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FOR THE CENTRAL PAPER... The Office of our Country a Christian Duty.

A SERMON... By Rev. J. G. Stephens of Bedford Co., Va.

(CONTINUED)... Thus we have seen that the defence of our country is a Christian duty.

Some of you, perhaps, are disposed to ask, suppose one might be of opinion that a country is engaged in a war which is not precisely the same principle have the States of this Confederacy declared their separation from the Union.

Nothing, therefore, could be further from the truth than to suppose that the States have attempted to dissolve the Federal Union.

Let us admit that for a moment: There are two things to be considered in the preservation of the Union contemplated by the constitution of the United States.

It is not in the least necessary to say that every man who has ever been a member of the Union has done so without an agreement.

The essential merits of the controversy are now subsiding; you perceive, are independent of the question, whether the acts announced our separation from our neighbors were right or wrong.

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might think, that grant the North with its ill-favored Government.

As part, then, from every other consideration, it is to be considered by us as a duty.

It is in these trying circumstances, duty is clear and our only concern ought to be, to do our duty.

As to our primary duty, our country must be defended, let the defence cost what it may.

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in the exercise of the will with the laud which is its reward.

The Union is broken; and not deeply do we deplore it; but we are not sorry that it is broken by us.

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FOR THE CENTRAL PAPER... Educational Interests.

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THE BIBLE SYSTEM OF GIVING... MARRIAGE EDITOR—Since reading the late essays and tracts on this subject, and discovering the simple Bible principle, that every one should give and give according to his ability.

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One of the Family... There was a certain family of great moral and social excellence, whose members were marked by a peculiar physical defect.

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Talking and Doing... When Dr. Chalmers was executing his plan of establishing parochial schools in connection with St. John's parish, in Glasgow, he was told by some of his friends that he was selected for the first school to be erected.

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THE SOUTHERN LUTHERAN.

This is a weekly newspaper, neatly printed, and well edited by a committee for the Synod of South Carolina. It is published in Charleston, S. C.

Our Lutheran brethren South have had a touch of the experience of other churches, in their dependence upon Northern newspapers. They now set up their own banner, and in so doing act wisely and well. If the spirit of Luther burns in the bosoms of their people—of which let none doubt—they will gather round this standard, and support it in full strength along its way. They have ample means to do it. There are in the slaveholding States 12 Synods, 412 ministers, and 6,800 communicants. Something more than one-half of these are in the Border States, not yet in the Confederacy. In Missouri alone there are 25,000 members. This would leave about 21,000 communicants on whose patronage the paper must depend. If this is thoroughly enlisted, its material is abundantly sufficient. We bid every enterprise of this kind a hearty welcome. Let us discharge from our breasts every unwholesome, unworthy feeling. But the determination of the South should now become as deep-rooted as one of our great mountains, to settle and maintain our independence with a clean sweep. One of the great works belonging to the present generation, will be to address itself to this undertaking in all its length and breadth. Without it our vassalage will never be broken more than in name, and not very long even in that.

There is just at this point a mine which all editors ought to explore, for its wealth, rightly brought out, would be to our people of unspeakable value.

From what we see it is evident the Lutheran church South will soon sever its ecclesiastical connection with the North.

PROSPECTS OF THE O. S. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NORTH.

As a division may now be considered certain, the future of each section becomes a subject for interesting speculation. As to the South we say nothing at present, though there are views concerning her probable union with other Presbyterians of sound faith, which may well claim attention at no distant day. In so far as brethren essentially one in faith and practice, can be one also in ecclesiastical organization, and with comfortable feelings all around, "it is a consummation devoutly to be hoped for."

Let it not be unduly delayed, nor too long repressed; neither should it be prematurely urged.

Concerning the North, we have great reason to fear that the action of the late Assembly, which was so great an outrage upon us, is likely enough to bring no little trouble upon themselves. Plagues often return to torment the inventors. Our information by private and most reliable sources is, that the southern portion of the church there now "trembles and dreads the swelling tide."

The Louisville Presbyterian Herald also, which now enjoys unusual facilities for accurate observation, looks upon the probable future as follows:

"Further, the Southern brethren gone, the Northern portion of the church will drift towards Abolitionism. Radicalism will obtain to such an extent that an affiliation in this regard will obtain between the Church North and the New School, and there will be a union of the two in a few years. The New School has not changed its views of doctrine. Demas, Barnes and Duffield have not changed, and they are the leaders still. There will be an ignoring of fundamental differences on Original Sin, Ability, Regeneration, and the Atonement. Abolitionism will be the faith. It will draw and band them together. But not all of the O. S. School will consent to such union. There will be a remnant, at least, according to the election of grace, men who will bear aloft the old standard in doctrine, who will not seek to be wiser than Christ, and the Apostles in dealing with great social problems, and who will have learned to abstain from ecclesiastical interference with the State. When the Church meddles with the State, she may plead that her own salvation requires it. Let it be Uzzah putting forth his hand to steady the ark, and the result will be disastrous. It is a fearful thing, from the wreck shall have learned the true relations of the Church to the State, who shall say that the lesson will not be worth to the Church of the future all that it will cost to the Church of the present? What delight in falling back upon the assurance that our Redeemer reigns! Let us look cheerfully, hopefully to the future, whatever the clouds of day."

It is a remarkable fact that in the last copy we saw of the Pittsburgh Presbyterian Banner, and this soon after the adjournment of the General Assembly, a re-union of the Old and New School churches North was spoken of as probable, and with decided approbation by the Editor. This fact will startle many of our readers, and lead them to ask whether the Church of God is to be drifted by this wonderful "tide in the affairs of men?"

Interests of Education.—Two communications appear this week on the same subject. The one from Drs. McGuffey and Dabney was not received till Wednesday morning, the day on which our paper is made up. The interest of the subject, the value of the discussion, and the propriety of leaving it immediately before the public eye, to say nothing of the personal claims of the authors touching all questions of this kind, induce us to publish it at once. On this second editorial matter prepared is

Lexington Presbytery.—The time of meeting is September 4th, and not 14th, as published last week.

REV. WM. A. SCOTT, D. D.

It will be seen by the following letter addressed to Rev. Dr. Smythe, of Charleston, S. C., and published in the Southern Presbyterian, that this brother also is coming home. If this sitting process must take place, so be it. The South has nothing to lose. We welcome with open arms all our sons, whose hearts turn to us in this trying hour, and who from various causes connected with our great conflict, find no longer a comfortable resting place for their feet, except in their native land.

"SAN FRANCISCO, July 2, 1861. "My Dear Doctor: With an overwhelming degree of joy and gladness, I am nevertheless constrained to resign and leave this country, for many reasons, which I will give in full if I thought you would receive this direct. My object in writing is to let you know I desire a field of labor in the South. I know not at present how to get away, but will try. Through New York, Messrs. DeWitt, Rittig & Co., 94 Wall St., perhaps a line from you could reach me, or by the British mails. Pray for us, and God bless you. Yours, affectionately, W. A. SCOTT."

West Hanover Presbytery.—Members attending will leave the cars at Greenwood Depot, where conveyances will be ready to take them to the church.

Error Corrected.—In the proceedings of Oak Creek and Rough Creek churches, published in the Central Presbyterian of August 31. The extract was published according to the manuscript sent us. We are requested to make the following corrections.

1. Instead of saying that those churches have memorialized the Presbytery of Roanoke, it should have been, "they have instructed the sessions of each to memorialize," &c.

2. In the proposition "to secure a meeting of delegates from all of the Presbyteries in this State"—substitute the words, "these States."

"I Am a Soldier."—This tract, we are informed, was written by Rev. Geo. B. Taylor, pastor of the Baptist church, Staunton, Va., and not by Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN.

The Interests of Education.

The condition of our Southern Confederacy, and especially of our commonwealth of Virginia, has presented an anxious question for our educated young men, and students in literary institutions. We wish, while not discouraging their patriotism, to caution this class against a danger which impends; the making of an unnecessary and irreparable sacrifice by deserting their education for the camp.

We beg our young friends to remember that their situation is unlike that of other citizens. Youth, when gone, never returns, and they will find that the business of education will be practically limited to their youth, in all but exceptional cases. So that in leaving their studies for a year or two, they are not making the sacrifice which others make, of a year or two of comfort or private gain given up for their country.—They are fatally throwing away the efficiency of a whole lifetime, lost in losing the golden season for education, in order to render a temporary service to the State. Surely patriotism itself should forbid such a waste. Let others render the requisite military service, who can do it without a ruinous cost to themselves and the public. Young men may think that their military career will make only a postponement of their College course. But our experience forewarns us, that they will usually find this expectation mistaken: their lives will be turned, almost before they know it, into a new channel.

If it is wrong for our students to abide by their books at such a time, it would be more wrong for professors and teachers to sit idle at such a time, in schools that had no pupils. Hence this flight of our young men to the camp, if proper, ought to result, consistently, in the thorough disorganization of our Colleges, Seminaries, and Universities. But it is a work of years, often of a lifetime, to reconstruct a respectable literary institution. Surely it cannot be right or wise to cut down the tree which is required a lifetime to grow, in order to supply the lack of a stick of timber for a single day!

Without saying any thing invidious about that supply of professional men which has been hitherto so largely derived from the North, we may safely assume that it is now absolutely cut off. But we aspire to be an independent, civilized and prosperous people. Surely we shall not submit to living hereafter without teachers, professional men, authors, and ministers! On the contrary, it will be our boast that we shall refute the envious slanders of all our enemies, by displaying a higher and sounder culture, amidst our other elements of social prosperity.—The demand for literary and professional talent must then *recur*, just as soon as to all ends. It will be a serious need, to all our hopes, if the community has to wait for its supply, till a generation of educated young men is raised up anew. Before that is done, a generation of our people will have grown up, with a Boeotian character stamped upon them, which will either entail itself as the permanent trait of our new nation, or will fix upon us a most servile literary dependence on foreign States. Hence it is most vital to the honor and safety of our Confederacy, that during all the time society is busy in this labor of self-defence, it should be raising up a still larger supply of educated men at home. And fortunate will be that young man who has had the good sense to pursue his studies diligently, so as to be prepared, when peace returns, to step into this useful field of labor.

All these considerations apply with peculiar force, to the young ministers of the gospel, and candidates for the ministry. In our own denomination for instance, a careful estimate prepared some years ago, revealed the fact that about one-half the ministerial laborers in the Presbyterian church in Virginia, were borrowed from the States North of us. So that the destitution would soon become alarming enough, were our Seminaries of learning to continue in full prosperity. The churches cannot but suffer much disorganization from the confusions of war at east. Now we appeal to our Christian young men: Will you add to all these calamities, the more fatal evil of an absolute

dearth of ministerial supply at the end of the war? After all the disasters of the times, must our struggling churches be met, when peace returns, by this answer from their Presbyteries?—"We can give you no ministers till we rear a new stock." The education of a Presbyterian minister consumes from five to seven years. Even if no more delay occurred, than would be required for old students to complete their interrupted course of studies, this might be a fatal one, when added to all the evils of a state of war. The only result of such a course on the part of our candidates for the ministry, will be, that our church will retrograde in the South to a point from which a whole generation will scarcely bring it up. As things now go, our church will speedily be in far more ruinous want of ministers, than the commonwealth can be of soldiers.

Surely the exigencies of the hour are not so dire, as to justify the raising of soldiers for defence, at such an expense as this. To assume it would be to pay entirely too high a tribute to the prowess of our enemies. It is more worthy of the dignity of Virginia and the South, to show that we are abundantly able to hurl back our insolent assailants, and at the same time to carry on with undisturbed equanimity, all the high functions of civilized society. Virginia does not need a few hundred soldiers, as to employ her precious educated youth in the work of the camp. We have good evidence that our highest military authorities concur in this view, and lament the ill-considered zeal which has emptied our schools. We believe that our students will best display their patriotism and courage, by laying aside the musket, as autumn returns, and coming back to their studies, in every case where they can honestly do so.

WM. H. MCGUFFEY, R. L. DABNEY, N. C. Presbyterian please insert.

MINISTERIAL AND RELIGIOUS.

The Presbytery of Flint met at Griffin, Ga., on 24th ult., and the Presbytery of Cherokee at Dalton on the same day. Both bodies, it is understood, have taken action for a separation from the General Assembly.

The Presbytery of the Western District, Tenn., held a special meeting for this purpose lately, and unanimously voted for this separation and also for the organization of a Southern General Assembly. They concur with the Presbytery of New Orleans in favor of Augusta, Ga., as the place, and 4th Dec. 1861, as the time, and request Drs. J. H. Gray and J. N. Waddell, to act as a Committee of arrangements.

The Presbytery of South Alabama met at Selma, on 24th ult. Their action was to the same effect, except that they prefer Memphis as the place where the General Assembly shall meet.

Chaplain.—Rev. P. H. Dalton, of Orange Presbytery, to 6th Regiment North Carolina.

New Testament.—The Methodist Episcopal Publishing House at Nashville will soon issue a large edition of the New Testament, to be followed by one of the whole Bible.

Bible Revision.—The Western Recorder, says:—"The Revision Association is prostrate, and we presume the whole work of revision is indefinitely postponed."

It is certainly to be hoped it will not be resumed during this century.

The American Presbyterian, of Philadelphia, organ of the New School, has begun to issue only once in two weeks, and announces its probable suspension altogether, unless relief is had. We are surprised that the organ of so large and wealthy a Church should come to that. It is strongly abolitionist. We see it stated that one hundred and fifty papers in the North suspended last week.—Banner of Peace (Cum. Pres.) of Nashville.

Revivals.—A meeting has been held with good results at Marble Spring church, near Taladega, Ala. Rev. D. Nal and Rev. A. B. McCorkle, conducted it, and by the latter the following account is given in the Southern Presbyterian.

"We continued our labors for fourteen days, with the evident tokens of God's gracious presence and favor. Christians were greatly revived and comforted, and we trust some twenty or thirty persons were led to Christ. Fifteen were received on profession of their faith; among them the father of Rev. William Hall, and the two younger daughters of Dr. Nal—the only members of his family now living in the Church. Others, who tell us they found peace with God, will in other churches, and some may yet be admitted to our own. The entire company of those admitted had been consecrated to God and baptized in infancy.

Many of our young men had gone to encounter the perils of the camp and the battle field. The daily petitions for these were most importunate.

I will take the liberty to add that Dr. Nal had just closed a meeting of fourteen days, at Pleasant Grove, in Randolph county, during which some twenty happy conversions were reported. Of these only three joined the Presbyterian church."

Rev. J. H. BRYSON, Pastor of the Associate Reformed church at Hopewell, Manry Co., Tenn., is in Virginia, as Chaplain to a Tennessee Regiment, we believe.—We have had no direct word from him, but feel authorized from private information to make the above statement. Our readers would be glad to hear from Bro. B.

Die West Telescope.

LOST.—All hope of the safety of the ship Edwin Forrest, which sailed for China in August last, is now given up. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, missionaries to China, were passengers on board of her.

Rev. Mr. WALKER, Rector of Episcopal church in Alexandria has been compelled to suspend religious services there, because of Federal hostility, he being strongly Southern in his views. He steadily refused to use the prayer for the President of the United States. The statement made some time ago that a clergyman from the North used that prayer in his church, is not true.

Episcopal Resignation.—Rev. Dr. Lay, Missionary Bishop of the Southwest, has given official notice of his resignation. This is because his jurisdiction was in both Confederacies, and is necessary that he may unite with the Episcopal church South, where he proposes still to labor.

THE SICK IN STAUNTON.—There are now about 5000 sick soldiers in Staunton. They are generally from Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia. Staunton is now the great Hospital for the Western Army. The diseases are pneumonia, measles, mumps, typhoid fever and dysentery.

VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA.

WHEAT.—The prices now offered for prime wheat in Richmond, by one of the milling firms, are 80 cents for red, and 90 cents for white. Receipts very light.

HAMPTON.—This village was burnt by order of Gen. Magruder. It was understood, that the enemy intended to re-occupy it, and to prevent its being made a strong-hold, it was very properly destroyed. Many of the citizens of Hampton were participants in the work of demolition—some of them set fire to their own buildings.

The only matter of regret is, that it was not destroyed in the first instance, before it had been visited by the enemy.

Gen. Magruder gave the enemy at Newport News several darts; but they would not come from behind their entrenchments.

Northern papers say that the force at Fortress Monroe is reduced to 2,500—and that at Newport News to 4,000.—Whig.

THE BUGS GOVERNMENT.—The Washington Republican, of the 6th inst., states the mode by which the bugs Western Virginia Government is sustained:—

The forty-one thousand dollars due Virginia under the land distribution act of 1841, and which that State has hitherto refused to receive, was paid over the other day to Gov. Pierpont.

PRINCE NAPOLEON after his visit to Gen. Beauregard at Manassas, on Thursday, returned next day to Washington city.

ALEXANDER PARKES, Esq., Editor of the Clarke Journal, died on the 5th inst. of a wound received in the battle of Manassas.

JUNCTION OF RAILROADS.—The Petersburg and Fredericksburg Railroads will be united by a track through the city of Richmond, which will be finished in a few days.

SUCCESS.—The riding of smooth-bore cannon has been successfully tried at the Navy Yard. On Friday last a "thirty-two pounder," which had been thus treated, was examined and declared to be a complete success.—Norfolk Day Book, 5th inst.

PLUTTERING AMONG THE TRAITORS.—It is stated that Simon Cameron demands a quota of men from the disaffected counties in Virginia. The demand has produced a great consternation among the traitors, and they are said to be leaving their homes by hundreds to avoid being drafted.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.—North Carolina is determined that through the coming winter her troops shall not suffer for warm clothing. Capt. W. B. Walton a few days since received a check from a friend of his in that State for \$10,000 to be paid Mr. R. Cockerill, Esq., for wool, to be manufactured into clothing for the North Carolina troops. This is a step in the right direction, and we earnestly hope to see it initiated by each of the C. S. Should the approaching winter be a rigorous one, the suffering of our troops would necessarily be great, unless they be provided with the proper kind of clothing. To this matter, therefore, we hope to see the press of the South promptly call public attention.

Nashville Gazette.

IRON ORE AND COAL of the best quality are found in great abundance on Deep river N. C.

THE MILITARY BOARD of N. C., will cease after 20th inst.

Robert Strange, Esq., has been elected a member of the N. C. State Convention from New Hanover county in the place of Hon. Wm. S. Ashe, resigned.

THE ACES OF THE N. C. LEGISLATURE.—Numerous inquiries have recently been made in us in relation to acts passed by the late Legislature, which inquiries we are not able to answer, for the reason that the acts have not been printed and deposited with the Clerks of the County Courts for distribution. Our correspondents will please accept this as a reply to their letters.

N. C. Standard.

THE OLD UNION MEN.—No class of men are truer to the South, than that large class of aged and intelligent citizens who cling to the old Union as long as there was any hope of saving it. Among that class we find the Rev. Dr. Hooper of Martinsborough, N. C., whose masterly vindication of himself and of the School over which he presides, some weeks ago, attracted our attention, but from which our mind was called off by other more exciting matters. Our attention has been re-called to it by the following extract from his article which we find in the Fayetteville Observer. In alluding to the Union speech of Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, after the election of Lincoln, and when dissolution was imminent, which like the old Union men of this State Mr. Stephens labored hard to prevent, Dr. Hooper says:

"But the storm of Northern invasion which has driven him from his moorings and landed him on the Southern Fragment of this vast Republic has landed me there also, with thousands of the lovers of Union. Now, there can be but one party. Re-union being evidently impossible, the best argument to convince those who would coerce it, of the folly and madness of their enterprise, is an unbroken unanimity and determined resistance. This is the best method of shortening the war. The grand porcelain vase of our national Union being now broken, to attempt to mend it with hammer and nails, is worthy only of madmen."

A NOBLE WOMAN.—The following article, from the Charlotte Democrat, we copy as an example worthy of the best days of the Republic. There are thousands in the South like her, who will toil for the cause of Southern independence:—

CHARLOTTE, July 29, 1861.—Gentlemen: I have made about fifty dollars by sewing for the soldiers, and have a desire to promote the cause of my country as much as I may be in my power, not having a son old enough to take up arms, and my husband having to remain at home to support his family by daily labor. I propose to add my mite to the Confederate Loan. The money can be had at a few day's notice. Praying for the success of our brave men in arms. I am yours,

S. A. W.

DAVIDSON COLLEGE.—Prof. Blake, who accepted the chair of Natural Philosophy, to which he was recently appointed.

PRIVATEERING.—On the North Carolina coast at Cape Hatteras, lately, three steamers and Pilot boat were privateering. One of them, the steamer Gordon which ran the blockade at Charleston, has captured the Wm. B. McGuffey and the Proctor.

All the Privateers are armed with rifled cannon and their headquarters are at Newbern, N. C.

Gunboats are being collected and mounted at Norfolk to be taken down the canal.

The bark Glenn, with Federal coal has been captured.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

CONGRESS.—A resolution has been adopted by the Congress of the Confederate States to adjourn on the 19th of the present month, to re-assemble on the third Monday in November next. Of the proceedings of this body thus far, we know but little; but whatever has been made public, seems to have been enacted with a single view to the good of the people.

Congress does most of its business, very properly, with closed doors. There is but little room then, to talk for Buncombe. When its acts are signed by the President, they are made public. Several unimportant bills have been published. Acts establishing judicial courts in the States, providing for sick and wounded soldiers, and also providing that the President may allow battalions of volunteers to appoint a Lieutenant Colonel and a Major, when they have six companies, have passed.

Aug. 14.—Congress was in secret session yesterday as usual. The only portion of the proceedings made public is a series of resolutions affirming the judicial right of the privateering system. They are substantially the same as those heretofore published in a similar connexion. A number of appointments of officers in the Navy were confirmed according to their old rank in the Federal service. Robert Tyler, of this State, was appointed Register of the Treasury.

POSTAGE.—By a late act of the Confederate Congress, all soldiers, officers or privates, and members of Congress, are allowed to send letters or other matter, without pre-paying the postage. Their names and official position must be endorsed on the letters, &c., however, and the postage paid by the receiver.

CONFEDERATE PAY.—Colonel \$195 per month; Lt. Colonel \$170; Major \$150; Captain \$130; 1st Lieutenant \$90; 2d Lieutenant \$80; Adjutant \$10 additional; Sergeant Major \$21; First Sergeant \$20; Sergeants \$17; Corporals \$13; Musicians \$12; Privates \$11; Carriage-makers and Blacksmiths \$20; Artificers \$17; Laborers \$13.

SOUTHERN CURRENCY.—One of the good effects of the late meeting of Bankers in Richmond, is that the Banks of the several States will soon begin to receive the bills of other State Banks on deposit. The Exchange Bank of Virginia, is now receiving and paying out the notes of South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina Banks. We hope it will become general. The balance against any Bank will be paid in Confederate Treasury notes.

President Davis and family took charge of their new residence, corner of Clay and 12th streets, Richmond on Thursday last.

ARRIVAL OF HON. T. A. R. NELSON IN RICHMOND.—Richmond, Aug. 11.—Thomas A. R. Nelson, the submission member of the Federal Congress for Tennessee, recently arrested in Lee county, Va., while making his way to Washington, has arrived here under an escort of sixty Confederate troops. The Chattanooga (Tenn.) Gazette says:

Maps containing a careful and accurate delineation of all the mountain passes in East Tennessee, from Chattanooga, to Bristol, were found in his possession. This is no sensation item; it is now known to be true. Had he succeeded in passing through Virginia and reaching Washington; the authorities there would have been put in possession of a full and accurate statement of our strong and weak points in East Tennessee, and every mountain pass in the Cumberland range would have been known to Scott and the Federal Army. His arrest does seem like a timely interposition of Divine Providence, as it may yet save East Tennessee from being drenched with the blood of our own citizens, and prevent our soil from becoming the arena of strife between the Northern and Southern armies.

Upon satisfactory assurances for future behavior, he has since been discharged.

TENNESSEE.—Gov. Harris has issued his Proclamation calling for 30,000 additional volunteers to constitute a reserve corps. The papers assure us that this call will be promptly responded to—and the great volunteer State will soon be one grand camp.

DEPENDS ABOUT NORFOLK.—The Norfolk correspondent of the Charleston Mercury writes:

"Our river is bristling with splendid batteries, thickly planted on both sides, from Pig Point and Sewell's Point on either side, all the way up to the Naval Hospital and Fort Norfolk. Craney Island is most magnificently fortified, and near that island we have blocked the deep part of the channel with sunken ships, and have driven immense piles on both sides of these ships on a line all across the river, completely blockading the river at a point where the fires of Craney Island and three other batteries would all converge. That's a nice place, isn't it, for an enemy's ship?"

The Navy-Yard is well fortified, and we are cutting a canal all around St. Helena (opposite the Yard) and converting it into an island, and fortifying it on the side towards Norfolk in a very strong style.

Two two and a half miles from town, on the Princess Anne road, we have run an immense and exceedingly strong entrenchment from water to water, well mounted with guns and having a tremendous ditch in front. It is over a mile long, and a thousand troops are there."

WALTH OF SOUTHERN TRADE.—The Hon. Jos. C. Breckinridge, one of the Commissioners to Europe for the Southern Confederacy, has published a pamphlet setting forth the direct advantages to European powers of a direct trade with the South, and urging the establishment of steamship lines from Savannah and other ports. Among other statements we find this:

"The exportations of the Confederate States will amount to \$150,000,000 per annum, and their importations will nearly balance that sum.

"Although it is clearly evident that the immense import and export trade about to be established between Europe and the Confederate States will yield magnificent profits to the steamship company, it may not be without utility briefly to recapitulate the principal elements which will tend to secure the success of such an enterprise.

"Nearly the entire export and import intercourse of the United States, (almost three-fourths) will be carried on directly between Europe and the Confederate States. This intercourse has hitherto been of great aid to the steamers running between New York and Boston and Europe. About 100,000 inhabitants of the South have hitherto annually travelled in the North. Admitting that only one-fifth of the number (20,000) will now visit Europe instead, at a rate of \$130 passage fare, and from Europe, we arrive at the sum of twenty-five millions of francs (\$5,200,000) from passengers alone.

"If to this be added the transportation of

the mails, and full cargoes, going and coming, it is evident that the first lines which shall be established, and shall, by advantageous contracts with the railways, assure to themselves continual and regular freights, which will be easy of accomplishment, will command the commercial position and realize splendid profits."

PRIVATEERING.—The following preamble and resolution, touching points of maritime law decided by the Congress of Paris in 1856, were adopted by the Congress of the Confederate States on the 8th inst.

Whereas, it has been found that the uncertainty of maritime law, in time of war, has given rise to differences of opinion between neutrals and belligerents, which may occasion serious misunderstandings and even conflicts; and whereas, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, Sardinia and Russia, at the Congress of Paris of 1856, established an uniform doctrine on this subject, to which they invited the adherence of the nations of the world, which is as follows:

1. That privateering is and remains abolished;

2. That the neutral flag covers the enemy's goods, with the exception of goods contraband of war;

3. That neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under the enemy's flag; and,

4. That blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective—that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy.

And, whereas, it is desirable that the Confederate States of America shall assume a definite position on so important a point: Now, therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the Congress of the Confederate States of America accept the 2d, 3d and 4th clauses of the above cited declaration, and decline to assent to the 1st clause thereof.

OUR RECOGNITION BY ENGLAND.—The special correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says:

A letter from London, the writer of which has been very careful and reliable in his statement, asserts that should the first pitched battle result in the success of the Confederates, the recognition of the Confederacy would be a fact, and that as goes England, so goes France and the continent.

Gov. FLOYD'S BRIGADE.—The Lynchburg Republican of the 13th says:

Gen. Floyd's present encampment is four miles beyond Lewisburg, where he will remain for the present. The men composing his brigade are of the best material—large and able-bodied, well drilled and disciplined, and admirably equipped for service, especially the cavalry. A portion of the Lincoln forces, it is said, are now encamped at Gauley Bridge.

UNITED STATES.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LINCOLN CONGRESS.—WHAT IT HAS DONE, AND HOW THE WAR LOAN IS TO BE RAISED.—Both Houses of Congress having completed the business for which they were assembled, in extra session, on the 4th of July, adjourned on Tuesday last until the time of the annual meeting on the first Monday of December next. A number of bills of a most important character were passed, and all became laws by receiving the signature of the President.

Among others are the direct and income tax; the revised tariff; increasing the regular United States army to 40,000 men; authorizing the President to call out 500,000 volunteers; defining and punishing certain conspiracies; increasing the medical corps of the navy; creating the office of Assistant Secretary of the Navy; providing for the suppression of rebellion; for the better organization of the marine corps; fixing the compensation of the officers of the revenue marine; regulating the navy rations; providing for the appointment of Assistant Paymasters in the navy; increasing the pay of the regular army and volunteers two dollars per month; providing for the confiscation of property used for rebellious purposes; suspending the Sub-treasury system, by allowing the public money to be deposited in State banks, besides several appropriation bills and other measures of less importance. The joint resolution to legalize the war measures adopted by the President previous to the assembling of Congress failed to pass the Senate, no vote having been taken on them previous to the final adjournment.

THE COST.—The correspondent of the N. York Commercial sums up the total appropriations of the last Congress at \$237,000,000 for the army, and \$35,000,000 for the navy.

DINNER TO MESSRS. BRECKINRIDGE AND VALLANDIGHAM.—Baltimore, August 10.—Messrs. Breckinridge and Vallandigham had a grand dinner given them in this city at the Eatow House by our Secessionists.

HON. JOS. C. BRECKINRIDGE.—This gentleman addressed an immense assemblage from the balcony of the Eatow House, Baltimore, on the night of 8th inst. It was an eloquent assertion of those great principles of liberty, which he declared the present administration was laboring to overthrow. Some idea of the strain of his remarks may be obtained from a few extracts:

"He said we were living to day under the broad shadow of a spreading military despotism. He would repeat that he—a Senator in Congress—was living under the shadow of an irresponsible military despotism.—How is it in Maryland? The Police Commissioners of Baltimore were imprisoned without the shadow of law, without specification without charge, in a fort in Maryland, and then removed beyond the limits of the Commonwealth to another fort. And when the House of Representatives passed a resolution asking the President to inform the people why these arrests were made, he answered that it would be adverse to the public interest to let the people know the Police Commissioners of Baltimore were thrown into prison.

"Do you call this liberty? Do you call this law?"

"Every right they had under the Constitution of Maryland or of the United States was trampled under foot by the Administration at Washington. Talk of the dungeons of Naples! The Inquisition to-day outstrips everything in the shape of usurpation which the world has ever heard of; there has been nothing to equal it since the time when mankind first undertook to rule the will of despot."

"The action of the Federal Government in