The South.

(FROM OUR SECOND EDITION OF YESTERDAY.)

Mr. H. Taylor and Mr. Umbaugh have placed us in possession of New York papers of this morning. The steamer *Saxonia* arrived yesterday evening at New York, bringing late European files. The London *Herald* declares that if our cotton cannot be obtained by fair means there must be no scruple to get it by foul means, *because the daily bread of four or five millions of the working classes of England depends upon the supply of that article.* In France the American question is the general subject of discussion with the press, and the *Siecle* expresses a hope that the strenuous efforts of the government will be directed to promote reconciliation between the North and the South. Nothing explicit on the part of either government, however, respecting the recognition of the Confederate States has as yet been expressed.

Despatches from Washington to the New York *Herald*, says:

"From all the intelligence received from Harper's Ferry, the government is of opinion that the position of the rebels there is very strong, and that from the rapidity with which they have erected fortifications there, it will be exceedingly difficult to dislodge them, if they are allowed to strengthen themselves still further. It is probable, therefore, that the first collision will take place at that point."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, who is evidently a *merciful* man, thinks that if Ross Winans can be imprisoned, heavily fined, and disgraced, it will have a better effect than if he should be hanged, or his property confiscated.

The War to be Prosecuted with Vigor.

The New York *Herald* of this morning says:

The diplomatic corps has been notified that if any Commissioner, or Minister, from the seceded States be received by any European Power, the Government will not hesitate to break off all diplomatic relations with such Power—will recall the United States Minister at such Court, and will dismiss the representative of that Power resident at Washington.

It also says that the New York committee consisting of Messrs. Astor, Draper, and others, in their interview with the President yesterday, received the assurance that the government is determined to repossess at once all the federal property in Virginia and the other border States.

Senator Douglas has *not* been appointed a Brigadier General as reported.

THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

Gen. Cadwallader's Camp.

In *The South* of yesterday we announced the arrival of three regiments of Government troops from Philadelphia, under command of Gen. Cadwallader, who were *en route* to Washington, but were met here by an order from Gen. Scott superseding the command of Gen. Butler, and directing Gen. Cadwallader to occupy Federal Hill. Gen. Cadwallader accordingly marched his troops to that point, but, after an inspection of the ground, found it unfit for the purpose of encamping so large a body of men, owing to its contracted limits, and countermarching down the Fort McHenry road, he selected the grounds lying north of the road, opposite what is known as the "Vineyard," and fronting the Locust Point Ferry wharf. Here he commanded his men to pitch their tents, and by nightfall the ground was dotted with these "soldier's houses."—The camp is formed on both sides of the Locust Point road, which runs up from the Ferry wharf to the Fort road.

Gen. Cadwallader selected as his present quarters, Fort McHenry, to which place he and his staff proceeded, after the issuing of his camp orders. His staff consists of Assistant Adjutant General, Captain McNeal, U. S. A.; Aid de Camp, Capt. Robert M. Lee; Brigade Inspector, Major G. Weaver; Surgeon, Dr. Campbell. Gen. William M. Reilly, commander of the Third Brigade of First Division Pennsylvania Volunteers, accompanies Gen. Cadwallader in citizens' dress. The General expresses himself as entirely dissatisfied with the site of his camp. It is a low, level tract, with a scarcity of water at this time, and a prospect, if there should be a rain, of realizing an over supply, as the camp would be flooded.

Gen. Cadwallader came into the city this morning, for the purpose of surveying the grounds surrounding the city, with a view to the selection of another site for his camp, and it is not improbable that he will change its location in a day or two.

The troops are furnished with a complete supply of camp equipage, and armed with Minnie muskets, and rifles, while all the officers and many of the men are also armed with revolvers.

The scene in camp is a busy one—drilling recruits making fires, erecting tents, preparations for cooking, &c., being the order of the day. The native "army of occupation" of venders of cakes, apples and other "refreshments" on Federal Hill, this morning "struck" their stands, and are establishing themselves in the neighborhood of the new camp. Numerous lager beer and oyster dealers have already "pitched" their wagons on the ground, and are doing a thriving business—these delicacies evidently being highly prized by the soldiers, and the demand for them is active. Accompanying the Zouave corps attached to the First Regiment, is a person *said to be* a girl, dressed in the costume of a Virandiere, and who is hailed as the "Child of the Regiment." Her movements attracted considerable attention, and much speculation is indulged in as to whether *she* is not really a *he*.

Midnight Alarm at Camp Butler.

At a late hour last night, the camp of General Butler, on Federal Hill, was thrown into a great state of excitement by the appearance on the hillside of what the guard took to be a body of armed men. Apprehending an attack the guard hailed the supposed assailants, and receiving no response, fired. Immediately the whole camp was in motion—the drums beat—and everybody rushed to arms. After remaining under arms for some time, no further indications of an attack appearing, the men were dismissed and returned to their broken rest. It is supposed that the object whose approach alarmed the guard was a *cow*.

More Troops Expected.

Another detachment of government troops were expected to reach here to-day from Perryville, to encamp in Patterson's Park, but up to three o'clock none of the steam transports to convey them here had appeared in sight.

Eight hundred Pennsylvania troops arrived at the Bolton depot of the Northern Central Railway about eleven o'clock to-day, who are to encamp on the Cattle Show Grounds. They are under command of Col. Lester, and are from Camp Curtin, at Harrisburg.

Intimidation of Congress.

The Republican papers are beginning in advance to tell Congress what it *must* do, when it shall assemble on the fourth of July. The New York *Journal of Commerce* very properly rebukes the *Courier* of that city—edited by the redoubtable Webb—thus:

In order, as we suppose, that the members of Congress may have a proper sense of the restrictions imposed upon them, the *Courier* holds up to their view the fate which awaits each and every one, who shall dare to depart from its programme of Congressional action. No man, under pain of the traitor's reward, is to raise his voice in Congress or elsewhere in favor of any adjustment of our national troubles, except in the mode proposed by the President on the suggestion of the *Courier*. To be more definite, we quote from its article the following:—

"And whoever, in Congress or elsewhere, proposes any change in the Constitution, or any concessions to the Rebel States, or any compromises upon the question of slavery; or who desires and offers for consideration, any *project* to get rid of this civil war, except by augmentation of the Army and Navy and the strengthening of the hands of the Executive, is at heart, as much a traitor to the Union, as is Jeff. Davis and his associate Rebels."

That is tolerably explicit; and since the same sheet has repeatedly told us that "Jeff. Davis and his associate rebels" should be hung, we suppose it would mete out to every person who, "in Congress or elsewhere," shall propose a mode of settling the questions which agitate the country in any mode other than through bloodshed, the same measure of punishment. It will be fortunate for the editor of the *Courier* if Congress does not include in the list of subjects for the halter, those persons who have wantonly accused the loyal and brave-hearted defenders of the country with being *traitors*, while risking their lives in a gallant struggle to defend the national flag. He should beware, lest "they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

Letters from a Citizen of Maryland.

II.

To President Lincoln and his Cabinet.

Gentlemen:—Have you eaten of the insane root that deprives even the humblest of men of all reason, or why do you thus drive your car of party, ruthlessly over the Southern land, and ignore all the principles for which our forefathers fought in 1776? Can you be forgetful of the principles of the Declaration of Independence, that men, when formed into respectable communities, (respectable in numbers, organization, and wisdom,) have the natural right to declare themselves independent, and to form their own governments? Can you ignore the fact, that each of the thirteen States did so separately, and then formed a Confederacy, or league of defence? If this is a part of our history, I ask you gentlemen, how you can deny the right of the South to retire from the Northern States, and to form a new and independent government for itself?—Might does not make right—Austria has held a large part of Italy in thraldom, for many long and grievous years—England has held Ireland and India in chains, by despotic will for centuries, but the time does not justify the fact, or the means; permit me again to ask, in what does the glory and greatness of a Statesman depend? on the glare of war, or the happiness of praise? Alexander, Cæsar, Napoleon, were all great warriors; but, as philanthropists they were men of small minds—our Washington was far their superior, because his first object was peace, and the general happiness of his people—war he regarded as only the means to secure peace. The blind infatuation of England forced our people to war in 1776, it was not the wish of, or to the interest of, any one of the Colonies to go to war with the mother country, and now every statesman and every writer of old England admits not only the justification of our revolution; but the folly, and real want of statesmanship of King George III, and his Cabinet, who would not listen to the wants of wisdom of a Chatham, a Burke, a Conway, or a Townsend—*madness* ruled the hour, and history tells what came of it. Does not the remembrance of poor old George III, and his admirers, suggest the parallel of President Lincoln and his Cabinet? Passion, party feeling, have made the latter, as were the former, blind to all the principles of justice, and indifferent to consequences—sad, sad picture. In poor old George, we can find some excuse for tyranny—he was diseased in *his brain*. he was educated to be a king, and the old opinions of kingly power, had not yet subsided into popular rights in old England, he was surrounded by a venal court, who for the most part knew he was wrong, yet had not the manliness to tell him so; the history of Lord North reveals this as a melancholy fact. The three Governments of England thought that so feeble, and so few as we were in America, that power, not right, would crush us. We were then only three millions, England ten millions—now the South (I may call them the thirteen States who stand up for popular rights, as our thirteen colonies did of yore) is similarly on the defensive; they prefer peace, but will encounter all the dangers and sufferings of war rather than give up these principles ther have cherished, as the legacy of Washington, Henry, Jefferson and their compeers. Perhaps a vague impression rests upon the mind of Mr. Lincoln, that Europe is looking at him, and will laugh at him if he does not do as some of the autocrats of that hemisphere would do under somewhat similar circumstances. In this he is mistaken, the monarchs of Europe now comprehend the principles of our old Revolution. Indirectly they have to a great extent acknowledged them, and they would do so to a far greater degree, if the state of society in their kingdoms permitted them to make the changes in our first principles; but they have sense and virtue enough to see that such principles are natural and proper for the people of the United States, and they are now lamenting the confusion and injury to civilization which this retrograde movement of the Lincoln party has brought upon one of the four greatest governments and powers of this earth. Our Union and prosperity was the hope of the world—we hindered no nation, we helped every one, there could be no cause of jealousy. How then must we be condemned in the eyes of all mankind for the intemperate heat, that has induced the present administration to avail itself of the fanaticism of one-half (the larger half) of the Union to make a deadly crusade against the other half. It has taken more than half a century for England to see, as one man, that she was wrong in her war against us of 1776. It may take as long for the sober sense of the people of the North to retrace their opinions, but as sure as there is such a thing as truth, or justice, so sure am I, that the day will come when all men of the North, East and West, will see the error they have committed, and will regret the course they have allowed passion to hurry them into.—"Magna est veritas, et prevalebat." S.

Cruel Treatment of United States Volunteers.

The *Day Book* publishes the following letter received by the wife of a member of the 69th Regiment now in Washington:

GEORGETOWN HEIGHTS COLLEGE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9, 1861.
Sixty-ninth Regiment.

DEAR WIFE:—I received your very kind and affectionate letter, and am glad to find you and the child are well, which is more than I can tell you I am. My dear wife, we are in a most wretched state with hunger and weakness, and bordering on a state of starvation. Our rations are stinking pork and biscuit once a day, which we refused to eat and which the dogs would not come near. Two of our officers were taken and confined in the guard house from the afternoon until 12 o'clock next day, for reporting to the Colonel and Quartermaster that the meat stunk and was *not fit for dogs*, and that the men were not able to come to drill with hunger and weakness. One of those officers was Capt. McIver. The Colonel called a court martial on the other, who was a lieutenant, and turned him out of the regiment, and kept his sword, sash and belt, which belonged to himself. A great number of our men would not swear in to the Government in consequence of their treatment, and *sixteen in number were stripped stark naked on the square* before the regiment and all the Government clothes taken from them. Father Mooney (the Chaplain) interceded as much as possible for them, but to no use. He was not able even to get them something to eat along the road or give them a pass. The Colonel said the treatment was too good for the d—d secessionists.

Over three hundred men have left the regiment, for the muskets are all here and none to claim them, so that's the way we find out the number that's gone. There is but few of the old members here.

The Tribune Objects.

The New York *Tribune*, which seems to arrogate to itself the powers of a Roman tribune, and the possession of a *veto* upon the acts of the administration, demurs to the acceptance of Gov. Hicks' four regiments upon the terms proposed in his proclamation. Applicants for Colonelcies, Captaincies and Lieutenancies will take notice accordingly. The *Tribune* says:—

Gov. Hicks has issued a Proclamation calling out four regiments of Maryland Infantry to serve for three months, in which he states that he has the written assurance of Secretary Cameron that they shall be required to serve only in Maryland and the District of Columbia. Considering that nearly every one of the States whose loyalty does not require the stimulus of Federal bayonets are eagerly competing for the privilege of sending more regiments to serve throughout the war, and wherever they may be wanted, we object to the reception of these Marylanders on such conditions, and we decidedly object to any such pledges as Gen. Cameron is said to have given. If the Union is to be saved, it must be by men as willing to fight for it on one side of the Potomac as the other.

Acceptance of Yachts.

The members of the New York Yacht Club, in their zeal to serve government in its crusade against the lives and liberties of the people of the South, tendered to Lincoln the use of their yachts for any service for which they might be needed. *The Tribune* informs us that two yachts, belonging to private individuals, have been formally accepted by the Government, and detailed for service by the Treasury Department. Their owners, James Gordon Bennett, Jr., of New-York, and T. P. Ives of Providence, R. I., have been commissioned as Lieutenants in the Revenue service, and are ordered to their respective vessels as Lieutenants Commanding. What exact service they are to perform is yet unannounced, but it is believed they will be found very useful as messengers from point to point during the blockade.

Opinions of the English Press.

[*From the London Standard, May 4.*]

That stage has now been reached in the relations between the North and the South that nothing but a State clearance can be obtained from a cotton port, and a ship going to Boston or New York with such a clearance becomes the lawful prize of the federal officers. Nor can the ships of any other nation engage in the traffic; while nothing can be easier than the prevention of the movement of a single bale by the border railways or the upper Mississippi. Thus cotton in any considerable quantity is not now to be had in New York, and as the Erie canal will scarcely yet be open, breadstuffs and provisions will be still more limited in supply than cotton. As, therefore, we said before, unless the Great Eastern on her arrival in New York can change ports, she will have gone on a fruitless errand.

But it is not only the proprietors of the Great Eastern and the spinners and operatives of the manufacturing districts who would suffer. What is to become of British vessels blockaded in Southern ports, or on the voyage from foreign ports to the United States? There can be little doubt that a blockade of the Southern seaboard will be at once declared, and the United States are alone free from the obligation of maintaining a blockade by a sufficient force. President Lincoln has merely to notify to foreign governments that the coast of the Southern States is under blockade, and while employing the few ships of war at his command in operations against the enemy, he may leave the making of reprisals to privateers. British ships at present carrying cargoes from foreign ports to ports under blockade can only run the blockade at the risk of capture on the going in, or on leaving with a Southern clearance. And British ships fixed abroad to Northern American ports, and engaged to proceed in ballast to a cotton port, when their foreign cargo is discharged, will be unable to complete their charters, and, at a serious disadvantage to the owners, have to return to England. There is another danger still. Under the old public law of nations, which is still the public law of the United States, privateers may capture British ships carrying cargoes the bona fide property of citizens of the Confederate States. Coffee, for example, at present on the passage from Rio on a British bottom, would be safe were it made out, in a American prize court, to be property of a British subject, or of a subject of the Emperor of Brazil, but not otherwise. The neutral British flag would not protect the property, and ship and cargoes would be liable to confiscation.

That we do not exaggerate the danger of the situation is manifest from the fact that a high rate of premium is already charged at Lloyd's on American vessels now at sea. Resolutely bent on independence, there is no saying to what lengths the people of the Southern States have already gone, and although immensely inferior to the North in maritime power, they are not without a considerable marine. Engaged in the river and coasting trade of the Gulf of Mexico are some of the best merchantmen afloat, together with a number of powerful steamers, any one of which would be a match for anything short of ships of war that the North can bring against them. With these facts before them underwriters have wisely advanced risks to a war standard; *and surely the government will not be behind the underwriters in speaking out, that the business of the country may not be unnecessarily impeded or imperilled.* If British ships are to carry cotton unmolested from the Southern seaboard the sooner the fact is known the better; but if, on the contrary, British ships carrying cotton on the Atlantic are to be liable to capture, *the sooner Manchester and the country prepare for bad times the better;* and the sooner that a budget framed for a large expansion of trade within the present year is withdrawn and revised, the fewer will be the difficulties with which, a few weeks hence, we may have to struggle.

[*From the Sunday Chronicle of May 4th.*]

* * * * By talking of coercion Mr. Lincoln kept up a continual fever in the South, enabled the Montgomery government to exercise a despotism, and to concentrate its energies on military preparation, and forced the border States into hostility to the Union. Were coercion actually practicable, this course might have been defensible, but strong words do not take works, and Mr. Lincoln is further now from success against the South than he was when he started from Chicago. As regards Fort Sumter itself he did the worst thing he could do He intended to evacuate it in a few days: but sooner than consent to acknowledge that South Carolina was rebellious, he expressed his intention to send in provision, by force, if necessary. He thus gave the South the provocation and opportunity of a brilliant victory, and had to submit to a mortifying defeat. The conduct of the Southern government has, on the contrary, been marked by moderation and good sense. They clung to no fictions, and were hampered by no legal ignorance of plain facts. They wanted to leave the Union and they left it. They wanted to take Fort Sumter and they took it. They wished the border States to join them, and, by precipitating a collision, they seem to have got them—unless, indeed, some unexpected good sense at Washington prevent them at the eleventh hour.

The Paris Press on French Mediation.

The American conflict continues to be remarked on in rather brief terms by the Paris journals of the 2d of May, which all express their regret at the differences that have arisen. Some of these journals condemn very strongly the determination come to to issue letters of marque. The *Siecle* has the following:—

It may be remembered that the United States refused to adhere to the Treaty of Paris, by which the European powers abolished privateering. It was natural for States which desire to found their nationality on the maintenance of slavery to have recourse to measures which all civilized nations have solemnly condemned. *We hope that all the efforts of the French government will tend to promote reconciliation between the two parties.* We should deeply regret to see the great republic of the North, after setting an example of union and concord for three-quarters of a century, exhaust its strength, squander its resources, and shed the blood of its children in a fratricidal struggle. This deplorable affair involves not only the future of the United States, but also the honor of democratic institutions. Liberty will not perish in the conflict, we know; but how desirable it is that its triumph should not be purchased at the cost of blood.

Lord John Russell's Speech on the War and Blockade.

We publish to-day a verbatim report of the speech on the war and blockade of the Southern ports, delivered by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons on the 2d of May.

On that day Mr. J. Ewart asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, seeing the possibility of privateering being permitted and encouraged by the Southern confederation of the States of America, her Majesty's government had placed a sufficient naval force, or intended to increase it, in the Gulf of Mexico, with a view to protect British shipping and British property on board of American ships; and if privateers sailing under the flag of an unrecognized power would be dealt with as pirates.

Lord J. Russell replied, that with respect to the first part of the question he had to say that her Majesty had directed that an adequate naval force, for the purpose of protecting British shipping and British interests, should be sent to the coast of America and the Gulf of Mexico. In regard to the latter part of the question, they heard from day to day most lamentable accounts of the progress of civil war in America. They heard the other day that orders had been given for the issue of letters of marque to privateers, and it appeared from what they had heard to-day that there was to be a blockade of the different ports. The honorable gentleman seemed anxious to know what were the provisions of the law of nations upon this subject—some of the questions involved in it were so new and so important that he had felt it his duty to ask the law officers of the Crown, with a view to guide the instructions which her Majesty's government might give to our Minister in America, and to the officers of her Majesty's naval squadron in those seas. Her Majesty's government felt very deeply that it was their duty to use every possible means to avoid taking any part in the lamentable contest that was now raging in America, and nothing but the imperative duty *of protecting British interests in case of their being attacked would at all justify them in any way in interfering.* They had not been involved in any way, either by giving advice in that unhappy contest, or in any other way, and, for Heaven's sake, let them, if possible, keep out of it. With this view they had wished to obtain the best advice, in order to communicate the best instructions to their agents.

——Many families in New York are leaving for Europe to spend the summer.

News by Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—None of the members of the Mount Vernon Society residing here have any knowledge of the reported removal of the remains of Washington, beyond what has been published in the newspapers. They reasonably presume that if the facts were as represented, those in charge of that place would before now have so informed them. The deed of purchase gives John A. Washington the possession of the tomb, and the privilege of enclosing half an acre in which to inter the remains of the members of the Washington family there deposited.

Owing to the interruption by the Virginia authorities of the means for carrying the mails from Norfolk to Hampton and from Old Point to Eastville, the Postmaster General has annulled the contract. From representations made to the department, it is probable, for similar reasons, nearly all, if not the entire mail service will be effectually discontinued in the course of a few days in the secession States.

An order was issued to-day by the War Department for *nine* of the fourteen regiments accepted yesterday, on the solicitation of the New York Union Committee, to proceed to Fortress Monroe, and the other five to repair to Washington. The concentration of so many troops at the former post is a fact of important significance. It is believed here that Major General Butler will have command in that quarter. The President to-day promoted both Brig. Generals McClelland and Butler each to be Major Generals; Capts. Franklin and Meigs to be Colonels, and Colonel Thomas, to be Brigadier General.

WHEELING, May 16.—Passengers have returned here from an attempt to reach Baltimore, and report that the culverts on the railroad near Harper's Ferry have been blown up and the rails removed from the track. The rebel troops there were hourly expecting an attack. The force now there numbered three thousand. A full regiment of Union men will be in camp here in a few days. Prominent secessionists have been ordered to leave Wellburg. A number of secessionists from below report a temporary detention of a party of Virginians, including Judge Brockenbrough, a member of the Montgomery Congress, at Gallapolis, Ohio.

ST. LOUIS, May 10.—A despatch from St. Aubert says that Dr. Selmer, residing at Liberty township, near Osage bridge, has been arrested and sent to Jefferson city, for trial by martial law, for raising a company of Union volunteers. A military encampment of about two hundred State troops at St. Joseph, mostly armed with guns recently taken from the arsenal at Liberty at Liberty, dispersed on the 13th. The Keokuk and Quincy papers say that hundred of Union men have been driven out of Missouri under orders issued by the "Council of the Southern Legion."

BOSTON, May 15.—In the House a bill was reported authorizing the Governor, in case of an emergency, to loan the General Government any amount, not exceeding seven millions, to be raised by the sale of State scrip. A bill was also reported providing for the raising of three millions, for the expenses already or to be incurred by the State.

SANDY HOOK, May 16.—Three men from Company B of the New York Zouaves deserted from here last night, taking the news boat belonging to the Associated Press with them. The oars of the boat were hid under the boat house, where it was thought it would be impossible to find them, but, notwithstanding, the deserters managed to discover them.

MOBILE, May 12.—W. H. Russell, the correspondent of the London *Times*, visited Forts Morgan and Gaines to-day. He was accompanied by several prominent citizens. Mr. Russell made several important suggestions to Col. Hardee, regarding the fortifications, gathered from his experience in the Crimea, and seemed well pleased with Hardee's command. He says Col. Hardee is every inch a soldier.

MONTGOMERY, May 15.—In Congress, to-day, Mr. Smith, of Ala., introduced a resolution in reference to establishing a District Court in Virginia. Mr. Keitt introduced a bill for the protection of Indian tribes South of Kansas. The proceedings were otherwise unimportant.

PHILADELPHIA, May 16.—The statement about Mr. Breckinridge, it is now understood that Col. Anderson derived his information that Mr. B. would serve under him in the army, from a person on the train to Harrisburg, and merely mentioned it to Gov. Curtin as a gratifying *report*, and did not give it as a fact.

LOUISVILLE, May 16.—Street rumors say that there is likely to be a difficulty here between the opposing parties on the advent of Col. Anderson.

READING, May 15.—We are firing one hundred guns in honor of the arrest of Ross Winans, of Baltimore.

BOSTON, May 16.—The steamship Europa, from Liverpool, via Halifax, arrived last night.

The Blockade of Charleston.

The United States frigate *Niagara* is still outside of our bar, endeavoring to keep out all vessels attempting to enter. Yesterday morning a boat's crew from the frigate, fully armed, commanded by Lieut. R. L. May, boarded the bark *Hija*, from Liverpool, and informed the captain that the port was blockaded, and his vessel could not enter, endorsing upon the vessel's papers the following:

"Boarded May 12th, and ordered off the whole Southern coast of the United States of America, it being blockaded. (Signed) R. L. MAY."

The *Hija* will proceed to the British Provinces. Two other vessels from Liverpool, the *Monmouth* and *Gen. Parkhill*, were ordered off yesterday by the Niagara. Towards evening yesterday, the Niagara went out several miles to sea, accompanied by two of the vessels which had been detained by her, and while absent the British ship A, and A, Captain Hutchinson, from Belfast, stood in from the eastward. The *Niagara* discovering her, made after the ship, and quite an exciting chase ensued, which was witnessed by crowds of anxious citizens on the wharves. The ship having a good start of the frigate, was run into shoal water, where the frigate could not reach her. The *Niagara* then put about and proceeded southward.

The British ship A and *A*, from Belfast, reported having been chased unsuccessfully yesterday by the steam frigate *Niagara*, was fortunate enough to get into port this morning, having most successfully and fearlessly run the blockade. Capt. Hutchinson deserves credit for the fearless manner in which he stood into the shoal part of the bar, and will have an opportunity of getting a fine freight and dispatch. The *A* and *A* was towed into port by the steamer *Gordon*. It is suggested on the street that a testimonial be given to Capt. Hutchinson for the clever manner in which he evaded Lincoln's blockading frigate, with all his big guns and fighting men aboard.—*Charleston News of 13th.*

The *Mercury* of Tuesday says:

The *Niagara* was about ten miles southeast from ship bar yesterday, and was there visited during the afternoon by Robt. Bunce, Esq., her Britannic Majesty's consul at this port, who left the city about 2 p. m., in the steamer *Charleston*, and proceeded on board the *Niagara*, where he received the usual salute and had every courtesy extended to him, and every matter in reference to the blockade satisfactorily explained. All neutral vessels now in this port would be allowed a reasonable time to depart, but nothing further would be allowed to come in. The *A. & A.* which got in yesterday, and whose manner of getting into port rather disturbed the nerves of some cotton shippers, will be allowed to go unmolested. All open letters for masters of foreign vessels expected here will be received on board the *Niagara*, and given to the parties when they come off the bar, but no sealed communications will be received. The commander of the *Niagara* was pained at the position he had to occupy in reference to the seceded States, but he intended to carry out his orders. Several other British vessels have been ordered off by the *Niagara*, two of which, it is said, were bound to Savannah, but their names we did not learn.

DEATH OF OLD SPORTSMEN.—We record to-day the recent death of two of the oldest and most extensively known of the sporting fraternity of this county. Seymour P. Vail died last Saturday, at his residence in New York, aged 74. He was interred on the succeeding day, Rev. L. Bosserman, of the 1st Independent Christian Church, preaching the funeral sermon. P. A. Prindle died in Charlottesville, Va., last week, after a lingering illness of months' duration. He was a native of Charleston, S. C., aged about 57. No man in the heyday of his prosperity surpassed him in friendly liberality to deserving objects of charity. If he died poor—and such things often happen in the vicissitudes attending the sportsman's life—his mortal remains should have been well taken care of for the good he had done. In the palmy days of the old Whig party, the subject of this brief notice was a most ardent admirer of the great "Harry of the West." He carried this to the extent of wagering $20,000 that the great Kentucky statesman would be President. The result of the contest is a matter of history. No one, however, ever heard Prindle complain. It is a matter of doubt whether any man within the circle of his peculiar profession was ever more respected by all classes than P. A. Prindle. His house in Washington has been known as the resort for many years past of many of the most influential persons called thither on public business. This was no less true of the Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, where his name was as familiar as "household words" to visitors from the East, West, North and South.

PROPOSALS FOR MAIL BAGS.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT,
MONTGOMERY, March 27, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until nine o'clock A. M., the 1st day of May next, for furnishing for the use of the Confederate States of America, in such quantities and at such times as may be required and ordered for the postal service, Mail Bags of the following description, to wit:

CANVASS MAIL BAGS, OR SACKS.

Size No. 1. (12 inches in length and 24 inches in circumference,) to be made of cotton canvas, weighing at least 18 ounces to the yard of 22 inches width; the threads of the warp and weft to be composed of five yarns each.

Size No. 2. (11 inches in length and 48 inches in circumference,) to be made of cotton canvas, weighing at least fourteen ounces to the yard of 22 inches width, the threads of the warp and weft to be composed of four yarns each.

Size No. 3. (32 inches length and 20 inches in circumference,) to be made of cotton canvas, weighing at least eight ounces to the yard of 20 inches width, the threads of the warp and weft to be composed of three yarns each.

The canvass bags of sizes numbered 1 and 2 are to be made with a tabing or hem at the top of two inches wide, upon which a sufficient number (at least two to the former and eight to the latter) of eyelet holes are to be wrought, and they are to be provided with good and sufficient hemp cord to lace and tie them securely. All are to be well marked inside and outside "C. S. Mail," in large and distinct letters.

LEATHER AND CANVAS MAIL POUCHES.

Size No. 1—48 inches length, and 60 inches circumference.
No. 2—41 do do 48 do do.
No. 3—36 do do 41 do do.
No. 4—30 do do 36 do do.
No. 5—28 do do 28 do do.

The body of the leather pouches are to be made of good and substantial bag leather well tanned, and weighing for sizes numbered 1 and 2, not less than eight ounces, and for the smaller sizes not less than seven ounces to the square foot, the bottom (of circular form) and flap to be of good shoking leather, well tanned; the seams to be well and strongly secured with the best iron rivets well tinned.

The canvas pouches are to be made of cotton canvas, densely woven, so as to resist water; weighing for pouches of size No. 1, not less than 28 ounces to the yard of 24 inches width, or 17 ounces to the yard of 22 inches width; for pouches of size No. 2, not less than 20 ounces to the yard of 24 inches width; for pouches of size No. 3, not less than 16 ounces to the yard of 22 inches in width; the threads of the warp and weft to be composed of at least five yarns each. The canvas pouches of sizes numbered 4 and 5 are to be made of cotton canvas, weighing not less than 14 ounces to the yard of 19 inches width, nor less than 22 ounces to the yard of 30 inches width; the thread of the warp and weft to be composed of at least four yarns each.

LEATHER AND CANVAS HORSE MAIL BAGS.

Size No. 2—Body 45 inches long, and 21 inches wide in the widest parts; ends of bottom of same being 14 inches by 26 inches.

Size No. 3—Body 42 inches long and 18 inches wide in the widest parts; ends of bottoms of same being 12 by 22 inches.

The leather horse-mail bags are to be made of good and substantial bag leather, well tanned, weighing not less than seven ounces to the square foot, and the seams to be well and strongly sewed or riveted, to be as done as not to chafe horse or rider.

The canvas horse mail bags are to be made of cotton canvas, like that described for the larger sized pouches.

Proposals for improvements in the form of construction of any of the above described bags and pouches, or in the materials thereof, are invited, and the relative value and adaptation to the service, as well as specified price of any such improvements, will be considered in determining the lowest and best bids.

All the articles contracted for are to be delivered at the expense of the contractors, in Charleston, S. C.; Savannah, Ga.; Mobile, Ala.; Montgomery, Ala.; and New Orleans, La., in such quantities, and at such times as the Department may require and order; and they are to be rigidly inspected before delivery, and none are to be received which shall be inferior in any respect to the specimens adopted as the standard bags.

The proposals should specify the price of each article proposed to be furnished.

No proposal will be considered, if not accompanied with specimens or samples of each article bid for, showing the construction, size and quality of materials and workmanship offered, and also with satisfactory guarantees from the persons proposed as sureties, that they will become responsible, be sufficient bond for the due performance of the contract in case such proposals shall be accepted.

The specimens or samples must be delivered at this Department on or before the first day of May next; and those which shall have accompanied the accepted proposals will, in connection with such proposals form the basis of the contracts to be made. Every specimen submitted should be well and distinctly marked with the number denoting its size, and have affixed to it a sample of the materials (canvas or leather) of which it is made. All specimens deposited by bidders, which can with ease and convenience, be used in the mail service, will be paid for at the prices specified in the proposals relating to the same.

Bidders will state the earliest period at which they will be able to furnish supplies of the articles bid for in the event of the contract being awarded to them, as it will have an important bearing upon the awards. But bids will not be entertained which fix a period beyond the 1st of July next for the delivery of supplies.

A decision on the bids will be made on or before the 30th day of May next, and the accepted bidder or bidders will be required to enter into contract with sufficient bond or sureties on or before the 1st day of July next.

The number of the different kinds of mail bags which will probably be required has been estimated at 3,000 canvas mail pouches, 9,000 leather mail pouches, and 500 horse mail bags; but the Department reserves the right to increase or diminish the number of each size and quality according to the exigencies of the service without increase of cost for supply or delivery.

JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster General
Confederate States of America.

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PROPOSALS FOR PRINTING POSTOFFICE BLANKS AND PAPER FOR THE SAME.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT,
MONTGOMERY, March 27th, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 1st day of May next, until 12 M., for furnishing the Postoffices in the Confederate States for one year from and after the date of the contract, the following blanks, viz:

Post Bills, 1\$ on a sheet.
Mails received for delivery.
Mails sent " "
Account of newspapers.
Accounts current.
Account of prepaid printed matter
Signature post bills, 1\$ on a sheet.
Mails received for distribution.
Mails sent from distributing offices.
Distribution signature post bills.
Do. do. do. extra size.
Distribution account current.
Account of mails sent by route agents.

The attention of bidders is directed to the following provisions of an Act approved 27th February, 1861, entitled an Act in relation to public printing, fixing the maximum rates of compensation for printing and paper, viz:

Section 2. The Postmaster General shall contract for the publication of all post bills and other blanks connected with his office, not exceeding the following rates: For composition, including rule and stereotyping, per 1,000 ems, fifty cents; for press-work, per clean token, (the sheets not to be less than 16 by 24 inches,) fifty cents; for paper, ten per cent. on actual cost. Nothing shall be allowed for altering the name of a Postmaster on a post bill, or other blank, nor shall there be an additional charge for composition when the names of the postoffices alone is changed. But the Printer shall be required to keep always on hand forms for postoffice blanks, and when new orders are given, the charge shall be made only for the press-work and the paper, and such new composition as may be necessary.

Section 14 provides that it shall be the duty of the superintendent of public printing done under contract with any Executive department, as to the quality of paper to be used, the character of type, and the general execution of the work; and also as to the time and order in which the same shall be completed.

Specimens of the various kinds of blanks and quality of paper may be seen at this department, and also at the large postoffices within the States.

Proposals will be received for the printing and paper separately, or for them jointly. The contract will be awarded to the lowest and best bidder, the best bid to be determined after a careful examination, for the purpose of ascertaining which bid will, in its practical results, be most advantageous to the department. The Postmaster General reserves to himself the right to reject any bid where it is apparent that a part of the articles are bid for at a very low and a part at a very high rate, without proper regard to cost of each for the purpose of affecting the aggregate of the bids under the estimate contained in the advertisement.

Samples of each article required must accompany the proposals, and each bidder must furnish with his proposals evidence of his ability to comply with his bid.

Two sufficient sureties will be required to a contract. Failures to furnish the articles contracted for promptly, or furnishing articles inferior to those contracted for, will be considered a sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.

Bidders will state the earliest period at which they will be able to furnish supplies of the articles bid for in the event of the contract being awarded to them, as it will have an important bearing upon the awards. But bids will not be entertained which fix a period beyond the 1st of July next for the delivery of supplies.

Proposals must be marked on the outside of the envelope with the name of the article or articles proposed for, and the package containing the proposals addressed to the "Chief of the Appointment Bureau," Montgomery, Ala.

JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster General

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PROPOSALS FOR WRAPPING PAPER, TWINE AND SEALING-WAX.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
MONTGOMERY, March 27th, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 1st day of May next, at 12 o'clock, M., for furnishing WRAPPING PAPER, TWINE and SEALING WAX for the use of the Post Offices of the Confederate States, for four years from and after the date of the execution of the contract. The said articles are to be delivered, free of expense, at this Department. The estimated quantity of each article, and the quantity thereof, required yearly, is as follows:

2,300 reams Manilla Wrapping Paper, 20 by 25 inches in size, and to weigh not less than 24 pounds to the ream, and each ream to contain 20 perfect quires; 10 reams of the same kind of Paper 26 by 32 inches in size, and to weigh not less than 34 pounds to the ream.

3,000 pounds Cotton Twine, 4 strands, hard twisted, and in balls to weigh 1 pound each; 500 pounds of the same kind of Twine, on spools, each spool to weigh from 1¼ to 2 pounds.

2,000 pounds of coarse Hemp Twine, about ⅛ of an inch in diameter, well twisted, and in balls or hanks weighing from 1½ to 2 pounds each.

150 pounds of Scarlet Sealing Wax, of good quality, for ordinary use.

Proposals will be received for each article separately, or for the whole. The contract will be awarded to the lowest bidder, the best bid to be determined after a careful examination for the purpose of ascertaining which bid will, in its practical results, be most advantageous to the department. The Postmaster General reserves to himself the right to reject any bid where it is apparent that a part of the articles are bid for at a very low and a part at a very high rate, without proper regard to cost of each for the purpose of affecting the aggregate of the bids under the estimate contained in the advertisement.

Samples of each article required must accompany the proposals, and each bidder must furnish with his proposals evidence of his ability to comply with his bid.

Two sufficient sureties will be required to a contract. Failures to furnish the articles contracted for promptly, or furnishing articles inferior to those contracted for, will be considered a sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.

Bidders will state the earliest period at which they will be able to furnish supplies of the articles bid for in the event of the contract being