

# THE FREE SOUTH.

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## THE FREE SOUTH.

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TERMS—Two DOLLARS per annum, in advance. The postage on the FREE SOUTH is twenty cents a year, payable quarterly in advance—and may be paid at this office. Advertisements will be inserted at twenty cents a line for each insertion.

### JOB PRINTING.

Having just received a large assortment of new type, borders, rules, etc., we are now ready to execute orders for OFFICIAL BLANKS, of every description. Also all kinds of mercantile printing, such as BILL HEADS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, HANDBILLS, INVOICES, etc. Our facilities are such that we are able to fill orders upon the shortest notice.

### The Republic of Jones.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, July 17th.]

The County of Jones, in the State of Mississippi, through which Leaf River and Tallahala run, without bringing much fertility with them, is known for the poverty of its soil and the independence of its people. In our younger days it was called the "Free State of Jones," from the absence of any "human chattels" or any other property restraints upon its people. They were wholly indifferent to the judgments of the courts, for they had no jail, except a log-pen, without a lock to its door or roof upon it, and as for pecuniary penalties, they defied them.

We heard last year, indeed, that Jones had seceded from the Confederacy, and that they had quite a force guarding their territory against all incursion. We had supposed that by this time they had been reduced to terms, but learn by the following correspondence in the Natchez Courier that the Republic still maintains its independence. The editor of the Courier, who a year ago was at Jackson, Miss., says:

"Paroled men were then frequently reporting to the commanding officer at that post, and when asked where they hailed from, their reply was that they had been taken prisoners in Jones County and paroled. As conclusive evidence of the fact, they generally exhibited a parole, written upon birch bark—paper being scarce in that county. They also represented an organized community in Jones, determined to resist the Confederate conscript act. An armed force was sent against them, and we had all this time supposed that the little Jones democracy had been broken up, but our correspondent writes differently. He represents the people in the height of prosperity, and their army and navy complete, seeking to cultivate and enjoy the arts of peace. We are not of those who believe the Republic of Jones can long survive. What the Confederates do not absorb, owing to its interior location, will not be worth much to any one.

"The correspondent says that the Confederacy has declared war against the Republic, and sent an army under Col. Maury, from Mobile, to 'crush the rebellion.' The Republic, which has a regular government, both civil and military, immediately prepared to act on the defensive—raising an army under the command of Major Robinson, Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the Republic of Jones. The belligerents met; a desperate battle ensued, in which the armies of the new Republic were victorious, having killed, wounded, and captured many of the Confederates; the remainder, under their gallant commander, ingloriously fled.

"The following is a copy of a dispatch sent by the Commander-in-Chief of the forces to his Honor the Secretary of War for the Republic of Jones:

"HEADQUARTERS FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC, IN THE FIELD, JAN. 27, '64.  
"To the Hon. A. C. Williams, Secretary of War:

"SIR:—We met the forces of the invader on the evening of the 26th inst., at Cross Roads. After an engagement, of eight hours' duration we broke his center, when he fled in confusion; on the field we captured many prisoners and several pieces of artillery. Our loss was slight.

"I have the honor to be, respectfully,  
"R. ROBINSON."

"After this hard-fought battle an ar-

mistice was made. Ministers were appointed to confer with the 'so-called Confederate States.' Propositions for peace were entered into, but declined by the Confederate States. A cartel for exchange of prisoners was offered by the Republic, which was also declined. All prospects of an amicable adjustment ceased, the Ministers of the Republic returned to their capital fully convinced that the Republic had no other alternative but to prepare for war. Their Congress having met, a lengthy debate took place, the question in debate: 'Propositions to form an alliance with the United States,' which was opposed by Mr. Billing, on the ground that the position of the United States in regard to the question of secession had been clearly defined, in her war with the 'so-called Confederate States.'

"Congress at once declared that it would be a needless expenditure of time. An act was unanimously passed ordering all persons, male and female, who denied their inalienable right of secession, to leave the Republic at once, on pain of being punished as a spy.

"No provisions having been made for the exchange of prisoners, they were paroled. The following is a true copy of a parole:

"HEADQUARTERS FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC, Feb. 2, 1864.

"I, Ben Johnson, do solemnly swear that I will not aid or assist the enemies of said republic in any way whatsoever during the war, unless sooner discharged. So help me God.

"BEN JOHNSON.  
"Sworn and subscribed before me this 2d day of February, 1864.

WM. ARMSTRONG, Capt. and A. A. G.  
"To many this may seem highly wrought, but nevertheless it is true. Numbers of deserters having congregated in the swamps of Jones County, determined to form a government for themselves. Col. Maury, with a force, was sent over to disband them, but they fought desperately, and in their strongholds defied the Colonel and his forces, killing and wounding and capturing many of his men."

So the Free State of Jones yet maintains its ancient independence.

### The Fighting Sixth at Washington.

A correspondent of the Boston Herald relates the following incident:

"In the city during this time the excitement was gradually becoming general. Few people until Monday night, 10th inst., realized the presence of a large force of rebels immediately in front of the city. The President, Secretary Stanton, General Halleck, General Augur and several other general officers were keenly alive to the emergency, and activity could be seen on every hand. Riding down to the river to see the landing of the heroic old Sixth Corps that had come up from the Army of the Potomac to our relief, I noticed the President and Secretary Stanton both on the wharf and consulting with the officers of the Corps. In a brief time these veteran troops passed up Seventh street through the city amid cheers and the waving of flags, and were soon at the front—for the front was not an hour's march off. As illustrative of the don't-care-activeness of the Sixth Corps boys, who have been in so many hard-fought battles, I cite an incident. Stepping up to some of them I inquired, 'Boys, where are you going?' 'To see the Rebs,' they replied unconcernedly, and in turn asked what rebels were in front, I told them Ewell's troops. 'Good,' said one, 'is the old fellow in *posish*?' Not exactly understanding the army vernacular, I solicited an explanation of 'posish.' 'O, in intrenchments,' said one. I told them that Ewell was not in 'posish.' 'Well, then,' they replied, 'we'll just wipe out old Ewell before taps.' Feeling a little personal interest in seeing old Ewell 'wiped out' I rode on to Fort Stevens.

"It was an hour before sundown, and the landscape looked most lovely. The veterans evidently admired the beautiful ground on which they were to deploy. They came on a rapid march, passed the fort and in fifteen minutes were in the open fields firing away, and actually forcing back the rebel lines. Some of the militia who had thus been relieved came back, and I heard one of them say that the way those Sixth Corps fellows went into the skirmish frightened them almost

as much as it did the rebels. The earnestness of the boys was soon evinced by some of them being brought wounded to the rear. They all said the rebels yelled at them, recognizing them as veterans, and soon finding out that it was the fighting Sixth.

A RUSSIAN FABLE.—As an illustration of the art with which the precepts of religion may be evaded, even beyond the ingenuity of Satan himself, it is told in one of Kryloff's fables how a peasant attempted to violate the law of fasting without breaking its letter. The words of the precept are, "Ye shall not eat on fast days any kind of flesh, nor shall ye boil eggs in water upon your hearths and eat such eggs." The peasant alluded to drives a nail into the wall and hangs an egg from it by means of a wire. He then places his lamp under the egg, and cooks it in that manner. Being caught in this trick by a priest, he alleges as an excuse that he thought he was not breaking the commandment. "Why, the devil must have taught you that," cried the priest, peevishly. "Ah, yes, father; I confess the devil did teach me." "No; it is not true," shouts the devil, who has been present during the conversation, and seated on the stove, chuckles at the sight of the suspended egg; "indeed I have not taught him this, for upon my word, it is the first time I have seen the trick."

Old Judge, who resides not far from Cincinnati, is known as one who never pays a debt, if it can be avoided. He has plenty of money, however, is a jolly, rollicking old chap, and gets drunk occasionally, when, of course, some friends take care of him. Not long ago he fell into the hands of a man who had his note for a sum of money, and as it was a last chance, the man dived into the Old Judge's wallet, took out the amount, and put the note where the money had been.

When the Judge awoke to consciousness, as was his wont, he took out his wallet to count how much money he was out.

"How did I spend all my money?"  
"You paid off that note I held," answered the friend.

"Well," muttered the Judge, quietly disposing of his wallet, "I must have been very drunk."

### TOMATOES TWENTY DOLLARS A DOZEN.

—Tomatoes, about the size of an English walnut, made their appearance in the Second market for the first time this season on Thursday morning. They were held at twenty-four dollars per dozen, but the holder failed to dispose of them at that price. Yesterday, however, they were again brought out and offered at twenty dollars per dozen, when, strange to say, a purchaser was found.—*Richmond Dispatch*.

A late number of the Deseret News says: "A large load of very fine cotton passed our office on Monday, on its way to President Young's cotton factory. We hear from many quarters very favorable reports of the growth of King Cotton. Lient. Pace, of Washington, is raising fifteen acres this season, which is looking well, and, for that place, is very encouraging."

The rebels in Maryland made free with the house of Captain Paul, known to the press, and took two game cocks which were on the premises, belonging to another newspaper correspondent—Mr. Henry of the Tribune—and boiled and ate them. "This conduct," the Washington Chronicle ingeniously says, "has incensed the correspondents of the press in this city to the last degree."

A friend in the West where they claim a special right to Abraham as their father, writes.

"Gen. Grant—our general—is at it! May the 'Lord of Hosts' be with him! Abraham and Gideon and Ulysses! If with such leaders, we fail to conquer the sons of Belial, and smite them hip and thigh, the whole world ought to say to us what the Philistines said to Sampson—'Hold your jaw!'"

A feeling against England, on the part of the Germans, is showing itself in various forms. One of these is the recent action of several authorities in matters of commerce and industry, renouncing the use of English coal, and using that which comes from the pits of Westphalia.

### A Scriptural Prophecy.

A writer in the Savannah Republican, signing himself "Daniel," makes the following observations:

Let us notice the prophecy in Daniel concerning a war between the North and South, and see if there is not an analogy sufficient to create a belief that it has reference to the present war. I know that commentators have given a different view of the subject, though none have given a positive assurance that their notion was correct.

I would particularly refer to the army raised by the King of the North (Dan. xi c. 2 v.); and then after the overthrow of that army, (Dan. xi c., 13, 14) which met with similar defeat; and then the possession taken of the islands and cities: "The tidings out of the East;" and then the desperate effort to destroy, and his final overthrow, in all which, I think, we have a clear prophecy from Scripture of the present struggle.

Now as to the time of the end, (Dan. xii c.; 6, 7, 12.)

"And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, 'How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?' The full duration is given—"a thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." Now, according to this prophecy, if it has reference to the present war, peace may confidently be expected between this and the first of September; counting the days from the first battle at Fort Sumter, April 12, 1861, it will be observed that the thousand three hundred and thirty-five days will be accomplished on the first of September, 1864.

### The Married State.

It is considered a noteworthy circumstance for a man or woman to have been married three times; but of old this number would have been thought but little of. St. Jerome mentions a widow that married her twenty-second husband, who in his turn had been married to twenty wives—surely an experienced couple.

A woman named Elisabeth Masi, who died at Florence in 1768, had been married to seven husbands, all of whom she outlived. She married the last of the seven at the age of 70. When on her death bed she recalled the good and bad points in each of her husbands, and having impartially weighed them in the balance, she singled out her fifth spouse as the favorite, and desired that her remains might be interred near his.

The death of a soldier is recorded, in 1784, who had had five wives, and his widow, aged 30, wept over the grave of her fourth husband. The writer who mentioned these facts gravely added: "The said soldier was much much attached to the marriage state."

There is an account of a gentleman who had been married to four wives, and who lived to be 115 years old. When he died he left twenty-three children alive and well, some of the said children being from three to four score.

A gentleman died at Bordeaux in 1772 who had been married sixteen times.

In July, 1768, a couple were living in Essex who had been married eighty-one years, the husband being 107 and the wife 103 years of age.

At the church of St. Clement, Danes, in 1772, a woman of 85 was married to her fifth husband.

The cavalry now employed by the rebel army compares very unfavorably with that which they had in the beginning of the war. Then the riders were the wealthy and educated young men of the South, who took into the service their best horses. The previous practice of these men in the saddle and with firearms rendered them formidable foes; but they are mostly dead or tired of fighting, and the rebels have no more good horses. The cavalymen at present operating against us have generally been taken from the ranks of the Confederate infantry. They are men of very little dash, and having in most cases only broken down horses are capable of doing very little serious work. In a word, the cavalry, at least, in Virginia, has ceased to be a very important adjunct of the rebel service.

Among other amusements now delighting Paris, is a "delightful" monkey, who rides like a man. From the Empress downward, everybody has paid a tribute to the talent of this animal, "who mounts a horse like an English milord."