

Apologetic.

It was not our intention to have issued any paper this week, in common with all the press of the State, but having neglected to mention it in our last number, we shall issue this as an extra, giving the latest news of the week, up to last night, being the only medium through which many of our country friends are able to secure the news of the day. We make this explanation, that our readers may know at once the cause of their receiving a half sheet, with but little in it.

We have much valuable original matter for next week's issue, which should have appeared in this, had we published a full sheet, amongst which will be found two very interesting letters from camp—one from our own coast, the other from an extreme southern division of our army.

Christmas.

The commemorative Festival Day of the Birth of Christ was celebrated in Camden in an unusually quiet and orderly manner. No grand display of fire-works, neither shooting of crackers, nor a drunk man to be seen on the street—everything was order.

New Military Company.

By reference to the proceedings of a military meeting, held at Town Hall on yesterday, it will be seen that Capt. W. L. DEPASS has organized his company of volunteers. He numbers seventy-two good men, is recruiting daily, and is expected to leave on Wednesday next, for the Columbia camp of instruction.

We congratulate Capt. DEPASS in his success, knowing well the many difficulties with which he had to contend in his organization. None, we are satisfied, who may attach themselves to his corps will ever have cause to regret the association. His Lieutenants are all brave and good men, and favorably known to the people of our District. His men are composed of just such as Kershaw is able to produce and will feel proud to acknowledge.

Kershaw Greys—Capt. John L. Jones.

In our last issue we should have stated that this fine Company had gone into Camp, at the Cornwallis Quarters, on the Wednesday of last week; but the press of business during the past two issues of our paper, has been so heavy as to cause us to neglect the publication of several local matters, both civil and military, of importance, which we regret much. We hope, however, our friends in camp will view the omission as unintentional on our part. We understand they have been recruiting rapidly, and have now in camp near one hundred fine stalwart men. They will probably leave for Columbia on Monday next, and will be mustered into service the following day.

Death in Camp.

John J. RICHBOURGH, of Capt. WARREN'S Company, died at Camp Gist, on Friday, the 20th inst. His remains were brought home in charge of private YATES, on Monday last. He was a good and true soldier, and would have, no doubt, rendered valuable service, had he lived.

Returned From Camp.

Our esteemed fellow-townsmen and editor, Capt. THO. J. WARREN, of Kershaw Guard, returned from camp on Monday last, suffering from a severe attack of neuralgia in the head. He has been confined to his room since his return, but is improving slowly. His health permitting, will leave for his Company, on the coast, during the early part of next week.

Lieut. J. J. MCKAIN, of Capt. KENNEDY'S Company, has returned for a few days, in company with his brother, Mr. WM. MCKAIN, who was unable to reach camp, after leaving home some few weeks since. We are grieved to hear of his illness, and hope he may soon be himself again. The lieutenant, we understand, has enjoyed the best of health whilst in the service, and we think the very picture of health.

Mr. JAMES RIDDLE, of the same Company, and formerly engaged in the *Journal* office, we learn, has also returned on account of bad health.

There are several others returned, suffering somewhat, but as yet we have been unable to learn their names.

To Arrive.

A despatch has been received to the effect that Col. JOSEPH B. KERSHAW and Mr. T. J. ANCRUM, will arrive by this evening's train.

Indefinite Postponement.

The proposed Concert (noticed in our last issue) to have been given by Mrs. BEWS and Mr. ECKEL, as suggested by Mr. B. at our town relief meeting of last Monday week, has been unavoidably postponed. We regret this postponement, as the many friends of the above named lady, and numerous admirers of her musical talent, will be sadly disappointed.

Since writing the above, we have been requested to say, that there will be a Concert given shortly, under the sole direction of Prof. HENRY E. ECKEL, in which he will be assisted by Mr. HENRY BASH, of Camden, as violinist, and other artists from Charleston. The proceeds of the Concert, we are informed, are to be sent to the Relief Committee of Charleston, for the benefit of the sufferers.

The Ladies' Aid Association.

The following acknowledgment has been handed us, as the best and only means by which it could have general publicity—there not having been any meeting of the Association during the week, previous to the publication of our paper. It affords us much pleasure to be able to record the noble deeds of our fair ladies of the "Camden Aid Association." This is but one of many—their hearts and purses ever open to the suffering poor or distressed soldier. Such acknowledgments of remittances, or anything they may wish published, to advance the good cause in which they are engaged, will always find a welcome in our columns, whenever presented:

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 20, 1861.

Mrs. S. Amelia Cantey—Dear Madam: I desire, in behalf of the Committee, gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 18th inst., covering \$31, from the Ladies' Aid Association of your town, for the sufferers by the late fire in this city. The two bundles of clothing came also to hand, this morning; and in a very short time were assorted and distributed by the ladies of the Committee, who have charge of this part of our good work.

Please assure the ladies of Camden, that their offering has been most acceptable, and served to relieve the wants of many who were destitute of clothing, and in many cases of little children, who had been snatched from their beds, with only their night garments to cover them from the cold.

Thanking you for your kind sympathy, I am, with much respect,

Your obedient servant,
J. K. SASS, Treas.

[FOR THE CONFEDERATE.]

Military Meeting at Town Hall.

CAMDEN, S. C., Dec. 26, 1861.

The Companies of Messrs. BROWN and DEPASS having united, a meeting was held at Town Hall on the 26th ult., for the election of officers. On motion of D. M. RODGERS, W. L. DEPASS was called to the Chair, and ISAAC HOLLAND appointed to act as Secretary.

The Chairman then announced the meeting as prepared for the transaction of business.

The motion was then adopted to proceed forthwith to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of W. L. DEPASS for Captain, D. M. RODGERS for 1st Lieutenant, C. SHIVER for 2d Lieutenant and S. C. CLYBERN for 3d Lieutenant.

It was then moved by Mr. D. M. RODGERS that we go in Camp, near Columbia, on Wednesday next—which was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman of the meeting then announced that the Roll of the Company showed, in number, seventy-two, and was therefore in advance of the number required by law as a quota.

On motion it was then moved to adjourn, to meet at Town Hall on Saturday next, at 10 o'clock, a. m. ISAAC HOLLAND, Sect'y.

KERSHAW LODGE, No. 29, A. F. M.

A STATED COMMUNICATION OF KERSHAW LODGE No. 29, A. F. M., will be held at their Lodge Room. THIS EVENING, at 7 o'clock.

Brethren will take due notice, and govern themselves accordingly. By order W. M.

December 27 1 JAMES JONES, Sect'y.

Extra Family Flour,

FOR SALE BY GAYLE & YOUNG.
December 27 2

BY LAST NIGHT'S MAIL.

Important from the North.

THE MASON-SLIDELL AFFAIR—LORD LYONS DELATORY—LINCOLN WEEK IN THE KNEES—YANKEE NEWS FROM THE POTOMAC AND MISSOURI—HATTERAS PRISONERS RELEASED, ETC., ETC.

NORFOLK, December 24.—The New York Herald of the 21st has been received here. Lord Lyons is said to have had two interviews of a very cordial character with President Lincoln.—No formal written communication passed, nor has Lord Lyons, as yet, made any demand for the release of Mason and Slidell. Lord Lyons expects further instructions to arrive by the steam-ship America, and he has intimated that he will withhold his demand until he receives the America's mails.

The New York Herald says that in the event of a peremptory demand for the release of Mason and Slidell being made by England, Lincoln will probably yield them, in view of the present exigencies of the country in its struggle with the rebellion, provided that England shall maintain her neutrality. The Herald says that "it is better to yield to the exigencies of the crisis and promptly to relieve England of her convenient pretext for a quarrel, by restoring Mason and Slidell to British protection." The Herald adds: We will settle with England hereafter.

The N. Y. Times says that Minister Adams, in his despatches to the State Department at Washington, does not mention that he knows the purport of the instructions of the English Government to their Minister. There is nothing in Adam's despatches indicating that England makes any exorbitant demand upon the U. S. Private letters, received from British Statesmen, assert that Great Britain will not demand the release of Mason and Slidell, but will merely require an apology.

The Rump Congress has made an appropriation for the immediate construction of 20 iron-clad gunboats.

The Herald contains the Northern accounts of the Dranesville affair. Gen. McCall, in his official report, dated Dranesville, December 20, says: "Gen. Ord's Brigade, with the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Rifles and the Boston batteries of Artillery, had a brisk fight today with the enemy, consisting of four regiments and a battery of artillery. The enemy were defeated and fled. We have found forty of their dead and ten of their wounded. Our loss was two killed and eight wounded.

The Herald publishes despatches from Gen. Halleck, in Missouri, dated December 19, announcing the capture of 150 rebels, with their tents, horses, baggage, &c., at Cat Camp. News received at Shawnee Mound from Sedalia, Mo., dated Dec. 20, says that 200 wagons, 1,000 horses and nearly 2,000 troops have been captured by Gen. Pope.

Late advices from the S. C. coast say that Gen. Steven's brigade, consisting of 4,000 men, now occupy Beaufort, Lady Island, St. Helena and Bay Point. The number of men at Port Royal and vicinity is 20,000. five hundred thousand pounds of cotton had been secured at last accounts.

Two hundred and eighty-four released prisoners of war who were taken at Fort Hatteras, arrived here last night, from Fortress Monroe.—Supplies for the Southern fleet left Hampton Roads to-day.

From Richmond.

THE DRANESVILLE FIGHT.

RICHMOND, December 23.—A despatch from Centreville, this morning, says: We have taken Dranesville, the point occupied by the enemy on Friday. The Yankees ran like race horses. Our loss on Friday was, 50 killed, 130 wounded and 40 missing. The enemy's loss was fully as much.

The Lynchburg Republican of this morning has private letter, stating that Gen. Jackson, with a brigade, left Winchester on the 16th, and, on reaching the Potomac destroyed dam No. 5, which feeds the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. By the destruction of this splendid stone dam, water communication is cut off between Washington and the coal region of Maryland, in the neighborhood of Cumberland. Washington will thus be reduced to great straits for fuel.

Notice.

WE HAVING DISCONTINUED THE CREDIT SYSTEM entirely, all orders must be accompanied with the cash, or its equivalent. Special agreements or those we are indebted to, accepted.
December 27 KOOPMANN & SOMMERS.

To Hire.

ONE No. 1 BRICKLAYER WILL BE HIRED from 1st of January next. Apply at this office, or at the Beach Bank
December 27 3

Negros to Hire

FIVE OR SIX YOUNG NEGROS TO HIRE FOR the year 1862. For particulars apply to
December 27 2 J. M. GAYLE.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO THE UNDER-SIGNED by note or account are requested to come forward and settle the same, at once. One of the firm having volunteered in the defence of his country, requires the business to be settled up by the first of January, 1862. Those who do not avail themselves of this opportunity will have to settle with an Attorney—as the business has to be settled by cash or note.
GAYLE & YOUNG.
December 27 8

School Notice.

THE EXERCISES OF MR. McCANDLESS' SCHOOL will be resumed on WEDNESDAY, January 1, 1862. Pupils will be charged from time of entrance to the close of the session, which will be 9 months. Terms of tuition made known on application to the undersigned.
December 20 L. McCANDLESS.

A PROCLAMATION.



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, D. F. JAMISON, President of Convention of the People of South Carolina, assembled pursuant to an Act of the General Assembly, passed on the thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty, and which adjourned on the tenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the said Convention, do hereby convoke the same, and by these presents do herewith summon the members of the said Convention to re-assemble at Columbia, in the State aforesaid, at 12 o'clock m., on the twenty-sixth day of December inst.

Given under my hand at Burwood, Barrwell District, this fourteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one. D. F. JAMISON, President of the Convention.

Attest: B. F. ARTHUR, Clerk.

All the papers in the State copy once.
December 26 1

PROCLAMATION.



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
COLUMBIA, November 26, 1861.

WHEREAS, IN PURSUANCE OF AN Act of the Confederate Congress, entitled "An Act to put in operation the Government under the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States of America," passed the 21st day of May, A. D., 1861, an election has been held for members to represent this State in the Congress of the Confederate States; and in pursuance of an Act of the Assembly passed the 16th day of December, A. D., 1852 the votes have been counted for that purpose, and it appears that the Hon. John McQueen has been duly elected to represent the 1st Congressional District, composed of Lancaster, Chesterfield, Marlborough, Darlington, Marion, Williamsburg, Horry, and Georgetown; the Hon. W. Porcher Miles, for the 2d Congressional District, composed of Charleston, exclusive of the Parish of St. John's Colleton; the Hon. L. M. Ayer, for the 3d Congressional District, composed of Beaufort, Barnwell, Orangeburg, Colleton and St. John's Colleton; the Hon. M. L. Bonham, for the 4th Congressional Dist., composed of Lexington, Edgefield, Newberry, Laurens and Abbeville; the Hon. James Farrow, for the 5th Congressional District, composed of Anderson, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg and Union; and the Hon. W. W. Boyce, for the 6th Congressional District, composed of York, Chester, Fairfield, Richland, Kershaw, Clarendon and Sumter. Now, therefore I, F. W. Pickens, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State aforesaid, do issue this my Proclamation, notifying and declaring, according to the provisions of the said Acts, that John McQueen, W. Porcher Miles, L. M. Ayer, M. L. Bonham, James Farrow, and W. W. Boyce, had a majority of the votes cast in their respective Congressional Districts, and are therefore duly elected Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America.

Given under my hand and the seal of the State, the 7th day of December, A. D., 1861, and in the 86th year of the sovereignty and independence of the State of South Carolina.
F. W. PICKENS.

Wm. R. Hunt, D. S. of State.
December 27.