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For the South Western Baptist—
The Tabernacle.

BY J. M. W., OF COLUMBUS, GA.

NO. 4.

The Tabernacle was built according to a divine pattern, and was of curious and costly construction. "It was constructed of shittim wood, which was probably a species of thorn, called *Acacia Nilotica*. It is said to abound in Arabia Deserta where the Israelites journeyed, and is described as a very solid, light and beautiful wood." From the number and dimensions of the boards mentioned in the instructions to Moses; and taking the cubit to be 18 inches of our measure, (which we suppose to be under rather than over the true measure,) the Tabernacle must have been about 45 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet high. There were 20 boards on the North, and also on the South, each board measuring 1 1/2 cubits wide, and 10 cubits long, standing up. On the West end there were six boards of the same width; and then there were two other boards wrought into the corners, so as to leave the width, as is believed, just 10 cubits.—The East end was the same width as the West end; but instead of boards, there were 5 pillars made of shittim wood, upon which was hung a magnificent curtain that could be raised or lowered with cords. This was the entrance and called the first veil. The boards were fastened together by means of bars of shittim wood running through rings of gold. The boards, pillars and bars were all overlaid with gold in elegant style. The boards had each two tenons at the lower end that set in sockets of silver of a talent weight each. On the East end were five pillars that were set in sockets of brass; while there was a partition separating the Holy place from the holy of holies, having 4 pillars that were overlaid with gold, and set in sockets of silver. The whole number of silver sockets was 100, and of brass sockets 5. According to the best estimate we can make, these 105 sockets amounted to about 200,000 dollars of our currency.

"The frame of the Tabernacle had four coverings which were probably designed to keep out the fine sand that was borne on every breeze in that desert, and to preserve the boards from warping beneath the intense heat of the sun." Lynd. These coverings were very elegant and costly. The first covering was made of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet, with cherubim of cunning work. His covering consisted of 10 curtains, each 20 cubits long and 4 cubits wide; and which were coupled together by means of loops, and taches made of gold. They were long enough when placed upon the Tabernacle, to reach down on both sides nearly to the silver sockets. Some writers are of opinion that this covering was used inside of the frame and answered the purpose of linings, corresponding to the second veil made of the same materials which hung over the entrance to the Holy of holies.—Over this one was a second covering made of goats' hair, consisting of 11 curtains 30 cubits long and 5 cubits wide. The eleventh curtain extended over the entrance to the tabernacle so as to cover it a part or all of the way down. A third covering was made of rams' skins dyed red; and over the whole, was a fourth covering, made of badgers' skins; or, as some suppose of seal skins obtained from the Red Sea. These coverings effectually protected the Tabernacle; and at the same time excluded every ray of day light from within; so that without the light of lamps, utter darkness prevailed. The Ark of the Covenant stood within the second veil, where the light of the golden lamps could never shine, except when the High Priest entered once a year to make atonement for his own sins and for the sins of the people. It was therefore the most of the time a place of darkness; and to it there is doubtless allusion by the Psalmist, when he says: "Clouds and darkness are round about him; righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne." Psal. 97:2.

The Holy place had a magnificent hanging made of blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen, wrought with needle-work. This was called the first veil, and covered the entrance into that portion of the Tabernacle. The division of the space occupied seems to have been for the Holy place, 30 cubits from East to West, 10 cubits wide from North to South, and 10 cubits high.—The most Holy place 10 cubits square and the same in height. (Exodus 26:1-37; 36:8-38; 38:27.

The whole superstructure was magnificent and beautiful beyond conception; and its cost past computation.

It was there that God appeared in clouds of glory—there his voice was heard from between the cherubim; and from thence his blessings went forth to enrich and to elevate his true worshippers. The whole arrangement was highly symbolical and deeply impressive. There was a pattern of heavenly things indeed; and as the high priest entered that holy sanctuary in behalf of himself and his people, and met with acceptance there; so Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the great High Priest, entered into heaven itself to appear in the presence of God for us. Heb. 9:7-24.

Preach Christ.

One who, in his own deep experience, has felt the need of Christ and learned the exceeding preciousness of Christ, knows how to preach him to others; and the chief power of the pulpit to save men springs from those sermons which are the expression of the preacher's personal experience. One of our exchanges has some good remarks on this point:

"The great want of the human spirit is a living Savior able to save the soul. When man is convicted of sin, and finds himself utterly powerless as to freedom from sin, and begins to feel that possibly he is doomed, what does he want? What tidings will cheer him? One great fact alone can minister to his necessities—it is Christ, mighty to save the chief of sinners—the assurance that there is no depth of human depravity which his grace and power can not reach. This assurance will help him, and nothing else will. Preach Christ! Having an experience of the want of your own heart in the day of your anxiety, hold up Christ as he met your wants then. Tell the sinner what he wants to know of the Savior, nor perplex his mind with things which he cares nothing for, because he is in no mood for investigation. Tell him how Christ came down from above, commissioned as the world's Savior—how he was tempted—how he wept and sympathized with man—how he prayed—how he declared that none should be spared from his presence—how he forgave the penitent thief, and assured him of a throne in paradise—how he died for our sins, according to the Scriptures—how he triumphed over death and rose from the grave; how he ascended on high, dispensed the Holy Spirit, and is interceding for us above. These facts at once reveal the past and present interest of Christ in this world's welfare. They assure man that he has a Savior who lives, as well as one who died on the accursed tree.—The apostle determined to know nothing among the Corinthians save Christ and him crucified.

He well knew that the more Christ was preached, the more man's attention was drawn to him as a Savior, the less time and disposition would there be for doubtful disputation. Perhaps the experience of Christian pastors has often harmonized with that of the apostle; they have observed what it was which proved interesting and effectual when preached; they have noticed the hungering and thirsting of the most spiritual and devout after Christ. They have observed the starting tear, the brilliant eye, and the interested look when Christ is preached, which told very plainly what theme had reached the heart and stirred the fountain within.

Christ is the soul and the center of the gospel. The good news relates to his living, dying, and triumph for us. He who preaches the gospel will preach Christ. Metaphysics and polemics are as nothing when compared with Christ. They may be useful in the school or the study for mental discipline, but they are not "Bread of Life" to a starving world." Preach Him who is the "Bread of Life."

ITS EFFICACY.—Animated by religion, Luther rises to a pitch of moral grandeur before which the glories of an Alexander or a Napoleon pale. No scene in the history of the world's most renowned, equals in sublimity that before the Diet of Worms, where, in the most august and imposing assembly ever met in Christendom, when asked to retract what he had written, by those who could enforce their demand by sword and fire, as the Europe of the day and of succeeding centuries seemed to await his answer, he replied, "If it be not shown from the word of God that I have written what is untrue, I neither can nor will retract anything, for it is not safe for a Christian to speak against his conscience." Then, looking around on the assembly, who held his life in their hand, he added, "Here I am I cannot be otherwise; God help me.—Amen." It was religion that did this for the miner's son and the mendicant monk.

A PRECEDENT.—In 1775, George III. announced the existence of "rebellion" in the American Colonies, and urged the necessity of a force sufficient to suppress it; while Parliament interdicted all trade with them, and authorized the capture of their property on the ocean. Our fathers retaliated by prohibiting commerce with the mother country, and issuing letters of marque and reprisal against her ships. The "pirates!"

The Elements of a Prosperous Church.

BY REV. DR. MURRAY.

The object of a church organization in our world is twofold; to maintain the truth and the ordinances of the Gospel, and to extend the knowledge of them among all people; and a Church is prosperous in the degree to which these ends are accomplished.

It is said of the Church in Jerusalem, immediately subsequent to its Pentecostal baptism, "The Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved." And what was the secret of its daily increase? Why are not churches now thus blessed? These are important inquiries, and upon which no considerate mind can bestow even a slight consideration without exclaiming, "Oh, that the Church had always remained on the foundation of the apostles and prophets! Oh, that the influence of its first baptism had continued from age to age!" Then there would have been no corruption of doctrine, no conflicts of errors, no need of Reformations, no jealousies of sects, no weakening of its energies by internal discords! Then each successive age would only have increased the splendor of its light, and the power of its influence, and the extent of its dominion; and long ago all the kindreds and people of the earth would have been pervaded by its benign influence! And the most cursory analysis of its state clearly reveal what are the true elements of a prosperous Church. These are:

1. *The truth.* The reception of the Savior as the Messiah, and of the great doctrines which he taught, formed the bond that bound the early disciples together. Whether Jews or Gentiles, bond or free, male or female, refined Greeks or boorish Scythians, when they loved Christ they loved one another.—They were all one in Christ Jesus. And when drawn together by the all-powerful magnet of faith in Christ, it was to confirm one another in the faith—to maintain it and preserve it from corruption—to teach it to their children, and to propagate it through out the world. Here we have the great element of a prosperous Church; and, instead of being a subordinate one, it is the basis of all others—that in which all others inhere.

That the truth is an element essential to the prosperity and true glory of the Church, all history testifies. As the truth died out from the ancient Church, fancy, and credulity, and corruption had a freer play, the tokens of departing glory and of a coming night fearfully multiplied. Shade thickened after shade. Each succeeding age came wrapping in a deeper gloom, until the flood of glory which the Gospel poured upon the world was lost in the darkness of the night of the Dark Ages, which seemed to roll on as if it were never to end. The truth is to the Church what the sun is to the earth, the source of its light, its heat, its fertility, and its fruitfulness. And, we see in the case of those bodies which have departed from the foundation which God has laid in Zion, the Church, when it forsakes the simple truth for fable, is as an altar without a sacrifice—as the body without the spirit that animates it; and hence the duty of the Church to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. The truth is its life. It was the sword of the Spirit at Pentecost, and it must ever be so.

2. *Another element of a prosperous Church is a true ministry.* There is a divinely authorized ministry for the perfecting of the saints, for the edifying of the body of Christ. This ministry must be duly prepared and authenticated. * * * It must possess, in addition, a quenchless desire for the salvation of men. How strong on this point the declaration of the apostle, "For could I wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen, according to the flesh." Could he more strongly express the intensity of his desire to save souls? And, again, he says to the Corinthians, "For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself a servant unto all, that I might gain the more. . . . I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some." This is his own representation of the passion burning within him for the salvation of men, and which difficulties seemed only to inflame; and hence, in a few years, he carried the Gospel as far as the Roman eagles had sped their flight. From the hour the scales fell from his eyes he lived but for one object—to save men by the preaching of the truth. Whether reasoning with the Jews, or confounding the Grecian philosophers, or defending himself before Festus, or writing in chains to the Churches he had collected, his only aim was to save men through the truth. * * * And such is the ministry we need—learned—trained to be master workmen if it can be done—but, above all, truly pious and truly consecrated to the work of the ministry. With such a ministry, where does any Church languish? Without such a ministry, where does any Church flourish? When told he could not live an hour, Dr. Backus asked that he might be placed on his knees, so as to offer up another prayer for the Church of

God before he died. His request was granted, and he died on his knees praying for the prosperity of Jerusalem.—When a spirit like this prevades its ministry, then will the light of the Church fall upon the world with the brilliancy of the united light of seven suns. And education societies, colleges, and seminaries are comparatively useless only as they raise up such a ministry. Such was the ministry of Pentecost.

3. *Another element of a prosperous Church is the holiness of its members.*—"Christ loved the Church, and gave himself for it, that he might by the word cleanse unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." The prayer of Paul for the Thessalonians was that God might sanctify them wholly. And he entreats the Romans to present themselves to God as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable. And Peter entreats all Christians to be holy in all manner of conversation. The holiness, the graces of its members form the true weapons with which the Church may successfully contend with the army of the aliens.

And all scriptural representations as to Christian character agree with this statement. Christians are witnesses for Christ, bearing testimony by word and example to his divine character; equity, sufficiency, and to the power of his grace. They are epistles of Christ, not forged, falsified, interlined, blotted; but genuine, plain, clear, that can be read of all men. They are the lights of the world, not glimmering feeble, fitful, like a candle dying in a socket; but bright, and ever brightening, like the sun ascending from the twilight of morn to the zenith. They are the salt of the earth, not useless and worthless, having lost its savor, and cast out to be trodden under foot of man; but salutary, preservative, and corrective. The sanctity and consecration of its members form the true glory of the Church, and are a most important element in securing its prosperity.

It is a cause of lamentation in our day that, to such an extent, a profession of religion is only a profession of belief in the theory of the Gospel. With many, that profession seems as unconnected with obligation to glorify God and good to men as is the reception of any one of the conflicting systems of philosophy. Here is the point where the Protestant Church is weakest, and where it stands most in need of a new Reformation. It is related that in 1730 a negro from St. Thomas visited the Moravian Church at Herrethuth, and stated that he had a sister on that island greatly desirous of religious instruction, but that none could instruct her save a slave. Two of the brethren, Dober and Leopold, instantly offered to go to that island and to sell themselves as slaves, in order to point that child of Africa to the Savior. When the spirit of Dober and Leopold pervades its entire membership, then will the Church be terrible to its enemies as an army with banners, and soon will the world be subdued to the sceptre of the Savior; and such was the spirit of the members of the Church at Pentecost.

4. *Another element of a prosperous Church is the united and zealous efforts of its members to accomplish its ordained work.* This world is given to the Savior. It is to be reclaimed to its true allegiance by the Gospel; nor is the Church to relax its efforts to give the Gospel to every creature until the darkness which covers the earth shall pass away, like the mists that roll up the morning before the rising glories of a summer's morning. What a glorious work is given to the Church!

God is opening in all the earth new channels for the going forth of the waters of life, and amid all people he is clearing a wide space on which to lay the foundations of his Church. The gorgeous superstitions of India are giving way before the religion and civilization of Christian states. A change is rapidly passing over the Mohammedan world. Its fit emblem is that segment of the moon often seen in the western sky in the morn, and whose light is going out amid the brightening glories of the sun. Property, too, is fast wearing out; and the providence of God, with trumpet tongue, is calling upon the Church to rise and possess the land. With such a work before it, and with such opportunities of doing it, why should one member of the Church of God withhold his aid? Why should Judah vex Ephraim, or Ephraim Judah? Why should the people of God permit themselves to be drawn away by controversies on the mint, anise, and cummin, from the weighty matters of the law? In a day like ours, every member of the Church should be zealous and active in seeking to do good to others; they should be laboring together for the spread of the Gospel.—Thus did the members of the Church at Pentecost, and the Lord daily added to their number. A Church whose members are united in love and fervent in spirit is at once powerful and attractive. It is arrayed in the beauty of holiness. Such was the Church of Pentecost.

5. *Another element of a prosperous*

Church is the presence of the Spirit. The last command of the Savior to His disciples was, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power on high." In obedience to this command, they returned to that famed upper room, and there for ten days they waited and prayed, and prayed and waited for the promised power; and when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. It is admitted that there were some things miraculous in this wonderful event, and not now to be expected; but it is claimed that there were other things designed to be permanent, and which now, as then, form the true power of the Church; and those things are all included in the phrase, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost;" and in this, which is familiarly called "the baptism of the Spirit," consists the real power of the Church, without which none of its great objects can be attained. The disciples had the truth; they were authorized to preach; the people were perishing for lack of vision. Why delay a day? They waited the promise of the Father; and, when endued with the power from on high, they went into Jerusalem and into all the earth, and wherever they went they turned the world upside down; and here alone lies the true power of the Church. Splendid edifices, imposing ceremonies, cathedral services, eloquent ministrations, matins and vespers, form no compensation for this power from on high, nor do organizations for the reformation of all kinds of sinners. Let the ministry of the Church, its office-bearers and members be only clothed with this power from on high, and then it will appear to be what it really is, "an angel of light, lifting her cherubic form and smiling countenance among the children of men; shedding a healing influence on the wounds of society; hushing the notes of discord; driving before her the spirit of mischief; bringing the graces in her train, and converting earth into a resemblance of heaven." Then, like the Pharos of the Egyptians, whose towering form by day, and whose far-shining light by night was the guide of the tempest-tossed mariner, it will be the guide of all the wandering from God to a safe anchorage under the shelter of the Rock of Ages.

From the Richmond Christian Advocate.

The Time to Do Good.

Now is the time for God's people to prosecute their labors in behalf of souls with special earnestness. In the order of Divine Providence there is now in our country an almost omnipresent conviction of the need of the Divine blessing upon us as a people. The secular press of the Southern Confederacy is bearing testimony to the wonderful interference of a gracious Providence in our behalf. God has impressed upon the people his mercy in a two-fold manner; by the preservation of our soldiers in battle and by the supply of the most remarkable abundance of food of every kind. While the angels of God have pitched their tents around about our armies, the store-houses of the families at home are being filled with plenty. These mercies are already softening the hearts of many men who, though not yet converted to faith in Jesus, nevertheless speak of these things with reverence and gratitude. Let the servants of the Most High be earnest and diligent co-laborers together with God in persuading men to acknowledge Him and give their hearts to Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift.

Men seem to be specially approachable now on the subject of religion. They are realizing that it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. Their minds are more than usually alive to religious appeals. If the Church of God is faithful and energetic, we shall find, when the history of these discordant times is written up, that it was a period of grace far beyond our present conceptions. It is true, that the circumstances of the present day are not favorable to protracted meetings and the usual formal methods of the Church in carrying on the work of salvation, but it is eminently a time to speak a word in season. It is the hour and power of darkness externally, but it is also the hour for special individual effort, and we have reason to believe it is also a time of great success in the personal exertions of pious men and women. Penitents and converts do not crowd our altars, but the good work goes on privately. The chaplains are, as far as we can learn, doing a noble work among the soldiers. We have heard of a number of conversions and of the prevalence of a fine religious feeling in some of the camps. We hope that if the eyes of any of the chaplains to the army fall on these lines, they will be kind enough to furnish us from time to time some account of their labors. It will be gratifying to the friends of the soldiers to learn in that way of the religious advantages and blessings which they enjoy away from home.

Let our people, as they mingle with the soldiers, take occasion to circulate tracts, Bibles and good books among them and say a word for Christ to the men who are braving the dangers of the battle-field.

And among those who are not engaged in the war, now is specially a time at which to work for God. Let those who love our Lord Jesus seek for themselves a deeper work of grace—faith at the mercy seat—power in prayer. And among the unconverted wives, mothers, fathers and daughters of soldiers, there is a field for usefulness ripe unto harvest. Let us not indulge in empty complaints about the times, but accepting the day which God has appointed, give ourselves diligently to the work to which His providence has assigned us.

"Through the Mediator."

A Mr. Davies, being under religious impressions, felt much inclined to open his mind to Dr. Owen. In the course of conversation, Dr. Owen said, "Young man, pray, in what manner do you think to go to God?" Mr. Davies answered, "Through the Mediator, sir," to which the Doctor replied, "That is easily said: but I assure you it is another thing to go to God through the Mediator, than many who make use of the expression are aware of. I myself preached some years, while I had very little, if any, acquaintance with access to God thro' Christ, until the Lord was pleased to visit me with a sore affliction, by which I was brought to the brink of the grave, and under which my mind was filled with horror; but God was graciously pleased to relieve my soul by a powerful application of Psalm cxxx. 4. 'But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.' From this text I received special light, peace, and comfort, in drawing near to God through the Mediator; and on this text I preached immediately after my recovery."—Perhaps to this exercise of mind, we owe his excellent Exposition of that Psalm.

RUSSIA.—A young Russian lady, lately writing to a friend in England, gives a gratifying account of the circulation of the Bible in Russia. She says that she was driving in one of the principal streets of St. Petersburg, where there is always a crowd. All at once she saw a table spread on the Trottoir, and upon it a quantity of Bibles, New Testaments, and tracts. The colporteur was an aged, very kind-looking man. Some people were buying. Until now never was a colporteur seen there, especially not in the streets, and it was such a rejoicing sight. "Of late," she adds, "I have remarked little boys selling tracts. It has been observed that in Germany, where at every watering-place there are colporteurs, the most Bibles are bought by Russians. This I have heard asserted by a great many persons. In general there is, particularly now, a great demand for Bibles and Testaments. Our new Russian version of the New Testament has undergone within one year two or three editions, each of many thousands of impressions. This is such a rejoicing thing! This summer I believe the Epistles and Revelation will be added to the four Gospels and the Acts. So the New Testament will be complete in good Russ. Then they will proceed with the translation of the whole Bible."

BAPTISM OF A CHINAMAN.—REV. G. W. Gaillard writes from Canton, China, to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board: "I have baptized one man since I last wrote, and now have several applicants for baptism, some of whom I expect to baptize at our next church meeting, which is the first of March.—The last man baptized has heard the gospel and read the books for several years, but he says his heart was not in the matter, and therefore he did not believe it; like many in our own land, who know that Christ is the only Savior, and yet they do not accept him as their Savior. I know of several among the Chinese who are much the same. They say they cannot repent and believe now. Some of those who have come out on the Lord's side, meet with much opposition from parents and relatives."

OUR FATHERS.—To repel the charge of sectarianism as preferred against Baptists, Ivey asked: "When did they object to unite with other Christians in any plan of humanity and benevolence, whether for the education of the poor, or the circulation of the Scriptures, or anything in religion which did not exact from them the sacrifice of principles conscientiously held, and, as they think, scripturally provided?" He appeals to the fact that Baptists were among the first and most active members of the "Sunday School Society," the "Religious Tract Society," the "British and Foreign Bible Society," the "Society for the Conversion of Sailors," the "British and Foreign School Society," etc., as proof that "they have not been a whit behind the chief of those who have set the fairest examples of enlightened zeal, Christian candor and philanthropic benevolence."

Fate of American Statesmen.

This is the caption of a truthful article in the New York Times, the substance of which the Commercial Advertiser reproduces as worthy of consideration. The pith of it is, (says the last paper,) that there has been a great change in American sentiment with regard to political life. The best talent of the land, notwithstanding the honors of successful statesmanship, is no longer ambitious of that kind of distinction. It seeks other channels for the exercise of its powers. There is nothing to attract talent and merit into the field of politics.

The rewards of other professions are won without self-basement and the rivalry of a more honorable kind. Politics are becoming odious; public honors are distasteful. All that once warmed the bosom of young ambition, and plumed its wings for a lofty flight; all that made the rewards of political distinction honorable and worth the labor of attaining, has been torn from it by our abominable system of permitting small men to manage the politics of the country. These men occupy the field, and like the harpies of Virgil, sit in the high places, and by their foul presence and croakings drive away every honorable competitor from the feast.

We kill off our great men—kill them to make room for small men, on the ground of expediency, of policy, and what not? and bring forward men of no talent—no capacity—simply because they are unknown, and cannot easily be made the subject of positive affirmation in respect to anything except their obscurity. Principles not men—new men—are the cries which demagogues have yelled out as they rushed on at their partisans, and slashed down the great leaders, who had done or said something, which, no matter, how true, might render them obnoxious to those miserable factionists. It is death to become great, really, as a statesman.—Such a one is dragged to the guillotine expediency, and off goes his head, or the new man renders him lifeless. A country which refuses to take care of its best men, will soon lose the power to take care of itself. This is the general purport of the Times' article, written with special pertinency at this time.

There is nothing more true than that the country is in great danger when the really great statesmen, who have been for years acquiring experience, knowledge, skill, are summarily laid aside, on the ground of expediency, or to take up some new man whose best recommendation is his obscurity. The nation has had enough of this; the experiment has been to the loss of national honor almost and certainly the public detriment. A small man cannot guide the destinies of this great nation, or govern a state without loss to the republic. Everywhere the principle should be—in the State in all its departments; in the judiciary in all its branches; in the highest to the lowest, in the Legislature; in municipal affairs—give to the service of the people the best men, and abandons the miserable policy of discarding character, moral worth, talent, experience, knowledge, on such miserable pretences as have distinguished all parties within the past fifteen years.

The War and the Church.

The genius of Christianity and the spirit of war are opposites. They have nothing in common—no sympathy with each other. One is "pure and peaceable, full of mercy and of good fruits;" the other is stern, savage and bloody, full of rage and other bad passions—fruitful of ruin and reckless of the desolation it produces.

In this unhappy war we find, on our side, no compromise of Christian principle. The South has accepted it as a last necessity—an alternative in which there was no choice but submission to a dynasty considered oppressive, and in its very principles antagonistic to her rights and subversive of her existence.

Hence her sons, who are true Christians, have no compunctions of conscience when they go forth in her armies. They find, on the contrary, an approbation of conscience in their decisions to fight for their homes and altars. "In the name of our God we set up our banners." We go to meet the invaders "in the name of the Lord of hosts."

We speak the common sentiment of Southern Christians when we say that we are willing for Him to decide this contest on its merits. We protest, in the face of Heaven, we want nothing but our rights, we demand nothing but our rights. We have wronged no man, no State, no government. What is our own and nothing more do we claim.

It is this view of the case that has caused so large a representation from the domain of the Church in the army of the Confederate States. The very love for justice and righteousness—the intense sympathy with equity, for its own sake—engendered in the heart by the Spirit of truth, have influenced the hundreds of Israel to gird on the sword.

God will fight the battles of such a host, who have mustered together in his name. The end may be far off, and the road to it rugged and bloody, but we shall see it and rejoice.—Advocate.

The S. W. Baptist.

TUSKEGEE, ALA.
Thursday, July 25, 1861.

Southern Literature.

We see in our exchanges several able and suggestive articles on this subject, since the political earthquake which has upheaved the former order of things. When foundations are removed they must be relaid, landmarks removed must be reset. The "removal of those things that are shaken" is now going on, and the question is, to what points shall they be carried? It is nearly as important that the South should have a Literature as a Government; one should act as a stay and support to the other. A corrupt Literature will soon leave the government, then both sink under the weight of moral putridity. The South must have its own Publication Houses; independence in journalism and books, publications of every kind, from the North must be as complete as in national politics. The difference between the North and the South in politics and literature is as wide as if one of the sections was in Europe, and the South, having heretofore given the printing and publishing business mainly to Northern hands, must now create and build up these interests else the revolution will ultimately prove an abortion. Let the North, as formerly, continue to flood the South with their poisonous and fanatical publications, and the body politic of the Southern Confederacy will be corrupted, and the scenes of the French Revolution will be enacted. The crazy and fanatical moral sentiment now exhibited at the North is but the reaping from the seed sown in their publications.

We have no specific plan or plans to suggest—we wish, for the present, to bring the matter before the public mind for investigation. Let there be much reflection upon this subject preparatory to action, when the time comes. Our section is now in the midst of war and no definite shape can be given to the enterprise. Meanwhile Southern publications should receive a generous support, to enable them to make the best possible preparation for the future. We now have some valuable Literary publications, such as the Southern Field and Fireside, Southern Literary Messenger, the Aurora, DeBow's Review, &c., which should receive a heavy Southern patronage to enable them to improve in matter and size, and to continue to impart their healthy moral sentiments. And as agriculture is to receive a new impetus from the Revolution, agricultural papers must be sustained, such as the Cotton Planter and Soil of the South, Southern Cultivator, and kindred publications. The South must in every relation, intellectual and physical, throw itself upon its own individuality, its own resources, in the face of the world. Let it learn self-reliance, one of the most ennobling and elevating virtues that ever permeated the bosom of a nation.

When the smoke of the battle is lifted away, and the sound of the cannon has died away, we hope to see springing up in every part of our redeemed Confederacy Publication Houses, from which shall come forth, with the speed of steam, Bibles, Testaments, religious books, tracts—every publication to meet the wants of the soul; books on law, medicine, art, science, literature—everything called for by the intellect. And let there be light from reviews, magazines, newspapers, religious and secular, in every part of the new and vigorous Confederacy. The brains are in the South, and, also, the means, and the proper moral sentiment, let all these forces be combined, and the proper direction given them, and every want will be met, and the wilderness and the solitary places made glad. The power of the press must be wielded at the South, and be so directed as that it shall exert its happiest influence.

Annual Missionary Meetings.

For two years past an effort was made once a year to keep up the spirit of Missions in our churches. In addition to allusions to the subject in the regular course of their ministry, ministers and prominent members made special efforts, and they were crowned with success. Associations made annual arrangements for such meetings. They were made for this year. Are they forgotten? Has the war absorbed everything? In our paper may be seen the appointments of some brethren in the Eufaula and Alabama Associations. Are they neglected elsewhere? We hope not. Our paper is always open for such appointments, and we shall ever be ready to publish them.

L. L. D.

It is said by newspaper reporters that the Board of Trustees of Columbia College have conferred upon the despot, Abraham Lincoln, the honorary degree of L. L. D. Many of our brethren have mistaken the Columbia College which is an Institution located in New York City, for the Columbia College, a Baptist Institution located in Washington City, and founded by the zealous labors of the honored Luther Rice. The Board of Trustees of the Columbia College are, if we mistake not, wiser men than those who conferred the degree upon the miserable, fourth-rate pettifogger and rail-splitter who now wields the tyrant's scepter in Washington.

The reader will find a new advertisement of the Alabama Central Female College.

See, also, additional matter to the advertisement of Wain Hill.

History.

We never read till recently "Headley's Life of Washington and his Generals." His ornate and bombastic style in other works has disgusted us, and we would not tolerate such style in history. Being pressed, accidentally, one day for reading matter we opened the work and read the lives of several of the Revolutionary Generals, among them Greene and Marion. We were deeply interested from the fact that Headley was describing representative men. We are now in a Revolution analogous to that of 1776, and the scenes then enacted, and the actors, so graphically described by the author, are in a fair way of passing panoramically before the world. And no one can read the lives of such partisan warriors and patriots as Greene and Marion, their privations, sufferings and successes, without being fully convinced of ultimate success in the struggle for Southern Independence. Greene represents many a General at the South whom the Revolution will develop, who, by his fierce attacks and masterly tactics, will keep thinning the ranks of vastly superior forces, and ultimately pen them up in some Yorktown where large armies will take charge of them, and fate them as Washington did Cornwallis. Marion, the "Swamp Fox," so hated by Tarleton, Watson, Rawdon, Cornwallis and the Tories, represents the numerous guerrilla officers who are now springing up every where, and are giving the enemy a taste of lead and cold steel, introductory to larger doses. On the frontiers of Virginia they are now performing deeds eclipsing, almost, those of South Carolina's Marion, Sumter, James and McDonald. The deeds of the Ashby's at Kelley's Island are unparalleled in history, and they will be eclipsed. As Mogni Abraham is resolved to prosecute the war, a glorious history is yet to be written by the South, not with pen but the sword, not with ink, but blood. As our enemies will have it, in the name of God let it be written.

War News.

News from the seat of War is quite exciting this week. We cannot vouch for all the details from Missouri to be found in our paper. They are the best we could get. The Federalists have control of all the sources of information, and only allow such news published as they wish. Missouri, however, is fast expelling the enemy from her territory. Quite a battle has been fought at Bull's Run, near Manassas Junction. Many thousands were engaged. The Federalists were repulsed with great loss. Their reported loss is 986 killed, Confederate loss 60 killed. Next week we shall be able to give details of this and other battles. Four companies of Georgians reported to have been captured in Northwestern Virginia have got safe into camps. We hope to be able next week to give correct accounts from that section of matters so long involved in mystery. Upon the whole our affairs are very hopeful. Fear God, and continue in prayer, and the "Northern army" of Goths will be driven back.

Since writing the above the enemy renewed the fight at Manassas Sunday 21st at 4 o'clock in the morning and continued the conflict till 7 in the evening, when he retreated from the field. There was great loss on both sides, our forces captured Sherman's Battery, the brag battery of the Federalists. We go to press before we can get particulars.

How to Raise Money.

The Lincoln Congress have passed a bill to raise five hundred thousand men. This they did easily. But the tyrant's demand for four hundred million of dollars is not so easily met. S. P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, has been working his brains lustily to call the money from the "vast deep" to "doodle it up" as a witty friend calls it, and one plan of "doodling" is the confiscation of the property of the "rebels." Hear what he says in his report to Congress:

"The property of those engaged in insurrection, or those who are giving aid and comfort to the insurgents may properly be made to contribute to the expenditures made necessary by their criminal misconduct."

From this every Southern man may read the programme which the Lincoln government has made out in regard to the South. They aim to subjugate us, then to despotically confiscate our property and sell it to pay the expenses of their war of subjugation, which has bankrupted their government. Who is prepared to submit to this? Not one. Such threats will only make the chances of their success more hopeless. It will nerve the arm of the basest coward in the land. The property for which we have labored, with which we support the cause of God and our country, to be taken by force to sustain monsters, in comparison with whom Nero was a saint, is enough to convert the arm of a pigmy into that of a giant—to make an Amazon of the weakest female.

Bethel.

This is the title of a very eloquent tract, written by Rev. J. Lansing Burrows, D. D., which is being published by the Baptist Colportage Board, of this city. It is founded on the text, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I knew it not. And he called the name of that place Bethel." We give the opening paragraph: "Bethel—a name which will henceforth suggest precious memories to patriot minds in this new Southern Confederacy; as it has suggested pious thoughts to the hearts of all saints since Jacob erected and anointed his

memorial pillar, and call it Bethel."—Bethel—the Banker, Hill of his second war of independence—which, unlike Bunker Hill, however, was a complete success. Bethel—the very word so sweetly suggestive of God's presence and favor—how appropriate that the name should be associated with our first important conflict and victory. Bethel—where God gave hope to the despairing, confidence to the doubtful, strength to the weak, in the year 1861, as He did to His servant Jacob, more than 4,000 years before. Bethel—where the pious leader of our forces reiterated the very sentiment of the Patriarch, uttered forty centuries ago. Said Jacob:—"Surely the Lord is in this place, and I knew it not; and he called the name of that place Bethel." Said Col. Hill, in his official report from our New Bethel:—"Our Heavenly Father has most wonderfully interposed to shield our heads in the day of battle. Unto His great name be all the praise for our success." In each place God was present.—Richmond Dispatch.

From a Friend.

From a letter containing substantial aid we take the following:

"I wish I could do much for you—be sure my mind and will are good. I shall weep if 'S. W. B.' has to go down—I may never be. You are right—do not trim sails like some. If you fall, shipwreck with sails full size. 'S. W. B.' gives satisfaction here—all say 'tis better than ever.'"

We shall rigidly adhere to the advice, "do not trim sails like some." If crippled so as to "trim sails" confidence is destroyed, suspension is preferable, yea death. We have a growing confidence that the S. W. Baptist will breast every storm and live. Our faith is in God, and, too, we have a great many of the best friends in the world. How, then, can we fail?

For the South Western Baptist.

A Plea for the Soldier!

RICHMOND, VA., July 18 1861.
MY DEAR BROTHER: At the late meeting of the Baptist General Association it was determined at once to send "Colporters to occupy all the important points of rendezvous, and promptly to reach all the soldiers in service in the State," and I was directed to appeal to the Virginia churches, "and to such persons in other of the Confederate States as may feel interested in the welfare of the soldiers who are gathered from various Southern States to fight their common battles on the soil of Virginia."

My object in sending you this Circular is to beg you to aid us in this great work by making an effort to induce your church to carry out the above recommendation.

There are now not less than 150,000 soldiers within the limits of our State, and there is reason to suppose that in a few months we shall have double that number. Very many of these brave men have not the Word of God. Many of them are anxious to secure copies of the New Testament. They have abundant time and disposition to read religious books and tracts by which they may be won to Christ.

We have pious, devoted and experienced Colporters who are anxious to be sent into this most inviting field, and to gather sheaves unto eternal life. But funds are needed for their support. To whom can we look for aid but to the Christian patriots who compose our churches. Men of the world are willing to give liberally to provide for the soldier's physical wants, but it is only from you that he can expect provision for his spiritual needs.

In no way can we so effectually show our appreciation of those who defend our firesides; in no way so well aid the sacred cause of Southern independence as by placing in the hands of our soldiers copies of the New Testament, and of little books and tracts which make known to them the way of life. May we not then urge you to aid us in this work, than which none can be more deserving of your sympathy and co-operation. I beg that at once you will lay the claims of this cause before your church and community, and remit to us whatever the Lord inclines them to give.

Dear Brother, amid the exciting scenes through which we are passing, I beg that you will not forget or neglect this appeal, but give it immediate consideration. Hoping to hear from you very soon, I am,

Yours in Christ,

A. E. DICKINSON,
General Superintendent of Baptist Colportage in Virginia.

We trust our brethren will heed this "Plea." Read also brother Dickinson's communication, "Colportage Among the Soldiers." Now is the time for Christians to do a great work for our brave soldiers. They have gone to fight our battles, shall we withhold from them the means of salvation? Christians, do all you can to preserve the morals and save the souls of the brave defenders of your country.

For the South Western Baptist.

Colportage Among the Soldiers.

RICHMOND VA., July 14, 1861.
DEAR BRO, TALLAFERRO: Permit me to bring to your attention the claims of the work we are now carrying on among the soldiers of our Southern army. I was directed by a vote of the General Association to appeal to the Baptists throughout the Southern Confederacy in this behalf. Alabama has several thousand brave men on Virginia soil and I feel confident that many of your readers will share with us the luxury of supplying them with leaves from the tree of life.

Is it possible for the Baptists to carry out the recommendation of the Gen-

eral Association, and carry on Colportage on a large scale among the Soldiers of the Southern Confederacy? That the work is one of unspeakable importance is universally admitted. As Christians we can aspire to nothing more noble. That suitable men can be secured to act as colporters there can be no doubt, for pious, experienced, successful colporters are now saying, "here am I, send me." But is it possible to secure the requisite amount of funds? This is the only question about which we feel anxious. The members of our Churches have been giving large sums towards equipping the army. We have heard of one brother who gave \$2,000 for the outfit of a company. Besides money is so scarce, produce is so low, and the future so dark, that many of our most liberal members are seriously doubting as to whether they ought to give to any benevolent object during the present state of things. How then is it possible to carry on this work now? To this it may be replied, that the churches are able to do anything they have a mind to do; that our experience as a Denomination proves that just in proportion as we have made sacrifices in giving to God's cause, in that proportion we have been blessed temporally and spiritually; and that there is scarcely a man among us who has ever given as much to the cause of benevolence as his own judgment dictated; while the great mass of our membership do not now and never have given to any benevolent object whatever. But the point which we would make and upon which we insist is, that while every one is willing to give for the physical comfort of the soldier it is from the Christian community alone that we can hope to obtain funds to promote his spiritual interests. All give cheerfully to the former; none but Christians to the latter. Is it not then manifestly our duty to seek first of all to secure pious, holy influences for those who go forth on a mission so honorable, so unfavorable to religious culture, and at the same time so perilous?

There is no conceivable way in which we can so easily and effectually do good to the souls of our soldiers, than by sending among them pious, devoted colporters, richly laden with "leaves from the tree of life." Already much has been done. The smile of our heavenly Father is even making our hearts to rejoice as we hear of the conversions which have occurred at the several encampments.

We are now publishing tracts especially adapted to circulation among the soldiers and are arranging to bring out an edition of 10,000 small Testaments to be distributed by the colporters in the army.

Dear brethren by all that you hold dear as a patriot and a Christian, I appeal to you to aid us in this blessed work. Whether you can give little or much, let us hear from you.

Address

A. E. DICKINSON,
Gen. S. Bap. S. S. & Col. in Richmond, Va.

For the South Western Baptist

INTRENCHED CAMP, NEAR NORFOLK, VA.,
July 10, 1861.

EDITOR BAPTIST: When one writes a letter to a newspaper, it is reasonable to expect that he has something of importance, or at least of interest, to communicate. Keeping that fact in view, I find it almost impossible to collect material enough out of the monotony that rules here to write a letter that will pay for the space it occupies in your columns.

As the state of the weather is generally the first topic of conversation, I will say in the first place that we are now blessed with some of the hottest weather that I ever felt. Whether it is on account of the thick woods by which we are surrounded, or some other cause, I do not know, but it is a most palpable and unpleasant fact that we do not get a tittle of the breeze which our proximity to the "big waters" would lead us to expect. However, we get a little, which is a great deal better than none at all. Rain has been plentiful for some time past, and it is always a welcome visitor, except to the sentinels, who have to endure all kinds of weather. And speaking of sentinels reminds me that our soldiers consider guard duty as the most, if not the only, really unpleasant feature of soldier life. Of course it is more unpleasant to some than to others, as tastes and feelings differ about everything else. But I suppose it never becomes entirely pleasant to any one to guard a certain portion of the boundary line of the encampment for two hours at a time, from nine o'clock one morning till nine o'clock the next. But whether pleasant or not, there is no escape from it, and if a soldier dislikes it, the only thing he can do is to exercise the soldier's glorious and inalienable privilege of "grumbling." He is not allowed to go when and where he pleases, nor to speak disrespectfully to his officers, but no one can take away his right to grumble, and he can therefore exercise it with impunity, and to his heart's content, when every other liberty is taken from him.

The Fourth of July was duly observed by our forces in and around Norfolk harbor, by firing the usual salutes from our batteries at sunrise, at noon, and at sundown, and giving the soldiers a little rest by dispensing with the usual drills. The Federal forces also celebrated the day, and the firing of salutes on both sides, and at the same time, created a noise that might have made one imagine himself in hearing of Waterloo or Austerlitz. I believe it is the first instance in the annals of history in which the same

natal day was celebrated by two different nations.

The Paymaster is about, and of course there is great rejoicing in the camp. Two companies were paid off yesterday. Ours comes next, and if there is any harm in being purse-proud, a great sin will spread its sable wings over the Light Infantry when the Paymaster "planks up the cash."

It is stated that Fremont is now in command at Fortress Monroe. He is a much better General than Butler, but we feel confident that he is not superior, if equal, to our own commander, here, Gen. Huger. (That name is pronounced "Hujee," with the accent on the last syllable.)

I have examined the military glossary, and find that the name of our encampment should be written "Intrenched," instead of "Entrenched" Camp. Your literary, as well as military readers can make a note of it.

We have not yet heard of the destination of Capt. Ligon's company. They were in Richmond at last accounts.

The work on our intrenchment is progressing moderately. A few cannon will probably be mounted next week.

The Light Infantry is getting along very well. We have had additions of several new members since our arrival here. They are all from Macon county except one—he is from Lowndes.

Old Abe's message, in which he calls for 400,000 more men, and \$400,000,000, does not frighten any body here. One of two things is very plain—he is either trying to scare us, or else he sees that it will require a very great effort to whip us. Time will show whether he can do either.

We feel duly thankful to the good friends at home who have so kindly remembered us.

Yours, &c.,

E. F. B.

For the South Western Baptist.

RICHMOND, July 9, 1861.

CAMP OF THE MACON CONFEDERATES.

DEAR FRIEND: As this is the first opportunity that has presented itself since our arrival at this place, I shall drop you a few lines. This date finds the company in the enjoyment of good health, with some slight exceptions, which we might naturally suppose until we are more inured to the hardships of the camp life, which our boys seem to be standing very well so far. It is now two weeks since we left Tuskegee, and quite different from what I expected time has rolled by no means sluggishly, and the boys seem to be enjoying the soldier's life with more heartiness than under the circumstances one would naturally suppose, and in no spirit of egotism our company was frequently complimented on the way for their good behavior and manly bearing, which prestige we hope to be able to sustain.

I stopped over, on furlough a few days at my native place in North Carolina, to call and see my friends, but with mingled feelings of pride and sadness I saw nearly every one capable of bearing arms had vacated their homes and had gone to meet the foe on the soil of Virginia; and he is due deference to others these noble boys of our old native soil had met the foe and had borne off the first laurels in the fight, nor would it be at all immonest to say that the signal victory won at Bethel Church will give North Carolina gallantry a place high upon the records of the history of this war. To see the different letters written by my old companions giving their several accounts of the fight in their own bright natural way, makes one feel like he would have given almost half his life to have been there. I had the pleasure of seeing several trophies of the fight which had been sent home. One was the identical button struck by the ball that pierced Waldrup's heart. This successful debut of the North Carolina arms seems to have infused her sons with a perfect military furor—old and young are under arms. Those too old to repair to the scene of conflict are training at home with their old rusty hunting pieces. And we not infrequently meet both from North Carolina and South Carolina individuals incapable of bearing arms from age or defect of person, going on to act as independent scouts. Can a people thus imbued with such a spirit of determination be subdued? Never! The whole way from Augusta on to Richmond seemed to be one continual thoroughfare for soldiers. There are some 15,000 or 20,000 stationed in and around this place awaiting transportation to the different points on the borders, where doubtless in a few days they will be called into active requisition, as the advanced guards of both armies are almost continually engaged, in which so far the Confederate skirmishers have been successful, as every few days a number of prisoners are sent to this place. Last week there came as many as thirty in one detachment. These are left under close watch as vouchers for final settlement.

It seems to be the impression here that Lincoln will take this place en route for his grand campaign, at least he is foolhardy enough to attempt it, and as for peace, we have no hopes. There seems to be no other resort but for every loyal son of the South to strike till the last armed foe expires, as the Lincoln government determines prosecuting our subjugation with all its energies. But we feel assured that a just God is on our side, and right must prevail. Though we may have to go through many scenes of blood—and many a noble son of the South may give up his life to attain that end. But what is life to chains and slavery?—Would we not rather, by far, fall in battle than to survive their clankings

in after years? After the toil of our daily drills this indeed affords a theme of reflection for the poor soldier—although the poor private in ranks feels his own insignificance amid a large army and almost asks himself who he is, yet can he fail to be impressed with the responsibility resting upon him? No! the Southern soldier has kind friends who care for him at home; at least, such is the condition of the "Macon Confederates."

It may be a matter of interest to our friends to know where we will be stationed, or what regiment we will be placed in, neither of which have we as yet ascertained; we may probably be here a week or two yet, drilling. We are encamping upon the land of Gen. Scott. I suppose he would like to resume possession of it; but we would dispute it by the right of occupancy—being the first who have occupied it in this new government, for we would spurn to hold title under him.

Our camp is cheered every day by the presence of the Richmond ladies. (But they never bring any thing but their smiles along with them).

I shall close. You must excuse this writing, as my desk was a small board about six inches wide—hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours truly,

D. B. R.

For the South Western Baptist.

Howard College.

The resolution of the Board of Trustees of this institution, in reference to the reception into the College of students of any degree of attainment, and the arrangement made for military education, published in the S. W. Baptist of the last week, is doubtless one which will give great satisfaction to the friends of the College.

There are many youths in our land who are too young to engage in the arduous work of defending our country against the invader, who need an education, and who cannot obtain it near home, since many of our schools in various parts of the State are closed, the teachers being engaged as soldiers in the Confederate army. Such youths, if they will agree to conform to the College regulations, can now enter the Institution and receive the necessary instruction there. The Professors of the Institution will spare no pains to insure the necessary proficiency in study of the pupils. The absence of the President will in all probability continue no longer than to the 1st of October when the Session commences.

The patriotic spirit manifested by President Talbird in leading a company to the defence of his country should lead all good citizens of Alabama to desire the prosperity of the Institution of which he is the head. The example he has set is truly a commendable one, and one which will doubtless have a beneficial effect upon the minds of those whose education is intrusted to his hands.

A FRIEND TO H. C.

For the South Western Baptist.

Some Connoch county ladies, full of patriotism and desire to help in this great struggle against the enemy of our country, are organizing societies to knit socks, make cloth, buy cloth and make it up into fall and winter clothing for their country companies. The old men are helping them with their dollars. While the people and soldiers bless them, may God help patriotic ladies of other counties to follow their glorious examples.

C. L. T.

Evergreen, July 15, 1861.

The War in Missouri.

We have been permitted to make some extracts from a private letter received in this city yesterday from St. Louis, which indicates the state of public feeling in that city. The letter bears date 11th inst., and says: "First of all, we are organizing here, and will be from twelve to fifteen thousand strong. Powers has just come in from the seat of war. Col. Gratz Brown's regiment was on a forced march to assist Seigel, and was going through a ravine, when the State troops opened a deadly fire of grape and canister on them from the bluffs on both sides, and slaughtered them like sheep, killing six of their officers, including Cols. Brown and Solomon."

The second fight was with Col. Seigel. The State troops ran them for fourteen miles, and then they surrendered. A gentleman who was present says that for fourteen miles the sight of the dead Dutch was awful, from seven to eight hundred having been killed. Our loss was small.

Our city is in a blaze of excitement. The citizens can hardly be controlled, the rejoicing is so great. Secessionists are becoming more numerous, now that the tide has turned, but this won't do us. We have them booked and their day will come.

We will strike for our firesides in a few days. The time is coming for us to rise up and say we are free. I think they will undertake to put us under martial law. If so, then we strike for our freedom. The Planter's House in this city is a Black Republican hole, as well as all in the house. The house has fattened off the South heretofore, and should be remembered in the future.

LATER.

We have just received news from Camp Harris, commanded by Gen. Harris. The federals attacked the State troops in Monroe county, Mo., and in Mexico, in both of which attacks the federals were slaughtered. They were eight hundred strong. One hundred of our men lay in ambush and opened fire on them. Eight of the federals fell at the first fire; the balance ran. Our men followed them up and drove them into the midst of another body of five hundred of our troops, when the slaugh-

ter commenced. Almost every body in that section of country have left for the battle field, Hannibal, Mo. Three companies have gone to the assistance of our troops, and cut off the enemy's retreat.

Our men have torn up the Hannibal and St. Joe railroad and burned the depot.

There is a rumor of an attack on the State Journal office, of this city. If so, then look out for St. Louis to redeem herself.—Memphis Appeal.

(From the St. Louis Republican, Extra.)

Mr. W. C. Shryock, a well known merchant of this city, received two letters this morning, one from his father and one from his brother-in-law, residents of Mexico, Mo. These letters contain the following important war news:

Brigadier-General Harris has a camp in Monroe county, which, ten days ago, contained six hundred State troops, and the number was increasing every day. The people about Paris, in Monroe county, have been for some time in daily expectation that troops would be sent from Hannibal, by the railroad, for the purpose of attacking General Harris' camp. This event occurred on Wednesday, when one thousand federal troops left the railroad and commenced their march into Monroe county, in search of Camp Harris.

At Florida they were attacked by about one hundred State troops, under the cover of thick woods, who fired on them for one hour and a half, killing forty, after which loss the federal troops retreated in the direction of the railroad, but were cut off in their retreat by a company of sixty State troops, in command of Capt. Brown.

The forces from Camp Harris were marching up while Brown was holding the federal troops in check. The letter from which we obtained this information was dated Mexico, Mo., July 10. The same letter had this postscript:

LATER.

2. O'Clock, P. M.—Just heard from the fight. The federal troops were being slaughtered, and unless they were reinforced before night they will be all cut to pieces.

A company of 108 State troops had marched to the battle field from Mexico, and troops were concentrating rapidly from all portions of the country.

Mexico, Mo., July 10.—Fighting, four miles north of Florida, in Monroe county, commenced yesterday morning at about eleven o'clock, between about 1000 federal troops and a portion of State troops, said to be from 80 to 100, which have since, from time to time, and from different places been reinforced. Federal troops marching for the camp of Maj. Harris, located in the vicinity of Florida, Monroe county. A letter from McElhany, our representative, at 10 o'clock to-day, says the State troops have had none. Loss of federals from 80 to 40, and retreating back towards Caseyville, on the Hannibal and St. Joe railroad, from whence they started to break up Harris' camp. It is said, by all accounts, that the federal troops are rather badly used up.—So accounts go that we get.

Our country is to day almost deserted by persons going to the battle ground from here, distant about twenty-nine miles. The whole community is as one man to day.

It is said that a train of cars started from Hannibal up the road, but before arriving at the scene of action, a large depot building was discovered to be on fire, and the train was obliged to go back. It was reported at Hannibal that a large portion of the railroad track had been torn up and sixteen cars burned.

All communication with the troubled district is cut off. Various attempts have been made to communicate with Mexico by telegraph, but without avail, the wires being down.

Intense excitement prevails about Hannibal and all along the road.

From the Fort Smith Times and Herald 8th.

NEOSHO TAKEN BY OUR TROOPS.

John C. Wheeler arrived here with dispatches from General McCulloch. We give below the report of Capt. McIntosh, Adj. General, in regard to the capture of U. S. troops at Neosho. We are indebted to G. B. Johnson for it.

We learn from the express that Gen. McCulloch left the infantry and Woodruff's battery, and taking Churchill's and Carrolls regiment of mounted men, pushed on to the relief of Gov. Jackson. The Missourians are ready to fight, but have no arms.

We are hourly expecting exciting news from the expedition: HEADQUARTERS McCULLOCH'S BRIGADE, CAMP AT BURLIN'S MILLS, July 5th 1861.

General: I have the honor to inform you that, in obedience with your order, I started at 11 o'clock A. M., today, with four companies of Col. Churchill's Regiment of Arkansas Mounted Riflemen, and Capt. Carroll's company of Arkansas State troops, to make an attack on some Federal troops at Neosho, Mo., in conjunction with Col. Churchill, commanding six companies of his regiment. We started on different roads, which entered the town one from the west, the other from the south, with an arrangement to make the march of 15 miles in four hours, and upon entering the town to make a simultaneous attack. I found that the distance was not so much as stated. It would therefore be necessary for me to have waited near the town an hour, and fearing that information would be carried into town to the enemy, I dismounted the four companies of Churchill's Regiment about a quarter of a mile of the town, and marched them by platoons at double quick time within two hundred yards of the Court-house, where we found a company 80 strong. I sent Capt. Carroll with his company to make a detour, to take them in the rear. After halting my command I sent Dr. Armstrong (Volunteer aid-de-camp,) to demand a surrender of the forces. I allowed them ten minutes to decide; at the end of the time, the Captain in command made an unconditional surrender of the company, laying down their arms and side arms. We took one hundred rifles with sabre bayonets, and a quantity of ammunition, and a train of 7 wagons loaded with provisions.

