

Friday Morning, May 12, 1865.

Rumors and Reports.

Among the rumors and reports current, we have to mention the following, which the reader will believe or not, just as his moods incline:

1. The Yankee Generals are said to have offered a reward of \$100,000 in gold for President Davis, dead or alive; the captors being also entitled to his baggage, including all gold and valuables which he may have with him.

2. The Yankees are said to be in Augusta, and have with them a certain General Upton. The stores are reported to be shut. No business is done, and no ladies to be seen on the streets.

3. The Federals are reported to have issued a proclamation in Augusta, mandating all the slaves. We are told that there is much difference in these proclamations—that, in North Carolina, Schofield has sent the negroes back to their owners, urging the latter to receive and work them, and suggesting that they be not only fed and clothed, but receive some additional compensation.

4. But the reports from Charleston state that the negroes are to receive one-half of the crop, the owner to feed and clothe them. Another statement is to the effect that the United States Government is to receive one-third, the owner one-third, the negro one-third; the owner doing the clothing and feeding besides. A very pretty arrangement, which would ruin any planter under the sun. This order—for it is such—is said to cover the Ashley, and Cooper, and Waccamaw settlements.

5. We have again a report that the Yankees are in Chester, and ruling in that precinct with customary looseness of discipline. We are told that they are to come hither. We trust that they will bring their *feed* with them, for we are now at monstrous short commons.

6. Gov. Vance is reported to be arrested by the Northern authorities—for what offence, is not given. He probably chews Virginia tobacco. We might multiply our report of these reports *ad infinitum*, but *cui bono!* Believe what you will, and, if credulous of faith, believe all that you hear. For our own part, seeing only, now-a-days, is believing, and feeling, the naked truth. We belong to the school of Mackenzie, and are all men of feeling—as editors especially, left terribly in the dark.

The troops under Gen. Rosser and Imboden are said, by the *Herald*, to have had their paroles completed, but Rosser himself is reported as refusing to comply, and, abandoned by his command, he has disappeared. The same thing is said of Mosby. But the reader will accept everything at the hands of the *Herald*, with the due and necessary allowance.

NORTHERN EXTRACTS.—We make copious extracts from a copy of the *New York Herald*, of the 1st inst., which we owe to the attention of Mr. Morrow. The reader will find the items in various columns; some of them of interesting as well as useful information.

Valentine Mott, the eminent New York surgeon, is dead.

Local Items.

The office of the *Columbia Phoenix* is on Gates street, second door from Plain.

The *Phoenix* of tomorrow will contain a full account of the great "national calamity" meeting in Charleston, together with other interesting matter. Single copies, five cents.

PERSONAL.—All subscribers to the *Phoenix* whose subscriptions have expired, will please come forward and renew, in specie or provisions; otherwise their papers will be stopped.

We wish it distinctly understood that our terms are *cash*. No advertisements will, therefore, be inserted unless paid for in advance.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—We are constrained, by the practice of others with whom we deal, to require of our subscribers, compensation for our paper, in *money or in goods*, of less questionable character in the market than Confederate currency. We shall demand for the *Phoenix* \$1 per month, in gold or silver, or in barter for other commodities. This arrangement will not affect those subscribers who have already paid their subscriptions, until the full expiration of the time for which payment has been made. All articles necessary, or useful in families, or in business, will be taken in exchange, at fair prices, as usually understood in the market. But, for the better understanding of our friends, we present the following schedule of rates, in the case of the most obvious commodities. For one month's subscription to the *Phoenix*, we will receive either of the following, viz:

- 1 bushel corn, peas or potatoes.
- 4 pounds butter.
- 5 " lard.
- 5 " bacon.
- 4 head of chickens.
- 5 dozen eggs.

Wood, vegetables and provisions generally received at fair market rates approaching the specie standards.

For single copies, *five cents in coin*, or a proportionate amount in any of the above mentioned articles.

Advertisements will be inserted at fifty cents per square (ten lines or less) for the first insertion; and thirty-five cents for each subsequent insertion—invariably in advance.

Northern Extracts.

BRIDGING THE DANVILLE RAILROAD.

BURKESVILLE JUNCTION, April 27, 1865.—A considerable squad of the engineer corps, attended by a wagon train from this corps, bearing tools and implements, left this point yesterday morning for Staunton River, twenty-five miles distant, over which it is proposed to construct a bridge for the Danville Railroad. The artisans who are engaged in this mission belong to an organization famous for the rapidity and effectiveness of its operations, and they will speedily add to the above point the only link requisite to the complete and thorough communication of the road from Burkesville Junction to Danville.

SAFETY GUARDS FOR THE PROPERTY OF INHABITANTS.

It now devolves upon the 2d corps—the only corps left in the immediate neighborhood—to furnish safety guards for the property of a large number of the inhabitants hereabouts, who are apprehensive that they may receive visits to the detriment of them and theirs, not only from the stragglers of our own forces, but from the innumerable detachments of the army surrendered by Gen. Lee, which are now wandering hither and thither, apparently with the intent of reaching their homes, but frequently actuated by so very scrupulous motives as to

how they obtain subsistence for the time being, or who may be wronged by their indiscriminate foraging. The general rule thus far has been to furnish guards to such as may properly apply for them, who do not reside above four miles from these headquarters; though, in a few instances, this limitation has been overlooked in cases of extreme necessity, and guards sent much farther.

FEEDING THE CHIVALRY.

I am informed by the Chief Commissary at these headquarters that during the last six days upwards of 153 families, averaging eight adults to each household, have been furnished with five days' rations respectively, and the number of dependents upon the crumbs that fall from the Government table is constantly augmented. From early dawn until late in the afternoon, a crowd of the chivalry are constantly surrounding the Provost Marshal's and Commissary's office, anxious to take any oath or obligation that may be offered them in pledge of future good and loyal conduct. Utter destitution seems to prevail beneath nearly every roof, and were they not privileged to be pensioners upon the bounty of the Government they have outraged, it would go hard with them indeed. A want of cattle and horses makes it nearly impossible to sow crops very extensively, and "the peculiar institution" is each day developing astonishing facility in the indulgence of that healthful and invigorating pastime of utter inactivity and inertness. The latter look on the Scriptural injunction to "take no thought for the morrow" in its most literal sense, and positively reject all proposals from their late masters to either "sow or spin." If the people of this stricken commonwealth are not sorely chastened before the scanty crops that will be vouchsafed them have time to arrive at maturity, it will be only because they are dead to the cravings of hunger or from a magnanimous anticipation and supply by the Government of the want and privation that now menaces even the proprietors of the broadest acres.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE TO BE INSTRUCTED.

A few of the old planters, purporting to "live round about 'ere," have told me it was the intention of the inhabitants of this district to call a meeting, within a few days, for the purpose of enacting resolutions expressive of their repentance of secession proclivities, and instructing the scarcely resuscitated Legislature of Virginia to declare at once for the Union on permanent and positive terms. Whenever the penitential conclave shall assemble, I hope to be present and obtain a full report of the confession and promises for future good conduct.

WINCHESTER, Va., April 27, 1865.—Maj. Gen. Torbert, the new commander of the Union troops in the Valley, has fully entered upon his duties, and is now occupied in executing the orders and regulations appertaining thereto. One of the principal duties devolving upon the authorities is the paroling or passing upon the cases of such officers and soldiers of Lee's late army as are proceeding homeward. The opinion of the Attorney General in regard to the *status* of these men, as promulgated in orders from the War Department, places some—I may say many—of these paroled prisoners in a rather unenviable position. Among these whom the order referred to affects, are a number of Marylanders, and even some from the borders of Pennsylvania, who were proceeding to their former homes, but who can now proceed no further unless they return to their fealty to the Government and take the oath of allegiance. Some have embraced the opportunity to abrogate their faith in the confederacy, and have gone on their way rejoicing. Many, however, with oaths and imprecations, declare their faith in the ultimate success of the rebels, and express their determination to hold fast their integrity to the end.

Among the paroled prisoners who have lately come within our lines are some of the notorious Mosby gang of guerillas. From their general appearance, some of them