

NEWS SUMMARY.

FROM THE WEST.

DALTON, GA., March 22.—The enemy have retired from our front, and their recent movements are supposed to have been nothing more than a reconnaissance. A heavy snow fell last night, and to-day it lies four inches deep. From present indications there will, in all probability, be an early engagement between the forces under General Longstreet and those under Schofield. They are reported moving in three parallel columns. Their force of cavalry and artillery is small. They are running the cars to Morristown.

FUNDING THE CURRENCY.

COLUMBIA, March 23.—The amount funded in Columbia up to and including the 10th inst., by A. Laughlin, Esq., Depositary, is as follows:

First week	\$1,450,900
Second week	1,172,800
Third week	1,407,600
Total	\$4,031,300.

GEORGIA LEGISLATURE.

MILLEDGEVILLE, March 19.—Both Houses of the Legislature adopted Stevens' resolutions on terms by which peace should be sought, and on the suspension of the *habeas corpus*. They also adopted a resolution turning over to the Confederate Government all persons between 17 and 18 and 45 and 50. They also adopted unanimously resolutions expressive of their confidence in the President and thanks to the Georgia troops for re-enlisting. The Legislature then adjourned sine die.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

RICHMOND, March 21.—The N. Y. Herald of the 18th contains the proceedings and speeches at a monster mass meeting held at the Cooper Institute on the previous evening.—One of the resolutions adopted earnestly recommends "a concerted effort to place at the head of the Government a man on whose wisdom, integrity and firmness the country may rely for the speedy suppression of the rebellion and the cessation of bloodshed, while maintaining the union of independent States." Another resolution declares in favor of McClellan for President. The resolutions were all adopted with acclamation.

Government securities have declined three per cent. in New York.

A freight train was captured and burned by guerrillas near Nashville on the 18th.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Times says that the French Government has been officially notified that it will be held responsible for any damage the *Rappahannock* may do to Yankee commerce.

A formidable expedition up Red River is freely spoken of in the Yankee papers.

DALTON, GA., March 23.—Itac Murphy has been elected (bogus) Yankee Governor of Arkansas. The State has been declared "free" by a larger vote than is required by Lincoln for that purpose.

Jacksonport, Ark., has been captured by the rebels.

Plots have been discovered in the border counties of Kentucky to hand over the State to the Confederates. Numerous prominent officers are said to be implicated.

The Chicago Times of the 18th reports great excitement in Kentucky. The officers of the State have held a meeting to take into consideration the condition of affairs between the State and the Federal Government. Gov. Bramlette urges resistance to Lincoln's negro enlistment in the State, and has despatched Lincoln to that effect.

INDIANAPOLIS.—We still talk of this, says the Sumner Watchman, as something yet to be won. Have we not already measurably grasped the prize? Some few years ago, almost everything we wore, and much which we consumed, was manufactured and important from the North. Now, homespun fabrics clothe our people, and almost everything we require for use is made at home. Let the blockade continue, and we ask no help from the outside barbarians. Our country is rich in resources, and most beyond almost every other land. All we have ever required as a people to make us independent, has been the stern and inexorable pressure of necessity—and that pressure is now upon us. We feel its growing influence and recognize its beneficent results every day. And ere long, over all the vast extent of this sunny land, the songs of the husbandman will commingle on every hand with the music of the wheel, the loom and the anvil. We never expected to become a manufacturing people; but the same law which made Robinson Crusoe, on the lonely isle, combine all trades in himself, will work wonders with us. It is doing this every day.

GOLD FALLING.—The Columbia (Ga.) Times of Monday, says: "Gold on Friday was offered here at 15, and in Mobile, on the same day, it sold for but 16. If the recent currency act has not something to do with this, we would like to know what has. It matters little, however, what is the price—it is sufficient to know that it is going down with us and going up with our enemies." In Montgomery, Ala., gold is quoted at \$17.

THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAR. 25, 1864.

TO ADVERTISERS.—Our advertising friends will oblige us by handing in their advertisements on or before Wednesday. Our paper is worked off on Thursday afternoon, and, as we are short handed, it is impossible for us to get up the advertisements, if numerous, in addition to the other matter necessarily postponed until that day. Hereafter no advertisements will be received on Thursday.

TO EXCHANGERS.—As the publication of the Camden Confederate will shortly be resumed, those papers which desire to continue to exchange with us will please direct to "THE JOURNAL."

We see, by an advertisement in the Charleston papers, that somebody wishes to purchase a "handsome gentleman's" watch-chain. We have always regarded Charleston as an orderly city, and are astonished that such things are permitted there. Where is the critic of the Courier?

It is very gratifying to us to be able to state, and we trust it will be equally gratifying to the old friends and supporters of the Journal to hear, that our subscription list has been nearly doubled since we resumed the publication of the paper, in January last.

There is no surer test, of the acceptability of a newspaper, to the community in which it is published, than the condition of its subscription list, and while we doubt not that there is a generous desire, on the part of the citizens of Camden and its vicinity, to encourage and sustain a journal which has long represented and faithfully labored to promote their interests, yet we feel justified in assuming that, so far, our course has met with the approbation of the public. And we advert to the fact for the double purpose of tendering our thanks to our friends, and of renewing the assurance that we shall diligently strive to make the Journal worthy of their support.

Late advices from Washington state positively that Meade is to be superseded, and that Gen. W. F. Smith will, at the instance of Grant, be appointed his successor. Grant himself has formally taken command of all the Yankee forces, his headquarters being, for the present, with the army of the Potomac. Sherman succeeds Grant in Mississippi, and McPherson succeeds Sherman in Tennessee. Halleck remains in Washington as Chief of Staff.

We regard this news as important. It is, in the first place, an official admission that all the recent movements of the enemy were failures. And next, it indicates that all the Napoleons of the Yankee army, from McClellan to Meade, have been played out, and that the venerable Abraham intends to reshuffle the cards and have a new deal, in the hope that Grant may turn up a trump. We have no fear that Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, Commander-in-Chief &c &c, will accomplish any thing very serious. He won his laurels by beating Pemberton, and since the publication of Gen. Joe Johnston's report, it looks very much as if Pemberton wanted to be beaten. At all events, that report makes it clear that Grant's success was due entirely to Pemberton's refusal to obey Gen. Johnston's orders, and that it was Pemberton, rather than Grant, who won for the latter the commission of Lieutenant General. So, as we said before, we are not afraid of Grant, and do not question Gen. Lee's ability to take care of him.

But we do not believe that the great movement of the next campaign will be made in Virginia. We incline to the opinion that the enemy will concentrate in East Tennessee against Leconte, and endeavor to cut his way through to some point in North Carolina where he can be joined by a column from the coast, and so isolate Virginia from the rest of the Confederacy. It is a desperate scheme, but the fortunes of Yankeeedom are desperate, and this movement, if successful, would promise great results. That it will prove a signal failure, if attempted, we have no doubt. And who knows but that Longstreet will turn out to be "the coming man," and Armageddon some mountain village of Tennessee?

THE CONFEDERATE WAR TAX.

We have learned, with no less surprise than pain, that there has been exhibited, in some quarters, an unwillingness, or at all events a reluctance, to comply with the requirements of the Tax Act, passed by the late Congress, but we trust that it proceeds from a misapprehension of the real condition of the country, and that, upon reflection, our people will continue to give the Government the same cordial cooperation and support as heretofore. Any other course would be both unwise, and unpatriotic. Money constitutes the sinews of war: the Government can not carry on the war without it, (even Mr. Manning has found that out,) and to interpose any difficulty, in the way of raising funds for the support of the army, is to cooperate, to that extent, with enemy. Have the recusants thought of the matter in that light? We suppose not, for we are unwilling to believe that there is in the State of South Carolina a solitary individual who would hesitate at any pecuniary sacrifice which was indispensable to the success of the cause. Besides, nothing is to be gained by an attempt to evade the law. The Tax Act is the law of the land, and it will be enforced, and those who fail or refuse to comply with its requirements, will gain, by such failure or refusal, nothing but the unenviable privilege of paying an extra tax.

It is a mistake, a fatal mistake to suppose that any thing is to be saved, even in a pecuniary point of view, by withholding government dues. The question, practically stated, is this: "Is it better to give up a part of one's property to secure efficient protection for the remainder, or to withhold all contribution for the public

defence, and allow the whole to fall into the hands of the Yankees?" To such a question there can be but one answer, and we trust, that, here in Karshaw at least, the people will manifest by their prompt and cheerful compliance with all lawful demands, whether of Congress or the Executive, their determination to do their duty at home as uncompromisingly and as efficient as their sons, and brothers and friends are doing it in the field.

And it may be that their reward will be speedy. Our prospects were never brighter than they are now. To quote the language of President DAVIS:

"Our enemies have suffered repeated defeats, and a nefarious scheme to burn and plunder our Capital, and to destroy our civil Government by putting to death the chosen servants of the people, has been baffled and set at naught. Our armies have been strengthened; our finances promise rapid progress to a satisfactory condition; and our whole country is animated with a hopeful spirit and a fixed determination to achieve independence."

There is much in all this to cheer and encourage us, and we hope no one will put a damper on it by compelling the historian to add, "But the people wouldn't pay the tax."

Those who like to speculate, upon the chances of recognition, and who connect it with the formal proclamation of the new empire in Mexico, will read the following paragraph with interest:

MAXIMILIAN'S DEPARTURE FOR MEXICO.—A despatch to the London papers, dated Paris, February 21, says:

The Archduke Maximilian will visit the Courts of Brussels, Paris and Windsor, while waiting for the completion of votes collected by the *Yankees* of the principal Mexican cities. The Archduke will be present at the baptism of the son of the Prince of Wales, and, on quitting England, will proceed to Vienna and officially receive the Mexican deputation. When the deputation receives the assent of the Emperor of Austria it will proclaim the accession of Maximilian. The Archduke will leave Trieste on board the Austrian frigate Elizabeth, and will touch at Civita Vecchia to receive the blessing of the Pope.

It is evident that Maximilian means to have a clear understanding, all round, before he starts, and, as the immediate establishment of diplomatic relations, between the Confederate States and Mexico, is almost a necessity for the latter power, it is more than probable her new Emperor will be authorized by his European backers to inaugurate the measure. And, if he does, the aforesaid backers must follow suit.

For our own part, we care very little about the formal recognition of the Confederacy by the great powers of Europe. It would have helped us materially two years ago, and might, we believe, have been secured by proper management, but now it is of comparatively little consequence. We have been substantially recognized already, by all the material interests of Europe, and as we owe them no thanks, so we shall be fettered by no obligations.

THE NEW PRISON DEPOT FOR YANKEES.

From all accounts it would seem that Camp Samter, on the Southwestern Railroad, in Georgia, is destined in point of magnitude to become the Camp Chase of the Confederacy. A correspondent of the Macon Telegraph says of it:

In returning from Americus on yesterday, I stopped for a short time to examine the camp, and was kindly shown around by the officers. The enclosure is a parallelogram of eighteen acres, through the centre of which runs a clear, beautiful stream, with gently sloping hills on either side. The stockade is composed of hewn pine logs, 21 feet long, with 5 feet in the ground. They are very closely set together, as well as strongly set in the trenches. A large bakery has been erected just outside the stockade. It is made of brick and capable of making, at one time, near two thousand pounds of bread.

The stockade is not completed. Capt. Winder, under whose efficient management the work was begun and thus far finished, tells me it would have been completed two weeks since, but for the impossibility of procuring negro labor. A sentinel walk is to be placed around near the top of the stockade. The encampment for officers and men is on the hill near the south end of the enclosure.

Capt. Winder, late of Richmond, planned and carried into execution the work, and deserves the thanks of the country for the skill and energy displayed. The grounds have been enlarged from the original design, and will accommodate twelve thousand prisoners. There are to be two regiments stationed there to guard them. Col. A. W. Parson is at present in command of our troops. There are four hundred prisoners at the camp. In company with some of the officers, we walked among them, and conversed with some. As a general thing, they looked haggard, and their physical habiliments were decidedly of the "earth earthly."

AN INCIDENT.—A Yankee taken prisoner at Lake City, says a correspondent of the Enquirer, stated that he saw a negro boy, about eighteen years of age, refuse to fire, replying, "I can't shoot that; my young master is that; and I played with him all my life, and he has saved me from getting a many whipping I would have got, and I can't shoot that, for I loves my young master still." He was then told if he did not fire when the word to fire was given again, that he would be shot himself; he still refused to fire on his young master, when a Yankee officer drew a pistol and shot him down.

We have already placed before the public the most material portion of the hitherto unpublished history of the fall of Vicksburg in General Johnston's official report. In connection with this document are some other extraordinary developments which are necessary to history, and which show how the popular credulity has been abused with reference to the Vicksburg disaster.

So far from Vicksburg having been surrendered on account of a scarcity of supplies, it now appears, officially, that Pemberton had, at the time of the surrender, about 40,000 pounds of pork and bacon, which had been reserved for the subsistence of his troops in the event of attempting to cut his way out of the city. Also, 61,241 pounds of rice, 5,000 bushels of peas, 112,234 pounds of sugar, 3,240 pounds of soap, 527 pounds of tallow candles, 27 pounds of star candles, and 428,000 pounds of salt.

If curiosity insists upon knowing the real cause of the surrender of Vicksburg, it must satisfy itself as well as it can with the words of Pemberton's own official report. He says: "Knowing the anxious desire of the Government to relieve Vicksburg, I felt assured that if within the compass of its power, the siege would be raised; but when forty seven days and nights had passed, with the knowledge I then possessed that no adequate relief was to be expected, I felt that I ought not longer to place in jeopardy the brave men whose lives had been entrusted to my care."

So there appears to have been nothing but a general occasion for the surrender of Vicksburg; that is, as Pemberton expressed it in his note to Grant, "a desire to save the further effusion of blood."

But the most astounding disclosure, of the documents referred to, is Pemberton's explanation of his selection of the Fourth of July for the day of surrender. The explanation is this: that he was willing to gratify the vanity of the enemy by this dramatic humiliation of the Confederacy, in order to obtain better terms for himself and garrison. A confession so extraordinary needs no comment. Here it is, in Pemberton's own words:

"If it should be asked why the fourth of July was selected as the day for the surrender, the answer is obvious. I believed that, upon that day, I should obtain better terms. Well aware of the vanity of our foes, I knew they would attach vast importance to the entrance, on the fourth of July, into the stronghold of the great river, and that, to gratify their national vanity, they would yield then what could not be extorted from them at any other time."

The fall of Vicksburg has heretofore been a story written in the characters of misfortune. But we did not know until now that it was an incident of such humiliation on the part of the Confederacy.—*Richmond Examiner.*

"WHOM TO LOVE IS DEATH."—There is said to be in Paris at this time a very lovely, very charming young lady who is destined by an extraordinary fate to go through the world without being married. She is a dark beauty, with magnificent eyes, a glowing cheek, lively expression, a graceful figure; in fact, all together, endowed with every attraction, even to that of having in her own right a fortune of 300,000, and being an only daughter, with a prospect of inheriting millions. This lady is now about twenty years old, and has been engaged to be married twelve times. Each time the seemingly fortunate lover has died within a few weeks of the time appointed for the nuptial ceremony. Yet no suspicion of dagger or bowl can be cast upon the fair one; a dark, mysterious fatality has carried them away. Several died of typhoid fever; one was killed in a duel; one was thrown from a horse; two were drowned; two were killed by railroad accidents, and one hung himself! The lady has survived all these shocks. Thirteen may be for her the fortunate, and not the fatal number. Who will try?

THE ALEXANDRA CASE.—The Alexandra case has been dismissed. The London Times devotes a large share of its columns to the discussion of the subject. As it stands now a dead lock has occurred by the dismissal of the appeal by the Court of Error, from the Court of Exchequer, which tried the case in the first instance, on the ground of the want of jurisdiction. But a loophole, it is said, has been discovered by crown lawyers, by which the case will be taken to the House of Lords, and when once before that august body it will, no doubt, be thoroughly ventilated, and we shall learn from the debates thereon the real sentiment of the British Government. It is said that the rule in cases of appeal to the House of Lords is, to subject the matter to the law Lords, while all the rest of the members acquiesce in their decision.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST.—The New York Herald says the signs indicate that Fremont will be a candidate for the Presidency beyond a doubt, if Lincoln should be renominated. In the latter event Chase will resign his pretensions and support Lincoln; but Fremont's convention is to meet on the 10th of May, while the struggle between Lincoln and Chase will be decided in the June Convention. The probability is that McClellan will be the Democratic candidate, with Lincoln and Fremont as competitors.