

# CALENDAR FOR 1865.

[illegible]

3 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-THIRD DAY.**

Five shots were fired at the city Friday night, since which the enemy have been silent.

Two Yankee barges, under the command of two Acting Masters Mates, with their crews, comprising twelve and thirteen men respectively, were captured off Fort Sumter on Saturday night by our naval picket boats from the receiving ship "Indian Chief." One of the Yankee barges, under the command of Acting Master A. F. Rich, belongs to the blockading steamer "Mary Sandford;" the other, commanded by Acting Master Wm. Fitzhugh, belongs to the double ended "Pontiac." The prisoners state they were on picket duty, and cruising in search of blockade runners.

The captured blockade runner reported among the fleet on the 25th inst., they state was the Steamer "Julia," towed off from where she had been beached near Cape Romain. These prisoners also report the capture of the crew of the Steamer "Beatrice" about whose fate much anxiety has been felt. Several ladies returning to their homes here from the North came into our lines Saturday through flag of truce on James Island.

There has been no change in the fleet.

**ARRESTS AND ROBBERIES.**—JOHN KELLY, an old offender, and J. BURKE, both reported as deserters from the 1st Regiment S. C. Artillery, together with Private JAS. RILEY, of the Irish Volunteers in Virginia, and Private BRADLEY, of the 61st Guard, were arrested last week by Lieut. CALDWELL, of the Police, and Detective Officer HICKS, on the charge of being concerned in the late robbery of HERR BULWINKLE, on Calhoun-street. From seven to eight thousand dollars worth of the stolen goods have been recovered. In arresting the parties the officers had a considerable struggle, causing quite a commotion among a number of female shopkeepers.

Two of the prisoners managed to get away at first by jerking away from their captors and escaping through the back windows. Two citizens passing by, hearing the cry of "stop thief!" caught the runaways and held them down until the arrival of the policemen. They have since been well taken care of. Officer Hicks, in going to obtain some information in relation to the stolen articles, was waylaid and assaulted at the corner of King and Calhoun-streets. He was struck over the left eye and received some other injuries but put the assassins to flight with his revolver.

The store of Mr. EARLES AUSTIN, Southeast corner of Coming and Wentworth-streets, was broken open Saturday night and robbed of about two thousand dollars worth of groceries and provisions.

The market in Vanderhorst-street was also broken open and several butcher stalls robbed of a large quantity of meat.

A gentleman on his way home Saturday night was seized by two soldiers who endeavored to wrest his watch and chain from him. He succeeded in releasing his right arm and fired two shots from his revolver, wounding both of his assailants. They succeeded, however, in making their escape.

# The Charleston Mercury.

3 January 1865, 2

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## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY THIRD DAY.

Operations hereabouts seem sluggish enough. Five shells were thrown from Morris Island at the city on Friday night; but none stuck.

Two Yankee barges, with twenty seven men, including two Acting Master's Mates, were captured outside of Fort Sumter, on Saturday night, by our naval pickets. They are from the Yankee steamers *Mary Sandford* and *Fontenac*.

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## LATEST FROM SHERMAN.

We learned last evening that SHERMAN has sent over a portion of his forces to this side of the Savannah River, and driven in our pickets. Neither his design nor the strength of his forces are known.

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FOUR OF THE PRINCIPALS, including the thieves and receivers, of the late robbery at Mr. BULL WINKLER'S, in Calhoun, near King street, have been arrested, and are now in custody. Over \$10,000 worth of the stolen property has been recovered.

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# The Charleston Courier.

4 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOURTH DAY.**

With the exception of an exchange of a few scattering shots between the enemy's batteries and our batteries on Sullivan's Island Monday night, all has been quiet.

The enemy's river steamers and small boats were unusually busy all day Tuesday plying between the different vessels of the fleet. The monitors, seven in number, took in a fresh supply of coal and ammunition during the day. The enemy were also busy hauling ammunition to their lower batteries on Morris Island, and also at work on Batteries Gregg and Wagner.

The number of shells thrown into the city from the commencement of the bombardment to the 1st January, 1865, is 12,262.

**FROM THE ROADS.**—No news was received yesterday of any further movement of the enemy, who are now believed to be at Hardeeville. Our forces have fallen back to Grahamville. KILPATRICK's raiding party, which went down the Altamaha river some days ago, had returned to Savannah, and it is reported moved over to the Carolina side of the Savannah river. Another report was that a party of Yankee cavalry had made their appearance at Perrysburg, S. O., but the report is not credited.

**WITH MEXICO.**—The grand expedition against Wilmington has turned out a most ignominious fizzle. They sustained a very heavy disaster in the loss of all their horses and ordnance, which they were obliged to throw overboard to lighten and save their vessels. As a very pleasant sequel to our triumph four blockade runners loaded with supplies for our armies arrived the day after the bombardment.

The Union Prayer Meeting will be held this afternoon, at four o'clock, in Bethel Church, corner Calhoun and Pitt-streets.

Ministers of the city and those who may be here temporarily, Chaplains and Missionaries of the army, soldiers and citizens generally, who believe in the efficacy of prayer, are invited to attend for the purpose of presenting the condition of the city and country before the Mercy Seat. w

In our allusion to the death of the lamented General S. R. Gist in Tuesday's "Courier," we intended it to read as follows; "He fell into the arms of a member of his staff, Lieutenant F. M. TRENHOLM, saying, 'take me to my wife,' and almost instantly expired."

The "Sisters of Mercy" gratefully acknowledge the receipt of \$122 from the officers and crew of the gunboat "Palmetto State," and will apply it to the purposes indicated by the generous contributors.

**SHERMAN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT.**—Of the twenty-five thousand bales of cotton at Savannah presented to LINCOLN by SHERMAN as a Christmas gift, less than three hundred belonged to the Government. The remainder was nearly all held by foreigners, who had purchased it for early shipment after the ports should be opened.

His Excellency Governor MAGRATH leaves this city this morning for Columbia, to be present at an important meeting of a special commission.

# The Charleston Mercury.

4 January 1865, 1

## The Root of the Evils

It is stated that there are one hundred thousand absentees from the armies of the Confederate States. In this Department, we are credibly informed, there is a single corps of twenty-seven thousand on the rolls, which does not turn out seven thousand effective men. These facts support the statement of President Davis, made in his Macon speech, upon his return from a review of the sullen Army of the West, after his removal of General Johnston, the bloody repulses of Hood, and the fall of Atlanta. Why is it that men are not in the ranks and at the front? Will any one say that the people of these Confederate States are not patriotic? All story tells of no struggle for independence in which more general and heroic devotion was ever displayed. Our people have made great exertions in behalf of a great cause. It is the people of these States which over and over have lifted out of the perils arising from incompetent mal administration the affairs of the country. It is the incorrigible intermeddling, mischievous dictation, malignant prejudices and petty partizanship which make sacrifices apparently endless and useless. It is these things which weigh like a pull upon the heart of the country. It is these things which infuse inefficiency everywhere, and inspire selfishness and indifference. It is these things which are destroying us, and which must be eradicated by the action of Congress.

# The Charleston Mercury.

4 January 1865, 2

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY FOURTH DAY.

New shots were fired by the enemy at our batteries on Sullivan's Island last Monday night.

On Tuesday there was no firing, but unusual activity was noticed amongst the enemy's fleet. All day long river steamers and small boats were plying between the various vessels. Men have been observed drilling on the decks of the monitors; and all of those "turreted monsters" took in a fresh supply of ammunition and coal. Firing was heard in the afternoon in the direction of Seco.

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SHERMAN is reported at Hardeeville. All the beef cattle, hogs and sheep have been driven from the Hardeeville and Grahamville sections, and are now pastured in a safe locality.

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DARING ROBBERY—On Friday night last the residence of Mr. EARLES AUSTIN, corner of Coming and Wentworth streets, was burglariously entered, and upwards of \$3000 worth of family supplies, consisting of sugar, coffee, tobacco, cigars, etc., were carried off. There is no clue yet to the robbers.

The Charleston Courier.

5 January 1865, 1

Siege of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH DAY.

No firing between the batteries around the harbor has occurred since our last report. A Yankee battery on Light House was practicing a short time Wednesday morning, which accounts for the heavy firing heard in the direction of Sago. The enemy continue to transport ammunition to their lower batteries on Morris Island. No change in the fleet is reported.

FROM THE ROAD.—The latest account from the road Tuesday night stated that the enemy, this side of the Savannah river, had retired towards night and our picket lines to Hardenville were re-established. Wednesday morning the enemy again advanced and drove in our pickets.

A later report from Grahamville Wednesday afternoon states that the enemy was moving in force on the Purysbury road, below Sister's Ferry.

A flag of truce communication was held at Port Royal Ferry Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of hanging letters and official documents.

# The Charleston Mercury.

5 January 1865, 2

SLAVE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND  
FORTY FIFTH DAY.

We have nothing new or interesting from our own immediate neighborhood. The Yankees are constantly hauling new supplies of ammunition to Batteries Gregg and Wagner. Some thing, believed to be practicing, has been heard in the direction of the S. one. There has been no further firing on the eve.

THE STOCK MARKET.—We direct the attention of moneyed men seeking investments to the large and varied sale of Stocks, Bonds, Shares, &c., by Mr. JOHN S. RINGS, at the corner of King and Ann streets, at 11 o'clock, this day. The list of valuable securities offered embraces Bank Stocks, Railroad Shares, Blockade Stock, and several varieties of Confederate Stocks and Bonds.

SALE TO DAY.—The attention of the public is directed to the sale of furniture this forenoon, at the corner of Rutledge and Bull streets, by Messrs. O'BRIEN & ROBERTS. A very choice collection of furniture and ornaments is to be sold without limit, and bargains may be expected.

THE SAVANNAH PAY DEPOSITORY has just been removed, by order of the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, from the Charleston Arsenal to Macon, Ga. All parties interested will please take notice.

WE CALL attention to the important notice of Surgeon General GIBBER in another column.

To the Editor of the Mercury: Permit me to acknowledge, with many thanks to our thoughtful neighbors of the sweet Isle of Cuba, through our fellow townsman, M. P. O'Connor, Esq., the following donations for the support of the Free Market of Charleston:

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Mrs P A Avelhe.....       | \$303 83 |
| Mrs O A Wilson.....       | 996 68   |
| Mr O A Wilson.....        | 96 68    |
| Jos O Wilson.....         | 296 68   |
| Chas G Bartlett.....      | 996 68   |
| J P O Thompson.....       | 996 68   |
| J W Vanderkerpt.....      | 148 83   |
| Mrs J W Vanderkerpt.....  | 148 83   |
| A Demango.....            | 87 18    |
| Jos Rabalecha.....        | 18 64    |
| Francisco Cortis.....     | 87 14    |
| Rafael Mariscal.....      | 74 16    |
| Dr S Destez.....          | 8 83     |
| John D Duggan.....        | 996 68   |
| Wm Dachue.....            | 148 88   |
| R Aquila.....             | 81 68    |
| Zuldo Gavela & Co.....    | 148 83   |
| Miguel de Afra.....       | 148 83   |
| Antonio Balaguer.....     | 74 16    |
| Mrs de Sagarz zio.....    | 74 16    |
| Mrs de Zuldo.....         | 74 16    |
| Mrs Rita de Alvaldi.....  | 87 08    |
| Mrs de Lallmerts.....     | 71 18    |
| Don Juan Avolo.....       | 87 08    |
| Dr Joaquin Fabrellas..... | 14 63    |
| Juan Salaber.....         | 87 08    |
| Capt Pepe Elva.....       | 87 08    |
| A Friend.....             | 87 08    |

\$3979.04

The above handsome "recognition" by the planters and citizens of Sagua Grande, Cuba, comes in a time of great need and suffering, the funds of the Free Market being nearly exhausted, with a very limited supply of provisions on hand. In the name of the soldiers families I thank the kind donors for this timely aid and sympathy.

Geo. W. Williams,  
Treasurer Free Market



# The Charleston Courier.

6 January 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIXTH DAY.

The enemy opened fire on Fort Sumter between nine and ten o'clock Wednesday night, and fired some fifty-five shots. A few shots were also fired at Sullivan's Island. With this exception, all was quiet.

No movements were observed Thursday. Between six and seven in the evening the bombardment of the fort was renewed.

There has been no change in the fleet.

The enemy opened heavily on the fort again last evening, and continued up to the hour of closing our report.

FROM THE ROAD.—An authentic dispatch received Thursday evening states that there had been no new movement of the enemy during the day. His forces were still crossing the river and assembling between there and Hardeeville.

Our Cavalry still picket near Hardeeville.

He who sits down, and wails and groans and tears bewails our great misfortunes, and contents himself with endeavoring to find a safe refuge from the evils that darken the future; he who, under the despondency occasioned by untoward events, abandons himself to despair, is unworthy the inestimable blessings we are fighting and suffering for; unworthy the gallant men who have given their lives to our country. The crisis calls for the display of the qualities of manhood. Patriotism counsels energy, courage, patience, self-sacrifice. We must look upon our facts in the face, consider our difficulties in their full proportions, contemplate the evils that threaten us, and then resolve with solemn earnestness to do our whole duty with all our hearts.

The citizens of South Carolina are not less devoted to the cause we are engaged in than the citizens of other States. Their patriotism is as pure and ardent, their courage as high, their resolution as firm. Suppose SUMNER pursues his victorious course still further, and adds other and more important conquests to those he has already achieved, are we prepared to confront the danger, to bear the augmented evils?

CAPTAIN B. W. McTURGOU.—We had the pleasure of meeting on Thursday morning our gallant young townsman, Capt. McTURGOU, now commanding a detachment from the 5th and 6th South Carolina Regiments BUTLER'S Cavalry Brigade, in General YOUNG'S command, doing service on our coast. He is in excellent health and spirits, notwithstanding he has been through all the severe cavalry fighting during the late campaigns in Virginia.

The Captain's visit to the city is for the purpose of procuring horses to mount his command, as recommended by the General commanding. The command left Virginia for the coast hurriedly, not having time or accommodation to bring their horses. They now desire to make an appeal to the generosity of the citizens of Charleston for assistance in the present exigency. Citizens who have a spare horse will have him well taken care of, appraised at their full value, the Government allowing from thirty-five hundred to five thousand dollars, and returned when the pressure is over or the command is ordered back to Virginia. We hope there will be a patriotic response, as an efficient cavalry force is much needed to annoy and harass the enemy in their present and future movements in our State. Citizens willing to send assistance can leave their names at this office for two days.

6 January 1865, 1

National Life.

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT.

The Fifth Commandment, the law and order of and for domestic discipline and training, has been distinguished, and designated as "the commandment with promise," and volumes have been written on it presenting the advantages and results of that promise.

With all due respect for the annotators and commentators, who have often darkened counsel, and have started more doubts and difficulties than they solve, we cannot accept as the true and specific design and intent of this promise, the prominence they give to long life individually. There is no authority elsewhere in the Bible teachings or history, or in any authentic history for connecting long life specially with this rather than any other commandment, or indeed for asserting long life distinctively and prominently as a reward and result attending on virtue and faithful obedience. Active, constant virtue, or habitual obedience to duty, as duty, and to all the commandments, tends indeed naturally, and even without supposing any exceptional interference of God with his ordinary laws to promote length of days; and many of the active, infractions, or the negative omissions against the commandments tend to hasten death and shorten life. While, therefore, not admitting either as a fact, or as worth Christian motive, the necessary connection in this life between virtue and prosperity, and long life, we readily admit that even for this world "godliness is great gain."

Generally and in a large majority of cases David does not assert as a necessary fact that the family of a good man shall never come to want, but he asserts the fact that he had never seen or known such a case. The experience of old readers and the records of history, we think, will confirm us in denying that close and strict connection between the fifth commandment and long life individually, which has been assumed or derived from this promise and the prominence thereon claimed for this commandment.

It may be asked, then, "what is the promise? Is it irrelevant or mere surplusage, that could as well have been added to any other commandment." We answer no—emphatically no. It is

not irrelevant or surplusage, and it is fully annexed to this fifth commandment for imparting and impressing a lesson which we are now illustrating in this way—the necessary connection of domestic discipline and the right management of the family with national stability.

The promise, we contend, was to the Jews chiefly as a people set apart to be a blessing on the soil God had marked out for them—separately, like the other commandments, it was to be a blessing in some cases individual life, but we derive from the text and from the whole scope of the Bible history, that it refers primarily and chiefly to national life, and stability; and to the preservation of national institutions, and freedom from dissension, civil strife, or faction, or captivity.

Has any nation or people once settled in or on an independent plan of self-government, or with self-evolved institutions, ever been overthrown, or fallen without the decay of the family as the forerunner and inducing cause of national decay?

Both the Church and the State, whatever theories may be adopted as to their duties and relations, rest on the family—and the Decalogue we must repeat as our leading text and thought in these hints, was addressed to both the Church and the State then united in one polity and system of constitutional rulers. We leave the thought with all who wish to test it by reference to history, observation and experience, and only hope and pray that those on whom the remodeling and readjusting of the Government and vital elements of our institutions will be devolved—and may soon be devolved, if we do not successfully show ourselves unworthy of all free institutions and of the martyrs we have lost in this war, and their worthy compeers yet standing forth for them and us—will not overlook the primary and fundamental importance of the family, and of domestic discipline, and of early training of those who are expected to become citizens.

The family, complete and well organized after God's Word, and the "pattern shown on the Mount"—the family with the father, the mother—husband and wife—son, daughter, servant—this is the type, and model, and basis, and unitary form of Government.

The Charleston Courier.

6 January 1865, 1

The Columbia "Guardian," of the 5th instant, says, "We had the pleasure of a casual interview with Gen. JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON on Wednesday. His appearance and movements indicate firm health. His step is elastic, his countenance bright and cheerful, his carriage that of a soldier and gentleman. The fire of genius burns in his eye. He is the man we need at this juncture in our affairs. The country requires and demands his services. An important field awaits him, and the President, we trust, will immediately assign him to it."

# The Charleston Mercury.

6 January 1865, 2

## SINGLE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY SIXTH DAY.

late on Wednesday night the enemy's Morris Island works opened briskly on Fort Sumter, firing fifty-five shots. A few shots were also fired at Sullivan's Island.

Nothing else worthy of note has occurred since our last report.

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MOVEMENTS OF GENERALS—General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON has been in Columbia since last Friday.

Generals BEAUREGARD and D. H. HILL are sojourning in Augusta at present.

Major General M. L. SMITH has been appointed to the command of the Eastern Division of the District of the Gulf.

The Western papers throw considerable doubt upon the alledged death of General PRICE.

The *Augusta Constitutionalist* is inclined to fear that the report of General Hood's death is true, inasmuch as it knows that he has suffered much of late from the effects of the wound that caused the amputation of his leg.

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# The Charleston Courier.

7 January 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY SEVENTH DAY.

The weather was too unfavorable for observations of the enemy's movements Friday. But one gun, fired in the direction of Stono, was heard during the day.

**FROM THE ROAD.**—General WHEELER telegraphs that the enemy in unknown force crossed New river on the road to Grahamville Friday morning. Our forces had previously burnt the bridge over the river. The main body of the enemy is believed to be still in the neighborhood of Hardeeville. General WHEELER was watching their movements, the object of which had not yet been developed.

The "Captain's Bride," a short and thrilling story of this war, by a promising young author of North Carolina—the "Keystone," a Masonic organ, lately commenced, and other new supplies for readers and selectors of books for the camp or the fireside have been received at QUINN'S.

We beg our friends at home, when making up packages for the camp or hospital, or when finding a safe opportunity for transmission, never to forget that good soldier's wish and love to read.

**INSPECTION OF CONSCRIPTION.**—Attention is called to the order of the Inspector requiring all persons holding certificates of permanent disability and all assigned to light duty, to appear before him for inspection. He will be in Charleston (excepting the 10th) until the 14th instant, on the 10th he will be at Summerville.

The year just opened is notable for eclipses, as any good almanac will inform our readers, and we hope the astronomers and all intelligent observers who can now command opportunities and means, will be on the alert to take observations and make or devise any tests desired for themselves and the advancement of science and the promotion of a more general interest in one of the noblest of sciences.

We shall be pleased to receive from expert friends of the "Courier" any pertinent hints or suggestions on this topic, and generally on the *Almanac*, a favorite and ever welcomed subject of correspondence with a venerable friend, who has been stricken from the "Courier" rolls and from the citizenship of one of our old interior villages, since "this cruel war" commenced, following to the grave a gallant young son who fell early in the war.

The Charleston Courier.

7 January 1865, 1

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. S. C., GA. AND FLA.,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., January 6, 1865. }  
[GENERAL ORDERS No. 6]  
I. MAJOR M. B. MOMMEKEN IS ANNOUNCED  
AS CHIEF QUARTERMASTER of the De-  
partment of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.  
II. Lieutenant U. G. M. E. MINGER is announced as  
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER of the Department of South  
Carolina Georgia and Florida.  
By command of Lieutenant General HARDEZ.  
(Signed) T. B. RAY, A. A. General.  
Officer: H. W. FEILDEN, A. A. G.  
January 7 6

HEADQ'RS DISTRICT SOUTH CAROLINA, }  
CHARLESTON, January 6, 1865. }  
[GENERAL ORDER No. 1.]  
I. HEREAFTER THE NAMES OF ALL ENLIST-  
ED men who may be reported to the Bureau of  
Conscription, under existing orders, as deserters or  
absentees without leave, will be dropped from the  
Company rolls whenever such absence has continued  
ten days. Upon the return of such men they will be  
reported as "Joined from Desertion."  
II. Commissary Officers will immediately forward  
lists of all Commissioned Officers who are now, and for  
ten days have been, absent without leave, with such  
remarks as may be deemed pertinent; to the end that  
they may be returned under arrest or steps be taken  
to have their names stricken from the Rolls of the  
Army.  
By command of Major General SAM. JONES.  
CHAS. W. STRIFFELLOW,  
January 7 6 A. A. General.

OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL, }  
DEPT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA AND FLORIDA, }  
Charleston, S. C., January 6, 1865. }  
[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —.]  
I. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS  
from the Commanding General, officers and  
soldiers will not be permitted to visit the city of  
Charleston without the written permission of the Dis-  
trict or Sub District Commanders with whom they are  
serving.  
II. All guards under the control of this office are  
instructed to enforce this order rigidly.  
III. Officers on leave and soldiers on furlough in  
this city are required to report at this office in per-  
son, showing the authority and for what length of time  
they are absent from their respective commands.  
W. J. GAYKOR,  
January 7 A. A. G. and Provost Marshal General.

HEADQ'RS DETACHMENT BUTLER'S BRIGADE }  
CHARLESTON, January 6, 1865. }  
[SPECIAL ORDERS No. —.]  
ALL OFFICERS AND MEN OF THIS COMMAND  
who have been permitted to go to PROCURE  
REMOUNTS, will report at the Face Courts  
Charleston, S. C., on the 7th instant, instead of Cold-  
way and Augusta, as before ordered.  
By order Brig Gen. P. M. B. YOUNG,  
B. W. MORTIMER,  
Captain Commanding Detachment.  
The Columbia Guardian and Augusta Constitution-  
alist will please copy, insert twice, and send bill to  
Me: curry, 29 January 7.

# The Charleston Mercury.

7 January 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

Yesterday morning the Yankees, an unknown force, are reported to have crossed New River, on the road to Grahamville. Their main body, however, is still in the neighborhood of Hardeeville.

As yet, their object is not yet developed; but WHEELER is closely watching their movements.

## SIEGE MATTERS--FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVENTH DAY.

Yesterday it was too misty for observation, and consequently our lookouts make no report whatever of the enemy's movements hereabouts.

IN ANSWER to inquiries relative to the postage on papers, we would state that the postage per quarter on the DAILY MERCURY is 79 cents, and on the TRI-WEEKLY MERCURY 40 cents.

## OFFICIAL NOTICES.

HEADQUARTERS, }  
DEPARTMENT OF SO. CA., GA. AND FLA., }  
(CHARLESTON, S. C., January 6th, 1865.)

### [GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5.]

I. MAJOR M. B. MOMICKEN IS ANNOUNCED AS Chief Quartermaster of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

II. Lieutenant O. G. MEMMINGER is announced as Chief Signal Officer of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

By command of Lieut. Gen. HARGEE.

(Signed) T. B. ROY, A. A. G.  
Official: H. W. FRIEDEN, A. A. G.  
January 7 5

HEADQUARTERS, }  
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, }  
(CHARLESTON, January 5, 1865.)

### [GENERAL ORDER No. 1.]

I. HEREAFTER, THE NAMES OF ALL ENLISTED MEN who may be reported to the Bureau of Conscription under existing orders, as deserters or absentees without leave, will be dropped from the Company Rolls whenever such absence has continued ten days. Upon the return of such men, they will be reported as "Joined from desertion."

II. Commissioned Officers will immediately forward lists of all commissioned officers who are now, and for ten days have been absent without leave, with such remarks as may be deemed pertinent, to the end that they may be returned under arrest, or steps be taken to have their names stricken from the rolls of the army.

By command of Major Gen. SAM JONES.

CHAS. S. STRINGFELLOW,  
A. A. General.  
January 7 6

OFFICE PROVOST-MARSHAL GENERAL, }  
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA AND FLA., }  
(CHARLESTON, S. C., January 6, 1865.)

### [SPECIAL ORDERS NO. —.]

I. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM the Commanding General, Officers and Soldiers will not be permitted to visit the city of Charleston without the written permission of the District or Sub-District Commanders with whom they are serving.

II. All guards under the control of this office are instructed to enforce this order rigidly.

III. Officers on leave and soldiers on furlough in this city are required to report at this office in person, showing the authority, and for what length of time they are absent from their respective commands.

WM. J. GAYER,  
A. A. G. and P. M. General.  
January 7

# The Charleston Mercury.

7 January 1865, 2

NOW READY,  
THE  
JANUARY NUMBER  
OF  
THE KEY-STONE,  
THE ONLY  
Masonic Magazine  
IN  
THE SOUTH.

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COMP. A. G. MACKAY, P. G. O. M., HAS BEEN engaged upon the Editorial Corps.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, at Raleigh, December 7th, 1864, was pleased to pass the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, Brother W. B. SMITH, of this city, has commenced the publication of a Monthly Periodical devoted to the interest of the Masonic Fraternity, entitled 'THE KEY-STONE,' and whereas a work of this kind is very much needed by the Craft throughout the Confederate States, therefore,

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend said work to the Subordinate Lodges and the Craft generally."

TERMS.—1 copy 6 months, \$10; 12 copies 6 months, \$100; single copies, \$2. Specimen numbers furnished gratis to persons getting up clubs. Address

January 7

WM. B. SMITH & CO.,  
Raleigh, N. C.



9 January 1865, 1

**Stage of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH DAY.**

A side-wheel steamer, with two smoke stacks flying the English flag from the mainmast below the Yankee flag, was seen with the fleet Saturday morning. She was heavily laden and is supposed to have been another captured blockade runner.

The enemy remained quiet during Saturday night up to three o'clock in the morning, when they re-opened with mortars on Fort Sumter, firing nine shells. A few shots were fired at the fort Sunday.

An attempt was made during Saturday night to visit or enter the building now used as the "Courier" Office—a place where visitors calling within business hours and on business, or for friendship, are ever welcomed.

What tempted or excited the curiosity of the enterprising visitor who tried to work his way on Saturday night we cannot guess. Surely no man with sense enough to use a crow bar or jimmy, or get out of the way of an enrolling officer, could expect to find money in a newspaper office. The emphatic appeals of a faithful dog belonging to the landlord and family occupying a portion of the building deterred our nocturnal visitor, very luckily for himself, before he got actually into the office room. The bite of that dog, had it been incurred, would have been found worse even than the bark, or the intruder would have encountered something very much like type-metal but forcefully ejected from a shooting stick.

All occupants and owners of premises that may tempt prowling visitors should be well prepared with dogs and weapons. A case or two of example and prevention and detection in the act, will go further than arrests after the offence.

**National Sins.**

**DRUNKENNESS.**

In due course of these remarks we should next consider the sixth commandment, a fruitful topic, but we pause to consider now a national sin of fearful prominence, which, in letter, violating expressly none of the commandments, in fact violates many of them, or predisposes those indulging it to such violation.

Drunkenness is the willful suicide of the soul—the voluntary and deliberate abdication and renunciation by man of reason and conscience. It disqualifies a man for the positive actual observance of any of the commandments or of any duty and purpose, and predisposes and inclines him to the actual violation of any of them according to his besetting bias. It degrades or weakens when it does not altogether extinguish the electric power of will and conscience, and increases the power of evil tendencies and propensities. It is pre-eminently a sin to be watched and checked by noble and generous minds, as it visits and has overthrown many who, by apparently natural gifts and qualities, were exalted above the range of covetousness or avarice, or

The world's roll of great names recorded with mingled admiration, approval, and regret, and reluctant condemnation, shows more victims of drunkenness than of any other vice or evil.

That drunkenness was a national sin in and throughout the United States—shared by us of the South before Secession, and still pressing on us to a degree that should alarm the good citizen who believes in national punishments as the appointed sequel of national sins—must be admitted by every competent observer.

The complaint has been raised by the press generally, and a Senator of this State has frankly attempted to call the attention of Congress to this flagrant evil, but with partial success.

A report has been elicited stating the number of cases of drunkenness investigated before Courts Martial, and the result of this has been presented to readers of the "Courier." We need not recall the figures, but refer the inquiring reader to them.

The whole number, if we remember aright, was under 300, and of these nearly one half resulted in acquittal. It was not stated how many of each grade or rank were charged, and thus nothing has been done or attempted to meet and satisfy the opinion very generally and confidently entertained and expressed, that while drunkenness in a soldier or a subordinate officer is a vice and a breach of military order and discipline, in an officer of rank it is an accident or a foible not to be visited harshly or noticed or censured, or even to be seen and proven.

Our army and service everywhere have suffered sorely from drunkenness and consequent incompetence. Even our best divisions have scarcely been free from this vice, and some divisions and detachments and corps have suffered severely and repeatedly.

We see its signs and fruits around us wherever we go—and we have noted and observed within our own incidental observations for the two years past, more cases of evident drunkenness in uniform, and often in officers, than are reported in the official reply to the inquiry from the Senate.

The evil is general, popular, pervading, national, wide reaching and Heaven-defying, and must be rebuked, checked, corrected and limited, if not altogether removed, if we expect, desire, hope, or intend to succeed, or to be worthy of success.

As to the ways and means of correcting this great and consuming evil, and the measures indicated for it in Confederate, and State, and Municipal legislation, and in the altered tone of public opinion and habits, much could be pertinently said, but must now be deferred. We ask earnest and prompt attention from all who think we have not overstated the evil and its dangers, and we may soon recur to it for the purpose of presenting some statements, the results of continued and renewed and observant thought on this patent and pernicious instance of "National Sins," for which we are now under the chastening hand of a merciful but just and righteous

9 January 1865, 1

**IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.**—For some time past assaults and robberies on our streets during the night have been so frequent that citizens compelled to be out on business found it necessary to go armed. Many of these assaults and robberies have been traced to gangs of lawless and disorderly soldiers forming themselves into bands of *hogs* Provost Guards.

Saturday night the Police arrested a gang in Duncan-street on their way from the Market, where they had created a great disturbance and, during the confusion, succeeded in carrying off a large amount of spoil, including turkeys and other fowls, meat from the stalls, and the whole stock in trade of the "old mamas" stands. In some cases their pockets were found stuffed with groundnuts, including the tin measures.

Our citizens will be glad to learn that an effectual check has been put to these lawless proceedings. Captain GAYAR, Provost Marshal General, has instituted a Special Provost Guard to act in connection with the Police and arrest all persons found on the streets after hours without the proper papers or vouchers.

Every law and order loving citizen will approve this arrangement, securing as it does his safety when out at night. Our citizens can materially assist the Guard by carrying and producing a proper pass signed by the Provost Marshal or other proper authority.

A difficulty, which came near proving serious, occurred Sunday evening. A well known citizen being stopped by the Guard, and, believing it to be a bogus party, fired, but fortunately missed. An explanation ensued and the affair was amicably settled.

Negroes should also be provided with the proper pass and instructed in relation to their action when hailed.

The Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas will commence its regular January term this day at ten o'clock, at the Orphan House. Jurors summoned and others interested will take due notice thereof.

**CONDEMNED TO BE SHOT**—At a Court Martial recently held on Sullivan's Island five men were found guilty of desertion, and condemned to be shot with musketry. Among them are three brothers, the only remaining male members of a respectable family. We have not learned at what time the execution is to take place.

Ex Vice-President GONZALEZ M. DALLAS died in Philadelphia, on Saturday the 24th ult., aged seventy-one years. He had been Minister to England and St. Petersburg, and in 1813 he accompanied the distinguished ALBERT GALLATIN as Secretary to St. Petersburg, when the offers of the Emperor of Russia were tendered to bring about a peace.

9 January 1865, 1

**OFFICIAL NOTICES.**

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER,  
DEPARTMENT SO: GA., GA. AND FLA.,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., January 7, 1865. }

**R**EGUITS ARE NEEDED FOR COMPANY F, 2D  
Regiment Engineer Troops. Machinists, Carpen-  
ters, and other mechanics are required. These men will  
be employed principally in the work of their trades, and  
will receive the pay of Engineer Troops, with increased  
pay for extra work. Application to the proper military  
authorities will be made for the transfer of good men  
who apply from other organizations.

Apply to me, directing letters to care of Colonel J. J.  
CLARKE, Chief Engineer Department, in Charleston, or  
to care Major JOHN McCRAVY, Chief Engineer, District  
Georgia, in Augusta.

ROBERT M. STILES,

Capt. Co. E, 2d Regiment Engineer Troop.

January 9

# The Charleston Mercury.

9 January 1865, 2

HEADQUARTERS.  
CITY OF CHARLESTON, January 7, 1865 }

[General Orders No. 1]

In accordance with par. 1, S. O. No. 2, Headquarters 21 and 31 Sub District, S. C., the undersigned assumes command of the Pos. of Charleston, including all the troops and batteries in the city.

II. The following officers are announced on my staff:

Lieut. J. HUNTER, A. A. A. G.

Major T. D. BERTODY, A. A. I. General.

E. C. ANDERSON,

7

Colonel Commanding.

## L. TEST FROM SHERMAN.

An official despatch from Grahamville, dated Sunday, January 8 h, 12 40 p. m., says: "We have no news of the enemy this morning." It is reported that SHERMAN has sent the 19th Corps round to Beaufort, to co operate with Foster; but this is not certain.

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINTH DAY.

All day Saturday the enemy remained quiet. About 3 o'clock on Sunday morning Battery Gregg re-opened fire upon Fort Sumter, throwing nine rounds. A few additional shots were fired at the fort later in the day on Sunday.

A side wheel steamer, with the English flag under the Yankee flag, supposed to be a captured blockade runner, was seen with the fleet on Saturday morning.

THE PROVOST GUARD—The fact that a few prowling stragglers in the garb of soldiers have been unwarrantably assuming the functions of a provost guard, stopping and robbing negroes, and in some cases, white men, has thrown discredit upon many of patrols of the bona fide provost guard. In order therefore to prevent mistakes, we would mention that there is a genuine provost guard, relief parties from which perform the onerous duty of patrolling the streets at all hours, night and day, and the best plan for citizens and others, when challenged, will be to show their papers without delay.

# The Charleston Courier.

10 January 1865, 1

Siege of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH DAY.

With the exception of a few shots at Fort Sumter all has been quiet since last report.

THE OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL, } at  
DEPT OF SO. CA., GA. AND FLA., }  
Charleston, S. C., January 9, 1865.

[Special Notice]

An armed Guard of Cavalry and Infantry will patrol the streets of this city day and night for the purpose of apprehending deserters and skulkers from the service of the country, as well as to aid in preserving good order and quiet and to protect the persons and property of citizens of this community, who are requested to facilitate the guard in executing their orders and to give information at this office of all soldiers or other persons who may be absent without proper authority from their commands or shirking service. The co-operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.

WM. J. GAYER,

A. A. G. and Provost Marshal General.

January 10

**ASSAULT ON A POLICEMAN.**—A furious assault on a police officer, causing a good deal of excitement in the neighborhood, was made at the corner of King and Ann streets, about eleven o'clock on Monday morning.

Lieut. C. J. F. CALDWELL, one of our most vigilant and energetic police officers, was passing along King-street when he heard the cries of a negro driver for assistance. Some three or four soldiers, more or less intoxicated, had impressed the negro's conveyance for the removal to camp of a comrade too intoxicated to help himself. Lieut. CALDWELL interfered on behalf of the driver, when the soldiers made a rush at him, dealing him heavy and repeated blows. Notwithstanding the odds against him, the Lieutenant dealt his assailants severe blows in return, and kept up the contest until the arrival of a posse of the policemen with their clubs, when the whole party, after a short but desperate struggle, were overpowered and taken to the guard house. A great crowd collected during the melee, and efforts were made to render assistance to the Lieutenant by the citizens. The latter were deterred, however, by the arrival of a party of soldiers with rifles and a cry to rally made by the soldiers. Fortunately no deadly weapons were used during the fight. The Lieutenant, though severely bruised and sore from the kicks and heavy shoes of the assailing party, was able to resume his rounds soon after the unfortunate occurrence.

**FROM THE ROAD.**—No news was received from along the line of rail road Monday.

# The Charleston Mercury.

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OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL,  
DEPARTMENT OF SO. CA., GA. AND FLORIDA,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., January 9, 1865

## [Special Notice]

An armed Guard of Cavalry and Infantry will patrol the streets of this City, day and night, for the purpose of apprehending Deserters and Skulkers from the service of the country, as well as to aid in preserving good order and quiet, and to protect the persons and property of citizens of this community, who are requested to facilitate the Guard in executing their orders, and to give information at this office of all Soldiers or other persons who may be absent without proper authority from their command or skulking service.

The co operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.

WM J GAYNE,

A. A. G. and P. M. General.

## FROM SHERMAN.

No official intelligence was received yesterday of any further movement of SHERMAN's forces.

An official despatch, dated Macon, October 9, reports the enemy, about two thousand strong, with wagons and artillery, as foraging in the direction of Southwestern Georgia.

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH DAY.

Since our last report nothing of interest has occurred hereabouts, excepting the firing of a few shots by the enemy at Fort Sumter.

The martial tread and disciplined bearing of the veteran reinforcements that were hastening through our streets, both forenoon and afternoon yesterday, lent a more cheerful tone to the aspect of affairs; and the croakers were, for the nonce, somewhat less blatant than usual.

A SERENADE.—We have to return our best thanks to the band of the 1st South Carolina Cavalry for the compliment of a very delightful serenade last evening, accompanied by "three cheers for THE MERCURY!"

11 January 1865, 1

**REPORT OF CHARLESTON.**  
**FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FIRST DAY.**  
 The rainy weather since our last report has prevented all observations of the enemy's movements. There has been no firing and no change in the fleet.

**A Word For the Times.**

We observe with extreme regret the feeling of depression that seems to prevail in certain quarters of this community, and we would say a word in time to check the evil.

It was not unnatural that after SUMNER's almost unopposed march through Georgia, and the succeeding fall of Savannah, that a sentiment of gloom should have pervaded the public mind, and that some foreboding should have been entertained amongst the weakest spirits for the fate of our beloved city; but we submit that this has lasted long enough.

Let us look at facts as they are, and not as our fears picture them to be.

At the head of this Department is an officer of tried military skill and indomitable energy, who comes to us crowned with the laurels of a hundred bloody fields, from Shiloh to Jonesboro.

Instead of remarking on the feeble resistance made at Savannah by our forces, we should rather admire the skill with which one of the most difficult movements in warfare was accomplished in the very face of the enemy. An untenable position was abandoned, but the army was saved, to prove, no doubt, under more favorable circumstances, that that indomitable courage, which our enemies at least have never doubted, still animates their hearts and nerves their hands.

Their ranks, too, are being rapidly reinforced, and when the hour of trial comes veterans of other hard-fought fields will share their dangers and we may predict their triumphs.

We are told by some that our Executive is feeble, vacillating, and imbecile, the Jonah of our ship of State, the Helen of our Troy.

Look at the late defence of Fort Fisher against a combined land and naval attack, the latter more powerful, we may safely say, than the world has ever seen brought to bear against one fortress. Was the feebleness of our Executive manifested there? Read the answer in the faces of those hardy warriors who were hurried from the army of Virginia to meet the braggart BUGLER's mercenaries, with what success may be gathered from the reluctant confessions of our enemies.

And shall we suppose that our fair city, so long and so gloriously defended, is to fall before SUMNER without a struggle? Such an hypothesis is absurd. We believe that ere long our beloved State will have to pass through that fiery ordeal to which so many of her sisters have been subjected, but that she will pass, we believe as firmly as we do that our destinies are in the hands of an all-wise Providence.

The authorities at Richmond are fully alive to the magnitude of the crisis, and we may all rely upon their exhibiting, in the hour of need, the same promptitude that was lately shown at Wilmington.

The hour for depression has now passed; let us, one and all, nerve ourselves for the most sacred duty of freemen—the defence of our homes and our families; let those timid capitalists, who gauge the political thermometer by the prices of gold and stocks, abstain from spreading their glaring forebodings, taking a lesson from the patient heroism that animates our soldiers in this Department, as well as in the other noble armies of the Confederacy.

**Public Meeting.**

Columbia, January 9, 1865.

In pursuance of a call from His Honor the Mayor, a meeting of the citizens of Columbia was this day convened at the City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor GOODWYN, and W. B. JONASTON requested to act as Secretary. The Mayor explained the objects for which the meeting was called.

After some discussion, which was participated in by Messrs. E. J. ARTHUR, Jos. DANIEL PORG, Dr. WM. KEYNODS, J. T. SIMS, and Colonel J. P. THOMAS, the following resolutions, submitted by E. J. ARTHUR, Esq., were adopted:

**Resolved,** That in view of the threatening aspect of affairs in South Carolina, and the probability of a movement upon this city by the enemy, it is expedient, as far as practicable, to suspend all work and business, except such as is connected with the defence of the city and preparation to meet the enemy.

**Resolved,** That all persons in the city or District owning or having the control of any male slaves liable to road duty, are earnestly requested, and are expected, to furnish such slaves at once, for the purpose of working on fortifications around the city.

**Resolved,** That a committee of five persons for each of the wards of this city be appointed by the Mayor, for the purpose of calling personally on each citizen of their respective wards, to solicit contributions of white and black labor, tools or money; and that the same, when furnished, be tendered to the Governor, to aid in the construction of fortifications for the defence of the city.

W. F. DeSaussure, Esq., offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Whereas, the exigencies of South Carolina require that all the talent, military skill and experience that can be commanded should be brought to her aid in this her hour of trial:

**Resolved,** That the people of South Carolina have great confidence in the military abilities and experience of General Joseph E. Johnston, and most respectfully request that his Excellency the President of the Confederate States will confide in him the command of the forces now assembling in this State to repel the advance of Sherman.

**Resolved,** That the evacuation of Charleston would be disastrous to the cause of the Confederacy, and we earnestly request that the Government will forthwith send to this State a force adequate to prevent such a calamity.

J. D. Tradewell, Esq., offered the following Resolution, which was adopted:

**Resolved,** That the people of the city of Columbia most cordially approve of the act of Governor Magrath in accepting the services of Major Gen. Lovell in preparing the military defences of the city.

T. J. GOODWYN, President.

W. B. JONASTON, Secretary.

The Charleston Mercury.

11 January 1865, 2

**THE NEWS FROM THE SAVANNAH RIVER**

A report was current yesterday (for the truth of which, however, we cannot vouch) that SHERMAN'S advanced forces on this side of the Savannah River had gone back and recrossed that stream at SCREVEN'S Ferry.

We learn that communication with the enemy will take place this day (Wednesday) on the Savannah River, near Puyburg, for the reception of such of the people of Savannah as have not chosen to remain within the Yankee lines.

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12 January 1865, 1

The commandment to murder, "Thou shalt not kill," is one of the shortest of the commandments, but like the others, and like all statutory precepts or prohibitions from the Great Lawgiver, wondrously comprehensive.

It comprehends and forbids not merely the overt act which human laws everywhere have attempted to prevent, but the latent purposes and thoughts of the heart, and all malevolent impulses or desires.

In some, if not in all, of the American States as lately "united," there have been violations or neglects of the law of God regarding life.

A morbidly mawkish sentimentality, and the beautiful spirit of reform and progress, have in some cases altogether abandoned capital punishment, and in many cases where it is nominally retained and denounced it has been found actually impossible to apply it for want of verdicts from juries. Whatever may be argued concerning the severe penalty of death for other offences, there can be no sufficient reason against it for clear cases of murder, and there should be no relaxation or remission for this offence until it is clearly shown that equal vigor and effect of deterring and preventing crimes can be obtained by other penalties.

Where jurors will not in clear cases find verdicts of guilty under capital indictments, it may be well and prudent for legislators, even believing in the right and policy of the death-penalty, to remit it by law, and provide punishments that can be enforced. Experience has amply shown that certainty of punishment is more effective for prevention of crime than any severity or extremity, accompanied with a hope of indulgence or evasion. Jurors are, according to the best theory and constitution of the jury, judges and arbiters of *facts*, not *laws*, and unless, in a few cases of special legislation and exceptional mingling of law and fact, as in libel, jurors should decide only on the fact, as calmly and independently as if they did not know what the result of the verdict would be.

In our own State we cannot charge any very gross or prevalent neglect or violation or overthrow of law against homicide, although in many cases jurors will find manslaughter where the law and the facts would justify a verdict of murder. It is perhaps worthy of attention and inquiry whether the general practice of prosecuting for murder in most cases of doubtful homicide does not tend to encourage or induce jurors to find "not guilty," instead of "manslaughter," where they cannot agree on "murder." Where the proof previously developed and indicated does not give a good assurance for a verdict of "murder" from a jury empanelled under the ample and humane privileges allowed by our law, it would generally be better to indict and prosecute for manslaughter, and not for murder, and thus not give place or occasion for the almost necessary recoil of the jury who, on the failure of proof for murder, would tend towards "not guilty," if the arguments have been chiefly addressed to murder.

If we have erred generally in this State as to homicide and the infliction of due punishment, the error has been in the executive, not in the

somewhere, is one of fearful responsibility for a single individual, and any errors in its exercise may be expected on the side of mistaken clemency. It is for our legislators and counsellors at the proper time, to consider whether this power could not be better exercised by the Governor under the advice and counsel of the Judges "in bank," or some other assemblage of selected and competent counsellors;

Many readers, however, find and admit, in the toleration and prevalence of private combat, the great and peculiar evil and sin of the South and of this State, as to human life. In a fast day discourse of April, 1864, delivered in this city, and published in part in the "Courier," duelling was thus noted as one of the sins peculiarly marking the South.

The subject is one that does not admit discussion without risk of misapprehension, but our duty in the course of these remarks and in view of truth and convictions, requires a few words. It must be admitted by all that duelling is prominently distinguished from the worst characteristics of murder, although the moralist, with the Bible before him, must class it under that category with a resemblance to suicide.

It will also be admitted that it is a choice of evils, and if the alternative is forced on us to choose between the duel regulated and mitigated by custom, and convention, and accidental or occasional rencontres in our streets or ways, all will say let the duel prevail.

It should not, however, be accepted or admitted as a necessity with and for a professedly Christian people that this choice must be made, or that laws, and opinions, and customs cannot provide for all offences and occasions now (ur-  
nishing pretexts for the duel, as fully for all classes as for clergymen, judges, magistrates and other officers, who, whatever their personal opinions or desires, are not expected to appeal to the duel.

There is much of courtesy and high-toned chivalry and manhood connected with the duel in history and tradition, and no territory or State of equal area and population could furnish in this department a more thrillingly interesting chapter of history and reports than South Carolina.

The duel originated in two modes or facts, which are now obsolete—one was the general and constant use of the arms to which resort was made—the other was confident belief surviving from the ordeals of older days, that God would interpose to decide by or through the combat of duel any issues not fully decided otherwise.

We have outgrown both of these conditions, and the altered state of the facts and conditions may well be considered a good call even on the friends and advocates of the duel to revise its laws and terms, and adjust it in the spirit of its institution in accordance with the arms and the habits and usages now prevalent.

Life is a fearful gift and responsibility, and while we denounce any mawkish tenderness that would spare or turn loose the murderer or the criminal truly worthy of death, and uphold and support the right of the State to inflict death in proper cases, we would gladly hail any changes or reforms in laws, practices, habits or opinions, looking towards a higher and more tender appreciation of life and a closer approximation to



# The Charleston Mercury.

12 January 1865, 1

## The Late Brigadier General Gist

Fell at the head of his column, in the bloody battle of Franklin, Tennessee, December 15, 1864, **STATES RIGHTS GIST**, Brigadier General in the Confederate Army, aged thirty-three. Cutting him down in the very prime of a life of singular energy and usefulness, Fate could scarcely have allotted him a death more glorious in itself, or less unwelcome to its victim. Heavy as is the loss, it seems fitting that a career so closely identified throughout, with the rights and independence of these Southern States, should have closed, a costly sacrifice to the same sacred cause.

Physically and mentally, General Gist was peculiarly adapted for military life. Blessed with a robust constitution and an erect and athletic frame, his mind was of the quick, vigorous and resolute cast that befits the true soldier. Though he had not the advantage of a regular military education, since early manhood he had been much engaged in military affairs, always exhibiting, in every position he has held, a zeal and efficiency productive of the best results.

General Gist was born in Union District, September 3, 1831. After graduating at the South Carolina College, he spent several years at the Law School at Cambridge, and then, returning to his native State, began the practice of law in the village of Union. In 1855 he was appointed Brigadier General of militia, a post in which he displayed so large a share of administrative ability that, a few years later, he was elevated to the important and responsible position of Adjutant and Inspector General of the State—an office which he held when the war broke out. Obtaining a brief leave of absence, at the opening of the first Virginia campaign, he participated with distinction in the battle of Manassas, serving successively on the staffs of Generals BEE and BEAUREGARD.

In January, 1863, on the recommendation of Gen. LEE, he was appointed Brigadier General in the Confederate Army. He was first assigned to duty, we believe, on James Island, and it was under his command that the bloody battle of Secessionville was fought and won. Afterwards, being ordered, with his brigade, to the Western Army, he served with distinguished gallantry in the various battles around Atlanta, in one of which he was painfully wounded. On the field where he met his death, he received two desperate wounds. Notwithstanding the first, which was of a most serious character, he kept his place on the field, encouraging the men of his line wherever there were signs of faltering or weakness; and it was while leading them on into the thickest of the fight, that, receiving his second and mortal wound, he fell and almost immediately expired.

In his death the country has lost an officer of rare tact, bravery and promise, the State a citizen peculiarly devoted to her rights and interests. If there be consolation for the sad ones who sit around the hearth, that his loss has made desolate, it will be found in the glorious name and fame he has left behind him, and in the grateful sympathy of his compatriots throughout the land.

The Charleston Mercury.

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# THE MERCURY.

BY R. B. RHETT, JR.

OFFICE NO. 484 KING-STREET, CHARLESTON.

THE DAILY MERCURY, Fifty Cents per copy;  
Twenty Dollars for three months.

THE TRI-WEEKLY MERCURY—Issued on Tuesdays,  
Thursdays and Saturdays—Fifty Cents per copy;  
Fifteen Dollars for three months.

ADVERTISEMENTS, per square of twelve lines, Five  
Dollars.

POSTAGE, DAILY MERCURY (per quarter) Seventy-  
nine cents. TRI-WEEKLY MERCURY (per quarter)  
Forty cents.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1865

# The Charleston Mercury.

12 January 1865, 2

## SING'S MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

All has been quiet in our harbor during the last twenty-four hours.

Four deserters were shot yesterday morning on Sullivan's Island, in accordance with sentence of Court Martial.

The arrangement for the delivery of the Savannah refugees has been changed. They number, we believe, about 400, and will be delivered by a flag of truce steamer off this harbor at 10 a. m., to-day.

## THE SAVANNAH REFUGEES.

We cannot better comply with the request embodied in the following letter than by publishing the letter itself:

HEADQUARTERS,  
DEPARTMENT OF S. C., GA. AND FLA. }  
CHARLESTON, S. C., January 11, 1865. }  
*To the Editor of the Charleston Mercury:*

DEAR SIR: I am instructed by Lieut. General Hardee to say that a number of persons, principally women and children, from Savannah, will be received under flag of truce in Charleston harbor to-morrow. From the scarcity of hotels and boarding houses they will probably find it difficult to secure food and shelter for the time during which they will be compelled to remain in the city. The General, therefore, requests that you will call attention to the matter in your editorial columns to-morrow and invite such citizens as may be able to extend assistance in this matter to leave their names at the Office of the Provost Marshal.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
T. B. ROY, A. A. G.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, January 12, 1865.

*Fellow Citizens:* I have been informed by the Lieutenant General Commanding that a large number of exiles, (women and children) will arrive this morning, by flag of truce, from Savannah, in this harbor. I therefore call upon all of those who can assist me in receiving them, and rendering them comfortable, to meet me at the wharves when they arrive.

CHARLES MACBETH, Mayor.

# The Charleston Courier.

13 January 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD DAY.

The flag of truce communication in the harbor for the reception of the Savannah refugees took place Thursday. The steamer "Chesterfield," Captain LITTLE, with Lieutenant Colonel PICKETT and Captain W. H. ROSS, Officers of the Day, to conduct negotiations on the part of General HARRIS, and a number of other officers and civilians, proceeded down the harbor outside of Fort Sumter, when she was suddenly brought to by two shots from Battery Wagner.

A small boat from each vessel was lowered and met, when it appeared that the Yankee steamer had been previously brought to an anchorage by our Sullivan's Island batteries. An arrangement was then made by which each party was to notify their respective shore batteries of the cessation of all firing during the truce communication. This affair caused a delay of about an hour, after which the "Chesterfield" steamed alongside the Yankee steamer "J. R. Spaulding."

The approach of the "Chesterfield" was greeted by a rush of the lady refugees to the side of the "Spaulding," waving their handkerchiefs with every exhibition of delight at the prospect of so soon being restored to their own people and Southern homes. As the "Chesterfield" ranged alongside, the meeting of friends and acquaintances, the many happy recognitions and pleasing countenances, presented an intensely interesting scene.

In conversation with many of the refugees they report that SHERMAN has four corps of twenty thousand each, and that the last order for rations called for 84,000. On Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning large detachments left Savannah. A great portion was commonly reported proceeding up or near the Savannah river for Augusta and Columbia, S. C., by Branchville, or through Edgefield. Another expedition, in force, they report moving against Charleston, or to meet attacks expected from our side.

The refugees state that the treatment of the citizens was respectful. Sentinels were posted with orders to shoot down without taking him to the Guard House, any soldier found molesting citizens or forcing an entrance into any house. Many families, formerly in good circumstances, were obliged to take in sewing and work hard to

procure the necessaries of life.

The "Chesterfield" reached the city about five o'clock. A large crowd of citizens had assembled to meet the refugees. Mayor MACHETT, Alderman RUGGS, and W. H. SMITH, Clerk of Council, acted on behalf of the city authorities in providing accommodations. A large number were distributed round among our citizens.

The following is a list of those who were taken to the Wayside Home, and comfortably provided for:

Mrs Starr, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Heidt, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Sheppard, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Jenkins, Effingham County, Ga.  
Miss Powers, Effingham County, Ga.  
Miss Grovenstein, Effingham County, Ga.  
Miss Atkins, Effingham County, Ga.  
Miss Bourguine, Effingham County, Ga.  
Mrs A Jenkins, Effingham County, Ga.  
Mrs Ferguson, Effingham County, Ga.  
Miss Graham, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Bruner, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Pinder, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs S C Grant and two children, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Harlie and one child, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Quarterman, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Elkins, Effingham County, Ga.  
Mrs Gilton and son, Effingham County, Ga.  
Mrs S E Gruber and three children, Savannah, Ga.  
Capt. Robert Hardee, Savannah, Ga.  
D R Muller, Scriven County, Ga.  
A F Bennett, Savannah, Ga.  
J A Cupbedge, Scriven County, Ga.

The gloom that settled on the minds of so many has been dissipated, and those whom the easy successes of the enemy made despondent have grown ashamed of their fears, and taken heart again. Having calmly contemplated the danger, we have resolved to do our utmost toward our defence and deliverance. There is strong ground upon which to build hope of success. Our leaders are preparing with all promptitude and energy to oppose and resist the march of the presumptuous foe, and the men who will confront the host of the invader are accustomed to victory. We have the ability to protect our State from the terrible woes she is threatened with. We have the needful skill, sagacity, resolution and courage. If we make faithful use of the means at our command, and the Almighty blesses our efforts, we shall come forth gloriously triumphant.

The Charleston Courier.

13 January 1865, 1

Outrages of Wheeler's Command.

LOWER THREE RUNS

BARNWELL DISTRICT, S. C., Dec. 31 1864. }  
To H. n. J. A. Seddon, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va. :

I cannot forbear appealing to you in behalf of the producing population of the States of Georgia and South Carolina for protection against the destructive lawlessness of members of General Wheeler's command. From Augusta to Hardeeville the road is now strewn with corn, left on the ground unconsumed. Horses have been shot down in the fields, one quarter taken off and the balance left for buzzards. Horses are stolen out of wagons on the road, and by wholesale out of stables at night. The writer saw an order from General Wheeler, authorizing search to be made in his command for thirty-seven animals stolen from Mr. Fitzpatrick's plantation, in Twiggs county, Ga; only four of which had, up to a few days ago, been recovered. Within a few miles of this neighborhood, Wheeler's men tried to rob a young lady of a horse while she was on a visit to a neighbor's, but for the timely arrival of a citizen, who prevented the outrage being perpetrated. It is no unusual sight to see these men ride into camp with all sorts of plunder. Private houses are visited; carpets, blankets, and other furniture they can lay their hands on, are taken by force in the presence of the owners.

We ask, respectfully, if the Government expects the people to bear such burdens, in addition to the ravages of the enemy? Can such devastation by our soldiery be permitted, and the farmer and soldiers' unprotected family have no redress? Are General Wheeler and his brigade commanders not responsible to the country for the depredations of the men under them? By stealing the stock engaged in the production of food for our army, the falling off in the production of corn alone in the States of Georgia and South Carolina may be counted by the hundred thousand bushels. Make the country one immense camp—let everybody be engaged in working for the support of the whole army, but for the sake of our *glorious cause*, give the producer the protection necessary to enable him to make bread for the army, and his little ones. If Gen. Hampton's cavalry had used Virginia and North Carolina as General Wheeler's men have used Georgia and South Carolina, where would Gen. Lee now be?

OMEGA.

# The Charleston Mercury.

13 January 1865, 1

## Lunacy.

The wild talk prevalent in the official and the semi-official organs of Richmond, is harshly upon the ear of South Carolina. It is still more grievous to her to hear the same unmanly proposition from those in authority in the old State of Virginia. Side by side Carolina and Virginia have stood together against all comers for near two centuries—the exemplars and authors of Southern civilization. Side by side it is our earnest hope they will stand to all time against the world. But we grieve to say there are counsels now brewing there that South Carolina cannot abet—that she will not suffer to be consummated, so far as she is concerned in them.

There are men in Virginia, and there are men in South Carolina, who have supposed that there is jealousy existing between these States, in the race of fame and ambition. These men are small pettifoggers and petty creatures. There is no State in the Union that has the solid, calm respect for the merits of Virginia, than exists here in South Carolina. But we are not mouthers, or worshipers. We have no demonstrations to make. It is not our habit. We act. JOHN C. CALHOUN, the idol, the demi-god of South Carolina, could have made his most magnificent effort of genius before a Charleston audience, and the only response, at the climax of one of his grand syllogisms, would have been a slight, a very slight rapping on the floor. Men who worshiped him, found it not congenial to their natures to demonstrate. Calm and quiet approval is our habit—our custom—to all. We are sufficiently confident in our own position—sufficiently confident in our own intelligence—in our conduct—in our history, to be jealous of no State—not even of Virginia. We are prepared to stand upon the basis of our record, with a satisfaction too complete to admit of envy towards any people. As equals, as dear friends, who have most confidence in each other from long experience and good deeds done, and good feeling, we meet Virginia in counsels of war or of peace. When Virginia wants a sword to assist in her defence, Carolina's will ever be the first unsheathed.

But, we are no followers.

In 1860 South Carolina seceded alone from the old union of States. Her people, in Convention assembled, invited the slaveholding States (none others) of the old Union to join her in erecting a separate Government of *Slave States*, for the protection of their common interests. All of the slave States, with the exception of Maryland and Kentucky, responded to her invitation. The Southern Confederacy of slave States was formed.

It was on account of encroachments upon the institution of *slavery* by the sectional majority

of the old Union, that South Carolina seceded from that Union. It is not at this late day, after the loss of thirty thousand of her best and bravest men in battle, that she will suffer it to be bartered away; or ground between the upper and nether mill stones, by the madness of Congress, or the counsels of shallow men elsewhere.

By the compact we made with Virginia and the other States of this Confederacy, South Carolina will stand to the bitter end of destruction. By that compact she intends to stand or to fall. Neither Congress, nor certain make-shift men in Virginia, can force upon her their mad schemes of weakness and surrender. She stands upon her institutions—and there she will fall in their defence. *We want no Confederate Government without our institutions.* And we will have none.—Sink or swim, live or die, we stand by them, and are fighting for them this day. That is the ground of our fight—it is well that all should understand it at once. Thousands and tens of thousands of the bravest men, and the best blood of this State, fighting in the ranks, have left their bones whitening on the bleak hills of Virginia in this cause. We are fighting for our system of civilization—not for buncombe, or for JEFF DAVIS. We intend to fight for that, or nothing. We expect Virginia to stand beside us in that fight, as of old, as we have stood beside her in this war up to this time. But such talk coming from such a source is destructive to the cause. Let it cease at once, in God's name, and in behalf of our common cause! It is paralyzing to every man here to hear it. It throws a pall over the hearts of the soldiers from this State to hear it. The soldiers of South Carolina will not fight beside a nigger—to talk of emancipation is to disband our army. We are free men, and we chose to fight for ourselves—we want no slaves to fight for us. Skulkers, money-lenders, money-makers, and blood-suckers, alone will tolerate the idea. It is the man who wont fight himself, who wants his nigger to fight for him, and to take his place in the ranks. Put that man in the ranks. And do it at once. Control your armies—put men of capacity in command, re-establish confidence—enforce thorough discipline—and there will be found men enough, and brave men enough, to defeat a dozen SUMNER'S. Falter and back at the root of the Confederacy—our institutions—our civilization—and you kill the cause as dead as a boiled crab.

The straight and narrow path of our deliverance is in the reform of our government, and the discipline of our armies. Will Virginia stand by us as of old in this rugged pathway? We will not fall her in the shadow of a hair. But South Carolina will fight upon no other platform, than that she laid down in 1860



# The Charleston Mercury.

13 January 1865, 2

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD DAY.—

There was no firing yesterday, with the exception of a few guns to bring the big iron steamers to the anchorage ground.

About 250 refugees from Savannah, including men, women and children, were delivered. They nearly all concur in the statement that the general treatment of the inhabitants of Savannah by the Yankees has been mild. They say that SHERMAN has, with Foster's reinforcements, 80,000 men, and that he began his movement against Branchville and Augusta on Wednesday.

The privates speak of wreaking their vengeance on South Carolina; but the officers say that their actions will depend upon the amount of opposition they may encounter. They declare that if they should have hard fighting to do and are successful, they will not attempt to restrain their men.

Most of the refugees were accommodated at private quarters. The following are at the Wayside Home:

Mrs Starr, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Heldt, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Sheppard, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Jenkins, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Powers, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Groves, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Atkins, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Bourguine, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Bourguine, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Mrs A Jenkins, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Mrs Ferguson, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Miss Graham, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Breuner, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Pinder, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs S C Grant and two children, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Hardee and one child, Savannah, Ga.  
Mrs Quarterman, Savannah, Ga.  
Miss Ekins, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Mrs Gulton and one son, Effingham Co, Ga.  
Mrs S E Gruber and three children, Savannah, Ga.  
Capt Robt Hardie, Savannah, Ga.  
D R Muller, Scriven Co, Ga.  
A F Bennett, Savannah, Ga.  
J A Cabbage, Scriven Co, Ga.

Rev. Mr. Howe acknowledges receipt of one hundred and thirty-three dollars, from Rev. E. E. Ballinger, for soldiers.

**DISTINGUISHED ARRIVALS.**—His Excellency, Governor MAGRATH, accompanied by General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, arrived in this city yesterday morning by special train from Columbia. General JOHNSTON is staying at the residence of the Governor, west end of Calhoun street.

14 January 1865, 1

Siege of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH DAY.

We have to report all quiet. The enemy's wagons on Morris' Island appeared to be busily employed all the morning between the lower end of the Island and Batteries Gregg and Wagner, but whether engaged in hauling ammunition or not could not be distinctly determined. From the line of rail road we have the report that affairs are in statu quo.

There will be service in St. Paul's Church at eleven A. M.

We are informed by some gentlemen who left the city Thursday morning by the train to Branchville and thence to Columbia, that the train encountered great difficulty on part of the route, which required their return on Friday. The train was a very heavy one, and had on board a large number of ladies and other passengers and many soldiers. They were delayed and had to remain all night at Fort Mott.

They have felt it their duty to make public acknowledgment of the entire conduct of the Conductor, Mr. WILLIAM D. KENNEDY. Under circumstances of great trial, which required prudence, resolution and firmness, in the decision he had to make, his conduct was such as to give perfect satisfaction to the large and various company committed to his care. The acquiescence in and approval of his course were manifested by the cheerfulness and perfect order which reigned throughout the whole company, in spite of the keen disappointment felt by many—soldiers anxious to reach their points of destination—public agents to keep their engagements—ladies, refugees, seeking another home, and others to meet their friends and relatives. Too much praise cannot be awarded to Mr. KENNEDY, who combines so much fidelity to the important public trust committed to him with such consideration and kindness to those who are entrusted to his care.

The passengers encountered one of those incidents of considerate and generous hospitality which could not fail to excite in the recipients an agreeable surprise and lively gratitude. The ladies in the neighborhood, being apprized of the delay of the train, sent most ample and various provision of meats and breads, and above all a lavish supply of fresh rich milk, which came as a blessing indeed to the multitude of little people who had previously given nobly evidence of their deprivation of the comforts of home.

Governor MAGRATH and General JOSEPH F. JOHNSTON arrived in the city Thursday. They will be found at the Governor's Mansion, West end of Calhoun street.

In reply to a friend and correspondent whose remarks involve censure on editorial practice, and cannot therefore be admitted without opening a discussion, for which we have neither space or inclination, we state that what has been reprinted in the "Courier" concerning the "outrages of WHEELER's Cavalry," was on authority and information demanding attention. No charge was or is designed or intended against any officer or any good soldier, but the fact is potent and glaring that outrages have been committed frequently in Georgia and not seldom in this State, by mounted men calling themselves "WHEELER's Cavalry."

It behooves all officers, and especially all Generals, earnestly interested in preserving discipline and the reputation of the army, to readjust, revise and improve their orders, details and regulations for detached duties, foraging, scouting and impressing so as to afford all possible securities against imposition or against the use or abuse of orders by loungers or deserters who overstep their orders.

The trials and hardships of war are needlessly and cruelly increased when our farmers and planters are compelled, as has been the case, to ponder doubtfully the question whether a visit from our professed friends is worse than a call from the foe.

He who taught as one having authority, and spake as never man spake, commanded his disciples and followers to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Prayer, indeed, if a duty and privilege recognized at all, is and must be of constant and daily obligation. Our sins and wants are daily and constant and ever recurring, and our prayers should correspond and represent them. What a wail of sorrow would go up from many hearts if an edict or decree, authenticated by competent signature, was published limiting prayer to one day in the week, or month, or otherwise? Yet actually many pray only as if only such was the law. For readers who prefer and adopt the forms of the "Common Prayer," or for any who, not preferring it exclusively, yet desire to use and adopt it when no other opportunity of public prayer is within reach, and for officers and soldiers not thoroughly acquainted with our city, we note the fact that there is service in St. Paul's Church, on Coming, between Vanderhorst and Watkinson streets, every week day at 11 A. M.

We mention this as the only place known to us to be opened for divine service. Any information concerning any occasional or stated service in other churches of any name would no doubt be acceptable to some visitors and strangers, and readers of the "Courier."

# The Charleston Mercury.

14 January 1865, 1

## Blockade-Running.

Notwithstanding the alleged ceaseless vigilance of the Yankee navy in watching blockade-runners on the Atlantic and Gulf coast of the Confederate States, their close attention has amounted to comparatively little. Setting aside all that has been imported on State and individual account, the proceeds of the blockade have been very great. The restrictions imposed upon foreign commerce by the Act of Congress of last session, prohibiting, absolutely, during the pending war, the importation of any articles not necessary for the defence of the country—namely: wines, spirits, jewelry, segars, and all the finer fabrics of cotton, flax, wool or silk, as well as all other merchandize serving only for the indulgence of luxurious habits, has not had the effect to reduce the number of vessels engaged in blockade running; but, on the contrary, the number has steadily increased within the last year, and many are understood to be now on the way to engage in the business.

The President, in a communication to Congress on the subject, says the number of vessels arriving at two ports only from the 1st of November to the 6th of December was forty-three, and but a very small proportion of those outward bound were captured. Out of 11,796 bales of cotton shipped since the 1st of July last, but 1273 were lost—not quite eleven per cent. The special report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to the matter, shows that there have been imported into the Confederacy at the ports of Wilmington and Charleston since October 26th, 1864, 8,632,000 pounds of meat, 1,507,000 pounds of lead, 1,933,000 pounds of saltpetre, 546,000 pairs of shoes, 316,000 pairs of blankets, 520,000 pounds of coffee, 69,000 rifles, 97 packages of revolvers, 2639 packages of medicine, 43 cannon, with a large quantity of other articles, of which we need make no mention. Besides these, many valuable stores and supplies are brought, by way of Northern lines, into Florida, by the port of Galveston and through Mexico, across the Rio Grande.

The shipments of cotton made on Government account since March 1, 1864, amount to \$5,296,000 in specie. Of this, cotton, to the value of \$1,500,000, has been shipped since the 1st of July and up to the 1st of December.

It is a matter of absolute impossibility for the Federals to stop our blockade running at the port of Wilmington. If the wind blows off the coast, the blockading fleet is driven off. If the wind blows landward, they are compelled to haul off to a great distance to escape the terrible sea which dashes on a rocky coast without a harbor within three days' sail. The shoals on the North Carolina coast are from five to twenty miles wide; and they are, moreover, composed of the most treacherous and bottomless quicksands.—The whole coast is scarcely equalled in the world for danger and fearful appearance, particularly when a strong easterly wind meets the ebb tide.

It is an easy matter for a good pilot to run a vessel directly out to sea or into port; but in the stormy months, from October to April, no blockading vessel can lie at anchor in safety off the Carolina coast. Therefore supplies will be brought in despite the keenest vigilance.

The Charleston Mercury.

14 January 1865, 2

**SIEGE MATTER—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FOURTH DAY.**

There has been no change in the quiet report-accounts. The enemy's wagons were seen running between the lower end of Sand Batteries Gregg and Wagner. No shot the fleet. Everything along the line reported very quiet.

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**REPORT.**—Much anxiety has been felt by us within the last few days for the safety of the bridges on the South Carolina R.R. over the Savannah river at Augusta, Longabee near Kingsville. But we are now to learn from the most recent reports that, that no apprehension need be felt of the bridges, that they are safe, and that the silent streams of the Savannah and the Ogeechee, having reached their highest point, are quietly receding.

There are no mails from Augusta or Columbia, nor do we expect any to-day. While the roads are safe, yet a portion of the road is submerged; and, until such portion has been floored, it may not be safe to run over. Such travel may be interrupted for a day or two, but no longer.

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**ALARM OF FIRE** yesterday evening between six and seven o'clock, was caused by the falling out of a foul chimney in Meeting street, Charlotte.

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# The Charleston Courier.

16 January 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIXTH DAY.

The enemy since last report have been hard at work repairing damages to their batteries caused by the high tides.

There was a good deal of signalling among the fleet Sunday, but no change of importance.

**EVACUATION OF POCOTALIGO** — Information was received here Sunday that our forces abandoned Pocotaligo Saturday night, burning the Salt-hatcher Bridge and falling back to this side of the Salkehatchie river.

It was reported Saturday morning that a heavy force of the enemy, estimated at fifteen thousand men, under the command of General Foster, were advancing on Pocotaligo. The enemy encountered our forces near the old battle ground at Old Pocotaligo. A fight ensued and the enemy were held in check until dark, when our troops, in accordance with previous arrangements, were withdrawn to our lines behind the Salkehatchie. All the commissary, stores, &c., at Pocotaligo were brought off safely. No particulars were received.

16 January 1865, 2

# WAR TAX NOTICE.

## THIRTY-SIXTH COLLECTION DISTRICT.

**A** PPEALS WILL BE RECEIVED AND DETERMINED relative to any erroneous or excessive valuations by the Assessor, during the next fifteen (15) days. All appeals must be made in writing, stating the ground of inequality complained of. Collections will be made on Agricultural property and Quarterly Sales. Four Per Cent. Bonds receivable, and the Soldiers' tax of one dollar, or the amount of all Taxes to be paid in Treasury Notes. At the Barrows, Monday, 16th January; Eighteen Mile House, 17th; Shier's, (Ten Mile House,) 18th; Strawberry Ferry, 19th; Monck's Corner Depot, 21st; Black Oak, 27th; Calamus Pond, 30th; Cross Roads, Wednesday, 1st February; Hickory Bend, 3d; Wassamasaw Chapel, 8th; Summerville, 9th; Fula's Old Field, Tuesday, 14th.

I. DUBOIS PORCHER,  
Collector Thirty-sixth District.

Black Oak Postoffice.  
Mr. HARVEY, Assessor of Tax in Kind, will attend the above appointments to receive returns of the crops of 1864.  
to m84 January 5

HEADQUARTERS 816th REGIMENT S. O. M.,  
CHARLESTON, January 12, 1865.

## GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3.

**L**IEUT. COL. WHALEY AND MAJOR WARDLAW will forthwith establish their respective Headquarters at some convenient point and report the same. They will cause all defaulters in the Companies of their respective Battalions to be arrested and brought before them; and in all cases where parties arrested are not legally exempt, and refuse at once to report to their Captains for duty, or where they have reason to suppose they do not intend being able to do so, they will order them to be placed in confinement, subject to the order of their respective Commanding Officers, and cause their Commanding Officers to be notified of the fact. They will also report the prompt execution of these Orders to these Headquarters.

By order of E. MASHAM, Colonel Commanding.  
January 14 JOHN RUSSELL, Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS 1st BATTALION, 16th REG'T S. O. M.,  
CHARLESTON, January 14, 1865.

**P**URSUANT TO ORDERS FROM REGIMENTAL Headquarters, Officers commanding Companies in this Battalion are ordered to arrest and bring to these Headquarters, at Citadel, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 1 P. M. on Monday next, 16th inst., all defaulters on their respective Company rolls, who refuse or neglect to report for duty on or before Monday, 16th, at 8 o'clock A. M.

By order of Wm. Whaley, Lieut. Col. Commanding.  
January 14 JNO. RUSSELL, Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS 2d BATTALION 16th REG'T S. O. M.,  
CHARLESTON, January 14, 1865.

**P**URSUANT TO ORDERS FROM REGIMENTAL Headquarters, Officers commanding Companies in this Battalion are ordered to arrest and bring to these Headquarters, at Citadel, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 1 P. M., on Monday next, the 16th inst., all defaulters on their respective Company rolls, who refuse or neglect to report for duty on or before Monday, the 16th inst., at 8 o'clock A. M.

By order of W. A. WARDLAW, Major Commanding.  
January 14 JOHN RUSSELL, Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS 2d AND 3d SUB-DISTRICTS, S. O.,

DEPT. OF SOUTH-CAROLINA, GEORGIA AND FLORIDA,  
[EXTRACT.] CHARLESTON, S. O., December 14, 1864.  
[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 93.]

**I** ON NO ACCOUNT WILL NON-COMBATANTS be allowed to enter the city of Charleston, except in passing through to more interior portions of the State, after the promulgation of this order.

If all slaves whose owners are now living beyond the limits of the city of Charleston, except one slave to take charge of Real Estate, which such owners have left unprotected, will be at once removed from the city.

If in fifteen days after the issue of this order any such are still found in the city, they will be at once arrested and sent out of the city to seek their owners.

By command of Major General Ransom,  
WM. F. NIMON,  
December 16 Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS CITY OF CHARLESTON,  
January 7th, 1865.

## GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

**I**N ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH I, S. O., No. 2, Headquarters 2d and 3d Sub Districts, South Carolina, the undersigned assumes command of the Post of Charleston, including all the troops and batteries in the City.

If the following Officers are announced on my Staff:

Lieutenant J. HUNTER, A. A. A. G.

Major T. D. BENTON, A. A. I. G.

E. C. ANDERSON, Colonel Commanding.

January 9

# The Charleston Mercury.

16 January 1865, 1

**Hurrah! For Jeff. Davis, Hurrah!**

We desire to make the enquiry whether Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS has definitely determined to surrender the Confederacy over to the enemy. We presume, of course, that it is none of our business to enquire, or to know. The people of South Carolina, and the people of the other several States, have, of course, no interest in the matter. It alone concerns one Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

It is now some eight or ten weeks since SUMNER started from Atlanta for Savannah. It was patent to every man that there were no forces in this Department competent to oppose his progress. The magnificent strategy of Mr. DAVIS had sent them all away, and had abandoned the country to the enemy.

It is now some four weeks since SUMNER arrived at Savannah, and reached his water base. Delaying there longer than had been anticipated here, he has at last broken ground, and commenced his new campaign against South Carolina. Four weeks he has offered for the reinforcement of this State. What has been done to save the State, to save our railroad, communications, to redress the cause? we shall not say; but perhaps some people will find out one of these days. It is the habit of the Government to stuff us with rumors without scarcely the shadow of a foundation in truth. We will only hope in vain to find such imbeciles, and so many of them, elsewhere than in our own Government, and in our own armies.

We presume Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS will, by some stroke of strategic genius, defend this State and the Confederacy at Charlotte, North Carolina. We are anguine. We still hope that he will.

# The Charleston Mercury.

16 January 1865, 1

## CONFEDERATE ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The following is from the Richmond Enquirer. Col. Sigkous is the efficient head of this Department.

The Ordnance Department of the Confederate States has accomplished immense results of which the people are almost wholly ignorant. Its results are daily seen, but by whom accomplished, by what means effected, by whose skill directed, by whose talents guided, the people have not stopped to inquire. Justice to a most useful department, to most industrious and indefatigable officers, induces us to endeavor to point public attention more particularly to this department.

When stating that the Richmond Arsenal has, during the last campaign, issued many millions of cartridges, it may be well to remind our people that after the first battle of Manassas, there were not percussion caps enough in the Confederacy for an ordinary skirmish of this campaign. Though rich in material resources, the country had no experience in their collection or manufacture, nor skilled even to begin these necessary duties. And when it is remembered, that extended scientific knowledge, both in theory and in practice, are required more in the Ordnance Department than in any other branch of the service, the results of this corps will be more fully appreciated than the mere statement in figures of its issues to the army of workshops and mechanics, powder, nitre, saltpetre and caps, there were, practically, none.

Whenever we have sought information from any of the branches of this department, immediately they terrefy us, and, for fear of information to the enemy, retire to their shells; keep their friends in total ignorance; and as we on their backs might produce an explosion, we must write without specific knowledge.

The organization of the Nitro and Mining Corps was an imperative necessity, and its successful operations have supplied the material required for the immense issues of this department. It has since swelled to a separate bureau and is managed with consummate skill and talent. It was the Ordnance Department which organized and directed the foreign importations of the Government; which, under the fostering care and able management of this department, has also risen to a separate "Bureau of Foreign Supplies."

The magnificent powder mills at Augusta, the arsenal here, the National Armory and Central Laboratory at Macon, Ga., the arsenals at Savannah, Columbus, Athens, Fayetteville, Raleigh, Salisbury and Richmond, all attest the ability, skill, zeal and energy of the Chief of Ordnance and his subordinate officers. The combination of private workshops, backed by the immense resources of Trade, has made Richmond the great depot that supplied the army of Northern Virginia; and throughout all the difficulties that have beset this Ordnance Department, in all the campaigns of this war, no disaster has ever befallen our army for want of ordnance stores.

From the Richmond and the various other depots throughout the States, come all the various grades of cannon, from the mountain howitzers to the columbiad; all small arms; all cavalry equipments for man and horse; all artillery equipments, and all ammunition for infantry, artillery and cavalry.

The industry and skill which have produced these results deserve all praise and every reasonable reward which an appreciative Government can bestow. And when to these are added a personal and professional courtesy, after which many other departments might pattern, we have not said one word to which every man will not assent who has had transactions with this Department.

In point of numbers, the Chief of Ordnance commands more men than any division in the army. In point of scientific attainments, his duties require more knowledge than any branch of the service; and yet his rank is only that of Colonel; while the Chiefs of the Conscription Bureau and the Quartermaster's Department have been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. We hope it may be the pleasure of the Congress to examine into the Ordnance Department, and where investigations to hunt out fraud and peculation are so numerous, one may be instituted to promote and commend the skill, energy, zeal and faithfulness of the Chief of Ordnance and subordinate officers.



# The Charleston Mercury.

16 January 1865, 2

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FIFTH DAY.

Nothing worthy of note has occurred in our harbor since our last report. The Yankees on Morris Island are apparently hard at work on their batteries, repairing the damages caused by the recent high tides.

PERSONAL.—Mrs. R. H. TATUM, a refugee from Savannah, will oblige her father by sending her present address in this city to this office, or to the Pavilion Hotel. Any information of Mrs. TATUM's residence will be thankfully received.

JOHN A. STALEY.

We are requested to call attention to all interested, that the time for taking out badges and licenses for the year expires with this month.

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI.—Col. W. A. BROADWELL, Chief of the Cotton Bureau, Trans-Mississippi Department, has purchased and introduced into the Department, pledging payment in cotton, 18,800 pairs of blankets, 60,000 pairs of shoes, 150,000 yards of shirting and towels, 150,000 pounds of powder, 200,000 pounds of lead, 5,000,000 percussion caps, and a large quantity of guns, 140,000 yards grey-army cloth, and sailnet, and a large quantity of hardware, copper, saltpetre, and a great quantity of small stores.

GOLD is said to have fallen to 80 in Richmond on Tuesday.

THE DAYS are already very perceptibly longer. This is felt more visibly in the evenings than in the mornings. On clear evenings one can almost see to read as late as six o'clock.

THE GREAT FRESHET seems, from such accounts as we get from our meagre supply of exchanges, to have been one of great extent and violence. Among the railroads more or less injured by its effects are the South Carolina Railroad—the Columbia, as well as the Augusta branch, the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, the Georgia and Waynesboro Railroad, the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, the Wilmington and Manchester railroad, the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, and doubtless others, of which we have not yet heard. At Augusta the flood was terribly destructive and annoying. In another part of to-day's paper, we give some accounts from the Augusta papers.

We will offer no speculations as to the time that will be required to put all these roads in complete running order. The damages, as yet, are hardly well ascertained. Doubtless they will be repaired with as much expedition as the nature of the work admits. But we do trust that, in the meantime, our Postoffice authorities will make some arrangements to have the fast accumulating mails forwarded across the breaks in the various routes.

THE ALARM of fire on Saturday night about 10, p. m., was occasioned by the bursting of a grocery shop at the southeast corner of Meeting and Water streets. A spark from this house ignited another building in Water street, between Church and East Bay streets, which was soon put out. At 9, a. m., Sunday another fire broke out in the house of Mrs. HAYNES in Church street, west side, second door from the Bay. There is no doubt that these fires were the work of incendiaries, as a man was arrested on the breaking out of the first, and was evidently connected with its origin. He has been lodged in jail.

17 January 1865, 1

Siege of Charleston.

RE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY.

Yankee Monitor on picket duty between  
Moultrie and Sumter was suddenly sunk,  
struck by a torpedo, about eight o'clock Sun-  
day night, leaving only her smoke stack above  
water. The hailing of the crew for assistance  
was distinctly heard on Sullivan's Island. A  
number of the crew are supposed to have been  
saved. The sunken Monitor is believed to be the  
"Mank," which has been the picket boat off  
the fort for some time past. The Yankee tug  
"Mank" was employed at the wreck during Mon-  
day morning efforts to save some of the furniture  
of the wreck. The absence in the morning of  
the Monitor from the fleet led to the report  
that the Yankee iron-clad had been sunk,  
and towards evening the missing vessel re-ap-  
peared in the fleet.

Nothing else of importance occurred during  
the day.

ON THE ROAD.—The enemy, at latest ac-  
count, were encamped at Gardener's Corner.  
About Monday a considerable body of  
Confederate infantry advanced to within two and a  
half miles of Combahee bridge, but retired with-  
out making any further demonstrations. A de-  
tachment who came into our lines Sunday night  
reported that the force which moved up from Port  
Royal consisted of the whole of the Seventeenth  
and all of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and that  
their destination is Charleston. They have very  
few wagons with them, but are expecting to  
bring up SHERMAN, who is reported moving on the  
main road with his train.

17 January 1865, 1

**Genius—Pluck—Energy.**

It is a conceded fact that South Carolina is not the Botany Bay of the Confederate army. We enjoy here at leisure, and in the greatest profusion, the ablest and boldest leaders from every part of the broad land this side of the Mississippi River. By the blessing of God, KIRBY SMITH finds it too much trouble to ship any of his great and sober officers quite so far. We are only subject to such men as other Generals this side of the Mississippi most highly appreciate. We congratulate every man, woman and child in this State on that singular circumstance. We desire to express, in behalf of all the grateful and appreciative people here, our proposed thankfulness for this special dispensation of Providence in our behalf. We think a "day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer" should be especially appointed by way of expressing our felicity. The Confederate Government is most beautiful—most considerate—most wise. South Carolina is now the key of the Confederacy. Most nobly is she to be defended by invincible pluck that fears no odds. Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS is wise—Aia is great—God is good! The Department is in a superb condition. We have never fought here before against odds. But now, not an officer is whipped—our military organizations are all perfect—our discipline admirable—our leaders models of capacity, courage, sobriety, tenacity and wisdom—all full of fight to the very eyes. Let us all sing *Te Deum*, and hurrah! for JEFFERSON DAVIS—JEFF. DAVIS forever!—and the Devil the next day!!!

**VISIT OF CONFEDERATE GUNBOATS.**—Shortly after the fall of Savannah, our city was visited by the two Confederate gunboats. They have been at anchor a short distance below the railroad bridge, for some weeks past.

A few days since we paid these specimens of marine architecture a visit, and were shown over them from stem to stern.

The larger one of the two is called the *Sampson*, Lieutenant W. W. Canes, commanding. It was formerly used as a tow boat at Savannah, but being a very substantial boat, was bought by the Government, and converted into a gunboat. This boat carries two guns, one a bow chaser and one a stern chaser; has a crew of fifty officers and men. She has very good machinery, which is kept in complete order by the chief engineer, Mr. Caldwell, to whom we return our thanks for his kind attention during our visit.

The *Sampson* bears several marks of the enemy's shells, which hit her during the engagement at *Argyle Island*, six miles above Savannah. It will be remembered this is the fight in which our iron-clad, the *Resolute* was disabled and afterwards captured by the enemy, together with her officers and crew.

The other boat is called the *Macon*, and is built of wood. She was constructed for a gunboat, and her decks are clear of all obstructions, except the smoke stack, she being moved by a steam propeller. The *Macon* is commanded by Lieut. J. S. Bernard, and carries six heavy guns, two broadsides each, and one bow and one stern gun. This boat has a larger crew than the *Sampson*, and was also in the fight mentioned above. She received one shot through her smokestack.

[Augusta Chronicle.]

# The Charleston Mercury.

17 January 1865, 2

## OF MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIXTH DAY.

It has been known for some time that, on dark nights, the picket monitors were in the habit of cruising much closer in the harbor than in the daytime. One of these tormented prowlers has, at last, we are glad to announce, met a fitting fate.

About 8 o'clock on Sunday night a slight explosion was heard by our men in Fort Sumter and on Sullivan's Island. It proceeded apparently from a point about midway between the two posts, and was followed by a confused mingling of shouts, imprecations and cries for mercy. These presently died away, and the affair remained a mystery until daylight Monday morning, when it was discovered that a Monitor had been sunk by one of our stationary torpedoes. A smokestack was still above water. She is believed to have been the *Montauk*, and it is considered certain that a large proportion, at least, of her crew must have perished by drowning. There has been no other incident worthy of mention in the harbor.

## THE NEWS FROM THE COAST BELOW.

As far as we have been able to learn, matters down there remain, in all material respects, unchanged. A Yankee force moved up yesterday morning towards Combahee Bridge, but soon retired, without making any demonstration. A deserter from the enemy reports that their force consists of the 17th and part of the 15th Army corps, and that their destination is Charleston.

**THE FLOOD—GREAT DAMAGE TO THE RAILROADS.**—The freshet of the past week seems to have extended its violence over a very wide scope of territory. We hear of heavy losses in Edgefield and Barnwell Districts. But the greatest injury, and that which will be felt most acutely by the whole country has been sustained by the different railroad lines.

Between this city and Columbia the long trestle work on the South Carolina Railroad at Kingville, has been washed away.

At Columbia there was a great upheaval of the waters, and the Congaree River was higher than it has been since 1852, causing great destruction to mills, plantations, &c.

At Chester, on the Columbia and Charlotte Railroad, heavy losses were sustained and the track greatly damaged.

On the North Carolina Railroad, between Charlotte and Greensboro, two bridges are gone.

The Piedmont Railroad from Greensboro to Danville, Va., suffered extensively, and we hear of the destruction of two bridges and an extensive trestle work.

These are all serious losses, and will occasion delay in the transportation of supplies, as well as the derangement of travel. By proper exertions on the part of the railroad authorities, however, the damages can be repaired within three weeks time.

**FRESHET IN THE SALTAN.**—The water in this river is exceedingly high and done some slight damage to the trestle of the Northeastern Railroad. The train did not pass over yesterday.

18 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY.**

All has been quiet since last report. Several of the enemy's vessels had their flags at half mast yesterday. No further change in the fleet is reported.

**FROM THE ROAD.**—A dispatch received at H. J. quarters, Tuesday evening, dated Selkatchie, January 17th, says: "Nothing direct has been received from Gen. WHEELER to day. One of the line of couriers who left from below McBride's bridge yesterday morning, reports the enemy still below.

"Deserters taken report two corps had crossed at Port Royal. The courier says there was cavalry, infantry and artillery coming from Coosawhatchie.

"The forces of the enemy are believed to be concentrating about McPersonville."

**FALL OF FORT FISHER.**—From passengers who left Wilmington Monday noon, we have the report that Fort Fisher was carried Monday morning on the third assault. The fighting is said to have been desperate. General WATKINS and staff are reported captured, and the brave Col. LAMB wounded. General HANCOCK's brigade, including the 25th and 27th South Carolina, also NELSON'S S. C. battalion, are also reported captured with the fort. A private letter, dated Wilmington, January 14th, states that a heavy force had landed opposite Battery Gaitlin, five miles above Fort Fisher, and near the head of the Sound, while another heavy force was reported moving from Newbern upon Wilmington. No further movements of this last force have been received.

**FIRE.**—About quarter to four o'clock Tuesday afternoon, the alarm of fire was sounded for Ward No 4, caused by a fire in an old wooden building, Southwest corner of College and Calhoun streets. The fire originated from the burning of the chimney. The speedy arrival of the firemen extinguished the fire with but slight damage to the roof.

The Union Prayer Meeting will be held this afternoon, at four o'clock, in Bethel Church, corner Calhoun and Pitt streets.

Ministers of the city and those who may be here temporarily, Chaplains and Missionaries of the army, soldiers and citizens generally, who believe in the efficacy of prayer, are invited to attend for the purpose of presenting the condition of the city and country before the Mercy Seat.

We take occasion to give another word of advice, and ask for it prompt attention. Whatever may be the result of military decision, and consultation, and plans, or whatever issue may befall, according to or against such plans, non-combatants generally and especially all women and children for whom any preparations can be made elsewhere, will fare better out of the city. The towns and villages of the interior may be crowded, indeed, but there is ample room in the country, and landholders, householders and others will, we hope—at least should—offer any accommodations needed for all who can pay in money or service, as many can. The man who, safe himself from the immediate dangers or trials of war, and of exile from home and making money out of the war, refuses to offer any accommodations to a refugee, is no better than a traitor of the worst type. Much of our sufferings in and under this war has been inflicted or permitted, we verily believe, because too many of our people have openly and zealously worshipped Mammon rather than God, and have not shown themselves worthy of independence or awake to the great duties of the day and of Christian citizenship.

Let all who can remove with any preparations do so, and putting wives and children in safety, get ready for entering fully on the duties of the war. The darkest hour of the Revolution was just before the close of that war in peace and independence, which, to our loss, American politicians did not perpetuate.

Even in the war of 1812-'14 there was disaster after disaster on land, relieved only by naval achievements, until peace was granted.

If we unitedly and steadily and virtuously show ourselves worthy of peace and independence we shall soon hail and enjoy them in such a way, perhaps, as to correct and rebuke the manworship and excessive reliance on man and on our own efforts, which have prevailed with us, and teach us that God can rule the hearts of peoples and princes and kings, and can save by few or by many.

The Charleston Mercury.

18 January 1865, 2

THE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND  
FIFTY SEVENTH DAY.

There was nothing noteworthy to report yesterday, except that some of the vessels of the Santee fleet had their flags displayed at half-mast.

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FROM THE ENEMY'S COLUMN BELOW.—A despatch from the coast below says: "Nothing direct from WHEELER. One of the line of couriers who left from below McBride's bridge yesterday morning, reports the enemy still below. Deserter taken on that side report that two corps had crossed at Port Royal. The courier says that there was cavalry, artillery and infantry coming from Coosawhatchie. It is believed that the enemy's forces are concentrating at McPhersonville."

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THE ATTENTION of our readers is directed to the sales to-day by Messrs. O'BRIEN & ROBERTS.

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THE NORTHEASTERN RAILROAD.—We are informed that up to 12 o'clock yesterday, the bridge of the Northeastern Railroad across the Santee River, had been uninjured by the freshet, and that but a trifling damage had been sustained by the trestles leading to it. The river, however, was still rising. Until the effect of this can be ascertained, and the road placed in a proper condition, some interruptions may be expected for in its regular operations.

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# The Charleston Courier.

19 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH DAY.**

We failed yesterday to get our usual report of observations of the enemy's movements. All was quiet, however, through the day.

**FROM THE ROAD**—The only intelligence received Wednesday was from Combahee. A dispatch from that point stated that the enemy had made a similar movement upon the ferry to that of the previous day, when they returned to Gardner's Corner. The movement is believed to be a feint. All was quiet there at last accounts.

"Blessed are the peace makers," was one of the divine utterances of Him who spake as never man spake. For years, in America as elsewhere, men professedly accepting this saying have adored almost the war makers rather than the peace makers, and a family of States and peoples, blessed above all nations in many favors and gifts of God, and in a goodly heritage of soil, territory, and resources, have appealed to war as the sole arbiter for interpreting and construing and recommending a frame of Government founded originally on right, and opinion, and concert, and deriving its distinctive value from this foundation.

In materials, and modes, and engines, and implements of war, this nineteenth century, in its sixth decade, shows that the world has made progress—but in the moral virtues and elements which limit war to proper objects, and only resort to it under inevitable necessity, it may be doubted whether the nineteenth has improved on the ninth century.

We are not at all surprised to learn that the Yankees show and entertain no special or grater regard towards creatures taking the oath in regard to saving property. These creatures, however, will not care for respect or opinion so long as they secure their self—which will only be as long as policy requires the Yankees to hold off. The difference between utter confiscation and a tax on the property of recanting, traitorly Southerners, will be a matter of close calculation.

# The Charleston Courier.

19 January 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH DAY.

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FROM THE ROAD.—The only intelligence received Wednesday was from Combahee. A dispatch from that point stated that the enemy had made a similar movement upon the ferry to that of the previous day, when they returned to Gardner's Corner. The movement is believed to be a feint. All was quiet there at last accounts.

There will be service in St. Paul's Church at seven A. M.

Our friends receiving papers or arriving with news or news from any places not now in full communication by mail, will oblige us specially by sending to the "Courier" office, and will thus be preventing exciting rumors.

The Blakeley guns, which attracted a good deal of attention some time ago in England from being used by the Confederate States in actual warfare, are attracting a similar share of attention in Charleston, where one of the 11-inch guns, weighing fourteen tons, has undergone the operation of testing. The trial was first made with 40 pounds of powder and cylinders of 40 pounds, which were afterwards increased to 600 pounds of powder and 600 pounds cylinders. The conclusion of proof, notwithstanding the enormous amount of charges, there was not a sign of the smallest strain or blemish in the metal, which appears to show that the principle of manufacturing guns adopted by Captain Whitworth of hammered cast steel is not one of the least valuable of modern gunnery inventions.

THE SAVANNAH REFUGEES AND THE WAYSIDE HOME.—The lady refugees from Savannah, who recently partook of the hospitalities of the Wayside Home, on leaving that excellent Institution, addressed a graceful note—of which we have obtained the following copy—to the courteous and obliging Superintendent, Major WILEY:

CHARLESTON WAYSIDE HOME,  
January 16, 1865.

Mr. W. J. Wiley, Superintendent of Wayside Home:

DEAR SIR: We, the undersigned refugees from Savannah, desire to express to you, and to the Board of Managers of this Institution, our high appreciation of the generous hospitality with which you have received us, and with which you have entertained and provided for us while we have been detained in your city. We feel that we can never repay you for your own personal kindness and attention, but we shall long hold you and the Charleston Wayside Home in grateful remembrance.

We trust that your beautiful city may never be desecrated by the presence of an abolition army; but if, in the fortunes of war, you, and the inhabitants of your city, are driven from your homes, it will be a grateful privilege for us to return the kindness you have now lavished upon us by aiding you in obtaining place of refuge. We beg you to accept the enclosed sum (\$430) as a small donation to be applied to the noble object for which your Institution was established.

We are, sir, most gratefully, your friends and well-wishers,

Mrs. C. W. BRUNNER,  
Miss L. A. CARUTHERS,  
Miss GERTRUDE JENKINS, } Committee.  
Mr. B. MALLON,

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Miss DANSEY.       | Miss BOURQUIN.         |
| Mrs. MIDDLEBROOKS. | Mrs. JENKINS.          |
| Miss SHAW.         | Mrs. SHEPPARD.         |
| Mrs. DANSEY.       | Mrs. FIND R.           |
| Mrs. STUBBS.       | Miss OLCOTT.           |
| Mrs. GUYTON.       | Mrs. BRYANT.           |
| Miss LUCY ELKINS.  | Mrs. HANLEITER.        |
| Miss SODIA ELKINS. | Miss HANLEITER.        |
| Mrs. GROVENSTEIN.  | Mrs. HANLEITER.        |
| Miss POWERS.       | Mrs. L. A. QUARTERMAN. |
| Miss V. BOURQUIN.  | Mrs. M. B. GRANT.      |
| Mr. S. M. WILKINS. |                        |



19 January 1865, 1

THE SEVENTH CONFEDERATE

Omitting or deferring for the present any remarks on the general law and importance of marriage as a primary institution, interest and subject of all States and of whose legislation we notice what may be pronounced the distinctive and peculiar sin of the South and of the States now "Confederate" in this respect. This sin as we view and admit it, refers not to our citizens but to a dependent and inferior class, not citizens, and according to our opinions and institutions generically incapable of citizenship. In a fast day discussion delivered in this city in April, 1864, and partly reprinted or reported in the "Courier," the want of a marriage law for servants was assigned and noted as a peculiar sin of the South. The "Courier's" extract from and remarks on that discussion were generally noted and copied with comments, and beyond this the question stated or involved elicited discussion. A discussion by correspondents of the "Courier" was carried on for some weeks from various lines of view, and, as we have reason to believe, with good effect in promoting attention to this subject.

It may or should be said in palliation merely, and not in denial against any truthful charge of Southern sin or shortcomings, that the Southern States have never enjoyed opportunities of perfecting the details of their preferred and primitive system of labor.

A large portion of the history and experience of these States, now "Confederate," was devoted to defending this institution against the fanatical assaults of those who had been pledged by solemn covenant to its recognition, and had aided largely in establishing it with us. Under those circumstances and conditions it was not to be expected that Southern legislation would have full scope and opportunities for amending or improving the details of slavery, or for removing some of the incidental or accidental evils which would have been admitted and treated, if those differing with us had looked at such evils, and had not put us on self-defence by assailing and denouncing the institution itself as inherently and necessarily sinful.

Crystallization, germination, and all the great shaping and constructive influences and processes of Nature take place only under quietness and silence—it is so with great permanent reforms and formative movements in morals and politics. Southern legislation and practice and thought and efforts have been naturally directed more to defending slavery against fanatical and unscrupulous assailants, who for base selfish purposes would destroy it, even at the hazard of destroying the masters, than towards the removal of objections or the correction of incidental evils.

Under these circumstances, while it may be regretted that more was not done or attempted, as to legislative utterances and regulations, concerning the morality of servitude and the duties and rights of both masters and slaves, it cannot be alleged as a gross or inexcusable error. It must be said also in confidence and with a bold appeal to all authentic observation, that in nothing more than in slavery and its actual exhibition and practice have actual results with us surpassed the law and public opinion provided for the slave, beyond the strongest prohibitions.

Many disabilities and prohibitions denounced for and apparently against the servant in necessary provision against the arts and wiles and designs of the abolitionist, stealthy enemy of both master and servant, have not been enforced ordinarily, and much of our old slave code, to which sentimental abolitionists or sensational story mongers, like the unwomanly and unsexed daughter of the tribe of Benoni, are wont to refer, has been a dead letter for years. Above and beyond all other personal institutions, slavery, as exhibited here, should be judged by actual observations over a large number and a wide field of cases and instances, and not by reference to the text of laws, passed in most cases only to define and protect the rights of the master, the active and interested friend of the slave, against mischievous intruders and intermeddlers.

Considering the in-quality of race—a fact patent everywhere, and no where more conspicuously shown than in regions where the aphorism of universal equality is most vociferously belabored forth—the Southern master has lawfully no more control over his slave than the father has over the child, or the husband over the wife, under our Anglican laws and practices as operating in many States colonized mainly or largely from Great Britain.

A father in the apparent and pretended exercise of the paternal rights and powers, and a husband under pretext of the marital rights, may commit gross cruelty and wrong, amounting even to danger to limb or life, and without leaving any clue to conviction or redress save on the simple testimony of the victim if permitted to escape and survive. No more than this can be said of slavery; the master who is a brute and who fears neither God nor man, and is a cruel husband or father, will also be a cruel master; but this is not the law and designed result of slavery any more than infanticide is the law of maternity—although not uncommon even in England—or uxoricide or divorce is the law of marriage.

For every case of cruelty and outrage between master and servant in these States, now "Confederate," for thirty years past, we could pledge ourselves to give, if documents and records were at hand, two cases of cruel and outrageous abuse or violation of the relation of husband and wife, or parent and child, under the intimate complicity and the impunity therein involved.

In nothing else except slavery has the world outside so long and persistently insisted that the abuses or incidental evils of an institution decided its character and rendered it sinful even under the best possible use. From the dawn of history to this day Africa pure has never shown traits and qualities of character higher than have been developed, and educated under Southern tuition and the combined efforts of all Missionary Societies in Europe and America, and of all the Colonization Societies, and of Exeter Hall, and of all sentimental philanthropists from Wilkes, down to that dandy villain, CHARLES SUMNER, have not done as much for the negro as the race, or for negroes individually in numbers, as has been done by the masters of the South.

We must recur to this subject to give some remarks on the marriage of servants as an indicated defect in our laws, or as an object now indicated as demanding various attention.

# The Charleston Mercury.

19 January 1865, 2

## FROM THE LINES OF THE COMBAHEE.

A despatch from the Combahee, dated yesterday, says:

"The enemy yesterday made another demonstration on Combahee Ferry, but again retired without effecting anything. This is believed to be only a feint. All has been quiet to-day."

## WILMINGTON.

A street report was in circulation yesterday, to the effect that the capture of Fort Fisher had been followed by the fall of the good town of Wilmington. The report, we believe, is at least premature.

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINTH DAY.

The harbor has been perfectly quiet since our last report.

THE TRAINS for Columbia begin to run to-day, and we may expect a resumption of the mail; but we understand that several days must elapse before passengers with baggage can be transported.

REMOVAL.—Mr. WM. MCKAY has recently removed to No. 546 King street, where he now offers for sale a choice article of Scotch Whisky and other very desirable articles.

THE FOREIGN LEGION, for the maintenance of good order in Charleston, was organized day before yesterday by the election of the following officers: NICHOLAS SCHERHAMMER, Captain; D. HAAS, First Lieutenant; TH. HINRICHSSEN, Second Lieutenant; L. KLIN, Third Lieutenant.

20 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH DAY.**

About mid-day Thursday, all the vessels of the fleet raised their flags and fired a salute in honor, it is supposed, of the fall of Fort Fisher.

There was unusual activity displayed amongst the fleet during the day, and also amongst the troops on Morris' Island.

The fleet inside the Bar has been increased by the addition of two Monitors. Eight Monitors are now reported off Morris' Island.

The firing heard in the direction of Stono was from some of the batteries practicing.

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**FROM THE ROAD.**—No new movement of the enemy was reported Thursday. Everything was quiet along the lines at the last account.

# The Charleston Courier.

20 January 1865, 1

## A Father's Letter.

The following is a extract from a private letter written by an officer in the army, to his father in Macon, Ga. It breathes the right spirit. Read it.

H'ed at Dr. S. C. GARDNER and FRA.

Charleston, S. C. January 8th, 1865.

DEAR FATHER: We are quietly settled down in this place, awaiting movements of Sherman. As yet, he has made no serious move—only advanced his cavalry and some infantry as far as Hardeeville. No doubt he is delaying until he can get up his supplies, transportation, &c., when he will inaugurate his winter campaign. His march will doubtless be in the direction of Augusta and Branchville; more probably the latter, and by that move reduce this place, by cutting off supplies, and eventually move towards Richmond. I hope and believe that we will accumulate a sufficient force in this State to check his campaign, and force him back to the coast; but to accomplish that, I fear General Lee will have to abandon Richmond. It is our only salvation; and if that is done speedily, (as soon as Sherman moves) I have no apprehensions as to the result. We will still have Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi the three great grain growing States, to supply our armies, and we can continue the fight until our independence is won.

I confess that our prospects present a gloomy picture, but that should incite us to greater efforts. I have frequently heard, since our evacuation of Savannah, that strong fears were entertained that Georgia would hold a convention and adopt resolutions to return to the Union. Of course I don't believe it; but it mortifies me beyond measure to even have such a thing discussed. I have too much State pride left not to return such charges whenever repeated in my presence.

Georgia has contributed too many soldiers in our struggle for liberty, and sacrificed too much precious blood to turn back in the hour of our adversity! God forbid that she should ever take such a step! Her people would be handed down as an ignominious and contemptible race, not to strike for her own rights and independence when they were in their reach. I feel now that should such a course be taken by her, I could not consistently go back to her and help defend her, should she need assistance.

Traitors stalk about in our Confederacy; and I think justice, even handed justice, should be

meted out to them in full measure. Those who have not suffered by this war, (peculiarly I mean) are those who are loudest in their denunciations of the Government, and desire more than all to return to "Abraham's bosom," in order to protect a few dollars and a little property. What is the property worth us if we cannot be allowed to enjoy it for just so sure as we go back, or we are subjected, all of our worldly goods are taken from us by the hands of a depraved and God forsaken race.

I am, of course, tired of this unnatural war, and would like, above all things, to be restored once again to my family; but I will never return unless I can do so with a clear conscience. Come what may I am willing to make sacrifices of my property, and the separation from my wife and friends; but we have gone too far to retrace our steps, or even look back. I have been from home nearly four years, and if necessary, let me remain four years longer, so we but accomplish the ends we are determined to gain. I can never give my consent to live peacefully with the Yankee race, unless held down by armed power; for the memory of my dear brother is still fresh in my mind, as well as of other members of our family, and I would prove recreant to them who cry aloud for vengeance, and by their examples before they fell, exhorted us to continue the struggle until the last armed foe expires.

The people at home, who have escaped the danger and struggles of this contest, owe it to the brave soldiers and gallant dead to contribute all in their power to assist them in protecting their homes and firesides, wives and children, and all that they hold dear and sacred. We can still have peaceful homes and quiet firesides, and be allowed to "worship under our own vine and fig tree," if we but do our duty. The most of our desertions from the army are caused from the tenor of the letters the men receive from home. I hear that Georgians are continually deserting in the army of Virginia, on account of a few traitors in Georgia, who are moulding the popular mind to subserve their wicked and notorious purposes. I trust for the sake of the many gallant and noble dead whose bones whiten the soil of Virginia, Tennessee and many other States, that our people at home will remain true to the trust reposed in them, and never falter as long as they can lift a hand or contribute a mite for their deliverance. Will they do it? I hope so—trust so.

20 January 1865, 1

## Capture of Fort Fisher.

Sunday night we went quietly to bed satisfied that all was right at Fort Fisher. Our attention, directed to the utmost for days, slackened, and we were immediately to sleep. On yesterday morning we awoke to find Fort Fisher captured. As we expected, Gen. Whiting fought like a paladin. Both he and Col. Lamb are seriously wounded and in the hands of the enemy.

It is certain that generally the fort was fought with chivalric bravery. To this there were exceptions; to which at some future time we may allude as a matter of justice to others. We cannot say when that time may occur.

For the present it is enough for us to know that Fort Fisher has fallen; that a division of infantry in the fort were in gun shot and did not fire a gun to save it that we know of, and that heroes like Whiting, Lamb and others are prisoners; that the last part of the Confederacy is gone, and that it ought to have been saved.

We will not trust ourselves to say more. If we said anything, we might, possibly, give vent to our feelings. We do place the responsibility for our failure, but if we once commenced, we might give too wide a vent. Our part ought not to have fallen. There is a responsibility; that responsibility will hereafter appear.

So far as we can see, the enemy cannot get to the town. We say "so far as we can see," for we place no reliance upon what we can not judge for ourselves. On Sunday night, awfully tired, we slept quietly, thinking that all was right, depending upon an official dispatch. We found the thing to ally different.

It is not our part to give advice to our citizens. There are so many that, under any circumstances, cannot leave, while there are so many that, under any circumstances, must leave, that no single rule could apply to all. Every man's conscience must be his own judge. We need hardly say what we will do, or try to do. Our course, we presume, is anticipated. We are Confederates. If we lose, why we lose.

But we see no reason why we, more than Mobile, should be taken. God only knows why our outer defenses were taken; we do not; we have lost many good and true friends; we may lose many more. We fear that they were sacrificed. Such is the impression we have derived from all we have heard and otherwise learned.

There is no doubt but that there is a strong excitement against Gen. Bragg. There can be no doubt either, that Gen. Bragg has attached to him the prestige of bad luck. Unfortunately he always has that prestige. Permanent bad luck means permanent bad management, somewhere. A man with this prestige ought not to have been sent here.

Some people never learn anything, and never forget anything; as, for instance, the Bourbons and the high old "Conservatives" in this State who, for once, did seem to co-operate with the Richmond cliques in maligning Gen. Whiting, and demanding somebody else. They appear to have got their desires gratified. Gen. Whiting is wounded and a prisoner. Is Gov. Vance perfectly satisfied? He, we know, was one of the agents in overruling, superseding and trying to ruin Gen. Whiting. All right; we suppose, in a party point of view.

The following list comprises all the wounded that have been received so far at General Hospital No. 4:

Captain James S. Lane, Company D, 40th North Carolina Troops, eyes, slight.

Daniel Benfield, Company K, 43d North Carolina Troops, mouth, dangerously; Charlotte, N. C.

W. T. Tinsley, Company D, 66th North Carolina Troops, contusion at face, Kinston, N. C.

W. H. Kennedy, Company H, 68th North Carolina, contusion of hip, Hallsville, N. C.

Elijah Watters, Company D, 60th North Carolina, contusion, Jacksonville, N. C.

W. A. Darrell, Company H, 27th Georgia, gunshot in back, severe, McDonall, Geo.

John C. Smith, Company A, 27th Georgia, contusion shoulders, severe, Tazewell, Geo.

Andrew White, Company D, 27th Georgia, shot through groin, severe, Gainesville, Geo.

Daniel E. Simms, Company H, 51st North Carolina, finger, Fayetteville, N. C.

Josiah L. Watts, Company H, 5th North Carolina, flesh wound, cheek, Mount Pleasant, N. C.

Josiah Young, Company I, 5th North Carolina, contusion right hand, McRae's Store, N. C.

With the exception of Capt. Lane, the above were all wounded in skirmishing in the neighborhood of Sugar Loaf.—*Wilmington Journal*, 17th inst.

## Wheeler's Cavalry.

(Correspondence of the Telegraph and Confederate.)

HARRISVILLE, S. C., January 1, 1865.

Mr. Editor—Gen. Wheeler has been picketing the Savannah river to the mouth of New river, since the evacuation. Rather a hard task for men and horses with only rice for subsistence and forage—how long this is to continue is uncertain. His cavalry has fought the Yankees from the Ohio river to the seaboard, and now again confronts them as they turn—have whipped their cavalry and held at bay their infantry.

They have become to us old acquaintances; it is not unusual to hear the private speaking of divisions, brigades and regiments in the Yankee army as familiarly as if they were our own.

By the way, where is Gen. Forrest, now? For over two years Gen. Wheeler, with his cavalry, covered every advance or retreat of the army of Tennessee, and never during that period did such disaster as the recent one befall it. I do not say this in disparagement of Gen. Forrest, whom I regard as an able officer, but I offer this statement as a bitter reflection for the detractors of a good General and a pure man. Apropos of our cavalry, Gen. Wheeler has now, in his possession the names of thirteen different organizations, who, hanging about the line of march, or diverging out, have stolen horses, proclaiming themselves "Wheeler's cavalry," when they no more belonged to this command than did Kilpatrick's troopers, for whom they would be fit associates.

In due time their names will be disclosed; woe to them if they hereafter fall into the hands of the men upon whom they have attempted to fix the stain of their own disgraceful conduct. They are known to the corps, who will, with lynx-eyed watchfulness, hide their time, burning with shame and indignation at the base reproach cast upon them. 'Tis no wonder they meditate a deep revenge.

# The Charleston Mercury.

20 January 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS BELOW

The enemy's movements below, since our last report, have been mainly confined to the operations of foraging and scouting parties. At 9 a. m. on Wednesday, a heavy column of infantry was reported to be marching on McPhersonville. SHERMAN and HOWARD are both said to be in Pocotaligo. The Fifteenth Army Corps is at Beaufort, and the Seventeenth Army Corps on the Main. The Yankees have burned the residences of Mr. J. W. GREGORIE and Mr. Wm. HAYWARD, near Pocotaligo.

## SIXTEEN MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH DAY.

About noon on Thursday all the Yankee vessels composing the fleet outside hoisted their flags and fired a salute. During the afternoon there was some activity amongst the vessels, and two more monitors made their appearance, making eight now in sight.

FROM COLUMBIA.—The first mail from Columbia during the past week was received last evening, and in each of the papers we find the following announcements:

CHANGE OF TIME OF PUBLICATION.—Owing to the difficulties incident to the publication of a morning paper, the unsettled condition of the mails, the unreliability of gas, and for other reasons which concern the convenience and comfort of both publisher and reader, the Guardian and Carolinian will publish an afternoon instead of morning edition.

KINGSVILLE S. C. January 18, 1865.

To C. J. Bolton, Agent S. C. R. R. Co.:

Notify Hotels and Wayside Home that the train will leave to-morrow morning at 3.30 a. m. No baggage taken for points below Kingsville. The mails will be taken through.

(Signed) E. F. RAWORTH,  
Superintendent Transportation.

WE WERE informed last evening that the water at the Santee river was slowly falling, and that the bridge of the Northeastern Railroad across the river had escaped injury. The damage to the trestle had been slight, and was then being repaired. The passenger trains will pass there to-day, as usual.

THE COLUMBIA AND GREENVILLE RAILROAD.—The Edgetfield Advertiser understands there was great damage done to this road by the freshet of last week, and that it will be at least six weeks before the road is in running order again.

IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COMPANY OF S. C.—The Stockholders of this Company are referred to the notice in another column.

THIRD S. C. CAVALRY.—All mail matter intended for any man of Colonel COLCOCK's Regiment (3d S. C. Cavalry) should be addressed to the individual, by name, company and regiment, to Midway, on the South Carolina Railroad, care of Dr. J. W. SHELTON.

21 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIRST DAY**

The only item of importance since last report has been the firing of the enemy upon the harbor steamer "Randolph," which got ashore Thursday night near Fort Sumter. The enemy opened their batteries upon her, and kept it up all day Friday. The boat is a total loss.

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**FROM THE ROAD.**—We received no news Friday of SHERMAN's movements.

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**WM. HENRY TRESCOT**, Commissioner from the State of South Carolina, was in Macon, and had an interview with Governor Brown on Monday.

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**GENERAL FENNERTON.**—This officer has been assigned to active duty.

21 January 1865, 2

**SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED TH**

**THE FIRST D: Y.**

At an early hour Friday morning the city was a little surprised at the sound (so unusual of late) of heavy and continuous artillery fire. The enemy were shelling the harbor steamer *Rhodes*, which had unfortunately got aground near Fort Sumter. The enemy continued the firing during the greater part of the forenoon and until the steamer was completely destroyed.

Nothing else of interest has occurred since our last report.

HON. WM. HENRY TRESCOTT, Commissioner from the State of South Carolina, is in Macon, and had an interview with Governor Brown Monday.

WE CALL the attention of capitalists to the sale of the steamer *Scout*, at auction, by Mr. JNO. S. RIDGS, corner King and Ann streets, at 11 o'clock this morning.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.—A correspondent writing from Ellingham county, Ga., states that it is believed in that section that General Sherman is advancing slowly and surely towards Branchville.



# The Charleston Courier.

23 January 1865, 1

## FROM RICHMOND.

### REINSTATEMENT OF GENERAL JOHNSTON— HOOD R-LIVED.

RICHMOND, January 20.—The "Examiner" asserts that the Senate in secret session adopted a resolution creating the office of commander-in-chief of all the Confederate armies, and recommending the immediate reinstatement of General Johnston by a vote of yeas, 20; nays, 2.

The House, in secret session, concurred in the resolution—yeas 62, nays 14.

The "Examiner" also states that Hood has been relieved at his own request. The Army of Tennessee, it is believed, will be under the personal command of Lieutenant General Taylor.

RICHMOND, January 20.—The flag of truce boat arrived at Virginia today with five hundred returned prisoners. No further particulars.

**FROM THE ROAD.**—The latest dispatches from Generals WHEELER and MCLAW report all quiet along the lines.

Very heavy rains had fallen, rendering the roads almost impassable and preventing military operations.

A dispatch from General WRIGHT, at Adams Run, January 22, says: The steamer which came up the Edisto this morning to White Point (John's Island) was a large transport with three guns on her deck. She was sounding the channel, and proceeded up Daloo river a short distance, when she returned to her position with the blockaders, at the mouth of Edisto river.

The enemy are reported building a rail road from Port Royal Ferry to Pocotaligo and Mobergsville.

The "Chronicle and Sentinel," of Sunday, says: It was rumored yesterday that a column of Gen. SHEKMAN's army was moving on Augusta by way of Blackville, S. C.

# The Charleston Courier.

23 January 1865, 1

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His Excellency Gov. MAGNATH arrived in this city on Friday and held a conference with Gen. HARDEE. He leaves again for Columbia this morning.

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# The Charleston Mercury.

23 January 1865, 2

SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY THIRD DAY.

The weather has been so thick and hazy since our last report, that it has been a difficult matter to make any observations of the enemy's movements. There has been very little firing.

SHERMAN.—We can get but little authentic news of the movements of SHERMAN's forces. In the present state of the weather and the roads it is hardly likely that he has been able to make any considerable progress in any direction.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD, as we are glad to learn from the active and energetic Superintendent, H. T. PRAKE, Esq., is again in running order throughout its whole extent. The up train for Columbia crossed over safely at the Congaree on Saturday afternoon.

THE NORTHEASTERN RAILROAD is now in perfect running order along the whole distance from Charleston to Florence. It also makes regular connections with the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, which is now completely repaired and running trains according to the schedule.

THE CARS on the Spartanburg and Union Railroad are running daily from Spartanburg to Shelton, in Fairfield District. Arrangements have been made to run a daily line of stages to some point on the Charlotte Railroad, either Blackstock or Wilmabero, the exact point to be hereafter stated.

# The Charleston Mercury.

23 January 1865, 2

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THE DELEGATION IN CONGRESS from this State waited in a body last Monday upon the President of the Confederate States, and presented the request which had been forwarded to them by Gov. MAGRATH, to appoint Gen. J. E. JOHNSTON to the command of the troops in this department. The President declined to make the appointment as desired. We have not learned to whom he will tender the command.

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24 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOURTH DAY**

There has been no change of importance since the report. The only firing heard was two shots in the direction of Stono. Some considerable activity was observed among the small boats lying between the vessels of the fleet. There was a good deal of signalling in the fleet. An additional increase of vessels is reported.

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**FROM THE ROAD** — All was quiet along the lines today. The enemy have made no new movement. Our scouts report a considerable force of Yankees at Hardeeville. The reports from the Georgia side of the Savannah river also present all quiet.

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# The Charleston Courier.

24 January 1865, 1

The independence of the Confederacy is to be achieved more surely by the sheer force of endurance than by anything else, and even if we should fail to accomplish it by the signal stroke of military fortune, it will be worked out at the last; and that much more speedily than is generally supposed, says the Richmond "Examiner," by a simple comparison of the real resolution of the South with a confidence in the North, now bloated and swaggering, but really on the verge of the last and fatal necessity.

**THE POPE AND THE CONFEDERACY.**—The "Index" publishes the subjoined reply of the Pope to the manifesto of the Confederate States:

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN—Mr. Soutter has handed me your letter of November 11, with which, in conformity to the instructions of your Government, you have sent me a copy of the manifesto issued by the Congress of the Confederate States, and approved by the most honorable President, in order that the attention of the Government of the Holy See, to whom, as well as to the other Governments, you have addressed yourselves, might be called to it. The sentiments expressed in the manifesto, tending as they do to the cessation of the most bloody war, which still rages in your countries, and to the putting an end to the disasters which accompany it, by proceeding to negotiations for peace, being entirely in accordance with the disposition and character of the august head of the Catholic Church, I did not hesitate a moment in bringing it to the notice of the Holy Father. His Holiness, who has been deeply afflicted by the accounts of the frightful carnage of this obstinate struggle, has heard with satisfaction the expression of the same sentiments. Being the vicar on earth of that God who is the author of peace, he yearns to see these wraths appeased, and peace restored. In proof of this he wrote to the Archbishops of New York and New Orleans as far back as October 18, 1862, inviting them to exert themselves in bringing about this holy object. You may, then, honorable gentlemen, feel well assured that whenever a favorable occasion shall present itself, His Holiness will not fail to avail himself of it, to hasten so desirable a result, and that all nations may be united in the bonds of charity. In acquainting you with this benignant disposition of the Holy Father, I am pleased to declare myself with sentiments of the most distinguished esteem, truly your servant.

G. CARD. ANTONELLI.

Rome, December 2, 1862.  
Messrs. A. DUPRE, MATH. J. M. MASON and JOHN S. DILL, Commissioners of the Confederate States of America, Paris.

24 January 1865, 1

SLAVERY AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY

It is to maintain the institution of slavery, the political element of our Confederate Government, state sovereignty, that we must be sworn of justice against the model and oppressor. The two must stand or fall together. To talk of maintaining our independence while we uphold slavery is simply to talk folly. Four millions of our fellow men, in the domestic relation of slaves have, in the providence of God, under His inviolable decree have been committed to our charge. We dare not abandon them to the tender mercies of the infidel. Like the marriage, paternal and fraternal relations, slavery enters into the composition of our families, and like those God ordained relations, it has the sanction of His law and His gospel. The existence and perfecting of all these elements of the family are alike included in the decrees of the Decalogue and the precepts of the gospel. The family relations are incorporated into civil government, and with us slavery is one of those relations.

African slave labor is the only form of labor whereby our soil can be cultivated, and the great staples of our climate produced. The testimony of ample experience proves that the white man is not physically adapted to that end, and that he sickens, degenerates and dies, if he undertakes it. By the removal of African slave labor from this land, our productive and fruitful fields must become barren waste and impenetrable swamps. By yielding to Abolition infidelity, and emancipating our slaves, we will destroy the household, disorganize the family, and annihilate our Government—act contrary to the will and instruction of God—bring down His just wrath upon our heads, and doom ourselves to utter humiliation, contempt and wretchedness as a people. The last hope of true Republican liberty on the American continent would be lost, the progress of the human family, by the light of religion, science and true philosophy, toward peace and happiness, blackened for centuries, and the triumph of the rulers of the darkness of this world advanced.

Man's allegiance to God is liberty. What power soever intervenes between man and his Maker, and interferes with that obedience revealed in the Word of God, as due to Him alone, is unlawful, tyrannical, despotic; it is the power of the devil and his followers, to be resisted unto blood and vanquished with the sword. St. PETER has said, "We must obey God rather than man;" and St. PAUL, foretelling to the followers of Christ the trials and struggles through which they would have to pass, says to them, "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin." There can be no virtue, no good, except in obedience to the will of God. Evil is the result of disobedience, good of obedience.

"Of man's first disobedience and the fruit of that forbidden tree,  
Whose taste brought death into the world and all our woe."

Without a revelation from the Creator to his creature, man could no more have understood the history and object of his being than can the untutored savage, by intuition, acquire a correct knowledge of the history of the world and of the discoveries and achievements of science. Un-

aided reason could not conduct him by the moral sense, nor could Nature, the handmaid of God, lead him, by the affections, back to his God and to happiness; another light was needed to guide, another Mediator to restore him.

The woman was beguiled by the devil from her allegiance to her Maker, she gave of the tree to ADAM, and she did eat. The conflict between the seed of the woman (not wholly corrupted or lost, or God would have abandoned them) and the seed of the devil was begun; the race of ADAM was doomed to labor, mental and physical. The corrupted nature of man developed selfishness, and the inevitable struggle between right and wrong was commenced; the strong, physically or mentally, would oppress the weak, and appropriate the fruits of his labor. The divine decree dooming him to labor was unalterably attached to the existence of man; God, known unto whom are all his ways, determined to legitimate it, and to introduce it, perfected by His Gospel, into His system of government of the human race. He indigested it as a punishment on Canaan, incorporated into His law, and provided for its being perfected by the teachings of His Gospel, and converted into a blessing instead of a curse.

This is the history of slavery, the institution of God, which the Abolition fanatic would overthrow, which God has intrusted to this Christian people, this Confederation of States, to maintain. It is incorporated into their very being as a people, their existence as a Confederation, their independence as Sovereign States. Without slavery, God's institution of labor, a Constitutional Republican form of Government, the form most in accord with the spirit and genius of Christianity, and which has been bought and established for us by the blood and wisdom of our patriot sires and sages, cannot exist. A Republic without slavery is an impossibility. Under a Republican form of Government each citizen has a right to elevate himself to the highest positions; to become one of the rulers, or by the ballot to place those of his choice in the position of rulers; and he who is occupied in servile duties can never acquire or possess the necessary knowledge and learning to exercise this right.

The overthrow of the former United States is an existing demonstration of this political truth. The servant cannot, in the nature of things, possess the right to elevate himself above his lord. Had slavery existed not only by the Constitution of the former United States, but actually in all the States composing that Confederation, it would have stood to the end of time and government. The last hope of true liberty and Republican Government rests with us. The maintenance of that system of labor which Divine Wisdom has established, is committed to our charge. Abandon our inheritance—Liberty—and prove faithless to the charge committed to us by God. His wrath and the curses of millions yet unborn will rest upon us. And shall we look to other sources than the Almighty arm and the sword He has placed in our hands for protection? Is it for human aid and foreign help we sigh? Let us go forth to battle, *Deo viudice*, and see that we bear not the sword in vain. GIDEON.

The Charleston Courier.

24 January 1865, 2

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MARRIED. at the residence of W. C. BEE, Esq., on  
the 18th inst., by the Rev. Mr. HOWE, THOS. GELZER,  
Esq. of St. Paul's Parish, S. C., to ROSA ADELA,  
daughter of the late JOHN S. BEE, Esq., of Charleston. J

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# The Charleston Mercury.

24 January 1865, 1

## Charleston the Point d'Appui of the Confederacy.

In our humble judgment, the defence of Charleston is essential to the defence of the Confederation. We don't pretend to be a NAPOLEON on the one hand, or a JEFFERSON DAVIS on the other. We don't pretend to be any military strategists, or to be able to see any deeper into a mill-stone than anybody else. We have our own limited ideas, however, and the great cause for which we all act. In that great cause it is our privilege to speak, and in behalf of that cause we plead.

What course may be taken in the impending campaign we do not know. It is in other hands, not ours. Yet it appears to us as plain as the nose on a man's face that here is the point to fight. Not that we should not fight elsewhere, and everywhere, where the enemy advances; but that here is the point at which to arrest our steps—to stand, or to fall. Here, above all other places, under all existing circumstances, it appears to us, is the *point d'appui* of the cause. Others, wiser than ourselves, and better informed—in whose hands this matter rests—may think otherwise, may act otherwise; but we know that here the brave soldiers of Georgia and Carolina, and others, who have so long fought here, would love now to fight. For ourselves, we confidently expect some noble work to be done here yet. Charleston cannot fall without it. And we trust she never will fall

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The Charleston Mercury.

24 January 1865, 2

**SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOURTH DAY.**

All is quiet in the harbor. Only two shots were heard yesterday, they being in the direction of Stono. There was a deal of signaling amongst the Yankee vessels outside, and during greater part of the day small boats seemed to be plying vigorously to and fro in the fleet.

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**SHERMAN'S DOINGS.**

Whatever be the cause—and we are inclined to think it the condition of the roads—the inactivity of SHERMAN's forces continues. Our scouts report a considerable body of Yankee troops to be stationed at Hardeeville; but there were no indications of any immediate movement.

Reports from the Georgia side of the Savannah river represent everything to be quiet in that direction.

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25 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOURTH DAY.**

There have been unusually quiet since our report. One Monitor left the fleet and sailed South on Tuesday morning.

**FROM THE ROAD**—Reports from the Road state the enemy have made no advance move. Our scouts report the rail road between Sikehatchio bridge and Pocotaligo destroyed. The enemy burnt the cross ties and carried off the rail road iron.

The Yankee pickets extend a short distance west side of Pocotaligo.

The enemy are also reported engaged in removing our obstructions in the road between Sikehatchio and Combahee.

# The Charleston Mercury.

25 January 1865, 1

## Men Run Mad.

A panic stricken man is as near to a madman as it is possible for two things to approximate to each other. There is but one single point of difference—the mind of the one has lost its balance permanently, from some infirmity of its constitution—the other, temporarily, from some temporary external cause. Both are lunatics for the time being—both are utterly daff.

A long course of imbecility, and persistent and unscrupulous mal-administration of our affairs, military and political, has finally shaken the Confederation to its base, and brought repeated and serious disaster to our arms. In this condition of things the country has paused to consider the situation. It becomes all thinking men to consider *what next*.

Those men who have been able to find nothing but wisdom in the past-administration of affairs are, for all practical purposes, as to the future, or else they blindly close their eyes and refuse to reflect. Those men who have taken every instance of imbecility for the exercise of genius—who have regarded every display of incorrigible egotism and perverse passion as an illustration of "firmness"—who have looked upon every act of unscrupulous mal-administration as a corroboration of patriotic fervor—these men, when these follies, vanities, and vices have wrought out their inevitable, logical sequence, are now run wild. Swept clean from their legs, like drowning men amidst the rushing breakers, they clutch madly at the very foam and floating seaweed, to sustain them amidst the waters and in death.

What business had such people upon the sea in their little shallops—why did they not stay at home and catch their minnow fish in their milk-pots—what business had they upon the mighty ocean? And now they shriek, and scream, and kick, and sprawl, and splutter, with their mouths full of salt water, and rest their lives and hopes upon a very floating straw. Men who fill the land with mad projects of ruin, and would drag down destruction upon themselves in their blind panic and confusion.

To remedy an evil, there is but one way to reach it. Seek first the cause of that evil. You may then hope to restore the damage done, by removing the cause, or by providing against its repetition. There is no other rational or effective method of proceeding. But what do these milk-pot politicians do? Turning their backs

upon the grand first cause of the evil—closing their eyes to truth and fact—they spread the sails of their shallow skulls amidst the storm, and by way of reaching land, dash straight at the highest, the most dangerous, most fatal shoal they can find.

In vain have been the protests of earnest, thinking, fearless men, for three years past, against the weak and cruelly vicious administration of our public affairs, in the army and in political matters. The man who spoke the truth, who pointed to the direct cause of our disasters in arms, our failures in finance and diplomacy—the direct governing cause of the weakness, and imbecility that pervaded every branch of the Government—the charity that governed its views, the shallowness of mind that cramped its perceptions, and crippled its action—these men were all denounced as mal-contented, stirrers up of disaffection, men who were trying to kill the cause. Congress and the great mass of snivellers after the Government pursued the opposite course—the wise policy of the ostrich, who buries his head in the sand in order that his pursuers may not find him. Everything in the Government was discovered to be good—every act was wise—every disaster was a benefit, a source of congratulation—every insane egotism, an example of heroic firmness. Well, they have had their way; they have tried to hood-wink themselves—they have hood-winked many innocent people. Congress has played dry nurse to the President, and here we are to-day!

What next?

Paralyzed at the condition to which their weakness and blindness has brought the country, by their pandering to Executive follies and vices, they still turn their eyes from the true cause of our disaster, and now seek, in hopeless desperate projects, some new remedy. Niggers—niggers, is now the cry of these drowning milk-pot rovers—niggers to fight for white men—slaves for freemen! We say to these men now, as we have said in regard to many policies of the Government in the past (and perhaps as validly), their project is one of ruin—it is the cry of despair—it is the cry of defeat—the wail of utter hopelessness and helplessness. It is vain to throw a veil over this matter. It is vain to hold it as bright as the veil of the Prophet of Korah—it hides as hideous a form beneath. It means emancipation—it means total abolition. Just here let us pause until to-morrow.

# The Charleston Mercury.

25 January 1865, 2

## THE ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS ON THE COAST BELOW.

The accounts we get from below represent all quiet, and that the enemy is picketing a short distance this side of Pocotaligo. The Yankees have torn up the track of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad between Salkahatchie bridge and Pocotaligo, burning the cross ties and carrying off the iron.

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## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY FIFTH D. Y.

The enemy has been perfectly quiet since our last report, and there is nothing of interest to mention.

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26 January 1865, 1

## State of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH DAY.

Nothing unusual has occurred since last report. With the exception of one shell fired at the city all has been very quiet.

**FROM THE REAR.**—The enemy moved a large body of troops from Savannah on the Augusta road Wednesday morning. The object of this movement was not ascertained at last accounts. Our scouts also report the enemy withdrawing their forces a short distance from their position near Fossilago. All was quiet at other points on the line.

Any friends receiving papers or arriving with papers or news from any places not now in full connection by mail, will oblige us specially by reporting to the "Courier" office, and will thus aid in preventing exciting rumors.

There will be service in St. Paul's Church at eleven A. M.

The Treasurer of the Ladies' Fuel Society acknowledges the receipt of the following:

From Mrs. Frances Blayney.....\$5  
From Mrs. L.....\$5

Whatever may be said and argued as to the duties of Provost Marshals and their guards, it is doubted by many whether the officer who arrested FORT in his patriotic attempt to leave the country for the good of the country and of Congress, did not as much harm as good.

The following rates have been established by Council:

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Servant's Badge.....      | \$10 |
| Porter's Badge.....       | 20   |
| Fruiters' Badge.....      | 25   |
| Mechanic's Badge.....     | 35   |
| Private Cart License..... | 10   |
| Public Cart License.....  | 60   |
| Bread Cart License.....   | 60   |
| Hacks.....                | 150  |
| Omnibus.....              | 200  |

and must be taken out during the month of January.

**CONFEDERATE STEAMER COQUETTE.**—This splendid and favorite steam ship has been well named for in the blockade dance between this port and Nassau, she invariably turns her back on the Yankees to give her hand to a truer friend. On her last outward trip she carried one thousand two hundred and fifty bales of cotton, the largest cargo taken from this port, one half of which was for Government account.

The "Coquette" is commanded by Capt. E. O. DOONS, a gallant Baltimorean, and a fearless and most accomplished navigator, whose devotion to our cause and noble charity have earned for him a deserved popularity, and we hope he will continue to meet with every success.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON.

We have received this week's edition of the "Charleston Courier," and find it to be a most interesting and valuable one. It contains a full and complete account of the proceedings of the University of Charleston, and of the various departments of the institution. It also contains a full and complete account of the various departments of the institution. It also contains a full and complete account of the various departments of the institution.

In one branch of this sin may be mentioned allusively merely, and not for full statement of discussion, the local or occasional prevalence of toleration of *Miscegenation*.

In this as in other matters, the Slaveholding States have been accused and charged as guilty beyond the facts of the case; because their sins were open, and they did not practice the concealment and hypocrisy prevalent elsewhere. In London, or Paris, or New York, or Hamburg, or any metropolis or leading city of free soil and free birth institutions, there is nothing beyond official statistics and painstaking inquiries to show the number of children born out of wedlock. In Southern Cities; however, where the scriptural, patriarchal and primitive relation has been retained with and for and over a class, distinctively marked by color and generic features, the results of irregular and extraconnubial intercourse betray themselves. The experience and observations of many friends, and of many years of close attention and inquiry, have convinced us that the extent of this evil is by no means as large as would be honestly inferred by a stranger visiting only our cities, transiently. This evil is chiefly confined to the cities, and its representatives are seen thickly crowded to gether.

The guilty authors and agents are, in the great majority of cases, also not masters or servants, but traveling and transient adventurers, over-seers, peddlers, schoolmasters and others on the one side, and on the other side giddy young girls of the servant class, neglected by masters, and turned loose on hiring their own time—a most suicidal policy for slaveholders, forbidden by our laws of State and City—or free colored women.

Forty-five years ago or thereabouts a Yankee graduate from Providence, Rhode Island, distinguished even in College for his sophomore eloquence and his versatility in rhetoric, of the *Balist* order, and his sneaking, self concealing duplicity and reserve, came "down South" as a teacher to get a start in the world, as many Yankees have done at the expense of the South, and to find victims and subjects more easily cheated than his neighbors at home.

This missionary pedagogue, one of hundreds who have been received and tolerated by the South, was called WILLIAM H. SAWARD, and the results of his brief sojourn in the South were the teaching of some children in Putnam County, Georgia, to mispronounce the English language according to WHEAT—Noah, not DANIEL—and a mulatto image and representative, who grew up in time to be in all things, except color and villainy, a good likeness of his father—W. H. SAWARD. This is only one case out of many, and is mentioned because the author and father is infamously historical, and has courted and earned a place in history by the side of ENOCH ARNOLD.

Another branch of Southern sin, as to the Seventh Commandment, is referred to the slaves proper, and their marriage or want of marriage; but as this question is important and expansive, we must defer it for another occasion, begging the attention, consideration and opinions of all intelligent and observant readers, friends and correspondents. Like "Pison," "Dartmouth," "Sax," and others, who have referred to it in the "Courier."

26 January 1865, 2

**SHERMAN MOVING.**

There is reason to believe that SHERMAN is at last about to develop his plans for the remainder of his winter campaign. We have trustworthy intelligence that the bulk of his forces have been moved out of Savannah, and are now massed some little distance from the city, along the road leading to Augusta. We have nothing, as yet, however, to indicate the direction in which he intends to march.

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**SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY SIXTH DAY.**

Yesterday a single shell was thrown from Battery Gregg at the city, but fell a little short. We have no other incident to report.

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**CIRCULAR**—Among the circular orders issued by Major General D. H. BELL we find the following in the Augusta papers of yesterday. All non-combatants are respectfully requested to leave the city immediately. If their removal be delayed until the emergency shall arrive, no railroad facilities can be allowed them. In the class of non-combatants are included all young gentlemen who have no relish for the trenches. These are exhorted to leave at once under escort of the old ladies.

In addition, the Provost Marshal is ordered to close all places of business and amusement, and to see that all men under the age of fifty, not physically disabled, take their places in the ranks.

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27 January 1865, 1

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Stage of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH DAY.

Since our last report everything has been very quiet. There are now only eight monitors inside the bar.

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FROM THE ROAD.—No further news of SUMNER'S movements was received yesterday. An officer of the Charleston and Savannah Rail Road, who arrived Thursday, reports brisk skirmishing going on at Saltkehatchie all the morning, but with what result was not known. Heavy firing was also reported in the direction of Adam's Run.

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AN ARMISTICE.—Rumors were very prevalent in the city, on Thursday, of an armistice of forty days duration having been agreed upon by the authorities at Richmond for the purpose of initiating peace negotiations. It was reported that business men in Richmond had telegraphed to their agents at Wilmington and other points to sell their specie and sterling exchange at once.

We had hoped to receive some intelligence from Richmond before going to press, but were disappointed, no telegraphic news having reached us up to a late hour Thursday night.

We have reason to believe, however, that there is some good foundation for these rumors.

Parties just from Richmond represent that at the time of their departure it was the general belief that an armistice had already been agreed upon and peace negotiations opened. They also state that prominent citizens had expressed great confidence in a successful result and the belief that the war was near its conclusion. While we have some doubt as to the result of BLAIR'S mission, we, as well as our readers generally, will be happy to announce the advent of peace and the opening of negotiations leading to an honorable termination of the war with the recognition of the Confederacy.

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The Charleston Mercury.

27 January 1865, 1

**Major-General Wade Hampton.**

It is with unfeigned pleasure that we announce the arrival in South Carolina at this juncture of Major General WADDE HAMPTON. This gallant General, who on forty battle fields has won the reputation of being a *fighting General*, is ever welcomed home, but doubly so now. He is wanted here. We trust the commission of a Lieutenant General will be awarded him for services rendered, and place him in his proper sphere here.

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The Charleston Mercury.

27 January 1865, 2

**SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.**

Up to 8 p. m. last evening, no telegraphic intelligence of SHERMAN'S movements have been received.

A gentleman who arrived in the city last evening by the Savannah Railroad, reports that brisk skirmishing was going on yesterday morning at S. Krahatchie.

Heavy firing was also heard in the direction of Adam's Run, but we have not heard the cause.

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**SIXTH MATTER—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVENTH DAY.**

Everything was quiet in the harbor on Thursday. There are now eight monitors inside the Bar.

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28 January 1865, 1

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**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVENTH DAY.**

Lieutenant DUNN and five men belonging to the Yankee gunboat "Dia Ching," were brought to the city Friday. The "Dia Ching" was cruising up the Combahee Thursday and got aground, when our batteries upon her and set her on fire. The boat was burned to the water's edge. The crew, with the exception of the prisoners above mentioned, escaped in small boats.

These prisoners report the monitor recently sunk on Sullivan's Island by our torpedoes was the "Patapsco." She carried a crew of three hundred men, only five of whom were saved. All the rest were drowned.

Another monitor left the fleet Friday, and sailed South, leaving only seven now inside the bar.

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28 January 1865, 2

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**SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHTH DAY.**

We have no incidents to report this morning, excepting the destruction of a Yankee gunboat on the Combahee river. She was called the *Duc*. A Lieutenant and five men belonging to her were brought to the city yesterday. It appears that the boat was steaming up the Combahee on Thursday, and got aground, when our batteries promptly opened fire upon her, and she was burned to the water's edge. All the crew escaped, excepting the six we have mentioned.

These prisoners state that the Monitor recently sunk by a torpedo off Fort Sumter, was the *Palapasco*, with a crew of three hundred men, all of whom, excepting five, found a watery grave.

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WE HAVE no further intelligence of the movements of SHERMAN.

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YESTERDAY was generally admitted to be the coldest day, so far, of the season.

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30 January 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHTH DAY.**

Nothing has occurred since our last report to disturb the usual quiet in our harbor.

On Saturday night a party of Yankees landed on Little Britain Island, near Legare's, but were driven off. Three Yankee gunboats were reported lying close in to White Point Sunday, while a river steamer was engaged in sounding the entrance to Dakoo river.

On the coast below our lines the enemy are reported burning all the country residences on their route, and destroying everything as they go. During last week they carried off forty of Mr. BLAKE's negroes.

A dispatch from Georgetown Saturday reports that the Yankee fleet off that harbor had increased.

**FROM THE ROAD.**—The enemy on the West side of the Savannah river at last accounts were reported moving in two columns on all the roads leading to Augusta. They had reached Springfield Saturday. No Yankee gunboats were reported at Sister's Ferry Saturday.

A dispatch received Sunday, dated January 28th, says: "Our scouts report the enemy's infantry camped near Ennis Cross Roads. This force had their wagon trains with them. It was not known which way they would march, as the force and wagons were moving in both directions."

A reconnoitering party of the enemy appeared within four miles of Robertsville, S. O., Saturday morning.

It is generally believed that SHERMAN has commenced a movement on Branchville.

There will be service in St. Paul's Church at eleven A. M.

**FIRE.**—The alarm of fire, about eight o'clock on Sunday evening, was caused by the breaking out of a fire in the fine three story brick residence of Mr. DANIEL HEYWARD, Southwest corner of East Bay Battery and Atlantic streets. All the wood work of the building was consumed. A person, who is supposed to have set the building on fire, has been arrested.

**ARRIVAL HOME.**—We were pleased Sunday to meet our old friend and fellow-citizen Captain JAMES E. EVANS, who has just returned after a long and arduous service aboard the "Alabama." Captain Evans was with the "Alabama" from her inception to the close of her famous career.

# The Charleston Mercury.

30 January 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S COLUMNS IN MOTION.

Whatever else the peace reports may have effected, they certainly have not availed to halt the columns of SHERMAN, who have now fairly left Savannah.

At last accounts his main force was moving in two columns along the west bank of the Savannah river, in the direction of Augusta. Two Yankee gunboats lay anchored at Sister's Ferry.

Another force, fully provided with wagons, &c. was camped near Ennis' Cross Roads, on the road leading to Grahamville, and on the road leading to Sister's Ferry. A reconnoitering party was reported within four miles of Robertville.

A small force of the enemy landed on Little Britain on Saturday night, but were soon driven off. The fleet at Georgetown is said to have been considerably increased.

Nothing further worthy of mention has occurred in the harbor since our last report.

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THE FIRE about eight o'clock last evening broke out in the residence of Mr. D. HEYWARD, on the S. W. corner of East Bay Battery and Atlantic street. The firemen were soon on the spot and exerted themselves to the utmost, but despite all their efforts the house was thoroughly gutted by the flames, nothing but the brick walls being left standing. The fire made no progress beyond the dwelling in which it originated.

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THE UP COUNTRY MAILS — We received yesterday the back mails from Spartanburg, Greenville, Anderson, Abbeville and the other districts depending mainly for their mail connections on the Greenville and Columbia Railroad. By this source we also get information that a heavy mail, including the accumulations of seventeen days had reached that section from Columbia. — We do not know the means or route by which the Postoffice authorities have arranged to forward these delayed mails either way; but inasmuch as we hear that the repairs on the Greenville Railroad are still far from completion, we trust that the temporary arrangement by which the mails of yesterday reached us, will be continued, so as to let us have at least a semi-weekly connection between the upper and lower sections of the State.

# The Charleston Mercury.

30 January 1865, 2

**GENERAL IN-CHIEF OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMIES.**—The following is the bill providing for the appointment of General in-Chief which was passed by Congress in secret session:

An Act to provide for the appointment of a General in-Chief of the armies of the Confederate States.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an officer who shall be known and designated as "General in-Chief," who shall be the ranking officer of the army, and, as such, shall have command of the military forces of the Confederate States.

Sec. 2. That the act providing a staff for the General who may be assigned for duty at the seat of Government, is hereby repealed, and that the General in Chief, who may be appointed under the provisions of this act shall have a staff not less than that now allowed a General in the field, to be assigned by the President, or be appointed by him, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GEN. JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON.**—The following joint resolution was passed by both Houses of Congress in secret session. The secrecy being now removed, we are able to publish it:

*Resolved* (the House of Representatives concurring), That if the President shall assign Gen. Joseph E. Johnston to the command of the Army of Tennessee it will be hailed with joy by the army and will receive the approval of the country.

31 January 1865, 1

Stage of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH DAY.

Nothing of importance occurred in the harbor during the day. About eleven o'clock last night some heavy firing was heard at sea, the cause of which was not ascertained.

FROM THE ROAD -- A dispatch dated near Lawtonville, January 29, via Branchville, January 30, says: "The enemy occupied Robertsville yesterday with a considerable force of infantry and encamped there." Another dispatch reports the enemy crossing at Sister's Ferry. Two Yankee gunboats were at Sister's Ferry for the purpose, it is supposed, of covering the crossing over of the troops to the South Carolina side of the river. Two corps of the enemy are believed to be marching on Branchville. Foster's troops are reported moving in co operation.

How the Enemy obtain Information.

We learn from a paragraph in the Richmond "Whig," that detective REXON, and some two or three of his colleagues, have succeeded in making a most important arrest. For some time they have suspected JOHN PERRY and GEORGE A. SPENCER, South Carolinians, attached to GARY's Brigade, of piloting refugees to the Yankee lines. Occupying the position of scouts, they had ample opportunity and unusual facilities for conducting their disloyal and unpatriotic operations. On Thursday night last these men were overhauled by the detectives in a house of ill fame, kept by one THOMAS, in Lombard alley, where they were arranging with a man named JOHNSON to carry him into the Yankee lines for \$1000. On arresting PERRY and SPENCER, forged passes to come to Richmond were found on their persons. The detectives say these men belong to a band in GARY's cavalry, who for months past have been engaged in carrying refugees to KAUTZ's headquarters. They were to have carried off several parties Thursday night, and among them one of the public men of Richmond, who is well known, but the "Whig" suppressed his name for the present. PERRY and SPENCER have been committed to Castle Thunder. Another paper states that they had a large letter mail on their persons for various parties in Yankee dole-dore.

We see by late Northern papers that General GRANT is regularly posted in regard to all movements of troops in Richmond, and the situation of affairs generally. At this we are not surprised. When men from our own ranks, supposed to be especially reliable, and therefore privileged beyond the masses, as to carry all the information they possess to the enemy and bring none to our officers, but such as is no doubt false and unre-

liable, it gives our foes an advantage which to them is incalculable. At a period of the war when the newspapers were less cautious than now, we were informed by a Confederate officer of high rank, that a distinguished Federal commander had offered as high as \$100 in gold for the latest Richmond or Petersburg paper. But the newspapers never could have imparted the information that these emissaries have done, even had they been base enough to so damage our cause.

It is well known that there has not been a change made in the disposition of troops around Richmond during the past three months, that information of the fact did not immediately find its way to GRANT's headquarters. The correspondence between GRANT and BUTLER, relative to the first expedition to Wilmington, revealed this fact. But no one could imagine how the Yankee Lieutenant-General became so well posted. It is now apparent. We hope our officers will be more cautious in the selection of scouts. Too much care and circumspection in this respect cannot be observed. Unreliable men, who would betray their trust for a few pieces of silver or gold, have it in their power to place our cause in extreme peril. Let GRANT know the intentions and movements of Gen. LEE and the game is in his own hands. Disastrous results are inevitable, and our fate already sealed.

STREET CORNER GENERALS. -- We have too many street corner generals, and they spoil you if not, says the Columbus "Sun." "I told you so," is a favorite expression when any disaster occurs. They are regular "know it all" after a victory is won, and can always tell you exactly how a defeat could have been avoided, when the army has retreated. Their valuable knowledge and extensive attainments are never paraded before him. They are enough to drag down the hopes of the most buoyant, and throw a dark shadow over the most bright and alluring picture. They stand upon a corner catching every breath that blows, regaling with additions every lie that's whispered, slandering everything, and abusing everybody, except their own glorious selves. What a pity it is that our country should lose the invaluable knowledge of the street corner gentry. If they will go to the front with a musket on their shoulder, if they didn't illustrate too much venality and sin, they might do some good. Now they do nothing but darken the hopes of the confident. Congress ought by all means to put these gentry in the ranks, even if it required special legislation.



# The Charleston Mercury.

31 January 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S ADVANCE TOWARDS BRANCHVILLE.

A despatch from Lawtonville, dated January 29th, via Branchville, January 30th, says: "The enemy occupied Robertville yesterday, with a considerable force of infantry, and encamped there."

Another despatch, dated January 30th says: "The Yankees are crossing from the Georgia side of the Savannah river, at Sister's Ferry."

The Northern papers bring us some interesting paragraphs about SHERMAN. A despatch from Washington says:

The government is hourly in expectation of receiving important information from General Sherman. Parties here thoroughly posted in regard to his plans and purposes are confident there is nothing that can impede the triumphant carrying out of his entire programme, which will prove vastly more damaging to the Confederacy than his former campaigns.

The Washington correspondent of the Tribune writes:

One of the results of Secretary Stanton's visit to Savannah is to solve a doubt as to the soundness of Gen. Sherman on the slavery question. This soldier's views and policy are those of the government. His treatment of the negroes of Savannah has inspired them with confidence, and they rely on him wholly. He has borne in his heart a great scheme for the benefit of their race in Georgia, and it is understood here that the country will be electrified in a few days by an order from him partitioning among them the abandoned sea island property of fugitive rebel planters, and establishing them in their new freeholds, and laying the foundation of a new social condition in the South, whose superstructure but few politicians in the country are now permitted clearly to see.

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1 February 1865, 1

**SIEGE OF CHARLESTON--**  
**FIFTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH DAY.**  
 A double turreted Monitor made her appearance among the fleet inside the Bar Tuesday morning. The crews of the Monitors were observed Tuesday very busy drilling and exercising with field pieces on deck.  
 No movements of importance were observed on Morris Island. Considerable firing was heard in the direction of S. W.

**ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS.**—All the movements of the enemy indicate Augusta and Branchville as their points of destination. The Twentieth Army Corps occupy Robertville. The Fourteenth Army Corps crossed Sister's Ferry Monday. Our scouts report a heavy force of infantry, artillery and cavalry encamped Monday night near the junction of Salkehatchie and Old Union roads. This force is believed to be the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps. They had crossed McLeod's Mill creek, and were engaged in repairing a bridge at that point.

About ten o'clock Monday morning the enemy advanced with a considerable force of infantry and artillery from White Point, and drove in our skirmish line three miles to King's Creek. At three P. M. our troops advanced and drove them back to White Point, re-establishing our picket line where it was in the morning.

Tuesday the enemy made a demonstration on our position at the pontoon bridge across the Salkehatchie, but retired without effecting anything.

The enemy, it is reported, burnt McPhersonville on Monday night. They are also reported erecting a battery near Salkehatchie for the purpose, as is supposed, of shutting the rail road at point.

## The Call to Prayer.

We begin a new month with the day of the week (Wednesday) especially appropriated to prayer and penitence in one of the Old Books for many ages, and associated in many minds with a special observance of joint prayer in and for this city since this war opened.

The great Apostle of the Gentiles, a man and thinker and scholar deeply versed in Scripture lore, and in all the good and certain teachings and traditions of the people to whom were committed the "oracles of God," wrote concerning the latter volume of the Bible, "whatsoever things were written aforetime, were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

He wrote and thought Paul concerning the "New Testament." In all the lessons, and instances and examples given in these books that were "written aforetime," by holy men "as they were

moved by the Holy Spirit," there is no trait, or phrase, or characteristic of the God Jehovah, the Holy One and Saviour and Redeemer of Israel, given more emphatically and prominently, than his readiness and promptness in hearing and answering prayer.

The New Testament indeed has added many illustrations and instances of this character, as it has, to all Christians accepting it, given new revelations of the Divine purpose and character and plan; but the testimony of St. Paul, as to the fullness and sufficiency of the Scriptures, referred to the Old Testament, and we need not go further to find proofs and instances of God's character or willingness to hear and answer prayer, and special prayer. Many men in these days, in apparently appreciating the New Testament, have virtually if not openly and avowedly neglected the Old Testament, which, in many features of historical exhibition and explanation of God's plans and dealings with and over nations, is not superseded or repealed by the New Testament.

The books of Moses, the Psalms of David, and other inspired lyrics, and the other prophecies of the elder roll of Scripture, have a permanent and permanent and vital and enduring truth, value and significance, which, however enlarged or explained in some doctrines and passages by the later revelation, are not superseded or rejected or rendered obsolete.

For the convenience of readers who have only their Bibles at hand, and no concordances or dictionaries, and yet wish to consult a few of the Bible instances, precepts and examples for prayer, and especially public and social prayer, we annex a few references out of many that could be given, and beg attention to them, or some of them, now taken only from the Old Testament:

Psalms 5th, 2d; 10th, 17; 65th, 2; 99th, 6. Isaiah 58th, 9, 10th, 7, 2d; Chronicles, 7th, 14, 16. Exodus 20th, 24. Joshua, 7th, 8, 9. Chronicles, 29th, 10, 19. 2d Chronicles, 6th, 2d; Chronicles, 10th, 5, 13. Nehemiah, 9th. Genesis, 18th, 23, 32. Genesis, 21st, 12, 14. Exodus, 6th, 12. 1st Samuel, 7th, 5.

Many others could readily be given, but we prefer giving a list not too long to deter readers who have not examined the subject in the light of the Bible testimony and teaching. Any one who enjoys the acquaintance and fellowship and society of a faithful, praying friend or a relative can find instances and examples in proof in actual experience and history, confirming all that is stated in the Bible.

We invite attention and attendance for the notices for the day as given elsewhere.

1 February 1865, 1

Treason on the Tainted Gale.

In former times, when there were one or two axed ideas, and one or two facts, which were recognized as facts by all—one would have been bold to have announced the proposition that 2 and 2, when added together, made four. We do not assert the fact this morning. Nevertheless there are one or two people left who still entertain that opinion. To these individuals we beg leave to address a few remarks, on matters now pending, of the last moment, to them and theirs. We desire to add 2 and 2 together, and present the proposition to their consideration.

It is now several months since the proposition was first broached (in some of the Richmond papers) that the Government should purchase two hundred and fifty thousand negro men and place them in the army. The inducement to be held out to them to fight on our side, was their personal freedom after the war, and that of their families. We have been to the pains to point out what all this talk means—that it means abolitionism, nothing more nor less. It is a cheap way of getting rid of the whole question. It means this, or it means nothing; and is nothing but the clamor of people crazy with panic and delirium. In a point of fact it is a compound made up of both ingredients. We cannot pause now to argue with Minuties, but with the Southern Abolitionist, we have some things to say.

We think we have conclusively shown heretofore, that this abolition programme is, as a war measure, monstrous in its absurdity; that the Yankees can out bid us at every step; that during the war we have nothing to offer the negro, but hard fighting, hard discipline, hard fare, and hard bullets; that, on the other hand, the Yankees will promise them many soft places in barracks and garrisons—and, to those in the field, a plenty of grog, beef, bacon, and good clothes—and after the war perfect equality, and the sold they are used to for their own. Nobody born in this climate is so ignorant of negro nature as not to know on which side he must, per force of nature, fight. We have said, and we repeat, that the programme, if effected, will simply take two hundred thousand good musketeers out of the Confederacy, two hundred thousand good corn producers out of the field, (every one of whom is now needed,) and will place two hundred thousand negro troops, already armed and drilled, into the Yankee army.

We think we have likewise shown that the proposition is still more monstrous in its political, social, and economical bearing upon the Cotton States at least of this Confederation.—We have argued this point too fully heretofore to require further remarks now.

Now it has been fully stated by the Virginia papers and others, that General ROBERT E. LEE is an advocate of this measure, if not its author. The Governor of Virginia has endorsed the policy and called for the enforcement of the programme. Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS has likewise illuminated the subject with his half way approval, hinting clearly at a further entire approval of the measure in the course of time, and in the progress of human events. Those facts are matters requiring our gravest and almost consideration. General LEE is a most noble gentleman, one that any country might well be proud to claim as her own. He is a man *sans peur*, *sans reproche*. He is a brave and an accomplished soldier, and a true patriot at heart—looking at matters from his stand point. But General LEE's stand-point is from the black but healthy hills of Virginia, with the training and association of an old United States army officer. Nor does it follow that Gen. LEE is particularly deeply versed in the sciences of politics. Good soldiers make notoriously bad statesmen. And we have learned bitterly to our cost

that statesmen of very fair attainments make most bungling Generals. One half of these political Generalisees "a lion in their path," at every bend in the high road? The other half, between liquor and ignorance of military affairs, can't learn the difference between an entrenched line and a cattle fence. However great and good a man and soldier General LEE may be, therefore, we beg leave altogether to disclaim confidence in him as a statesman, resting solely upon his own conclusions. Our stand-point is from under a tropical sun, from the rich, but malarious regions of the South—those regions that make all that produce upon which, directly or indirectly, all other labor, and all other property here depends. Governor SMITH speaks for what he conceives to be the interests of Virginia. Mr. DAVIS, from what he conceives to be his own.

We are to be clearly understood in this matter. We do not mean to charge upon the whole State of Virginia or other States the opinions of individuals. Although Governor SMITH is the Governor of Virginia, he is not the State of Virginia, and cannot dictate to her.—And although Governor SMITH may counsel measures touching the most vital interest of her more Southern sisters—the institution of slavery—it does not follow that the State of Virginia will follow that ignoble counsel. We, therefore, charge nothing at present upon the non-cotton producing States, as States, but when such talk comes to us from those States, from so many high sources, it becomes a matter that requires consideration on the part of those, the very life-blood of whose prosperity, and all whose future decency amongst nations depends upon the issue of the proposition.

Again: Three gentlemen, we are told, have gone to Washington on a peace commission. What sort of men are they? 1st. There is Mr. HUNTER, a gentleman of rare ability and fine acquirements, but a man admitted by his best friends to be singularly deficient in force of will and purpose. 2d. There is Mr. CAMPBELL, a gentleman likewise of fine abilities and attainments, but said to be a friend of Mr. DAVIS—and we all know what that means. The ability of Mr. STEPHENS needs no comment. But we all know that the long-continued mal-administration of the Executive had driven Mr. STEPHENS very far upon the verge of despair for the success of the cause.

What, then, is this commission after? What are we to look for? At this distance, it is of course impossible to say. It is nevertheless hinted about that two propositions are under consideration. The one from LINCOLN, upon the basis of reunion, offering a twenty or thirty years leave for slavery, provided at the expiration of that time we all fall into the abolition ranks. The other is said to be one indirectly from France and England offering to recognize us on the 4th March, upon the proviso of immediate abolition. In either case, it is proposed to grind the life blood out of the Cotton States, between the upper and the nether mill stones. Both are ruin—the last the most fatal and irrevocable, peculiarly, socially, politically.

Two and two in old times used to make four. If either of those proposals be closed with on the part of our Government, it will be plain to all men that Mr. DAVIS will have that knocked the Confederacy in the head, then tied it hand and foot, and sold it out to the highest bidder. If these rumors (which may prove to be altogether idle) shall be based upon a shadow of truth, the time may have come, for the Cotton States to deliberate together upon their future destinies.

# The Charleston Mercury.

1 February 1865, 1

GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE.

The injunction of secrecy having been removed, we lay before our readers the action of the General Assembly of Virginia, recommending the assignment of Gen. ROBT. E. LEE to the command of all the military forces of the Confederate States, and the reply of the President to the letter of the presiding officers of the two Houses, who communicated the resolutions adopted, in secret session, by the General Assembly:

RICHMOND, January 17, 1865.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, JEFFERSON DAVIS,

President of the Confederate States:

Sir: In compliance with the request of the General Assembly of Virginia, we communicate to you, confidentially, the enclosed resolution:

The General Assembly, with sincere confidence in your patriotic devotion to the welfare of the country, desire in this critical period of our affairs by such suggestions as occur to them and by the dedication, if need be, of the entire resources of the Commonwealth to the common cause, to strengthen your hands and to give success to our struggle for liberty and independence.

Should it be your wish to have a personal interview with us on this subject, it will give us pleasure to call on you at such time and place as you may designate.

We are, very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

JAMES F. JOHNSON,

President *(pro tem)* of the Senate.

HUGH W. SHAWNEY,

Speaker House of Delegates.

*Resolutions Adopted January 17, 1865.*

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of the General Assembly of Virginia, the appointment of Gen. Robert E. Lee to the command of all the armies of the Confederate States would promote their efficiency and operate powerfully to re-animate the spirits of the armies, as well as of the people of the several States; and to inspire increased confidence in the final success of our cause.

*Resolved*, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates communicate confidentially to the President of the Confederate States.

Unanimously agreed to by both Houses of the General Assembly.

A copy from the Rolls.

Teste: WM. F. GORDON, JR.,  
C. H. D. and K. of R. of Va.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Richmond, January 18, 1865.

Messrs JAMES F. JOHNSON,

President *(pro tem)* of Virginia Senate,

And HUGH W. SHAWNEY,

Speaker of Virginia House of Delegates.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your joint letter of 17th inst., enclosing a resolution of the General Assembly of Virginia, passed on the 17th instant, and communicated to me in confidence, as directed by the Assembly.

This resolution informs me that, "In the opinion of the General Assembly of Virginia, the appointment of General Robert E. Lee to the

command of all the armies of the Confederate States would promote their efficiency and operate powerfully to re-animate the spirits of the armies, as well as of the people of the several States, and to inspire increased confidence in the final success of our cause."

In your communication you kindly assure me that "the General Assembly, with sincere confidence in my patriotic devotion to the welfare of the country, desire in this critical period of our affairs, by such suggestions as occur to them, and by the dedication, if need be, of the entire resources of the Commonwealth to the common cause, to strengthen my hand, and give success to our struggle for liberty and independence."

This assurance is to me a source of the highest gratification; and while conveying to you my thanks for the expression of the confidence of the General Assembly in my sincere devotion to our country and the sacred cause, I must beg permission, in return, to bear witness to the uncalculating, unhesitating spirit with which Virginia has, from the moment when she first drew the sword, consecrated the blood of her children and all her material resources to the achievement of the object of our struggle.

The opinion expressed by the General Assembly in regard to General R. E. Lee has my full concurrence. Virginia cannot have a higher regard for him, or greater confidence in his character and ability than is entertained by me. When Gen. Lee took command of the Army of Northern Virginia, he was in command of all the armies of the Confederate States by my order of assignment. He continued in his general command, as well as in the immediate command of the Army of Northern Virginia, as long as I could resist his opinion that it was necessary for him to be relieved from one of these two duties. Ready as he has ever shown himself to be, to perform any service that I desired him to render to his country, he left it for me to choose between his withdrawal from the command of the army in the field, and relieving him of the general command of all the armies of the Confederate States.

It was only when satisfied of the necessity that I came to the conclusion to relieve him from the general command, believing that the safety of the capital and the success of our cause depended, in a great measure on their retaining him in the command in the field of the Army of Northern Virginia.

On several subsequent occasions, the desire on my part to enlarge the sphere of General Lee's usefulness, has led to renewed consideration of the subject, and he has always expressed his inability to assume command of other armies than those now confided to him, unless relieved of the immediate command in the field of that now opposed to General Grant.

In conclusion I assure the General Assembly that whenever it shall be found practicable by Gen. Lee to assume the command of all the armies of the Confederate States without withdrawing from the direct command of the Army of Northern Virginia, I will deem it promotive of the public interests to place him in such command, and will be happy to know that by so doing, I am responding to their expressed desire.

It will afford me great pleasure to see you, gentlemen, as proposed in your letter, whenever it may be convenient for you to visit me.

I am, very respectfully and truly yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Charleston Mercury.

1 February 1865, 2

SHERMAN'S ADV. NOE.

indications we get there is little  
SHERMAN is striking for some point  
of the South Carolina Railroad be-  
tween Greenville and Augusta. His attack  
is directed against either of the two places.  
The more general impression is that  
he favors to cut the road somewhere in  
the neighborhood of Midway, west of Branch-

Our reports report the Yankees to be en-  
tirely a heavy force, including infantry, cav-  
alry, artillery, near the junction of the  
new and Old Union Roads. The force  
is believed to consist of the Fif-  
teenth and Seventeenth Army Corps.

Early in the morning a considerable body of  
troops advanced from White Point and drove  
our skirmish line. Later in the day they  
were driven back, and our outposts re-estab-

In the afternoon a feeble demonstration was  
made against our position near the pontoon  
crossing the Salkahatchie, but the assail-  
ants retired.

It is reported that the enemy burned Mc-  
Clellan's camp on Monday night.

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One of the fires yesterday afternoon was  
the burning out of a foul chimney  
No. 8.

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2 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIRST DAY.**

The atmosphere was too hazy for observations Wednesday. We are, therefore, without our usual report.

**SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.**—A dispatch dated Lawtonville, January 31st, says: "The 20th Army Corps is now near Robertville. One division marched up on the Georgia side, crossing the river at Sister's Ferry. The 14th Army Corps is still in Georgia, near Sister's Ferry. Some prisoners taken say they are marching to Augusta, others to Branchville and Charleston. Prisoners taken this evening think Branchville is the point. The enemy are burning all good houses in their line of march. The enemy bring their forage and other supplies to Sister's Ferry on transports."

A dispatch from Adam's Run, February 1st, says: "All quiet here to-day. Two gunboats are lying off White Point."

**PRISONERS.**—Four Yankee prisoners taken by our scouts near Salkahatchie, were brought to the city Wednesday. Two negroes, who say they belong to Mr. WILLIAMS MIDDLETON, were also brought in.

**LIST OF SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICERS CAPTURED AT FORT FISHER.**—The Wilmington "Journal," of the 30th ult., contains a full list of the officers captured at Fort Fisher. The following South Carolinians are among them:

D G Debesé, Chaplain, 21st South Carolina Volunteers.

E B Green, Captain 21st South Carolina Volunteers.

Thomas Ford, Captain 21st South Carolina Volunteers.

W B Baker, Captain 21st South Carolina Volunteers, wounded slightly.

E E W McElise, 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant South Carolina Volunteers, wounded.

W D Woodbury, 1st Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

J C Clements, 1st Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

S D Sanders, 1st Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

H B White, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

H Wilson, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

D R McIvor, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers, wounded slightly.

F Rivers, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

W D Cook, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers, wounded slightly.

T D Zimmerman, Lieutenant South Carolina Volunteers.

C Logan, Captain 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

J T Izler, Captain 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

A J Mims, 1st Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

J M Pendegast, 1st Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

J Graves, Lieutenant 26th South Carolina Volunteers.

E R Rush, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

J E Prince, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

E J Norris, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

W D Cutchett, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

W Salters, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

W W Wise, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

R F Felder, Lieutenant 25th South Carolina Volunteers.

H K Hucks, Captain 11th South Carolina Volunteers.

J P Mims, Lieutenant 11th South Carolina Volunteers.

Z T Adams, Captain 13th South Carolina Light Battery.

O H Latham, Lieutenant 13th South Carolina Light Battery.

**ARRIVAL OF YANKEE PRISONERS.**—A batch of seven gentlemen of exure-colored clothes and negro stealing proclivities were brought to Augusta on Monday evening on the Waynesboro train. They were captured by our scouts near Sister's Ferry, and report themselves as belonging to a Yankee gunboat. They also report that an attempt was being made to cross a column of the enemy over the Savannah River at the ferry, from the Georgia to the South Carolina side.

The Charleston Mercury.

2 February 1865, 2

**THE ACCOUNTS FROM SHERMAN.**

A despatch from Lawtonville, dated January 31st, says: "The Twentieth Army Corps is now near Robertville. One division marched up on the Georgia side, and crossed the river at Sisters' Ferry. The Fourteenth Army Corps is still in Georgia, near Sisters' Ferry."

"Some of the prisoners say they are marching to Augusta, and others to Branchville, and Charleston. Prisoners taken this evening think Branchville the point aimed at."

"The Yankees are burning all good houses."

"The enemy bring all their forage and other supplies to Sisters' Ferry on tow boats."

A despatch from Adams' Run, dated February 1st, says: "All quiet here to-day. Two boats are lying off White Point."

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# The Charleston Mercury.

2 February 1865, 2

## Tribute of Respect.

ARTILLERY CROSS ROADS, James Island, }  
January 25th, 1865. }

At a special meeting of the Palmetto Guard Artillery, Company A, B. O. Siege Train, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

It appertaineth to our duty as a body of Soldiers, to pay the last tribute of respect to a deceased comrade. The premature and unexpected demise, in the full bloom of youth, of our associate in arms, Private T. H. LAROU. SALIERE, calls forth that deep, manly regret so consistent with our profession, void of any vain eulogy.

The sad national calamity in which we are involved has entailed not only to collective bodies, but to individuals, deep pangs that rends the heart and assures us more imperatively as to the uncertainty of life.

The solons of our country having decided that the only alternative for maintaining legitimate right was by the arbitration of the sword, youth vied with those of more mature years in defending the ensign of our new born nationality, and none evinced more true patriotism than our deceased brother, whose memory we appreciate, from the first occupation by our corps of the advanced batteries on Morris Island, consummating the reduction of Fort Sumter, and finally in his alternate tour of duty along the extended picket line of the antique rivers Ashepo, Ocheaw and Combahee. Disease, so incidental to such localities, undermined his constitution, and he has fallen, though not where the brave have dared to die, amid the booming of the cannon, the din of musketry, and the clashing of bayonets, yet no more befitting requiem.

Rest, soldier, rest,

Nobly hast thou done thy duty."

Be it, therefore,

*Resolved*, That by the death of Private T. H. LAROUSALIERE, the service has lost a faithful soldier.

*Resolved*, That our profound regret, which is of no ordinary character, as also a copy of the preamble and resolutions, be forwarded to the bereaved family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the preamble and resolutions be forwarded to the Charleston Mercury for publication.

ROBT. E. MELLICHAMP, Chairman.

K. E. KNOTT, Secretary of the meeting.



The Charleston Courier.

3 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**  
**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SECOND DAY.**

With the exception of a few shots heard at 400 Wednesday night, all has been quiet since last report.

**Sherman's Movements.**

The enemy are believed to be pushing forward towards Branchville.

A dispatch from Broxton's Bridge, about half-past seven o'clock Wednesday night, says: "The enemy advanced to-day across Whippy Swamp, driving our cavalry on our left six miles to this place. They are supposed to be in heavy forces. A column of cavalry is on the Augusta road moving rapidly for some unknown point."

Another dispatch states that the enemy had possession of McBride's Bridge. Skirmishing was going on in front of Broxton's Bridge. KILPATRICK, with one brigade of cavalry, is reported moving in co-operation with the 17th Army Corps. There can be no doubt the enemy are trying to reach Branchville. All was quiet at Salkehatchie.

A dispatch from Adam's Run, February 2, says: "The enemy came up in two barges to Young's Island yesterday about noon, and drove in our pickets. They fired several buildings and plantations and retired this morning. There are three steamers off White Point and a landing is threatened."

# The Charleston Mercury.

3 February 1865, 1

## LATER FROM THE NORTH.

We have received Northern papers of the evening of the 23d instant. The news is unimportant.

### SINKING OF A MONITOR IN CHARLESTON HARBOR.

A letter from Hilton Head, South Carolina, dated the 17th, gives an account of the sinking of the monitor *Patapsco* in Charleston harbor by a torpedo. It says:

For some time past the navy has been engaged in removing torpedoes from Charleston harbor by dragging for them in small boats. Since the capture of Savannah, the work has been greatly increased, as the rebels have sown torpedoes in the harbor in the greatest number, to prevent the navy from aiding in the siege of Charleston that they expect Sherman to inaugurate. Last night, as usual, a number of boats were sent up to drag for these infernal machines, and the monitor *Patapsco*, Lieut. Commander Quackenbush, was sent up to a point near Fort Sumter to cover the boats. She came to an anchor, and the regular watches were stationed as usual at their respective places. Nothing unusual occurred until the *Patapsco* swung to an ebb tide, at about 2 o'clock this morning, when she passed over a torpedo, exploded it, and went to the bottom like a piece of lead, carrying down with her several officers and about sixty men. Five officers, Lieutenant Commander Quackenbush, Lieutenant Sampson, executive officer, Engineer Ryan and another engineer, and about twenty men on watch, were saved. Ensign Johnson, son of the fleet surgeon, was lost; the paymaster, surgeon, two watch officers and the balance of the engineers were lost.

3 February 1865, 2

**BURNHAM'S ADVANCE ON BRANCHVILLE  
ETC.**

BURNHAM'S latest movements leave little room for any further doubt that he is striking for Branchville or for some point in its neighborhood. The following despatch was received at headquarters yesterday:

SALKAHATCHIE, February 2

To Lieut. Col. T. B. Roy:

General McLaws despatches from Braxton's Bridge, last night at 7.40 o'clock, as follows: "The enemy advanced to day across Whippy Swamp, driving Colonel Colcock's cavalry on our left to within six miles of this place. He is supposed to be in heavy force. There is a column of cavalry on the Augusta road, moving rapidly for some unknown point. All quiet in my immediate front. Nothing new to report.

J. D. KENNEDY, Colonel Comd'g.

Later information states that the enemy had gained possession of McBride's Bridge. Skirmishing was going on in front of Braxton's Bridge. KILPATRICK with one brigade of cavalry, is reported moving in co-operation with the 17th Army Corps.

Gen. WRIGHT telegraphs officially from Adams' Run, as follows:

ADAMS' RUN, February 2.

To General Hardee:

The enemy came up in two barges to Young's Island, yesterday about noon, and drove in our pickets. They then fired several buildings and plantations, and retired this morning. There are three steamers off White Point, and a landing is threatened. Gen. MERRICK reports no enemy seen in three days. I have ordered him to send scouts across and find the enemy and report.

A. R. WRIGHT,

Major General.

HEAVY FIRING was heard at sea, off this harbor, on Wednesday night. Cause unknown. All else has been quiet.

4 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THIRD DIV.**

The enemy's batteries, about eight o'clock Friday morning, opened fire on the siege works. The firing was kept up at intervals during the day. No other movements of importance were observed.

**Sherman's Movements.**

Dispatches from Adam's Run and Salkehatchie report all quiet on those points. No dispatches were received from Broxton's Bridge.

Our scouts from Salkehatchie report there is only one division of the enemy remaining at Pocotaligo. It is composed solely of Foster's troops. One brigade is encamped on the road to Salkehatchie bridge, one on the road parallel to the river road, and one on the Mather's sonville road. They are very near Pocotaligo, and within easy supporting distance of each other. Very few troops are at Pocotaligo, and they are fortifying.

**LOSS OF THE STEAMER RATTLESNAKE**—The fine steamer "Rattlesnake," from Nassau (N. P.) in attempting to run the blockade off this port went ashore on Long Island about three o'clock Friday morning. She ran ashore about three miles from Battery Marshall, on Sullivan's Island. An unsuccessful effort was made to lighten her by throwing overboard a portion of the cargo. Finding his exertions hopeless, the Captain set fire to the vessel, and with the passengers and crew landed on Sullivan's Island. They arrived in the city Friday evening. Battery Marshall opened upon the blockader firing on the wreck, and protected the crew in their landing.

The "Rattlesnake" is said to be the consort of the "Tallahassee." Two-thirds of her cargo were on Government account, and consist of coffee, beans, &c. The passengers were Messrs. Cassius M. Clay, Scott and Dewey.

**GARDEN SEEDS**—The Ordnance Bureau has for sale, at the several Confederate Aeronauts, a variety of choice English Garden Seeds.

Among those offered for sale at the Columbia Arsenal are Peas, Radishes, Spinach, Onions, Turnips, Cabbages, Beets, Parsnips, Carrots, Celery, Lettuce, &c., at such prices as will but repay the cost of importation.

Parties wishing packages sent by express or through the postoffice, must send funds for freight or postage as well as for the seeds.

Mr. L. NEUMAYER, 673 King, opposite Columbus street, has advertised in the "Courier" fresh seeds from a nursery and farm in Sumter, S. C. We hope all who have supplies of well approved kinds, foreign or domestic, will give notice, and we respectfully invite and request special reports from any who have noted any new varieties.

Some things we can account for and some things we cannot account for. Among the latter we must candidly place the great and apparently sincere outcry in favor of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. For the life of us we do not know what Gen. Johnston has done.—*Wilmington Journal*.

He only took care of his men, and counted out at least 60,000 Yankees from Sherman's forces before he was relieved. That is about all—he took care of his men, and would not sacrifice an army uselessly for a city of speculators and monopolists. He thought that men, soldiers, citizens, even privates, were worth taking care of, and he would not throw away their lives to gratify bloodthirsty reporters who only estimate a victory or battle by the amount of slaughter. What Sherman did after Johnston's removal, and what Hood has done and lost, may answer further.

# The Charleston Mercury.

4 February 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

Our news of yesterday's movements was limited. The only news we received was from a despatch from Adams' Run, reporting all quiet. Another despatch from Salkehatchie, February 3d, says: Our scouts who went out this morning have returned. They report from their own observation and the intelligence gathered from citizens that there is only one division of the enemy remaining at Pocolaligo. It is composed solely of FOSTER's troops. One brigade is encamped on the road to Salkehatchie Bridge.— One on the road parallel to the river road, and one on the McPhersonville road. They are very near Pocolaligo and in supporting distance of each other. But very few troops are at Pocolaligo, and they are fortifying." No despatches were received from Broxton's Bridge up to a late hour last night.

## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THIRD DAY.

Batteries Gregg and Wagner opened fire about seven o'clock on the stranded steamer *Rattlesnake*, and fired some half dozen times. About noon they fired furiously for some fifteen minutes. Everything else was quiet.

LOSS OF A BLOCKADE-RUNNER.—The steamer *Rattlesnake*, from Nassau, while making for this harbor, on Thursday night, was run ashore on Long Island. She was abandoned by her crew, and was, we are informed, set fire to and destroyed. She was a similar ship to the *Tallahassee*. The Yankee gunboats were firing at her yesterday about 10 o'clock.

GENERAL TAX OFFICE.—LANNEAU gives notice to day that his office for the receipt of returns of taxable property in the Parishes of St. Philip's and St. Michael's will continue open until the 18th of this month. He requests property holders to apply immediately for the blank returns, as they contain most valuable information.

THE MARION RIFLES.—A private letter from a member of the Marion Rifles says the following members now comprise the Company:

Lieuts Hawkins and Smith; Sergeant Howe; Corporal T. Riggs; Privates Fludd, Thomas, Clarke, Dicks, Hazard, Simms and John Scott. Thos Doherty was slightly sick. Billy Carroll was killed at Ships' Gap, Dicks' Ridge. Serg't Jackson was wounded and fell in the hands of the enemy. The following were the captured at Ships' Gap along with Captain Steinmeyer: Privates Merten, J C H Brown and James Cook.

The captures at Nashville were Lieut. ROBINSON, Corporal ALLISON, Privates ESTELL, ERVIN, SCOTT, DONNELLY and DAVIS.

From Sergeant JACKSON, who, though badly wounded, having had his leg fractured, made his escape from the enemy and arrived in this city a few days ago, we learn that Lieut. ROBINSON is a prisoner at Johnson's Island, and that Privates HARRIS and T. HAMILTON are at Camp Chase.

6 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH DAY.**

Nothing of importance has occurred since last report, except two shots fired at the city.

**Sherman's Movements.**

The various and contradictory reports in circulation Saturday and Sunday caused considerable excitement and uneasiness in our community. The present position of affairs is certainly one of intense interest and anxiety, and we shall endeavor to keep the public as fully informed as the circumstances will admit.

Our citizens may rest assured that any news of importance reaching headquarters prudent to communicate, will not be withheld. This will enable us in a great measure to stop many of the false and absurd rumors daily set afloat.

On Friday afternoon the enemy crossed the Saltchatchie between Broxton's and River's Bridges, also, above the River Bridge, completely outflanking our forces and compelling them to retire upon Branchville.

A sharp fight, lasting several hours, took place at River's Bridge. General WHITELER kept the enemy in check and made considerable havoc among them in the fight. We have no details or particulars as to the respective losses on either side, but that of the enemy is known to have been heavy.

Our troops fell back to the second line of defenses. The enemy, at latest accounts, (Sunday evening) had not crossed River's Bridge.

The report that the 17th Army Corps were at Barnwell Court House Sunday with a large force of cavalry, was discredited in military circles last evening. The general impression, however, was that they would make an effort to gain the road sometime during the night. Up to a late hour the wires were working through to Augusta, and communication remained unbroken.

Heavy cannonading was reported by passengers to have been heard all day in the direction of Barbours. A number of prisoners were brought in Saturday and Sunday. They report that Sherman would make an attempt to cut the road at Midway.

Passengers to Augusta report that SHERMAN was advancing on Branchville in two columns, with about forty thousand men.

One transport and four of the enemy's barges landed a number of troops on Little Britain, and about two hundred men at Secret Post. About half-past two o'clock P. M. they advanced to King's Creek, and after skirmishing a short time retired. Our picket line was re-established.

**The Frontier and Interior Defence of the State.**

**Messrs. Editors**—Hard pressed as we are, our crops destroyed by our own soldiers as well as by the army of the enemy, is it not time to provide for the next crop, that we may continue this struggle until our object is attained. Can our people be so organized as to live as well as fight? Yes, by the rotation system in each State, an army can maintain itself. Let the Confederate Congress give back to the States all men over forty and under eighteen years of age, and let each State conscribe every man up to sixty and every boy within their respective districts. Let one-third of each company under its captain appointed by the Executive, or one Lieutenant, be on duty at a time, the other two-thirds at home attending to their business, (which is at least the business of the country,) you will in this way restore confidence to the army and have a home army in every State, that will rise as one man when the enemy enters its borders. But how is it now, Messrs. Editors. All conscripted, one hundred and fifty men detailed. A man gets a detail for thirty days, and before it is half out he is trying to get it extended, doing but little for himself or the Government. By the rotation system every man will know his place and be willing to take his turn. You can do away with your Conscript Bureau, and with detailing men to catch deserters, and with half of your Medical Board. The home men will do all that, do the police duty, and keep watch and ward, while they will carry on their farms and plantations. Friends will alternate with each other to attend to their homes while on duty.

Could such an organization have been formed from the Chesapeake to the Rio Grande at the beginning of the war, much of the coast now desolate would have still been supporting our people and Government. Then look at our transportation.

We began wrong. Let us adopt the rotation system, and our people will fight for fifty years, and when the Commissary fails we can find ourselves.

**COMMON SENSE.**

**Conner's Brigade.**

HEADQUARTERS SALTCHATCHIE,  
February 14, 1865.

**Editors Courier**—Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of thirty five pairs of socks for the soldiers of CONNER'S Brigade, from the ladies of Cheraw, S. C.

Such evidence of kind remembrance and consideration from the hands of the noble ladies of our State, cannot fail to be a source of pride and encouragement to the soldier's heart. Let them be assured that while their hopes and prayers continue to be enlisted in our cause and in its soldiers, they shall never want stout hearts and strong arms to struggle in their defence.

At home, bright eyes are sparkling for us,  
And we'll defend them to the last."

E. P. HARLLEE,  
A. A. A. O. CONNER'S Brigade.

6 February 1865, 1

**OUR UP-COUNTRY RAIL ROADS.**—We learn that a strong force is engaged in the repair and reconstruction of the Greenville Rail Road, and that the repairs have been completed to within a short distance of Blalston, fifteen miles from Columbia. It is expected that the road will be in running order from Greenville to Columbia by the 1st of March.

The trains now run daily from Alston to Greenville, leaving the former point at 8 P. M.

The mails for the several offices on the road are carried two or three times a week, by way of Wrensboro, in Government transportation wagons, to Alston. Much credit is due to Mail Agent MURPHY for the zeal and efficiency he has manifested in pushing through the mails, notwithstanding the many obstacles encountered by him on the route.

The Spartanburg branch of the road, for about twenty miles from Alston, is badly damaged, and some weeks will be required to complete the repairs to that point. In the meantime communication is kept up with the upper part of the road by a line of stages running from Blacksburg, on the Charlotte Rail Road every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, to Shelton, on the Spartanburg Rail Road. The proprietor richly deserves encouragement for his enterprise and public spirit in establishing the line.

The Anderson branch of the Greenville Rail Road is also badly injured, and we learn that no steps have as yet been taken by the company to repair the road. Passengers for Anderson, Pendleton, Walhalla, and intermediate points, have therefore, to depend upon private conveyance.

Those who have witnessed the extensive and serious character of the damages by the freshets to the South Carolina Rail Road in the vicinity of Kilesville, express much surprise that the road is in running order with so much promptitude, and award due praise to Superintendent [name], who had the skill to control an extraordinary [name] and [name] and [name]

The Charleston Courier.

6 February 1865, 2

**H** EADQUARTERS U. S. ARSENAL, CHARLESTON, S. C. FEBRUARY 6th, 1865.— WANTED, a reliable and energetic BUSINESS MAN, not liable to military service, as agent to collect from this community the military arms, accoutrements and equipments left by struggling or wounded soldiers, and those held by citizens as trophies, or for private defence.

Liberal wages will be paid, with the privilege of buying rations from the Government. Apply at once.

N. R. CHAMBLISS,

Major Commanding Arsenal.

February 6



# The Charleston Mercury.

6 February 1865, 1

## "Jeff. Davis at Sea" Again.

In the debate upon the proposition to put 40,000 slaves in the army as teamsters, &c., with the further purpose of arming them hereafter, Mr. TURNER, of North Carolina, made the following very caustic and pertinent remarks:

The country was beginning to learn that all the abolitionists were not in the North, and our own President had proposed abolition in a way that created suspicion as to his soundness.

Mr. Turner said it was time that Congress should express their opinion upon arming slaves, and stamp upon it the indelible stigma of public abhorrence.

Mr. Turner and the country had been too long and too often deluded and deceived by Presidential plans, projects and promises. No one of his prophecies had been fulfilled; no one of his projects or plans had proved successful.

Yet the President proposes new and dangerous schemes with unabated confidence in his own judgment.

Mr. TURNER is not far wrong when he says "our own President has proposed abolition in a way that created suspicion as to his soundness." Had he been more direct in his charge, he would have struck nearer to the mark. Mr. DAVIS is said to be without faith in the institution of African Slavery.

Some of our readers will perhaps remember that remarkable production of Mr. DAVIS, dubbed at the time "JEFF. DAVIS at Sea," which was made from some steamer in Yankee land, when he was desirous of being nominated by the Northern Democracy, in the place of Ex President BUCHANAN, for the then pending Presidency. The filial and pious love expressed by Mr. DAVIS on that occasion for the entire Northern people at large, but more especially and particularly for those of the Puritan stock, of the *May Flower* pedigree, was, indeed, quite touching. With what tenderness and fervor of mind his spirit knelt at the base of the Plymouth Rock! and how his heart swelled within him, (if our memory serves us rightly—and the record will show)—when he announced, with glorious pride, that he himself, happy man, could boast that he was descended on the female side, from the blood of the very *May Flower*—a very chip of the Plymouth Rock itself. With what paternal feelings, therefore, could he stretch out his arms over the whole of that New England people, and open his heart and his counsels to them—how he hated and despised all disunionists at the South, of every shade and every variety of opinion, from the bottom of his heart—how he described them as worthy only "to sit cheek by jowl with SEWARD, GRADLEY, PARKER, BROWDER and company." What were such unworthy men as YANNEY, BUTLER, CHEVY, MASON, BARNWELL, RHETT, GREGG, and hundreds of other able and earnest men in the South, to *Able* Puritanism and Plymouth Rock stock!

Now, it is true that Mr. DAVIS did afterwards, in Mississippi, deny that this speech was correctly reported in the Northern press. There is no doubt of that fact. Nor is there any doubt of another fact—namely, that that speech was taken down by half a dozen stenographic writers, for half a dozen different newspapers, and that the speech was reported to the same effect in each of these papers. Undoubtedly, although perhaps not precisely in every word uttered, Mr. DAVIS' speech was reported in substance.

But no man could be hung as a murderer on such proof as this, that Mr. DAVIS is a semi-abolitionist. Perhaps not.

The exaltation of an insatiable vanity, the urgings of a craving ambition, and the promptings of an unscrupulous nature, may have induced him to bend his knee to the Northern mob, to soothe them with flattery which he did not feel,

and to bespatter brave Southern men at home with dirty words, which he likewise did not himself believe. He is welcome to the only alternation that is left him from conviction of abolitionism. Mr. DAVIS is unfortunate in stenographic writers—witness that Macon speech.

But this is not all.

A singular conflict of opinions between Mr. DAVIS and Mr. STEPHENS, resulting in a concord of action, was freely spoken of during the first session of the Provisional Congress, at Montgomery, in 1861. In debate upon the formation of the Confederate Constitution, the Committee introduced a clause limiting the Confederation to such States as should be slaveholding States by their Constitutions. In other words, they contemplated a slaveholding Confederacy.

Upon this question, it was said that Mr. STEPHENS and Mr. DAVIS took diametrically opposite views, yet came to the same point in action. Both opposed the measure. Mr. STEPHENS took the ground that his faith was so implicit and so unbounded in the power of the institution of slavery, that he was unwilling to exclude free States from the Confederation, because he believed that in time they all would be slave States. Mr. DAVIS, on the other hand, opposed the measure, because he had no faith in the permanence and fixedness of the institution of slavery; he regarded it as an ephemeral thing, that had had perhaps its day of usefulness, but must now soon pass away before the progress of free labor.

Here we have the secret of much of Mr. DAVIS' political conduct. We have not heretofore thought proper to allude to these matters, because they were not properly germane to any present public conduct of Mr. DAVIS. But the time has come, when the Executive and certain men in Congress are beginning to talk about abolitionism, that it becomes proper the country should know who these men are, and what are the feelings which prompt the expression of such opinions. If Mr. CALHOUN was a statesman these men propose ruin. If he was an ignoramus—these men are wise, and *vice versa*.

Now, we say here, to Virginia, and we say to Congress, that the day when they attempt to liberate negroes to serve in the army, or for any other purpose, in parcels or in bulk, they will have driven the nail of JAIL into the temples of this weary and hard pressed Confederacy—and it will never rise again.

When we most need unity, these men, with their vicious counsels, propose discord. When we most need confidence and faith, these men propose to destroy both. We do not intend in these Cotton States to be uprooted and laid waste in all time, through the destruction of our institutions, in order to please the Abolition whims of unsound men. Slavery and Independence must stand together, or they must fall together. Kill the former, and the latter is already dead here. Stand by slavery to the end, and we in South Carolina will stand by the general Independence of the States to the end. This is our compact. And none other.

In fighting for our Independence, we are fighting for the whole of our Independence, not a part of it. Independence means the right and the power to make our own laws, and to administer our own institutions, according to our own judgment and good pleasure. This, and nothing else, is "Independence." To abandon our most essential institution, and to obliterate our most important laws, in order to please the enemy, is no Independence at all. It is to be whipped—and it is to abandon and give up that very thing for

which we began the fight.

This sort of independence we have no use for here. Sink or swim, live or die, we want all, or we want none. Independence—entire and complete independence—or subjugation, is the platform on which we stand.

The following bills, proposed by the Military Committee (upon which we have as yet seen no action taken by Congress) would, if made laws, go far to reform the service. We presume Congress is eating pinders, and is busy.

A Bill more effectually to prevent and punish Absenteeism and Desertion in the Army.

Section 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That every General commanding a department or separate army in the field, is hereby required to drop from the rolls any officer absent, without authority, for a longer period than thirty days.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That any regimental officer, who, in the opinion of the General commanding the department or separate army to which he belongs, shall willfully or carelessly neglect the comfort and care of his men, or exhibit an undue laxity or discipline, shall be punished by suspending him from his rank and from all pay and allowances for such time, not to exceed three months, as the General commanding the department or army may prescribe.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That any commissioned officer of the army, who shall knowingly recruit or receive into his command any private belonging to another command, or shall, after being informed of the fact, neglect to return such private to his command, or to deliver him up to the proper authorities charged with the arrest of deserters, within the State where such officer may be, shall be dropped from the rolls by the President, upon satisfactory proof that the offense specified in this section has been committed by him.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That any officer, non-commissioned officer or private, who shall desert from the army, shall, in addition to the penalties now provided by law, have his name recorded in the Adjutant General's office, upon a separate and distinct roll to be kept for the purpose, copies of which shall be sent, every three months, to the Governors of the respective States, and all the Generals in command of separate departments in the field.

A Bill to change the mode of filling Vacancies among Commissioned Officers of Companies, Battalions and Regiments.

Section 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That whenever a vacancy shall occur in the lowest grade of commissioned officer in any company in the army, the captain of the company shall nominate the person to fill the same, who, if approved by the Colonel of the regiment to which the company belongs, and by the general commanding the separate army or department in which the regiment is serving, shall be forthwith assigned by the general to the vacant position, subject to the subsequent appointment by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That whenever any vacancy above the lowest grade of commissioned officer, shall occur in a company, the lieutenant colonel, colonel or other commanding officer of the battalion or regiment, shall nominate the person to fill the same, who, if approved by the commander of the brigade to which the battalion or regiment belongs, and by the General commanding the separate army or department in which the brigade is serving, shall be forthwith assigned by the General to the vacant position, subject to the subsequent appointment by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That whenever any vacancy shall occur in the field officers of a battalion or regiment, the brigade commander shall nominate the person to fill the vacancy, who, if approved by the division commander, and by the General commanding the separate army or department in which the brigade is serving, shall be forthwith assigned by the General to the vacant position, subject to the subsequent appointment of the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That no person shall be nominated, assigned or appointed under the provisions of this act, to any commissioned office in a company, battalion or regiment, who does not belong to the battalion or regiment.

# The Charleston Mercury.

6 February 1865, 2

## SHERMAN'S ADVANCE—IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS.

The recent movements of the enemy have been much delayed by the recent rains. On Thursday last the hostile forces were on opposite banks of the Salkahatchie, our own troops having fortified the bridges and principal fords. Too much reliance, it seems, was placed upon the effectiveness of the river and the swamps which skirt it, as a bar to the enemy's progress. On Friday afternoon, the Yankees plunged, waist deep, into the stream, between Broxton's and Rivers' Bridges, and also above Rivers' Bridge, thus flanking our defensive positions with a heavy column on either side, and compelling our troops to fall back to Branchville, behind the Edisto. Previous, however, to our retreat, the fighting at Rivers' Bridge was quite sharp, and lasted several hours. It was rumored yesterday that the 47th Georgia Regiment had suffered severely at this point.

During Thursday WHEELER did good service, holding the enemy in check and inflicting severe damage upon him.

The Augusta train came through last evening, but the train from Charleston did not go farther than Branchville.

Our readers need not be surprised to hear to-day that SHERMAN has struck the main stem of the South Carolina Railroad, at some point above Branchville.

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## SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FOURTH DAY.

On Saturday one transport and four of the enemy's barges landed troops at Little Britain, and about 100 men at Secret Post. About 2½ o'clock p. m., they advanced to King's Creek, and after skirmishing for a short time, they retired, and our picket line was re-established.

The enemy threw two shells at the city on Saturday.

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7 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**  
**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THIRD DAY.**  
 The enemy's batteries about eight o'clock Friday morning, opened fire on the steamer "Rattlesnake." The firing was kept up at intervals during the day. No other movements of importance were observed.

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH DAY.**  
 Nothing of importance has occurred since last report, except two shots fired at the city.

**Sherman's Movements.**

Dispatches from Adam's Run and Salkehatchie report all quiet at those points. No dispatches were received from Broxton's Bridge.

Our scouts from Salkehatchie report there is only one division of the enemy remaining at Pocotaligo. It is composed solely of Foster's troops. One brigade is encamped on the road to Salkehatchie bridge, one on the road parallel to the river road, and one on the McPhersonville road. They are very near Pocotaligo, and within easy supporting distance of each other. Very few troops are at Pocotaligo, and they are fortifying.

The various and contradictory reports in circulation Saturday and Sunday caused considerable excitement and uneasiness in our community. The present position of affairs is certainly one of intense interest and anxiety, and we shall endeavor to keep the public as fully informed as the circumstances will admit.

Our citizens may rest assured that any news of importance reaching headquarters prudent to communicate, will not be withheld. This will enable us in a great measure to stop many of the false and absurd rumors daily set afloat.

On Friday afternoon the enemy crossed the Salkehatchie between Broxton's and River's Bridges, also above the River Bridge, completely outflanking our forces and compelling them to retire upon Branchville.

A sharp fight, lasting several hours, took place at River's Bridge. General WHEELER kept the enemy in check and made considerable havoc among them in the fight. We have no details or particulars as to the respective losses on either side, but that of the enemy is known to have been heavy.

Our troops fell back to the second line of defenses. The enemy, at latest accounts, (Sunday evening) had not crossed River's Bridge.

The report that the 17th Army Corps were at Barnwell Court House Sunday with a large force of cavalry, was discredited in military circles last evening. The general impression, however, was that they would make an effort to gain the road sometime during the night. Up to a late hour the wires were working through to Augusta, and communication remained unbroken.

Heavy reconnoitering was reported by passengers to have been heard all day in the direction of Hamlet. A number of prisoners were brought in Saturday and Sunday. They report that SUMNER would make an attempt to cut the road at Midway.

Passengers to Augusta report that SHERMAN was advancing on Branchville in two columns, with about forty thousand men.

One transport and four of the enemy's barges landed a number of troops on Little Britain, and about two hundred men at Secret Post. About half-past two o'clock P. M. they advanced to King's Creek, and after skirmishing a short time retired. Our picket line was re-established.

**LOSS OF THE STEAMER RATTLESNAKE.**—The fine steamer "Rattlesnake," from Nassau (N. P.) in attempting to run the blockade off this port, went ashore on Long Island about three o'clock Friday morning. She ran ashore about three miles from Battery Marshall, on Sullivan's Island. An unsuccessful effort was made to lighten her by throwing overboard a portion of the cargo. Finding his exertions hopeless, the Captain set fire to the vessel, and with the passengers and crew landed on Sullivan's Island. They arrived in the city Friday evening. Battery Marshall opened upon the blockader firing on the wreck, and protected the crew in their landing.

The "Rattlesnake" is said to be the consort of the "Tallahassee." Two-thirds of her cargo were on Government account, and consisted of coffee, bacon, &c. The passengers were Messrs. CASSIUS M. CLAY, SCOTT and DEWGIN.

**GARDEN SEEDS.**—The Ordnance Bureau has for sale, at the several Confederate Aeronauts, a variety of choice English Garden Seeds.

Among those offered for sale at the Columbia Arsenal are Peas, Radishes, Spinach, Onions, Turnips, Cabbages, Beets, Parsnips, Carrots, Celery, Lettuce, &c., at such prices as will but repay the cost of importation.

Parties wishing packages sent by express or through the postoffice, must send funds for freight or postage as well as for the seeds.

Mr. L. NEWMAN, 600 King, opposite Columbus street, has advertised in the "Courier" fresh seeds from a nursery and farm in Sumter, S. C. We hope all who have supplies of well approved kinds, foreign or domestic, will give notice, and we respectfully invite and request special reports from any who have tested any new varieties.

**SERIOUS RAIL ROAD ACCIDENT.**—About eight o'clock Saturday night a serious accident took place between Ross' and George's stations on the South Carolina Rail Road. A special train with General HANDESS and several other officers on board came in collision with a freight train, resulting in the death of Engineer BROOKHORN, and severely injuring Major BLACK and Conductor C. B. CLARK. We are happy to state that the General escaped with some slight bruises.

**MARION RIFLES.**—The following is an extract from a letter from Lieut. HAWKINS, dated January 16, 1865:

The following are those present for duty: Lieut. Hawkins, Smith, Serg't Howe, Corp'l T. Riggs, Privates Flood, Thomas, Clark, Broke, Hazard, Simons and John Scott. Private Dougherty, slightly sick, will be on duty in a day or two. Billy Carroll was killed at Ship Gap, Dick's Ridge. Captured at Ship Gap, along with Steinmeyer, Sergeant Jackson, (though severely wounded, made his escape from the enemy and arrived safely home;) Privates Martin, J. C. H. Brown and J. Cook. Captured at Nashville, Lieut. Robison, Corp'l Allison, Privates Attie, Irvin, Scott, Donnelly and P. Davis.

Some things we can account for and some things we cannot account for. Among the latter we must candidly place the great and apparently sincere outcry in favor of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. For the life of us we do not know what Gen. Johnston has done.—*Wilmington Journal*.

He only took care of his men, and counted out at least 50,000 Yankees from SUMNER's forces before he was relieved. That is about all—he took care of his men, and would not sacrifice an army uselessly for a city of speculators and monopolists. He thought that men, soldiers, citizens, even privates, were worth taking care of, and he would not throw away their lives to gratify bloodthirsty reporters who only estimate a victory or battle by the amount of slaughter. What SHERMAN did after Johnston's removal, and what HOOVER has done and lost, may answer further.

7 February 1865, 1

## The Governor of the State

### To the People of South Carolina.

The doubt has been dispelled. The truth is made manifest; and the startling conviction is now forced upon all. The invasion of the State has been commenced. Our people driven from their homes; their property plundered and destroyed; the torch and the sword displayed, as the fate to which they are destined. The threats of an insolent foe are to be carried into execution, unless that foe is checked and beaten back.

I call now upon the people of South Carolina to rise up and defend, at once, their own rights and the honor of their State. I call upon every man to lay aside selfish considerations, and prepare to do his duty to his State. Let the suggestions of ease and comfort become inglorious and unworthy; let those ends only be honorable which conduce to the defeat of the foe; let all who falter now, or hesitate, be henceforth marked. All who have lived under the protection of the State, who have nourished under its laws, and shared its prosperity, will gladly arm to protect it from subjection. If any seek escape from duty and danger at this time, let them depart. The hour approaches when all who are true to the State will be found in the ranks of those who arm in its defence. There is no room in the State but for one class of men; they are the men who will fight in her cause.

I give now timely warning to all. The period is near when private business must be for a season suspended. While there is yet time let all prepare to set their houses in order. Let us hope that the interval may be short in which we will pass from doubt to hope; let us feel that, as we grapple danger, we will pluck safety. In every district of the State the men will be organized. From a portion of these districts only will the militia be drawn. In others, more remote, it will be left for protection to persons and security to property. In such cases, the duty will be as imperative as in others, where the men are called from home.

In every quarter of the State, in every district, village and town, let the men stand with their arms in their hands. When required to move, let them do so with expedition and hope. Until required to move, let them be vigilant and prepared to repress disorder, and put down all violence.

It is the duty of every man to oppose all the resistance he can to the approach of the enemy. It is the command of the State that you shall do so. The foe now upon the soil of the State is here to kill; let him be killed. The foe now

upon the soil of the State is here to slay and loot; let him meet resistance unto death. That foe devotes us to a doom worse than death; let him receive the fate he designs for us.

If any one is so ignorant of the temper with which this war has been waged by the foe, as to suppose that resistance provokes punishment, which unarmed he would not incur, let him be unfeelingly undeceived. He is only safe who is armed; he is only spared who defends himself. The state, and not unsuccessful practice of the foe, is to protect freedom and punish punishment. The threat is always executed when he dares; the promise never. Moreover, the State, your country, requires you to arm in its defence. It is not given to any man or any men within its territories to choose whether they will arm or not. When a merciless foe is abroad ravaging the fields, wasting the property, taking the lives of the people, insulting the sovereignty, and impeaching the independence of the State; where the State plants its banner, there will all true men gather. When the State calls, as it now does, to arms, all will echo that call; all must obey that summons.

Remove your property from the reach of the enemy; carry what you can to a place of safety; then quickly rally and return to the field. What you cannot carry, destroy. Whatever you leave that will be of use to your foe, what he will not need, that will he destroy. Indulge no sickly hope that you will be spared by submission; terror will but whet his revenge. Think not that your property will be respected, and afterward recovered. No such feeling prompts him. You leave it but to support and sustain him; you save it but to help him on his course. Destroy what you cannot remove. He will make your return to your homes over a charred and blackened road; prepare you the same way for him as he advances. Let him read everywhere and in everything, that in this State, from one portion of it to the other, there is but one purpose and fixed resolve—that purpose is to meet him at every point; fight him at every road; that resolve is to undergo all suffering, submit to every sacrifice, welcome any fate, sooner than subjection by his army, or submission to his terms.

You have led the way in those acts which united the people of your sister States in this confederation of States, and their secession from the Government of the United States. You first fired the gun at the flag of the United States, and caused that flag to be lowered at your command. As yet, you have suffered less than any other people. You have spoken words of defiance—let your acts be equally significant. In your sister States, with the people of those States, you have a common sympathy in the determination to be free, and in your hatred of the foe; you will not falter in that stronger sympathy which

is derived from a common suffering.

You have defied a tyrant; do not apprehend his power. You have dared to do; fear not to die. No worse fate can befall him who has pride in the ancient honor of his State than to see it governed by those who hate it; and insult, with their vices, the virtues we have been taught to cherish.

Once more I say to you your State is invaded. Once more I call upon you to arm in its defence. All who unite with us are more than brothers; all who desert us are as false as the foe which assails us.

It is said there are some who think they are not bound to fight with us; who affect a desire not to forfeit what they call their allegiance to some foreign Power. It may be that there are some who hitherto have been misled. I will not believe that there lives in South Carolina now, any man who, having been under the protection of the State and treated as that State treats its own citizens, will, at this time, attempt to find in this affected zeal for an allegiance he has practically abjured, an excuse for the sinner he is bound to render. If there are such, let them depart. They shall not remain here and be the cold witnesses of the sufferings which others endure, while they are secure from danger. If they remain, they will do so with the full knowledge that the State expects and intends that every man shall do his duty.

Be as resolute as your cause is just, and triumphant success awaits you. What right have they to expect success in the sight of God who pursue, with unrelenting hatred, you, who seek nothing more than the privilege of accomplishing the great ends for which your God has given you being? You have not invaded their soil; nor sacked their cities, nor wasted their fields; nor murdered their relatives, nor violated their wives and daughters. They pretend not to the plea of visiting upon you the terrible punishment of retaliation. They claim a right to reduce you to subjection—to hold you in bondage—to strip you of more than life, when they deprive you of the privileges dearer than existence. Rise, then, with the truth before you, that the cause in which you are to arm is the cause of Justice and of Right! Strike, with the belief strong in your hearts, that the cause of Justice and of Right is the cause which a Power superior to the hosts seeking to oppress you will not suffer to be overthrown. And even upon the soil of the State in which this monstrous tyranny was first defied, let it meet the fate it deserves. While imperishable honor will be awarded those who contributed to that great consummation, in which humanity will rejoice.

By the Governor:

A. G. MAGRATH.

Official—HENRY BUIST, Lt. Col. and A. D. C.  
February 7,

# The Charleston Mercury.

7 February 1865, 1

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LIEUT. GEN. PEMBERTON is in town. It is said, upon official duty of inspection. Our city is glad to welcome him back.

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7 February 1865, 2

**ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS.**

The following is the substance of the despatch received yesterday:

**SPRINGTOWN, via MIDWAY, 11 30 a. m.,**

"The enemy crossed a strong force of infantry and works at Odon's Ford. The railroad to-day."

**SPRINGTOWN, FEBRUARY 6, 2 15**

**SPRINGTOWN.**—"The enemy are skirmishing at Odon's Ford; their strength is not known."

A despatch was received late yesterday.

**NEAR SPRINGTOWN, February 5, 12 m.**

The enemy demonstrated upon us along the Salkehatchie for a distance of seven miles, in discovering our batteries, after skirmishing with us for sometime, commenced building barricades themselves and have ceased fighting. Our scouts report no enemy nearer Lower Three Runs than last night—(twelve miles.) The enemy are moving on the Mathew's Bluff and Orange-road, which crosses the Salkehatchie at Pl's Bridge. Another force, the strength of which has not yet been ascertained, was reported moving on the Buford's Bridge and the road.

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Orders intended for members of Colonel CONNER's Cavalry command should, for the present, be addressed to George's Station, South Carolina Railroad.

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**CONNER'S BRIGADE.**—Some dissatisfaction was expressed in town a day or two since at the retreat of CONNER's brigade at Salkehatchie, under Colonel KENNEDY. It gives us great pleasure to assure our readers that there is not the shadow of just cause for such an impression.—The brigade did retreat from their position, but with the utmost reluctance, under peremptory orders. Colonel KENNEDY and that he came here for the purpose, and with the intention to fight. And they intend to do it.

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The Charleston Courier.

8 February 1865, 1

HEADQUARTERS,  
DEPARTMENT OF So. CA., GEO. AND FLA.,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., February 7, 1865. }

[EXTRACT.]

[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 82.]

VIII. Major General WADE HAMPTON, P. A. C. S., having reported for duty in this Department, is assigned to the command of BUTLER's and YOUNG's Divisions of Cavalry

By command of Lieut. Gen. HARDEE.

T. B. ROY, A. A. General.

February 8

5

Siege of Charleston.

FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

No movements of the enemy were reported yesterday, the weather again preventing observations.

Sherman's Movements.

No official information was received Tuesday, but reports deemed reliable state that the enemy tapped the South Carolina Rail Road yesterday morning in three places, viz: Midway, Blackville and Bamberg.

A passenger who left Augusta Monday afternoon on an ordnance train states that the whooping and shouting of the enemy could be distinctly heard in the distance as the train passed Williston. It is supposed they reached the South Carolina Road early Tuesday morning. The train from Branchville came through all safe Tuesday evening. Passengers by this train report the road cut at Williston, and state that the enemy had turned off towards Augusta. A number of militia, principally boys, are reported captured by the enemy.



# The Charleston Mercury.

8 February 1865, 1

## The Peace Commission

Has all gone up a spout, where it ought to be. We hope everybody is satisfied. The absurd folly has reached its climax at last. It is sincerely to be hoped that it will more gradually subside. It has broken banks, flooded the country with the wrecks of stern purposes, and every sort of trash swept up from the mud holes and pig sties all over the country. We hope everybody is now happy. We hope that all the wise men can now see the result of their judicious prognostications, and possibly even the fighting men about our street corners may see what we have to expect from our considerate Northern friends. "Hope, unfading hope, when life's last embers burn," &c., &c. It is astonishing what a source of comfort to some people is this same thing of "hope"—hope where there is no hope—hope against all common sense. Yet there are men who will forever build castles in the air, and from one disappointment, they rebound to another phantasmagoria. Their and logical sequences make them sick. Their very stomachs turn at the sight of them. It makes them happy to dream. They delight to live amongst their imaginings. Fairy land is such a pretty place. What a nice thing it would be if the Yankees were all an amiable, loving, christian people! How sweet a thing peace would be!

Well! perhaps it would be. But we are not for ourselves able to see any logical connection between the delights of peace, and the jack-o'-lantern schemes that these men propose as means to effect that end, "so devoutly to be wished for."

The fact is; that there never was the shadow of a plank upon which we could stand for a moment with the LINCOLN Government, to begin to open any terms for negotiation. We stand at the Antipodes. There is not one square inch of ground, in common, upon which to meet for discussion. There is one bald alternative of subjugation to us, or of defeat to the Yankees. Nothing else. Men may cast about in alarm, or in panic, or in idle dreams. But that will not help the matter, and will not mend it one jot. The situation is simple, and our destiny is plain—the Yankees must be driven from the soil of the Confederation, or the people of the Confederate States must be driven from their own soil—*white slavery and expatriation, or independence and black slavery.*

Let all men hush with the foolish talk of peace, and let there be but one watchword, from one end of the land to the other—**FIAT!**



9 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-EIGHTH DAY**

Some fifteen or twenty schooners, supposed to be supply vessels for SHERMAN's army, passed the bar Wednesday morning going North.

About dark last evening there was an unusual display of signals between the fleet and the land batteries.

No change in the fleet is reported.

**Sherman's Movements.**

The enemy's movements so far seem to threaten both Augusta and Columbia. On Tuesday, as appears by official reports, they gained possession of the Augusta branch of the South Carolina Rail Road, occupying Blackville and other points. Foster's troops are still believed to be on the other side of the Salkehatchie.

A dispatch from General WHEELER, dated February 7th, 8.20 P. M., says: "I had started my command for Blackville this morning, but before reaching that place, my pickets were charged by three brigades of cavalry, which drove them beyond the village. DIXON's Tennessee brigade being in the vicinity, met and charged the enemy, driving them back into the village. Having but two brigades which could be brought against the enemy, I determined not to attack so superior a force. After waiting until nearly dark, I withdrew across the Edisto."

A dispatch from Branchville, February 8th, says: "The enemy have made their appearance along the rail road beyond the Edisto. They burnt a house within a mile and a half of the rail road bridge. About seven o'clock yesterday our troops were withdrawn to this side of the rail road and the bridge burned."

**FEES AND FEMALES.**—The House of Representatives has passed a Bill increasing the pay of female employees of the Government. The Bill provides as follows:

1. Females employed as clerks in the clothing branch of the Quartermaster's Department, or in any hospital, shall be allowed and paid the same salary as clerks in other departments: *Provided*, That such as may be employed as clerks in hospitals may accept in lieu thereof the pay and allowances hereinafter granted to chief matrons of hospitals.

2. Chief matrons, assistant matrons, ward masters and nurses shall be allowed one hundred per cent. additional pay; when quarters and fuel are not furnished them, they shall be allowed commutation for the same at the rate of one room for each matron and nurse, and one and a half cords of wood per month in winter and three-quarters of a cord per month in summer.

3. All females employed in the clothing branch of the Quartermaster's Department as cutters shall be allowed seventy-five per cent. additional pay, and all such employees engaged in making clothing, etc., shall be allowed one hundred per cent. additional pay.

4. All females employed in making cartridges shall be allowed one hundred per cent. additional pay, and shall be allowed, if practicable, to purchase one ration each, and one cord of wood per month during the winter, and half a cord during summer.

5. The Secretary of War is required, if it can be done without prejudice to the public service, to allow the persons embraced in the second, third and fourth paragraphs of this Act to purchase at cost price such domestic cloth and cotton goods as may be necessary for clothing for themselves.

Mr. McMULLIN, of Virginia, requested the reporters to take note that he voted against the Bill.

The "Herald," alluding to a suggestion which has been made to acknowledge the independence of the Confederacy if it will assist to drive the French out of Mexico, thus disposes of it:

If the rebels seriously imagine that we will let them go in the hope of seizing Canada and Mexico, they are very decidedly mistaken, and we must disenchant them. We would not let them go if they could give us a bond for Canada and Mexico, and throw the whole of South America into the bargain. There are no possible terms upon which we can acknowledge their independence, and as they have rejected all terms for reunion, nothing remains but to fight it out.

9 February 1865, 1

**NATIONAL SINS.  
THE SEVERE COMMANDMENT.**

We record with approval and gratification, and in confident hope of a reform consequent thereon, the fact that our exchanges generally, and several leading exchanges, both religious and secular, have concurred in and repeated or adopted the opinion we have advanced as to the marriage of servants.

Several Churches, and a host of leading denominations of Protestants, and some of the prelates of the Catholic Church, have decidedly pronounced opinions in behalf of a reform or addition to our laws. We may be permitted to say, as we have before hinted, that this marked and increasing attention to, and recognition of our moral and religious duties and responsibilities in view of slavery, is one of the lessons of the war, and the previous want of such recognition, or the neglect of many who professed to acknowledge it, was one of the causes and conditions of the war—a war which, whatever may be judged as to men apparently responsible for it, will be pronounced by all intelligent observers a judgment on and for National Sins.

War is not, indeed, the best time for perfecting legislative details, or amending or improving codes for civil practice or cases, but such a war as that we are now suffering is the time for consideration, and retrospect, and review, and for the preparation of heart and purpose needed to effect any reform indicated at the earliest opportunity.

We respectfully state also that, in our opinion, the pulpit and the religious press, for some years before the war, had not done their full duty in this matter and as to sins prominently political or national. There was, we think, a needless or timid reticence and reserve, induced by the fear of mixing religion and politics, or Church and State—a hue and cry which the politicians of America have ever been quick to raise whenever a religious or moral reformer threatened a visit to their precincts.

Believing that the time had come for a more open and emphatic exposition and presentation of the truth, we rejoiced at the opportunity offered by a fast day discourse by a minister of this city, April, 1864, for giving a cue for a thorough and general survey of the question.

The result of that discussion as developed in the Press and in the Church Courts, is—as we have stated, a general and confident assertion that a reform is needed and is imperatively demanded. It becomes the duty of legislators to arrange and shape that reform into law, and of

all citizens as citizens, whether masters actually over servants or not, to enforce and apply that reform in practice.

Let it be remembered, the best laws not enforced or applied in practice, are worse than useless, and that imperfect or defective as our laws are in some cases, habits and practices have been even worse. Very many of the evils and nuisances now complained of in our various Courts and before Mayors and Magistrates, and the evils against which much legislation in States and cities has been directed, have grown up not for want of laws, but for want of enforcement and discipline and action according to law. Take, for instance, one single case as to servants. In every city and town, and even in many small villages throughout the Confederacy, complaints are now rife and have been increasingly rife since the war, of misconduct and insolence, and extravagance and licentiousness and pillaging of certain servants, and a certain class neither servants nor citizens.

So far as this State is concerned, we may state that laws amply sufficient to meet and prevent these evils have been on the books for years, but are not enforced. The consistent, faithful and vigorous enforcement of the laws against self-hiring—a law of this State, we believe, in nominal force, and repeated in the ordinances of the cities and towns—would probably prevent one-half or three-fourths of the complaints which are heard before Mayors or City Courts. We have also laws prescribing and regulating dress, and deportment and residence for servants. How long shall we go on from year to year, cumbering the books with experiments in legislation to meet evils which are patently traced, not to want of legislation, but want of administration and execution?

We thankfully admit and record the fact that, in some respects, our citizens have, in practice and institutions and customs, been better than the laws.

In reference to the question of slave marriage now before us, the practices and purposes of many masters have been above and better than the law, and have anticipated the change and reform which we now believe is demanded by the thinking citizenship of the country and the voice of the Press.

Who will go to work in earnest to enact and embody this reform and remove and correct an evil which has, more than any other single element, been used as a pretext or theme for the denunciations and malignant aspersions of abolitionists?

# The Charleston Mercury.

9 February 1865, 1

## Chapter II.

When the Yankee nation elected ABRAHAM LINCOLN on the avowed basis of abolition, they proclaimed their future intentions with regard to us and our institutions. They made up the issue between the sections, and severed the Union. When they seized Fort Sumter and refused to give it up to us, to whom it rightly belonged, they closed the issue for war and shut the book of peace. The contest engaged in was on either sides for Union or for disunion—for one General Government, or for two separate General Governments, over the two separate sections. For four years this war was waged with fierce endeavor on both sides. But now, just at this point, and at this time, the 1st chapter of the war has closed its red pages.

A new and a darker era has just dawned upon us. The entire aspect of the war has become transformed. From one of political mastery it has become a war for social existence, for individual life, for the very breath of heaven to breathe. From the fierce war of Government against Government, we now descend to the desperate and relentless massacre of one people against another people, one individual against another individual—massacre in the armies and in bands—massacre on the field of battle and on the march—massacre on the high road or in the hedge—massacre at the hearthstone or in the bed. To KILL is all that is now left us—is all our duty.

For the second time the issues have all been made up—and for the second time the books have been closed. The United States Government have just abolished slavery, by an act of Congress, throughout the entire length and and breadth of the land now under their authority, or hereafter to come under their authority. The Peace Commissioners who left Richmond in behalf of our Government, to go to Washington, for the purpose of consultation or negotiation as to means of peace, have been stopped and met at Fortress Monroe by SEWARD and LINCOLN, and assured that there was no need to proceed farther, and that there was no use to enter into any discussion or any consideration of terms for the negotiation concerning peace, until we had laid down our arms and submitted ourselves and our cause unconditionally to their laws and governance.—This is at least the end. Everybody knows now where we stand—utter and complete subjugation and abolition; or *fight on to the death, or to glorious independence, with the preservation of our rights and individual liberties*. Is there a man who can now falter with this broad issue before him. If there is such a man, one who has reduced his soul to this atomy of existence, we have only to say to that man, "let him be anathema, maranatha!"

# The Charleston Mercury.

9 February 1865, 2

## OPERATIONS ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

Official despatches from the scene of the present operations are meagre. It seems certain, however, that the rebels are in full possession of the line of the South Carolina Railroad, beyond the bridge at Edisto.

A despatch from Gen. WHEELER, dated Feb-  
ruary 8, 1865, p. m., says: "I had started my  
column for Blackville, this morning, but be-  
fore reaching that place my pickets were charged  
by three brigades of cavalry, which drove  
me beyond the village. DIBRELL's Tennes-  
see brigade being in the vicinity, met and charged  
the enemy, driving them back into the vil-  
lage. Having but two brigades which could be  
brought against the enemy, I determined not to  
risk so superior a force. After waiting till  
early dark, I withdrew across the Edisto."

A despatch from Branchville, dated February  
8, says:

"The enemy have made their appearance along  
the railroad beyond the Edisto. They burned a  
trestle within a mile and a half of the railroad  
bridge."

"About seven o'clock yesterday evening our  
troops were withdrawn to this side of the rail-  
road, and the bridge was burned."

## GEORGETOWN—FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

Some fifteen or twenty vessels, mostly schoon-  
ers, passed the bar on Wednesday, going north.  
There was an unusual deal of signalling be-  
tween the fleet and the Yankee land batteries  
Wednesday evening.

**EARLE'S BATTERY**—The following is a correct  
list of casualties in EARLE'S Light Battery, Sen-  
ior 1st Lieutenant JAS. F. FURMAN commanding,  
in the engagements at Rivers' Bridge, on the 2d  
and 3d instants—

Killed—Senior 2d Lieutenant S. S. Kirby.

Wounded—Privates K. Aulton, right arm se-  
verely; A. T. Keeler, right arm slight.

AUGUSTA is getting in fighting trim. Non-  
combatants have been ordered to leave the city.  
All local military organizations perfected  
and assigned their respective places. General  
H. HILL is in command.

The Charleston Mercury.

9 February 1865, 2

OFFICIAL NOTICES.

HEADQUARTERS,  
DEPARTMENT OF SO. GA., GA. AND FLA.,  
Charleston, S. O., February 7, 1865.

[SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 84.]

**VIII.** MAJOR GENERAL WADE HAMPTON,  
P. A. U. S., having reported for duty in  
this Department, is assigned to the command of BUT-  
LER'S and YOUNG'S DIVISIONS OF GA. VALLEY.

By command of Lieut. Gen. HARDEN.

February 8      5      T. B. ROY,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

10 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINTH DAY.**

Nothing of importance occurred during Thursday in our harbor. Heavy firing was heard in the direction of Stono.

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**Sherman's Movements.**

Dispatches received Thursday contain very little additional news.

A dispatch from Orangeburg, February 9, says: "The enemy are in front of the Edisto line, near New Bridge and Duncan Bridge. The main force is said to be near the rail road. Skirmishing took place to-day near Binnaker's Bridge. The enemy show no disposition to force a crossing of the Edisto."

A dispatch from Gen. WHIZZLER, Orangeburg, February 8, says: "All the crossings on the Edisto, above and below, are fully guarded. A large column of the enemy's infantry struck the rail road at Graham's; and one was moving to strike between Graham's and Blackville."

KILPATRICK is at Blackville with three brigades of cavalry.

10 February 1865, 1

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**CAPTURE OF THE VESSEL DUI OHING.**

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*To the Editor of the Mercury:*—The above named vessel, carrying seven guns, one an hundred pounder Parrott, was captured in the Combahee river on the 26th ult., after an engagement of four hours with the guns of Battery Barnett, commanded by Capt. M. Rickenbaker, Company C, 2d S. C. Artillery.

This vessel was said by the Mercury and Courier of the 28th ult., to have gotten aground, and then been captured. But the correct account is *not vera*. She steamed up the river on the flood tide, within fourteen hundred yards of my battery, doing the while upon me with her bow gun, to which I replied with six or eight shots, whereupon she reversed her position and retired from this point down the river (against tide) fifteen hundred yards—twenty-nine hundred yards from my battery. At this point she turned her broadside, anchored, and engaged my battery with four guns (being assisted for one hour by a small steamer with three guns) from 9 o'clock, a. m., until 1 o'clock, p. m. Her crew consisted of eighty-six men, one Lieutenant and five enlisted men, who left at the commencement of the engagement, were accidentally captured by the picket.

To the remainder—who had collected two or three miles below the captured vessel—was permitted to come a small boat which took them all aboard, and steamed out with impunity by the picket post, about five miles from my battery, where, with proper precaution, every one of them, including the boat, could, and ought to have been captured.

M. RICKENBAKER,  
Capt. Co. C, 2d S. C. Artillery.

The Charleston Mercury.

10 February 1865, 2

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The main force of SHERMAN's army is now believed to be on or near the Augusta branch of South Carolina Railroad, just beyond the Edisto river. Raiding parties of KILPATRICK's army have made their appearance in various parts of Lexington District. It was reported this evening that the enemy had struck the Columbia branch of the South Carolina Railroad at Orangeburg. The following despatches show the true state of affairs:

A despatch from Orangeburg, dated February 9th, says: "The enemy are in front of the Edisto line, near New Bridge and Duncan Bridge. The main force is said to be near the railroad."

"Skirmishing took place to-day at Binniker's Bridge. The enemy show no disposition to force a crossing of the Edisto."

A despatch from Gen. WHITELLY, dated February 8th, says: "All the crossings of the Edisto, above and below, are fully guarded. A large column of the enemy's infantry struck the railroad at Graham's T. O., and one was moving to strike between Graham's and Blackville. KILPATRICK, with three brigades of cavalry, is at Blackville."

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# The Charleston Courier.

11 February 1865, 1

## Sherman's Movements.

The main body of the enemy's infantry crossed Edisto river at Binnaker's bridge on Thursday. Intelligence from the road on Friday evening reports them moving towards Augusta. No demonstration as yet had taken place on the Columbia branch of the South Carolina Rail Road. It is reported, however, that the Yankees have been very busy destroying the track between Augusta and Branchville.

The "Guardian" says:

It is gratifying to know that in our present emergency the authorities of the State, as well as the military heads, are availing themselves of talent and experience which have too long been permitted to remain inactive. Not least among the officers here is Major General Mansfield Lovell, whose sound practical judgment and military training come into most timely use. His voice in council will be found as valuable as his ready and excellent management in battle, and no one who has served under him will doubt the worth of either. He has already given and is still giving the benefit of his experience in the preparations for our defence, and we expect to see again an exhibition of that fine military judgment which contributed almost, if not entirely, to the safety of Van Dorn's army, when it was forced to fall back from Corinth in the autumn of 1862.

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHTIETH DAY.

About eight o'clock Friday morning a force supposed to be between three and four thousand strong, under cover of their gunboats, effected a landing at GRIMBALL'S, James' Island. Our pickets, after a brisk fight, fell back to the first line of works. Major MANIGULT, of the Palmetto Battalion, in command of our picket force, was reported seriously wounded. The enemy, after crossing the Causeway, drew up in line of battle, and were moving slowly at last accounts. No general fight, however, had taken place. No apprehensions are entertained of this movement, which is believed to be nothing but a feint. Very heavy firing was heard in that direction at the hour of closing our report.

Another force made an attack on our lines at Salkehatchie, on Friday morning, but were easily repulsed. At the same time a body of the enemy advanced upon the Charleston road near Pine House, and opened with their artillery, but made no impression on our lines.

The enemy appear to have withdrawn most of their forces from Combahee ferry. Everything in that vicinity is reported quiet.

A steamer filled with troops came up to Tar Bluff and landed a number, with the intention of capturing our pickets.

The enemy re-opened fire on the city yesterday, throwing eight shells.

# The Charleston Mercury.

11 February 1865, 1

## To our Readers.

The progress of military events, which has occasioned so much public and private inconvenience and suffering, has not spared the newspaper interest. The interruption of railroad communication between Charleston and the interior produces a state of affairs which compels us, temporarily, to transfer the publication office of the *MERCURY* elsewhere; and to-day's paper will be our last issue, for the present, in the city of Charleston. It is due to our readers that they should be informed of the reasons which necessitate so important a step in the management of our journal. The interruption of the mails on the South Carolina Railroad practically cuts us off from the mass of our country readers, not only in this but all the adjoining States. We consider it highly desirable that the paper should reach this large class; and by the contemplated change we trust to accomplish that end. But a far more important consideration, and one which cannot be overlooked, is the question of our paper supply. Few of our readers have any idea of the enormous quantity of paper required for the daily consumption of our establishment. The paper mill upon which we depend for our supply is situated in Western North Carolina, and as things stand, for want of transportation, there is no chance of a continuance of that supply. So that we have the alternatives presented to us, of being obliged to discontinue *THE MERCURY*, for want of the material upon which to print it, or of removing, for a time, our publication office to another more convenient point. Justice to our subscribers, no less than our own preference, impels us to the latter course.

For a few days, therefore, the issue of *THE MERCURY* will be suspended; but soon, we trust, it will revisit all our readers.

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**CONVICTS TO BE PARDONED.**—The Georgia Penitentiary Convicts, who formed into a company on the approach of the enemy to Milledgeville, and who have fought through the campaign, have been furloughed for thirty days; at the expiration of which time they are to report to the office of the Adjutant and Inspector General of the State of Georgia. Upon presenting a certificate of their having joined some company in the Confederate service, they will be pardoned from the sentence of confinement.

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The Charleston Mercury.

11 February 1865, 2

**SIEGE MATTERS—FIVE HUNDRED AND  
SEVENTY NINTH D. Y.**

A force of the enemy, believed to be between three and four thousand strong, under cover of their gunboats, made a landing at Grimbald's place, on James Island, about 8 o'clock yesterday morning. A brisk fight ensued with our pickets, the latter being finally driven in to our first line of works. Major MANIGAULT is reported to have been killed in the skirmishing, but some doubt is expressed as to the correctness of the report.

The enemy, at last accounts, were drawn up in line of battle and advancing slowly, but no general fight had taken place.

Active demonstrations have also been made along our lines on the Salkehatchie. In an attack there yesterday morning, the enemy were easily repulsed. Another force advanced upon the Charleston road, near Blue House, and opened with artillery, but made no impression on our lines. Everything was quiet at Combahee Ferry.

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**FROM SHERMAN.**

The only intelligence we got from SHERMAN is that his infantry had crossed the Edisto at Bennaker's Bridge on Thursday and are reported moving, in solid columns, against Augusta.

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The Vulture, Lark and Wren, blockade running steamers, have gone to Havana, it is said, to be fitted out as Confederate privateers.

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13 February 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SECOND DAY.

Since our last report the enemy have been unusually active. During Friday night and Saturday Battery Gregg kept up a brisk fire on our James' Island batteries, but principally directed at Battery Simkins. Between nine and ten o'clock Saturday night some twenty or thirty of the enemy's barges filled with men were seen moving towards Battery Simkins. A hot fire was opened upon them from Fort Johnson and our other batteries, together with our iron-clads. The enemy, without effecting a landing, beat a hasty retreat. What damage we did to the enemy could not be ascertained. The only casualty on our side was one man wounded.

Sunday morning information was received that a fleet of sixteen transports had appeared in Bull's Bay, and that a landing was threatened. The force is believed to number between seven and eight thousand. It was reported last evening that they had already landed but we could learn nothing definite. The object of the movement is still uncertain.

The force of the enemy that landed on James' Island quitted that port Saturday night, but, it is believed, are still on Cole's Island, ready to operate in connection with the movement on Bull's Bay.

A flag of truce communication was held Saturday on James' Island. It was ascertained that Major Edward MANGELT, about whose fate much anxiety was felt by our community, was a prisoner in the hands of the enemy, painfully but not dangerously wounded in the right hip. Lieutenant J. T. WATTS, of the Palmetto Guard, and a number of privates, were also reported captured.

The following lists of casualties in the picket fight on James' Island Friday have been furnished us:

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE TRAIN,  
JAMES' ISLAND, February 11, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—Please publish for the information of relatives the following casualties in my Company on the 10th instant, with the enemy on James' Island:

Killed—Corporal W P Nagel, Private Charles H Kerr

Wounded—Junior 1st Lieut J A Brux, slight in foot; Privates P G Langley, slight in side; P T Drayton, severe in hand; J W Loan, severe in thigh; O A Pansin, slight in head; C A Aimer, slight in head; J L Fair, slight in side.

Missing—Privates J T Humphries, James A Bowls, A Bowls, W W Houston, W L Campbell, W R Moulton, Alexander R. Haig—when last seen were unhurt.

R. O WEBB, Captain.

Commanding (Palmetto Guard) Siege Train.

Casualties in Captain T. R. LEWIS'S Company, (F.) 2d Artillery, in the fight on James' Island, on the 10th February, 1865:

Killed—None

Wounded—Privates M Q Smith, side and right arm; E M Pickering, hand, slight; P O Dowd, hand slight.

Saturday night the enemy fired sixteen shells at the city and four shells Sunday.

## Sherman's Movements.

An official dispatch received Sunday night states that "General WHEELER reports having defeated KILPATRICK at Johnston's Turn Out, near Aiken." In consequence of the late hour at which the news arrived, we could obtain no particulars.

Intelligence was received Saturday morning that skirmishing had been going on on the line of the Edisto, near Orangeburg, all day. The enemy were reported in heavy force, but at that time had made no determined effort to force our position. Saturday night the enemy were reported in force between the two Edistos. Scouts reported the 15th Army Corps twelve miles West of Orangeburg. A few of the enemy's cavalry had appeared at Nemer's bridge.

Sunday morning heavy firing was heard in the direction of Orangeburg, and later in the day it was reported, on good authority, that the enemy had crossed the Edisto below Orangeburg and tapped the Columbia branch of the South Carolina Rail Road, cutting off communication by that route. Branchville was evacuated and our troops fell back to a stronger position.

Of course from Blackville and Barnwell Court House represent the enemy as orderly in their behavior, paying for what provisions they take, and destroying only public buildings and such as have been left unoccupied. At Barnwell Court House they set fire and burned the Court House building and at Blackville destroyed the commissary building and rail road depot.

# The Charleston Courier.

14 February 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THIRD DAY.

The latest information from Bull's Bay states that the enemy has not landed. The fleet of transports, sixteen in number, was still there. Our troops are on the alert and ready to give the foe a warm reception.

The enemy have made no farther demonstration on James' Island.

The usual report of the enemy's movements in the harbor and on Morris Island failed to reach us. About twenty shots were fired at the city Monday. Sunday a man named Wm Doxan was struck by a fragment of shell, making an amputation of the right arm necessary.

### Sherman's Movements.

We have no authentic reports from the road since last accounts.

The enemy, it is supposed, were engaged yesterday tearing up the track and burning the cross ties.

Numerous reports were in circulation, but none of them deemed reliable.

The enemy's movements and designs are still undeveloped. A day or two, however, will probably disclose their intentions. In the meantime our citizens may confidently rely upon our military authorities for all accurate information that can properly be made public.

14 February 1865, 1

CONSIGNEES PER SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, FEBRUARY 18.

R. H. Lester, Dr. R. W. Burnham, Lieut. J. B. Lindsey, Lieut. A. S. Berry, W. T. J. O. WOODWARD, Agent.

The Charleston Courier.

14 February 1865, 2

**NOTICE—ALL PERSONS EXPECTING**  
**Freight or Packages by the Southern Express**  
**Company will call at Office, as our Wagon delivery is**  
**discontinued.**  
**W. T. J. O. WOODWARD, Agent.**  
**February 14**

# The Charleston Courier.

15 February 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOURTH DAY.

The enemy's troops again made a feeble demonstration on James' Island on Tuesday morning. A furious bombardment was kept up on our batteries during the day by one Monitor and three gunboats in Stono. Fifteen shots were fired at the city Monday night, and twelve on Tuesday.

We are still without any definite intelligence from Bull's Bay.

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### Sherman's Movements.

There has been no change along the lines in our immediate front: Passengers report the enemy still marching Northward on Columbia. The Congaree Bridge was reported burned yesterday. Another report was in circulation, but not credited, that the enemy had reached Kingsville.

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15 February 1865, 1

The Great Fire in Savannah.

A TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

The President's Speech.

At the great meeting in Richmond, His Excellency President Davis, appeared upon the stand, and was greeted with thunders of applause.

In response he said that he would have been pleased if the meeting had been called to commemorate a victory. But it was not only pleasant, he felt a proud and ecstatic joy to see his countrymen looking whatever disasters there had been in the face, and plucking from adversity new courage and resolution; and it was at this spectacle that his heart beat high with hope. It was well that there should commence here in Virginia that reactionary movement of the people in preparation for a new proclamation to meet the demands of the hour. All must now be laid on the altar of country. If such a feeling should now take possession of the hearts of the people, if they should give a hearty and unanimous answer to the demands of the present exigency upon them, then he could say we stood now upon the verge of "victories" which would teach the insentient enemy, who had treated our propositions with contumely, that in that conference in which he had so plumed himself with arrogance, he was, indeed, talking to his masters.

He had never, he continued, hoped anything from propositions of peace made to the enemy unless accompanied with victories of our arms; that the true hope of the Confederacy was in brave soldiers in sufficient number to contest her claims in the military field; but he would have been more or less than man not to have yielded to a natural desire to testify, on every occasion, his anxiety, his yearning, anxiety for peace. He had received a notice from Mr. Lincoln opening the way to an unofficial conference on the subject. He did not feel at liberty to decline the invitation which it implied. In the notes which passed between Mr. Lincoln and himself in the matter, there was one marked difference. He (President Davis) spoke always of two countries. Mr. Lincoln spoke of a common country. He could have no common country with the Yankees. His life was bound up with the Confederacy; and if any man supposed that, under any circumstances, he could be an agent of the reconstruction of the Union, he mistook every element of his nature. With the Confederacy he would live or die. Thank God he represented a people too proud to eat the leak or bow the neck of mortal man.

Although he anticipated that nothing in the way of peace could come out of recent conferences with the enemy, yet he was not prepared for such extravagance of insolence as they had shown. They had not so much as proposed that these States might come back even on those conditions, which was the first occasion of their separation from the Union; but they were to come back as a conquered people, submitting to all the recent legislation of the Washington Government, including the abolition clause in the Constitution recently enacted in Congress, and rushed with the greatest haste through that body, before the Commissioners could arrive at Fortress Monroe. And, but a few days before this, one of Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet had sat at the feet of Beecher in Baltimore, gloating over the picture drawn by that Yankee artist of words of a long procession of the public men of the Confederacy moving to the gallows to expiate the crime of rebellion. Perhaps Lincoln's heart softened at the length of the procession when he suggested that, in case of our submission, he might be worthy.

He would never have occasion to show that mercy. Words of cheer and encouragement had recently come from the armies of the Confederacy. If only half the absentees were back in Gen. Lee's army, he was sure that Grant would be taught a lesson such as he had never received even in his eventful route from the Rapidan to the James. Beauregard held another army in Sherman's path, and it might soon be shown that Sherman's march through Georgia was his last. If there had been mistakes in the past, let us accept them as lessons of wisdom for the future. Let us improve the errors of bygone; let us unite our hands and hearts, lock our shields together, and we may well believe that before the next summer solstice falls upon us, it will be the enemy who will be asking us for conference and occasions in which to make known our demands.

The President was frequently interrupted with applause, and at the conclusion of his speech was cheered again and again.

The Herald of the 31 contains a long account of the late disastrous fire in Savannah, whereby more than 200 buildings were destroyed and several persons killed and wounded. We make the following extracts:

COMMENCEMENT OF THE FIRE.

Eleven o'clock struck from the Exchange Building, and its echoes had scarcely died away when the fire bell pealed out its notes of alarm. A dense smoke from the Western part of the city indicated the locality in which the fire commenced. The fire apparatus was speedily on their way but their onward movements were quickly checked in consequence of events which will appear hereafter.

The fire commenced on the North side of Tubby street, between Ann and St. Gall streets. It broke out in the stable of Mrs. Ann Morrell. Whether this fire was the work of an incendiary or purely accidental, has not yet been demonstrated. Some assert that it was rebel hands which applied the torch, and it may be well here to remark that strong evidence has been adduced to carry out this idea. There are also many other circumstances brought forward to prove that the fire was simply the result of accident.

THE ARSENAL—EXPLOSION OF THE SHELLS.

At twelve o'clock, midnight, the flames had reached Granite Hill, corner of West Broad and Broughton streets. This had been used by the rebels as an arsenal for shells and ammunition, and it was known a large quantity of the former was then stored in the building. Some asserted that there were thirty tons of gunpowder in the arsenal, and this announcement received credence at the hands of a great many, and spread with rapidity throughout the length and breadth of the city. Fortunately this report proved false. If it had been so, few would have been left in the city of Savannah to tell the tale.

THE PULASKI HOUSE.

This hotel is the only one at present open in Savannah. It was always the principal house in the city and the largest. On the night of the fire there were several hundred guests stopping at the Pulaski. The majority of these were civilians; the remainder, officers of the army of all grades. When the explosions commenced, of course many persons in the hotel were unnerved, and some ludicrous scenes might be witnessed. Amid the disasters of the most appalling character there are always to be found incidents of a laughable nature.

Our worthy Collector, Simeon Draper, Esq., stays at his hotel; there are also several Generals and Colonels. At twelve o'clock the bar room and main hall-way of the house were crowded with the guests; some were only half-dressed, while others carried small bundles in their hands, containing the most valuable property in their possession. Consternation was depicted upon every feature. The shells were heard whizzing past the main entrance to the hotel, making locomotion in that direction anything but desirable. A few, more daring than the others, stood outside the door; but when a fragment of shell was heard rushing through the trees, a general stampede was the result. Reports of the most extraordinary character were circulated. Some said that the arsenal contained thirty tons of gunpowder, and the figure now amounted up as high as one thousand tons.

This fearful explosion was expected momentarily, and some people shook from head to foot with the very intensity of fear. Sparks from the region of the fire flew thick and fast on the roof of the hotel, and there seemed little hope of saving the house from total destruction. On the whole, the "military situation" in this place seemed anything but favorable. What was to be done? To leave the hotel and walk into the open street was fraught with much more danger than remaining indoors. Those shells are ugly customers, and have no respect to persons or property. Our Northern friends proposed to go on board the shipping in the river, which was undoubtedly the safest position under the circumstances. Several started out with the intention (your correspondent among the number,) and succeeded in reaching the desired destination, not, however, without running the gauntlet of a severe bombardment.

15 February 1865, 1

**VOTE ON THE AFRICAN ENROLLMENT**—On Tuesday, 7th instant, the Senate went into secret session on Mr. Brown's Resolution instructing the Military Committee to report a bill with the least practicable delay, to take into the military service of the Confederate States a number of negro soldiers, not to exceed two hundred thousand, by voluntary enlistment, with the consent of the owners, or by conscription as may be found necessary; and that the Committee provide in said bill for the emancipation of said negroes in all cases where they prove loyal and true to the end of the war, and for the immediate payment, under proper restrictions, of their full present value to their owners.

The injunction of secrecy having been removed from the proceedings we are enabled to state that a motion of Mr. Burnett, of Kentucky, to so amend the Resolution as to make it one of inquiry into expediency was rejected, and a vote being taken on the passage of the Resolution it was rejected—yeas, 8; nays, 13.

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Brown, only and Vest.


Those who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Baker, Caperton, Graham Haynes, Hunter, Johnson, of Missouri, Maxwell, Oldham, Orr, Seabornes, Walker, Watson and Wigfall.

# The Charleston Courier.

15 February 1865, 2

## CONSIGNEES PER SOUTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, FEBRUARY 14.

S. N. Brown, Lieut. D. G. Brent, W. R. Cathcart, M. Gannon, Lieut. L. J. Howe, D. Haas, Dr. D. W. Lamb, B. Montoue, M. McManman, J. B. M., C. O. Witts.

 NOTICE.—All persons expecting Freight by Southern Express Company are requested to call at the Office for same, as our Wagon delivery is now discontinued. W. T. J. O. WOODWARD, Agent.

16 February 1865, 1

**Siege of Charleston.**

**FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH DAY.**

Nothing of importance has occurred since our last report. The force at Bull's Bay, at last accounts, had not yet landed, and it was believed had mostly disappeared.

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**Sherman's Movements.**

News was received in this city Wednesday morning that the enemy were within five miles of Columbia, moving on the old Lexington State road. They also crossed Congaree Creek, three miles below the Capitol. Tuesday night Kingville was reported in the enemy's possession. Communication with that place had been interrupted, but the report of its occupation by the enemy was not generally credited.

Reports from the lines in our immediate front state that everything was quiet. The enemy are not moving in this direction. Scouts report no enemy within six miles of Vance's Ferry.

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# The Charleston Courier.

17 February 1865, 1

## Siege of Charleston.

### FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH DAY.

The atmosphere was again too hazy on Thursday to admit of observations of the enemy's movements on Morris' Island or around the harbor.

### Sherman's Movements.

The enemy at last accounts from Columbia, Thursday morning, had not crossed Congaree Creek, but were engaged shelling the city. The enemy's main force is reported moving on the old State road in Lexington District to Columbia. A report brought in Thursday morning states that the enemy were within nine miles of Bonneau's Station, on the Northeastern Rail Road. It is believed, however, that this force was nothing more than a small raiding party.

### DeCaussure Light Artillery.

*W's Courier*—During the action at Combahee Ferry, on the 5th inst., Second Lieutenant J. A. MANOR was captured under circumstances leading strongly to the opinion that he had been killed or wounded.

With a view to the relief of his family and friends, and upon application of First Lieutenant A. A. GILBERT commanding the battery, Brig. Gen. MANOR directed that a flag of truce be sent to the enemy's lines. Capt. J. T. STODDARD, of his staff, was chosen as the bearer. He proceeded with a white flag to our outer picket line, near the ferry, and met a ready response from Yankee officers who advanced to meet him. He was informed by them that Lieut. MANOR was alive and unhurt, and a prisoner at Hilton Head. He was, however, suffering from chills and fever.

One of the Yankee officers in question was a Captain, and a son of the notorious MONTGOMERY, of Kansas notoriety. Another was a Lieutenant, who had been badly burnt by the explosion of a caisson at Honey Hill. They were exceedingly friendly in manner, and indulged in considerable general conversation. They praised that portion of the country, and declared it not worth fighting for.

Through this means it was also learned that Orderly Sergeant KING, of Major WARD's Battalion of South Carolina Reserves, was killed on the same occasion, his body having been found upon the river bank.

Our troops evacuated the position at Combahee Ferry and in front of Salkehatchie this morning. The retreat was in good order, and with no loss of Government stores.

SOLDIER.

Evacuation of Charleston.

The terrible scene through which this community has passed since our last issue can only be colored by those who witnessed the dreadful reality. The sudden part of all this loss of life which occurred between night and day of Saturday morning from an accidental explosion of powder and the blowing up of the Northern Railroad Depot. About one hundred and fifty persons, including men, women and children, were instantly killed or perished in the flames, and about two hundred wounded. Of the immense destruction of property no estimate can be formed, but it is a great one, several millions.

Early in the morning before the retirement of General Beauregard's army a big flag, warehouse or shed, stored with cotton, was fired by a guard detailed for the purpose. The engines were brought out, but within a few minutes at the disposal of the Fire Department, very little else could be done than to keep the surrounding buildings from igniting. On the Western end of the city the conflagration raged with great fury. On the wall of the Barnum Hall Road Depot, several hundred bales of cotton were piled up, and a side runner, also, several thousand bales of rough rice. On Lucas-street, leading to the depot, was a long shed containing twelve hundred bales of cotton, which, together with several other sheds and buildings filled with cotton, belonging to private persons, led a prey to the flames. Lucas Hall, containing some thirty thousand bushels of rice, and E. T. Walker's warehouse at the foot of Broad-street, filled with numerous stores, were also destroyed.

Shortly after eight o'clock occurred the terrible explosion at the Northern Railroad. The explosion was tremendous, and shook the whole city. It appears, from all accounts, that this dreadful catastrophe was caused from the careless handling of powder by some boys, taking their idle and throwing it into the cotton fire at the depot. In doing this they unwittingly laid a train to the apartment in which it was stored. The explosion which followed was horrible. In an instant the whole building was enveloped in smoke and flames. The crowd of the wounded, the inability of the spectators to render assistance to those rolling and perishing in the flames, rendered it a scene of indescribable horror. The flames spread with great rapidity, communicating to the adjoining buildings including the large residence of Dr. James D. Doss, on the North-east corner of Chapel and theander-street, all of which were destroyed. The buildings on the opposite side of the street were also enveloped in flames, and the fire now became unmanageable. All the buildings embraced in the area of four squares on Chapel, Alexander, White and Charlotte-streets to Calhoun-street, with few exceptions, were destroyed. About ten o'clock fire broke out in the large four-story brick building of Madam DePas, at the Northeast corner of East Bay and Marion-streets. This, with the adjoining building on the Northeast corner of Minor-street, were all burnt. Another fire broke out about eleven o'clock in a range of buildings on the West side of Meeting-street, next to the Court House. Five buildings were burnt, the walls only were left standing. The alarm of fire Saturday night, in Ward 4, was caused by the burning of the inside of a millinery establishment on King-street.

In addition to the above fires, the New Bridge from the city to James Island was set on fire, and was still burning Sunday night.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHEDRAL.

The burning and blowing up of the iron clad Palmetto State, Chicora and Charleston, was a magnificent spectacle. The Palmetto State was the first to explode, and was followed by the Chicora, about nine o'clock, and the Charleston, about eleven A. M. The latter, it is stated, had twenty tons of gunpowder on board. Pieces of the iron plates, red hot, fell on the wharves and set them on fire. By the active exertions of Superintendent Tuos. Tensas, the gas works were saved. The explosions were terrific. Tremendous clouds of smoke went up, forming beautiful wreaths. A full Palmetto tree, with its leaves and stems, was noticed by many observers. As the last wreath of smoke disappeared the full form of the rattlesnake in the center was remarked by many as it gradually faded away.

LANDING OF THE UNITED STATES TROOPS.

About ten A. M., a mail boat containing Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, of the 12th S. C. T., Major John A. Bennett and Lieutenant Burns, of the 2nd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, First Lieutenant James F. Haviland, 12th Regiment New York Volunteers, with a boat's crew, came up to the city and landed at South Atlantic Wharf. Colonel Bennett immediately sent a communication to the Mayor, of which the following is a copy:

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major Charles M. Smith, Charleston.  
[Mayor]—In the name of the United States Government I demand the surrender of the city of which you are the Executive officer.  
Until further orders all citizens will remain within their houses.

I have the honor to be, Major,  
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
A. G. BENNETT,  
Lieut. Col. Commanding U. S. Forces, Charleston.  
Major M. Smith, previously, however, had dropped a

committee, consisting of Aldermen, Col. Tamm, and Williams, to proceed to Morris Island, informing the commanding officer there of the evacuation of the city. The following is a copy of the communication from the committee to the commanding officer of Morris Island.

To the General Commanding the Army of the United States at Morris Island:

Sir:—The military authorities of the Confederate States have evacuated this city. I have endeavored to enforce law and preserve order, until you could take such steps as you may think best.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES M. SMITH, Mayor.

The boat, with a white flag, displaying the Aldermen, was observed approaching by Colonel Bennett, who started to meet it, and, in the interview which followed in the stream, the reply below was made to the Mayor's communication:

[COPY OF LETTER OF COL. BENNETT TO MAYOR OF CHARLESTON.]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,  
CHARLESTON HARBOR,  
NEAR ATLANTIC WHARF, February 18, 1865.

Major Charles M. Smith.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of this date.

I have in reply thereto to state that the troops under my command will render every possible assistance to your well disposed citizens in extinguishing the fires now burning.

I have the honor to be, Major,  
Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,  
A. G. BENNETT,

Lieut. Col. Commanding U. S. Forces, Charleston.

The landing of the United States troops was effected in the most orderly manner. Detachments were at once sent to take charge of all the public buildings and depots. The Arsenal was taken possession of a little before twelve o'clock, just in time to save the buildings. The citizens in the neighborhood had nearly all left in terror on the report that the Arsenal was to be blown up at twelve, and a wagon loaded with lightwood for the purpose of firing arrived in the vicinity a few moments before the Federalists. Had the latter been a little later, the results might have proved most disastrous.

The United States flag was hoisted on the Custom House, Citadel Academy and Arsenal.

The steamer Cyren, which had run the blockade the previous night, was taken possession of, and Captain Ryan, with several of his officers, made prisoners. Since the arrival of the troops from Morris Island the city has been very quiet and the conduct of the troops remarkably good. There have been some few exceptions, but these were mostly by those under the influence of liquor.

Colonel Bennett, whom we have found a very courteous and obliging officer, is doing all in his power to preserve order, and promises the fullest protection to citizens. The city will be placed under martial law and the civil functions of the Mayor suspended for the present. The following appointments have been made:

Lieutenant Colonel A. G. Bennett, Provost Marshal, Charleston, S. C., with Lieut. Col. Bennett, Provost Marshal's office at the Citadel.

General SUMNER, commanding the Northern District Department of the South, which now includes Charleston and all the coast to Hilton Head, arrived in the city with his staff and the troops very soon after the surrender. The General has been very much impressed with business and the visits of citizens since his arrival. Our thanks are due to Adjutant General H. H. Jaxx, of General Sumner's staff, also Col. Bennett and Lieut. Haviland, for many kind attentions.

Major General GILLESPIE, commanding Department of the South, was in the city a few hours Saturday, but left the same evening for Hilton Head.

Admiral DUTCHMAN, with his flag ship, also came up to the city Saturday and anchored off Alder's Wharf. The Navy took possession of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney, and a volunteer party of ten men from Morris Island entered and planted the United States flag on Fort Sumter. The former garrison, previous to evacuation, had placed on the parapets a number of automations in grey uniform, which, upon being shelled from Battery Gregg, never flinched. Observing this, and suspecting something unusual, the party above mentioned volunteered to solve the extraordinary phenomenon, which resulted in their taking possession of the fort.

One of the crew of the Admiral's flag ship entered Fort Moultrie just in time to extinguish a slow match which was then burning, intended to blow up the magazines and fort.

Our limited space will not permit us to give further details at present. General SUMNER'S appointments for the government of the city will be announced in our next issue.

The explosion heard Sunday afternoon was caused by the blowing up of the hull of the ship "John Ravenel," the fire having about that time reached her magazine.

SHANNAN'S MOVEMENTS.—The latest intelligence from General SHANNAN states that Columbia was captured by the Federal forces Friday afternoon. General SHANNAN is believed to be moving for the Lanville Rail Road.

The Charleston Courier.

20 February 1865, 2

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
CHARLESTON CITY, S. C., CITADEL, February 18, 1865.  
[GENERAL ORDER, No. 2.]

HEREAFTER THE SALES OF ALL MALT OR AL-  
CHOLIC LIQUOR is strictly prohibited. Any person  
found guilty of any violation of this Order will be im-  
mediately placed in confinement, and all property  
belonging to such person confiscated. The Provost  
Marshal will require his Patrol, Police, and Provost  
Guard to rigidly enforce this Order.

By order of Lieut. Col. A. G. BRENNER.

HENRY H. JENKS,

Captain 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers,

February 20

A. A. A. General.

# The Charleston Courier.

21 February 1865, 2

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., February 19, 1865.  
[GENERAL ORDER, No. 1.]  
I, IN COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIAL ORDER No. 1, Headquarters, Northern District, Department of the South, February 19, 1865, I hereby assume command of the city of Charleston.  
Charleston is declared to be under Martial Law. All functions heretofore exercised by the Mayor, Commonality, Civil and Criminal Courts, Police Authorities and Local Government, are now suspended. Fire Companies, until otherwise organized, will be required to perform duty under their existing regulations.  
Citizens who are well disposed toward the Federal Government are assured that adequate protection will be afforded their persons and property, and that it is the design of the United States Military Authorities to restore order, preserve quiet, regulate government, and prevent any further attempts to nullify or to disregard the laws of the nation.  
II Major R. H. WILLOUGHBY, 21st Regiment U. S. C. T., is announced as Assistant Provost Marshal, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.  
A. G. BENNETT,  
Lieutenant Colonel 21st Regiment U. S. C. T.,  
Com'dg City of Charleston and Provost Marshal  
Northern District, Department of the South.  
[OFFICIAL:]  
JAMES F. HAVILAND  
1st Lieut. 127th Regiment N. Y. V. and A. A. I. G.  
February 21

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
CHARLESTON CITY, S. C., UTADEL February 18, 1865.  
[GENERAL ORDER, No. 2.]  
HEREFTER THE SALES OF ALL MALT OR ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR is strictly prohibited. Any person found guilty of any violation of this Order will be immediately placed in confinement, and all property belonging to such person confiscated. The Provost Marshal will require his Patrol, Police, and Provost Guard to rigidly enforce this Order.  
By order of Lieut. Col. A. G. BENNETT,  
HENRY H. JENKINS,  
Captain 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers,  
February 20 A. A. A. General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., February 20, 1865.  
[GENERAL ORDER, No. 3.]  
I. ALL RICE HERETOFORE IN THE KEEPING of the city government will at once be taken possession of by the United States Military Authorities.  
II. Captain ED. R. FOWLER, 21st Regiment U. S. C. T., A. A. S., will immediately take charge of the rice. He will report in person to these Headquarters for instructions.  
III. Hon. WM. AIKEN, GEO. W. WILLIAMS, Esq., and Dr. A. G. MACKEY, are appointed a committee of citizens who will distribute this rice to the poor of the city.  
By command of A. G. BENNETT,  
Lieutenant Colonel 21st Regiment U. S. C. T.,  
Commanding City and Provost Marshal.  
JAMES F. HAVILAND,  
First Lieutenant 127th Reg't N. Y. V., A. A. I. G.  
February 21

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., February 20, 1865.  
[CIRCULAR No. 1.]  
CITIZENS OF THE CITY WHO HERETOFORE have been engaged in any legitimate trade, are desired to open their respective places of business immediately.  
In no case will liquor or intoxicating beverage be given away or sold to any soldier of the command.  
By order of A. G. BENNETT,  
Lieutenant Colonel 21st Regiment U. S. C. T.,  
Commanding City and Provost Marshal.  
JAMES F. HAVILAND,  
First Lieutenant 127th Reg't N. Y. V., A. A. I. G.  
February 21



THE  
North-Carolina Standard

RALEIGH

1 March 1865, 3

THE LATEST NEWS.

From Gen. Sherman.

We have no definite intelligence from Gen. Sherman. Dispatches from Charlotte to the daily papers of this City state that he is reported to be moving in force in the direction of Camden, Cheraw, and Fayetteville. Sherman's headquarters on Monday last, were at Nickerson's hotel in Columbia. It may be that Sherman has crossed the Catawba near Camden, and that he is on his way towards Fayetteville by Cheraw. Or he may be moving higher up, and aiming for Greensborough, or the Company Shops in Alamance. If he should reach Fayetteville he may expect to form a junction at that point with the forces of Schofield from Wilmington; and he may move from Fayetteville on Raleigh, expecting to unite here with the forces of Terry from Newbern. Or he may move from Fayetteville up the Cape Fear valley towards the Central Railroad at the Company Shops. But this is merely conjectural. Nothing is definitely known to the people here as to his whereabouts or as to the points he is endeavoring to reach.

Dispatches from Charlotte state that the news from Columbia corroborates the information as to the kind treatment of the inhabitants. The Ursuline Convent was protected by a guard. No public or private property was allowed to be burned. Under the impression that Sherman was not moving in force on Charlotte, and information of the kind treatment of the people of Columbia, the panic and alarm at Charlotte had diminished. We are glad to learn that the apprehensions of many that Gen. Sherman would scourge the people of South-Carolina, have proved unfounded.

On the morning of the 26th, the following order from Gen. Johnston was published:

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 25.—(General Order No. 1.)—In obedience to the orders of the General-in-Chief, the undersigned assumes command of the army of Tennessee and all the troops in the Departments of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

He takes this position with strong hope, because he will have in council and in the field the aid of the high talents and skill of the distinguished General whom he succeeds. He expects all absent soldiers of the army of Tennessee to rejoin their regiments and again confront the enemy they so often encountered in Northern Georgia, and always with honor.

He assures his comrades of that army, who are still with their comrades, that the confidence in their discipline and valor which he has heretofore expressed is undiminished.

(Signed)

J. E. JOHNSTON.

Our people of all parties and classes will be glad to learn that Gen. Johnston is again in chief command. His prudence, wisdom, and courage have won for him the entire confidence of the country.

The following order has been issued by Col. W. J. Hoke, commanding the post, to the citizens of Charlotte:

To the Citizens of Charlotte.

HEADQUARTERS POST, }

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 22d, 1865. }

It is not impossible that the enemy may succeed in reaching this town in his progress. In that event, I urge you to be calm, and to remain quietly at your homes. From such information as I have received, I am of opinion that you will not be disturbed, and that the rights of person and of private property will be respected by the enemy.

If his officers take possession of your houses or only enter them, treat them with politeness and respect. If there be any attempt to rob, or plunder, or to commit other outrage, apply promptly to the commanding officer for redress, who will doubtless furnish you with a safeguard.

With these precautions, if you should be so unfortunate as to fall within his power, I have every reason to hope that your sufferings will not be unendurable.

WM. J. HOKE,

Col. Commanding Post.

15 March 1865, 3

A number of soldiers serenaded Gen. Beauregard at his Headquarters in this town, on Monday evening last, and the General made a short speech in returning his thanks for the compliment. He spoke hopefully and cheerfully of the situation of affairs—did not think them as bad as some persons seemed to imagine—and concluded by announcing that Gen. Johnston has assumed chief command, and that he (Beauregard) would willingly serve under him.

Since his sojourn in this community, Gen. Beauregard has made a highly favorable impression on all who had any intercourse with him.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

PROMPT ACTION.—Week before last Gen. Beauregard issued an appeal to the citizens of Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Cabarrus and Rowan, to furnish negroes to blockade the roads and fords leading to this place from the South, and in two days upwards of 300 hands were here ready for service.—It strikes us that if the people along Sherman's route from Savannah to Winnsboro had acted in this way, he would not have found his march such an easy one —*Charlotte Democrat.*

22 March 1865, 4

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.**

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General Griquoria has presented to the President of the United States a copy of a letter received by him from Cuba, detailing the progress of the anti-slavery feeling on that island. It is stated that the native Cubans are nearly unanimous in favor of gradual emancipation, while the Spaniards and slave traders are opposed to it. The question is causing considerable agitation and excitement on the island; but the abolition sentiment is steadily gaining ground.

4 August 1865, 2

CHOICE LIQUORS.—Mr. B. MANTOUÉ, Northeast corner of King and Wentworth-streets, has just received a general assortment of choice liquors of celebrated brands, Havana segars, &c., which he offers for sale low in quantities to suit purchasers. Mr. MANTOUÉ is of the former well and widely known establishment of GUERIN, MANTOUÉ & Co., extensively connected with many of the leading houses and manufacturers of both this country and Europe. We invite attention to Mr. MANTOUÉ's card in another column.

8 August 1865, 2

AT IT AGAIN.—The residence of Mr. B. W. WARREN, at the Southeast corner of St. Philip and Warren-streets, was entered on Sunday morning, between the hours of three and four o'clock, by climbing the posts of the piazza to the second floor. One of the domestics happening to be awake, saw one of the parties (colored) in the act of making the acquaintance of the drawers of a dressing case and gave the alarm, when the robber took the hint and made his escape.

A RIOT occurred on Saturday night last at the house of CAROLINE BAINBRIDGE, No. 8 Princess-street. It appears that a party of soldiers belonging to the 47th Pennsylvania Volunteers demanded admission, and, upon being refused, commenced a violent assault upon the premises with bricks and other flingables. The Police were sent for and endeavored by the use of pacific measures to quell the disturbance, but were met with threats from the rioters, and were only quieted by the logic of weapons. The party were arrested and lodged in jail.

12 August 1865, 2

**IMMEDIATE WANTS OF CHARLESTON.**—It is a rather singular freak in the general resumption of business in our community that some of the most important and most needed articles of trade and manufacture should have been either entirely omitted from amongst the thousand and one things which the capital of the North is pouring into our lap for consumption and use, or so long retarded in their introduction that their absence from our market is at this time causing considerable inconvenience and embarrassment. This fact or freak, as we may call it, is most observable in the great deficiency of building materials and implements. It seems hardly credible that, to-day, when almost all of our old merchants are returning to the city and making arrangements for resuming business, when there is scarcely a competent mechanic in the city who has not ample work to engage his attention, when the debris and wrecks of old buildings are being surveyed, removed and manipulated, with a view to the erection of new buildings, when Meeting-street and the Bay are alive with contemplated and commenced improvements, and when the ring of the trowel and hammer echoes the harmonious overture to better times, that there cannot be purchased in the whole range of the city ten thousand feet of finishing lumber. Yet, such we understand to be the case. Nor is this the only item which we pressingly need. Slates and slating tools, carpenter's tools, wheelbarrows and all the paraphernalia of carpenters and masons would find a market in Charleston. All of these materials are manufactured to hand at the North, and it needs only capital and enterprise to bring them here and supply a pressing want of our community. We offer this suggestion in the belief that the men of means who are making their shipments to Southern markets have overlooked the peculiar necessities of trade in this city, or are, perhaps, under the erroneous impression that we are too much demoralized by our losses to think of going earnestly to work in the effort to renovate and rebuild our good old city.

**GENERAL HARTWELL ROBBED.**—General HARTWELL, who came passenger on the steamer *Los Maria* from Hilton Head Thursday night, was robbed during the passage of his valise, containing, in addition to his personal effects, a large number of official documents, orders and other valuable official papers from the War Department for this post and district.

General HARTWELL discovered his loss before the steamer reached the wharf, and had the vessel thoroughly overhauled and searched, but no trace of the missing property could be found.

It is hoped that the person who carried off the valise will return the official papers.

**PARDONED.**—We learn that a telegram from Washington has been received in this city announcing the complete and unconditional pardon of our esteemed fellow-citizen, T. D. WAXSON, Esq. This announcement will be received with intense gratification by our whole community, in which Mr. WAXSON has been so long a benefactor and active friend of the poor.

The Charleston Courier.

14 August 1865, 2

ARRIVAL.—The Spanish brig *Castilla*, from Matanzas, which has been at quarantine for some time, has been released, and came up to the city Saturday. She brings a cargo of sugar, and molasses and segars. The following persons came as passengers: R. SALAS, F. P. SALAS, W. ULMO, W. F. BENNETT.

The Charleston Courier.

2 September 1865, 3

**MORDECAI & CO.,**

**COMMISSION AND SHIPPING MERCHANTS,**

**Northeast Corner of Gay and Lombard-sts.,**

**(OPPOSITE THE CUSTOM HOUSE,)**

**BALTIMORE.**

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE ESTABLISHED A  
House in this city under the style of MORDECAI & CO.,  
for the purpose of carrying on a GENERAL COMMIS-  
SION AND SHIPPING BUSINESS.

DAVID MORDECAI.

J. RANDOLPH MORDECAI.

Advances made on consignments to the House of MOR-  
DECAI & CO., Charleston, S. C.

Baltimore, August 1, 1865. †2 mws8\* August 17



5 September 1865, 2

# **The Restoration of Houses and Lands.**

By reference to the published order of T. C. CALLICOT, Supervising Special Agent, it will be seen that all applications for the restoration of lands and houses now held as "captured or abandoned property," are to be made to General HOWARD, the Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau, at Washington. We are gratified at this announcement, as showing a disposition on the part of the Government to put things in a course of justice, and to this end establishing in the Bureau a judicial authority which may be invoked in behalf of the citizen. It is well known that by much the largest proportion of the property, real and personal, now in possession of the agents of the Freedmen's Bureau, though vacant at the time of seizure, was not "abandoned property" in the sense of the Acts of Congress relating to the subject. But this indiscriminate seizure, when once made and recorded in the registry of the Department, passed beyond the control of subordinate agents, who were invested with no judicial power to try claims relative to the property in their custody. Hence our citizens, very many of them, have for many months been suffering under a privation of property not in accordance with a correct construction of the law, and yet having no redress for the want of some tribunal having authority to inquire into and adjudge their claims. We are glad to see that this great grievance is to be redressed. General HOWARD, the head of the Bureau, is now ready to receive all applications for a release of property from those who are advised that they are not within the meaning of the law. We are pleased also to learn from the Law Notice of J. W. WILKINSON, Esq., published in our columns to-day, that prompt arrangements have been made to facilitate, by his residence at Washington, applications for the restoration of property. By prompt attention to the means now open for restoring themselves to their full and complete rights of property, it is to be hoped that our citizens will in a short while become once more the owners instead of the lessees of their homesteads.

[From the Washington Constitutional Union.]

## **Position of the President upon the Question of Pardon.**

The reliable correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, in his letter of yesterday from this city, says: "The Circular from the Bureau of the Refugees in this city, addressed to the Bureau at New Orleans, is not approved by the President, and will be of no effect where a full pardon is granted by the Executive. The attempt to retain possession of the confiscated lands in Louisiana is the same as has been made in Tennessee, and the rebuke of the former by the President will be less pointed and emphatic than was the latter. In Tennessee those in charge of the Freedmen's Bureau were compelled, by order of the President, to restore to those who had been pardoned the property formerly in their possession, and the rule will be applied to all the States. I write thus 'by authority,' and you may rely upon it that in all cases where President Johnson affixes his signature to a full pardon, that pardon will carry with it *all the right and title to property hitherto possessed by the person to whom the pardon is granted*. I will here add that the President is sorely vexed at these attempts that are made by the (mis) representatives of the Government in certain portions of the South to override his policy of restoration, and if the conduct of these parties is not soon changed, the probabilities are that they will be allowed the benefit of a trip to their Northern homes."

**THE ELECTION.**—One of the most pleasing features of the election yesterday was the non-interference and total absence of the military from the polls. Our citizens are indebted to General BENNETT for this admirable arrangement. He extended his orders that no soldiers or guard should be in attendance unless especially requested by the Managers. Happily, nothing occurred to render such a request necessary, and the citizens were left to the free, untrammelled expression of their choice.

**THE BLACK LIST.**—The following is an official Report of the arrests made during the week ending on the 3d inst., by the City Police:

|                                                              |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| For Murder.....                                              | 1         |
| For Theft.....                                               | 1         |
| For Arson.....                                               | 1         |
| For Intoxication.....                                        | 10        |
| For Disorderly Conduct.....                                  | 14        |
| For Being Absent from Command without Leave, (Soldiers)..... | 3         |
| For Attempt to Swindle.....                                  | 1         |
| For Desertion, (Seamen).....                                 | 3         |
| <b>Total.....</b>                                            | <b>34</b> |

7 September 1865, 2

TRANSPORTATION.—If there is a word in the English language which, during the last four years, has had a marked significance, that word is—transportation. During the war corn and flour ruled at high prices for want of—transportation. Armies were reported short of rations, because of the difficulties of—transportation. All of this was when we had rail roads in full blast. But when General SHERMAN came across the rail roads and left them, we may be said to have been in a condition of absolute poverty in transportation.

These drawbacks to locomotion are still on us, and to get about at all we have to take the next best thing, and that brings us to wagons. The old stage routes are now, from necessity, reopened; from years of obscurity, caused by the advent of rail roads, mine host of the "Red Store" and other familiar and very welcome wayside homes greet the dusty traveler and take care that all go away satisfied.

Orangeburg and Newberry are the two objective wagon points. Store keepers, forwarding agents, wagoners, all together, keep up quite a dust; long lines of cotton loaded wagons are daily on the move, and every week adds to the return loads of groceries, dry goods, &c., which are now distributed even to our teutonic villages of Walhalla.

We recuperate, as of old. When cotton begins to move, money circulates—and in this view, helps us to keep moving. We thank those who have so soon developed and systematized this troublesome matter of transportation. Merchants and families in the remote up country can now get up their stocks of goods and their supplies at low rates of through transportation. In this connection, we would call attention to the enterprise of Mr. W. A. COURTNEY, Forwarding Agent at Newberry Depot, who forwards cotton, &c., to Orangeburg, and has arranged a schedule for up freights which will be economical and save trouble to the consignees, whether at Newberry or at the many depots on the Greenville Road.

For up freight engagements, full information can be obtained on application to Mr. H. B. OLIVER, 11 Yeadon Range,

LETTER FROM GENERAL SHERMAN.—In 1860 General W. T. SHERMAN—he was not General then—was principal of the Military Academy at Alexandria, Louisiana. In January of 1861, being still in charge of the institution, he addressed the following letter to Governor THOMAS O. MOORE, at that time Chief Executive of the State. It explains itself:

LOUISIANA MILITARY ACADEMY,  
Alexandria, January 18, 1861.

Governor Thomas O. Moore:

SIR:—As I occupy a quasi military position under the laws of this State, I deem it proper to acquaint you that I accepted such position when Louisiana was a State in the Union, and when the motto of this seminary was inscribed in marble over the main door: "By the liberality of the General Government. The Union, *eslo perpetua*."

Recent events foreshadow a great change, and it becomes all men to choose: If Louisiana withdraws from the Federal Union I prefer to maintain my allegiance to the old Constitution as long as a fragment of it survives, and my longer stay here would be a wrong in every sense of the word.

In that event I beg you will send or appoint some authorized agent to take charge of the arms and munitions of war belonging to the State, or advise me what disposition should be made of them.

And furthermore, as President of the Board of Supervisors, I beg you to take immediate steps to relieve me as Superintendent the moment the State determines to secede, for on no earthly account will I do any act or think any thought hostile to or in defiance of the old Government of the United States.

With great respect,

Your friend and servant,

W. T. SHERMAN.

# The Charleston Courier.

11 September 1865, 2

**MURDER OF TWO ARMY OFFICERS.**—We learn that Captain HEASLY and Lieut. FURMAN, both of the 33rd U. S. C. T., were assassinated and killed recently in one of the upper districts of the State. The parties who committed the deed have been arrested, and are now undergoing their trial before a military commission. No further details of the affair have been received.

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## From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, September 3, 1865.

A new privilege has been granted to Jeff Davis, that of writing to his wife. His letters, of course, are viséd before sent. Attentive perusal of the Herald—and he is an attentive and interested reader of its columns daily—serves to keep him posted as to the movements and health of his family. Thus his prison life has been gradually relieved of its original hardship. He confesses, in fact, that the only things he has to complain of now are his deprivation of liberty, and, in his view, unnecessarily deferring his trial. He has recovered from his attack of erysipelas, and his health is wholly restored. He takes his daily walks and his appetite is excellent. Mr. Clay has also recovered, and Mr. Mitchel is now in better health.

1 December 1965, 4

## DIRECT IMPORTATION OF WINES GROCERIES.

### 60 BOXES SHERRY WINE, VERY CHOICE ARTI- OLE

- 1 pipe Superior Malaga Wine
- 10 quarter casks Claret Wine
- 15 boxes Refined Olive Oil
- 15 jars Salad Olive Oil
- 20 boxes Fine Vermicelli
- 3 boxes genuine Castile Soap
- 10 kegs Malaga Wine Vinegar
- 4 demijohns Superior Vinegar
- 3 bags Red Pepper
- 50 strings of Spanish Garlic.

Just landed from British schooner "Ald," arrived  
from Havana, and for sale by **F. P. SALAS,**  
November 29 3 118 EAST BAY-STREET.

## DIRECT AND LARGE IMPORTATION FROM HAVANA OF MUSCOVADO SUGAR.

### 55 HDS. MUSCOVADO SUGAR 150 boxes Clayed Sugar, for Grocers and Confectioners.

Landing this day at Fraser's Wharf ex British schooner  
"Ald," McCormick Master, just arrived from Havana,  
and for sale by **F. P. SALAS,**  
November 29 3 118 EAST BAY-STREET.

## HAVANA LEAF TOBACCO.

### 68 BALES HAVANA LEAF TOBACCO, OF THE NEW crop—Fillers and Wrappers—of direct importation per British schooner "Ald," McCormick Master. Just arrived from Havana, and for sale by

**F. P. SALAS,**  
November 29 3 118 East Bay-street.

## FELT HATS.

### 72 DOZEN FELT HATS, JUST RECEIVED PER British schooner "Ald," McCormick Master. Arrived from Havana and for sale by

**F. P. SALAS,**  
November 29 3 118 East Bay-street.

4 December 1865, 2

DEPARTURE OF GENERAL GRANT.—Lieutenant-General GRANT left here on a special steamer, the *Cosmopolitan*, for Savannah, yesterday morning. The *Cosmopolitan* will touch at Hilton Head on the route, General GRANT being desirous to make a personal inspection of that post.

The General received a large number of visitors at the residence of Generals SICKLES and BENNETT in Charlotte-street, Saturday. Among others were the Mayor and Aldermen, who went in a body to pay their respects, the Collector of the Port, Hon. A. G. MACKAY and family, the Collector of Internal Revenue, F. A. SAWYER and family, Postmaster STANLEY G. TROTT, ex-Governor A. G. MAGRATH, and a number of our most prominent citizens and ladies. The reception passed off very pleasantly, General GRANT telling the orderly in attendance to pass visitors in without ceremony. A complimentary dinner was given to General GRANT by General SICKLES Saturday afternoon, at which were present Generals GRANT, SICKLES, DEVENS, BENNETT, COMSTOCK, Colonel BADEAU, His Excellency Governor JAMES L. ORR, Hon. WM. AIXEN, Hon. A. G. MACKAY, Postmaster TROTT, ex-Governor A. G. MAGRATH and T. C. CALLICOTT, Esq. Governor PERRY was expected but was detained at Columbia by important official business, having just previous to starting received dispatches from Washington requiring his attention.

On Friday afternoon last General GRANT, accompanied by General W. T. BENNETT, commanding the city, drove out to the Race Course, visiting on their return the Orphan House, Arsenal and other points of interest in the city.

Saturday morning the General and Staff, with Generals SICKLES, DEVENS and BENNETT, breakfasted with Major-General SAXTON, at the latter's headquarters, on Ashley-street.

Unless sooner recalled by orders from Washington, General GRANT will extend his trip to the Rio Grande, Texas, and return by way of St. Louis, Mo.

During the reception of visitors Saturday, General GRANT expressed great pleasure and satisfaction at the general good feeling, spirit and disposition which he had observed along his route, evinced by the Southern people towards the Government, and their cheerful attention to the new order of affairs.

# The Charleston Courier.

4 December 1865, 2

**DIRECT IMPORTATION!**—Special attention is invited to the advertisement in our paper this morning, of F. P. SALAS, well known before the war from his connection with the Charleston and Havana house of POUJAUD & SALAS. He is now offering for sale, at 118 East Bay, a large stock of Havana Segars of the best brands, imported by the British schr. *Aid*, and now landing at FRASER'S wharf. He has also by the same vessel a large and choice selection of Sherry, Malaga and Claret Wines, Muscovado Sugars, Havana Leaf Tobacco, &c., all of which he offers to the trade at reasonable rates. Dealers are invited to inspect these goods and judge for themselves.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**—We enjoyed a rare treat on Saturday of genuine Havana Segars, Sherry, Malaga and Claret Wine, imported by the British schr. *Aid*, Captain MCCORMICK, consigned to F. P. SALAS, 118 East Bay. Our thanks are due Mr. SALAS for this very generous and acceptable present.

The Charleston Courier.  
(Supplement)  
7 December 1865, 1

The Execution of the Negro Soldiers at Hilton Head.

TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE PRESENT.

[From the New South, of November 25th.]

About the 20th of August last, privates James Grippen, Co. F., 104 U. S. C. T., and Ben Redding of the same regiment, (colored,) together with a gang of colored soldiers, forcibly entered and ransacked the house of Mr. Mow, near McPhersonville, ravishing the persons of Mrs. E. Mow, Miss Florence Mow, Mrs. Mary E. McTier and Miss Hoape, with the assistance of several of the gang of soldiers who were with them, and stealing everything that was of value.

Ben Redding struck Mrs. Mow with his gun, and threatened to take her life. He then attacked, struck and bound Dr. W. O. Hazle and Mr. H. O. Morgan, and attempted to kill Dr. H. by thrusting at him with his bayonet. Redding was also present and assisted the gang of desperadoes in burning Mrs. Hoape's house. As to Grippen, the cross-breed, he seems to have been intent on his bellicose outrages and burglary. These two rascals were soon after arrested and finally brought before a General Court Martial, held at Headquarters, Department South Carolina, Hilton Head, October 26th, on charges of rape, burglary and arson—Major E. C. Culp, President. On trial, the Court found them guilty, and sentenced them to the scaffold. They were then remanded back to jail to wait the execution of their sentence. Grippen was a small individual, well put together, and a mulatto—Redding was a full-blooded African—very black.

Before noon, on Monday, quite a number of little companies of people were seen coming into town and hanging about the different corners, patiently waiting the hour of execution. When the time arrived there were some two thousand spectators gathered together, a large majority of whom were colored people. Everything remained orderly and quiet throughout the entire time occupied in carrying into effect the execution of these unfortunate men. All the military were present.

At twenty minutes before three o'clock, the condemned men, with their arms securely bound, emerged from the prison, the clergyman on one side, and the jailor on the other; two soldiers in front and two in the rear, with the officer in advance. At this moment the band of the 6th infantry struck up the "Dead March," and the party moved slowly and solemnly toward the scaffold. Grippen, the youngest of the two, and quite an intelligent looking youth, stepped forward firmly; the other, Redding, was so weak, from nervous excitement, that two soldiers were obliged to support him. Ejaculations for mercy fell from the lips of both as they neared the scaffold. At the foot of the stairs the cortege halted, and Lieut. Richards, ascending the scaffold first, motioned the others to follow. Grippen moved up the steps without hesitation, followed by Redding and his assistants. The man's nerves seemed completely prostrated—entirely useless. The clergyman then proceeded to offer up a prayer, which was attentively listened to by both men. He then left the scaffold, and Lieut. Richards, drawing forth a paper, read in a clear, slow and distinct voice the finding of the Court, the sentence, the approval of the General commanding, and the orders.

Lieutenant H. M. Jones, Acting Assistant Provost Marshal, who had been charged with the conduct of the execution, having positively refused to perform the duties assigned him, was placed under arrest, and Lieut. Charles F. Richards substituted in his place.

During the ten minutes which was occupied in reading the above orders, the feet of the condemned men had been bound securely together. The officer now asked Grippen if he had anything to say; if he had, he would repeat it for him to the assembly. He replied that he confessed his guilt, and warned all those present, more particularly the colored troops, and his own company, which were present, "not to be led away by strange men; but to do right, and they would not be where he now was." He also wished them all good-bye. Redding, although nearly exhausted, desired the officer to warn all "to be good," and bid himself good-bye.

The officer then drew the black caps over their heads, and, with coolness, adjusted the nooses about their necks. At this moment Grippen, who had borne up manfully thus far, gave signs of nervous trepidation. Shaking hands with each, the officer descends from the scaffold, he gives the signal by dropping his glove; the trap falls, and the two criminals die without a struggle.

In half an hour the surgeons pronounced life extinct. The bodies were then placed in their coffins, and the burial party taking charge of them, they were conveyed to their narrow homes in a secluded spot outside the intrenchments.

# The Charleston Courier.

11 December 1865, 2

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**ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.**—The Sixth Regiment of United States Infantry (Regulars) arrived here yesterday, and will be stationed in General Sumner's Department.



# The Charleston Courier.

12 December 1865, 1

**WM. C. BEE & CO.,**  
W. C. BEE.....THEODORE D. JERRY  
**FACTORS**  
AND  
Commission Merchants,  
**18 EAST BAY.**  
October 1

# The Charleston Courier.

12 December 1865, 2

PERSONAL.—Our old friend and former popular energetic Superintendent of the Southern Express Company, Mr. W. T. J. O. WOODWARD, has returned to the city, and we are happy to say is as buoyant as ever. We are also glad to learn that he proposes to remain and is ready to again give his valuable services wherever they may be needed and can be most useful. Whatever business he undertakes is sure to be successful, for he knows no such word as fail.

16 December 1865, 2

THE FREEDMEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—We have reason to believe that through the agency of the press, and the instruction imparted by military officers and sensible farmers and planters, the freedmen in South Carolina are nearly dissuaded of the absurd notion that they were to have presented to them, by the Government, at the time of the Christmas holidays the farms and estates which are or have been the property of their former masters. Now the freedmen are enlightened as to the true condition of affairs, we hope they will not delay to take measures to provide for themselves, for the time is coming when they must yield the plantations on which they are located, and which they held exclusively, to the rightful and lawful owners of the property. The planters generally throughout the State have evinced a willingness to enter into contracts with the freedmen, and it is for the eminent advantage of the latter, as has been previously expressed in these columns, to make the engagements, and thus provide homes for themselves and families. The State is amply large to afford work for all. It remains for the freedmen to accept the terms. The great object to be secured is the placing of the State in a sound, prosperous condition, and the rendering of every one within its borders contented and happy. To effect this result it becomes the duty of all to aid in developing the best resources of the soil, and to discountenance every act and agency which would serve to retard true progress. Idleness, the mother of vice and crime, should not be tolerated for a day, and those who persist in its indulgence should be taught that they cannot thrive in this community. So much has been written on the subject of the relations subsisting between the freedmen and their employers, that it would seem superfluous to offer extended remarks pertaining thereto. It is to be hoped the freedmen will profit from what has been said and written.

The Charleston Courier.

16 December 1865, 2

**OFFICE OF THE CAPTAIN OF POLICE,**  
**CITY HALL, CHARLESTON, S. C., December 13, 1865.—**  
Pursuant to orders from the Mayor, I will proceed to organize the CITY POLICE.

Applicants will apply in person, daily, between 11 o'clock, A. M., and 2 o'clock, P. M., prepared to give proper references.

U. B. SIGWALD,

December 13

Captain City Police.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL INTERESTED** that Licenses for CARTS, DRAYS, HACKS, CARRIAGES and OMNIBUSES will be granted, under City Ordinances, on application to the subscriber, at the CITY HALL.

These Licenses will take date from the FIRST OF OCTOBER, and be in force until the FIRST OF JANUARY, 1866.

The price will be ONE FOURTH OF THE RATES FOR THE YEAR, as established by the Ordinance ratified December 29, 1855. By order of Mayor MACBETH.

October 16

A. CAMPBELL, City Treasurer.

19 December 1865, 2

**THE MILLS HOUSE.**—We have the gratification to announce to the public and the traveling community the re-opening of this magnificent establishment. The building is too well known to need a detailed description. It has been thoroughly repaired and finished, and the rooms fitted up with an elegance and comfort that cannot fail to please the most fastidious. The parlors are gorgeously furnished with velvet carpets, elegant sofas, crimsoned cushioned chairs, centre tables, large mirrors, new chandeliers, lace window curtains, etc. The ladies' parlor contains one of Chickering's finest pianos. The ladies' reception room, at the head of the private entrance on Queen-street, is handsomely furnished for the reception and comfort of lady visitors on their arrival and during the selection of rooms. The gentlemen's sitting room, on the first floor, has been newly carpeted and fitted up with every comfort, while the old reading room, on the same floor, will again be used for that purpose. The dining room and ladies' ordinary have both been finished off and furnished in the most elegant and expensive manner. All the bedding, towelings and linen of the establishment are of direct importation from Europe. Nothing has been left undone to make it one of the finest establishments in the country. The arrangements and appointments have all been carried out under the personal supervision of the gentlemanly and experienced proprietor, Mr. JOSEPH PURCELL, whose superior judgment in hotel matters is unquestionable. He will be aided by two of the old and popular attachees of the establishment, Messrs. WELLS and BURHANS, and also by Messrs. WEBB and STRILING, two young but well-known Charlestonians. We tender the proprietor our warmest wishes for his success and prosperity.

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By the arrival of the U. S. transport steamer *Suwanee* at this port yesterday, from Key West, we learn that General WINFIELD SCOTT arrived there on Tuesday, the 12th inst., and left next day for New Orleans. The General appeared to be in bad health.

The Charleston Courier.

20 December 1865, 2

**TRIAL OF GENERAL H. W. MERCER.**—General MERCER, in command of this city for a short time during the war, is on trial before a United States Military Commission at Savannah, on the charge of murdering two Union soldiers. The members of the Commission have joined in a recommendation to Colonel KIMBALL, commanding Savannah, that the accused be "allowed to go at large within the limits of the city of Savannah, on his Parole of Honor to appear before said Commission when called upon so to do."

The counsel of General MERCER also united in a separate application to Colonel KIMBALL, but in more general terms.

# The Charleston Courier.

20 December 1865, 2

Headquarters, Second S. D., M. D. C., }  
EDISTO ISLAND, S. C., December 1, 1865. }

[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 63.]

TO AVOID UNNECESSARY TROUBLE AND PRESERVE good order on this Island, it is hereby ordered—

I. All parties claiming, as original owners, plantations held by freedmen, and desirous of conferring with them, will report at these Headquarters previous to assuming personal charge of the same. If necessary an officer will be sent to accompany them, and assist in making such arrangements as are desirable. Attention is invited to Par. VIII, Circular No. 16, War Department, the provisions of which, together with other orders subsequently issued, will be enforced.

II. Until further orders persons visiting the Island on legitimate business will, on landing, report to Assistant Provost Marshal, register names and state nature of business.

Persons on illegitimate, or no business, are liable to arrest and instant removal.

Visitors should land at steam boat creek landing.

III. All claims against freedmen for horses, stock or property of any kind, are to be presented to Assistant Provost Marshal for adjudication by Provost Court.

Personal attempts to retake property are liable to create disorder, and are forbidden.

IV. Until further orders civilians, white or colored, will be required to exhibit at the landing a pass from competent military authority or Assistant Bureau R. F. and A. L.

Such passes will be given for a limited time, and for the purpose of conferring with the freedmen only, or other specified reasons, and will not entitle the parties receiving them to establish any residence on the Island.

V. The foregoing regulations being complied with, all parties having business to transact on the Island are guaranteed entire security and such assistance as may be properly rendered by United States authority.

VI. The Superior Provost Court, Second Sub-District, will hold session at Headquarters on or about the 5th instant.

VII. Lieut. R. J. CLARK, 35th U. S. C. T., is hereby appointed Assistant Provost Marshal, Edisto Island. He will be respected accordingly. JAS. C. BEECHER,

Brevet Brig. Gen. Comd'g 2d Sub-District.

December 13

w3

Head'qrs, Military District of Charleston, }  
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, }  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
CHARLESTON, S. C., December 19, 1865. }

[GENERAL ORDERS, No. 131.]

THE GENERAL COMMANDING THE DISTRICT REGRETS that he has reason to fear that in one instance a soldier of this command has been used to aid in inflicting corporal punishment upon freedmen. Civilians (white and black) are equal before the military law, and no punishment will be inflicted by either officer or soldier upon any except such as are ordered by the Military Courts, which will in no case be corporal in their character.

A violation of this order will cause the offender to be brought before a Court Martial at once.

By Command of Brevet Maj. Gen. CHAR. DEVENS.

T. D. HODGES,

Captain 35th U. S. C. T., A. A. Adj. Gen.

December 19

20 December 1865, 3

**LA CRIOLLA,  
342 KING-STREET,  
JOSE JARA, Proprietor.**

**20.000** HAVANA SEGARS, OF THE MOST  
celebrated brands:  
CIGARETTES, VIRGINIA SMOKING TOBACCO,  
Scarfaletti, Killinick, Big Lick, Grand Seal, and other  
well known brands.

ALSO,

An elegant assortment of PIPES, CHEWING TOBACCO,  
Walking Canes, Gun Caps, genuine Meerschaum Pipes,  
&c., wholesale and retail. Fresh supplies regularly re-  
ceived from Havana.

JOSE JARA.

December 13

ws4



20 December 1865, 3

# BOOTS THAT ARE BOOTS!

THE SUBSCRIBER HAS

received a fine supply of

**BOOTS AND SHOES**

MADE EXPRESSLY

**TO HIS ORDER.**

Gentlemen's, Ladies' and  
Children's SHOES,

**SOLD CHEAP FOR CASH.**

THE MOTTO IS,

**Live and Let Live.**

I have shared my fortune  
with you ; share your patron-  
age with me.



CALL AT

**78 BROAD-STREET,**

**CAROLINA HOTEL,**

**AND SEE YOUR OLD CITIZEN AND SERVANT,**

**B. FORD.**

**TRUNKS FOR SALE ALSO.**

# The Charleston Courier.

21 December 1865, 2

**THE MILLS HOUSE.**—This popular establishment is once more thrown open to the public, and in full operation. The scene of bustle and activity last evening reminded us of the many gatherings and reunions of old friends at this favorite resort in times past. The arrivals of the first two days have been much larger than was anticipated, and include old and new guests from every part of the country. To our loved and esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. T. D. WADSWORTH, a public benefactor, the public are indebted for the early opening and magnificent arrangements for the comfort and pleasure of the patrons of the establishment. The proprietors and their polite assistants are all kind and obliging, and use every effort to make the stay of visitors as agreeable as possible. We learn that a large number of rooms have already been engaged for the season by families who intend to spend the winter in Charleston.

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**OFFICE OF THE CAPTAIN OF POLICE, CITY HALL, CHARLESTON, S. C., DECEMBER 20, 1865.**—Offers will be received until 2 o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday next, 27th inst., for making the following articles, viz:

170 Rattle Pouches (leather).  
170 Policemen's Battons.  
170 Policemen's Rattles.  
170 Policemen's Stars.  
170 Overcoats and Capes.

For particulars, apply to me at any time up to hour named above.

December 21

7

C. B. SIGWALD,  
Captain City Police.

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22 December 1865, 3

**Office Lighthouse Inspector, 6th District,**  
CUSTOM HOUSE, CHARLESTON, December 19, 1865.  
Will be sold at Public Auction, by Messrs. MILLIGAN &  
SON, THIS DAY, the 22d inst., at 11 o'clock, at the  
foot of Pinckney-street.

The Light Vessel known as the RATTLENAKE, now  
lying at the foot of Pinckney-street.

The Hull is of Live Oak, is coppered and copper fast-  
ened below the water line.

ALSO,

At the same time and place, the following articles, now  
on board the above vessel.

4 TANKS, 500 gallons each, 2 Main Pumps, copper, —  
Boxes and Brakes, in good order, 1 Bilge Pump, copper,  
and about twenty tons Kentledge.

Terms of Sale—Cash on delivery.

FRANCIS B. ELLISON,  
Lighthouse Inspector, Sixth District.

December 22

## GOVERNMENT SALE

OF

### CAPTURED STEAMERS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, EIGHTH AGENCY,  
OFFICE OF SUPERVISING SPECIAL AGENT,

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 20, 1865.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on WEDNESDAY, Janu-  
ary 3, 1866, at 10 A. M.,

BY WILLIAM GURNEY, Auctioneer, at 102  
East Bay, Charleston.

The following CAPTURED STEAMERS, viz:

"DEKALB"—Side-wheel Steamer of 154½ tons, wood-  
en hull, length on deck 116 feet, beam 26 feet, over all 43  
feet, depth of hold 6 feet, draft 3 feet 6 inches; has two  
independent high pressure engines, diameter of cylinder  
12½ inches, stroke of piston 4 feet 8 inches, has three  
fine boilers, with the equipments on board.

"COL. BENNETT"—Side-wheel Steamer of 110 tons,  
wooden hull, length on deck 124 feet, beam 24 feet, over  
all 34 feet, depth of hold 6 feet, draft 3 feet; has two in-  
dependent high pressure engines, diameter of cylinders  
11 inches, stroke of piston 4 feet, has one fine boiler, with  
the equipments on board.

"BOSTON"—Side-wheel Steamer of 240 tons, wooden  
hull, length on deck 154 feet, beam 28 feet, over all 54  
feet, depth of hold 9 feet, draft 6 feet, cylinders 36 in-  
ches, stroke 7½ feet, walking beam, with the equipments  
on board.

"BEAUREGARD"—Side-wheel Steamer of 171 tons,  
wooden hull, length 170½ feet, beam 17½ feet, over all  
46 feet, depth of hold 7 feet 8 inches, draft 5½ feet, cy-  
linders 32 inches, stroke 7½ feet, square engine, with the  
equipments on board.

"MARY FRANCES"—Side-wheel Steamer of 167 tons,  
wooden hull, length 155 feet, beam 16½ feet, over all 33  
feet, depth 7 feet, draft 5 feet, cylinders 32 inches, stroke  
7½ feet, square engine.

"HIBBEN"—Side-wheel Steamer of 85 tons, wooden  
hull, length 106 feet, beam 14 feet, over all 28 feet, depth  
5½ feet, cylinders 16 inches, stroke 5½ feet, draft 4 feet,  
walking beam, together with equipments on board.

"HENRY HAGENS"—Side-wheel Steamer, wooden  
hull, length 47 feet, beam 22 feet over all, depth 4 feet,  
horizontal engine, draft 3 feet 6 inches, together with the  
equipments on board.

By order of

T. C. CALICOT,

Supervising Special Agent U. S. Treasury Department.

The Savannah Republican and Augusta Constitu-  
tionalist will copy till date of sale, and send account im-  
mediately through this office.

12 December 21

23 December 1865, 2

MADAME FAVIER.—This lady whose reputation for keeping a first class establishment is second to none in the country, has re-opened her Dining Saloons on Meeting-street, one door South of Hibernian Hall. Our old citizens, business people more particularly, remember Madame FAVIER's popular Saloons on Broad-street previous to the war. Previous to the shelling her establishment was the favorite resort of Gen. BEAUREGARD and his staff, while the General was in command of this department. She is again fitted up, regardless of expense, in a style fully equal to her former place, and has also opened a Saloon for ladies. The establishment will be furnished with every comfort and luxury for visitors. Ladies out shopping or walking for exercise will find this a charming resort for a delightful lunch. The arrangements for the gentlemen's saloon and private parties are also on a new and extensive scale. Pastry and delicate dishes will be prepared at the shortest notice. The pastry department will be under the immediate personal supervision of Monsieur AUGUST BILLIEN.

23 December 1865, 2

**FATAL AND DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.**—Yesterday afternoon a sad and fatal accident occurred in the building of the South Carolina Insurance Company, East Bay, next to the *Courier* office. Mr. A. L. TOBIAS, former President of the Company, and Mr. WM. E. HOWLAND, were examining a loaded pistol when the weapon suddenly went off, the ball striking Mr. TOBIAS on the forehead, immediately over the left eye, and lodging, it is believed, in the brain. Medical assistance was sent for, and the unfortunate gentleman's wound examined by Dr. PETER PORCHER and Dr. R. LEBBY, JR., both of whom we learn pronounced it fatal. Restoratives were applied by Messrs. DAWSON & BLACKMAN, and the sufferer conveyed to his residence on Rutledge Avenue.

**BALTIMORE, CHARLESTON AND HAVANA STEAM SHIP LINE.**—We are gratified to announce the early resumption of a direct line of steam ships between this port and Havana. As will be seen by the card in our advertising columns, the first class iron side-wheel steam ship *Isabella*, under the well known and popular commander, Captain E. O. WALKER, will leave Baltimore about the 30th instant, and Charleston on the 3d proximo for Havana. The re-opening of this important line of trade and travel will be joyfully welcomed by our people. The agents in this city are the Messrs. CHAS. B. BROWN, No. 32 East Bay, corner of Adair's North wharf.

25 December 1865, 1

## HEADQUARTERS.



COLUMBIA, S. C., DECEMBER 21, 1865.

### GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS in the Militia, made by His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, in pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly to provide for the re-organization of the Militia, are hereby announced, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

#### 1ST DIVISION.

Major-General M. W. GARY, Edgefield.  
1st Brigade—Brigadier-General JOSEPH NEWTON BROWN, Anderson.  
1st Regiment—Colonel ABRAHAM BLYTHE, Greenville.  
2d Regiment—Colonel W. C. KEITH, Pickens.  
3d Regiment—Colonel R. B. ARNOLD, Greenville.  
4th Regiment—Colonel CHARLES S. MATTISON, Anderson.  
5th Regiment—Colonel E. H. BARTON, Pickens.  
6th Regiment—Colonel THOMAS B. LEE, Anderson.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel W. H. PERLY, Greenville.  
7th Regiment—Brigadier-General ALEX. C. HASKELL, Abbeville.  
8th Regiment—Colonel G. McDUFFIE MILLER, Abbeville.  
9th Regiment—Colonel ROBERT LANHAM, Edgefield.  
10th Regiment—Colonel J. TOWNES ROBERTSON, Abbeville.  
11th Regiment—Colonel BENJAMIN ROPER, Edgefield.  
12th Regiment—Colonel JAMES MITCHELL, Edgefield.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel J. C. COTHIAN, Abbeville.

#### 2D DIVISION.

Major-General JOHNSON HAGOOD, Barnwell.  
3d Brigade—Brigadier-General WILLIAM ELLIOTT, Beaufort.  
11th Regiment—Colonel JAMES R. HAGOOD, Barnwell.  
12th Regiment—Colonel HENRY C. SMART, Beaufort.  
13th Regiment—Colonel WM. L. CAMPBELL, Colleton.  
14th Regiment—Colonel DONALD R. BARTON, Orangeburg.  
15th Regiment—Colonel J. M. STEADMAN, Lexington.  
16th Regiment—Colonel J. FLETCHER BRADHAM, Barnwell.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel WM. STOKES, Colleton.  
4th Brigade—Brigadier-General JOHN A. WAGENER, Charleston.  
16th Regiment—Colonel EDWARD MAGRATH, Charleston.  
17th Regiment—Colonel SAMUEL LORD, Jr., Charleston.  
18th Regiment—Colonel THOS. E. RAYHON, Charleston.  
19th Regiment—Colonel J. C. CAIN, Berkeley.  
20th Regiment—Colonel G. H. SIMONTON, Charleston.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel P. BACOT ALLSTON, Charleston.

#### 3D DIVISION.

Major-General J. B. KERSHAW, Kershaw.  
5th Brigade—Brigadier-General F. W. McMASTER, Richland.  
20th Regiment—Colonel J. HARRINGTON COOPER, Sumter.

21st Regiment—Colonel T. F. CLYBURN, Lancaster.  
22d Regiment—Colonel L. W. R. BLAIR, Kershaw.  
23d Regiment—Colonel JOHN MEIGHAN, Richland.  
44th Regiment—Colonel W. T. LEBLANC, Charleston.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel ROBERT M. SIMS, Lancaster.  
6th Brigade—Brigadier-General WM. A. WALKER, Chester.  
24th Regiment—Colonel JAMES P. MACFIE, Fairfield.  
25th Regiment—Colonel J. H. RION, Fairfield.  
26th Regiment—Colonel GRANDISON WILLIAMS, Chester.  
27th Regiment—Colonel JOHN R. CULP, Chester.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel THOMAS W. WOODWARD, Fairfield.

#### 4TH DIVISION.

Major-General ROBERT F. GRAHAM, Marion.  
7th Brigade—Brigadier-General W. H. EVANS, Darlington.  
28th Regiment—Colonel W. ALLEN BENTON, Marlboro.  
29th Regiment—Colonel J. A. LAW, Darlington.  
30th Regiment—Colonel O. M. WEATHERLY, Marlboro.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel P. L. BUCKEDON, Marlboro.  
8th Brigade—Brigadier-General JAS. F. PRESSLEY, Williamsburg.  
31st Regiment—Colonel JAS. McCUTCHEN, Williamsburg.  
32d Regiment—Colonel DUNCAN MCINTYRE, Marion.  
33d Regiment—Colonel AMIJAH H. JOHNSTON, Horry.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel BENJAMIN ALLSTON, Georgetown.

#### 5TH DIVISION.

Major-General JAMES H. WILLIAMS, Newberry.  
9th Brigade—Brigadier-General J. C. WINSMITH, Spartanburg.  
34th Regiment—Colonel JOSEPH A. McLEAN, York.  
35th Regiment—Colonel JAMES DOUGLASS, Union.  
36th Regiment—Colonel THOS. J. MOORE, Spartanburg.  
37th Regiment—Colonel J. BANKS LYLES, Spartanburg.  
38th Regiment—Colonel JOHN M. WHITE, York.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel J. G. McKISSICK, Union.  
10th Brigade—Brigadier-General R. P. TODD, Laurens.  
39th Regiment—Colonel THOS. W. GARY, Newberry.  
40th Regiment—Colonel W. W. LESTER, Newberry.  
41st Regiment—Colonel G. F. MOSELY, Laurens.  
42nd Regiment—Colonel HARRISON FLOYD, Spartanburg.  
To command companies of mounted men—Colonel ROBERT BETSEL, Union.

II. Major-Generals commanding Divisions will immediately proceed to issue their orders to their respective Brigadier-Generals to re-organize their respective commands, by the election of all commissioned officers of the line of and below the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and by the appointment of non-commissioned officers.

III. Officers now in commission will continue to exercise their commands until their successors shall be elected and appointed, and will promptly carry into execution all orders issued by their superiors in rank.

IV. The organization of the companies raised, under the proclamation of Governor Perry, for the police of the State, into battalions and regiments in the respective brigades, will be suspended until further orders from this Department; and, in the meantime, the officers of such companies will carefully observe the orders issued by the Post Commandants of the United States forces in the respective districts, and they will comply with the organization as an auxiliary police force to aid the United States authorities in preserving order.

V. Colonels commanding regiments will report the organization of their respective commands, and their effective force to the Brigadier-Generals commanding brigades, who will make a consolidated return of their respective brigades, through their Major-Generals, to the office of the Adjutant and Inspector-General, (at present at Newberry Court House,) on or before the 15th day of March next.

By order of the Governor:

A. C. GARLINGTON,  
December 27 1865. Adj't and Insp'r Gen'l of S. C.

25 December 1865, 2.

REBUILDING OF CHARLESTON.—The New York *Herald's* Charleston correspondent says the rebuilding of the city is about to commence in earnest. Mr. THEODORE D. WAGNER will soon have a force of from five to six hundred mechanics and laborers engaged in the clearing and erection of new buildings in the burnt district laid waste in the great fire of 1861. Mr. WAGNER has in contemplation the erection of some two hundred handsome buildings and stores by the first of July. Others of smaller capital are commencing to clear their lots preparatory to building. The admission of the State into the Union would have a wonderful effect on the business and prospects of the city. Capitalists are chary of investing their money until the State and her citizens are rehabilitated in all their civil rights.

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The steam ship *Moro Castle*, from Havana on the 18th instant, arrived at New York on the 20th, but brought little news of importance. The large stores and warehouses of Labarra & Brothers, at Matanzas, were destroyed by fire on the 15th instant. The loss is heavy. The members of the volunteer military organization of Havana are greatly excited in consequence of one of their number, who was arrested for some offence, being confined in a jail instead of a fort, in accordance with a privilege granted to this corps. As a result of the Captain-General having refused to recognize this regulation, several of the volunteer officers have resigned. There is nothing from Mexico by this arrival.

# The Charleston Courier.

27 December 1865, 2

**GUERRILLAS.**—The Newbern Times, of the 9th, complains of what it terms "guerrillas" in the vicinity of Newbern. It states that, on Wednesday last, while the trains of Messrs. TAYLOR & DANIEL, twenty in number, were on their way to Kinston with resin from Jones County, while passing through Tuckahoe neighborhood, were attacked by a band of desperadoes, who cut six of their mules from their hindmost wagon, and after robbing the driver, a colored man, they put spur and left. Mr. J. J. EDWARDS, who had charge of the train, however, loosed some of his fastest horses, and after an excited pursuit of six or eight miles, overhauled them and arrested and took them before JOHN SMITH, Esq., who admitted them to bail. The rogues and scoundrels who committed this outrage are white men, and it is said there is quite a band of them back in that country.

We also learn that Mr. THOMAS HEARN's teams were robbed a short time since of two mules, which he has never recovered yet.

We also hear very ugly rumors about a number of murders that have been committed recently out in the back part of Jones and Onslow Counties. There are, evidently, a band of very reckless fellows out in this region, who have become so demoralized by the war as to form a kind of terror to the community in which they live, or else folks believe them very much.

*Editors Charleston Courier:*—Since my arrival here I have received very many letters addressed to me on business as Executive Agent of the State. You will oblige me by allowing me to say that this agency was terminated by the election of Senators and members of Congress, and that all communications should, in future, be addressed to them.

I would also add that most of these communications related to individual claims, and that they were not in that form which could ever have been pressed for decision. They were, as a general rule, merely statements upon which an opinion, more or less correct, might be formed.

I have very little doubt that most of the claims, especially those for restoration of lands, can be recovered, but the parties should place their claims at once in competent professional hands, for no general application on their behalf, either by the State Agent or by members of Congress, could be successful.

Respectfully,

WM. HENRY TRESCOT.

Charleston, December 20, 1865.



27 December 1865, 2

General Howard and his Official Report  
On the Freedmen's Bureau.

The report of Major-General Howard, in relation to the operations of the Bureau of Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, has been laid before Congress. He assumed this position with an evident prejudice against the interests of the people of the South, and a desire that the property which had been seized by the United States military authorities should be appropriated to the possession and use of the late slaves.

Such a course would not only have been the precursor of total ruin, but inconsistent with the welfare of all sections, and contrary to any constitutional restoration. That it would have been carried into effect is plain but for the firmness and wisdom of the Executive.

With the termination of the war, the President proclaimed, as his platform, the constitutional equality of the States, and has steadfastly adhered to this policy, unmoved by popular clamor and unswayed by party pressure. His rise superior to the claims of partizanship and the turmoils of the present, and with a heart large enough for the whole country, and a statesmanship which recognized no safer assurance than the fundamental law, he avowed that a Union of Liberty could alone be effected by the admission of every State to equal functions and to constitutional representation. Posterity will commend his fidelity to his high mission, and bear increasing tribute to the important services thus rendered to the cause of justice and of free institutions.

Under the Act of Congress, of March 3d, 1865, only that land was regarded as abandoned where the owner was voluntarily absent and engaged in hostilities against the Government. But yet, wherever the military forces penetrated, all property within their reach was treated as proper prize of war, and the result was, in this, as we doubt not in other sections of the State, and of the South, that lands, furniture, money, stocks, paintings, sculpture, books, household goods, and, in fine, property, whether real or personal, corporeal or incorporeal, was taken as fancy, or supposed warrant, might dictate. Spoilation, and in many instances utter destruction was the legitimate consequence. Nor were any minute enquiries made as to the character or sentiments of those in whom the title was vested. Soldiers in service and citizens at home, widows and orphans, trustees and executors, persons of full age, and minors of tender years, shared the same fate and experienced the same loss. The answer of those in authority was, that they had no power to determine whether the parties complaining came within the terms of the very Act of Congress under which they were alone authorized to proceed, and that reference must be had to the Court of Claims—a reply which simply amounted to interminable delay, and, therefore, to a practical denial of justice.

Nor was this all. Even after the war had ended and when the South had no longer a soldier in the field, and when, therefore, no one could be absent in hostilities against the Government, property was seized, as if the struggle was still pending, and the Act had any persons to whom it could possibly apply. So great was the grievance and so impending the desolation; that the Convention of the State felt constrained to appoint a Commissioner to proceed to Washington, with a view to the alleviation of the sufferings of the people of this Commonwealth. On the second of June the officers of the Government were directed to turn over the property thus acquired to the Bureau, of which General Howard was chief, except such as

was held for strictly military purposes.

It immediately appropriated control and the assertion over it of every right which the actual proprietor could have except that of sale. The property was held in possession, leased, and the rents and profits applied to the purposes of the Bureau.

But for the President its restoration would have been of dubious hope, and its owners, deprived of all means of recuperation and resource, would have been uncertain supplicants for an Act of Congress as their only expectation of relief.

General Howard established the principle that restoration could only be decreed where the applicant could prove his loyalty to the United States, in sentiment and deed, through the whole of the late struggle, and that; therefore, the path of allegiance and amnesty was insufficient, as this related only to the future and not to the past. In his own words: "As the Bureau held property by the authority of an Act of Congress, for certain definite purposes, this tenure must continue to exist until those purposes were accomplished, and that the property must be surrendered only when it was evident that the control over it was unauthorized and improper."

This course did not meet with the approbation of the President, who gave orders that a pardon, either by special warrant, or the provisions of his amnesty proclamation, entitled the party pardoned to demand and receive immediate restoration of all his property, except such as had been actually sold under a decree of confiscation.

The views of the President were carried into operation, and the work of restoration has been gradually progressing upon the conditions that where the lands are cultivated by refugees or freedmen, they have the privilege of remaining until the growing crops are gathered or compensation made them for the labor expended and its products, and that the leases granted by the Bureau shall remain valid until the period of their expiration, the rent to accrue to the proprietor from the time of his pardon.

The result is that in the city of New Orleans alone property to the value of one million of dollars, and in North Carolina one-third of that which was in possession, has been given up to its legitimate owners.

In Georgia and South Carolina there are four hundred and thirty-five thousand (435,000) acres of land still under the control of the Bureau and three hundred and ninety-eight (398) pieces of town property.

The subject of the Sea Island lands on the coasts of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, has, through the intervention of General Howard, become an involved and vexed discussion, and is likely to form a large staple for excited debate in Congress. General Sherman, by his special order, had set these apart for the benefit of refugees and freedmen, subject, however, to the confirmation of the President. Through agents, propagandists, social theorists and disorganizers, some attaches of the Bureau, and connected with it in various ways, the freedmen were led to believe that these were their rightful heritage, and would be divided among them; the consequence was that the freedmen, as an agricultural class, were violent, resisted the approach of the real owners, upon the soil, refused to make contracts for the coming year, and yet remain defiant and unwilling, notwithstanding all the explanations which have been made and the persuasions which have been offered.

We do not blame them so much as we do those who, entrusted with so important a concern as the agricultural interests of the richest portion of the State, instead of devoting themselves to a faithful execution of the policy of the President, by which

labor and capital could easily have been accommodated, preferred to carry out their political and personal views.

On this point we are fully sustained by the opinion and observations of General Grant, and his testimony is so complete that we prefer to give it in his own language. Speaking of the Bureau he says: "In some of the States its affairs have not been conducted with good judgment or economy. The belief widely spread among the freedmen of the Southern States that the lands of their former owners will at least in part be divided among them has come from the Agents of this Bureau. This belief is seriously interfering with the willingness of the freedmen to make contracts for the coming year."

Now can we wonder at this state of things, when General Howard himself publishes that as late as September 4th he recommended to the Secretary of War that the President of the United States should make a special stipulation in each case of pardon to a land owner that he should agree to set aside a certain title in fee simple to each head of family of his former slaves a homestead, varying in extent from five to ten acres, and those lands to be made equivalent and proper for the following year.

With the title of property that is left, and the ability to make labor available, it will require all of the energy and resources of our people to carry out the plan of Gen. Howard. The plan of Gen. Howard would result in the total abandonment of that portion of the State which has heretofore been most fruitful in productions, to desolation and anarchy.

It is not surprising, therefore, that when the Freedmen's Bureau was established on Edisto Island, and proposed to restore the lands to the owners, it should be met with evidence of dissatisfaction, and that a committee of their number should declare that "no condition would they be willing to work for their former owners," but must be permitted to have the land. Had General Howard and his agents acquiesced more heavily in the plan of the President, we venture to say the present dissatisfaction would not have arisen, and an arrangement mutually satisfactory to the freedmen and land owners would have been made. The Freedmen's Bureau has not been successful in its attempt to restore the lands as a source of cultivation, and to all intents and purposes to lie waste for the ensuing year. It is one thing to raise and another to allay the storm. Having instilled false hopes and excited, without due warrant, immoderate and unreasonable expectations, the consequence is felt in the loss to the State, and, therefore, to the whole country, of efficient culture and labor.

The Bureau, by the law of its creation, was to expire within one year after the close of the war; its presence is anomalous and unnecessary. Its tendency has, in a great measure, been to disorganization and not to repose.

The people of South Carolina are well aware that their former slaves are freedmen, that they are to be occupants of the same soil and inhabitants of the same State, and that it is alike their interest and duty to guard their rights and promote their welfare. Those are the real enemies of the freedmen who seek to instill into them, that they can either be prosperous or progressive, except by the ordinary conditions of frugality, sobriety and honest, consistent toil. It must be remembered that we have not reached the era of Utopia, nor has Fourierism been incorporated as one of the fundamental elements of this Government.

# The Charleston Courier.

28 December 1865, 1

## Contracts with Freedmen.

As a matter of general information we publish the following form and terms of agreement, which has generally been adopted, between the planters of the various districts and the freedmen:

### FORM OF CONTRACT.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA;

DARLINGTON DISTRICT.

Articles of Agreement between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Freedmen and Women, whose names are hereunto attached:

1st. The said servants agree to hire their time as laborers on the plantation of \_\_\_\_\_ from January 1st, 1866, to January 1st, 1867; to conduct themselves faithfully, honestly, civilly; and diligently to perform all labor on said plantations, or such as may be connected therewith, that may be required by the said \_\_\_\_\_ or his agent; and to keep no poultry, dogs or stock of any kind, except as hereinafter specified; and without the written consent of the proprietor or his agent to keep no fire arms or deadly weapon, no ardent spirits, nor introduce or invite visitors, nor leave the premises.

2d. The said servants agree to perform the daily tasks hitherto usually allotted on said plantation, to wit: 125 to 150 rails; cutting grain, 3 to 6 acres; ditching and banking, 300 to 600 feet; hoeing cotton, 70 to 300 rows, an acre long; corn, 4000 to 7000 hills.

In all cases where tasks cannot be assigned, they agree to labor diligently ten hours a day.

3d. For every day's labor lost, by absence, refusal or neglect to perform the daily task, said servants shall forfeit fifty (50) cents. If absent voluntarily or without leave, two (\$2) dollars a day; if absent more than one day, without leave, to be subject to dismissal from the plantation and forfeiture of share in the crop. All such fines and forfeitures shall inure, to the benefit of the employer and employees in proportion to their relative shares.

4th. Said servants agree to take good care of all utensils, tools and implements committed to their charge, and to pay for the same if injured or destroyed; also, to be kind and gentle to all work animals under their charge, and to pay for any injury which they may sustain while in their hands.

5th. They stipulate to keep their houses, lots and persons in neat condition, and subject to the inspection of the employer or his agent at any time.

6th. They agree to furnish from their number a nurse for the sick; also, stock-minder and foreman, to be selected by the employer. They agree to be directed in their labor by the foreman, to obey his orders, and that he shall report all absences, neglects, refusal to work, or disorderly conduct, to the employer.

7th. The said employer agrees to treat his hirelings with justice and kindness; to furnish each family with quarters on his plantation, with one-fourth of an acre of land for a garden and the privilege of getting fire wood from some portion of the premises, to be indicated by the employer; and to divide the crop with them in the following proportions, viz: To the hirelings one-third of the corn, potatoes and peas gathered and prepared for market, and one-third net proceeds of the ginned cotton, of its market value at the end of the year; and when desired, to furnish the usual bread and meat rations, to be accounted for at the market price out of their share of the crop.

8th. Said employer agrees to furnish animals and to feed them; also, wagons, carts, plantation implements, &c., such as cannot be made by the laborers on the plantation.

9th. All violations of the terms of this contract or of the rules and regulations of the employer, may be punished by dismissal from the plantation with forfeiture of his or her share of the crop or wages, as the case may be; but the employer shall pay said parties at the rate of four (\$4) dollars a month for full hands deducting there from advances made.

10th. The employer or his agent shall keep a book in which shall be entered all advances made by him, and fines and forfeitures for lost time or any cause, which book shall be received as evidence in same manner as merchants' books are now received in Courts of Justice, and shall have a right to deduct from share of each laborer all his or her fines and forfeitures, also all advances made by him.

11th. The laborers shall not sell any agricultural product to any person whatever without the written consent of the employer.

12th. The laborers shall commence work at sunrise, and be allowed from one to three hours each day for their meals, according to the season of the year.

In cases where parties prefer to contract for wages in lieu of a part of the crop, it will be competent for them to do so; in which case the Committee suggest a scale of prices according to quality of hands, ranging from \$10 to \$120 per year.

29 December 1865, 2

A GRIEVOUS NUISANCE.—For several days past the Battery has been the scene of some disgraceful disturbances. A large number of boys, sometimes as many as sixty or seventy, white and colored, have made it and its neighborhood the battle-ground for brick-bat fights and rioting generally, their engagements not being confined to the grounds proper, but extending as their contests warm to South Bay and the adjoining streets. We are sorry our authorities have suffered these proceedings to pass unnoticed, and we sincerely trust that this plan of bringing the matter to their attention may succeed in putting a stop to what offends the public sense of propriety and endangers to no small extent the property and even the lives of our citizens. If these white boys, supposedly educated more than their colored antagonists, are sufficiently lacking in self-respect to countenance and abet nuisances of this kind, they ought to be placed along with their inferiors, beyond the pale of decent society.

# The Charleston Courier.

29 December 1865, 2

## NOTICE TO COTTON AND NAVAL STORES SHIPPERS.

**T**HE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO MAKE full cash advances on shipments of PRODUCE to two first class Houses in New York and Liverpool.

WM. H. WESSON, at

Thaddeus Street's, 74 East Bay.

Wm. C. Bee & Co's, corner of East Bay and Vanderhorst's Wharf.

December 20

## CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.

**W**E, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE THIS DAY ASSOCIATED ourselves in partnership, in this city, under the firm of DECOTTES & SALAS, for the purpose of transacting a FACTORAGE and GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS, and have appointed Mr. RAMON SALAS to sign for us as Attorney. Office at 118 EAST BAY.

A. C. DECOTTES,

Lato Cahler Bank of Hamburg.

F. P. SALAS.

Charleston, 15th December, 1865. 15 December 19

27 December 1865, 2

**THE CITY POLICE.**—Captain C. B. STOWALD has effected the re-organization of the City Police. By the official announcement in our columns this morning it will be seen that the Police control of the city has been turned over to the Mayor and city authorities. The city police force, therefore, has resumed its functions. We are happy to say that the new force consists of a fine body of men, some of whom have served heretofore, in addition to many well known residents and citizens who have accepted the office. The following are the officers:

Captain—C. B. STOWALD.

First Lieutenant—J. C. MINOTT, L. W. P.

First Lieutenant—E. J. KINGMAN, U. W. P.

Second Lieutenant—H. W. HENDRICKS.

Second Lieutenant—J. B. WHALEY.

Second Lieutenant—JOEL COOPER.

Second Lieutenant—J. C. CAMPBELL.

# The Charleston Courier.

29 December 1865, 4

## The Arrest of Captain Semmes.

The arrest of Captain RAPHAEL SEMMES, who commanded the *Alabama* during the late war, will be sad intelligence to the numerous friends and admirers of that gallant gentleman. Our readers are familiar with the affair that transpired off Cherbourg between the *Kearsage* and the *Alabama*, in which the latter vessel was sent to the bottom after the most gallant fight ever made upon the waters. The following are the charges and specifications which, after seven months uninterrupted peace, are brought against Captain SEMMES.

### CHARGE—VIOLATING THE USAGES OF WAR.

*Specification.* In this, that on or about the nineteenth day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, off the entrance of the port of Cherbourg, in France, the said Raphael Semmes being then in command of the rebel steamer known as the *Alabama*, and an engagement having taken place between the said steamer and the United States steamer *Kearsage*, ordered or permitted a white flag to be hoisted on board the said rebel steamer, and took the opportunity of the cessation thereby caused in the engagement, and of the trust reposed in him, to make his escape from the said rebel steamer for the purpose of avoiding the surrender of his person as a prisoner of war and the responsibilities thereby incurred, and did subsequently, without having been exchanged as a prisoner, engage in hostilities against the United States.

(Signed,)

GIDEON WELLS,  
Secretary of the Navy.

Navy Department, November 25, 1865.

The following protest against his arrest was entered by Captain SEMMES:

Sir:—On the 26th day of April, 1865, I was at Greensboro', N. C., in command of a naval brigade, forming a part of the army of General Jos. E. Johnston, and participated in the capitulation between General Johnston and Major-General W. T. Sherman, commanding the United States Army of North Carolina. The condition of said capitulation on the part of General Johnston was that the army under his command should cease all acts of war from the date of the capitulation, April 26th, aforesaid. In consideration of which condition thus entered into by General Johnston, General Sherman stipulated that the officers and men comprising the army of General Johnston should return to their homes and there remain unmolested by the United States authorities so long as they observed the obligation they had entered into, and obeyed the laws enforced where they resided. I have, this day, been arrested by the order of the Secretary of the Navy; had a guard placed over my house, and have been informed that I am to proceed to Washington, in custody, there to answer a charge preferred against me, predicated upon facts which took place anterior to the capitulation between General Johnston and General Sherman. This being a violation of the capitulation on the part of General Sherman, I respectfully make this, my protest, against said arrest.

(Signed)

R. SEMMES.

MOBILE, Ala., December 15, 1865.

## Operations of the "Freedmen's" Bureau.

### REPORT OF MAJOR-GENERAL HOWARD.

The report of General Howard, Commissioner of "Freedmen," &c., to the Secretary of War, on "freedmen," refugees and abandoned lands, is a paper containing much matter of general interest. He states that but one five hundredth part of the entire amount of land in the late insurrectionary districts has ever been held by the Bureau, and had the plan of assigning it to "freedmen" been carried out, the Bureau would have been unable to furnish an acre per family. The amount of land now in possession of the Bureau is 788,590 acres and 1,596 pieces of town property. The amount of property returned to owners is 88,170 acres and 1,177 pieces of town property.

General Howard regrets that his recommendation was not adopted to make pardons under the twenty thousand dollar exception, conditional upon agreement of the landowners to set apart and grant fee-simple title to each head of a family of his former slaves, to five or ten acres of land. His influencing motive to make this suggestion was the great desire of all the "freedmen" to become landholders. As a general thing, he says, the planters have voluntarily taken care of the sick and infirm negroes left on the plantations. The total number of rations issued for the month of September by the Bureau was 1,400,643, of which 370,543 went to refugees, and 1,030,100 to "freedmen."

The money received from all sources by the Bureau from January to October, 1865, was \$907,896.28; amount expended, \$478,363.17, and the estimates for the next year, commencing January, 1866, call for an appropriation of \$11,746,060, which amount it is proposed to apply as follows: For salaries of assistant and sub-assistant Commissioners, \$147,500; salaries of clerks, \$82,000; stationery and printing, \$63,000; quarters and fuel, \$15,900; clothing for distribution \$1,750,000; commissary stores, \$4,100,250; medical department, \$500,000; transportation \$1,000,000; school superintendents, \$21,000; sites for school houses and asylums, \$3,000,000; telegraphing, \$18,000.

30 December 1865, 2

**The Mills House.**

The re-opening of this popular establishment, with which are connected so many recollections of the glorious days of our city, the resort and headquarters of so many distinguished public functionaries and visitors, the scene of so many anniversary celebrations of cherished associations, together with the important influence it has exerted on the prosperity of Charleston, induces us to present to our readers at this time a more detailed description and history of the splendid edifice, justly the admiration of both citizens and foreigners. Since its erection the property has changed owners, and now belongs to Messrs. THOMAS D. WICKES and JOSEPH PURCELL.

As our readers are aware the Mills House derives its name from the original founder of the establishment, our esteemed and venerable fellow-citizen, OTIS MILLS, Esq. It was opened with imposing splendor on the 1st of November, 1853, under the proprietorship of Mr. THOMAS S. NICKEN, with the present popular host, Mr. JOSEPH PURCELL, as Superintendent and Chief Assistant. With such a combination of hotel talent and experience, and good management, it was not surprising that the establishment made such rapid strides to public favor and patronage.

A "housewarming" or opening banquet was given on the 5th of November, 1853, by the lessee and proprietor, Mr. NICKEN, at which a large number of invited guests sat down to a supper gotten up in NICKEN's best style, with every luxury the market could furnish. Hon. T. L. HORTON, Mayor, presided, assisted by the then senior and now lamented proprietor of the *Courier*, A. S. WILLINGTON, Esq., as Vice-President. Among others of the Press representatives and citizens who participated were the following: RICHARD YEADON, Esq., WILLIAM LAYDLER, A. CARROLL, W. B. CARLISLE and JAS. H. MURRELL, of the *Courier*; Mr. JOHN HEART, of the *Mercury*; J. W. SPRATT, Esq., of the *Standard*; Mr. W. JOHNSTON, of the *South Carolinian*; Messrs. MELCHERS and LUDOWIG, of the *Charleston Zeitung*; Mr. DANIEL MIXER, Proprietor of the Charleston Hotel; Mr. H. L. BUTTERFIELD, of the Pavilion; and our old friend and universal favorite, Mr. JOHN BLOMAN, who enlivened the occasion with some of his best and most popular songs.

Not the least attraction is the admirable location of the Mills House, at the Southwest corner of Meeting and Queen-streets, which is in the immediate vicinity of business and convenient to all the principal wharves and landing places of our steam boats, &c. This is very important to strangers and visitors who are compelled to transact their business in the briefest possible period.

The building itself was erected according to the design and plan of Mr. JOHN E. EARLE, architect, and when finished was one of the handsomest and most imposing structures in the city. But its chief recommendation is the arrangement of the interior for comfort, convenience and elegance.

Its original cost, including ground and furniture, was \$250,000. The recent repairs and refurnishing cost nearly \$50,000. The building is five stories high, with a front of 80 feet on Meeting-street and 300 feet on Queen-street. It has also two wings, each four stories high. Notwithstanding its height, however, the arrangement and construction of the stairways make the ascent so smooth and gradual that the visitor would be scarcely aware of his lofty position in the fifth story were it not for the grand and magnificent

views and scenery to be there obtained of the city and Charleston harbor. The windows of the establishment merit great praise for size, beauty and number, and for the full, clear and bright light they afford to the rooms. The windows on the second story, including the parlors, reach from the floor nearly to the ceiling. These communicate with the verandah in front, and were refurnished lately with the most costly and beautiful lace and damask curtains.

The entrances to the establishment are three in number, viz: a grand public entrance on Meeting-street, the ladies' private entrance on Queen-street, and the third private entrance also on Queen for the accommodation of the business of the establishment. The public rotunda on the Meeting-street front first entered by the visitor has a pavement of the richest English Mosaic tiles which make a beautiful appearance. Overhead will be observed the new chaste antique chandeliers, which have attracted so much attention since the re-opening, and were selected by that well known and experienced gas fitter, Mr. W. BROOKBANK, who did the gas fitting of the establishment, and visited the North specially for the purpose of making his selections. The spacious rotunda makes a very good reception room for the traveler and his baggage and also affords a convenient conversational room for transient visitors and boarders. The meetings of friends and acquaintances in this place during the evenings is not the least of its attractive features. The passage way in front of the rotunda leads to all the gentlemen's public apartments, the reception room, sitting or lounging room, smoking and reading room, a public and private office, the dining saloon and bar room. All these have been refitted in the handsomest manner, regardless of cost, and the walls and ceiling finished off, painted and decorated in the latest and most fashionable style. The communication between the public office and all the rooms in the establishment is effected on by one of JACKSON's annunciators of the latest and most approved form.

The gentlemen's dining hall is 75 feet in length, 45 feet width, with a proportionate elevation. The conveniences and effect of this beautiful hall are increased by the absence of all columns. The ceiling is supported by trusses which adds to the solidity of the building, and give the rooms a much better appearance of lightness, elegance and openness. The ceiling is of the most recherche and decorations, being marked by most elegant moldings and interspersed with Corinthian traceries of varied and beautiful pattern. The new chandeliers before alluded to have also been introduced here in addition to several magnificent mirrors between the spaces of the doors and windows on the sides. This hall is calculated to seat comfortably three hundred persons.

The Ladies' Ordinary, which is 65 by 82 feet with a ceiling 18 feet high, has been refitted with surpassing beauty and grandeur. The handsomely decorated walls, the beautifully ornamented windows and large elegant gilt mirrors have an appearance of luxury and sumptuousness rarely equaled. Many new and great improvements have been made to this hall in the repairing of the establishment. Both of the dining saloons are conveniently connected with the pantries, storerooms, wine rooms, &c.

The kitchen department has also been lately refurnished with all the latest and most approved range, apparatus and kitchen material generally. A union with this are the bakery and con-

fectionary. The laundry, where the washing, ironing, etc., are done by means of steam apparatus occupies several rooms.

The parlors on the second floor, of which we have heretofore given a description, have been fitted up with chandeliers and rich brocade and crimsoned-cushioned furniture; and rich velvet carpets from Europe. The ladies' principal parlor and drawing-room are worthy of a palace. Each parlor furnished with a new and handsome piano.

As we have said before, the dormitories have been furnished with not only every thing for comfort and convenience, but also for ease and elegance.

The number of rooms appropriated to guests are one hundred and eighty. They have all been supplied with sets of new walnut furniture, the beds with linen sheeting, and towelling, &c., direct from Europe, and every room newly carpeted. Forty-five of these rooms are connected with a parlor of proportional size and style, offering great facilities to families and those who desire a sitting room in connection with a dormitory. The whole number of rooms in the Mills House is two hundred and fifty. Four dormitories with an average capacity of 50,000 gallons each, attached to the house. The water is distributed and conveyed by steam power to every part of the house. The systematic arrangement of the water pipes did much to prevent the destruction of the building in the disastrous fire of 1861. The establishment is heated throughout by steam.

During the siege the Mills House was a conspicuous object for the shells, and was struck some thirty times, mostly by two and three hundred pounders. To the vigilance and unceasing attention of Mr. PURCELL may be attributed in a great measure the saving from almost total destruction or wreck of this splendid edifice. He kept up constant repairing whenever practicable, and prevented exposure to the weather, which would have had a deplorable effect.

The officers connected with the establishment are so well known that any recommendation from us would be superfluous. It will be once more under the management of the same gentlemen who have so successfully carried it on from the commencement, and won its present enviable but deserved reputation.

The polite and gentlemanly assistants, Messrs. GEORGE E. WELLS and C. H. BURMAN, are so well known to our citizens and the traveling community generally as to need no praise from us. No one who once makes their acquaintance but immediately feels at home in their presence. In addition to these, the proprietors have also secured the services of two well known citizens, Messrs. R. C. WARD and J. B. BRIDGES, both of whom are very pleasant and agreeable gentlemen. The proprietors have also secured the valuable services of Mr. L. J. JENNINGS, as Cashier of the establishment.

The manner in which all the work in the late repairs has been executed, has given entire satisfaction to all who have been concerned. The best painting and plastering was executed by Messrs. J. J. KANE and JAMES GUY, the painting by J. J. KANE, the machinery by Messrs. GUNTER, HARRIS & CO. the gas fitting by Mr. W. BROOKBANK, and the electric range and places, &c., by JAMES D. DUNN. It is now again opened, and we hope as an establishment will prove a success.



# The Charleston Courier.

30 December 1865, 2

**BRIGADIER-GENERAL J. H. TRAPIER.**—We regret to announce the sudden death of this universally esteemed officer, and citizen, by disease of the heart. He died at the residence of Dr. F. PARKER, at Mansfield, near Georgetown. General TRAPIER was a graduate of South Carolina College, and afterwards entered West-Point. He was in the same class with General BEAUREGARD, and graduated with high honor. After leaving West Point he served in the United States army fourteen years, and was promoted to the rank of Captain of Engineers. On his resignation he returned home to take charge of his estate near Georgetown, and became a very successful planter. At the breaking out of the late war he received the State appointment of Chief of Ordnance, and afterwards took charge of the defences of the city. After the bombardment of Fort Sumter he resigned and accepted the office of Major of Engineers in the Confederate service, and was for sometime stationed in Charleston. He was also, for a short time, Chief Engineer of the State, when he was promoted to the rank of a Brigadier-General in the Confederate service, and ordered to Florida, afterwards to General JONKES's army in Mississippi. His health becoming impaired, he obtained leave of absence on a sick furlough and returned home. He was then placed in command of Georgetown, which post he retained till the close of the war. The General leaves a widow and two children, and a numerous circle of friends and relatives. He was an ardent lover of his State, and ever ready to aid her with his services.

## MARRIED.

On the evening of the 26th December, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Mr. GIMANDREAU, Mr. J. G. BROWN, of Columbia, to Miss LIZZIE, second daughter of F. D. FANNING, Esq., of this city.

In St. Mary's Church, in this city, on Wednesday morning, 24th instant, by the Rev. Father RYAN, P. P. SALAS, Esq., of Spain, to Miss R. C. POUGAUD, of St. Augustine, Fla.



# The Charleston Courier.

30 December 1865, 2

Head'qrs, Military District of Charleston,  
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., December 27, 1865.

[GENERAL ORDERS, No. 138.]

DURING THE TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF CAPTAIN T. D. HODGES, 35th U. S. C. T., First Lieutenant M. N. RICE, 35th U. S. C. T., is announced as A. A. Adj't Gen'l of the District, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command B't Maj. Gn'l CHAS DEVENS.

T. D. HODGES, Captain 35th U. S. C. T.,

December 29 and A. A. Adj't Gen'l

## UNITED STATES TAX NOTICE.

THE UNITED STATES DIRECT TAX COMMISSIONERS for the District of South Carolina, hereby give notice that the Tax Rolls of the following Parishes, in the State aforesaid, to wit: St. Andrews' Parish, St. John's Berkley Parish, St. Thomas' and St. Dennis' Parish, St. James' Goose Creek Parish and St. Paul's Parish are completed, and that the Taxes may be paid on the Land and Lots therein for sixty days from this date, at their office, in the city of Charleston, South Carolina, 90 Broad-street, rear of Low Range.

WM. HENRY BRISBANE, } U. S. Direct  
W. E. WORDING, } Tax Commis-  
WILLIS DRUMMOND, } sioners for S.C

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 11, 1865.

December 11

## NOTICE TO DEALERS IN SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

CITY HALL, OFFICE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, }

DECEMBER 29, 1865. }

APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSE TO RETAIL SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS, to take date from January, 1866, will be received at this office. Applicants will be required to mention the place where, he, she or they intend to carry on such licensed trade, and accompanying the application, so far as respects Tavern Licenses, with a certificate recommended by six householders living in the immediate neighborhood of the applicant, as to good repute for honesty and sobriety.

W. H. SMITH,

Clerk of Council

December 30

# The Charleston Courier.

30 December 1865, 2

## DISGRACEFUL RIOT—A COLORED MAN KILLED.—

About half-past eight o'clock on Thursday night last, during the progress of a negro ball on the premises of Mrs. WILKES, at the corner of Meeting-street and Smith's Lane, a party of the 33d U. S. C. T. endeavored to obtain admission without the payment of the entrance fee, and were refused by the negroes having charge of the arrangements for the occasion. They retired, but returned in a short while, armed with revolvers, and again sought admission with the same result, when a general riot commenced. The revolvers were brought into use, and two or three shots were fired, one of which from a pistol, in the hands of Private PRINCE BOYD, of Company D, 33d Regiment, took effect upon one of the colored citizens, CHARLES WASHINGTON, killing him instantly. The murderer made a desperate effort to escape but was arrested by some members of the 35th Regiment U. S. C. T.; after a chase up the lane and King-street, the hue and cry of which threw the whole neighborhood into consternation, and resulted in the calling out of the military, who soon restored quiet and dispersed the crowd. The murderer was confined during the night in a house near the scene of the murder and transferred to jail on yesterday. An inquest was held on the remains of WASHINGTON on yesterday, by Coroner E. M. WHITING, and a verdict rendered in accordance with the facts.

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**STEAM SHIP ISABELLA.**—The steam ship *Isabella*, Capt. E. C. WAMBERSIE, will leave Baltimore this day, and will sail hence on Tuesday, a few hours after her arrival, for Havana. Messrs. CHISOLM BROTHERS, corner East Bay and Adger's North Wharf, are the Charleston Agents. We refer all interested to the advertisement.

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