
THE HENKEL SQUARE HERALD

Articles transcribed by Vicki Betts at http://www.utt Tyler.edu/vbetts/newspaper_intro.htm unless otherwise noted

VOL. 6

Henkel Square, Round Top, Texas, January 1865

NO. 1

The Soldiers' Home in Houston was opened yesterday, and we were present by invitation of the lady superintendents at a most splendid lunch given to the Provost Guards of this city, numbering some 75 or 100 soldiers. The ladies had prepared the tables with the greatest abundance of the very best our market affords, and it must have afforded gratification to every one to see the ladies thus supplying the wants of those who have so long been performing guard duty for our city. But still more gratifying will it be to every true patriot to find that, hereafter, no soldier will be permitted to pass through our city without receiving the hospitality of our citizens, dispensed by the ladies of Houston. The Houston Hall is a large and commodious brick building, capable of accommodating several hundred soldiers at the same time, and is by far the most suitable building in the city for a Soldiers' Home.

We understand that the organization is now complete, all the necessary officers having been appointed. Mrs. Col. James Relly [?] has been elected by the ladies President of the Association.

We look upon the establishment of Soldiers' Homes as a most important step in the right direction. Nothing can have a better effect upon the soldiers than an assurance that they are appreciated by those at home, and especially by the ladies, as their only protection against a brutal and barbarous enemy and to whom, alone, they can look for deliverance in this terrible struggle for life, liberty, and even existence. We have too long neglected to take the proper means to make the soldiers realize that we feel indebted to them for our present safety, and that to relieve his wants is the least we can do for the inestimable services he is rendering to his country.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

Letter from Santiago.

Waco, Dec. 23d, 1864.

Ed. News:--To use the well known expression of a little boy to the hero of San Jacinto—"I have been set back."

A few days ago I dined with two of my countrywomen, both fair and beautiful to look upon, whose husbands were absent.

Somehow, or somehow else, the all important subject of the war came up in conversation. Now, I having been up in Virginia with the old 1st, have many times felt as if the Confederacy rested upon any individual shoulders—as if the salvation of the country depended upon doing my duty, and have fact to face denounced those who refuse to defend their country, as poor, pitiful scoundrels, who ought to be hung.

One of the ladies remarked that her husband had been anxious to go to the front several times, but that she had dissuaded him from it, because she loved him, and was afraid he might get killed!

As quick as though I replied that the ladies of the South were generally more patriotic than the gentlemen, and had by their devotion saved the country, but that if all the ladies influenced their husbands as she had hers, we would soon have no army, and the Confederacy would be wiped out. I was in earnest, and suppose my face, which is not like that of Adonis, showed my heartfelt emotions—not the watching smiles of persuasion. Whereupon this husband-loving lady very coolly inquired of me *why I was not in the field?* Now, I must confess that my dimensions were not increased by this question, for the post of danger is the post of honor—where

"The battle wreck lies thickest,
And death's brief pang is quickest"

but I mumbled out something about volunteering at the first of the war, Virginia and Arkansas, Quartermaster's Department, cotton, wool, hides, and God knows what! I felt humble. Uriah Heap, in his humility, might rather have been compared to Bonaparte at the battle of the Pyramids, than I to that humble individual.

I was just in the act of sounding a retreat, when something turned up for me, as well as for Mr. Macawber. I had hardly made my reply when the other lady arose, and with that graceful dignity peculiar to our Southern matrons, addressed my vanquisher as follows:

"Madam! You do well to love your husband and your country should be dearer to you than father, mother, children, all! That virtue which inspires one to devote his life for the good of his country, has ever been considered sublime and godlike. Your husband may die at home any day; to die upon the field of glory for his country will be sweet and decorous. Would you detain a soldier from the field and thereby weaken our force and aid our enemies? Will you aid Andy Johnson, Jack Hamilton, Parson Brownlow, and other shameless wretches, who have deserted their country in the hour of danger and gone over to the Abolitionists, when the gallant survivors of Stonewall Jackson, Sidney Johnston, Bartow, Bee, Pettigrew, Stuart, Green, Scurry, Randal and Gregg, struggling nobly against immense odds, cry for help? Can it be possible for you or any true woman or honest man, in the Confederacy, not to distinguish the path of duty and honor from that of disgrace and infamy? Not only does Europe erect statues in honor of our gallant dead, but even our wicked enemies respect their memory! Even among the Yankees, humanity respects magnanimity and virtue, but contemns vice and immorality, therefore they call Lincoln the *Ape*, Butler the *Beast*, and Grant the *Butcher*, but our own illustrious dead, they call HEROES! Madam, sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish, I give my heart and hand to the cause of my people. It is a just and

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Letter from Santiago.

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holy cause.—Were my husband to shirk from the service, much as I love him, I would quit him without regret, for I *can* be a brave man's widow, a coward's wife *never!* so help me God! Should he come home on crutches, or with an empty sleeve dangling by his side, as witnesses of his bravery and courage in battle, it will be a labor of love to minister to his wants and hear him fight over all his battles again at the fireside—how the brave Texas boys charged the breastworks at Gaines' Mill and Malvern Heights—how their first line charged right through the whole Yankee army at 2d Manassas, and then how heroically they contended for victory at Sharpsburg. Oh! it will be such a treat to hear him tell about his dangers and perils and hairbreadth escapes, and to *know* that my husband never failed his country in the hour of need, but was one of its bravest defenders!"

After uttering these patriotic sentiments, this noble woman turned her awe-inspiring eyes upon *me*, and was silent, but looked as if she desired me to say something. I said slowly and deliberately, "Madam, I would not survive the liberties of my country! If I do, may God blot from the book of eternal life the name of

Santiago.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 6

Capt. Odlum.

On the 2d of November last, we published a communication highly complementary to Capt. F. H. Odlum for the brilliant achievement of his company at Sabine Pass on the 8th of Sept., 1863, wherein two of the enemy's steamers and about 400 prisoners were captured by only 42 men! On publishing this communication, we were reminded that it apparently contradicted the generally received account that Lt. Dowling was in command of the company at that time, and that Capt. Odlum was then absent on other duties, and supposing that to have been actually the case, we remarked, editorially, that Capt. Odlum was not present in that glorious action. From the following order, it would, however, appear beyond all doubt that Capt. Odlum was present and in command of the post, notwithstanding the reports to the contrary, to which we had given credit.

Hd. Q'rs, Eastern Sub-District of Texas,
Houston, Texas, Sept. 13th, 1863.
General Orders, No. 39.A.

The Commanding Officer of this Sub-District congratulates the garrison at Sabine Pass, and its commanding officer, Capt. F. H. Odlum, for the signal victory achieved by them on the 8th inst., over the enemies of free Government. The fearful odds brought by the enemy against your works, add a double laurel to your achievements, which will be so gratefully received by the country and your brethren in arms. The heroic resolution, the steadfastness of purpose and action, the manly fortitude in braving the guns of the invaders; but, above all, the love of country which so honorably stimulated you in the attack and capture of their two gunboats, and disabling a third, must challenge, for a parallel, the martial performances of the age, and the admiration of every patriot of the land. To control the impetuosity

of a garrison under the circumstances, and the reservation of your fire until the enemy approached in short range of your guns, are of those judicious and skillful acts rarely found in a volunteer corps, and which contributed so largely to this most important capture. To Lieut. R. W. Dowling, and Lieut. W. H. Smith, of the Engineer Corps, (and other meritorious officers, whose name have not been officially communicated to me,) who participated in that thrilling engagement, and who were so conspicuous everywhere by their gallant bearing and activity, deserve, as they will receive, the thanks of the army and the country. Monuments will be given to our defenders, and graves to our invaders.

P. N. Luckett,
Acting Brig. Gen. Commanding Eastern Sub-Dist.
of Texas.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 6

The following articles are from the San Antonio Herald:

Indian Depredations.—We learn that the Indians have just paid a visit to Kerr and Kendall counties, killing two ladies on the Llano as they came down. They succeeded in getting off with a large number of horses. The people of these two counties are too weak to pursue them. The two ladies killed were Mrs. Joy and her daughter, who were on horseback riding through the neighborhood. The Indians are said to be uncommonly bold, riding through the country in day time.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 6

We understand that the authorities of Matamoros have ordered a large surplus of the frail daughters of Eve residing in that city, to seek lodgings elsewhere. Whether they will be entered at the Custom House as a necessary, or be smuggled into the Confederacy as a luxury, or go to the Yankee lines, whence they came, we cannot answer. It is understood that Mister Price and the ring tailed Bosting Peeler are negotiating with the Matamoros officials for the new theater, in this connection—
Brownsville Ranchero.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

Among the passengers in Thursday's stage was a man dressed in female attire, on his way to San Antonio. Whether he was a deserter or a Yankee spie [sic], could not be ascertained. He was travelling in company with a woman who told several tales respecting their movements, but nothing satisfactory was elicited. The Commander of the Post had both arrested and sent to Houston.—Ibid.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1864, p. 2, c. 1

A Soldiers' Home has been established at Jasper, Texas, and our old friend Dr. Syman White has charge of the same.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

[Summary: "National Song--The Southern Cross"--"its authoress is a young lady of Missouri, now an exile in Texas"]

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 4, 1865, p. 2, c. 4.

We are glad to learn from Rev. Mr. Castleton that the Houston Hall (Schrimpf's Hotel) has been secured for a Soldiers' Home in this city. It will be under the supervision of the ladies of the State Central Committee of this city, and Mr. A. Sessums will act as treasurer and commissary, and to him all moneys and materials for the use of the house must be sent. We believe the organization is now such as to insure permanency and great benefits to our soldiers passing through this city. It is suggested that the friends of the soldiers—farmers, planters and others in the country—may send such supplies as they feel disposed to donate to the support of this Home to direct to Mr. Sessums *by Express* as otherwise losses are most certain to occur. We have very little doubt that the proprietors of the Express will be willing to make the charges very moderate, for the purpose of aiding all they can to sustain an institution so indispensable to our soldiers, in returning from and going to the army.

We are requested to state that the same Ladies' Central Committee act in behalf of such Homes in the country as need assistance, and for this purpose Mr. A. J. Burke is their Treasurer and to him should be sent all such articles or such sums of money as are intended for the aid of Homes in the country needing support. The treasuries for the Home in this city and Homes in the country are kept distinct, so as to avoid all confusion and trouble in the application of the means to the purpose intended.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1864, p. 2, c. 3

We find the following excellent suggestion in the Dallas Herald. If our subscribers, after reading our paper, would send it to some friends in the army, as recommended, they would render a valuable service, at no expense to themselves or any body else:

"The blockade having closed all our ports, paper can be procured only at enormous prices, and consequently newspapers, so potent in forming and directing aright public opinion, are often out of the reach of the people and private soldier. A recent visit to our army now encamped at Camden, Arkansas, has convinced me that if there were more newspapers circulated in the army, it would add more to the contentment and satisfaction of the soldiers than any one thing that their friends at home could do for them. It would enable them to spend their leisure hours profitably, give them the local news at home, and keep them from time to time, properly informed as the progress and objects of the war in which they are engaged. The object of this article is to appeal to your readers to remail all their newspapers so soon as they read them, to some soldier in the service. Did they but know with what eagerness newspapers are sought for in the army, they would put themselves to some trouble to forward all they could.

Will you call the attention of your readers to this subject, and will other editors do the same." Coin in a Corner.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 2, c. 3

We notice an interesting statement relative to the condition of the Soldiers' Home in Anderson, made in the Telegraph by the following ladies having direction of that institution, namely:

Mrs. D. Nelms, President,
 Mrs. A. Cawthorn, }
 Mrs. C. Kerr, }
 Mrs. Moore, }

Mrs. Barnes, }
 Miss Womick, }
 Directresses.

It appears from the account given that the Home in Anderson was opened on the 1st of August last, and has since furnished over 1,200 meals to soldiers and 768 feeds to their horses. The number wanting accommodation is increasing, owing to the many furloughs now being granted. Sick soldiers are attended to by the physician of the Post, and by the Matron, Mrs. Hendricks. Mrs. Hendricks receives one dollar, Confederate money, for every meal cooked, and the money to pay for her valuable services is made up by voluntary subscription and paid out by the Treasurer, Mr. Lawhorn. The provisions, &c., are obtained by contribution from planters. It appears that Mrs. Hendricks furnishes her own house for the Soldiers' Home, and has hitherto furnished bedding, but the Directresses say that more bedding is needed for this cold weather, and they appeal to the young ladies of Grimes to send in comforts and such other articles of bedding as they can furnish, which will be taken care of and returned to the owners. We are glad to see that so much good is being done by the Home in Anderson.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

Soldiers' Homes.

We learn from the Re. Mr. Castleton that the following Homes are now organized and in successful operations:

Beaumont		Jefferson county.
San Antonio		Bexar county.
Austin		Travis county.
New Braunfels		Comal county.
Corsicana		Navarro county.
Hillsboro		Hill county.
Palestine		Anderson county.
Butler		Freestone county.
Fairfield		"
Cotton Gin		"
Springfield		Limestone county
Mansfield		Louisiana
Minden		Louisiana
Homer		Louisiana
Independence	Maj. Blanton's Hotel	Wash'n Co.
Waxahachie	Maj. Roger's Hotel	Ellis Co.
Ash Creek	Mr. Ward's	Hill Co.
Bastrop	Mr. Nicholson's Hotel	Bastrop Co.
Paris	[Name not known]	Lamar Co.
Beaumont	Col. Fletcher's	Jeff'son Co.
Houston	Houston Hall	Harris Co.
Hempstead	Defunct, but reorganizing	
Navasota	Defunct	
Millican	Defunct	
Anderson	Mrs. Hendricks	Grimes Co.
Huntsville	Col. Polk's Hotel	Walker Co.
Crockett	Defunct	
Rusk		Cherokee Co.
Henderson	Col. Davenport's	Rusk Co.
Marshall	_____ Hotel	Harrison
Shreveport		Louisiana
Dallas		Dallas Co.
Goliad		Goliad Co.

Mr. Castleton informs us that he believes there are as many as sixty Homes in Texas, but that he cannot be positive as to the complete organization of any but the above.

We omit from the above list several Homes that have been discontinued, but which it is hoped will soon be reorganized. Efforts are now being made to reorganize the Home in this city.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1864, p. 2, c. 7

Houston, Dec. 29th, 1864.

Editor News:--Much has been said and felt upon the subject of education in our State during this war. Most deplorable results must ensue unless something be done, which can be done even in these troublesome times. During my recent journey, I found some families employing private teachers and inviting their neighbors' children to share the privilege with their own. I found also elegant and accomplished ladies, refugees, accustomed to all the refinements, and, I must add, all the indolence of genteel life, gladly, cheerfully devoting their talents and energies to the sublime work of educating those who are the hope of our country, and will soon be its bulwark or its destroyers. With what admiration did I gaze upon the noble spectacle! Their brothers and lovers were winning our liberties on the battlefield and they, gentle and lovely, were in the equally brave and patriotic work of preparing the next age to enjoy them. Noble women, said I, how will future ages bless you! Now is the time for educated woman to lay out her whole talent for her country by training its sons and daughters. Will not Texas ladies enter this work? Will not Texas planters enlist educated ladies and disabled soldiers, whose education will admit of it, in the work of educating their own and their neighbors' children? Let them think of four, five, or eight years lost to education. It is a black belt across the historic period, which will shade the next half century. Perhaps a country may never make amends nor recover from its evil effects. Can elegance and refinement contrive a more noble and age-lasting monument of honor for themselves or a more durable blessing to their beloved land? Will you, Mr. Editor, give your thoughts upon this subject? We look to you and your conferees to guide public enterprise.

Respectfully,

Thos. Castleton.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 4, 1865, p. 2, c. 6

San Marcos, Dec. 9th, 1864

Editor State Gazette--Knowing you to be a friend to all patriotic measures, and that your paper has a wide circulation among us and some times reaches us in our camp in La., I request that you allow me through its columns to acknowledge the receipt of the following donations, made for Co. "A" 32d Regiment Tex. Cav., now on duty in La. We were without medicine the most of the time the past summer and fall, and had only to let this be known to our friends at home, and they supplied us at once, and I take pleasure in stating that the medicine was carefully selected and packed by Chas. White of San Marcos, and ere this has reached the Company. [list of contributors]

Respectfully yours,

James G. Storey,

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 2

The fourth concert, given in the city of New Braunfels for the benefit of Soldiers' families, took place on the 26th ult., at which we were present. These concerts have always drawn large audiences, both on account of the excellence of the music and the charitable purpose for which they have been gotten up, but on the occasion referred to, it far exceeded anything we expected, both in the attendance and the character of the performance. The hall, in which it was held, was densely crowded, many ladies having traveled over thirty miles to be present,

and the display presented on our entrance reminded us of similar entertainments given in Galveston during her palmiest days. A stranger, dropping in accidentally from a foreign country, could never have realised [sic] that we had been at war nearly four years, with all our ports blockaded. The programme contained selections from Rossini, Mendelsohn, Beethoven, Weber and other celebrated composers, concluding with the Grand Chorus from Hydn's Oratorio, the Creation. The singing, as well as the instrumental music, was artistic and faultless. Although amateurs, all were musicians, and the performance throughout was such as might have been looked for from professionals of high reputation. It was indeed worth traveling a long distance to hear such music, and those who had come so far were well repaid for their trouble. We will give notice in time when the next concert will be given, so that all who wish such an evening's entertainment may be duly advised, and may also have an opportunity of contributing their mite towards the support of the families of our brave soldiers.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 4, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

We have received a package of fresh Garden Seeds from James Burke of Houston, suitable for planting at this season, which we intend to test, and give, in due time, our experience of the result. To the enterprise of Mr. Burke in procuring fresh seeds throughout the year, we have been mainly indebted since the war commenced, and the facilities he now offers for sending them by mail are worthy the attention of all who wish to have good gardens. A small plot of ground well cultivated and planted, at proper season, will go a long way towards supporting a family; and as Mr. Burke has always on hand a large assortment of every description of garden seed used in this country at very reasonable prices, none who have a garden need be without a plentiful supply of vegetables all the year round.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 4, 1864, p. 1, c. 1

Among the features of the Clothing Bureau of this District, under charge of Capt. E. W. Taylor, is hat making. The hat factory began, as it were, from the stump a year or more ago, and has gradually grown to be an institution of no little importance. It now turns out 2000 black wool hats per month. These hats are very well put up and durable, and afford a supply for a large part of the army in the field. They are made altogether of Texas material, and colored with home-made dye. We believe such a manufactory for the general market would be a paying enterprise.—Houston Tel.

DALLAS HERALD, January 5, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

The ladies' entertainment for the benefit of the poor of Galveston came off Thursday night at the Theatre. It was a splendid affair, surpassing anything of the kind heretofore gotten up in Galveston. The Theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity, and everybody seemed highly pleased with the youthful performers. We understand the affair netted about \$250 specie.—Ibid [Galveston Bulletin, Dec. 18.]

DALLAS HERALD, January 5, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

Ladies of Eastern Texas.

I hasten to inform you who have ever done so much to clothe the soldiers, that Maj. Haynes sent for me immediately on hearing that for want of cotton, he would not get the calico promised him.

He has the best of bleached domestic which I will bring soon, and if calico can be secured the ladies shall have it.

In good faith Maj. Haynes and myself have acted. Though I have worked diligently for soldiers in getting them clothed and to save their lives, I would not knowingly deceive ladies. Their Patriotism is equal to the demand made on them. Our cause would fail by using dishonorable measures. God is just.

A. L. Hay.

Jan. 6, 1865.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 6, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

A correspondent of the "News" suggests, in view of the present disastrous news, and the urgent necessity for filling up immediately the depleted ranks of our army, that the patriotic ladies of Texas (those who are not doing good service) should step forward at once, and, as far as possible, supply the places of those clerks, whose employment is such as they could undertake. If the unmarried ladies of our State would make this move simultaneously, and apply personally for situations they can fill, which are now occupied by able bodied clerks, we will vouch for it, in a short time, but few men would be found at home, who ought to be in the army. The co-operation of employers is, of course, necessary in making the exchange, and might be refused by some, but all such cases of disloyalty would soon be made public. Let the ladies, who have ever been foremost in aiding their country's cause, but make this effort, and it would accomplish more than all the conscript laws put together can now do.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 11, 1865, p. 2, c. 2

Drugs and Medicines.

Just received for sale at reasonable prices:

200 ounces Sul. Quinine,
50 " Sul. Morphine.
100 Gallons castor oil
25 pounds gum opium,
100 " English Calomel,
100 " Blue Mass.
100 " Gum Arabic,
100 " Aqua Ammonia,
50 " Powd. Rhubarb,
50 " Cayenne Pepper,
50 " Merc. Ointment
Cod Liver, Olive Oil, &c.

F. T. Duffau

Jan. 11 Congress Avenue, Austin.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 11, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

Austin Wool Carding Factory.

This establishment is on Avenue Street below Pecan, and will be in successful operation from the 12th instant. Bring on your wool if you want it carded. Wool rolls for sale. Produce taken in exchange for carding of Wool.

Jan 11

A. T. Norton & Co., Proprietors.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 11, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

Gardening in Texas for January.—(From Affleck's Almanac.) Continue to sow Peas, Lettuce, Radishes, Parsnips, and Asparagus. Sow Beets, Carrots, Salsafy, Turnips, Sweet herbs, &c. Plant Beans, early Corn, and Okra; Irish Potatoes Horse radish, Artichokes and Asparagus. Plant out Cauliflower and more early Cabbage—Large white Broccoli should now begin to head.—Frost, such as are here felt, will not injure Peas till in bloom. If not done last month, sow in hot-bed, seeds of Peppers, Tomatoes, Egg plants, Melons and Cucumbers.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 1, c. 2

Ed. News.—During the holidays it seems to me proper that we should for a time forget our dangers and our troubles, hold a truce with care and set despondency at defiance. The bow must at times be unbent and the tension of the mind relaxed, or their spring and elasticity are destroyed. With the view of affording your readers some entertainment, I enclose the following sketch, which, at least, has the merit of being of home production—neither copied from the Yankees nor yet imitated from the English, and further, that in the main incident related, it is substantially true. With this preface, I introduce

Roper's Peach—A Reminiscence of 38.

Before there was a mile of railroad in Tennessee; and when country roads throughout the Western District were left pretty much as nature made them, except here and there, a bit of corduroy across a swamp—when buggies were a novelty and ambulances unknown, the few spring vehicles in use being almost exclusively the old fashioned heavy C-spring family carriage, devoted to the conveyance of ladies to and from church and to occasions of state and ceremony—when, in short, the universal manner of traveling was on horseback. At this time the Bench and the Bar were not exceptions, but rode the circuit with a full train of suitors and followers, each man as well mounted as his means allowed, with his stock of movables snugly packed in his saddle-bags, which receptacle was not only expected to contain the lawyer's wardrobe and library, but the frequently not less necessary requirements for success, a pack of cards and a pair of derringers. The profession, at this time, if it had its dangers and hardships, had also its recompenses. There were no scores left unsettled, no long hidden hatreds or growing enmities corroding the heart and souring the temper—no lurking malice waiting in ambush for its murderous opportunity. No sooner was a gentleman aggrieved than he sought his remedy in the court of honor, and a quick solution of difficulties, apparently insurmountable, was had at the muzzle of the pistol, and all this, too, with a tithing of the bloodshed that has resulted on similar occasions, under the blue light laws for the suppression of dueling.

Besides a readiness in the use of his pistol, the lawyer was expected to be *par excellence*, a good fellow, to tell a good story, sing a good song, turn an epigram or throw off a repartee, and to give and take a stinging jest, so that there was but wit enough about it to cover its pungency skin deep. He that failed in these great essentials, in wit and good humor, or had any foolish squeamishness about the burning of gunpowder, was incontinently banished

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Roper's Pearch—A Reminiscence of 38.

Continued from page 5

to Coventry, or made the butt and jest of the rest of the party.

Into a party, such as described, his evil genius had contrived there should fall a young man, just admitted to the practice and now on his first circuit. P. Leonidas Strong had been sent by his parents—worthy people living in Haywood county—to be educated cheap in Ohio—he had taken a diploma at Steubenville, famous for linsey woolseys, pork sausages and low priced graduates. Leonidas had also attended law lectures at Cincinnati, and after an absence long enough to efface the impressions of his childhood, the teachings of home and the genial, liberal spirit of a Southerner, he returned to Tennessee a covert abolitionist and a cunning niggard, with a thorough contempt for his parents, his country and especially for his present associates, and with the most unbounded admiration for, and devotion to, P. Leonidas Strong and no one else.

The older members of the bar, in consideration of his youth and inexperience, bore with him for a while, but after a thorough trial, it was found that he would neither drink, treat nor fight, he could neither give a joke nor take one; that he was ignorant, cunning and presuming; that the instincts of a gentleman had been totally obliterated by Yankee training, and that, in short, there was nothing in him but assurance and self-conceit. Such "*nem con*," being the verdict of the bar, the sentence immediately issued that the aforesaid Strong should be summarily demolished, abated and squashed, and that Mr. Paul Dougherty should be duly empowered to carry into execution the said decree on the first suitable occasion.

Now, this Mr. Paul Dougherty was a good looking, black-eyed Irishman, for Paul, though born in Maury county, Tennessee, was as thoroughly Irish as if he had drawn his natal breath in Kilkenny. Paul was the wit, *par excellence*, of the Western District; his fun and audacity kept the court-house in a roar, and nothing but his invincible good humor and his well established reputation for honor and courage prevented his being involved in very serious difficulties. But as matters stood, Paul could say and do a thousand things with impunity, which would subject a less gifted man to the severest penalties. Now, it fell out that at Huntingdon Court, Mr. Strong and Mr. Dougherty were employed as opposing counsel in some petty case—a right of way, or a trespass, or some such matter—it was Strong's first case, and he spent the previous night in preparation; he had been a shining light at "The Society of the Sons of Freedom and Natural Rights Association of Steubenville," but he had never addressed a court and jury, and he determined that his first effort should be characterized by the most astounding results; that the Judge should be overwhelmed and the Jury electrified, as indeed it *did* result, but not at all in the manner desired by the unfortunate Strong. It so happened that the night being warm, and the windows open, as Strong walked to and fro in his room composing his discourse, that he gave his neighbors the benefit of a rehearsal, and Dougherty, among others, heard a great part of it, and quite sufficient for his purposes. In the

morning, Strong marched to court, armed with innumerable authorities, copious notes and an armful of books. Dougherty went simply provided with—what do you imagine good reader" a big crooked sweet potato. Strong's case was called, and amid a crowded court—for it was whispered about that Dougherty was prepared for mischief—Strong rose and addressed the Court, but we shall only attempt a faint outline of his grandiloquence; he passed in review Natural law, the Mosaic law, the Roman civil law; descending to more modern times he touched in passing the Magna Charta, and King John and the barons bold were before us; thence, by an easy gradation, we were brought to confront the mighty Bacon, and here the orator paused to invoke the shade of that god-like jurist, desiring him to stand aghast at the wrong about to be perpetrated on his innocent client. Thence, through a host of great names, Chitty and Kent, Storey and Mansfield, not forgetting those great authorities Blackstone and Littleton and Coke, his—here the orator caught Dougherty's eye fixed upon him, and his arm outstretched holding the potato pointed full upon him like a pistol. "Littleton and Coke his"—stammered poor Strong—"Littleton and Coke" he repeated—"Littleton and Coke his"—his "*common tater*," said Dougherty, in a loud whisper, shaking the potato at Strong. This was too much for Strong; he sank on his seat uttering common-tator, common-tator, utterly confounded and bewildered, while the whole court roared with laughter. As soon as he could be heard, Dougherty rose and deprecated the share he had in the flagrant breach of decorum they had just witnessed—he had endeavored to give his young friend a word for which he seemed to be at a loss, but with no idea of discomposing or interrupting him. "How, indeed, your Honor and gentlemen of the jury, could I imagine that a gentleman whose mouth was rich with fat things, overflowing with the ambrosia of the gods, redolent of the oleaginous juices of Bacon, should be suddenly choked dry on common tators. As to the gentleman's speech to which he was expected to reply, he really was at a loss how to begin—it reminded him of what his friend Roper said of the fish, "It was a *pearch*, please your Honor; when Roper first saw him he was *expiring* under an aged sycamore—he *romanced* across the creek—*reiterated*—fetched a flounce and—*absquatulated*."

This, with Paul's drollery of voice and manner, was too much for the Court—an immediate adjournment for refreshments was ordered, during which Strong disappeared, literally laughed out of the county. It is believed he turned up on Western Texas, on a high prairie, where there was little water and no fuel, and where the food of the people was bread and beef, to the exclusion of *Bacon* and *Common taters*.

The village post at Jackson has immortalized

"Roper's Pearch"

Where flowed the clear stream, in silence and shade,
Amongst the dark trees, in verdure arrayed,
Beneath a fast root, where a sycamore grew,
Now flashing with light, now lost to the view,
I discovered a fish, and stopped to admire—
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Roper's Pearch—A Reminiscence of 38.

Continued from page 6

'Twas Roper's big pearch, I saw him—*expire*.

Far down in the stream, he all motionless lay,
Nor heeded the minnows that leaped in their play,
But a buzzard wheeled slowly, aloft in the sky,
And the water reflected his form from on high;
Aroused by the shadow, see the big pearch advance
And cross Forked-deer with a graceful—*romance*.

As brilliant his color, as transient his stay,
As a light summer cloud, reflecting the ray
The sun last gives back, as he sinks in the west,
When the winds are all hushed, all nature at rest,
So glorious a creature this big pearch appeared,
As straight for the bank his bold course he steered,
I longed for a pole, a hook, line and bait,
When he turned short around and did *reiterate*.

As he merged from the shadow and glanced into light,
He looked like a warrior, all seamed for the fight,
His scales polished silver, all burnished with gold,
But his other perfections, I must leave them untold,
For like one who is hurried, and fears he's belated,
He fetched him a flounce, and *absquatulated*.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 1, c. 4-5

Soap—Soap—Government Soap.

Bolivar Point, Jan. 8th, 1865.

Ed. News:--Knowing that it is not your habit to soft-soap government officials, agents and contractors, and that you are always ready to expose frauds on the government and the soldiery. I would call your attention to one that is being perpetrated on both by the contractor for supplying soap to this and other commands within the defences of Galveston. Soap is a great institution, without it the world would soon relapse into the unwashed barbarism of early times; the social status; the intellectual and moral purity of every nation, community and family, may be reckoned by the amount of its consumption. Our present civilization to a great extent may be attributed to its humanizing and elevating influence. It has its evils too, particularly soft soap, and by its lavish expenditure contracts are received by which the government is defrauded and the soldier robbed of his rights. We have never known a man who habitually wore a dirty shirt that was not proverbial for cowardice. We fear its demoralizing influence on the military. In the article furnished by the contractor referred to so far as our experience and tests extend, we have been unable to discover that it possesses any of the qualities of soap. In appearance it resembles a substance procured from boiling beef shanks. With the necessary ingredients, sherry wine and loaf sugar, it might make excellent jelly—without them it is perfectly worthless.

We presume the contractor is making quite a good thing out of his contract. If he expects to come out with clean hands we would advise him not to rely on his own soap. We have tried it and the more we wash the fouler our hands become and in the end it involves a considerable outlay of a better article to get rid of it.

We would suggest to the quartermaster, as an item of economy to the government that he suspend the further issue of the article, until the sherry and sugar can be procured. It can then be issued as a ration of jelly in lieu of others he has been unable to supply.

Sentinel.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

The following Anthem was furnished us a little too late to appear for Christmas, and has been delayed longer than it should have been by an oversight:

Christmas Anthem

Written for the Victoria Female Academy, by
St. Geo. S. Lee

Music by Professor Chas. Reisner.

Oh! Christmas is come, in Judea afar,
Our Savior was born, 'neath the bright eastern star,
Whilst far on the mountains, the shepherds rejoice,
And angels and men proclaim with glad voice,
Our Savior is come, our petitions are free,
Lord God of battles we have access to thee;
Scatter thou red battle's cloud,
Still now war's tempest loud,
Cause this vile strife to cease,
Give us freedom, give us peace.

By danger surrounded, in privation and woe,
Menaced and beset, by the insolent foe,
The world all shut out, our God is still near,
Still ready to rescue, still ready to hear,
Our Savior still reigns, our petitions are free,
Lord God of battles, we have access to thee.
Scatter thou red battle's cloud,
Still now war's tempest loud,
Cause this vile strife to cease,
Give us freedom, give us peace.

Far distant from friends, who in the dread front,
In hardship and danger, encounter the brunt
Of death in the field, or a prison afar,
Oh, what can we do, to close this foul war,
Our Savior still reigns, our petitions are free,
Lord God of battles, we have access to thee,
Scatter thou red battle's cloud,
Still now war's tempest loud,
Cause this vile strife to cease,
Give us freedom, give us peace.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 1, c. 6

Soldiers' Homes.

We learn from the Rev. Mr. Castleton that the following Homes are now organized and in successful operation:

Beaumont	Jefferson county;
San Antonio	Bexar county;
Austin	Travis county;
New Braunfels	Comal county;
Corsicana	Navarro county;
Hillsboro'	Hill county;
Palestine	Anderson county;
Butler	Freestone county;
Fairfield	"
Cotton Gin	"
Springfield	Limestone county;
Mansfield	Louisiana;
Minden	Louisiana;
Homer	Louisiana;
Independence	Maj. Blanton's Hotel Wash'n Co;
Waxahachie	Maj. Roger's Hotel Ellis Co;
Ash Creek	Mr. Ward's Hill Co;
Bastrop	Mr. Nicholson's Hotel Bastrop Co;
Paris	[name not known] Lamar Co;
Beaumont	Col. Fletcher's Jeff'son Co;
Houston	Houston Hall Harris Co;

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Soldiers' Homes.

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Hempstead	Defunct, but reorganizing;	
Navasota	Defunct;	
Millican	Defunct;	
Anderson	Mrs. Hendricks'	Grimes Co;
Huntsville	Col. Polk's Hotel	Walker Co;
Crockett	Defunct;	
Rusk		Cherokee;
Henderson	Col. Davenport's	Rusk Co;
Marshall	_____ Hotel	Harrison;
Shreveport		Louisiana;
Dallas		Dallas Co;
Goliad		Goliad Co;
Jasper	Dr. L. White's	Jasper Co;
Richmond	Mr. Botwick's Hotel	Ft. Bend Co;
Clinton	Mr. Cottingham's Hotel	DeWitt Co;
Hallettsville		Lavaca Co;
Prairie Point		Colorado Co;
LaGrange		Fayette Co;
Winchester		"
Mr. Burns' Cross Roads		Burleson Co;
Caldwell		"
Cameron	Dr. Drury's Hotel	Milam Co;
Waco	McKeig's Hotel	McLennan.

Mr. Castleton informs us that he believes there are as many as sixty Homes in Texas, but that he cannot be positive as to the complete organization of any but the above.

We omit from the above list several Houses that have been discontinued, but which it is hoped will soon be reorganized. Efforts are now being made to reorganize the Home in this city.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 1, c. 6

Penitentiary Cloth Given to the Several Counties of the State.

From a circular just issued by the financial agent of the Penitentiary, we find the State has been laid off into six districts, for convenience of appropriating the quota of cloth to the respective counties, as follows:

1st District.—Chambers, Liberty, Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Newton, Jasper, Tyler, Polk, Trinity, Angelina, San Augustine, Sabine, Houston, Anderson, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, Shelby, Henderson.

2nd District.—Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Blanco, Bosque, Brown, Stephens, Burnett, Cameron, Clay, Comal, Comanche, El Paso, Erath, Gillespie, Hamilton, Hildalgo, Jack, Kendall, Kerr, Lampasas, Live Oak, Llano, Mason, Medina, Montague, McCulloch, McMullen, Nueces, Palo Pinto, Parker, San Saba, Starr, Uvalde, Webb, Wise, Wilson, Young, Zapata

3rd District.—Limestone, McClellan, Falls, Milan, Robertson, Madison, Leon, Brazos, Burleson, Washington, Grimes, Walker, Montgomery, Harris, Austin, Galveston

4th District.—Smith Rusk, Panola, Harrison, Upshur, Wood, Van Zandt, Marion, Davis, Titus, Hopkins, Bowie, Red River, Lamar

5th District.—Fayette, Lavaca, Colorado, Fort Bend, Wharton, Jackson, Victoria, Calhoun, Matagorda, Brazoria, San Patricio, Rufugio, Goliad, Bee, Karnes, DeWitt, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Caldwell, Bastrop, Hays, Travis, Williamson, Bell, Coryell

6th District.—Fannin, Grayson, Cooke, Denton, Collin, Hunt, Kaufman, Dallas, Tarrant, Johnson, Ellis, Navarro, Hill, Freestone

The agent says, "adopting, under advice of the Comptroller, as a basis, the indigent lists heretofore furnished to the Comptroller's office by the Chief Justices of the several counties, I have divided the State into six districts, and will proceed to furnish said cloth as follows:

1st District, 20th February, 1865.

4th District, 20th May, 1865

2nd " 20th March, "

5th " 20th June, "

3rd " 20th April, "

6th " 20th July, "

"I would respectfully call your attention [that of the various county chief justices] to the duties imposed on the several county courts by this act, in connexion with procuring these goods from the Penitentiary, and particularly to the 4th section of said act, which makes it the duty of "the county courts to procure promptly from the Financial Agent of the Penitentiary the quantity and quality of cloth and thread to which they are entitled, and to provide transportation for the same to their respective county seats. This is the more important, as the Penitentiary has but limited storage room for goods. Under regulations heretofore adopted at this office, many of the counties made application for cloth, and paid for it on delivery; while others failed to do so, or to indicate in any way their desire for the cloth, and consequently received none. An act approved November 15th, 1864, requires the financial agent to set aside for these counties the amount of cloth to which they would have been entitled had they made application as did the others. The price to be paid by these counties in C. S. Treasury notes, new issue, is the same paid by the counties already supplied—osnaburgs \$2.80, cotton jeans \$3 per yard. State treasury warrants will be received in payment at their relative value. This distribution will be made out of the first cloth manufactured after the several counties are furnished under the act first referred to in this circular. Chief justices, however, if they wish their counties to receive the benefit of this act, are required to give notice to this office to that effect, within 90 days from the 15th November last. I shall attempt to execute faithfully the provisions of the law on this subject; but cannot forbear saying that in my opinion these goods should have been furnished to the army. Our destitute and suffering soldiery certainly have claims paramount to all others."

We also gather from the circular that the factory will be in running trim about the 15th inst., and of course the resurrection of Huntsville will be a simultaneous event.—Item.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 11, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

"Asa Hartz."

The following spicy and characteristic poetical effusion from the sarcastic pen of "Asa Hartz," (says the Shreveport News) was recently received by flag of truce, by Judge Robert Ould, Commissioner of Exchange of prisoners, and is sent to the Richmond Enquirer, to be preserved in glorious diurnal. "Asa" has been a prisoner of war for nearly a year, and no

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"Asa Hartz."

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wonder he is getting tired of "rusticating on Johnson's Island." His case deserves the attention of the authorities. It won't do to let such a "trump" go "up the spout."

Block 1, Room 12, Johnson's Island, Ohio,
April 26, 1864.

Dear Uncle Bob:

I fear your head

Has gone a thinking I am dead;

That ice and snow and Doctor's arts

Had stopp'd the breath of "Asa Hartz!"

I write this in polite lingo,

[line missing?]

And ask if you can bring about

Some certain means to get me out?

Haven't you got a Fed'ral "Maje"

Now resting in some Dixie cage,

Who longs to see his loving marm,

Or visit once again his farm;

Or gaze upon his "garden sass,"

Or see once more his bright-eye'd lass?

Haven't you one of these, I say,

Whom you would like to swap away,

For me, a man of vim—of "parts"—

Swap him, in short, for "Asa Hartz?"

I've been here, now, almost a year,

And sigh for liberty so dear!

I've tried by every means I know

To bid this Isle a fond adieu;

Dug holes, scaled walls, passed through the gate

With Yankee cap upon my pate,

And when I went out on the ice,

And thought I'd got away so nice,

I met a blue coat in my route,

Who quickly made me face about;

March'd me, with diabolic grin,

Back to the gate, and turned me in!

I've swallow'd every rumor strange,

That had a word about exchange;

Grew fat with joy, and lean with sorrow;

Was "up" to-day, and "down" to-morrow!

Implored with earnestness of soul,

To be released upon parole!

Wrote Ben. F. B. a spicy letter,

And told him he could not do better

Than let me out for thirty days.

I read his answer in amaze!

He said that "things" were mixed up now,

In such a way, he knew not how

The favor that I asked about

Could well be granted. Had no doubt

That "things" would soon be so arranged

That all of us would be exchanged.

That ended it. I wrote to Prentice,

Who several times has kindly lent his

Purse and name to those who chance,

And "pomp and glorious circumstance,"

Had sent to rusticate a while,

Within the "pris—on Johnson's Isle."

Well, George D. wrote to Gen. Terry,

Commandant here, a good man, very—

And told him if he'd let me out,

For thirty days, or thereabout,

He'd take me down into Kentucky—

See that I didn't "cut my lucky;"

Would go my bail in any sum,

That when they wanted me—I'D COME.

Gen. Terry wrote him back—

That he must walk the beaten track!

"I really though," said he, "you knew it,

That Stanton, and he alone, can do it!"

Thus ended that plan—I've no doubt

That I'm almost gone up the spout,

Unless you can devise some means

To give me change of air and scenes,

By special swap.

Now, Uncle Bob,

Be patient with me! Do not rob

Me of the hope I fondly cherish—

Do not leave me here to perish!

I've shuffled, cut the cards, and dealt;

Have played my bower, (its loss is felt

More than the loss of filthy lucre,)

Please play my hand—save me the euchre!

And when your latest breath departs,

You'll be bewailed by "ASA HARTS!"

P.S.

When you, in answering this, shall write,

Address me—"Major Geo. McKnight,

Pris. war." Be cautious, very,

And add on—"care Gen. Terry."

DALLAS HERALD, January 12, 1865, p. 1, c. 2

The Free Gift Lottery for the benefit of the Missouri soldiers was a brilliant success, as might have been expected under the management of the ladies of San Antonio—resulting in raising more than \$2000 in specie, besides the donation of a large amount of clothing, &c. This liberality is highly creditable to the citizens of our town, and will be the means of gladdening the heart and nerving the arm of many a gallant but shivering soldier.—S. A. Herald.

DALLAS HERALD, January 12, 1865, p. 2, c. 3

The Ladies Aid Society have at last done what we wanted them to do six months ago, organized a regular Soldier's Home, in Marshall. It is placed under the charge of Mr. Thomas M. Hemby, a very reliable, clever gentleman, who, if properly sustained, will not weary in well doing. The next thing to be accomplished, is to render it truly what it purports to be, a "Soldiers' Home," where the soldier will be furnished with plenty of food and a nice warm bed to sleep in. Our farmers can send in vegetables, eggs, butter, a few chickens, &c. And those who have none of those things, can contribute money. We hope the Ladies will see that every man in the county comes up to the good work. The building selected is the old hotel, which has been thoroughly cleansed from top to bottom.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 13, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

The "Marshall Glee Club" will give a Concert at the Adkins House to-night, for the benefit of the Soldiers' Home.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 13, 1865, p. 2, c. 2

We take pleasure in calling the attention of the Ladies to the card of Mr. A. L. Hay, who announces that he has succeeded in procuring calico to redeem his promises for clothing furnished the soldiers. He has labored in this good work with energy and singleness of purpose, and the promises he made, we feel assured, were given in good faith, that the goods would be promptly furnished him for delivery. We perceived that he was deeply mortified at the position in which he was placed, and hence made no comment on his previous card announcing the failure to redeem previous promises.

The scheme of organizing the Ladies and furnishing them foreign goods in exchange for their own fabrics, has proved one of the best means yet devised for clothing the soldiers. We very much regret that, from bad management, that is likely to fall through with. Many of the Ladies could afford to work for nothing, and would gladly do so; there are others, however, that cannot, and to whom the pay is a matter of importance. In the present condition of the country, the latter class is much the more numerous. Promises ought to be kept faithfully, for no one likes to be deceived. We trust that Mr. Hay will be placed in a condition to resume the good work which he has managed hitherto with such success.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 13, 1865, p. 2, c. 3

Calico has Come.

I will be at the following places, time named, to redeem my certificates. I am not receiving more garments at present.

Greenwood, Saturday, Jan. 28. A. B. Wrights, Monday 30, Jefferson 31, Nash's Foundry, Thursday, Feb. 2, Dangerfield 3, Gilmer 6, Ash's Spring 8, Marshall 9.

I will have with me Jackets and Pants of Gray cloth, which we ask the Ladies to make for soldiers.

A. L. Hay,
Agent Clothing Bureau.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 13, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

It is a crying outrage that the soldiers stationed in Galveston should be driven to the necessity of destroying fences and buildings to procure fuel, when there is such an abundance of fire wood within convenient distance across the bay. The citizens of Galveston, who have been driven from their homes, did not expect they would find them in ruins on their return, caused by the unpardonable neglect of those whose duty it was to see that our troops were properly supplied with such necessaries as they might require during the inclement seasons of the year. This wanton neglect will be remembered hereafter, and a heavy responsibility will fall upon those in office who have failed to perform their duty. The destruction of the city by the enemy would be regarded as a disaster, but as destruction by our citizens, sent there to protect it, is a flagrant outrage, when the occasion for it could be so easily remedied.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 18, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

James Burke, the great seedsman of Texas, informs us that he has just received an importation of seeds direct from France. Those wishing to secure some should apply to him in Houston without delay. France is said to be the greatest country on earth for vegetables.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 18, 1865, p. 2, c. 3

A Picture of New Orleans.—A letter from New Orleans, published in the Mobile News of the 3d, says:

The city is full to overflowing of Yankee women, Yankee shoddies, speculators, etc.

You would not recognize the elegant promenaders of Canal street in the vulgar, overdressed, would be-genteel objects that now crowd it. No good Confederate lady wears anything but black, or whatever she may have, not conspicuous. We never walk for sight-seeing or pleasure, except to pass the prisons and cheer the poor "boys" with a nod and a smile. The officers of Fort Morgan have all been sent North, to some prison; the privates to Ship Island, guarded by negroes! Don't you think they will fight well when exchanged? We heard part had been sent North, but I think all are at Ship Island.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 18, 1865, p. 1, c. 4

Bolivar Point, Jan. 10, 1865

Ed. News:--I never was considered much of a grumbler, and much less a writer, which you will readily conclude when you have done with this communication. I desire to make no flourish, nor create any sensation, unless it be in the proper place. You are aware, Mr. Editor, (at least you should be by this time), that the troops at this place, as well as at others, are living on yellow corn meal and beef, and nothing more—not a potato, a bean, or any other vegetable, except the above named yellow corn meal, has ever found its way to this isolated point, through any government channel whatever. Bacon we have none—sugar we do not expect. Why is it? Our men who come from furlough tell us that at every tithe station, during the summer, there was from ten to twenty-five thousand pounds of bacon. What has become of it? I will tell you what the soldiers think about it. I may be censured for doing so, but better tell it now, that the fault may be remedied, than wait its telling by a practical demonstration. Private soldiers come to the conclusion that the Clothing Bureau, the Subsistence Department, the Pay Department—in fact, all other Departments—have fallen into the hands of ruthless speculators, and they are using all their powers of speculation to enrich themselves, thereby depriving the soldier of every necessary of life, except just enough to keep soul and body together, and that of the very coarsest kind. . . We wee our officers all have new gray cloths [sic], and I suppose it is the case everywhere. Our men are shivering away their lives night after night, with one pair white cotton pants, shirt ditto, low quartered shoes, socks, none. This is the sort of fair [sic] our regiment has to bear with now, as cold and wet as it has been for some time past, and but a blanket so coarse and worn, that a severe gush of wind would blow it to pieces, yet, a Brig. General not a thousand miles from this Post, says "he never saw such a regimen—every man must have a plank under him and one over him;" God knows if such is the case, the regiment is not beholding to him or the government for them for all the planks and boards used are picked up from the beach. Again, he says he has a black record against the regiment for making a requisition in the summer for musquito [sic] bars, when the musquitoes were swarming as thick as bees around a hive. It seems very unbecoming in a man who has his quarters in good apartments and a musquito bar besides no doubt, to make use of such language; it is not designed to enhance much love of the men for their superiors when such language is used. . . Soldier.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, January 18, 1865, p. 2, c. 5

The following paragraph from the Tyler Journal, is decidedly patronizing and fatherly. It is good advice:

Bring Them Back.—Maj. Sanford, of the "Holman House," is of opinion that the boys have carried that Christmas joke far enough, and his Knives, Forks and Spoons—a leetle too far. Bring them back boys, our worthy host is anxious to get up another entertainment, and he is short of table ware.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 1, c. 3

The Houston News of the 11th says:

"Goods are being sold in this city cheaper by far than we have known them sold before since the war. At Colonel Sydnor's auction yesterday, good negro men, 20 to 25 years old, averaged about \$500. A likely negro woman and child sold for \$525. Likely negro boys, 15 to 18 years old, sold for from \$400 to \$500 each. Good grey army cloth sold for \$1.50 per yard by the piece. Sugar by the barrel, sold for 8 to 10 cents per pound. At Mr. Lynch's auction red and blue flannel sold for 47 to 50 cents per yard. We give these instances merely to enable our readers to form some opinion of the prices in this city."

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 1, c. 5

We welcome to our exchange list "The Confederate Banner," Gilmer, Texas, J. H. Trowell, editor, S. B. Johnson, publisher. Long may it wave.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

We have received the first number of the Confederate Journal, published at Tyler, Texas, by Irven Cowser, and edited by Col. George W. Chilton. The paper is well printed, ably edited. Success to it.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

Mr. T. B. Parks, who had the misfortune to lose his sight, by being shot in the battle of Shiloh, is engaged in making brooms, in the Van Hook building, up stairs. He makes a very excellent broom, and has a supply on hand. He desires us to request planters to send him in broom corn, which he will either purchase or make up on shares.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

The Concerts by the Marshall Glee Club, at the Atkins House, on the evenings of the 13th and 14th for the benefit of the "Soldiers Home," were well attended, particularly on the latter evening, when the house was a perfect jam. The audience seemed well pleased with the entertainment.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

Garden Seeds by Mail.--Post paid. Price, one dollar and fifty cents for one dozen papers, assorted; ten dollars for one hundred papers.

James Burke, Houston.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, January 25, 1865, p. 2, c. 5

The Texas Christian Advocate has again resumed its publication at Houston, Texas, under the charge of its former publishing agent, Charles Shearn, and the editorial management of Rev. J. E. Ca[illegible], one of the ablest and most interesting writers in the State. The Advocate is the same size that it was when it was discontinued some three years ago, and in truth looks so natural that we can hardly believe that it has been suspended. Its terms are \$4 per annum in advance.

DALLAS HERALD, January 26, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

Adopted January Seventh, 1865, by Marshall Glee Club.

Whereas, We have heard with much pleasure that the Ladies Aid Society has been re-organized, with a determination to press onward in the good cause of assisting our brave and chivalrous soldiers, therefore be it

Resolved, That we congratulate the Ladies upon their re-organization of the society and wish them much success.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our services to the society, to be used in any capacity in which we can be of benefit to the good work you have begun.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the Ladies Aid Society, and that Mr. Loughery be requested to publish the same.

W. H. Duke, Pres'dt.

Will Lambert, Sec'y.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 20, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

The following letter was originally written for publication in the Herald, but when it was received, (a year ago last October,) the Herald had suspended publication and the proprietors were in the service. It was, consequently, sent to the Editor of the Houston Telegraph, and was published in that paper. We have recently found a copy of the Telegraph containing it, and being desirous that it should be placed on record in our columns, we publish it:

Head Quarters, 20th T. D. C.,
Boggy Depot, C. N., Oct. 14, 1863.

Mr. Editor.—Below you will find a list of names of lady refugees that have just come through the enemy's lines from Missouri, passing this place yesterday morning en route for Texas; the majority of whom are married ladies, and their husbands are all in the service of their country, some of them with Maj. Gen. Price, and some with Col. Quantrell.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Noland and child, husband in Gen. Price's army; Mrs. Mattie J. Yagee, wife of Capt. Yagee, with Col. Quantrell; Mrs. Nannie Muir and two children, husband with Gen. Price; Mrs. Mary Walton and two children, one of whom died the day before they reached this Post, and was buried here by the rebels; her husband is also with Gen. Price; Mrs. Rebecca Flannery with several children; Mrs. Laura Flannery and child, husband in Col. Quantrell's command; Mrs. Henrietta Muir, husband murdered by the Yankees on 18th Jan. last; Mrs. Ida Irvin and child, husband with Col. Quantrell; Mrs. Mary Ann Irvin, husband with Col. Quantrell; Mrs. Jane Flannery, husband with Col. Quantrell; Mrs. Sarah Wells and six children, husband with Gen. Price's army; Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, a widow lady, and whose only son is with Col. Quantrell; and Miss Maggie Johnson, her daughter. And last, but not least, Miss Mattie Baker, who has not relatives living.

The ladies have all made their way from within the lines of the Yankees driving their own teams without any male person to assist them in making the long and tedious trip.

Before leaving their houses in Missouri, they provided themselves with good horses, to haul their
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Boggy Depot, C. N., Oct. 14, 1863.
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wagons, which contained what little of their effects the Yankees permitted them, in their great mercy, to bring along with them. But before they had proceeded far on their journey, Lincoln's hireling soldiery robbed them of the last horse they had, leaving their wagons standing in the road, in a country where they were entirely unknown, and not a friend near, to whom they could apply for aid. They were not only deprived of their property, but were insulted by almost every indignity that a band of lawless men and unbridled soldiery could offer. After several days canvassing on foot, the ladies succeeded at the most enormous rates in securing a sufficient number of oxen to move forward toward their destination.

On they came, trudging their lonely way, caring for, and watching their teams at night, and gathering and hitching them up in the morning. Insult heaped upon insult were offered them as they passed along; and they were repeatedly informed by the Yankees that the Confederates would not show them any respect whatever, that Quantrell and his men were all considered as a band of robbers and outlaws by the rebels themselves.

It was enough to make any patriot's heart burn with rage and indignation, to set [sic] and hear them recite their wrongs and suffering for the past two years, which are numberless, and unprecedented in the annals of history. Many of them have not seen their husbands for over two years, and don't know whether they are living or have been numbered with the pale nations of the dead. Often have these ladies prepared the hasty meal for the guerrilla and carried it to him while he was hid in the bushes awaiting to avenge the wrongs done him by the vilest foe that ever invaded the homes of a gallant people.

Notwithstanding the sufferings and trials through which these ladies have passed, their patriotism is ardent and even more determined than before. They declare that they never wish to see their husbands and brothers leave the field until the last armed foe has been vanquished, and that if it came to the worst that THEY would shoulder the musket and BREAST the storm of battle, and fall a sacrifice upon the altar of their country's freedom.

They expressed a decidedly favorable opinion of the rebels they met here, stating that the generous conduct of the soldiers was greatly in contrast with that of the insolent wretches who are bowing at the feet of Father Abraham; and they felt once more like they were with their brothers, and that they could breathe free again.

Both citizens and soldiers at this place vied with each other in giving them every assistance in their power, to alleviate as much as possible their distress, and to show them every courtesy due them from a gallant and brave people, battling for freedom's cause.

In addition to the many trials they encountered on their journey, none seemed more heart rending than that of the death of Mrs. Mary Walton's child, before mentioned. It was a beautiful, angel-like cherub. Well do I remember its calm and placid countenance, as I saw it while it was being transferred from the rude coffin, made by the ladies themselves while passing through the Indian country, to the more finished and neat one prepared for it by

the rebels. How sad and solemn the reflection that while its remains were being conveyed to its last resting place, witnessed by its mother, the father was far away battling for his liberty, unconscious of the fate of his jewel. The burial was attended and executed by the soldiers of the 20th Texas, who all joined the mother in weeping for her child, obeying the holy injunction which says "Weep with those that weep." Not a dry cheek was there.

The patriotism, forbearance and long suffering of these ladies should be a lesson to the ladies of Texas who, as yet, have felt none of the hardships and privations of this war, especially those who are continually writing to their husbands and brothers in the army, making out their cases as dark as possible, thereby discouraging their friends, and inducing them to desert their country's flag.

Ladies of Texas, my word for it, if you will write to your relatives and friends in the army, that you are ready and willing to do and suffer everything that is necessary for the sake of liberty, and for them to remain at their posts until they can come home honorably, desertions in our army will soon be a thing of the past. Let no Texas mother dishonor herself by offering any inducement to husband or son to leave their comrades in the face of the enemy, and go home without the consent of his commander. With a just cause and a God of Justice with us, we have but to discharge our duty, and success is beyond the possibility of a doubt.

What an example for all young ladies is found in the patriotic course of Miss Maggie Johnson and Miss Mattie Baker, both beautiful, lovely and graceful.

Yours truly, J. W. Johnson.
DALLAS HERALD, January 26, 1865, p. 1, c. 1-2

President Thomas P. Collins, of this place, recently gave Rev. Mr. Castleton one hundred dollars in gold for the Soldiers Home fund. We notice that the Houston Telegraph and Galveston News commend the President's example. *One thousand dollars in gold* will not cover the amount given by this whole souled patriot, in behalf of the soldier and his family. His house has been at all times open to the weary soldier. We know persons who possess more than double the means of General Collins who have only given one where he has ten. Honor, then, to whom honor is due.—Crockett Quid Nunc.

DALLAS HERALD, January 26, 1865, p. 1, c. 2

From the Richmond Dispatch of December 7th.

The New Confederate Flag.—The new flag for the Confederacy, if the present pattern before Congress is adopted, will be a decided improvement on the one now in use. The new, instead of an entire white field, has a red bar filling one half of the field; and when hanging against the staff does not present the pale "flag of truce" appearance that the old does. We understand that the new design is approved by Gen. Lee as adding to the distinctness of our present flag, but is referred by him to naval gentlemen, as being better judges of such matters. Com. Forrest, Capt. S. S. Lee, and other officers of the navy, approve the new design, and it was reported on favorably yesterday by the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, who recommend its adoption. The new design of the flag is by Major A. L. Rodgers, Confederate States Artillery.

DALLAS HERALD, January 26, 1865, p. 2, c. 1

From Brownsville.—We take the following items from the Ranchero of Jan. 7th:

. . . Useful Information.—The machinery for a cotton factory arrived in Texas this week. We are informed that the spindles will be humming a cheerful tune at no distant day. The exact point where the factory is to be established, we will not state.—We leave that for the future research of some Loyal League savañ.

DALLAS HERALD, January 26, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

To Country Traders.

Garden Seeds, eight dollars per one hundred papers.
Texas series of school books at Publishers' prices.
Piano Music, five cents per page.
Foolscap, letter and note paper, from three to six dollars per ream.
French Quinine, six dollars per oz.
Valentines, assorted by the dozen or hundred.
Orders with cash will receive prompt attention.

James Burke.

Houston, Jan. 27, 1865.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, January 27, 1865, p. 1, c. 1