

FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

DALTON, Ga., February 29.—All quiet this morning. A light rain fell last night.

The enemy has retired behind the Chickamauga. A portion of his force went back to Chattanooga; the remainder has gone into camp at Tyler Station and Red House Ford, on the Chickamauga. Our cavalry is beyond Ringgold. Wolford's (Yankee) cavalry went towards Cleveland.

The Federal General, Porter, is reported to have been killed by a shell in a skirmish at Mill Creek Gap.

WIST POINT, Miss., February 25.—There was heavy fighting on Tuesday the 22d in the vicinity of Okaloosa. General Forrest, with a force not exceeding two thousand men, attacked the enemy, estimated at six thousand. After severe fighting all day, night closed on the enemy routed and flying. They contested every step, falling back and forming, but were successively driven from every position. General Forrest pursued them to a short distance from Pontotoc, where, late in the evening, the enemy formed three separate lines, and made their last desperate stand. They made three more charges on horse-back, but each recoiled, driven back with great slaughter. The Yankees left their dead upon the field. Their loss is estimated at a hundred killed, including two Colonels; their wounded are much more numerous, many of whom fell into our hands.

Our loss will not exceed 100 killed and wounded. Col. Jeff. Forrest, commanding a brigade in Chalmers' division, was killed, and Lieut. Col. Barksdale, commanding 5th Mississippi, mortally wounded. Col. Barbeau, of Bell's brigade, was severely wounded in the breast, and Col. McCullough, commanding a brigade of Chalmers' division, in the hand.

About 150 prisoners have arrived here, including a Colonel and a Lieutenant Colonel. More are coming in. A courier, just from Okaloosa, reports that Gen. Gibson has captured a large number of prisoners in his pursuit. Five pieces of artillery and a large quantity of small arms, sabres, saddles, etc., are among the spoils. Gen. Forrest's command have returned.

ENTERSBURG, February 24.—The enemy at Meridian left on the 20th for Raymond, and on the same day those at Marion left for Canton. Our cavalry is in pursuit.

THE BARRAGE AT MOBILE.

An official despatch from Mobile, dated February 24, says: "Six mortar boats shelled Fort Powell yesterday. Three hundred and four shells were thrown, of which only eighteen struck. The work not injured."

FROM TRENTON.

BRISTOL TOWN, Feb. 24.—A letter to the Gazette, from Powell's Mills, near Cumberland Gap, dated 20th inst., says several Yankee regiments lately passed through the Gap, on sixty days' furlough, declaring they would never return. Grant refused any more furloughs. There is no more recruiting in the Yankee army. There were only five regiments at the Gap, closely besieged, and suffering for supplies. Evacuation is expected.

GREENVILLE, TENN., Feb. 17.—Gen. W. F. Jones captured, at Wynn's Mills, on the 20th inst. 250 Yankees and 13 negroes. Our loss was three killed and three wounded. The enemy lost five killed and many wounded. Among the latter was Lieut. Col. R. D. Davis, 11th Tennessee (Federal), who was intoxicated of the camp.

FROM FLORIDA.

The following official despatch from Florida has been received:

SARASOTA via TALLAHASSEE, Feb. 26, 1864.

Gen. Thomas Jordan, Chief of Staff. My advance forces occupied Oklawaha. My main force will reach there this afternoon. The enemy have retreated to Jacksonville.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Feb. 27.—Funding progresses freely in this city. It is certain that some millions of dollars will be expended for want of time to count the notes at the Treasury and various depositories before the first of April. The issue of hundred dollar notes from the Treasury has been suspended. The issue of other denominations continues as heretofore, except that small notes will not be issued so freely. The new currency will embrace all denominations now in circulation. The decline in tobacco reported yesterday is chiefly in medium and low grades. Prices of fine tobacco are not materially lower.

RICHMOND, Feb. 29.—Information received to day indicates that Meade's army is in motion. It is believed that the demonstration on Madison C. H. is merely a feint to divert attention from movements on our right.

To day, about an hour after the mail train for Gordonsville, having General Lee on board had passed Frederick's Hall, a force of the ene my appeared at the latter place.

The latest advices from above indicate that the Yankee cavalry are moving on the Central Railroad at Charlottesville and Frederick Hall.

ORANGE C. H., February 28.—Mosby ambushed a scouting party of the enemy's cavalry, consisting of 113 men under Captain Reid, near Bread Linn on Thursday. About 20 of the enemy, including Captain Reid, their commander, were killed. To day 71 prisoners have been brought in. Mosby lost one man killed and four wounded. The fight lasted about 15 minutes. We also captured the arms of an equal number and some 50 horses.—Ninety of the enemy's horses were killed.—Mosby's horse was shot under him.

ORANGE C. H., February 29.—The enemy's infantry now occupy Madison C. H., sixteen miles above here. Their cavalry were at Stanardsville to day, moving in the direction of Charlottesville. Some cannonading has been going on to day in the direction of Madison C. H. It is not believed to be more than a reconnoissance.

THE LATEST FROM EUROPE.

RICHMOND, February 29.—The Herald, at New York, brings advices from Europe to the 10th February.

The Danes have retreated from Schleswig. Several severe engagements had occurred with heavy loss on both sides.

The Court of Exchequer has dismissed the appeal in the *Alzabra* case for want of jurisdiction. Earl Russell stated in the House of Lords that Adams, the Yankee Minister, had withheld Seward's offensive dispatch holding England responsible for the depredation of the *Alabama*. Cotton was slightly lower. Breadstuffs had advanced.

On Friday, the 25th inst., one of our naval picket boats, under command of Boatswain J. M. Smith, captured a Yankee picket boat off Fort Sumter, containing one commissioned officer and five men. A large barge which was in company with the captured boat managed to escape. The officer taken prisoner is midshipman Wm. H. Kitchings, Acting Master's Mate of the United States blockading steamer *Nipac*. The rest of the prisoners are landsmen. By the prisoners we learn that the blockader sunk by our torpedo boat on the night of the 16th inst. was the United States steam sloop of war *Honolulu*, carrying twelve guns and a crew of three hundred men. They state that the torpedo boat, *Seagr* shape, was first seen approaching by the watch on board the *Honolulu*. The alarm was given and immediately all hands beat to quarters. A rapid musketry fire was opened upon the boat but without effect. Being unable to depress their guns the order was given to slip the cable. In doing this the *Honolulu* backed some distance and came in collision with the *Seagr* boat. The torpedo exploded almost immediately, carrying away the whole stern of the vessel.

The steamer sunk in three minutes time, the officers and crew barely escaping to the rigging. Everything (save on board, guns, stores, ammunition &c., together with the small boats, went down with her. The explosion made no noise and the affair was not known among the fleet until daybreak, when the crew were discovered and released from their uneasy positions. They had remained there all night. Two officers and three men are reported missing and supposed to be drowned.

The loss of the *Honolulu* caused great consternation in the fleet. All the wooden vessels are ordered to keep up steam and go out to sea every night, not being allowed to anchor inside. The picket boats have been doubled, and the force in each boat increased.

This glorious success of our little torpedo boat under the command of Lieut. Dixon, of Mobile, has raised the hopes of our people, and the most sanguine expectations are now entertained of our being able to raise the siege in a way little dreamed of by the enemy.—*Courier*.

A NEW FASHION AND ITS PERILS.—Dr. Buckland, an English surgeon, cautions the ladies of London against the dangerous character of a new fashion in female attire. The ingenious milliners having devised an odd style of ornaments for ladies' hats, consisting of plumes which front upon glass, it is intimated that the weight of London women is thereby imperilled. Dr. Buckland says: "These plumes are highly ornamental and graceful to look at; but I would beg the gentleman, to warn the ladies of their families against wearing them, for these threads of glass are as thin as cobwebs, and though apparently solid as a mass, break and snap off, falling into almost insupportable powder with the greatest ease; the spiders are very likely to find their way into the eyes of the fair wearers; and I need not tell them what pain and discomfort they would necessarily cause."

G. N. BRAGG.—The Whig learns that the President has appointed Gen. Braxton Bragg Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the Confederacy. Such at least is the rumor in Richmond. His position will probably be that of Military Adviser with the President, somewhat similar to that of Gen. Halleck at Washington, and will of course withdraw him from the field.

Major J. V. Carr is announced as Chief A. C. S. for General Jones M. Withers, whose headquarters are at Montgomery, Ala.

THE CAMDEN JOURNAL

FRIDAY MORNING, MAR. 4, 1864.

See an important notice of the So. C. R. R., Com. pany, in another column.

Attention is called to the notice of the State Tax- collector, in another column.

The President of the Benevolent Society, gratefully acknowledges the following donations for the past month: From Mrs. Appenlein one bushel of rice; from Mr. Gayle \$5.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.—Dr. JOHN MILLING, an old and much esteemed citizen of this District, died at his residence, on the 28th ult., after a short illness.—He had attained a good old age, being, we understand, in his seventy-fourth year. Faithful in the performance of all the duties of life, his decease will be lamented not only by his family, but by the community, of which he was a useful and honored member, and the church with which he was long connected, and of which he was a zealous and efficient supporter.

It will be seen, by his prospectus, which will be found in another column, that Mr. J. T. HERSHMAN, will shortly commence, perhaps we ought to say renew the publication of a weekly paper to be called THE CAMDEN CONFIDANTE Newspaper, publishing never a very remunerative business, is now attended with so many difficulties, that any one who would undertake it, who have more cash than they can otherwise "find," can venture to indulge in the luxury of inaugurating a new enterprise. But we wish our new enterprise success, and a fair share of the public favor.

THE TABLEUX.

The correspondent, on whose pen we relied for an account of the representation, given last week, at the Town Hall, for the benefit of the soldiers, having dis- appointed us we are compelled to throw ourselves upon the mercy of our fair readers. We know that we ought to have furnished, for their benefit, a full and accurate description of the toilettes, with notes critical, historical, and explanatory up to the scenes themselves and it must be confessed that, in this matter, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and that we deserve the severest censure. But we hope that the frankness, with which we acknowledge our shortcomings will be considered in mitigation of the penalty we have incurred, and we promise to be "a better boy" next time.

The Ode, sung at the opening of the performances, and which was written for the occasion by a gifted townswoman, will be found in our first page.

The Currency Act still continues to absorb the public interest, almost to the exclusion of the Tax and Consumption Acts, which attract comparatively little, or no attention, and, as it seems to be imperfectly understood, we have thought that a brief exposition of its provisions as we understand them, might, in the absence of a more authoritative interpretation, prove acceptable to our readers. A combined effort has already been inaugurated by the statisticians and speculators, to prejudice the public mind against the act, and to create a panic whereby they themselves may profit, and we hold it to be the duty of every citizen under these circumstances, to do what in him lies to secure to the law a fair trial in its merits. But we must premise, that, in what we shall say, as in what we have said in approbation of the law, we do not desire to be understood as approving the course of the Government in breaking faith with its creditors. We are not the object of revulsion in any form, and we firmly believe that the ruinous depreciation of the public credit is due, as much to the bad faith of the Government, as to the general incompetency exhibited in the management of its finances. A discussion now of the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of the law, or even of its expediency or inexpediency as a financial measure, would however, be not only unprofitable, but a mere waste of time, and, consequently, productive only of harm. Constitutional or unconstitutional, expedient or inexpedient, it is the law of the land and, as such, must be obeyed. The only practical question to be considered, therefore, is whether we shall give the law a cheerful and hearty support, and so cooperate with Congress in applying the remedy they have devised for its evil, which they and we suffer in common, or whether we will do what we can to thwart the attempt. Much depends upon the manner in which the people of the Confederate States answer that question. Defective, and objectionable as the law is, in many respects, we yet believe that if the people will cheerfully accept, and cordially support it, it will accomplish much good. And we are also persuaded, that if they allow themselves to be frightened or cajoled by the bears of the Stock Exchange and their confederates, into a contrary course that the result will be disastrous in the extreme. If the war lasts much longer, and we are not of those who make pate a speedy close, the maintenance, or rather the restoration of the public credit, is a matter of vital importance, and it may be, that, in the manner in which we meet this law, we trust the crisis of our destiny.

The law is rather loosely and unevenly drawn, and its provisions are somewhat complicated, but we take the meaning to be this. The hundred dollar notes are to be immediately driven out of circulation by a discrimination against them. They are receivable at par, until the 1st of April next, (we are speaking of the law only as it affects us on this side of the Mississippi,) in payment of taxes, and in purchasing the four per cent. Stock. But they can not be used in purchasing new notes, and they are subjected to a tax, of thirty three and one third per cent., on the 1st of April, and a further tax, of ten per cent., on the first of each succeeding

month, until their value is entirely destroyed. All other notes, are likewise receivable, at par, for taxes and the purchase of bonds, until April 1st, after which they can be exchanged, at the rate of three for two, for the new notes, until the 1st of January 1864, when they will cease to have any value whatever. The five's, of which there are about eighty millions in circulation, can not be used for the purchase of bonds, after until the 1st of April, but they are receivable, at par, in payment of taxes, until July 1st. They may be exchanged for new notes, on the same terms as notes of other denominations, from the 1st of July to the 1st of January, when, like the others, they too will cease to have any value. The two and one dollar notes are not affected by the Act, but will continue to be received, at par, for all purposes.

The four per cent. stock, provided for in the first section of the Act, we take to be registered certificate stock, transferable only by special endorsement, and consequently not available as currency.

The scheme of the law is to get rid of the whole of the existing currency, by the compulsory funding of a portion of it, and the exchange of the balance for new notes, limited in amount. Its success depends entirely upon the amount funded, and, it is clear that, unless the bulk of the present currency is funded, no material benefit, need be hoped for. What then is the plain duty of the people? Clearly to fund every dollar of currency they own. The holders of hundred dollar notes will find, of course, for it is their only chance for realizing par. But there seems to be an impression, abroad that it is better to retain the fifties, twenties, and tens to purchase new notes with. We think this is a mistake. There are enough five dollar notes in the country to meet the requirements of legitimate trade, and if every note above that denomination could be funded by the 1st of April, it would be all the better. Some inconvenience might be experienced in particular localities, but it would be only temporary, and would be more than compensated by the reduction of prices. There is nothing to be made legitimately, by the purchase of new notes. The four per cent. bonds will be worth as much as the new notes, and for the simple reason that they have the same security for their payment, that the notes have for their ultimate redemption, with these additional advantages, that they bear interest, and are not taxable. Which is the more valuable paper, a hundred dollar note bearing no interest, and taxable; or a hundred dollar bond bearing interest and not taxable? Common sense at once answers, "the bond." And yet the bears would have the people, believe that the bond is not only less valuable than the note, but that it is worth only two thirds as much. But we feel pretty sure that the bears will take good care to fund their own notes, and will turn up eventually as buyers. And whatever money they reserve for the purchase of new notes, is so much capital set aside for speculation on the necessities of the people. Our advice, then, to all who are willing to take it, is this. Fund every dollar you do not require for use in your daily transactions. And don't be misled into attaching undue value to five dollar bills: they are worth no more than any other bills; they will not buy new bills at par, and consequently they will not be worth, after the 1st of April, more than three dollars and thirty three cents, just as a ten dollar bill of the present issue will be worth twice that sum.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

CAMP NEAR NEWMARKET EAST TENN.

Mrs. SALLIE CHEWET: President Ladies Aid Association, Kershaw District. Allow me to thank the Association, through you for all of the company, for 24 pair of socks, 2 pair of drawers and 1 pair of garters. They come in good time and are gratefully appreciated.

J. J. HAKEFORD,

Lieut. Comd'g. Co. F, 2d Regt. F. C. V.

CAMP NEAR NEWMARKET EAST TENN.

MR. EDITOR: Please let me return thanks through your columns to the Ladies of the Soldiers Aid Association, of Kershaw District, S. C., in behalf of my command, for the following articles to wit: 35 pair of socks and two pair of drawers.

J. E. TRUSDELL,

Capt. Co. G, 2d Regt. S. C. V.

CAMP KLEZY.

BOTTOMS BRIDGE VA., Feb. 8th 1864.

MR. EDITOR: At a recent meeting of the Kirkwood Rangers, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

We, the Officers and members of the Kirkwood Rangers, Co. E. Holcombe Legion Cavalry, S. C. V., appreciating fully, the great principles involved in the present war, and witnessing, to a great extent, of the cruelty and ferocity, practised upon those of our countrymen, whom they have overrun, and the devastation and misery they have inflicted upon our fair country, do unanimously.

Resolved, That we will, to a man, re-enlist for the war, and never lay down our arms until the last Vandal is driven from the land, and we enjoy the peace and liberty, which by nature is ours.

Corpl. W. F. JONES, Chairman.

R. K. CHARLES, Secretary.

The palace of the Tycoon of Japan, at Yeddo, was burned on Christmas day. On New Year's day, the city of Yeddo was again ravaged by fire. About five hundred buildings of the better class were burned. News had reached Kanagawa, that on the 31st October all of Hakodadi had been burned by incendiary fires.

Gov. Brown has issued a proclamation convening the Legislature of Georgia in special session on the 10th of March.