on the 30th day of November, A. D. 1863.

Z. B. VANCE.
By H. BATTLE, Jr., Private Secretary.

THE WATCHMAN AND HARBINGER.

A Religious and Family Newspaper. Published Weekly, at Greensboro', N. C.—Price \$5 in advance.

The Watchman and Harbinger is devoted to the interests of the Methodist Protestant Church, but will be conducted in a spirit of kindness and liberality toward all other branches of the Christian Church, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace. As such it proposes to give its influence to the spreading of Scriptural holiness over our land, by an earnest advocacy of Bible Christianity.

In addition to its decidedly Religious character, its aim will be to carry to the fire-sides of its readers, necessarily, therefore, by an excellent advertisement for Book-Publishers, Schools, Colleges, and for whatever else may be designed for readers in the more remote portions of the Confederacy. The attention of the benevolent everywhere is invited to our paper, as being well adapted to the wants of our soldiers in camp and field, and liberal donations are solicited to aid in furnishing the paper to soldiers in large quantities. Address

J. L. MICHAUX, Editor,
Greensboro', N. C.

Drowning the Squirrel.

When I was about six years old, one morning, going to school, a ground-squirrel ran into his hole in the ground before me as they like to dig holes in some open places where they can put out their heads to have fine fun. As there was a stream of water just at hand, I determined to drown the little animal, so that I might kill it. I got a trough beside a sugar maple, used for catching sap, and was pouring the water into the hole of the squirrel. I could hear it struggle to get out, and said, "Ah, my fellow, I will soon have you out now!"

Just then I heard a voice behind me. "Well, my boy, what have you got there?" I turned, and saw one of my neighbors, a good old man with long white hair, who had seen sixty winters. "Why," said I, "I have a ground-squirrel in here, and I am going to drown him out."

Said he, "Jonathan, when I was a boy, more than fifty years ago, I was gaged one day just as you are, drowning a ground-squirrel, and an old man came along and said to me, 'You are a little like me, if you was down in a narrow hole like this, and I should come and pour water down upon you to drown you, would you think I was cruel? God made the squirrel, and life is as sweet to it as to me, and why will you torture to death an innocent creature, that God hath made?' Said he, 'I never have forgotten that, and never shall. I never have killed any more less creature for fun since. Now, my boy, I want you to remember this, you live, and when tempted to kill any little innocent animal or bird, think of the mind. God don't allow us to kill any pretty little creatures for fun.'

More than forty years have since passed, and I never forgot what the good man said, nor have I ever killed the least animal for fun since that advice was given, and it has not lost its influence upon me. How many little creatures it has saved from being tortured to death I cannot tell, but I have no doubt a great number, and I believe my whole life has been influenced by it.

The Wave-Ripple Mark.

On the east coast of Scotland, Fife, on the sea-shore between Anstruther and Crail, there is to be seen a "petrified forest." Part of the trunks of some eleven trees stand there, hard as the rocks beside them, and lashed by the billows many centuries.

Near those trees, which grow, waved, and flourished ages ago, some at first not so noticeable, some almost forgotten.

On the surface of some of the shaly sandstone we distinctly saw ripple-marks or undulations. These were wave-ripple marks. Some bore, as it were, the trace of a rougher, and others of a smoother wave; but the ripple marks were manifest. There lay those large boulders like the leaves of a book with the handwriting of the great Creator impressed upon them; and at a subsequent period they had been tilted up by the arm of the Almighty.

Now, young friends, as we gaze upon the prints made by these ancient waves, which had remained for centuries, we cannot help thinking of another book—the Book of God's Remembrance.

God has a book of remembrance, and enduring still than those rocks. In it are written every thought, word, and action of your lives; and these words more lasting than those marks on the rocks, written by the hand of time.

On the shores of time, the record of your life is silently but surely being made. God is writing down in the book of his remembrance the story of your lives. Every idle thought, every idle word, every idle act, is recorded there. Every word registered in that book.

Time will not, cannot, wear out the record. Your forgetfulness of your sins won't do this—all the influence of your friends won't do this—all the power of an angel can't do this. No created being can do this for you.

There is only one thing which will accomplish this, and that is the blood of Jesus Christ. "But now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Heb. 9:26. The blood of Christ can put away your sin—it can cancel it—it can wipe it out—it can cause it to be forgotten forever.

Dear reader, will you pray this prayer in faith—O Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world, take away my sins. Children's Missionary Record of the Church.

A JUDGE ON A TREADMILL.—A story told of Baron P., who, when once upon a penal institution, inspected the treadmill with the rest, and being practically tired, the learned Judge philanthropically trusted himself upon its tread, and the water to set it in motion. The machine was accordingly adjusted, and his legs began to lift his feet. In a few minutes, however, he had quite enough of it, and called to be released; but this was no easy. "Please, my lord," said the warden, "you can't get off, it's set for twenty minutes, that's the shortest time we can run it." So, notes volens, the judge was enduring like Signor Ricaldore, a stock, except that he was obliged to "move on" until his "term" expired.

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