BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

VOLUME L.—NUMBER 7. BALTIMORE, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 9, 1865. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

KILPATRICK ACROSS THE ATAMAHA

GEN'L HOOD REPORTED DEAD.

Rebel Speculations as to Sherman's next March

Rebel Accounts from Tennessee.

Discussing Submission to England.

Great Britain Accused of Blundering.

Starvation Prices in Richmond.

&c., &c., &c.

The Latest from Richmond.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Richmond papers of January 6th, furnish the following items:

Augusta, Jan. 5.—Kilpatrick has crossed the Altamaha, but it is supposed to be on the Carolina side of the Savannah river.

Western Virginia papers report that Forrest has been killed by one of his own men.

A Yankee raid on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad tore up miles of track near Verona.

A private letter says that Gen. Price is not dead.

It is currently reported here that Gen. Hood is dead.

Charleston, Jan. 5.—No further movements of the enemy are reported to-day. His force is still concentrating and are assembling between Hardeeville and the Savannah river. There is no truth in their reported advance on Grahamsville.

The reported death of Hood and Forrest are not confirmed.

From Savannah we learn that General Sherman is pursuing a very conciliatory policy towards the people in Savannah, and has issued a proclamation permitting planters to bring in their produce as usual, and holds out inducements for them to do so. This looks as if he felt perfectly secure, and meant to make all the friends he could.

The Charleston Mercury understands that Sherman has given the citizens of Savannah fifteen days to settle up their bank and other accounts, which are to be balanced in Confederate Treasury notes. If this really is true, there will be but few open accounts in Savannah after the fifteen days' grace expires. Everybody and everybody's relation will be eager to square up at once.

General Hood being now in safety across the Tennessee river, beyond all doubt, we await with some interest for details of his future motions. Thomas will endeavor by all practicable means to prevent him if possible, but delay him at all events, from proceeding to Charleston or any other point in the prospective line of Sherman's march. Whether it be the object of Hood to march to the defence of Charleston remains to be seen. If such is his determination, we may anticipate more severe fighting between the rival armies of Tennessee. Meanwhile, Sherman's march northward from Savannah does not appear to be making very rapid headway. Possibly the weather has been unpropitious, or other and more important causes have combined to impede his advance upon Charleston. We have nothing of interest from that quarter.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Richmond papers of the 5th instant, contain the following items in addition to those telegraphed last night:

A despatch from Augusta, dated 4th, says: "The city of Savannah continues quiet. An order had been issued not to cut the shade trees for fuel. Gen. Sherman proposes to bring wood by the Gulf Railroad.

"The 14th and 15th Corps are in entrenchments, reaching from the Savannah river to the Plank road. The Yankees are building a new pontoon bridge opposite the Exchange.

"Many negroes who joined Sherman in the country are leaving. The roads are lined with them. Sherman is giving leaves to negroes in Savannah.

"Several Federal steamers are engaged removing obstructions from the river.

"About three hundred negroes were sold in Augusta on Tuesday, at auction, at an average of from $3,000 to $2,500 each.

"Several buildings and five hundred bales of cotton were burned in Albany, Georgia, last Tuesday, by an incendiary.

"The yellow fever has entirely subsided at Galveston and Houston.

"Gen. Kirby Smith has impressed tobacco for the use of the army.

"Everything was quiet in the trans-Mississippi. The condition of our (the rebel) army was fine. They are well clothed and fed."

Information from City Point, under date of yesterday, is to the effect that the artillery firing on Tuesday morning was aimed at the lower part of the city, and besides doing a good deal of damage to property, frightened the residents in the vicinity badly. No casualties are reported in the Petersburg newspapers. The enemy replied by only an occasional shot, doing no damage. Since that time everything has remained quiet in front of Petersburg.

Nothing of interest is transpiring in front of Richmond. Operations on the Dutch Gap Canal are said to have ceased for the present: scarcely a shot has been fired there for some time

Richmond dates of January have been received in Washington. In publishing a dispatch from General Hardee, announcing that the Federal troops had driven in the rebel troops at Hardeeville, the Examiner of Wednesday says: "Hardeeville is a station on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, twenty miles from Savannah. Sherman's present objective point is Branchville, the point of junction of the Charleston and Savannah with the Augusta Railroad. We have heard no estimate of his forces, but presume he has been reinforced by Foster's command from Port Royal, and perhaps by all the Yankee troops from Morris Island and thereabouts.

Will Sherman's march be again unimpeded? It was thought that his march from Atlanta to Savannah was an impossible undertaking, simply because no one really believed that the Government had removed its opposing troops from his track when Hood was sent to Tennessee. Of course, if there is no army in the way, an enemy may march about where he pleases, and the public is in the dark about the disposition of the Confederate forces. But we do not think it possible that Sherman will be successful in this repetition of his experiment, for we know that there was a considerable force in Georgia which could not be concentrated against him when he abandoned Atlanta, on account of the necessity of defending Augusta, Macon and Savannah.

At the same time no such necessity now exists, and all those troops can be consolidated for battle. In a strategical point of view, the evacuation of Savannah was a source of strength to us and danger to Sherman.

Gen. R. S. Ripley has been ordered to the Army of Tennessee.

The Georgia militia, after nobly sustaining the State, passed through Augusta on the 28th of December.

FURTHER SOUTHERN NEWS.

GREAT TORNADO IN ALABAMA—REBEL LOSSES AT THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN—GEN. SHERMAN NORTH OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Richmond papers of the 6th, in addition to what was telegraphed hence on Saturday night, says:—

A violent tornado passed over middle Alabama on December 27th, killing fifteen persons and demolishing a large number of houses, and destroying the railroad bridge on the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, twenty miles east of Montgomery. The amount of damage done was immense.

At the battle of Franklin, the Missouri brigade went into the fight 688 strong and had 109 killed, 212 wounded and 90 captured, making a loss of 417. Gen. Cockerell was wounded three times, but not seriously. Col. Gates was also wounded; Col. Garland and Major Parker, with a long list of captains and lieutenants were among the killed.

The Examiner says: "Yesterday a Commissioner from Grant's lines arrived at Varina, under a flag of truce, with 1,500 blankets for distribution among the Federal prisoners in Richmond, in addition to 1,000 received last week. Of the fifty odd thousand Yankee prisoners held in the South, not over 2,000 are confined in Richmond, and more than half of these are in the hospital. For a year past, the great body of them has been shifting South, and Richmond, hard pressed to feed its superabundant population, and the large army defending its gates is relieved from the incubus of an overstocked prison pest in its midst.

"The reports of Sherman having crossed the Savannah river, are confirmed. He is believed to be moving on Grahamsville."

LATEST SOUTHERN NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Richmond papers of the 7th instant contain the following items:

MOBILE, Jan. 5.—A raid is reported advancing south toward Smithfield, 20 miles north of Aberdeen. The destruction of property is unknown.

It is also reported that Gen. Hood's army has crossed the Tennessee river and is moving on Tupelo. It will probably be the future base of operations.

The Fort Gaines prisoners are expected to arrive in this city to-day, from Western North Carolina.

The Raleigh Confederate of the 3d instant, says, on the 22d ult., a fight took place at Shoemaker's Gap, between Captains N. Price's, Ropes' and Gartrell's companies and some deserters, tories and robbers. They attacked our forces from ambush, but were speedily routed and severely chastised, having fourteen killed and four wounded. Four were taken prisoners.

The woods were fired during the engagement which caused the discharge of a considerable number of guns which had been thrown away by the enemy.

The Columbia Carolinian says: "Gen. D. H. Hill passed down the South Carolina railroad yesterday under orders to report to Gen. Beauregard at Charleston.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE REBEL STATES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—It is known that a bill is pending in the House of Representatives for the reconstruction of those States, the governments of which have been subverted or overthrown by the rebellion, thus establishing a rule applicable to them all. Representative Wilson of Iowa, has introduced a substitute for the bill providing that no representatives shall be received from any such State until by act or joint resolution of Congress, approved by the President or passed, notwithstanding his objections, it shall be declared that the State has formed a just local government, Republican in form and entitled to representation in Congress. In other words, the substitute proposes to deal with each State separately on its own merits without establishing a system of readmission applicable to them all.

SUCCESSFUL CAVALRY EXPEDITION—GREAT DESTRUCTION OF RAILROADS, &c.

CAIRO, January 6.—Gen. Dana has received information from his cavalry force, sent out from Memphis on the 21st ult.—They struck the Mobile and Ohio Railroad five miles below Corinth, and had on the 27th utterly destroyed it to below Oakland. Twenty-nine bridges, a great deal of trestle work, 32 railroad cars, 300 army wagons, and 4,000 carbines were destroyed.

Forrest's camp of dismounted men at Everona, were dispersed. Six officers and twenty men were captured.

The expedition did not lose a single man. Gen. Grierson has orders to destroy the road as far as Meridian, and release our prisoners at Catawba, if possible.

FROM FORT MONROE—EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS TO BE RESUMED.

FORT MONROE, Jan. 6.—The exchange of prisoners has been again resumed. Col. John E. Mulford arrived here from Washington yesterday afternoon, and to-day left in the flag-of-truce steamer New York for Varina, on the James river, with about fifty rebel officers, mostly surgeons.

A heavy southeast storm set in here to-day, and promises to be a severe one.

THE CASE OF MRS. HUTCHINS.

[We do not know the reason for keeping the case set forth before the public, but as the Associated Press telegraphs the following—probably by official authority—we give it a place.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—As extensive publicity has been given to the arrest of Mrs. Hutchins, of Baltimore, and her subsequent release, the following may prove of interest:

City of Fitchburg, County of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, ss.—I, Sarah L. Hutchins, of Baltimore city, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, do hereby acknowledge that the act for which I have been tried, convicted, and am under sentence, was a wrongful and improper act on my part; and do give my word of honor that henceforth I will be of good behavior towards the Government of the United States, and do no act to aid or comfort its enemies, and will conduct myself as a loyal citizen of the United States.

And I do solemnly swear, that to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: and that I will well and faithfully conduct myself as a good and loyal citizen of the United States. So help me God.

(Signed) SARAH L. HUTCHINS.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Worcester.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 23d day of December, 1864.

(Signed) GEO. A. TORREY, Justice of the Peace.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLUMBIA TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The Columbia Typographical Society, last night celebrated by a supper, its fifteenth anniversary. Among the invited guests were Speaker Colfax, Representative Baldwin, of Mass., Brooks and Monroe, W. Clark, Wm. Taxon, Chief Clerk of the Navy Department; J. G. Nicolay, President's private secretary; ex-Postmaster General Horatio King; Major Ben Perley Poore, and other gentlemen who like themselves, have a practical knowledge of printing. They severally responded to the regular toasts, much to the delight of the large assemblage of the craft.

SENTENCED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—It is stated that Mayer Wallach and Phillip Wallach, merchants of this city, who were tried by Gen. Doubleday's Military Commission for selling goods to blockade runners to be conveyed into the rebel lines, have been sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the Albany penitentiary, and the latter (Phillip Wallach) to pay a fine of $1,000. Julius Engle and Patrick Dungellen, clerks in the establishment of Messrs. Wallach, who were tried in connection with the parties above named, are said to have been acquitted.

FROM CALIFORNIA AND JAPAN.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 5—Advices from Yokohama, Japan, to Nov. 30th, report the murder by the Japanese of two British officers. The British Minister has demanded the arrest and punishment of the assassins—and would take measures to compel it.

North China dates announce the wreck of the British gunboat Racehorse, on Nov. 4th, in the bay of Hangmen, and the loss of 89 of her officers and crew.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE JAMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—A letter from the army of the James, dated on Friday says, "all is quiet in this department—a severe rain storm has prevailed all day making the roads almost impassable."

AID FOR SAVANNAH.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8.—A meeting of citizens has been called for Tuesday to take measures to alleviate the distress of the people of Savannah.

THE ST. ALBAN'S RAIDERS.

MONTREAL, Jan. 7.—It was decided to-day that the Court has jurisdiction in the case of the St. Alban's raiders, and the trial will proceed.

A STEAMER BURNED NEAR PORTLAND—SEVERAL LIVES LOST.

PORTLAND, ME., Jan. 6.—There is a vessel on fire off the harbor. It is supposed to be a tugboat belonging to Bath. Our tug-boat has gone to her. The steamer Chesapeake arrived this morning from New York. She lost her foremast and both anchors in a gale off Cross Rip Shoals.

PORTLAND, January 6.—The steamer Potomac took fire around her boilers at five o'clock this morning, when off Cape Elizabeth. Her officers and the crew and passengers were taken off by a fishing vessel, and brought around here. Four lives were lost, viz:—Charles E. Wilson, the Chief Mate; two others, and the second cook. The cargo was insured. The hull of the steamer has been towed into port.

LATER.—PORTLAND, Jan. 6, P. M.—The fire on the steamer Potomac spread so rapidly that the starboard boat could not be launched, the port boat could not be launched, the port boat could not take all, and the foremast was cut away and rafts made. Four men were washed off the raft. There were five passengers, who were all saved. The crew numbered eighteen. The engineer of the Potomac was thrown overboard by falling spars, but was subsequently rescued, nearly perished, and it is not expected he will recover.

OUR NAVAL MANAGEMENT.

The following is from the London Times, incredible as it may seem.—"Mr. Gideon Welles, the Secretary of the Federal Navy, is undoubtedly entitled to claim credit for the exertions of his department during the great civil war. He falls into the exaggeration characteristic of his countrymen when he ascribes to the American marine achievements without parallel or precedent in any naval history; for good Admirals have lived before Farragut, though they did not go into battle with iron clads, and great naval expeditions have been undertaken, though the means were adapted to the age and the occasion. But if we look impartially at the work which devolved suddenly upon the American Admiralty four years ago, at the resources which then existed for its performance, and at the manner in which it has been actually performed, we must admit that the tone of gratulation pervading the Secretary's Report is by no means without justification."

☞During the fight in front of Nashville, a large shell from Fort Negley fell upon the premises of Squire Hagan, on the Nolensville Pike, and remained undisturbed until Monday last, when a negro boy took possession of it, and set to work to get the powder out of it. The result was the explosion of the shell, and the death of the negro boy, who was dread fully mangled.

☞The Augusta (Ga.) Sentinel says that "all the rice on the plantations around Savannah fell into the hands of the Yankees.—Some estimate the amount at five hundred thousand bushels."

Southern News.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENT ON HARDEEVILLE

The Examiner of Wednesday, after giving the despatches which were sent you last night, adds: Hardeeville is a station on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, twenty miles from Savannah. This news arrests attention. Will Sherman's march be again unimpeded? It was thought that his march from Atlanta to Savannah was an impossible undertaking, simply because no one really believed that the Government had removed its opposing troops from his track, when Hood was sent to Tennessee.

Of course, if there is no army in the way, an enemy may march about where he pleases, and the public is in the dark about the disposition of the Confederate forces. But we do not think it possible that Sherman will be successful in this repetition of his experiment, for we know that there was a considerable force in Georgia which could not be concentrated against him when he abandoned Atlanta, on account of the necessity of defending Augusta, Macon and Savannah. At the same time no such necessity now exists, and all these troops can be consolidated for battle. In a strategical point of view, the evacuation of Savannah was a source of strength to us and danger to Sherman.

NEWS FROM TENNESSEE.

From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 4.

We believe it to be true that the enemy has received a heavy check near the Tennessee river, and that two entire brigades were taken from him. Also that Forrest has captured an immense wagon train with many more prisoners.

It is again said that Forrest has been made Lieutenant General, but we doubt it. Who ever heard of a Lieutenant-General who was not a West Pointer?

GENERAL BUTLER.

The Examiner, in an editorial trying to show that General Butler is a failure and will be removed, closes as follows:—"If Butler is now to get leave to retire into private life, and not to be thrust upon us any more as Commissioner, we shall soon know whether the embarrassments in the way of exchange really arise from a punctilio about that felon and outlaw, or from other more rational considerations."

SIEGE OF CHARLESTON.

[From the Charleston Mercury, Jan. 7.]

Not a shell has been thrown at the city since our last report. Considerable firing was heard to outward on Saturday night, and on Sunday morning a side-wheel, double smoke stack steamer, painted as a blockade runner, heavily laden, and flying the Yankee flag above the Confederate banner, was noticed among the enemy's fleet, and it was no doubt a captured vessel. Some supposed her to be the Julia and others the Fox. With this exception, nothing of interest has occurred since our last.

SUBMISSION TO ENGLAND.

[From the Richmond Whig.]

Three of our cotemporaries seem to be engaged in a controversy as to whether it would or would not be better to return as colonists to Great Britain than to submit to the Yankees. We have not paid to this controversy the attention which we usually accord to suggestions of our neighbors, for the simple reason that we can conceive of nothing more unprofitable at the moment, and, in our circumstances, England cannot recolonize us if she would; and we think it pretty certain that she would not if she could.

In the beginning of this war, if she had recognized us as she should have done, and declared her determination to compel a strict observance of the rules of blockade laid down by herself at Paris, and subscribed by all the maritime powers of Europe, she might easily have put an end to the struggle before it had been six moths old.

WHAT ENGLAND MIGHT HAVE DONE.

The Yankees at that time held her in mortal terror. They were ignorant of their own strength, and held that of England in an awe approaching superstition. She might have dictated her own terms, and they would have subscribed to them without hesitation. But Yankedom has now a most undue opinion of its own strength and contempt for the strength of England, warranted only by the cowardly policy her Cabinet has thought fit to pursue.

WHAT SHE CANNOT DO.

Any interference of England would be resented as an insult, and she has not the power to enforce any line of hostile policy she may adopt. She has allowed the Yankees to put their own coasts into such a state of defence as to render them unassailable by her fleets.

She has no ships that could encounter the Yankee monitors with any prospect of success, and although it is easy enough for her to build such, yet the probability is that they would not be able to cross the ocean.

Monitors are made for coast defense and not for ocean navigation. She could not then, in all probability even break up the blockade of our ports, far less send an army and fleet here to assist us in driving away the Yankees preparatory to returning to colonial vassalage.

We think it, therefore, hardly worth while to inquire into the expediency of returning to the arms of Old England, seeing Old England could not receive us if she would. We must fight it out with the Yankees. The alternative presented is death or slavery. We hope our people have not yet come to that point that they hesitate in their choice.

GREAT BRITAIN GUILTY OF A BLUNDER.

Great Britain has been guilty of a great blunder in overlooking the claims of the Confederacy to her notice, and in trucling, as she has done, to the Yankees.—She has neglected an opportunity of certainly humbling the most formidable rival that she has in the world, and has thrown upon us the entire burden of a war in which she is quite as much interested as we. If the Yankees could succeed in subjugating us, the doom of Great Britain would be sealed. Before the year 1900, she would have lost all her ships and all her colonies. Ireland would be torn from her grasp, and she might tremble for her supremacy even in England itself.

NOT THE WAY TO PRESERVE PEACE.

She cannot avoid the war which Yankeedom is determined to force upon her by yielding and succumbing. This is not the way to preserve peace. That is not the way that Napoleon III. prevents all Europe in a body from falling upon him. He is always ready to strike, and it is for that reason that he seldom has occasion to do it. So far from taking us back as colonists with the incumbrance of such a war as we should bring along with us, England, if the cowardly counsel of the London Times be worthy of notice, is ready to give up Canada as soon as the Yankees make a formal demand. The Confederate States alone have the courage to face the whole power of Yankeedom. It seems more as though England should one day become our colony, than that we should ever become hers.

BEEF FOR RICHMOND—STARVATION.

The Sentinel of Wednesday, in an article on city beef, says:—"Some months ago, when butchers were demanding six dollars per pound for beef, City Council made a contract with Mr. Ingram to bring beef and mutton at much reduced rates. The Secretary of War gave passports to prevent his cattle from impressment, and butchers were detailed to prepare meat for the market. The scheme worked beautifully for awhile. Beef fell from six to three dollars per pound. But Ingram now asks as much for meat as the most extortionate butcher.

The poor, the multitude, the people, find no benefit in his arrangement with the city. A city stall may be a mighty good thing for a few rich men about town and for Ingram, but it helps not those who are in need of help—people for whose benefit he was made contractor. The people of Richmond—the great multitude who, by the most unremitting labor, cannot make one-half the sum paid to Government clerks—*are starving. This is not a flourish, but a fixed fact.* The avarice of traders, hucksters and butchers have brought this about, and it is time for Councils to do something.

Ex-Congressman John H. Gilmer, of Virginia, now a States' right rebel, publishes in the Richmond Whig, January 4, a long letter on the "position and duties of Virginia in the existing state of political matters." It fills three columns of the Whig, and is very verbose. He favors State action and interposition in bringing about peace, and argues that Virginia is at liberty to use such action without consultation with the rest of the Confederacy. He declares against the emancipation of slaves in the army, and says "Confederate emancipation is worse than Federal or coerced emancipation."

THE ANTI-JEFF. DAVIS PRESS—THE REBEL ANTI-ADMINISTRATION ORGANS DESTROYING CONFIDENCE, PREVENTING ENLISTMENTS AND STIMULATING DESERTION.

From the Richmond Sentinel (administration organ) Jan. 4.

How comes it that we meet with so many gloomy and despondent individuals at a time when there is nothing in the posture of our affairs to justify such gloom and despondency? The enemy, after the most vigorous, and, on their part, far the most bloody campaign of the war, do not occupy half as much of the Confederate territory as they held a year ago. Their currency has depreciated and their debt increased much more rapidly than during any other year of the war. They are almost entirely cut off from supplies of gold from California, and without gold they cannot sustain the war. Their men fight only for money, for specie or its equivalent: ours for liberty and independence. We could carry on the war without money. They must cease to fight when money fails, and fail them it will so soon as all confidence is lost in their paper currency. The depreciation of that currency during the past year leaves no room for doubt that the day is not very distant when it will no longer subserve the purpose of buying up the million of mercenaries required for the prosecution of this war.

It is true that the depreciation of their currency does not proceed so rapidly as we hoped and expected; but it is going on fast enough to satisfy every considerate man that the day of their national bankruptcy is not far distant. A bankrupt nation cannot carry on a great and costly war; but bankruptcy, national and individual, arms with increased courage, thirst of revenge and desperation, a people fighting, as we do, for property, life, liberty and independence.

Should they put a larger army into the field the present year than in any former year, it will increase their debt the more rapidly, and hasten on their bankruptcy. Even without such larger army their debt is increasing in geometrical ratio: for food, ammunition, clothing, and all the expenses of outfitting and sustaining an army are more than double what they were when the war began. Indeed, it would be nearer the truth to say that the average prices at the North are now three times as great as when hostilities commenced, and these prices are daily rising, as their currency depreciates and their debt increases. Nobody now volunteers at the North, and to purchase the enlistment of soldiers will cost them more this year than any year heretofore. Besides, the interest of their debt is not paid by them, but a great part of it is annually converted into principal.

All of these considerations are obvious enough to everybody, and should inspire hope, confidence and cheerfulness. That they do not do so is entirely owing to the great misrepresentations of a panic making opposition, who, by continually decrying the administration, have succeeded in some degree in destroying confidence in its wisdom and efficiency, prevented enlistment and stimulated desertion from the ranks of our armies. They daily and hourly tell the people (in effect,) through the press by paid letter writers and in conversation, that the President is weak, obstinate, capricious, and wholly incapable of performing the duties of his office; that his cabinet are imbeciles, and that the officers of the army whom he appoints are wholly unfitted for their commands.

Having to fight the Yankees, encouraged, abetted and aided by these false, malignant and treacherous panic makers and slanderers within our own ranks, the success of our own arms is truly wonderful. That continued success should give assurance to the people, that with such men as we have had at the head of affairs, State and Confederate, since the war began, we can and will win independence, despite of Federal arms, though insidiously and industriously encouraged and aided by intestine folly and treachery. Enough men will enlist in our armies, and remain in the ranks, to secure the ultimate, though tardy, triumph of our arms, despite the tendency of a panic making opposition to prevent such enlistments and to encourage desertion. They may, and will, delay our triumphal success, but cannot altogether prevent it.

Abuse, virility, misrepresent and slander the officers of our army, because they are all the appointees of the President, as they may, those officers will continue to endure and maintain the confidence of all good soldiers, of all honest and pure patriots, and to excite the admiration and applause of whatever is respectable throughout Christendom. For nearly four years has Europe looked on with impartial eye at the conduct of affairs, civil and military, in our Confederacy, and pronounced, with singular unanimity, the opinion that never were such affairs managed with more ability, more wisdom, more patriotic devotion, more courage, or with more success, against such fearful odds.

Let the people cheer up and no longer heed the slanders of the opposition panic-makers.

NARROW ESCAPE OF GENERAL TORBERT FROM CAPTURE.

[From the Richmond Examiner Jan. 4.]

General Torbert, the Yankee who recently did not capture Gordonsville, narrowly escaped capture himself near Warrenton, on his retreat. He stopped at the house of some acquaintance, and while he was on his way to rejoin his command a party of Mosby's men made a sudden descent upon him. Unluckily, they only ordered him to halt, instead of taking him at once, thus giving him time to get well ahead of them. Instead of halting, Torbert put spurs to his horse, and, although his pursuers fired several shots at him, he escaped apparently unhurt.

EXPLAINING AWAY HOOD'S DISASTER.

The fact that the Yankees have, during the past two days, refused to exchange papers, gave an impetus to a rumor current yesterday at noon, that Hood, having turned upon Thomas, had whipped him badly, killing three thousand and taking six thousand prisoners. There was no official confirmation of the rumor.

THOMAS CONSCRIPTING THE TENNESSEEANS AND CALLING THEM PRISONERS.

From the Richmond Despatch, Jan. 2

A gentleman who has arrived in this city from the vicinity of Columbia, Tenn., state that since Gen. Hood entered Tennessee he has recruited his army largely, and has driven southward over ten thousand hogs and some six thousand beef cattle. He also secured a large quantity of flour and corn—enough to last his army at least three months. In order to secure his retreat across Duck river he had posted some twelve or fourteen cannon to keep the river clear. He crossed his main force, when the enemy attacked his rear guard, and they were unable to bring off the pieces.

General Hood conscripted all able-bodied males from seventeen to fifty years of age, and when he retreated the Yankees seized all they could find between these ages to swell their list of prisoners, and they were included in the nine thousand prisoners claimed by the Yankee General Thomas.

☞Sherman killed all the dogs on his line of march. A Western editor wishes Sherman would march through his neighborhood, and we might add that thousands of sheep farmers in the eastern States will echo the wish.

Foreign News.

MR. LINCOLN'S RE-ELECTION—FRENCH OPINION OF THE PRESIDENT.

[From the Revue des Deux Mondes, Dec. 15.]

The first words which fell from the lips of the President after the re-election, were words of peace and conciliation.—General Butler, in a speech which he made before leaving New York, also gave it to be understood that pacific proposals would soon be made to the Southern States. The misfortunes and the emotions of the war have not aroused any sentiment of vengeance or of hatred in the hearts of the inhabitants of the North. They are ready to restore to the Southern States all their constitutional rights, to cover everybody with a generous amnesty, to consider all the decrees of confiscation a dead letter. They merely ask of the South the renunciation of an institution henceforth considered incompatible with the Union. Never since the commencement of the war has the North felt itself so powerful, so united, so confident; all doubt, all hesitation has disappeared; the war has henceforth its definitive meaning; all the forces of the nation have found a common object. This unconscious purpose, pervading thousands of individual minds, has at last become aware of its own existence. As the price of so much bloodshed, of so many tears, exertions, and troubles, it asks one thing only, "the Union without Slavery."

The popular verdict has already excited deep agitation in the Confederate ranks. Mr. Jefferson Davis and his friends hoped that the Democratic party would obtain the victory: they believed the North exhausted, discouraged, divided, and even if Mr. Lincoln were elected they at least expected that his majority would be too small to assure his moral authority. If a new civil war grew out of the existing civil war, if the factions armed against each other in the towns and in the States of the North, if party spirit penetrated even the ranks of the army, the rebellion regained in a moment all it had lost. A single day has annihilated these vain hopes: the Southern Confederacy stands face to face with the gloomy reality: it sees its army decimated, half its original territory lost forever, its last remaining cities threatened, its treasury empty, its credit exhausted. No free voice can make itself heard in those States subjected to the military government; but the accounts of prisoners and refugees, the tone of the few Southern journals in which regret and weariness may be discerned under an assurance of enforced enthusiasm, the speeches recently delivered in Georgia by Mr. Jefferson Davis himself, the messages of several governors of rebels States, the disgrace of the Vice-President, Mr. Stephens, who formerly made great efforts to prevent the secession movement, all lead to the belief that the confederation is at this moment being torn asunder.

A silent struggle has commenced between those who, satisfied with having vindicated military honor, have no wish to plunge their country in greater disasters, and those who, despairing of victory, wish at least to surrender merely a solitude to their enemies. This might be foreseen from the commencement of the rebellion, the new confederacy contained within it two germs of death, slavery and the very principle of secession. The South rose against the North because it believed its favorite institution threatened; and now, at the end of four years of contest, people begin to talk at Richmond of giving arms to the negroes and of offering them liberty as the price of their alliance. The slaveowners took up arms in the name of the sovereignty of the States and now the Governor of Georgia plays off that sovereignty against the despotism of Richmond, and gives it to be understood that each of the Confederate States can separately make peace with the North. Never has the logic which does beneath the events of history been more imperious or more visible; nothing has been able to retard its decrees, neither the courage of the southern armies nor the firmness of that soldier President, at once military and civil organizer, around whom there is something of a tragic grandeur to which even the most resolute enemies of his cause cannot remain insensible. If the war in the United States had been an ordinary war, that commanding figure might perhaps have secured the favors of fortune; but this great contest is in reality a revolution, and in the struggle of principles at stake the victory will rest with the citizen President.

THE PIRATE SHENANDOAH.

From the Manchester Examiner, Dec. 31.

A private letter, received in Liverpool yesterday, states that the American brig Kate Price, arrived at Bahia, spoke the new Confederate cruiser Shenandoah on the 12th of November, in latitude 12° 30' N., longitude 25° 35' W. The Kate Price was captured and bonded for $10,000, and the crew of the Charter Oak, of San Francisco, captured and burnt on the 5th of November, was put on board of her. The Shenandoah had previously captured and burnt the Susan, of New York, and the barks Helena and E. Godfrey, of the same port, their crews being placed on board a Danish brig bound for Rio Janeiro. It will be remembered that the Shenandoah, under the name of the Sea King, left London a few months since, and was met at Madeira by the steamer Laurel, from Liverpool, from which vessel, it is supposed, she received a portion of her crew and armament.

A number of the men, finding that the Shenandoah was going to be a Confederate cruiser, refused to join her, and were sent back to Liverpool in the West African mail steamer. They reported most positively that Capt. Semmes of the Alabama, was the commander of the Shenandoah; but they were evidently misinformed, as Capt. Semmes is now in the Confederate States. Shortly after this, it was reported that the Shenandoah had been lost near Madeira; but this report, set afloat in the Gibraltar Chronicle, was evidently a *ruse* to throw the Federal merchants and Government of the scent. The view is confirmed by our Liverpool correspondents, who, from private information, had reason to believe that the Shenandoah would soon be heard of in the scene of her recent exploits.

SPAIN.

SAN DOMINGO TO BE ABANDONED.—The Paris Debats, of the 22d ult., has the following important news:

"On the 22d, Queen Isabel will open the session of the Cortes. A telegram from Madrid announces that the opening speech submitted by the Council of Ministers to the Queen, will propose the abandonment of San Domingo. There can then, no longer remain a doubt as to the issue that led to the late ministerial crisis. It was the Queen who yielded to the resolutions of the Cabinet to abandon San Domingo.

ESCAPED FROM REBELDOM.—Forty-seven Union officers, who have been for some time back prisoners of war in South Carolina, and who escaped from their place of confinement near Columbia, arrived at Fortress Monroe on Wednesday, and came up to Norfolk yesterday. We conversed with some of them, but for "reasons of state" do not deem it prudent to make known their manner of leaving South Carolina. One of them states that, upon the occasion of a "scare," the prisoners were removed from Charleston and turned loose under guards, consisting of old men and boys, in a piece of pine woods near Columbia, without tents or any shelter. Their food was of the meanest sort. No meat rations were issued, and the following was a ration for a man for five days: five pints of meal, half a pint of rice, two tablespoons full of salt, half a pint of molasses, and half a pint of flour.—*Norfolk Regime, Dec. 30.*

☞Stays were quite unknown in Russia until Peter the Great danced with some of the Hanoverian ladies on his journey to Pomerania. Quite astounded, the monarch exclaimed to his suite after the ball, "What uncommon hard beast the German women have."

From Tennessee.

A New Base for Operations South of the Tennessee.

Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 28, 1864.—Tennessee is now perfectly safe: no future attempts will be made by the rebels to occupy and hold it. Therefore, a new base of supplies will be found. The line of railroad from Nashville, south, is very long, and hence requires the detachment of a great number of troops to guard it, and from this point north, the Louisville Railroad is often cut, and the Cumberland river is only navigable in winter. I believe, though, that Nashville will soon cease to be of much importance as a military centre. A strong guard will be left here and the base of supplies will be changed to Florence. Of this I have no doubt.

The Tennessee is navigable for small boats from Chattanooga to its mouth, at all seasons, and for large ones from Florence to its mouth, in high water, the only exception being between Decatur and Bainbridge, over the muscle shoals.—Around these there is a railroad of only forty-five miles in length, and this could be kept open with comparatively few men. About the shoals there are numerous boats, which run to Chattanooga, and there are also several small gunboats to keep the river open.

We shall then have the advantage of a water base and a river line of defence. I have often wondered that this has not been before adjusted; but I feel certain that it will now be employed as a base. With an efficient cavalry force, properly supported by infantry and light artillery, Selma and Montgomery will speedily fall into our hands. These towns would be no further from Florence than Nashville is from Louisville; and Louisville was our base in 1861-62; and Florence is to-day more securely ours than Louisville was then.

In cavalry, we still have at least sixty thousand mounted men to operate in the Gulf States. Every mile on railroad shall be destroyed, every foundry and mill burned, every bridge broken down, and every horse and mule taken. The rebels are now beaten and crushed in the West; everything which would enable them to recuperate should be taken away.

Hood has escaped. He crossed the river on the 23d, on pontoons, at Bainbridge, eight miles from Florence. Steedman, of whose expedition I gave a full account in my last, reached Decatur on the 24th, and immediately commenced reconnoitering on both sides of the river, when the fact of Hood's escape was discovered.

The rebel army, when it left Tennessee, including cavalry, consisted of from 17,000 to 18,000 men, being less than half its strength when it made its entry. The number of deserters is enormous. Of the 2,000 men he succeeded in conscripting, he did not get 100 across the river—all the remainder escaped in the melee; and of the 4000 Tennesseans—old soldiers—who marched North, not a thousand are to-day south of the river. The city is full of stragglers; even Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson, of Nicholson letter notoriety, has returned to his home in Columbia, declaring the Confederacy a failure and his determination to aid it no more.

I have conversed with those who are in position to know something of the matter, and they estimated that there were at present only 1,000 Kentuckians, and 4,000 Tennesseans in the whole rebel army.—The two States have furnished at least 75,000, where are they now? At least half of them are in their graves, and the remaining have deserted. The rebel army between the Mississippi and the Savannah rivers, has ceased to exist as a formidable organization. If all the scattered commands were called in, not more than 12,000 cavalry and 15,000 infantry could be brought together. Ten thousand well mounted men could not traverse the country, from Vicksburg to Savannah; and though they might not be able to capture a few of the most strongly fortified places, they would meet no serious resistance outside of these towns; and the remaining rebels and railroads could be destroyed.

A GALLANT FIGHT.

The Louisville Journal of the 21st ult. tells of a gallant fight made the Saturday before, by Captain Sam Tabour and his nephew, John, a lad of sixteen. They belonged to a home guard company, and was surrounded in the Captain's own house by a noted guerrilla chief, Captain Pratt, with his desperadoes all armed to the teeth. Knowing that surrender would be suicide, they determined to sell their lives dearly:

They refused to give themselves up, and a fight at once ensued. Young Tabour fired the first shot, shooting one of the outlaws through the heart. The Captain was not long in following suit. With his unerring rifle, he brought down another one of these scoundrels, when the five remaining guerillas started to flee. Pratt turned to fire a parting shot, when the Captain rewarded him with a ball in the mouth, which settled, in short order, his temporal affairs. Pratt had scarcely fallen before Tabour took aim with a navy revolver and brought the fourth scoundrel to the ground.

The remaining three halted about two hundred and fifty yards from the house, and one of them was in the act of firing when the boy took quick aim and shot the gun, a Spencer rifle, from the hands of the outlaw. This closed the fight. Capt Tabour arrived in the city yesterday, and presenting himself before Col. Farleigh, made the following report: "Colonel, we have some captured property to account for. We have three dead men and one wounded, a prisoner. We have three live horses and a dead one; three Enfield rifles, one carbine and four saddles. What must we do with them? Such are the spoils of the victory. We will wager that a more gallant little fight has not occurred during the war. Pratt was one of the most desperate outlaws in the State, and his followers were noted for their bloodthir