The Charleston Daily News.

VOLUME X.—NUMBER 1464. CHARLESTON, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1870. SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

THE VERY LATEST.

MIDNIGHT DISPATCHES.

IS PARIS SAFE?

THE SPIRIT AND THE PREPARATIONS WITHIN THE WALLS.

THE FALL OF THE CITY DECLARED IMPOSSIBLE.

A WAR OF EXTERMINATION THREATENED.

LATEST FROM BAZAINE AND McMAHON

WHAT THE PRUSSIANS SAY.

Latest French Reports.

PARIS, August 30.

Preparations have been made to promptly destroy the bridges and railways around Paris.

The diplomats will go to Tours, which city will be considered neutral.

The committee of defence of Metz are daily expected.

Palikao will announce this week that preparations for the siege are completed.

There is nothing from the front but rumors. Officers and others from the front insist that a great battle was fought on the 29th, Bazaine and McMahon gaining great advantages. Now the latter expected to meet the Crown Prince, who is receiving reinforcements, and a great battle may occur immediately. The condition of the French troops is excellent. McMahon has received reinforcements, and Bazaine has abundant provisions and munitions.

Paris is fully prepared to resist attack, and the capture of the city is considered impossible.

The Opinion Nationale demands that as the Prussians shot the country people, France should teach the Prussians that, if the practice continues, she will take no prisoners, and the war will become one of extermination.

Gold is again circulating here. Another ambulance train, with ladies, has gone to the front. Brittany will soon send an immense number of volunteers to the army. A legion of foreigners is organizing here. Thirty thousand persons have entered Paris from the neighboring country. The police have been organized into regiments.

Latest Prussian Reports.

LONDON, August 30.

Dispatches from the Prussian headquarters, at Sunday, noon, declare that Bazaine's communications are completely cut, and that the telegrams published from him in Paris are manufactured there.

A correspondent writes from the headquarters of the Crown Prince, at Ligny, the 24th: "This is a great day in the campaign of the third army. The King, Moltke and Bismarck arrived. The street was choked with Bavarian troops from morning till night. The word is, Forward to Paris! Everything moves carefully forward. The troops are in excellent condition."

Latest Tribune Accounts.

NEW YORK, August 30.

The Tribune's special from London says: No news at Verdun of a great battle reported fought Sunday. There are many Prussians around Mouzon, Dun and Stenay. Cannon and musketry were heard on Monday in that direction, and an engagement is believed to have taken place near Bouzaney.

Five hundred Prussians attacked fifty French at Chauvence. The fight lasted from four to seven. Ten killed and five wounded. The Prussians took twenty-eight prisoners and burned the station.

The Tribune correspondent writes from Mezeires Sunday: "I left Rethel yesterday morning, and was one day on the road. I found no troops beside the garrison here. The Prince Imperial arrived during the day with an escort of Cent Garde. The Prince left this morning for a secret destination, supposed to be Sedan; provided the Prussians have not, as reported, cut the railroad between Mezieres and Sedan. The Prince goes by road, but would not be sent forward if the enemy was in the neighborhood. It is certain that McMahon don't mean to fight for some days. The National Guard are here, undrilled, but ready to fight. The Mobiles have no uniforms, but look soldierly. The persecution of correspondents continues, they have all been expelled from Rethel."

GOLD AND STOCKS.

NEW YORK, August 30.

Gold opened weak, on account of the advance in bonds and the regular morning report of Prussian victories. It ranged from 16 to 16⅜, and closed dull at 16¼a16⅜. Governments opened quiet and dull, but during the afternoon closed very dull. Sixty-twos 12⅞. Tennessees 61⅝; new 60. Virginias 66; new 65. Louisianas 70; new 64; levee sixes 73⅜; eights 86. Alabama sixes 99; fives 70. Georgia sixes 82½; sevens 90. North Carolinas 52¾; new 32½. South Carolinas 80; new 70. Freights on flour by steam 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7½d; on wheat 6½d; by sail 4½d.

NEW ORLEANS, August 30.

Sterling 29a29½. Sight ⅜ premium. Gold 16.

A HOWL FROM HOLDEN.

RALEIGH, August 30.

Holden's Standard this morning pitches into the New York Times and Tribune, for accusing Holden of garbling Judge Tourgees's letter concerning outrages, as follows: "We have a few words to say to you, gentlemen of the Times and Tribune, and they are these—that you deem these Southern Governors officious, but they are not more so than you are yourselves; so much so that we are forced to admit that Pomeroy's Democrat contains more truth than either you or all your ilk papers combined." We are pleased to place you on the side of the rebellion, Ku-Kluxism and treason, willing subjects of the lost cause, and unwilling servants and slaves of the theories of Jefferson Davis."

The order of General Trochu expelling from Paris all who have not sufficient means of subsistence, and might therefore become a burden on the public stores, is one of the extremest measures of martial law. In a city of a million and a half of inhabitants the number of such people must be enormous, and nothing more appalling can be imagined than the suffering which must result from driving them out into the fields, without provisions or shelter. If this order is enforced to the letter, it will prove that Paris is to be defended to the last extremity.

A TALK WITH THE CROWN PRINCE.

French Newspaper Correspondents at their Work—The Prince on the Battle of Woerth.

Among the French who fell into the hands of the Prussians after the battle of Woerth were two correspondents of the Paris press, M. Henri Chabrillart, of the Figaro, and M. Cardon, of the Gaulois. Each of these gentlemen has published an account of his adventures. At Soulz they were brought into the presence of the Crown Prince, and the interview is thus described by M. Chabrillart:

I confess I am very much embarrassed. If I draw a flattering portrait of the Prince, it will be said that I am sold to the Prussians; if I draw an unfavorable picture of him, to gratify any malevolent passion, I shall be guilty of injustice and falsehood. I am a reporter, which means a kind of photographer. I shall therefore simply and truly state what I saw, and what was said. Those who may be dissatisfied with my account, must deal with the Prince themselves. It is not my fault that he is humane. Would to heaven that all Germans were like him; but, unfortunately, it is not so. Prince Frederic William, heir to the Crown of Prussia, is a man of tall stature, thin, with a calm and placid countenance; but in the curve of his aquiline nose and dilating nostrils there are evidences of energy, while the rapidity of his glance convinces you of his decision. A full, fair beard softens the somewhat stern expression of his features. He has great simplicity of manner, and affects rather a kind of *bourgeois* style of speaking, thinking, and general behavior. He was dressed in a black tunic with red collar and facings, without any embroidery or gold braid, upon the shoulder a small epaulet to indicate his rank, but no other distinguishing ornament. He wore a small black cap bordered with red, and the whole uniform was severely simple. He speaks French with great purity, without foreign accent, beyond a slight German intonation and occasional hesitation at certain words. "Do you speak German, sir?" said he to me.

"No, Prince, not sufficiently."

"I am sorry for it, as otherwise you would have heard in what manner our troops speak of yours, and in what esteem they hold them."

"I thank you very much for that opinion."

"Oh it is quite deserved. We have all admired the tenacity and the courage which have been evinced by even the humblest of your soldiers."

Then, with much delicate consideration, and almost making excuses for mentioning the facts to us, he told us that they had taken between 3000 and 4000 prisoners, thirty guns, six mitrailleurs, and two eagles.

"Among the prisoners," said he, "is General Raoult. I went this morning to see him at Reichshofen, where he lies wounded, his hip and thigh being broken; I fear that he is now dying. He is a brave officer, and he has given me some addresses in Paris to which he wishes letters to be sent."

"But, Prince," I observed, "the other prisoners also have families."

"I have thought of that. I have had them supplied with writing materials; the letters will be sent unsealed to our consul at Geneva, who will forward them to France."

"Prince, we thank you on behalf of the mothers whose grief you are about to assuage."

"I do not like war, gentlemen. If I should reign I would never make it. Now, despite my love of peace, this is the third campaign that I have been compelled to make. I went over the battle-field yesterday. It was frightful. If it only depended upon myself this war would end here. It is your ministers and the Emperor who would have it, it was not we who wanted it. And yet the Emperor has been very good to me and very kind to my wife. The last time that I saw him was at the Tuileries on the 12th of January, when he said to me, 'You know that I have found a new Minister.' That was this M. Ollivier, who now makes this war against us."

"It is terrible, indeed, and I think your artillery is very formidable."

"No, sir, it is not superior to yours, but we make different use of it from what you do, placing it more freely with the advanced posts. Your aim is very good—too good, indeed, for we have lost, I think, more men than you have. I have regiments which have lost twenty-nine or thirty officers. But we have taken prisoners, and that restores our advantage."

"An enormous advantage, for you know well what you had before you yesterday."

"Nearly forty thousand men, the corps of Marshal McMahon and a division of the Seventh Corps. I did not intend to attack, wishing only to make a reconnoissance in force, but one is not always able to put an end to a fight when once it has begun. It was fortunate for us, on the whole, as he would doubtless have received reinforcements, and we should have had still harder work next day."

"Prince, it seems to me that you are very well informed concerning our army."

"One must be so," said he, smiling.

"But," said I, wilfully committing an error, "it was your entire army which was engaged, 250,000 men at least."

"Not so many—180,000 men. They all fought well; but if the Bavarians had marched as well as our men, we should have had it all over by noon instead of fighting until 6 o'clock. I should not give battle to your army unless I was superior in number—otherwise I would prefer to retire."

"You have one great advantage, Prince, in the precision of the movement of your troops. From the tower of Woerth we admired, though with the grief caused by witnessing your success, the two flanking movements which you effected upon our position."

"The hills of Froschweiler are real fortifications, and I did not care to attack them directly. By turning them I lost fewer men."

"We are very much obliged, Prince, for the few minutes you have been pleased to devote to us, but we do not see with you the Duke of Coburg, whom we desire to thank, for it was he who saved us yesterday, and, notwithstanding his many anxieties, he has not forgotten the promise which he made to speak to you about us."

"I will perform your commission."

"We now ask that we may be taken back to the advanced posts."

"I see no objection," and then, having courteously saluted us, he withdrew.

WAR NOTES.

From our exchanges and the letters of correspondents we gather the following interesting notes and jottings of the war in Europe:

POLISH LEGION IN FRANCE.

For some time the French Government has been hesitating about enlisting Poles in its army, but have now concluded to do it, as appears by a letter received in Washington from Paris by a government official, which says that in the ten days previous to the writing thereof there had been enrolled and organized a Polish legion of forty thousand men. Most of them have seen hard service in the Polish contests against Russian and Prussian tyranny, and in soldierly qualities are exceeded by no body of men in Europe.

THE UHLANS.

The German cavalry are composed of cuirassiers, dragoons, hussars and Uhlans. The last named, who seem to alarm the French so much, are lancers. They are a part of the regular cavalry force, lightly armed, well mounted, and are probably to make raids in in the country in advance of the German line of march. Therefore, they naturally excite unusual and wide-spread terror. But they are only German cavalry. The Germans seemed to have learned from our success in making "raids" during the last war, how easy and how effective it is to harass, with competent cavalry, the enemy's country.

AID FOR FRENCH SICK AND WOUNDED.

The French and Irish residents of New York are to have a festival at Jones's Woods or Elm Park this week, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the fund for the relief of the sick and wounded in the French armies and hospitals. Many speakers have promised to be present. An invitation has been extended to the Mayor and the Governor of New York.

THE EVE OF BATTLE.

THE PRUSSIANS GONE AFTER M'MAHON.

McMAHON MARCHING TO METZ.

RUMORS OF MORE FIGHTING.

THE PARIS JOURNALS DEFIANT AND CONFIDENT.

THE FRENCH MINISTRY RETIRES TO TOURS.

WHEREABOUTS OF THE EMPEROR AND HIS SON.

War News via London.

LONDON, August 30.

The papers are befogged regarding the position of the armies. The latest telegrams make confusion worse confounded.

Advices from Sedan to-day report fighting along the railroad between the advance of the German and French armies. On the 28th the Saxons held Stenay and Mouzon. A correspondent says: "Not only has McMahon failed to join Bazaine, but the Prussians are wedged between them. McMahon is separated from Bazaine by two powerful armies."

A regiment of Chasseurs d'Afrique routed two regiments of Saxon dragoons near Mouzon. It is believed here that McMahon will persevere in the effort to reach Metz, in spite of the obstacles in the way.

The Prince Imperial was at Sedan on Sunday night, where the Emperor was expected. Uhlans at the time were only nine miles south.

Every German arrested in Paris appeals to American Minister Washburne for examination. No American has yet been arrested as a Prussian spy. Ten out of every dozen Englishmen have been arrested.

The Prussians entered Vouziers on the heels of the retreating French. King William's route to Paris is by the upper Marne and Mouz.

A French frigate that repaired her engines at Leswick, Scotland, has been notified by the government to leave.

The Parisians of all ranks have been enrolled for the defence of Paris.

The Times says five German detachments of cavalry are near Boagany. They belong to the Fourth Army Corps, which is now scouring the eastern departments to prevent communication between McMahon and Bazaine. McMahon, with 180,000 men, is stealing a march on the Prince Royal, who is two days ahead of Frederick Charles. It is hoped the latter cannot come up in time. Fifty thousand troops left Paris for Rethel on Monday. It is said the Prussian force is 200,000. McMahon's headquarters are at Sedan.

French War News.

PARIS, August 30—(Official.)

The Prussians continue to move toward Rethel and Vouzieres. Twenty thousand cavalry passed Chalons for Epernay. Strasbourg and Pfalsburg still hold out.

The ministry are on the eve of departing for Tours. The Emperor, on being invited to accompany them, responds that his place is now with the army in the neighborhood of Verdun, where a great battle is imminent.

A series of bloody engagements have taken place in the woody regions, between Vervins and Stenay, but nothing decisive is yet known.

The workshops of Paris closed yesterday.

The following from the French War Office is just received: "Nearly 900,000 men are now in the triangle formed by Rheims, Rethel and Vouzieres. Bazaine is not shut up. He has 120,000 men."

LATER.—There is much confusion caused by the departure of a large number of Germans. The journals say that the police is to rid Paris of many enemies.

La Liberte says: "The hour of the great battle has arrived. The battle must occur in the valley of Argenne, perhaps from there to Metz. We have reason to believe that the battle is raging now. If the Prussians are repulsed they must retire behind the Moselle. France every moment grows more formidable. Even now new regiments are ready to take the field; defeat cannot subdue us."

The Opinion Nationale says: "War to the last, let not one German recross the Rhine. For centuries let Germany remember that an enemy may enter France, but cannot leave it."

The Patre says that military events of the utmost importance are preparing. Whatever be the result at Paris, France must redouble her energy, create a third and fourth army. The Germans are active. We must use all our efforts. The news from McMahon's army continues excellent. McMahon has never for a moment been deceived about the Prince Royal's movements. He understood that the Prince intended to overreach his army. He, therefore, kept in advance. The Parisians must not, however, cease preparing to repulse the enemy.

The Prince Imperial has gone to Mezieres, where he will remain until further orders. Mezieres is considered impregnable, and contains a strong garrison and ample supplies.

A Bishop on Bombshells.

CARLSRUHE, August 30.

The bishop of the city, on the plea that the bombardment of Strasbourg is contrary to the laws of humanity and modern warfare, obtained twenty-four hours' cessation of the bombardment; in the meantime non-combatants will leave the city. On returning, the bishop's flag was riddled with balls, and the bombardment was resumed. Surrender is a mere question of time.

Belgium Neutrality.

BRUSSELS, August 30.

The Belgians are hastening to the frontier from all quarters. A great battle is apparently imminent. The presence of the Belgians is necessary to protect neutrality.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

We take the following from the Northern papers:

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM M'MAHON'S CORPS.

PARIS, August 28.

A special to the New York Times says: I have just seen a private letter from Robert Mitchell, late editor of the Constitutionnel, to his father, dated at the headquarters of Marshal McMahon, at Rhetel, on Thursday. He says: "You know I was downhearted when I left Paris at the progress of the Prussians. Since I have been with our army my mind has been completely changed. I am now certain of our ultimate success. Since our first defeats on the Rhine our army never came in collision with the Prussians without maintaining their position and inflicting heavy loss on the enemy. I saw and conversed with the Emperor yesterday. He is in excellent health and spirits. It is impossible to describe the enthusiasm of the army. We leave this P. M., taking the direction of Metz, but that is no indication of our real route. Rest assured in a few days you will receive news that will surprise you."

THE AMERICAN SANITARY COMMISSION.

To-day a train of American ambulances, under the direction of Dr. Marion Sims, left this city for Metz. Dr. Pratt and many others of the United States sanitary commission, accompanied the train in uniform. The daughters of Dr. Sims marched at the head of the procession. Great sensation was created among the spectators as the train moved through the streets; crowds cheered and gave liberally to those collecting for the wounded. The ambulance services will be strictly impartial in its ministrations, treating the French and Prussian wounded alike.

KING WILLIAM'S OBSTINACY.

Le Presse says that the official announcement in the Chambers that the Prussians are marching on Paris causes neither astonishment nor fear in the capital. The Prussians receive it with great resolution. King William is led to this in spite of the serious strategic reasons which should turn him from it. If it is considered that the obstinate old man has raised a million of men whom he will never take back across the Rhine, it will be easy for him to risk a bloody battle.

There is not one German in all Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemburg or Baden who would not scorn and curse the King should he not make an effort to come here and dictate peace in Paris. How could he return to Germany in the midst of the desolation of families, and the misery and the depopulation of the city and country? Should he not win a bloody success his defeat would be complete. This is the decisive reason, more political than military, which brings the old King under our walls.

THE LANDWHER IN THE FIELD.

L'Opinion Nationale says German journals and those of Belgium have asserted that the troops of the Landwehr are not yet in the field, with the exception of the artillery. Nothing can be more false than this statement. Every one acquainted with the organization of the Prussian forces is aware that the first ban of Landwehr, consisting men from 25 to 31 years of age, have formed the greater part of the Prussian forces. Not only did that portion of them enter the field as soon as the mobilization of the army was ordered, but regiments, brigades and divisions of the second ban of Landwehr in provinces nearest to France have reinforced the armies of Frederick Charles and Steinmetz. The fact of the second section of Landwehr being called on for service outside the Prussian territory has not occurred since the campaigns of 1815. Prussia, therefore, says the Opinion Nationale, is making her final effort.

CRUELTIES OF THE INVADERS.

NEW YORK, August 26.

The Courrier des Etats Unis has the following special from Paris last night: In spite of the orders given by the commanders of the enemy's armies, the Prussian invasion of 1870 surpasses in horror recollections of that of 1814. At the War Department accounts are received from all sides of pillage, devastation and of summary executions, caused by the resistance of peasants to the invasion of their homes. The Prussians concede to them no right of defence. The Uhlans above all commit depredations only worthy the Cossacks of other days. Little is said about the Emperor and with good reason. Deeds, not recriminations, are necessary. It will be time enough hereafter to demand an account from him who was the origin of our first disasters. The Empress shows a most noble devotion to the wounded. Every day she visits the military hospitals, and extends care and consolation to the victims of the war. All ladies of rank and in high social position imitate her example. There are, unfortunately, some exceptions to this noble conduct. The system of Prussian espionage has even stolen into some of the churches and sacred places, where it would scarcely be possible to discover or prevent it. One or two examples have been made, which will probably put an end to this secret connivance with the enemy. In answer to the dispatch which you addressed to me, I reply that it is untrue that all Germans have been expelled from Paris. A great number left voluntarily before the opening of hostilities. The Germans who have been suspected of conveying intelligence to the enemy have been expelled—that is all.

THE GARDE MOBILE AND DEFENCES OF PARIS.

Our Garde Mobile are going to perform prodigies at Toul and Pfalsburg. They hold a superior force of the enemy in check at Strasbourg, and they have made a number of successful sorties. Thiers, to whose foresight we are indebted for the fortifications of Paris, refuses obstinately to act on the committee of defence. Count Daru this morning accepted this difficult office. A prospect of a siege and perhaps of a bombardment has taught the government useful measures. Last evening the removal to a safe place of the masterpieces of the Louvre was begun. The precaution is timely. Are not invasions of the barbarons always fatal to the arts and their most beautiful productions?

Gallairdet also reviews the military situation, which he represents substantially as already given.

WAR NEWS VIA LONDON.

LONDON, August 28.

Public feeling in Paris is very hopeful, and a French victory is confidently expected.

Ex-Queen Isabella, of Spain, has given her palace in Paris for the use of the wounded.

One hundred and seventy thousand of the Prussian army have been killed and wounded during the war.

Ten thousand persons are attached to the headquarters of the King of Prussia, including eighty servants.

According to French report 15,000, and according to Prussian report 20,000 French soldiers are disabled by hospital and typhus fever.

The Times this morning says in a review of the resources of Prussia, that three armies of reserves have been formed to await events in France—one on the Rhine, under the Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin; one at Berlin, under General Constair, and one in Silesia, under General Torrentzeig.

Telegrams from Berlin say the Prussians have 800,000 men along the line of the railway ready to move across the Rhine to reinforce either of the armies in case of defeat. Prussia cannot move these troops to the front yet, owing to the difficulty of feeding such reserves.

To-day there are great rejoicings at Berlin. A public procession, carrying four mitrailleurs, twenty-three cannon and one eagle, captured from the French, passed through the streets. The Queen came out on the balcony of the palace and received the congratulations of the people. The weather was fine and the excitement great.

REVIEW OF THE WAR.

Miscalculations at the Outset—The Actual Strength of the Opposing Forces—From Saarbrucken to Chalons and Metz.

[Correspondence of the New York World.]

LONDON, August 13.

A careful and impartial review of the war from its opening up to the present stage cannot fail to be useful and interesting, and I have had the good fortune to obtain the means for making up such a review with a degree of accuracy which could not be expected in the letters of correspondents written in haste and on the spur of the moment.

It has been too hastily assumed that the Emperor Napoleon expected to be able to carry the war at once into the enemy's country, and to successfully act upon the offensive from the beginning to the end of the campaign. It is tolerably plain that every one else in France but the Emperor did cherish these expectations, and it is equally clear that he alone did not cherish them. For it was his voice alone that uttered a note of warning, and from his lips alone came words of sober caution. He, most probably, saw more clearly than any other man in France the difficulties in the path on which he had entered. And it will not be amiss to remember that if the Emperor is to be believed, it was not he that led France into the war, but it was France that dragged him into it. "The country is slipping out of my hands," said he to an Englishman a day or two before war was declared. "I could not control it if I should refuse to go to war."

The popular expectation in France was that upon the declaration of war the North German Confederation would be easily isolated from the Southern States, and that the newly-annexed Prussian provinces would manifest a willingness to co-operate with the French. And the popular idea of the opening campaign was a dash on the Rhine with a column of, perhaps, 100,000 or 125,000 men, a passage of the river somewhere near Mayence, and an advance in the direction of Frankfort. Thus the French would become masters of the communications between North and South Germany; Prussia would have to hurry down to the Main all her available troops, and the French could beat them, as they arrived, in detail.

This plan, the success of which depended on German dissension as much as on French activity, was knocked in the head by the sudden declaration of all the States whose disaffection had been counted on, that they would stand or fall, sink or swim, live or die, with Prussia. If any one wishes to believe that Louis Napoleon is so illy served that he was taken by surprise at this manifestation of German feeling, he is at liberty to indulge his credulity. But it certainly is more probable that he anticipated just what happened, and that his solemn words of warning as to the nature and dangers of the war had just this meaning to them.

It soon became evident, then, that the popular anticipation of a short and dashing campaign was not to be realized, and that, in its place, the country must prepare itself for a long and arduous war. The work of calling the army into the field began, on each side, and it was prosecuted under the following conditions:

The infantry of the line in France consists of 300 battalions, with a nominal full strength of 960 men each; and besides these, there are 38 battalions of the Imperial Guards, 20 of chasseurs, and 18 of Zouaves and Turcos—all infantry. The system is for these battalions, when called to the field, to leave two companies behind as a depot, and to march to the field with the other six. It is said none of the companies, as a rule, were full, and that the full strength of the 376 battalions, on the day orders to move were received, was only 225,600 men. The "Army of the Rhine" comprised seven corps d'armee, with an eighth corps, consisting of the Imperial Guards, as a reserve. The seven corps contained 340 battalions of infantry, numbering 214,000 men; the Imperial Guards were 25,000 strong, and the artillery, Zouaves, Turcos and cavalry numbered 50,000 men. This gives a total of 289,000 as the total available military strength which France could put into the field up to the beginning of September, when her first reserve would begin to be ready.

The North German army, on the other hand, consists of thirteen corps, each having twenty-eight battalions of 1000 men each. When the order for mobilization was received, which was on the 16th of July, a few officers were told off from each three battalions to superintend the formation of the extra fourth battalion; the reserve men—those who have served three years, and are liable to be called out until they have passed their twenty-seventh year—were called in; the battalions were filled up, and the Landwehr regiments were formed out of the men between 28 and 36 years old. On the 29th of July the mobilization was accomplished, and North Germany had in the field 368 battalions of the line, numbering 1000 men each, and in garrison 198 battalions of the Landwehr; while the machinery was set in operation, which, by the end of August, would give her a further force of 114 battalions of the line and 93 battalions of the Landwher. Then are to be counted the troops of Baden, Bavaria, Hesse-Darmstadt and Wurtemberg, in all about 100 battalions. To oppose the French army of the Rhine, which, as we have seen, could not number more than 289,000 men, the Germans moved forward toward the frontier twelve of their thirteen army corps, numbering 336,000 men, while the South Germans added their contribution of 70 battalions, making a force of 406,000 trained soldiers, backed up by a reserve, available within a month of an additional 150,000 men. Thus it was plain that the war was commenced under conditions very unfavorable to the French, who were outnumbered by more than one-third, and who, worse than all, were placed under the disadvantage of divided command.

When the war was proclaimed the French army was thus situated: The Third, Fourth and Fifth Corps were at Thionville, St. Avold and Bitsche; the First and Second Corps were at Strasbourg and Metz; the Sixth Corps and the Guards were at Chalons; and the Seventh Corps was at Belfort. By the 29th of July the First and Second Corps were moved forward towards Metz, and, in effect, the whole army formed a line reaching from Thionville to Bitsche; and at the same date the whole German army had concentrated between the Vosges and the Moselle.

The Emperor reached Metz on the 28th of July, and the next day assumed the command of the Army of the Rhine, which, however, in point of fact, still consisted of seven separate armies, each commanded by a marshal with independent ideas of his own. On the 30th, a reconnoissance made by the French, in the direction of Saarbrücken, was repulsed. On the second of August the Second Division of the Second Corps took the high ground south of Saarbrücken, and shelled the Prussians out of the town, who, however, retained a hill on the other side of the town, and thus prevented the French from entering the village. News from the French lines at about this date contained hints that the commissariat and supply service had broken down, and that had everything else been ready for an advance this would have prevented it.

Then, on the 6th of August, came the fatal affairs of Weissenburg and Forbach, or, (as all battles have more than one name,) of Woerth and Saarbrücken. The German troops engaged in the Weissenburg affair were the Fifth and Eleventh Prussian and the Second Bavarian corps—in all there must have been 80,000 German soldiers, if not actually in the fight, ready to be brought into it at a moment's notice. And to this great force was opposed, at first, only Douay's division of McMahon's corps, and at the last only the whole of this corps. The affair could have had but one conclusion: the superiority of numbers assured the victory to the Germans. The same was true of the affair of Forbach or Saarbrücken. Froissard's three divisions and a single regiment of Bazaine's corps, in all about 25,000 men, were attacked and defeated by 37,000 Westphalians and Rhenish troops. The gallantry of the French soldiers, and the bravery and skill of their officers in both these affairs, were great; the loss they inflicted on the Prussians was heavy; and they did not yield the ground until to hold it longer became a mathematical impossibility; but the overpowering weight of numbers decided the issue against them.

On the 7th of August the situation was thus: Four of the eight corps of the French army had been attacked and beaten in detail; communications between headquarters and some of the beaten corps was cut off; the numerical superiority of the Germans was evident, and it was plain also that they were acting under the inspiration of one mind; and hesitation, indecision and vacillation prevailed in the French councils. The Emperor was implored to retire to Paris, first placing the supreme command of the army in the hands of Marshal Bazaine. He replied by saying that he should enter Paris either "dead or victorious," and that he should retain the supreme command of the army in his own hands. A movement of retreat and concentration was commenced, and is now still going on.

La Meuse contains the following proclamation to the army, signed by Napoleon, on the 13th instant:

Soldiers—To-morrow will be the 14th of August, that anniversary of your triumphant return to Paris after that glorious campaign which decided the destiny of Austrian domination in Italy. On that day, as after your Crimean victories, all France welcomed you with enthusiasm, and Europe, dazzled, saluted you as worthy sons of the grand armies of the first empire. To-day, however, Prussia dares to invade the sacred soil of the country. She launches against you a torrent of men, who have surprised your valor, and for the moment triumphed over your indomitable courage. Let us march again to encounter them. Soldiers of Jena, against these same Prussians, so arrogant to-day, your fathers fought as one to three; again, at Montmirail, one to six. Is any one among you inflamed by that exciting memory, let him set an example to all Frenchmen. The Saxons, the Wurtemburgers, the soldiers of the Rhenish ex-confederation groan at being compelled to lend their arms to the cause of Prussia. They know what little respect that power has for the rights of peoples. After absorbing millions of Hanoverians, Danes and Germans, she will not hesitate to absorb the remains of Southern Germany. Iosensates, a moment of prosperity blinds them. The oppression or humiliation of Frenchmen belongs not to them. May they have entered France only to find their graves. Soldiers, we shall have to deliver fierce and bloody battles; but with energy and patriotism the country's honor will be safe. For every Frenchman with a heart the moment has arrived to conquer or to die.

NAPOLEON.

THE STATE DEBT.

A REVIEW OF MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S DEFENCE OF THE SCOTT ADMINISTRATION.

The Story of the Bank of the State Bills.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWS.

Mr. Chamberlain is a man of education; he writes well, and his arguments are plausible and specious; the more so, because put forth with an appearance of candor well calculated to deceive the unwary. We propose, as briefly as we can, to review his Chester speech, and expose the fallacy of his defence of the Whittemore-Scott administration. He has erected a lofty pyramid of figures, and inscribed upon it the motto, "Wisdom, Honesty and Economy." To this he proudly points, and, with an air of triumph, asks his hearers to respond, "Well done, good and faithful servants, you have been faithful over a few things; we will make you rulers over many things."

We shall show that this pyramid is erected upon a foundation so rotten, that, its covering once withdrawn, the whole fabric must crumble to pieces

Mr. C. boastfully exclaims, "Whenever the Reform leaders make good one single charge, or fasten one single fraud on our history for the past two years, let us descend to merited infamy."

The writer, Messrs. Editors, is not one of the "Reform leaders." He is an humble citizen, who neither holds nor seeks to hold a public office. He is, however, a "native and to the manner born," and not the less deeply interested in the honor and welfare of his State because he takes no active part in her government. He accepts, therefore, the challenge thus boldly proclaimed by the champion of the "Scott administration," and will "make good" what he says.

Mr. Chamberlain informs his hearers that "charges of increased expenditure, of wasteful extravagance, of absolute robbery, of the public funds pour forth from the mouths of our Reform friends," and he proceeds to refute these charges. With an affectation of candor he asks his hearers to "look with him at the facts," "every one of which I draw from *official sources* which I hold in my hand;" and adds, "mark me, fellow-citizens, I am speaking from the *unimpeached record*." If, therefore, the "record" from which he speaks is *not* "unimpeached," if the "official sources" from which he draws his figures are corrupt, his argument rests upon a rotten foundation, the "pyramid" crumbles away, and its delusive motto becomes an airy nothing.

What is this "unimpeached record" from which he speaks? Who are its authors? Does not Mr. C. know that the very men whom we charge with corruption are they who framed this "record;" that *they* are the "official source" from which he draws his facts? Can that which is drawn from corruption be pure? Is it not begging the question to ask us to accept as correct the "record" made up by the administration, and then to say, because that record is correct, those who made it are pure? Let him first prove that his record is true. Then, and not till then, may he draw from its figures, to prove that there have been "no increased expenditures, wasteful extravagance, and absolute robbery." Until he does this, his figures prove no more than that he has not forgotten his school day lessons in arithmetic.

We pass over the sophism by which he attempts to demonstrate that while formerly it took "$2 02 to govern a South Carolina gentleman," it now takes but "89 cents to govern his slave just set free," as not likely to deceive even the most ignorant. Mr. Chamberlain, perhaps, has read an ingenious essay, wherein the writer proposes to prove, by argument, that no such man as Napoleon I ever lived. Mr. C.'s argument on this point reminds us of that essay, and the conclusion arrived at "that not only was South Carolina never so well governed, but never so cheaply and economically governed as in the last year of Grace, 1869," is equally satisfactory. That portion of his speech may serve as a college prize essay; perhaps some sophomore may answer it—we will not attempt the useless task.

Passing over this portion of his "defence," therefore, we proceed with him "to examine the condition of our public debt." Here he asserts "that only $700,000 have been added to the State debt since the inauguration of the administration of Governor Scott." And in proof of this he asks us to "examine the figures." It is said, as we are aware, that "figures do not lie." True! but not so those who make the figures. Now, who made the figures which Mr. C. asks us to "examine?" Does he not take them from the "official record?" Did not Scott, Neagle & Co. make that record? Must he not prove *them* honest before he asks us to believe their figures. Do the *figures* prove that Scott, Neagle & Co. *are* honest? These figures represent coupon bonds to a large extent. Mr. C. shows us the figures alone—can he show us the bonds they pretend to represent?

Let us examine Mr. C.'s argument, and apply these questions to the case made.

He says: "The public funded debt of the State is put down (by the comptroller-general in his report) at $6,183,349 17," and he claims that from this sum the following items must be deducted, because they but "change the form" of debts existing when the Scott administration came into power, and that, having deducted them, it will appear that but $700,000 has been added to the debt. The items to be deducted are:

1. The $1,250,000 of bonds issued to fund the old bills of the Bank of the State.

2. The bonds issued to pay accrued interest on the State debt, of which, he says, $650,000 have been issued thus far.

3. The bonds issued to redeem the "bills receivable" of the State, of which, he says, $350,000 have been needed to retire the entire circulation; and,

4. The bonds issued for the "relief of the treasury—$1,000,000."

We shall examine each of these items, and see whether Mr. Chamberlain's argument proves that the State debt has not been increased by the issues of bonds referred to.

First. As to the $1,250,000 of bonds issued to fund the old bills of the Bank of the State. The history of these bonds is this:

In *September*, 1865, the Legislature passed an act, which, among other things, provided, "That all bills issued by said corporation prior to the 20th day of December, 1860, be funded; and on the *surrender and delivery of the said bills to the treasurer* of the State, bonds of the State, payable, &c., shall be issued to the owner of said bills, &c.; provided that said bills shall be presented to the treasurer before January 1, 1869. And the Governor of the State is hereby *authorized and required* to execute and deliver said bonds to be signed by him and countersigned by the treasurer."

Upon the passage of the act the bank bills rose rapidly in value, and continued to rise for some time, when it was rumored that Governor Scott *refused* to "*execute and deliver" the bonds*, as by the act he was "*authorized and required to do*." The 1st of January passed, and the bonds were *not* issued. The bills, of course, rapidly declined in value, and continued to fall in price for some weeks, when Governor Scott, for some perhaps satisfactory reason, *consented* to "execute and deliver" the bonds. The bills again rapidly rose in value, and in March or April, we think, the owners received their bonds. Rumor said that Governor Scott reaped a handsome profit from the fluctuations thus occasioned in the value of the bills. He had the opportunity for doing so; perhaps he used it, perhaps he did not. Perhaps he only bought the bills at a low figure, and sold them when they doubled in value, because he was endeavoring to "improve the credit" of his "beloved State."

It matters not to us whether he speculated in bank bills or not, further than that his conduct at that time tends to cast at least *some suspicion* upon one of the "official sources" from which Mr. C. draws his information—upon one at least of the authors of the "unimpeached record" he asks us to "examine." This much for the manner in which the *Governor* performed the part he was "authorized and required" to perform by the act. How did the *State Treasurer* discharge the important trust imposed upon him? Did he follow the terms of the act, and do his duty without respect to persons? Did he use due diligence to protect the State from fraud or loss? Did he issue the bonds only "on the surrender and delivery of the bills," as required by the act? We answer, no! We assert that he exhibited gross negligence, and in proof thereof we cite the following facts. Let Mr. Chamberlain deny them if he can. He *knows* that they are as here stated: We charge, then, that Mr. Parker did deliver upwards of $300,000 of the bonds to Mr. Parsons, of New York, without first requiring of Mr. Parsons the "*surrender and delivery of the bills*," but merely upon the surrender and delivery of a certificate held by Mr. P. from the master in equity, that said bills were in the custody of Mr. T. R. Waring, in Charleston. We charge further, that Mr. Parker did permit said bills to remain for a long time in the custody of Mr. Waring, *after he had issued to Mr. Parsons the bonds* intended to redeem them. We charge further, that when Mr. Parker's agent got said bills from Mr. Waring, he shipped them to Mr. Parker by express, as *ordinary freight*, in a common wooden box, not under seal. And we charge further, that said agent received the bills without counting them, and that the package sent to Mr. Parker was not a "sealed package."

This single instance, we think, is sufficient to prove that Mr. Parker did not use due diligence to protect the State from loss. He had already issued $300,000 of bonds, without first requiring the "surrender and delivery of the bills," and then he had the bills sent to him in a wooden box as ordinary freight. Had the box been stolen, both bonds and bills would have existed as a debt of the State. So much for Mr. Parker, by whom $1,250,000 of bank bills were redeemed. These bills remained with him until the Legislature appointed a *committee*, consisting of Comptroller-General *Neagle*, *Joe Crews* and *Dr. Bosemon*, (colored,) who were charged with the duty of counting and burning the $1,250,000 of bills for which Mr. P. had issued the same amount of bonds. Charged with this important trust, it seems to us that the first impulse of a man whose reputation was dear to him would have been so to perform this duty assigned him, that the breath of slander could not harm him. How did this committee act under the circumstances? We are informed that they did their work in this wise: Joe Crews and Dr. Bosemon would proceed to count the bills in a room, *without witnesses;* after they had been at work long enough to have earned their *per diem*, Bosemon would go to inform Neagle that they were ready to burn the bills counted, Crews remaining alone in the room with the bills. Upon the arrival of Neagle and Bosemon, Crews would hold up a package "said to contain" so many hundred thousand dollars, which they would cast into the fire, whereupon they would make up the day's "record." This farce was gone through with from day to day, until at last all the bills had been disposed of, and then the committee reported to the Legislature that one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars of bank bills had been consumed by fire, and that the same amount in bonds had been issued in their stead; and these facts are put down in the "official record." Mr. C. now holds up this "record," and asks us to believe that the State debt remains the same—that its form only has been changed. Does Mr. C. know of his own knowledge whether the $1,250,000 of bank bills have, in fact, been destroyed, and that they form no part of the bills of the Bank of the State now afloat in the State? Does not the whole "record" depend on the honesty of Neagle, Crews and Bosemon, or rather on the honesty of Joe Crews alone? Can he use this record to prove that *they are honest?* Have we no reason to doubt the accuracy of the "official sources" from which he draws his figures?

We have said that honest men placed in the position of this committee would have sought to guard against the attacks of a harsh, slanderous and suspicious world. Were these men of such spotless reputation that they need take no such precautions? Neagle, who had been charged in the public prints with stealing from his fellow-students in early life; Crews, who has been in notoriously bad repute from his youth upward; and Bosemon, of whom we know little good or bad—are these the men to defy public opinion, and to count and burn $1,250,000 in secret, with no witness but their own consciences? Does not their conduct, at least, excite *suspicion?* When we find that one of them, who but two years ago had only a moderate salary to support him, is now looked upon as one of the wealthy men of the State; and that another, who not many years ago made a precarious livelihood by buying and selling runaway negroes and distilling whiskey without a license, is now a big man in railroad rings, speculates on joint account with the Governor of the State, dresses in black broadcloth, and fares sumptuously every day, and that his only visible means of support during the period in which this change in his fortunes has come about has been his *per diem* as a member of the Legislature. When we see and reflect on these things, is Mr. C. surprised that our suspicions grow stronger, and that we are inclined, at least, to question the purity of the "official sources" from which he would have us drink as from the fountain of truth? Until Mr. Chamberlain can prove that the $1,250,000 of bank bills have, in fact, been destroyed, and we require more satisfactory proof than the "report of the committee," he fails to prove that the $1,250,000 of bonds issued in their stead "*have not added one dollar to the public debt*."

So much for Mr. Chamberlain's first proposition. We propose, Mr. Editor, at a future day to answer the others; but this article is already too long, and we do not wish to trespass upon your space, or to weary your readers with more this time. Mr. C. shall, however, hear again from JUNIUS.

THE GERMAN NEWS.

[From the New York German Daily News.]

The intelligence of the German population of the United States, and the facility with which they enter into the spirit of our best institutions, are well illustrated in the generous support given to newspapers published in their own language. Of the several German journals published in this city, there are none that have not accomplished a considerabe success, and more than one may be counted among the most profitable similar establishments in the country. In proportion to numbers, the patronage bestowed upon journalism by Germans on this side of the Atlantic is of a far more liberal character than that of the same people in their own land. This is probably owing to the fact that those who leave the Fatherland to seek the opportunities of remunerative toil in the New World, are generally of the most intelligent of the middle classes, and very soon become indoctrinated with the utilitarian and progressive ideas of the American people. Another reason may be stated in the circumstance that the journals themselves, patterned upon American principles, are more readable and useful than the old-fashioned sheets of Europe.

But, with all the evidence before us of a desire on the part of our German citizens to encourage newspapers in their language, the extraordinary success of the German News remains still a wonder. To say that we did not look forward to it would be to deny the impressions that induced us to start the enterprise; but, though sanguine of the ultimate achievement of our purpose, we did not anticipate such an immediate conquest of popularity; we did not look for such a whirlwind of success as that which has swept our newly-launched bark into the smooth waters of its prosperity.

A few weeks ago, in alluding to the rapid progress of the German News, we stated that its circulation was greater than that of any German paper in the country, with one exception. But, at the pace at which this little Teutonic traveller advances, a few weeks makes a great deal of difference in the condition of affairs. We must now withdraw the exception, for the circulation of the German News having gone considerably beyond the figure of fifty thousand copies per day, we are justified in claiming for it the first place, and in stating that the German News has now the largest circulation of any German daily paper issued in this country. Indeed, although not prepared statistically for the deliberate assertion, we are convinced that not even in Germany is there to be found a daily journal with a circulation equal to that which the German News has accomplished within the first four months of its career.

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