

The South Western Baptist,
A RELIGIOUS FAMILY NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

TALIAFERRO & Co.,
PROPRIETORS.

For Terms, &c., see last page.

[We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter written by the Hon. David Clayton to his wife, detailing the adventures of the 12th Ala. Regiment while on picket duty.—It will be read with interest by all, and especially by the friends of that Regiment.—Eds. S. W. B.]

SANGSTER'S X ROADS,
12TH REG. ALA. VOL.

MY DEAR WIFE: In one of my letters I gave you an account of the trip of our Regiment to Springfield on picket, and what we there saw and did. I have now a much more interesting narrative. On Monday (23d.) night at 11 o'clock, orders were received detailing our Regiment as the advance guard at Munson's Hill. Accordingly on Tuesday (24th.) at 7 o'clock, A. M., the 12th Regiment Alabama Volunteers left the camp and commenced the line of march for Munson's Hill, about sixteen miles distant, at which place we arrived that afternoon, relieving a Georgia regiment. You will recollect that Munson's Hill was taken a few weeks ago by Col. Stewart, and thence up to the time herein stated was occupied by our troops. The hill is the highest eminence adjacent to Washington and Alexandria, about six miles distant from each place, and presents a most magnificent and commanding view of all the surrounding country. The dome of the capitol, unfinished as when you last saw it, a representative emblem of a Union which has failed in its mission, rises to the Eastward, and all that portion of the city which lies between the capitol and the Navy Yard is distinctly visible.—Farther up the river, standing in relief, the Georgetown Heights, memorable in the past history of our country, and promising to become more so in the future. As I stood upon the summit of the hill and looked upon the capital of a once glorious country, association was busy at its work. I thought of the past, the present and the future.—Remembering that, a few months ago, I was honored and recognized in its walls, as the representative of a proud and free people, and now was with that same people, surrounded by "the pomp and circumstance of war," demanding at the very doors of the capitol, a full recognition of their rights and liberty, the full ruin which fanaticism and corruption had wrought was spread before the mind's vision; and now was fought the second great battle of freedom.

To the South-east is situated Shuter's Hill, about four miles distant, with its fortifications; and yet farther South is the hill on which is located the Episcopal Theological Seminary. This is also fortified, a fuller view of which is had from Springfield. Along the whole line from Alexandria to Washington can be seen the flags of the enemy floating in the breeze, whilst their white tents dot almost every eminence. In the rear flows the placid Potomac, the water of which may occasionally be seen through the space of the intervening hills. The white cottages scattered over the plains which spreads out from the base of Munson's Hill adds picturesqueness to the scene. The whole is of surpassing beauty and interest.

We arrived on Tuesday afternoon, and immediately five companies of the regiment were sent on picket duty, and remained for twenty-four hours, when they were relieved by the other companies. I stated that the regiment was detailed as an advance guard at Munson's Hill; and the pickets were still in advance of the hill about a mile.—It is their duty to watch well during their period, and give timely warning of the approach of the enemy, if any is made. Hence you see that the post of advance guard is one not only of danger, but of great responsibility.—The regiment occupying such a position is expected at least to hold the enemy in check until the forces in the rear can be ready for action. So also the safety of the entire regiment depend upon the fidelity and watchfulness of the pickets. Our pickets and the Yankee pickets were not exceeding four hundred yards apart at some places. Repeated firings at each other had been going on between them, until orders were issued forbidding it; and then several conversations between them took place under white flags. This was prohibited except to communicate or receive some message of importance from a superior officer. Several of our boys refreshed us by a repetition of their conversations with the Yankees. They could be seen distinctly with the naked eye from Munson's Hill passing to and fro. We could hear the beating of their drums at the different camps every evening and morning, and at the same time witnessed a review of their troops on Shuter's Hill—we supposed from the number it was a brigade review. This was on Wednesday morning. About an hour afterwards an order came to put every thing into the

wagons and send them to Fairfax Court House in the rear. This was done.—Soon thereafter a courier reported that the enemy was advancing; it was supposed to be a general advance and that a general attack was intended. Thus information was sent to our Colonel, that the fighting had commenced at Lewinsville, about six miles from us on the left, and that we were to maintain our position at Munson's Hill, co-operating with a Georgia regiment and a part of a South Carolina regiment at Upton's Hill, a half mile or more to the left, and also an advance position on that road. There we remained expecting the enemy until about 11 o'clock at night, when we learned that they ran at the fire of our artillery at Lewinsville and never permitted our infantry to get near enough to shoot, and thus ended the great battle—anticipated.—It is due to this regiment that I should state the men received the report of the enemy's advance, (when it was really believed) with entire coolness and expressed a determination to defend Munson's Hill at all hazards. Thursday passed away without any thing of interest, and so with Friday, except a constant rain and boisterous wind, throughout the day, which was uncomfortable to men upon an elevated hill and without tents. About 9 o'clock on Friday night an order came that the wagons should be loaded and sent towards Falls Church, about a mile back. We were at a loss to understand what was in the wind. We could see no enemy—we could hear of no threatened attack—could perceive no reason for such a movement. We found that the same thing had been done at Upton's Hill and Mason's Hill, which was two miles to the right of Munson's hill, and also at the hill occupied by a portion of the Washington Light Infantry about four or five hundred yards in our rear. At 12 o'clock Col. O'Hara was ordered to call in his pickets and retire from Munson's Hill in the direction of Anandale, and at 1 o'clock, A. M., the regiment was formed into line and began the march with two other regiments and the artillery. The rain which had continued through the day had ceased, the clouds had broken and the moon had just risen to afford light enough by which to wend our way over a very muddy and broken road. In the stillness of that night thus moved on the wagon train, the artillery and the infantry, not knowing where or for what purpose. At daylight we were halted on the Accotink creek, a mile and a half from Anandale on the Little River Turnpike, drawn up in line of battle, stacked arms and waited for the second reported advance of the enemy, who were said to be two miles from Anandale. Wagons loaded with furniture were passing daily and families were moving away from the ground of the expected conflict. Our regiment was again placed in advance, supported by a Virginia regiment. The commanding officers reconnoitered and selected the position for the battle, and then we remained bivouacking upon an open field, hearing constant reports that the Yankees were in sight until Tuesday when we were relieved by a Virginia regiment, and returned to our camp, having thus been out on picket duty for eight days. The whole trip was one of interest and excitement, far more so than any which we have yet taken. Our men stood the marching and their labors down as well as remarkably. The entire regiment was greatly benefited in health and spirits. They seemed to have been inspired with new life and new energy. The Macon Confederates did their part well and nobly, and when it was reported at camp that we were daily expecting a battle, several of those who had been left behind on account of weakness occasioned by the late sickness, left the camp and went to join their company. The only regret I heard expressed was that after having been out for eight days and in sight of the enemy, they were compelled to return to camp without a fight. I allude to this company by name because it is known to you.—The whole regiment deserves credit, and have done their share of the hard work of a soldier's life.

Immediately on our return, I went to Manassas, received the money and have been constantly engaged in paying the regiment until late last night. The men are now in good spirits and ready for whatever may turn up. The health of the company has greatly improved and I think the worst has now passed.

SUNDAY VISITS.—"I must take liberty," wrote Col. Gardiner to his mother, "to entreat you that you would receive no company on the Lord's day.—I know you have a great many good acquaintances, with whose discourses one might be very well edified; but as you can not keep out and let in whom you please, the best way, in my humble opinion, will be to see none."

NORTH CAROLINA.—During a recent revival at the lower settlement on Spring Creek, Buncombe county, 46 persons professed conversion, and 31 were baptized.

For the South Western Baptist.
New Testament Scenes.
BY J. M. W., COLUMBUS, GEO.

NUMBER 1.

The birth of John foretold.—LUKE 1:5-23.
Herod, under the appointment of the Roman Emperor, was king of Judea.—He was an Idumean by birth and a wicked and cruel tyrant. Yet he had gone forward at immense cost, and adorned the Temple of God with a degree of magnificence unsurpassed by any building of ancient or modern times, unless we except the temple built by Solomon on the same spot. The priest-herod, along the line of Aaron, were numerous and were divided into twenty-four courses; each course attending upon the services of the Temple a week at a time in regular order. Among those whose priestly lineage could be traced back to the first High-priest in Israel was Zacharias, whose wife, Elizabeth, belonged to the same original family. This worthy couple had long lived together, and had walked in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. They were both advancing into old age, and yet had had no children. They keenly felt the reproach of Elizabeth's barrenness, and Zacharias had earnestly and devoutly prayed to God for a son to be given him. Long and weary years had passed away; and this leading desire of his heart had not been granted. The hour of worship came, and robed in his sacred vestments with the Golden Censer, filled with sweet incense in his hands and fire taken from the altar of burnt offering where it burned perpetually, he entered within the first veil, into the Holy Place where the golden candlestick and the shewbread were, and burned incense upon the altar before the Lord. At the same time, devout people were assembled in the court, and were offering up their prayers to God. Long did he tarry within the veil, and the people waited without wondering why it was he came not forth as usual. But visions of God were passing before his astonished gaze, and rapturous words were falling upon his ravished ears. Gabriel, the angel of God, (whose name signifies the might of the strong God, Clarke,) appeared unto him, standing on the right side of the altar, and quieted his fears. That celestial visitant came with good news, glad tidings from the heavenly court.—He came to announce the coming of the harbinger of Christ, who should go before the Lord to prepare a people for him. Astonishing news! Elizabeth was to bear a son who was to be filled with the Holy Ghost, from his birth, and whose name was to be called John, the interpretation of which is, "Grace (or mercy) of Jehovah." He was to go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah, the prophet of old, "to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." The news were too good—the promise too large for the measure of Zacharias's faith, he staggered at it, and required a sign from heaven. That sign was given. He was struck dumb immediately with the assurance that he should not be able to speak again, until the promised child should be born and named according to the promise given. The angel disappeared, and Zacharias retired from the holy place. When he came out he could not speak to the people but made signs to shew them that he had seen a vision, which had caused his detention. Soon his time of service expired, and he departed from Jerusalem and went into the hill country of Judea, where he abode.

What must have been the astonishment of Elizabeth to greet Zacharias on his return, and to find that he had lost the power of speech, and to learn what was the cause of his misfortune! Those must have been months of anxiety mingled with pleasure on the part of this aged couple. But having the assurance from the angel that blessings were in store, they could wait patiently for the time to come.

To the reader it must seem somewhat strange that Zacharias should be so incredulous when the angel met him in that solitary room where no living being entered ordinarily but the officiating priest himself, and when he knew it was a messenger from God that stood before him. It may be worthy of our attention to consider whether with all the lights before us, we are not equally incredulous in regard to those things which immediately concern us.

WAR.—Let Christians abound in importunate prayer, lest our experience as a people should confirm the remark of Home, "that one year of military life in a nation engenders more vice than a century of peace."

MINISTERIAL QUALIFICATIONS.—An advertisement in an English religious journal describes the kind of a curate wanted in a certain parish: "He must have a good voice, be of sober habits, Evangelical and not Tractarian in his sentiments, must not smoke tobacco or take snuff, and for his services shall receive \$480."

For the South Western Baptist.
Interesting Letter from a Colporteur.

The following very cheering letter is from Rev. George Percy, formerly missionary to China, now a colporteur among our soldiers. Southern papers please copy. A. E. D.

LYNCHBURG, VA., September.
DEAR BROTHER: On the 26th August, 1861, left home and came on here to enter upon my work of visiting the soldiers in the camps and hospitals. I collected from Sabbath schools and individuals in the country, and from the Sabbath school of the Baptist church in Lynchburg, more than a hundred Testaments, a few Bibles, some books and tracts. Capt. S. McCorkle, of Lynchburg, generously gave a large box of Bibles and Testaments, mostly of large type, and a large number of very interesting works, though not religious, for the soldiers. These Bibles and Testaments have been placed in the rooms of the three large hospitals for the use of the sick soldiers.

The Tracts and Testaments and small Bibles I have given to the sick in the hospitals and in private families, a few to soldiers in camp, and to others passing through the city. There have been at times as many as 10,000 soldiers in the encampments here. There have been and are now a large number of sick soldiers here. This is a most interesting field for usefulness. Many soldiers have the Bible or Testament, and love to read it. A good number are members of churches. Far away from home and kindred, they are delighted to receive the visits of a brother Christian, and to get something to read. All receive the tracts and read them with delight. The Lord has blessed the work. I believe He has poured out His Spirit upon many. They have been awakened and have been led to hope in the Savior; so they seem to give evidence. Several have died in the triumphs of faith, and have been comforted by the visits of your colporteur and by some of the pastors of churches here. It was a great pleasure and privilege to speak to them of the Savior and to witness their trust in Him during the trying hour. Blessed be the name of the Lord for his mercy and grace to His afflicted ones. I could tell of many encouraging cases, both of those who have died and of those who are recovering.

One who died a week ago said in a whisper, a short time before he breathed his last, when his nurse held up the tract, *Come to Jesus*, and pointed to the heading, "I can't see." He was told it was the tract *Come to Jesus*, and that Jesus says, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." "Thank the Lord for that," he replied. Have you come to Him, and do you find Him precious? "Precious, thank the Lord." He has promised never to leave nor to forsake His people. "Thank the Lord for that," and so he would say of all the promises quoted.

I am sorry to say another in the same house died about the same time, who gave no evidence of peace. He said he feared he had not come to Christ. He died, it is feared, as he had lived, a stranger to the Savior.

On the same day I visited in two different hospitals two young men sick of typhoid fever. They both seemed concerned about their souls, and listened with apparent interest to invitations of the Savior to come to Him. After a few days I visited them again, both were improving and rejoicing in the Savior.—Now they say they love him more and more. Several tell me they delight to read the Bible now, and that since they became soldiers they have been led to seek the Savior, and some hope they have found Him. Yesterday one told me, to whom I had given a tract, that at home he was a steady man, never swore, but that becoming a soldier, he did as many others do—threw off restraint and did wickedly; but now, said he, I have done swearing; I will seek the salvation of my soul. * * *

(Selected for the South Western Baptist.)
True and False Religion.

What principle so important to individuals and to States as a principle of true religion! It is a comforter in affliction, a counselor in darkness and uncertainty, a refuge in danger and distress, a support in death. What so seductive and mischievous as an erroneous principle of this sort! "If the light that is in men be darkness how great is that darkness?" False religion is a wandering fire of the night, hurrying men over a precipice; plunging them in the gulf—pretending to bring a tribute of glory to God by destroying mankind. It is the spirit of the great enemy of God and man, who is a liar and a murderer from the beginning.

HINTS.
Too many "Christians" mark the distinction between Sunday and other days by praying for each other on Sunday, and praying on each other throughout the week.

BAPTIST SOLDIERS.—There are not less than 600 members of the Baptist denomination in one of the Georgia regiments now in Virginia.

For the South Western Baptist.

CLAYTON, Oct. 5th, 1861.

DEAR BRO. TALIAFERRO: I see in your last issue an account of the celebration of Siloam Division No. 1, Revised Order of Temperance. Perhaps it will be gratifying to the friends of the cause to know that the first Division in this State, of the old order of the Sons of Temperance is still in existence. Rising VIRTUE DIVISION, No. 1 of Sons of Temperance is now working successfully in Eufaula, Barbour county, Ala., under a charter granted in 1846 by the National Division, N. A., in Philadelphia, before the Grand Division of the State was formed. Struggling through dark seasons, with only seven or eight devoted members to attend her weekly meetings, this Division has lived, meeting boldly the opposition, not only of the lovers of the wine cup, but even of those who have made an open profession of the religion of Jesus, until now, her membership is large, and it would do your heart good to be present at one of her weekly meetings, and see there numbers of youths; the hope of our country and the Church—who have sworn eternal enmity to the great destroyer of professional men, our politicians, and may I not say, many of our professed Christians. And there, too, you will find her jewels among those who, by intemperance have been driven from polite society, (the very place they first learned to sip the wine cup,) and when in its awful depths, have been raised by the friendly hand of a number of this Division, carried within the holy influence of her lodge room, and learned again to be a husband, a father, an ornament to society and a blessing to his country. Although I have removed from Eufaula, and am thus debarred the pleasure of often meeting the cheerful faces of my brothers in a holy warfare, yet I am proud that I can claim membership in such a Division, and occasionally be welcomed among them as a brother. When I have leisure I intend writing you farther particulars of this Division, and point out some of the difficulties which she has overcome. Your bro. in Christ,

J. S. PAULIN.

(From the Huntsville Democrat.)

Manassas.

The night was calm and still, not even a breath of wind stirred the leaves of the stunted pines, which gray with dust, seemed like tall sentries, keeping immovable watch beneath the silent stars.

Yet, two mighty armies slept that gentle summer night, the dreamless sleep, that only the tired soldier knows, divided by the narrow stream, which, on to-morrow, was to be reddened by the blood of hundreds, who met, for the first and last time, in mortal strife.

Yes, on to-morrow, the old strife between the Roundhead and Cavalier, with all its old, envenomed bitterness, was to be renewed; not on the one side, as in days of yore, with loud shouts for "St. George, and the King;" and on the other, with long prayers and hypocritical professions of piety; but on the side of the Southern hosts, it was a battle for Liberty; for that Freedom which their sires had won upon the soil they now defended.

And the pitying stars looked down, their radiant eyes dimmed with sorrow, upon the sleeping soldiers, whose pillow was his musket, and the dear ones at home, who, even now, perhaps, bend the knee to Him, who watcheth over all, and careth for all his creatures.

The first faint streaks of dawn were just stealing upon the sky, when a muffled, dull roar, which, to the unpracticed ear, sounded like distant thunder, heard afar off in indistinct mutterings, could be heard; it was the moving of the Puritan hosts.

Hark! Did you hear the dull rumble of wheels, the deep oaths of the drivers and cannoniers? For a few brief, yet dreadful moments, all was still, then the bellowing discharges of fifty cannon shook the plain, re-echoed up the mountain gorges, died away in hollow murmurs along the stream, and the Battle of Manassas was begun.

For hours and hours, the heavy reports shook the air; but no answering thunders came from the Southern army; though bleeding, shattered and staggering under that terrible cannonade, they were held by the firm hand of their brave General, in position, until the decisive moment; at length, it came; with a loud cheer, that rose above the din of battle, and drowned all other sounds, they rushed to the charge! Resistless, onward, like the waves of the mighty Ocean, stirred to inmost depths, that handful of men, on the left, poured on the foe.

See yon battery that crowns the naked crest of that hill; for hours it has been dealing death by shot and shell in the Southern ranks; ay, that very battery that we shed our blood to save in Mexico—Sherman's Battery, the hope and pride of the Yankee army; but see that dark column of men; surely it would be madness for infantry to attempt to take that splendidly worked battery; but they are Virginians, fighting upon

their own soil; steadily, surely, that column sweeps onward; one discharge, as if all the guns had been touched by an electric wire; one wild yell, rising above the shrieks of the wounded and dying, and with bayonet and knife, they are upon them! In less than five minutes, not a soul of the defenders is left standing, where they swarmed but a short time gone, and we have captured Sherman's Battery!

A dark cloud of dust rises to the left, and with thunders that shake the plain, Wheat's Battalion of "Tigers" rush to the front; they unlimber their pieces, and a very hail-storm of grape and canister is poured into the ranks of the Yankees. But see yon column of red moving at the "double quick," over the hill; they are Ellsworth's Zouaves, who have been commanded to take Wheat's Battery.

In a moment, they have driven the brave defenders from their guns, by sheer force of numbers; but it is for a moment only, for, with a concentrated roar, the "Bengal Tigers" are upon them, throwing down their guns, and drawing their long knives, they close with the hated foe, in a hand to hand struggle. Vain now the sabre bayonet, vain the best weapons of modern warfare in Yankee hands, for they are opposed to Southern steel,—wielded by strong Southern arms.

It was a strange contest. Here could be seen a Zouave lifting his sabre bayonet attached to the heavy rifle, but he could bring it down on the devoted head, quick as lightning the deadly bowie knife would be buried to the hilt, in his gasping, quivering form. Nothing was heard, save the dull sound of the blows, the yells and curses of the combatants in that strange fight. Yet, it was not of long continuance, for the Yankees, unable to stand cold steel, broke precipitately, leaving hundreds of their dead upon the field. Louisiana has many brave sons, but none braver than the "Tigers," commanded by Maj. Wheat.

While this terrible fight was raging on the crest of the hill, another contest of a different character, was drawing to a close in the thicket of pines near its base.

The Eighth Georgia Regiment here, with a valor unsurpassed in the annals of ancient or modern warfare, held their post, until scarcely one of their number was left un wounded; and when the order to retreat was given, the brave fellows retired sullenly, fighting their way through enemies four times their own number. All honor to the noble "Eighth Georgia," who had so gallantly redeemed what their comrades had lost at Rich Mountain.

Just as the battle seemed over and in favor of the North, too, thick clouds of dust were seen rolling down the gentle declivity to the left of the Georgia Regiment. Travel-stained, wearied with two days' marching, thirsty, hungry, and now having come seven miles at the double quick, the Fourth Alabama regiment wheeled into line, by companies, with the same steadiness and precision that they would have shown on dress parade. As those devoted six hundred men formed their line of battle, a column of Zouaves made its appearance on the brow of the hill; another, and yet another, until the regiment had formed in splendid order. Until this time, not a shot had been fired; all at once from right to left, a flash, as of vivid lightning, ran along the ranks of the Alabamians.

"From rank to rank the vollied thunder flew." No troops on earth, could stand such a withering fire. The Zouaves fled, without stopping to carry off their wounded. That single volley had killed and wounded nearly one half their number; the rest were, to use the words of one of their own generals, "not again rallied."

Short breathing space had those noble men, for now, another regiment poured its dark columns upon that handful of heroes, and they, too, were driven from the field, with at least a third of their number killed and wounded. Two more regiments, fresh and buoyant, were precipitated upon that wall of fire, but in vain. The blood of old Alabama was up, the sons of the old cavaliers showed themselves worthy of their noble descent, and held their ground, having, to a man, despaired of relief, and determined to show the world how Southern men could die, battling for their freedom.

Here fell their gallant Colonel, Egbert J. Jones, mortally wounded; as he fell, the order to retreat came. It was time; for, on the flanks, in the front, thousands of the enemy, exasperated by the obstinate defence made by that Spartan band, now came sweeping on, with one purpose in view, the annihilation of the Fourth Alabama Regiment.

In good order, with their faces to the hated foe; driven back by superior and overwhelming numbers, they slowly retreated. Later in the day, at the head of the shattered, bleeding remnants of the "Bloody Fourth," the lamented Bee poured out his heart's blood upon the altar of his country.

Noble Alabamians! As some tall cliff that rears its noble form above the dark waters of the sea, which beat and thunder in rain against its solid base, so ye withstood the successive shocks of regiment after regiment, which, like those waves, ye broke in sullen groans at your very feet.

And now, once more, the pale and silent stars look down upon that field.—But how changed the scene! Thousands of brave men lay stark and stiff, never more to rise; side by side they lay peacefully; the Cavalier and Puritan with grim, upturned faces, blackened and disfigured by the smoke and carnage of battle. Yes, here he looked in the last embrace of death, the stalwart logger of Maine and the fair-haired, blue-eyed stripling of the Carolinas, the dark-eyed Frenchman of Louisiana, and the fireman of New York sleep their last sleep, undisturbed by the roar of artillery, or the rattle of musketry.

We have done. Who shall write the battle of Manassas? As we raise the trumpet note of exulting joy, it is changed into the low, wailing tones of sorrow for the fallen; for the mighty dead who sealed with their heart's blood the bond of our deliverance; who gave to History a new nation, baptized in tears and blood, yet holding that sacrifice dear as it is cheap.

Let us, who are yet left, remember that we have a mighty duty to perform. The innocent blood that has been spilt by these Northmen, cries out to us from the ground, for vengeance. Let them look to the happy homes, that they have rendered forever desolate; let them look to that hearthstone once gladdened by the son, brother, or husband, whose light is now gone out in ashes, forever let him think of the sadness, misery, suffering, and tears, this unholy war of theirs has entailed upon the South, let them think of all these things and trouble, for, so sure as there is a just God, these, and all these shall be brought home to them, and the poisoned cup that they have commended to our lips, shall be drained by them to the dregs.

The Effects of National Piety.

And he said, "I will not destroy it for man's sake." Gen. xviii. 32.
"Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." Prov. xiv. 34.

Yes, brethren, it is Britain's altar and not Britain's throne, Britain's Bible and not Britain's statute book, that is the great, and deep, and strong source of her national prosperity and renewal. Do away this; let our Sabbaths be sinned away; let us enter into unworthy alliance with the man of sin; let us be traitors to the trust with which God has invested us—to take care of the ark of the Lord—and the crown will lose its lustre, the peerage its nobility, and the Senate its command; a lava-tide of desolation overwhelm all that is consecrated a noble.—Puncheon's Sermons.

MS. SERMONS.—The Banner and Baptist has the following in its "Recollections of a Georgia Baptist Minister."

"Once he was present at an Association when the distinguished Dr. C. announced to preach. Having but much of the learning and talents of a preacher, he resolved to give him a hearing, and for this purpose he his position just in front of the 'St. The minister, after the preliminary exercises, took from his hat a manuscript spread it out before him, and very leisurely to adjust the leaves when our Elder, leaning over to a brother who sat near him, said, 'Why, he ought to have greased the wagon last night.' This was an allusion to the custom of farmers in getting everything in readiness overnight, when preparing to go to market with their produce, and as thus understood, was decidedly illustrative."

VACANT CHURCHES.—The Southern Presbyterian says: "In the Presbyterian Church, when a congregation becomes vacant, it almost invariably remains 'so one, two, three, or even more years—going to destruction; and a minister deprived of his charge has to wait upon chance to get another, or resort to means not pleasant or honorable to find one." To remedy this evil, it proposes that every vacant church should make known its destitution through the papers of the denomination.

SPURIOUS CHARITY.—Keep specially clear of unbecoming pretensions to charity. Satan will mask his designs as long as he can, and so will his ministers. Believe that God is love, and that he is the great essential charity. Be satisfied, then, with as much charity as he has shown, and do not think of improving upon your Maker, by entertaining and expressing a more charitable opinion of sinners than himself.

BAPTISM OF SOLDIERS.—Of the North Carolina soldiers now in Virginia, more than 30 were baptized recently by Rev. F. Broadus, D.D., of Frederickburg, Va., and six by "brother Bagby, chaplain of the 40th Va. regiment."

God hides himself and his own behind second causes.—Gail

DEFECTIVE

TUSKEGEE, ALA.:
Thursday, Oct. 24, 1861.

Domestic Missions.

An incident is related as having occurred in the early border warfare of this country with the Indians, which we read in our boyhood, and which left a deep impression upon our hearts. The savages attacked the house of a farmer who had not long been settled in the then wilderness, and who was out in his field at work. He fortunately saw them at a distance, mounted his horse, caught up his rifle, and galloped to his house to hurry his family away to a place of safety. His wife was confined to her bed with an infant a week old. He hurried seven of his children off immediately, and remained to carry his wife and infant. Before he could leave the house the Indians entered, and he resolved to fly to his children, snatch up the one he loved best, and save it, as being the only alternative to save any. On coming to his little band of loved ones, who were straining every nerve to save themselves, he found it impossible to make a selection, and he therefore resolved to throw himself between them and the deadly foe, and perish rather than abandon them. The savages came on apace. Keeping his little flock before him, he returned the shot of the enemy from his snoring rifle with such rapidity and effect, that he held the whole party at bay until his children reached a place of safety. Such was the story as we read it.

As we have been deliberating in our minds which of our benevolent enterprises to sacrifice to what is called the necessities of the times, we find it impossible to make a selection. If we sacrifice the Foreign Mission cause, we forfeit our faith to our brethren who have gone hence among the heathen, and doom them to starvation. If we sacrifice the Indian department of the Domestic Board, we abandon the most successful mission we have ever prosecuted,—we turn our backs upon a people who are sharing with us the perils and dangers which now environ us,—and we visit untold suffering upon the devoted men we have sent to the Indian territory.—If we sacrifice the Bible Board, we abandon the work of printing and circulating the Word of God among our people just at the time when that work can be performed by no other agency. And now, if we sacrifice the cause of Domestic Missions, we subject ourselves to the charge of not providing for our own household, and we know what holy writ has said of this sin. So it seems to us, that if we are obedient to the noblest and highest impulses of Christian philanthropy, we will throw ourselves in the breach, and resolve in the strength of God, to abandon none of these interests so long as God gives us the ability to sustain them, even at the heaviest sacrifices. The Domestic Mission cause is the great central wheel, so to speak, which gives motion to our entire system of Christian benevolence. It was so in Apostolic days.—“Beginning at Jerusalem,” was the express instruction of our blessed Lord when He sent forth his disciples to “all the world,” and “to every creature.”—We may not disregard this solemn injunction with impunity. Humanity and Christian charity alike demand that we heed the voice of our ascended Saviour as a work so intimately connected with present and future interest, happiness and prosperity of our new republic.

Never was there in our day, and never will there be while we live, such need as this. We may not gather the harvest for years. But the published now feels as it has not felt in centuries, a sense of dependence upon God of the Bible for its guidance and protection. The ministry now in field may, with the blessing of God, be the future Christianity of this country, than any that has yet lived in the western world. “Seed thoughts” are now to be scattered broadcast over our land, which will produce a harvest to the glory of God. Let our ministers lay this to heart; and let our brethren remember, that every minister they shall enable our Domestic Board to throw into the field at this crisis, will be a pillar in the temple of our young Confederacy. The professed Christianity of the North, which is but another name for a wild fanaticism which the Crusaders never surpassed, has destroyed the government erected by our revolutionary sires,—now let the Christianity of the South gather up the fragments and rebuild that glorious structure upon the very land that first originated it—the land of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Pinckney, and their compatriots of the South, to whom, more than to all others the world is indebted for the Statesmanship that conceived, and the valor that won the liberty and independence of this continent. Christianity is too much interested in the tremendous question now at issue, to be a silent spectator. And we cannot but think that in no form can her voice be so authoritatively heard, and her influence so benignly felt, as in sustaining this time with a strong arm and faltering faith all her agencies for good. So long as the ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obededom, the Lord blessed Obededom and all his house.” If we wish the blessing of God upon our people, we must show ourselves faithful to that cause to which nations rise or fall. “Them that honor me will I honor,” said our Saviour for the Lord.

Therefore, therefore, that our people, and a yet that Board to whom the trust has been committed of

supplying our destitute regions with the ministry of the Word. If we will only do what we can, it will not be long before God will enable us to do what we would. He will see to it that his Word shall not be bound in the hands of those “who have a mind to work.” All the devils in perdition, and all the wicked men on earth, cannot “blockade” his work. A breath from his mouth can scatter the navy of the world. We have but to do our duty, and trust Him for the result. “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the fruit of the land.” S. H.

Central Association.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE, ALA. Oct. 12, 1861.

DEAR PRO. TALIAFERRO: The following preamble and resolutions were offered at the late session of Central Association but withdrawn on account of the opposition of certain good brethren to what they called mixing politics and religion:

“Whereas, since our last meeting as a body great changes have taken place in the political relations of this country which have resulted in the establishing of a new Republic, and believing it to be the duty as well as the privilege of good and loyal citizens on all proper occasions to express their opinions on all subjects of the kind; therefore be it

“Resolved, That as the sense of this body we heartily approve of the separation of the two sections of the country and the formation of the Southern Confederacy, and that we repudiate the idea that any power on earth has the lawful right to coerce us into submission to any other government.

“Be it further Resolved, That we hereby pledge ourselves to use our best efforts to sustain and uphold the government thus established, and that our substance, our prayers and our persons shall always be at the call of our country.”

The resolutions were ably advocated by the Moderator, Elder T. J. Russell, Elder J. M. Russell and M. T. Sumner, and others. I wish it distinctly understood that the opposition to the passage of the resolutions was not on account of the principles contained in them, but as stated before because it appeared to them (wrongfully) outside the line of Christian duty, and without Scripture warrant for our Association, as such, to pass such resolutions.

Many brethren would like to hear the opinion of Elder T. and others on this subject. Have we Scripture authority for such proceedings? What was the practice of the denomination anciently? What in this country, especially since the Revolution of '76?

W. M. LINDSEY.

Reply to the Above.

Baptists, as a body, have always been careful not to meddle in secular affairs. In citizen capacity they have been as active as others, but not as Churches, Associations and Conventions. They have ever maintained that Church and State should be kept distinct. Technically have they regarded the asseveration of their Master, “My Kingdom is not of this world,” as the rule of their conduct.

Their uniform action, as thus stated, has had reference to the common political affairs of the countries in which they have been citizens. They would not let down their dignity by entering the arena of party strife and contention for political power—would never allow themselves to become the tools of partizan leaders. But in revolutions, involving the birth of nations, the maintenance of republican principles, and the right of “Soul Liberty” in the worship of God, they have, with equal uniformity, taken part, through the action of their churches and deliberative bodies, thus helping to manufacture a sound public sentiment, and by meeting the enemy, sword in hand, on the battle field. In all the great revolutions which have resulted in the advancement of mankind in secular and religious liberty, from the days of Cromwell to the present, they have taken the most active part, in all the relations in which they exist, as Churches, Associations and as citizens. Many of Cromwell's ablest officers were Baptists, and so was a very large portion of his army. And surely the active part the Baptists took in the Revolution of 1776 must be familiar to all. As Churches and Associations they passed resolutions approving the course of the Continental Congress in resisting Great Britain, pledging the moral influence of the denomination to sustain them, and themselves as soldiers to meet the enemy in deadly conflict. They did the same to Gen. Washington. And we defy any one to give the name of a single Tory among them during the Revolution—Their views of Church and Secular Policy will always place them in opposition to despotism in Church and State.

The present Revolution is one of vast magnitude, involving interests dear to every freeman, and particularly to Baptists. Baptists cannot flourish in despotic governments. Despotism necessarily hate them; for they know that the Baptist Church Policy will educate the mind to strike for secular liberty, hence they have always been persecuted in absolute monarchies. And who is so blind that he cannot see the despotic features of the Lincoln government? and what rapid strides they are making towards the worst despotism on earth—a mobocratic despotism? Baptists would have been false to their previous history, to their long cherished and heaven-born principles, had they not taken the lead in the great move towards Southern Independence. This they did, to their everlasting honor be it written. They took the lead, and gave the movement an impetus by the uniform action of their Associations and Conventions. The Baptist Convention of Alabama was the first religious body that took action. The moral influence of that

action was like electricity, it ran over the land, inspiring patriots and appalling traitors and enemies. It was followed by other Baptist organizations, and the ecclesiastical meetings of other denominations, until a noble Southern sentiment was kindled, armies were raised, the defence commenced, and, under God, has been successful up to date. Baptists have sustained their resolutions by entering the armies of the Confederate States by tens of thousands, and by sacrifices of life and property.

In all this we most heartily approve their course, and we are proud of them. They are getting the praise of all men. In a revolution like this when their property, families, principles—every thing worth living for—are at stake, they have done well in their churches and deliberative bodies to pass resolutions to aid in the formation of a correct public sentiment, and to strengthen the hands of “men in authority.” As a denomination they stood aloof from the various parties that have existed in the “United States,” in which they acted wisely, but the issues now involve their destiny and they have acted, and will act till independence is proclaimed from every mountain top in the Southern Confederacy.

We highly respect the jealous watching of the great Baptist principle of opposition to the union of Church and State as shown by those who opposed the action of the Central Association, but we suggest that owing to the issues now pending, that such action would have been well, and would not have involved the Association in the charge of “mixing politics and religion.” The times are pregnant with a new nation, the travail has commenced, and all must assist. After the nation is born, and all difficulties settled, then keep out of the dust and smoke of office-seeking scoundrels. If Lincoln should subjugate the South, Baptist necks will feel the iron heel of his despotism, for he well knows the active part they have taken in the Great Rebellion, as the North terms it. Tyrant Fremont is particularly hard upon Baptists in Missouri, and has imprisoned many of their preachers. He knows the active part they have taken in the maintenance of State sovereignty, and knows, too, to what results their religious views will lead them. Among the many traitors who have betrayed the interests of the South during this struggle not a Baptist can be found.

We are asked if there is any “Scriptural authority for such proceedings.” There is no divine legislation for nor against it. Something analogous may be found in the twelfth chapter of first Kings. The whole Bible is against tyranny in Church or State, and has implanted in every man, in every community and State, the law of self-defence, and common sense and the circumstances surrounding must point out the best plans to pursue.

The S. W. Baptist has never meddled in the political strife of partisans, but in this great movement of the 19th century it has felt fully justified in aiding, with all its might, the “great rebellion,” and expects to do so till peace is declared, unless it is numbered among the slain.

The President and Generals.

“Personne,” correspondent of the Charleston Courier, thus describes President Davis, Gen. Johnston and Beauregard at a review of the Army of the Potomac:

As the hour of twelve approached, the several brigades took up their positions at the point indicated, and shortly afterwards the President arrived. I am not very good in describing scenes, but if you will imagine a dignified looking gentleman in plain clothes, riding with easy grace a white horse, his eye fixed in military curiosity on the long bristling line before him and his hand raised to his hat at every salutation, you will see the President as he appeared. That stern looking man, riding just behind the President, in full Confederate uniform of grey, with head erect, and macadamized expression of countenance, which forbids analysis, whose rigid moustache, merging into side whiskers of the punctilious soldier, hides a firmly set mouth that seems made only to utter monosyllables, is Gen. Johnston. Just beside him is Beauregard—the pet of the army—attired in blue, with few or no military fixtures on his person except a red gold-braid cap—like those worn by the new Orleans officers; his smooth, handsome face, bronzed by exposure to the sun and air, his dark eye, keen and ever on the alert, catching every object at a glance, and so modest with all that he seems half inclined to drop to the rear. Such is the little man who has already won three great battles of the Confederacy, and secured a place in the affection of his soldiers, on which he can rely in the hour of his greatest need. The difference between the two Generals is that one commands respect—the other receives the voluntary homage of loving admiration.

J. C. Breckinridge has issued a thrilling address to the people of Kentucky in favor of the South. He has appealed to the sword and joined the Confederate army, and advises all Kentuckians to do the same. It will stir the patriotism of the citizens of that noble State. The struggle will be terrible, but success will be on the side of right. We wish we had space for the address.

We are gratified to learn from the letter of Rev. J. S. Paulin that an old Temperance organization still exists in Eufaula, and still “working.” Well done, “Rising Virtue!” We shall be pleased to get other facts concerning the Temperance cause.

War News.

Nothing but skirmishing since our last—Great battles are daily expected. The reader will find, however, our secular news quite interesting.

SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST.

Extortion.

When Nehemiah returned to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, after the desolations of seventy years captivity, he found a class of men among them disposed to take advantage of the necessities of the people by every means their avarice could invent. This wise and patriotic governor took the most prompt and effective measures to suppress this heaven-daring and inhuman wickedness. “Then I consulted with myself,” says he, “and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. . . . Then said they, We will restore them, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them that they should do according to this promise. Also, I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labor, that performeth not this promise, even thus will he be shaken out and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the Lord.—And the people did according to this promise.” Neh. 5: 7-12, 13. Will the reader turn to this chapter and read it.

Every age has had its Shylocks—a race of miserable wretches, who look upon every public calamity as a God-send to them, as it enables them to gratify that most sordid and debasing passion of the human soul—the greed of gain. The very calamities which open the hearts and purses of all Christians and patriots, closes theirs with the rigidity of death. The wail of distress which awakens the kindest sympathies of every generous heart is the sweetest music that can charm their ignoble souls. The noble sentiments of patriotism never quicken a single pulsation of their hearts. Like the deadly Upas, they flourish where every thing else decays.

What shall be done with this race of vampires, whose prosperity depends upon the ruin of others? Who are seeking to monopolize articles of prime necessity, that, as the prophet says, they may “make the ephraim small, and the sheikie great,” i. e., the measure small and the price great? We know no better plan than that adopted by the good and wise governor, Nehemiah,—“set a great assembly against them.” Let the people brand such conduct with the infamy it deserves. We counsel no violence. God forbid. For it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.” But we do say, that when the sun of peace and prosperity shall again visit our distracted land, let these miserly souls be made to feel that righteous indignation which their conduct merits. S. H.

A correspondent of the Charleston Courier administers in the following paragraph a severe rebuke to all croakers and fault-finders:

If this is to continue, why educate men exclusively for military purposes? Let us throw away our books on tactics, strategy and the science of war, and employ our time more usefully, leaving it to Tom, Dick, or Harry to collect a mob and fight out the great revolution. If our Generals and our armies move one peg beyond the dictates of their discretion; if a single Regiment is engaged when and where it ought not to be, and if this be done through the influence and pressure of an impatient, presumptuous press, then, indeed, have our books been abandoned, and our well appointed army degenerates into a mob, with a host of tripod leaders, every man of whom being hundreds of miles from the general row he invokes. But I trust in God that our President and his Generals are men of two much nerve to be influenced by such reckless dictation. For forty years, gentlemen, you have been at liberty to discuss the great questions which have induced this mighty issue. Your reasonings have failed to decide the contest, and the people have resorted to arms, and chosen their leaders.—It is no longer a matter of idle debate. The great issue is purely military, and can only be successfully decided by the sword.

Kentucky.

The Lincoln Government is making vast and energetic preparations for the conflict in Kentucky. From present indications that State will be the Arma-geddon of the war. The fact is now apparent, the longer a State remains in the “Union” the more bloody the conflict in getting out. The preparations of the Confederates in Kentucky are wisely withheld from the public, but they are doubtless active. A large majority of South Kentucky are with the South, while the Northern part of the State are with Lincoln. Truly “stirring events” will soon transpire in that section.

Minutes.

We have the Minutes of two Associations to print; the Liberty and Tuskegee. Brother STANTON, Clerk of Tuskegee, requests us to say that his delay in furnishing the MS. was owing to sickness. These are war times, and we request our brethren to be patient. The force in our office is only sufficient to bring out the paper. We shall procure a printer from abroad as soon as possible to print the Minutes.

The Cause in Montgomery.

Rev. F. Calloway, pastor of the second Baptist Church in Montgomery, adds the following to a business note. It is dated Oct. 15th:

“I expect to baptize three new converts to-morrow afternoon. Our meeting has been protracted for the two past weeks at the 2nd church with increased interest. Last night house full, 15 up for prayer.

The reader will find “Manassas,” on the first page, a thrilling sketch.

For the South Western Baptist. Colporters among the Soldiers.

Bro. M. D. Anderson of Aquia Creek writes, “The past two months have been of unusual interest to me. During this time I’ve gone nearly through the regiments between Fredericksburg and the Creek. The soldiers are anxious to have the Word of God. Not unfrequently on seeing me coming they have run to meet me to inquire whether I have gotten the Testaments I promised them. I visit the hospitals a great deal and have seen there much to encourage and even delight me. I visited a man with whom I had held frequent conversations and found him passing through the Jordan of death. I asked him if he thought the Lord was with him. He replied ‘Yes with me to comfort and sustain in the valley of the shadow of death.’ Another (a Baptist) told me that since he had been in the camp he had been led astray from the Christian life, but if spared and saved from his disease, he intended to return to the service of Christ. He remarked to me, ‘You are the first one to visit me in regard to my soul!’

Since my last report the President of the Young Men’s Christian has presented me with a nice lot of Bibles so that I have had the pleasure of distributing a large number of Bibles and Testaments.

A Chaplain in the regular army told me the other day that he wanted me to furnish him with a Testament for each soldier in his regiment, and that he would pay for them. My grants have been very large, but how can I help it when so many ask for books and tell me they have no money to pay for them? I give away a good part of my own salary in books besides what I give away on account of the Board.

Bro. Quarles (West Point.) “I never was in any place where there was so much need of religious influence as here. I have distributed tracts all through the encampments. Almost every night we have a prayer meeting. God has heard our prayers and one of our men has been led to believe on Jesus and is now rejoicing in his love. The conversion of this one has had considerable effect on others and now there are several cases of seriousness.”

I shall from time to time send to the South Western Baptist extracts from the reports of our colporters, so that our friends may see something of what is being effected by their liberality. The Lord is most signally blessing these labors and almost daily we are permitted to unite with the angelic hosts in rejoicing over sinners thus led to repentance. Why then should the work cease? Dear brethren and sisters, will you not send on some tangible expression of your interest in this enterprise?

Address A. E. DICKINSON, Gen. Supt. Bap. Col. in Va.

For the South Western Baptist.

SILVER RUM, ALA., Oct. 10th, 1861. Bro. R. HOLMAN: In behalf of the Board of E. A. B. Convention I write you in relation to Indian Missions, so far as our dear Brethren Vandiver and Reed are concerned. The Board did not understand that they were pledged for the support of the former longer than one year, and that they felt a delicacy in assuming, whereupon Bro. Renfro assumed the responsibility of raising the \$500. Here is the resolutions of that Board meeting:

“Resolved, That Bro. Renfro be appointed an agent to raise \$500 for the support of Bro. E. A. Vandiver as Missionary to the Indians, provided, that the balance of the amount necessary for his support be raised from other quarters.

“Resolved, 2d, That the Missionaries be required to transmit duplicate reports of their labors to this Board adjourned.” Bro. Reed’s support was also considered in the same way. We however expected to continue his support if all was satisfactory, but we have not received the first duplicate report from either, hence the Board at least do not feel under so deep obligations as you conceive them to be in your letter of August 22d. And still, Bro. Holman, we are under obligations, and we desire them supported. But, sir, what can we do? The great public eye and mind are turned to this war, our sons and neighbors are in it, their wives and orphan children are looking to us for support, besides these soldiers are to be clothed. Here is opened a channel for our benevolence and self-denial, and into it, sir, our last dollars have been and are going. Nevertheless we are Missionaries to the very hilt. True, it is the Lord’s cause, and this just war contending for soul liberty and Bible privileges on our part, is the Lord’s cause too. And we fear to urge the full support of the Missionary cause would do that cause an injury. We desire their support, but we see no full chance of it from this quarter. We stand willing to do what we can, in our sorrow and love. Yours truly,

S. G. JENKINS.

Baptist Preachers.

A correspondent wishes us to find out and publish the number of Baptist preachers who have joined the army from Alabama. He says six have gone from Calhoun. We can not ascertain the number, but suppose that more than half have either entered the army as officers, privates or Chaplains.

Rev. A. E. Dickinson requests that whenever his articles become burdensome to give him notice. The notice will never come, for God forbid that we should get tired of hearing him plead his good cause, the moral and religious elevation of the Confederate soldiers. Write on, and continue to give us your interesting facts.

For the South Western Baptist. Ala. Baptist State Convention.

The Thirty-ninth annual meeting of the Alabama Baptist State Convention will be held with the Baptist Church in Marion, Perry county, Ala., commencing on Friday before the second Sabbath in November, (Nov. 8th, 1861)

The standing committees are as follows:

Education: W. N. Reeves, J. G. Shorter, M. B. Hardin.

Domestic Missions: C. Manly, J. C. Foster, B. Manly, Jr.

Foreign Missions: J. M. Newman, A. T. M. Haudey, B. A. Blakey.

Temperance: N. L. DeVotie, A. G. McCraw, W. Wilkes.

S. B. P. Society: B. H. Crumpton, P. H. Lundy, D. Lee.

Sabbath Schools: D. M. Reeves, D. R. Lide, C. F. Sturgis.

H. TALMIRD, President.

For the South Western Baptist. Music Convention.

COOSA COUNTY, ALA., Sept. 28, 1861.

The Southern Alabama Music Convention met pursuant to adjournment, with the Church at Good Hope, Coosa county, Ala. In the absence of the President the meeting was called to order by F. C. Wood, Vice President.—After prayer by Y. D. Harrington, on motion, appointed J. E. Tucker Clerk protem. On motion, called for correspondence. On motion, gave an opportunity for persons to become members of this body, whereupon a goodly number of ladies and gentlemen enrolled their names. On motion, proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the election of F. C. Wood President, R. A. Williams Vice, and J. E. Tucker Clerk. On motion, appointed a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of J. H. Nichols, Y. D. Harrington and J. W. Ansburn. Music by J. G. Spencer; forty minutes recess; forty-five minute music by the President, F. C. Wood.—One hour recess. Business resumed; on motion, appointed the next session of this body to convene with this Church, Good Hope, Coosa county, Ala., to commence on Thursday before the first Sabbath in September, 1862. Music by brother R. A. Williams, one hour, then adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o’clock. Benediction by Rev. Y. D. Harrington.

Sabbath morning, met pursuant to adjournment, and organized. Prayer by Y. D. Harrington; Music by brother Downs; 45 minutes recess. Music by J. M. Berry; 1 hour recess. Business resumed; on motion, the minutes were read and adopted, and further, that the proceedings of this session be published in the “South Western Baptist.”

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the citizens of this community for their kind hospitality shown us during our abode with them. Music by R. A. Williams; one hour recess, followed by F. C. Wood in conclusion. Benediction by Rev. Y. D. Harrington. F. C. Wood, President, R. A. Williams, Vice P., J. E. TUCKER, Clerk.

Falling Off.

Facts tell terribly upon the commerce of New York. First to bring on the war, the first and worst sufferer. A late number of the New York Herald puts down the imports at that place for the week at \$600,000. For the corresponding week last year they were over \$800,000, or five times as large as they are now.

See Mrs. E. Wolff’s advertisement. The harder the times the more energy she puts forth. Give her a call.

Secular Intelligence. (From the Columbus Enquirer.) The Fight on Santa Rosa.

CAMP 1ST ALA. REGT. NEAR PENSACOLA, October 10th, 1861.

EDITOR ENQUIRER: Our Yankee enemy on Santa Rosa Island have become very base lately; they have burnt our dry dock and one of our small schooners, near the Navy Yard, in the last six weeks. Gen. Bragg, I presume, intended to retaliate on them night before last.—He had detailed two or three companies from each regiment here, in a force of 12 or 1500 men, commanded by Gen. Anderson. They left Pensacola at 11 p. m. and landed on Santa Rosa at 2 a. m. and immediately moved down the island towards Picketts. The first Yankees they encountered were a large battery, guarded by 14 white men and one negro, who was on post at the time. They killed the whole guard and spiked their cannon; advancing they killed all the pickets and spiked the cannon as they went.—as many as nine large pieces were spiked. Billy Wilson himself jumped up out of his tent, undressed, and fled to Fort Picketts at a double-quick. After completely routing them, our men took a great many valuable arms, swords, Minnie muskets, revolvers, bowie knives, and what they could not bring away they piled up and burnt. Billy Wilson was seized with the dead. Billy Wilson himself jumped up out of his tent, undressed, and fled to Fort Picketts at a double-quick. After completely routing them, our men took a great many valuable arms, swords, Minnie muskets, revolvers, bowie knives, and what they could not bring away they piled up and burnt. Billy Wilson was seized with the dead.

After accomplishing their object our troops returned to their boats; but many of a Federal regiment of regulars had formed between the Confederates and their boats. The latter charged on them and ran them 6 miles up the island; they then returned to the boats and landed safe at Pensacola at 10 a. m. We had about 30 killed and 15 or 20 taken prisoners.—We captured one Captain, two Lieutenants and 20 privates. Capt. Bradford, of the Florida forces, was killed. The Yankees lost between 3 and 500 men.

Our troops are in good health and fine spirits. W. T. O.

Sugar and molasses are beginning to arrive at New Orleans. The crop is said to be very abundant, and enough to supply all the people of the Confederate States. So that there will, presently, be no reason for high prices in these important staples.

Planters should lose no opportunity to make meat. Where cattle can be taken up and stilled, they will make excellent beef, and corn and beef will make a good substitute for pickled pork. The quantity of pork can also be greatly increased if pains be taken to feed the hogs well.

The Freedmen’s Bureau, in Richmond, are at present manufacturing the richest calibre of shot shells, balls, &c., &c. The capacity of the establishment is immense there being no less than fifteen hundred men engaged in manufacturing railroad, iron and ordnance of the best description.

Gen. Price, of Missouri, was a Brigadier in the Mexican war, in the battles of New Mexico and Chihuahua, has served in Congress, was Governor of the State, was in command at the battle of Oak Hills, and organized the Missouri forces and gained the great victory at Lexington. He has thus far developed great skill, energy and military knowledge of our soldiers than any General in the service.

It is estimated that the Yankee property under the ban of the sequestration act amounts in the State of Virginia alone, to about thirty millions of dollars.

A factory for the manufacture of swords and muskets, has just been started at Wilmington, North Carolina, under the direction of Colonel Estuan.

The Freedmen’s Bureau, in Richmond, are at present manufacturing the richest calibre of shot shells, balls, &c., &c. The capacity of the establishment is immense there being no less than fifteen hundred men engaged in manufacturing railroad, iron and ordnance of the best description.

Lord Palmerston’s Disavowal of the Fremont Proclamation.

(From the London Post (Palmerston’s organ), Sept. 11.) The American civil war, originally the creation of hostile tariffs and commercial jealousy, has now, at the hands of Fremont, received new features of aggravation and complication. All hope of conciliation and compromise is impossible. General Fremont, recently a candidate for the Presidential chair, and the present commander of the State of Missouri, has issued a proclamation, dated St. Louis, the 31st of August, in which he declared that the property, real and personal, of all persons in that State “who shall take up arms against the United States, or who shall be directly proven to have taken an active part with the enemy in the field, shall be confiscated to the public use, and their slaves declared free men.”

We presume, of course, that Gen. Fremont is acting in conformity with the instructions of the Federal Government. To excite and provoke a servile war is the strongest measure of offence which any Federal officer has hitherto attempted to enforce. The attitude of the slave population in the South which may be described as quiescent, arising either from stolid indifference, or the vigilant coercion of their masters, seems to show that the negro race is disposed to take any part in the war. Will Gen. Fremont, who expects to march from St. Louis to New Orleans, obtain the aid of an army of black auxiliaries, whose duty it will be to carry fire and sword throughout the length and breadth of the plantation States? We believe that he may so far succeed as to cause many Southern regiments to remain at home for the purpose of keeping the slaves in order, but that he will receive from his newly invited allies as much aid as he can get, and more respect to which we must be permitted to express the gravest doubt. If the theory of the Federal Government is to be observed, slavery has nothing whatever to do with the question. Only the other day Mr. Cameron, the Secretary of War, instructed Gen. Butler, at Fort Monroe, to receive no more fugitive slaves, and to keep an account of the earnings of those who had already escaped, in order that the rights of the owner might be respected.

We infer from the proclamation of General Fremont that this regard for the rights of property and non-interference ignored, and that the contest, heretofore, of an unpopular Government and successful insurrectionists, may assume the new and aggravated form of a renormous and sanguinary servile war. Gen. Fremont may think that he will attract the sympathy of European nations, and that a great moral revolution will be effected for the benefit of the negro population by making the emancipation of the slave to depend upon the allegiance or disloyalty to his master. The position of the free negro in the Northern States is in no respect enviable. The law gives him rights which the inexorable custom of the country does not permit him to enforce. He is kept in a kind of parish of slavery, in the place of worship, in the public vehicle, and in the ordinary intercourse of life. Mrs. Stowe may charm never so well with her benevolent intended and amusing fictions; but she cannot disprove the fact that both in North and South the negro is treated as a slave, and as a degraded and servile race. We, therefore do not imagine that the proclamation of General Fremont will attract much attention in the South, or even amongst the people of this country, especially when, in the latter case, it will be correctly considered simply as a penalty attached to the offence of desertion. It is a measure which values the freedom of the slave, they would not wish to see this great object accomplished by domestic treason, and that wholesale slaughter which always marks the track of servile insurrection.

The Produce Loan. (Expressly for the Montgomery Advertiser.)

Richmond Oct. 18. A letter from Secretary Meminger, addressed to the receivers of subscriptions to the Produce Loan, appears in the Enquirer of this morning.

He advises the Commissioners to continue their efforts to increase the Loan, notwithstanding the blockade. He declares that the Government has no control of the produce itself, does not regulate the time of sale or price, and says the subscription is confined to the proceeds of sales, and contains an order on the commission merchant or factor of the planter to pay over to the Treasurer of the Confederate States an amount subscribed in exchange for Confederate Bonds.

He says further, it becomes the interest of both parties to wait for a good price, and that the Government will readily consent to a postponement of the sale.

The Secretary then devotes the larger portion of his letter on an enquiry about extending material aid from the Government to the planters. He says no power is granted to any department to lend money for the relief of any interest. What Congress may do, the Secretary is unable to state.

REBELLION IN INDIANA.—The Cincinnati “Gazette,” (an ant and out Lincoln journal) says that “a set of traitors” held a Jeff. Davis meeting lately at Bainbridge, Indiana, at which Archibald Johnson, Senator from that district, made a speech, going the whole length for the Southern cause. He told his hearers that it was no treason to oppose Lincoln, as he was a tyrant, subverting the Constitution, suspending writ of *habeas corpus*, waging the war to destroy State rights and to carry out the Chicago platform.” Mr. Senator Johnson is reported to have said all these and many other truthful things.

UNION MEN IN KENTUCKY TURNING SECESSIONISTS.—The Louisville “Journal,” the most prominent pensioned Yankee press of Kentucky, has the following malignant announcement:—“We learn that some of the more mercenary of the late Union men in and around Bowling Green, finding in the army employment for themselves and their servants, and a market for their produce, give unmistakable indications of yielding themselves to secessionism. Having received the value of their souls, the bargain is consummated.”

HOMEBRED LETTER PAPER.—We have seen a specimen of letter paper made at the new paper mill established at Knoxville, Tennessee, which is very creditable to the machine. Whatever may be the great detriment to our country in the way of commerce, occasioned by the present war, there is no denying that so far as manufactures are concerned, it is doing more to call forth the enterprise and freedom of our people, than any other war could have under the system of dependence upon the North, which had already made us too subservient and dependent upon their people.—Exchange.

PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF SIX SOLDIERS.—The Confederate States Government is considering the plan of giving absolute discharges instead of furloughs to the sick soldiers likely to be incapable of duty for any considerable length of time. The plan is recommended by a number of considerations. It may be safely estimated that a good portion of the sick soldiers discharged, under these circumstances will, after returning to their

