

**The Battle of Cedar Run.**

This battle, which took place on the 9th inst., between Stonewall JACKSON and Gen. POPE's command, was a heavy engagement. From the Northern accounts, their troops suffered terribly. With their usual habit of lying, they report our force as being the largest, by far—which was just the reverse. The New York Times is down on POPE for bad management.

**Our Soldiers in the Field.**

As there is every probability of another winter campaign, we hope our patriotic citizens will bear in mind the cold and privations to which their friends and neighbors are exposed, in the camp; and go to work, and make underclothing, socks and comforts. One patriotic citizen, who contributed handsomely last year, has said he will double his contribution this.—Let every one do according to their ability, and begin in time. As long as our men have to fight, we must sustain them by every means in our power. Cold weather will soon be here—remember the soldier.

**The Camden and Kershaw Bible Society**

Will celebrate its 5th Anniversary, in Camden, on next Sabbath, by a Sermon, to be preached at the usual hour of morning service, 10 1-2 o'clock, a. m., at the Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. S. H. HAY. After which a collection will be taken up for the Bible cause.

A meeting of the Society will take place at the Methodist Church, in the evening, at 8 1-4 o'clock, p. m., when reports of officers will be heard, and election of officers for the next ensuing year made, and delegates chosen to represent the Society in the State Bible Society soon to assemble at Columbia. At this meeting several addresses from members of the Society may be expected. A collection for the Bible cause will likewise be taken up at the meeting.

The friends of the Bible generally, are earnestly requested to attend both these meetings.

We are requested in this connection, to give notice, that there will be no morning service in the Methodist Church, that its congregation may attend at the Presbyterian Church, at that hour.

W. H. R. WORKMAN, Sec.

**The Irish Potato.**

We have been kindly presented, by Mr. C. H. PECK, of Camden, with some of the finest specimens of the Irish potato that we have ever seen—grown either North or South. They are the Prince Albert potato, and were taken from his garden. The yield is almost incredible, unless to those who have cultivated the same article in the same way. Those presented us were but from one hill, and was *near a peck* when taken from the ground.

**Watermelon Syrup.**

The following receipt has been handed us, by a lady of Camden, for making melon syrup: "Scrape the juice, and strain through a bag, and boil till it is as thick as molasses."

We have received a fine article of the syrup, made by Mr. JOHN L. MICKLE, whose process was the above.

**Shall this be a War of Extermination?**

The report that seventeen men were hung to avenge the death of McCook, and the accounts of the outrages committed by the Yankees wherever they have a foothold on Southern soil—taken in connection with the vengeance as seen in the Northern papers, as indicative of public sentiment, can leave no doubt on the part of our enemies, but to urge a war contrary to the maxims and customs of civilized nations. Upon the Northern people will rest the terrible odium and the horribel result. They inaugurated the war, and with a folly, only equalled by its madness, have they persisted in carrying it on. Maddened at their recent defeats, they breathe the direst vengeance. They forget the high authority which says, "Vengeance is Mine." "I will repay," saith the Lord. They are a doomed people; and the very course they are now pursuing will fall with greater force upon their own heads. In the meantime let our government put forth its power, and meet these miscreants under the leadership of BUTLER, POPE, MITCHELL and GRANT, to the same punishment they are now inflicting upon our citizens. Retaliation should henceforth be the watchword of every Southern citizen.

**Acknowledgment.**

The Managers of the "Soldiers' Rest" acknowledge the receipt of Ten Dollars from the "Ladies' Flat Rock Aid Society," through its President, Miss EMILY E. PERRY.

**The President's Message.**

The Confederate Congress met on Monday last. We are unable to publish in full President Davis' Message, but will give a synopsis of it.

"The President compliments the troops for their gallantry and good conduct, illustrated on hard fought battle fields, marked by exhibitions of individual prowess, which can find but few parallels in ancient or modern history. The zeal and unanimity of the great body of the people give assurance to the friends of constitutional liberty of our final triumph. The vast army which threatened the capital of our Confederacy has been defeated, and the enemy is now seeking to raise new armies on a scale such as modern history does not record, to effect the subjugation of the South, so often proclaimed as on the eve of accomplishment. Our enemies are becoming daily less regardful of the usages of civilized war and the dictates of humanity. Their wanton destruction of private property, the murder and capture of private citizens, their order of banishment against peaceful families, are some of the measures used by our ruthless invaders to enforce the submission of a free people to foreign sway. The President refers, in this connection, to the Confiscation Bills, the forgery of moneyed obligations of the Confederate States by citizens of the United States, and the apparent complicity of the United States Government in the crime. Two, at least, of the Generals of the United States are engaged, unchecked by their Government, in exciting servile insurrection and arming slaves. Another has been found, of instinct so brutal, as to invite the violence of his soldiery against the women of a captured city. Yet the rebuke of civilized man has failed to invoke from the authorities of the United States one mark of disapprobation of his act, nor is there any reason to suppose that the conduct of Benjamin F. Butler has failed to secure from his Government the sanction and applause with which it is known to have been greeted by public meetings, and a portion of the press of the United States. Inquiries have been made of the Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the the United States, whether the atrocious conduct of some of their military Commanders meet the sanction of that Government. An answer has been evaded, on pretext that the inquiry was insulting. No method remains for the repression of these enormities, but such retributive justice as it may be found possible to execute. Vengeance will not be wreaked on unarmed men, on women or children, but meted out to murderers and felons, who disgracing the profession of arms, seek to make of a public war the occasion for the commission of the most monstrous crimes.

The president refers to reports from the heads of several of the Departments. He approves the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury for an increased issue of Treasury Notes, convertible into eight per cent. bonds. He invites favorable consideration to the recommendations of the Secretary of War, relative to the Conscript Law, and expresses the opinion that it may be necessary hereafter to extend the provisions of that law, so as to embrace persons between the ages of 35 and 45. The vigor and efficiency of our present forces inspire the belief that no further enrollment will be necessary; but a wise foresight requires that the means should exist for calling such additional force into the field without awaiting the re-assembling of Congress.

The President states that, in spite both of blandishments and threats, used in profusion by the agents of the Government of the United States, the Indian nations within the Confederacy have remained firm in their loyalty and steadfast in the observance of their treaty engagements with this Government. The President concludes as follows: "We have never ceasing cause to be grateful for the favor with which God has protected our infant Confederacy, and it becomes us reverently to return our thanks, and humbly to ask of His bounteousness that wisdom which is needful for the performance of the high trust with which we are charged."

**Baggage Depot for South Carolina Soldiers in Virginia.**

To the Editor of the Mercury: Permit me, through your columns, to solicit the aid of our generous people in behalf of an enterprise which must recommend itself to all.

The want of a Central Depot for the baggage of our South Carolina troops which they desire to have at hand, but cannot take to the field, has long been felt. Other States have adopted the plan, and only a scruple to use money appropriated for hospital purposes for other matters, has prevented me from meeting this serious want.

The loss of baggage and boxes has been so heavy upon the troops of our State, that I have finally hired a large building, where I propose meeting these wants.

1st. A Hospital Bureau, similar to the one we had at Charlottesville, whence all articles needed by our sick, wherever they may be cured, be issued upon demand.

2d. A Baggage Depot, where all the private effects of soldiers in camp can be stored, and boxes coming on them, received and forwarded. A distinct apartment is allotted to each brigade, regiment or company.

3d. A large Sleeping Apartment, of 30 or 40 beds, where friends arriving at Richmond at night may find temporary accommodations, or houseless soldiers may always find shelter.

For this purpose I do not need much money, I have already a donation of three hundred dollars. I hope I can defray all expenses by special contributions, without drawing upon our hospital funds. All friends sending boxes to our troops in Virginia, should mark their name and regiment and company, and to "care of South Carolina Hospital Bureau. They will be faithfully taken care of and delivered.

ROBT. W. BARNWELL, JR.

State papers will please copy.

**An Incident in New Orleans.**

The Mobile Advertiser has high authority for the following statement:

Mrs. H. M. Hyams, wife of the Lieutenant Governor of the State, passed on the street a number of Yankee officers sitting in a doorway as she went by. One of them arose and followed her a few steps, and, arresting her progress by placing himself in front of her, told her she had omitted to bow in passing. She attempted to avoid the ruffian, when he repeated his remark, and asked her if she had not read General Butler's "order No. 22," with reference to the treatment of Union officers and soldiers with respect. Endeavoring to pass the fellow, he threw his arm around the lady's waist, and passed his foul lips upon her face. As the villain released her from his embrace, the Southern lady coolly drew a pistol and shot him through the body, so that he fell dead at her feet in the insolent flush of his cowardly triumph over the insulted virtue of a feeble and unprotected woman.

Another of the officers immediately arose, and approaching the noble and courageous lady, took her by the arm and told her, so that the other Federals could hear, that she must accompany him before General Butler. He immediately placed her in a cab and drove away—but not to the Beast's quarters. He directed the cab out of the city and through the line of sentries—and further on still, until beyond the reach of the tyrant's outposts. The act of the heroine had made a hero of the witness. He told her that he considered her as justifiable and noble, and that in a moment he had determined that she should not be sacrificed to Butler's vengeance, and adopted the expedient by which he rescued her. He continued to escort her on her journey through the country until they arrived in the southern lines at Camp Moore, when he delivered himself up to the Confederate authorities, to be dealt with as a prisoner or otherwise.

So ends this heroic and dramatic incident of the war. Mrs. Hyams has set a lofty example for Southern women, and the gallant gentleman who delivered her has shamed its army and the whole North. We trust he has renounced forever the service of the oppressors, and that a rank equivalent to his deserts may reward him in ours.

Gen. Winder is down on the substitute agencies in Richmond. He has issue an order forbidding all such agencies, and declaring that when such agents are employed, the principal, the substitute and the agent will be impressed into the military service, and the money paid for the substitute and a reward to the agent will be confiscated to the government.

**Interesting from the North and West.**

RIOTS AT THE NORTH—CAPTURE OF INDEPENDENCE CITY AND A GARRISON OF FEDERAL, ETC., ETC.

MOBILE August 19.—A special despatch from Grenada, dated 18th, says Northern papers of the 13th have been received here. It is reported that Gen. Pope has been heavily reinforced, and is now ready for a movement on Gordonsville. Gen. Burnside is said to be co-operating with Pope. The guerillas are reported active on Green river, Kentucky. A serious riot occurred at Buffalo on the 12th, between the Germans, Irish and negroes, because the negroes underbid them in labor. Two of the rioters were shot by the police. The Mayor called out the militia, expecting a renewal of the disturbance. The Yankee accounts of the battle of Tazewell acknowledges the loss of three killed, 15 wounded and 50 prisoners. They do not, however, claim a victory. A despatch from Lexington, Mo., says Independence was attacked by 1500 rebels, under Hughs and Quantrell. After four hours' severe fighting, the whole Federal garrison had surrendered, with the loss of 20 killed and a large number wounded. There is much excitement at Lexington in consequence.

**A Timely and Patriotic Contribution**

The history of seige and bombardment of Vicksburg furnishes many commendable instances of self-sacrificing patriotism, but none more so than the general conduct of the ladies, concerning whom the Appeal relates the following incident:

The gunboats were at Natchez, and our troops were looking for them daily. Twelve good guns were in battery below the city, and everything ready for action except cartridge bags for the 10-inch Columbiads. The commander sent messengers to all the stores in town, but could find no flannel.

It had all been used in making shirts for the many volunteer companies that had left the city. He then sent messengers on the street to appeal to the men to give their flannel shirts for cartridge bags. The ladies heard of this appeal, and the absolute importance of the cartridge bags. In a few hours from that time he made the appeal, no less than five hundred cartridge bags were deposited at headquarters, made of —, the ladies of Vicksburg could tell what, if anybody should ask them. These were the cartridge bags used by the 10-inch Columbiads.

**From the West.**

MOBILE, August 18.—A special despatch to the Advertiser and Register dated Jackson, Mississippi, to-day, says that on the 16th inst., the Federal gunboat Sumter, while attempting to make a landing at Bayou Sara, ran aground. A demand for her surrender was made by our authorities at Bayou Sara, on behalf of the military of the Parish of West Feliciana, and the volunteers from Wilkinson county, Mississippi. Capt. Erwin, commanding the Sumter, asked time to consider the matter of surrender, which was granted. Meanwhile, the Federal transport Ceres arrived, and the Confederates having no artillery to keep her off, she ran alongside the Sumter, which the officers and crew hastily abandoned, and escaped in the transport. Numerous small arms, and a large amount of stores, were found on board the Sumter, after securing which, she was fired and destroyed. Unfortunately, the flames destroyed the railroad depot of West Feliciana, which stood near the river bank, with 150 hds. of sugar. A part of this sugar had been seized by the Federals, and left there under claim of their gunboat Essex.

The next morning gunboat No. 7 and a transport arrived at Bayou Sara, and landed a small force, which was allowed to march half a mile inland, when they were attacked by the Confederates and driven back to their gunboats with a loss of some killed and wounded. One of their gunboats afterwards threw four shells into the town without any damage, and then retired.

Among the trophies captured from the Sumter, were two U. S. flags, one pennant, and one chest of signal flags.

The following despatch was received here, dated Bayou Sara the 17th,

"The iron-clad gunboat Essex is now lying in the river opposite our town. A heavy and continuous firing was heard last night in the direction of Port Hudson.