

Montgomery Weekly Mail

VOLUME IX.

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 7, 1863

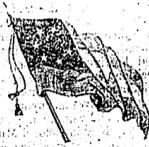
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The Weekly Mail.
HENRY F. COYNE,
EDITOR.



WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 7, 1863.

In surveying the actual condition of the Southern Confederacy, the most casual observer must be astonished at the amazing results which have been achieved since the organization of our government. A great nation has sprung into existence. It has won the applause of the world by its heroic achievements and its masterly administration. At the beginning of the contest we were without an army, and deficient in a navy. It is true, indeed, that we had the material for a navy in our hands, for all the ships at New Orleans, and the shipping in the Bay of Mobile, were in our possession, but we relinquished them in consequence of the duplicity of the Abolition government at Washington. In this state of uncertainty, we delayed in seizing the opportunities that presented, until it became apparent, that our enemy was gaining time by negotiation, and that they were secretly preparing ships of war for the relief of Fort Sumter, to which fortress Maj. Anderson had transferred his command from Fort Moultrie. This act of the Federal commander, inaugurated the war.

The Carolinians lost no time in reducing Fort Sumter. This event caused the two governments to organize their forces for a decision of the controversy, on the battle field. They presented at this time a striking contrast, for the one had an established government, having all the means and appliances for making immediate war—a regular army and a vast fleet of naval ships—while the other was a provisional government merely, without a regular soldier, or a single ship, with few arms and without the munitions of war. But fired by the spirit of independence the Confederates resolved to meet the issue boldly. They collected the materials of war wherever they could be found, and placed an army in the field before the enemy could assault them.

At length the two armies met at Manassas, and the abolitionists were signally defeated in one of the best fought and most scientific battles of modern times. This battle paralyzed the enemy for a time. But they recruited their strength, and by overwhelming numbers, succeeded in capturing Port Royal, Donelson, English and New Orleans. But this success was temporary. Having failed in Virginia, they determined to invade the Valley of the Mississippi, and their troops under Halleck marched from Memphis to Shiloh. Here they were met by the Confederates, commanded by Johnston, Beauregard, and Bragg, and were again defeated. The arrival of Buell, saved the abolition army from annihilation. The two armies reserved their original positions, but the enemy being largely reinforced, the Confederates fell back to Iuka, which caused the dispersion of Halleck's army, as they did not dare venture beyond cover of their gunboats. This closed the campaign in Mississippi.

Intelligence having been received from Kentucky that the State was anxious to expel the invaders, the President directed Gen. Bragg to enter that State. But it was soon discovered that Kentucky was not prepared to second the efforts of the Confederates, and Bragg returned to Tennessee, after having whipped the enemy at Perryville, and in many minor engagements. When we take into consideration the difficulties that Bragg had to contend with, we think that high honor should be accorded to him for having saved his army. Indeed, the abolition General Buell has been disgraced for not having captured him. But just before this move on Kentucky, important transactions had occurred in Virginia.

The Federal General McClellan had advanced from Yorktown to the environs of Richmond and there was fought a series of bloody battles, terminating in the defeat of McClellan by Lee. He fell back into Maryland, where he was followed by Lee, and once more defeated in the bloody battle of Sharpsburg. This defeat sealed the fate of McClellan, and he who had superseded McDowell was himself supplanted by Burnside.

This General took command of a force which was said by the Northern journals to be the best equipped army in the world. Its numbers must have exceeded two hundred thousand men, and the "On to Richmond" was once more the cry. It came—it came—but did not conquer—For Burnside was met at Fredericksburg on the Rappahannock, and was even more signally defeated by Lee than McClellan had been. His loss was immense. As the mist rises from off the fight, says an eye witness, and the clouds clear away from the battle, the extent of our victory, and the Yankee defeat, began to show itself. They admit a great defeat, and a loss during the whole engagement, beginning at the passage of the river, and ending with Saturday's great fight, of 15,000.

In view, therefore, of the facts which have been presented, we think that the Confederate Government is entitled to great praise. It has by a wise prudence won for itself the grat

itude of every lover of his country. It has organized the machinery of a government, put it in motion, and successfully accomplished its mission. It has called forth the whole army of the country, appointed able generals to command, and the public honor has, consequently, been gratified by a series of battles and victories that have no parallel in modern times.

The news from all points indicate that we are in the midst of a great crisis. The events of a few days will, perhaps, decide the fate of the Confederacy, and it will require all the skill of our generals, and all the valor of our troops, to repulse the "savage" invader from our soil. If we turn to Virginia, we shall find that Lee is making efforts to counteract the movements of the enemy, and beat him back to his original position. In North Carolina, the Yankees, in large force, are reported advancing on Weldon. In Tennessee, the army of Rosecrans has landed that of Bragg, and a decisive battle must be the result, and on that depends the fate of Alabama. In Mississippi, the attack on Vicksburg will occasion the most sanguinary conflict on record. This event will necessarily hurry on a battle between Johnston and Bridgeport, who were on their way to the West.

It is more than probable that whilst we are writing this article a sanguinary battle is being fought by the opposing forces of Bragg and Rosecrans. We do not fear the result.

A. C. WHEATON, a captain under Pierpont, was captured recently and sent to Richmond to be tried for the murder of Capt. Simpson, a Confederate prisoner of war. He is confined in Castle Thunder.

DISPATCHES FROM NORTH CAROLINA represent that the abolition army is again on the move from Newbern. One account says that their destination is Kingston, another that they are moving towards Weldon, via Greenville.

On Friday last, salt sold in Augusta at 28 cents per pound per sack; and it was offered at 38 cents per pound at retail in the same city. On Saturday it was sold by the sack at fifty dollars per hundred in Atlanta.

According to the statements of Governor Buckingham's message to the Connecticut Legislature, the draft has proved a great failure in that State—most of the men drafted having either deserted or got discharged on physician's or selectmen's certificates.

We have it from good authority, says the Mississippi of the 27th, that the enemy yesterday landed about 7000 troops at Young's Point, five miles above Vicksburg, on the Louisiana shore, and that they had taken possession of the rail road running to Richmond, La.

A dispatch to the Savannah Republican states that our army was heavily reinforced on the 23rd, and ordered to take its former position at all hazards. The force of the enemy is estimated at fifty thousand. Their object is supposed to be to flank us and cut off Chattanooga.

GEN. JOHN H. MORGAN entered Glasgow on Christmas eve, after brisk fighting, during the evening from the square, and capturing and killing a large number. The next day he burnt all the bridges between Memphis and Elizabethton, destroying fifteen miles of rail road.

The wife of the Hon. H. W. Bruce, and the wife of Judge Burnett, of Kentucky, in endeavoring to pass through the abolition lines at Nashville, under a flag of truce, were sent back to Murfreesboro by Rosecrans, and refused permission to return to their homes in Kentucky.

The Cincinnati Enquirer is grumbling because nearly all the Committees in the Senate have members from New England as Chairmen. It says the Abolition policy makes the fifteen millions of people who live in the Middle States and in the West, "a tail to the New England kite."

It is now satisfactorily ascertained that Gen. W. T. Sherman will command the expedition down the Mississippi to Vicksburg. He has returned to Memphis with General Smith's division, and is now busy in making the necessary arrangements to leave. It is thought that it will start by the 20th.

The Supreme Court of Alabama, has ordered that the order and rule distributing its business into Divisions, shall be suspended, at the next January Term, and cases shall be called from first to last commencing with the North Ala. Division. The Court will hold a term of three weeks at least, and until the business is disposed of.

The Confederate Government have had a profuse of loans from the capitalists of a number of the countries of Europe, while the Yankee Government have scoured Europe for a loan, but secured in vain! This goes to show that the far seeing sagacity of the bankers of European capitals have confidence in our independence, solvency and honor.

The Mobile Register says that our cavalry is doing yeoman service, and operating in the enemy's rear in North Mississippi and South Middle Tennessee, have already changed his whole programme, and forced him to fall back instead of pushing on in his invasion.

We expect to hear that Nashville is once more in the hands of the Confederates before very long.

The Memphis Argus says, on the authority of a gentleman who witnessed the configuration, that the Confederate cavalry burned three hundred bales of cotton at Sardis, Polk county, Mississippi, on the 15th inst.—It is said the quantity was worth \$75,000, and had been collected by parties who designed carrying it to Memphis.

Miscellaneous Items.
Gen. Wool has been superseded by Gen. Schoenck, and has gone to his home in Troy. This last report is that the expedition against Mobile is to be organized at Ship Island.

The reported attack on Memphis was a partisan ruse, giving the abolitionists a big scare.

The Rev. Edward Eugene Ford, long identified with Augusta as the faithful and laborious Rector of St. Paul's Church, is dead.

The New York Tribune says: The Confederate States must be recognized. Peace is the only chance for the present difficulties.

The proprietor of a Pennsylvania newspaper, which was suppressed some time ago by the U. S. Marshal, has sued that officer for damages.

The London Times says: New Orleans can serve for no other cause but as a warning to all Southern cities what submission to the North involves.

It is reported that Gen. Bragg has countermanded the movements of the troops between Lavergne and Bridgeport, who were on their way to the West.

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The whole number of abolition prisoners taken by our troops at Fredericksburg in the recent battle was 1,636; of whom 276 were paroled on the field, and the rest, 1,350, sent to Richmond. Four hundred of these are now ready to be sent away on parole, and will depart as soon as the abolition steamer reaches City Point to convey them off.

The Richmond correspondent of the Columbia Sun says that the Richmond *Atlas* the *Morning No. 2* has been completed some time, and it may not be improper to say she is already on the move to a point where she will "turn-up" to the discredit of the iron clads. She is truly formidable, and is commended by the gallant Capt. Program.

CHAS. the Yankee Secretary of the Treasury, confesses that "the resources of the Treasury have become inadequate to the demands upon it," and that "it is not in his power to arrest the accumulation of demands upon the Treasury beyond the possibility of provision for them under existing legislation." He says, however, if Congress will only adopt the measures recommended in his annual report all will go well, and the complaints about delays of payment will soon be removed.

With us—our not or us? Under this caption we received, some ten days since, a long extract from a speech, with a request to publish the same. We respectfully decline doing so, mainly because we cannot afford the expense of publishing such long documents and keep up our new columns at the same time. Parties wishing such publications in the Mail should offer to bear a portion of the expense; at least, the cost of setting the type.

The fifth of January seems to have been agreed upon for holding a newspaper convention at Macon, Ga. We hope there may be a good attendance of publishers and editors, and some action taken to remedy the evils under which the press of the country have labored since the war began. We have seldom known any permanent good to result from such conferences, but hope that the one in view may be conducted with wisdom and sincerity; that its action may be such that all can endorse, whether represented in it or not.

QVRS a novel petition was presented in the Georgia Legislature from some person in Franklin county. It stated in the preamble that the condition of the petitioners health was such, that a daily use of spirituous liquors was indispensable to his bodily well-being; that he was unable to buy liquor at present prices, and prayed the Legislature to grant him the privilege to make whiskey for his own use. A general smile of incredulity went up from the whole House though there is no doubt the petitioner was in dead earnest.

The New York Herald which so loudly boasted of "crushing out the rebellion in ninety days" has suddenly changed its tune, and now thinks that the war must be interminable, if it aims at the "annihilation of the South." It is refreshing, when we recollect the boasting of the North, to read such confessions of her hopelessness of conquering the South. It is quite evident that there are very many at the North; growing sick of the war, and becoming convinced of the hopelessness of accomplishing the purposes for which it was commenced.

The committee of the Federal Congress who were sent to inquire into the causes of the defeat of their army at Fredericksburg, have returned to Washington. They were accompanied in their visit by Senator Wilson, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. He expressed himself much delighted at the condition of the army, and speaks of the morals and discipline as most admirable. It is stated that the members of the committee generally were well pleased with what they saw, and regard the result as infinitely less serious than was previously apprehended. The whole thing is merely a dodge to cover up the defeat, and deceive the people at home as much as possible.

There are reports also that the enemy attempted a landing above Vicksburg, on the Mississippi shore, while the gunboats were firing on our batteries, and that they were repulsed seven times, by our militia on Wednesday. There is no doubt that the enemy are attempting to effect a landing and flank our batteries, as heavy firing has been distinctly heard in the vicinity of the mouth of the Yazoo river, every day, commencing on Wednesday morning last, but to what extent they have succeeded in their object we are unable to learn, there having been no dispatches from Vicksburg for several days. We shall look daily for exciting news from that vicinity.

Resolutions introduced by Mr. Valandigham in the abolition Congress on Monday, declares that the House does earnestly desire that the most speedy and effectual measures be taken for the restoration of peace in America, and that no time be lost in proposing an immediate cessation of hostilities in order to the speedy and final solution of the unhappy controversy, which brought about this melancholy and injurious civil war, by adequate security against the return of like calamities in time to come, and that the House desires to offer the most earnest assurances to the country that they will, in due time, cheerfully co-operate with the Executive and States for the restoration of the Union by such explicit and most solemn amendments and provisions of the Constitution, as may be found necessary for securing the rights of the several States and sections with the Union under the Constitution.

The Fredericksburg correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer says that a correspondent of the London Times was on the field of the battle of Fredericksburg; so that correct news will go to Europe. The same correspondent thus speaks of the captured "spies": "In a previous letter, I mentioned that we got about 100,000 rounds of cartridges. From more accurate sources, I learn that we got at least double this amount," besides some seven or eight thousand small arms, with knapsacks and cartridge boxes in great profusion. There were also found quite a number of boxes of "army bread" or crackers, with barrels of salt pork and pickled beef."

THE ENEMY IN CORNER COUNTRY. As yet we have no particulars of the result of the enemy's recent visit up the Choptank whither they were not a rumor "their biggest bluff" very little communication between the two sides of the State and this, particularly in the winter season, when the prairie roads are almost impassable. But it is probable, we think, that the enemy will attempt to obtain a foothold here, with the view of extending his operations by land into the interior. It is equally probable that the movement is intended as a feint to draw off our troops from Mobile or some other important point.

But in any event, the raid in Office county must be looked after, and we doubt not that the authorities will act promptly. It is understood that the regiment of cavalry traquets being raised by Col. Clanton is destined for this service; this would serve admirably as a nucleus, and should be heavily reinforced at once from the army. Let the old men and tall boys of the lower counties also turn out, and aid in every possible way to annoy and drive back the miserably vile scoundrels who come to destroy their homes.

The New York World of December 19th, says: There are American journals so ignorant or so biased to praise the administration of Gen. Butler at New Orleans. The fact is that he not only degrades the Union cause—the degrades civilization and humanity itself. He would be without apologies in Algeria. He ought to be without apologies in America. Silence concerning his abuses of power and malfeasance in office, his brutality and the "pecuniations" at which he winks, if he does not share their profits, might be tolerated by the consciences of those who, hopeless of moving the mind of Mr. Lincoln, were unwilling to really obstruct the Government, or even seem to encourage disloyalty. But when such silence is misconstrued into approbation, when presses are found which, like most of our "country-bred" papers, are "the city," mostly praise Gen. Butler, dwell upon the cleverness of his rhetoric and the efficiency of his rule, which lead the "sole" brahmin of his intercourse with "recessions," as if that were the best "mode" of bringing them to reason—when presses are found which have the effrontery to be ignorant to represent the number of those who "have taken up arms" or "allegiance" to the number of those whose hearts have been estranged to loyalty, then silence becomes a crime. The truth concerning this brutal and most unprincipled man should then be told, and he should be denounced as he deserves, that the shame of the loyal and honest millions whose Government Mr. Lincoln has sent him to represent may at least be undeserved.

New Publications.
The Camp Fires, Battle Fields and Marches of the Southern Army, by "Personne," Army Correspondent of the Charleston Courier. The above is the title of a volume now ready for issue. Its object is to preserve a picture of the life in every phase of the command. It contains incidents, anecdotes, sketches and descriptions, ranging from grave to gay, from lively to severe, as may not find their way into history, and yet ought to be perpetuated among the annals of the war. The work is intended for amusement as well as instruction, and these peculiarities will be so combined that it may form an aid to any complete narrative of the present time which will be heretofore published.

The efforts of the writer, however, will be greatly facilitated by contributions of incidents from other sources than his own personal budget, and he respectfully requests our soldiers, wherever they are, to send him all interesting material at the command. If anecdote, phrency and pointer, has encountered a camp fire, or a deed of daring has marked a battle field, or the character of the Southern soldier has been developed in any manner let it be recorded, and it will be the pleasure of the author to receive and incorporate all such contributions in the forthcoming volume.

The same writer also announces a Southern Women in the War of Southern Independence. Any facts pertinent to this subject will also be welcomed, and if properly authenticated, be adopted as a part of the history. Address F. G. DeFontaine, Collier Office, Charleston, S. C.

FREDERICKSBURG.—The town of Fredericksburg, Virginia, having suddenly become a point on which public interest centers, we deem it appropriate to give a brief description of the place. It is pleasantly situated in a fertile valley, in Spotsylvania county, on the south side of the Rappahannock river, at the head of tide water, 65 miles north of Richmond, and 110 miles above Chesapeake Bay. The population in 1860 was 5,000. The town was named in honor of Prince Frederick, father of George III, and was established at an early period of the colonial era. It contains a court house, several churches, an orphan asylum, three banks, several mills and foundries, three non-weekly newspaper offices, etc. The Rappahannock affords valuable motive power, available at a falls above. A canal, extending to a point forty miles west of the town, affords means of transportation for the products of a rich farming country, and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Rail Road crosses the city with all State Capital. Just beyond the limits of the city an unfinished monument, begun in 1833, marks the tomb of the mother of Washington, who died there in 1789.—*Charleston Courier.*

For the Montgomery Weekly Mail, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your issue of the 1st inst., and to thank you for the interesting and valuable information it contains. I am particularly pleased to see that you have given so much space to the history of the late war, and to the brave deeds of our soldiers. I am sure that your readers will find it most interesting and profitable.

I received your letter dated some two weeks since, and was glad to hear from you. I am sure that you will have a very successful campaign. I am sure that you will have a very successful campaign. I am sure that you will have a very successful campaign.

I was with the 2d Arkansas Cavalry when the battle was fought, and I plainly heard that and the Hotchkie river fight. I remained on the Mobile and Ohio rail road for three weeks with a part of our regiment on duty there under Major Harris, and was in one skirmish at Redick. As soon as I got a horse I rode across the country to Holly Springs, and joined the command at Salem, fifteen miles north of Holly Springs. We remained there about one month when an advance of the enemy in force caused our army to fall back to Abbeville on Tallahatchie river, sixteen miles north of Holly Springs, and entered there, the cavalry operating the main body between Abbeville and Holly Springs, and out on the banks. We had an engagement with the enemy's cavalry some two thousand strong at Lumpkin's Mills, on half way ground, and drove them back eight miles.

I was on picket at the time with the company was cut off, but got a guide, and took the woods, making a nearly perfect retreat. It was in time to get the light. Our regiment with the 2d Arkansas Cavalry was then next to Hickory Plate to guard Rocky Ford, the approach to the right wing of our army. We remained there only a few days when the enemy having flanked our army on the left, and a retreat being again on hand, we were ordered to Oxford to take part in the retreat.

Col. Jackson, chief of cavalry (successor to Armstrong) has managed things badly. At Oxford our wagons were only forty miles ahead of the Yankee cavalry. Col. Jackson with half a dozen fresh regiments, ran away and left the 2d Arkansas Cavalry to picket and watch the enemy's movements. We had then a day and a night in the middle. The next morning the enemy outflanked and captured Capt. Rogers and company of the 4th, and attacked our camp while we were at breakfast. We could not make night in the "min" body. So we crossed the river (Yazoo) and made a retreat to the north. This was a beautiful place to stop, but we burned the bridge, and fell back two miles to camp for the night. During the night the enemy got a force of several regiments of mounted riflemen early in the morning, and the next morning early attacked and drove in our pickets. We then retreated in order for two miles, when Col. Jackson, having been applied of the enemy's having flanked us, ordered the 2d and 4th from the rear to the front, to charge a column of cavalry near a church. The orders were to get our way through at all hazards. (I was an acting Adjutant, as Lieut. Leo was at home after deserting.) The Lieut. Leo was at home after deserting. The Lieut. Leo was at home after deserting.

The fire was at very close quarters, and withering. The regiment in column of fours was broad-side to the Yankee line of infantry, firing down within twenty steps. The column halted, and was under a murderous fire. I was at the head, but could not see anything of Col. Gordon, so I took off my cap and ordered a charge. The head of the column followed in style, and in a minute we were among the infantry, being buck-shot at ten paces. Here if we had been supported they were whipped, but we only had large companies of the 2d Ark. less than 100 men in all. These were opposed to a whole brigade, the fight, therefore, was too unequal. A fellow ran out of the ranks to take hold of my rifle, I raised my revolver, and he fired almost in my face, but too hurriedly to get aim. I shot him in the belly, which fell at double quick with the rest of the column. If it had not been for a minute passed about an inch from my head; but I was unattached, and must say that I had had enough of ambuscades. The Yankees are very poor shots, or all of us must have been killed. We lost ten killed and wounded, and a good many horses. I lost my saddle bags, and all my clothing, and had my arms and feet wet to the thighs.

The day after the Water Valley affair, the same force of Yankees were badly whipped at Coffeeville; our loss is little—there were among them many officers of good standing. We checked the enemy's advance, and our wagons and artillery crossed safely at Greenville, where we were resting on battle-joined teams, and preparing to give the final battle for the mastery of the Valley of the Mississippi.

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The Case of *Smith v. Jones*, for an agreement to sell the property of the late John Smith, deceased, to the public meeting of the subject of small property, which was denounced for "wanting treckless" and held up to the "censure and execution of an outraged community."

That the citizens, or any portion of the citizens, would have entertained resolutions so derogatory of the character of any one, without affording an opportunity for explanation or defence—without making a single inquiry of those who might have given correct information on the subject matter in short, without notice of any sort, was a procedure for which I am totally unprepared, and could not have believed possible. Such a standard of justice I venture to say had not been set up in any other section of our land, and such a doubt not as the meeting at Greenville, with Judge Henry, their chairman, would be very unwilling to have created for them. The case I think has no parallel even to the tribunals of Judge Lynch or Corp. Jones. They explained and defended. That Judge Henry and his meeting at Greenville are willing to condemn—without a hearing—in unmeasured and infamous terms, a man who has served and is serving his country, are willing, as usual, like to stab in the dark. A witness, as usual, first, and if necessary, the most ordinary principles of justice were here inquired, at least if the accused had thought to say why sentence of condemnation should not be passed upon him, but it seems to have been more in accordance with the feelings of Judge Henry and his meeting, to see a man first, and if necessary, the most ordinary principles of justice were here inquired, at least if the accused had thought to say why sentence of condemnation should not be passed upon him, but it seems to have been more in accordance with the feelings of Judge Henry and his meeting, to see a man first, and if necessary, the most ordinary principles of justice were here inquired, at least if the accused had thought to say why sentence of condemnation should not be passed upon him, but it seems to have been more in accordance with the feelings of Judge Henry and his meeting, to see a man first, and if necessary, the most ordinary principles of justice were here inquired, at 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Northern Notes.

Northern dates of the 1st January have been received.

James Brooks made a speech in New York on Tuesday last at a meeting, at which resolutions were unanimously adopted requesting New Jersey, on account of her revolutionary history and past associations, to invite all the States to meet in convention in Louisville, in February. They also call upon New Jersey to ask permission of the President to allow her to send delegates to the States in rebellion, and in the event that the States in rebellion agree to be represented, they ask Lincoln to proclaim an armistice by land and sea for six months. Brooks was enthusiastically applauded.

It is time that the delusion so prevalent at the North, that a reconstruction of the Union can be accomplished, should be dispelled. They cannot brook the idea, that the South has discarded their association, and defeated all their plans for supremacy. When the revolution first broke out, they determined to crush the South in sixty days. We were deceived as a weak, and worthless race, which is merely by the sufferance and protection of the North. One of their pompous politicians, James Watson Webb, before leaving for South America, made a speech in New York, in which he said, that we of the South were such cowards, that the New York 7th regiment could march through every Southern State and conquer them all. This reminds us of the circumstance related by Dr. Franklin in one of his letters or papers. He says that, being at a dinner party in London, he heard a certain British general named Clark assert that the American colonists were such cowards, that a single British regiment could march from one end of the continent to the other, and geld all the males.

To what shall we ascribe this manner of dealing in affairs of magnitude? Is it silliness or madness? Or have the leading men of the North adopted this plan of systematic deception for the purpose of humbugging the people, and hounding them on to certain destruction? If the northern editors, political orators, and members of the Yankee Congress, truly represent the mental calibre of the North, all we have to say is that Yankeeism is a nation of fools as well as liars.

But a change has come over their delusion. The disease has broken out in a new spot. From crusting, it has, not only obliterated the very names of our States from the map of America, they talk about reconstruction. The proposition is that New Jersey shall send delegates to the Southern States, asking them to be represented in a general convention to be held at Louisville, and if they consent, Lincoln will be asked to proclaim an armistice by land and sea for six months. This is the plan for reconstruction, and it is as clearly proposed as if the South has no memory for the wrong that she has suffered from these ruffians. Even if all the atrocious deeds which have been done to our citizens since this war began, could be wiped away, the South would never, to unite once again, on any terms, with the North. We should like to see their delegates coming South on their mission. It would be pleasant to see the Hon. Jonathan Doollittle, and the Hon. Peleg Q. Stowe, presented to President Davis. The scene would be a rich one. If ever it occurs, we shall describe it expressly for the Mail.

Operations at Murfreesboro. The signal victory of Bragg over Rosecranz gives additional interest to incidents which transpired in that quarter previous to the battle. We shall, therefore, condense before the engagement. On the 28th of December, the enemy made a general advance, driving in our pickets. A heavy cannonading was kept up till dark, our advance having fallen back, with the loss, it is reported, of the guns taken at Perryville. That night our army was reinforced, and orders were issued to retake our former position at all hazards. On the 30th Rosecranz demanded the surrender of Murfreesboro. Bragg's reply was "come and take it."

The light Tenthury afternoon was conducted principally by our artillery. Rosecranz threw a large force of reconnaissance upon our position, which was repulsed after several hours of heavy skirmishing. The 154th Tennessee completely demolished an Illinois regiment which attempted to capture a battery. We took several hundred prisoners, 250 of whom have arrived at Chattanooga.

In the evening Gen. Wheeler (from the rear) attacked and destroyed a large train near Lawrence, making prisoners of the entire escort. It is understood that Gen. Morgan—having completed the work he set out to do in Kentucky—returned and united with Wheeler in the enemy's rear. Gen. Forrest is also reported to have formed the same junction, which increased our cavalry force between Rosecranz and Nashville to fifteen thousand. These incidents were followed by the battle on Wednesday. Gov. Harris sent the following dispatch from the field:

The bloodiest day of the war has closed. The battle commenced this morning at day-light. McCown's division attacked the enemy's right, driving them back with great slaughter. By three in the afternoon the enemy had been driven back six miles from our left and centre. We have captured three thousand prisoners, and over twenty pieces of cannon. Gen. Willick and a number of abolition officers, are prisoners. Gen. Sill, McCook and Woodruff were killed.

Our loss heavy—enemy's estimated at five to our one. Gen. Bains, Col. McNair, and Col. Aubrey of the 27th Mississippi, Lieut. B. C. Enoe of the 1st Louisiana, killed. Col. Black, 7th Georgia, and Col. Fick, 25th

twenty-fifth Louisiana, mortally wounded—Gen. Bragg and Polk displayed great judgment and heroism. Wharton's cavalry captured two thousand prisoners with a large supply wagon train, and 400 beavers. Yesterday Wheeler burnt two hundred and eighty wagons in the enemy's rear, and captured six hundred prisoners. Our troops covered themselves with glory. The battle may be resumed to-morrow.

Vicksburg.

The recent engagement near Vicksburg was one of the most brilliant events of the war, and yet strange to say very little has been said about it, beyond a passing notice in the telegraphic dispatches. The Yankees were commanded by Col. Francis P. Blair who assumed the position of Gen. Lee commanding the Confederate army at Vicksburg.

We learn from the correspondent of the Jackson Mississippi, that the fight was resumed in sight of the city on the river bank, at 6 o'clock on the morning of the 30th of December, and continued for two hours. Our loss on the 29th will not exceed fifteen killed and wounded. The 3d and 30th Tennessee were thrown in front of our batteries, and the enemy making his appearance in the edge of the woods, these regiments fell back to a second line of entrenchments. This movement had the desired effect; the enemy advanced about 8,000 strong, in fine order, when the Tennesseans rose and poured a deadly fire into their ranks; fell and loaded again, fired and charged. The loss of the Yankees was 300 killed and wounded, and 400 taken prisoners, and six hundred stands of arms captured.

This was, we believe the first occasion on which Gen. Lee commanded an army. He is a South Carolinian by birth. When the war broke out, he resigned his commission in the United States army and joined the army of South Carolina. It was under his superintendence that the fort of Port Royal was constructed. In the summer of 1861 he was appointed to a captaincy in the provisional army and repairing to Virginia, took part in most of the bloody battles fought in that State. His courage and talents were so conspicuously displayed that he was made a General, and selected to defend "Vicksburg the Heroic." His name is Stephen D. Lee.

We notice that Captain Paul Hamilton, the Adjutant of General Lee has died from wounds received in one of these engagements. He was, we believe, a South Carolinian, and a grandson of the late Paul Hamilton, who was Secretary of the Navy in Mr. Madison's time.

We learn from the Vicksburg Whig that Capt. Hamilton, Gen. Lee's Adj. Gen. was killed by the explosion of a cannon belonging to Capt. Wafford's battery. The explosion was caused by one of the enemy's shells falling in the caisson.

The dispatch announcing a battle at Murfreesboro between Bragg and Rosecranz, and the victory of our troops, must send a thrill of joy throughout the South. When we take into consideration the difficulties against which Gen. Bragg had to contend, we must regard the victory as a splendid triumph. It is well known that the perilous condition of our army in Mississippi demanded a large detachment from the force in Tennessee, leaving Bragg with only a portion of the army which he had under his command on the first of December. The knowledge of this fact caused many fears for the safety of our forces at Murfreesboro. We do not believe that Bragg would have been so bold, but that overruled by the multitudinous army of Rosecranz, he would be obliged to retreat on Chattanooga, as Pemberton under similar circumstances, had fallen back upon Genesada.

It was in this painful suspense, that we have been noting from time to time, the position and prospects of our army in Tennessee. For some days we have been told by the telegraph that there was firing by the pickets, the more recent statement being that of a skirmish, attended with the falling back of our advanced guard, and the loss of the guns taken at Perryville. This news was well calculated to fill us with apprehensions for the integrity of our position, and the ability of Bragg to maintain himself at Murfreesboro.

But our gloomy forebodings have been dispelled, for "we have met the enemy and they are ours." They have been whipped over more thoroughly than Burnside was by Lee, and we may confidently expect to hear that Bragg has secured his victory by driving the invaders back to Nashville. All honor to our noble army which has achieved this brilliant victory, and to the General who has once more "bound their brows with victorious wreaths."

It is almost impossible to calculate the important consequences of this victory. All apprehensions for the safety of Alabama have been dispelled, and with a similar achievement by the army of Mississippi, the entire South West will be free from the presence of the miscreants who have polluted our soil.

High Gen. Joe Wheeler, Jr. We have frequently spoken in the highest terms of this young General. Our predictions are true. He has accomplished one of the greatest feats of the age. With his small brigade of cavalry, mostly Alabamians, he made a circuit of the enemy, when the advance was encountered on Murfreesboro capturing 2800 prisoners, 400 beavers, and burned 1080 loads of wagons. There is now no more gallant and only brave than this young officer. He is only 27 years old and bids fair to be one of the first Generals in our Confederacy. It will be remembered that the 1st Alabama cavalry regiment belongs to this brigade. This is indeed a veteran Regiment. Alabama is proud of it, and well may she be. It is commanded by as daring an officer (W. W. Allen) as ever drew a sword in defence of his country. We have frequently read persons who belong to other Regiments in Gen. W.'s brigade, that they never heard a man speak in higher terms of a Regiment than does Gen. W. of the 1st Alabama cavalry. We learn that this regiment, through the influence of Gen. Wheeler, numbers 1,000 men strong, and is commanded by the following field officers:

- Colonel—W. W. Allen, of Montgomery. Lieutenant Colonel—Hendley, of North Alabama. Major—T. Blakey, of Montgomery Ala. bama.

Seward's Policy.

A few days since the telegraph informed us, that Seward remains in Lincoln's Cabinet only upon the condition that a conservative policy be adopted by the Administration; and that he is violently opposed to the proclamation. There is a mystery about this intelligence that we do not comprehend. If by conservative policy it be meant that Seward is in favor of preserving the Black Republican party from disintegration and dissolution, we can well understand what is meant. But if the conservative policy indicates a relaxation of the measures which the abolition Administration has pursued since the inauguration of President Lincoln, with the hearty concurrence of the party which brought him into power, then we do not believe that there is one scintilla of truth in the report. Seward in favor of conciliation or concession! Why he is the very impersonation of unrelenting cruelty and unbridled villainy. From the period of his first entrance into the Congress of the United States, as a Senator from New York he has been noted for his pertinacity and obstinacy. His motto has ever been to rule or ruin. His speeches in the Senate, and during the political campaign of 1860, all declare a radical policy, that is the destruction of the Constitution of the United States. We well remember his speeches in 1860, when he declared it to be the purpose of his party to abolish the navy and the judiciary, as they were merely instruments of Southern power and influence. And since he has been the Prime Minister of Lincoln, what has he not done to gratify the abolitionists and consolidate their power? Does this coincide with the report of his being opposed to the emancipation proclamation? Look at his late letter to Mr. Adams, in which he vindicates the policy that has been promulgated in the recent proclamation. If we compare this letter with the telegraph report, we shall be forced to the conclusion that there is an error somewhere, for it is wholly impossible that a wretch like Seward can be in favor of any conservative policy.

The Mobile Advertiser and Register, of Sunday, comes to us in a whole sheet, and with a greater variety of interesting matter than usual, if that be possible. In addition to excellent letters from its Tennessee and Mississippi correspondents it contains an index of events in 1862, and a memoir of Lamar Fontaine, one of the "Unknown Heroes" of the war, but whose beautiful lines—"All quiet along the Potomac to night"—will immortalize his memory.

Kidnapped News Items.

On the 1st of January everything was quiet along the Yazoo lines.

Corron cards are now being made in the Georgia Penitentiary at the rate of thirty pairs per day.

Prices in Richmond, we are glad to see, are steadily declining. Salt has had a tremendous tumble, and wood, matches, and other articles, are abundant at reduced prices.

Marquis Harrington, M. P. from North Lancashire, England, and Col. Wm. Leslie, M. P. from Managhan, have arrived in Richmond from Washington.

A DESIRABLE PLANTATION FOR SALE.—The plantation of the estate of Mr. Jno. B. Carpenter, dec'd, described in our advertising columns, is for sale. It is valuable.

FIRE IN COLUMBUS, GA.—The warehouse of Greenwood & Gray, in Columbus, Georgia, with 6000 bales of cotton, was burned on the morning of the 31st ult., supposed to have been done by design.

Capt. McDonald who invented the torpedo which blew up the gunboat Cairo, is a mechanic from Monroe county, Ky. He was burnt for his life.

ISAAC WAYNE OWING, a well known Philadelphia, who, beginning life as a lawyer, became afterwards a dramatist and theatrical manager, died recently at Philadelphia. He was the husband of the actress known as Miss Julia Daly.

The arrest of John H. Harman, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and his being sent off to Fort Lafayette, are creating considerable excitement in Michigan. A few more such arrests, it is said, will turn the State over to the Democrats.

Mr. YAZOR has introduced a bill in the Mississippi Legislature instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill which will provide for the payment of cotton destroyed by order of the Government.

We understand, says the Columbus Sun that our friend and confere, Capt. George H. Shorter, of the Montgomery Advertiser participated in the late battle at Murfreesboro, and was wounded painfully, but not dangerously, in the arm.

The Vicksburg Whig of the 1st instant, learns that a train loaded with soldiers on the Southern railroad ran off the track yesterday near Smith's platform, killing some thirty, and wounding many others. The troops were coming to this city.

GENERAL LEE said he would gladly give back all the killed and wounded abolitionists at Fredericksburg in return for the heroic Gregg. "It is a great loss," (Gen. Jackson) took leave of the expiring hero, and Gen. A. P. Hill, it is said, kissed him. How honored and beloved he was!

JAY'S TURNOUT.—This famous partisan fighter has turned up again. He reported to Gen. Holmes the other day that he had captured \$70,000 worth of Yankee plunder, and sent him a large lot of shoes for his soldiers. He was at the head of 8,000 men, and said to the General: "I want to be let alone and have no orders."

The Columbus Sun learns from a private dispatch, that Col. H. D. Clayton of the 39th Alabama, was wounded, though not dangerously, in the late battle at Murfreesboro; and that his brother, Captain Clayton, was dangerously, and it was feared, mortally wounded in the same engagement.

PAINTED REPORT.—We learn that a gentleman who arrived from Murfreesboro yesterday, reports that Capt. Benj. C. Yancy son of Hon. W. L. Yancy, fell in the late battle at that place, while gallantly leading his company. It was feared that he was mortally wounded.

The La Grange Reporter learns by a gentleman just from Atlanta that reliable news had reached that city at late hour on Wednesday night, that our victory near Murfreesboro was complete. Prisoners were being captured by regiments. Many Kentucky regiments laid down their arms and joined our forces, and predicated a total rout and capture of the Federal army.

It is evident from the sentiment North, that the backbone of the invasion has been broken, and that the Southern Confederacy is fast getting into a position from which it can destroy the dawn of independence in the distant horizon. More battles may have to be fought, perhaps a fierce one in the West; but the "Absconcs" has begun to uncurl himself and will soon lie prostrate and outstretched at our feet.

FROM VICKSBURG.—We find the following items in the Citizen of the 30th ult: Four or five stands of colors captured by our army yesterday were displayed to the gaze of the curious in front of Gen. Smith's headquarters last evening.

One belonged to the 29th Missouri, and had the following motto: "29th Missouri—From our St. Louis friends." This flag was very bloody and must have been in the hottest of the fight. Another bore the inscription—"56th Ohio—E. Pluribus Unum." with a sword eagle embroiled in the middle. This was a splendid flag, and is very badly torn—a shell having passed through the centre. Another is a plain United States flag, with the inscription: "13th Illinois, and is badly mangled." The other belonged to the 31st Missouri, and seems to have been a battle flag, without motto. This one is entirely unaltered.—The Yankee who carried it must have dropped it while changing base.

The Vicksburg Whig says that no fighting has yet taken place at Fort Hudson, other report to the contrary notwithstanding. The enemy's movements made their appearance. They are reported to have destroyed the Vicksburg, Sbr-report and Texas railroad as far out as D. Smith's eight miles distant. The bridges over the Texas and Macon are said to have been burned. The telegraph lines to Providence and Monroe have been cut. We hardly believe they ventured as far as D. Smith.

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Burnside's Official Report.

Burnside's official account of the late disaster at Fredericksburg is published in the Herald and is characterized by that paper as a "curious document, which evidences the generosity of the writer's nature with more force than it does his judgment as a military commander." We annex Burnside's account.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, PALMOUTH, DEC. 19, 1862.

Gen. H. W. Halleck, General in Chief, U. S. Army, Washington: General: I have the honor to offer the following reasons for moving the Army of the Potomac across the Rappahannock soon after than was anticipated by the President, Secretary of War, or yourself, and for crossing at a point different from the one indicated by you at our last meeting at the President's. During the preparations for crossing at the place I had in mind, I discovered that the enemy had thrown a large portion of his force down the river and elsewhere, thus weakening his defenses in front, and also that I discovered that he did not anticipate the crossing of our whole force at that place, and I hoped; by that time, to be able to cross and overtake the forces of the enemy on the river below from the "forces behind" and on the coast, in the rear of the town, in which case our force would fight with great advantage in our favor.

To do this we had to gain a height on the extreme right of the crest, which height commanded a new road laterally which height we crossed for purposes of more rapid communication along his lines, which point gained, driven from them easily by an attack on his rear in connection with a movement in the front of the crest.

How near we came to accomplishing our object future reports will show. But for the fog and unexpected and unavoidable delay in crossing the river, which was caused by the force in its advanced position, we would almost certainly have succeeded in what was our battle would have been, in my opinion, far more decisive than if we had crossed at the place first selected. As it was, we came very near success.

Fog in accomplishing the main object, we remained in order of battle for two days—long enough to decide that the enemy would not come out of his stronghold to fight us with his infantry—after which we were repulsed to this side of the river unmolested, without the loss of men or property.

As the day broke our long lines of troops were seen marching to their different positions as if going on a raid. Not the least demonstration or disorganization was observed. To the brave officers and soldiers who accomplished the feat of thus recrossing the river in the face of the enemy, I owe everything.

In the failure in the attack, I am responsible, as the extreme gallantry, courage and endurance shown by them never exceeded, and would have carried the point, had it been possible.

To the families and friends of the dead, I can only offer my heartfelt sympathy; but for the wounded, I can offer my earnest prayers for their comfortable and final recovery. The fact that I decided to move from Washington on this line, rather than to give up the position of the President, Secretary of War, and yourself, and that you left the whole movement in my hands, without giving me orders, makes me responsible.

I will add here that the movement was made earlier than you expected, after the President, Secretary, and yourself, had questioned me not to be in haste, for the reason that we were supplied much sooner by the different staff departments than we anticipated when I last saw you.

Our killed amounted to about 1,100; our wounded about 700 which last have been prepared to be exchanged for about the same number taken by us.

The wounded were all removed to this side of the river, and are being well cared for, and the dead were all buried under a flag of truce.

The surgeons report a much larger proportion of slight wounds than usual, 1,622 only being treated in hospitals. I am glad to report the army at the present time in good condition.

Thanking the government for that entire support and confidence which I have always received from them.

I remain General, Very respectfully, Your obt. serv't, E. A. BURNSIDE.

Maj. Gen. C. G. Smith, of the Potomac. Evénement of St. Simon's Island. We alluded a few days since to a report that the Yankees had abandoned some of the islands on our coast. We learn that they have evacuated St. Simon's Island. The force on the island comprised some three hundred whites and two hundred negroes, who, it seems on learning that Capt. Hazzard, with his corps of rangers, had nearly completed his arrangements for an attack on them, suddenly embarked on a couple of gunboats and left the place. A faithful negro by the name of Henry, belonging to Capt. Hazzard, who had volunteered to remain on the island and protect the Yankees' property, being suspected by Capt. Hazzard in a previous raid on the island, (an account of which we published in the News) was arrested by them shortly after their departure, and placed in one of their gunboats, where he was kept for three strong guard on shore. He says that Capt. Hazzard's corps, and that large number of negroes were afterwards placed under the agency of negro guides, and were ordered to kill him. On last Thursday week, they sent over spies in the neighborhood of the Altamaha, who returned with the intelligence that Capt. Hazzard had been on the island; that the white troops had left to leave the island, and that every negro must leave the island immediately. The same night the negroes were banded on board the two gunboats in the greatest confusion, in the midst of which Henry effected his escape from the island, and made his way on the wreck of a boat to his master at Camp Clinch. Henry says the Yankees had, previous to the news of Capt. Hazzard's contemplated attack, no intention of leaving the island, every acre of which they were to be planted with cotton next season. Henry says he learned from their conversation that it was the intention of the Abolitionists to attack Charleston by land and water shortly.—SERRANUS NEWS.

Mrs. F. W. Lauder, formerly Miss Jean Davenport, the actress, and widow of the late General Landor, has been appointed Lady St. George of the South, and will soon proceed with her mother to Port Royal, South Carolina, where they will reside.

Judge Gould of New York has written a scorching letter to Lincoln about the arrest of Golden Tracy, who was recently arrested and sent to Fort Lafayette. He says: "Spies are hardly cautioned when they are where they can do infinite harm; but a person here, who is not in opposition, for doing mischief, if he would, and who is supposed to have no friends."

In this respect, I think, there has been a mistake. It is true that he is a young man, of not much means or influence; it is also true that he has a young wife (married long since), and for no assignable cause, and no assignable cause, that those in power dare not give breath to, he is taken away from his home without a chance to see him. This is the young man who lived and died a Senator of the United States from Connecticut, who was the first man buried in the Congressional burying ground at Washington, and whose ashes were scattered in this atrocious invasion of the liberties of the people in the person of his descendant.

I am not speaking merely my own opinion of such arrests. I know the opinions and the feelings of many of my brethren of the bench, and of the Government, is really desirous of public our opinions, they will be heard not merely in the writ of *habeas corpus*, but in open declaration to the world.

Had I been a few hours earlier made aware of this case, I should not have troubled you with a word; but I would have seen that the process of the Supreme Court in this State accused of such offences from any arrest, other than one under the appropriate process of the courts.

I beg again to assure you, in all sincerity, already, and that, while to the last of our men and our means we are ready and determined to sustain the law over this whole land, we are also determined to be judged by the law and not by any Secretary or any one who is not commissioned for that purpose.

I know and acknowledge the rules of war, where the necessity of the case requires the existence of martial law, and the broad, common law of liberty, and the broad, great Charter of the Constitution.

RODE'S BRIGADE.—The following is a list of the killed and wounded in Rode's Brigade at the battle of Fredericksburg:

THIRD ALABAMA. Company C—Killed: Privato A. Bonner. Company H—Killed: Privato Iverson. Company O—Wounded: Privato J. Fort, F. M. Milan.

FIFTH ALABAMA. Company D—Killed: Privato L. S. Dostick. Wounded: Privato James Lee, W. H. Shelton.

Company G—Wounded: Privato J. F. Childs, Thomas Deardon. Company I—Wounded: Privato H. V. Barnes, A. J. Langley.

SIXTH ALABAMA. Company B—Killed: Privato Jas. Graco. Wounded: B. H. Campbell. Company D—Wounded: Sergeant P. Daguer.

Company G—Wounded: Corporal D. Howell. Company H—Wounded: Privato B. Lovell.

Company I—Wounded: Privato Thomas Parker, Joseph Lake. Company A—Wounded: Privato Frank Henderson.

SEVENTH ALABAMA. Company D—Wounded: Corp'l W. Saunders. Company F—Wounded: Privato A. B. Jordan, B. W. Williams. Company G—Wounded: Serg't M. Brickfield.

Company I—Wounded: Capt. S. M. Wimberly, Serg't, P. J. Gilpin. Company K—Wounded: Sergeant M. Miller.

FEDERAL OPPRESSION.—A gentleman who has recently been relieved from prison life at Camp Chase, and who is a citizen of Western Virginia, has furnished the Richmond Dispatch one of many incidents in connection with the cruelty practiced by the Federal hirelings towards the loyal people in North-western Virginia:

In the early part of last summer, a blacksmith, of Wood county, named McGinnis, who was suspected of sympathy with the South, was arrested and taken to Wheeling. A short time previous to his arrest he had lost his wife, and the only remaining members of his family were two boys, one nine and the other twelve years old. In the hope that his imprisonment would be of short duration, he requested that his two children might accompany him, which was granted—it was such only for the purpose of increasing his distress. When they arrived at Wheeling, the whole party, without examination, were thrown into prison—the father in one cell and the children in another, without the privilege of communicating with each other in any way. After several days of severe privations, they were transferred to Camp Chase, where the same relentless rigor was visited upon them.

The most touching appeals of the little boys for permission to communicate with their father, were disregarded, and their repeated applications for an interview refused. Finally, and the harsh treatment received, the father died in prison, whilst the children were retained, and are still kept in confinement—clothed with rags and covered with filth.

A NEW ALABAMA BRIGADE.—In reorganizing the army corps of Gen. Kirby Smith, a new Alabama brigade has been created and put under the command of Brigadier General B. D. Tracy, of Huntsville. The following regiments are assigned to it:

Col. Garrett, 20th Alabama; Col. Beck, 22d Ala.; Col. Shelley, 30th Ala.; Col. Hundley, 31st Ala.; Col. Wood, 46th Ala.; Capt. Wadsworth, Alabama Battery, 6 guns.

The following are announced as Gen. Tracy's staff:

Capt. J. L. Cunningham, A. A. Gen. Lieut. Orlton Walker, Aid-de-Camp. Major Wm. P. Hollisworth, Commissary. Lieut. E. O. Spragins, Ordnance Officer. Capt. B. M. Lowe, Jr., Assistant Inspector General.

MANY inquiries are made for the circumstances which gave John Van Buron the appellation of "Prince John." It was an old story of party in twenty-five years ago, during the rebellion, and John was one of the young ladies paid him a good deal of attention, and even, "as the story runs," danced a measure with him.

From this arose the title of "Prince John," which has stuck to him ever since. It is more appropriate than most nicknames, because John is a "prince" in more senses than one.

The players and musicians of the North seem to be scattered in every direction, and are dropping sadly. Oulman and Forrest are in Europe. Edwin Booth has either gone to Australia, (possibly he is playing the pious, with Carolina Patti for a sister of Adeline), in Cincinnati. Mr. Waller is at Winter Gardens. Joseph Jefferson has reached London from Melbourne. John Brothman, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams and Maggie Mitchell are illustrating between Philadelphia and Washington City.

Special Correspondence of the Mail. MOBILE, JAN. 2, 1863. Visit of President Davis: His review of Col. Murphy's Command. Scenes at the Battle of Vicksburg. Lincoln's Blockade.

The long expected and anxiously anticipated visit of President Davis to the Confederate metropolis of Alabama has at length been realized. He arrived in a special train on Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock, and took rooms at the Battle House, whence he was followed by an immense concourse of people who desired to see and hear the chief magistrate of our young and gigantic confederacy.

In hearing him then, the vast assemblage was disappointed; for the President, in a few moments, accompanied by Gen. Buckner, Mackall, Slaughter, Ledbetter, Admiral Buchanan, and their respective staffs, rode down the "Shell road" to review Colonel Virgil S. Murphy's command and his charges. The batteries having been each separately inspected, the President then proceeded to the residence of the General, in which they were kept, and the skill and discipline exhibited by the officers and men.

The infantry were then reviewed in a large, open parade ground, where the ground, so gloriously, in a few moments, accompanied by Gen. Buckner, Mackall, Slaughter, Ledbetter, Admiral Buchanan, and their respective staffs, rode down the "Shell road" to review Colonel Virgil S. Murphy's command and his charges. The batteries having been each separately inspected, the President then proceeded to the residence of the General, in which they were kept, and the skill and discipline exhibited by the officers and men.

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