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# THE HENKEL SQUARE HERALD

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VOL. 5

Henkel Square, Round Top, Texas, July 1864

NO. 7

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We re-commence the issue of the *Herald* this week, after a suspension of several months. The paper on which we print at present is thin, dark, and rather small, but it is the best we can do for some weeks and perhaps months. We expect, however, to have white paper before a great while, and shall spare no efforts to keep on hand a constant supply thereafter. We can do this if we are sustained by our readers, and paid up promptly in such funds or produce as will enable us to buy paper. We shall endeavor to make the paper as readable as possible, and trust to the generosity of our patrons.

DALLAS HERALD, July 2, 1864 p. 1, c. 1

**Good Joke on Lottie.**—Since the advent of Gen. Logan's splendid corps at Huntsville, the rooms in the principal hotels have been in demand.

A beautiful and accomplished actress had been staying at the Huntsville Hotel, and in a "minute, minute and a half or two minutes" after she had vacated her room, the gallant Gen. O. was assigned to it by the landlord. The General, on examining his bed previous to retiring, found a snowy robe de nuit neatly folded under his pillow, marked in delicate characters with the name of the fair owner. The chambermaid was called and asked by the General, holding the garment in his hand, "Do you know Miss Lottie Hough?"

"Yes," answered the chambermaid.

"Then carry this to her with my compliments, and say Gen. O \_\_\_\_\_ is not in the habit of sleeping with empty night-gowns."—*Chattanooga Gazette*.

BELLEVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, July 5, 1864, p. 1, c. 5

Tyler, Texas, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864.

Editor News:-- . . . By the way, perhaps, there is no harm telling your numerous readers how well our young Confederacy is getting along in this section in the fabrication of fire arms and ordnance stores generally—articles so much needed by our gallant soldiers in the great struggle for liberty. Well, then, I recently had the pleasure to accompany Lieut. Col. G. H. Hill through the extensive works he has caused to be erected near this formerly flourishing town, and I was most agreeably surprised to witness the progress which has been effected. One fine blacksmith shop runs sixteen forges. In another extensive brick structure, the machinery for the manufacture of fire arms rolls daily (Sundays excepted) putting up splendid guns, from the first to the last screw, and all going on with perfect order and system. Though this is a Government establishment, I did not see one idle man about the premises—all was quiet, save the roll of the machinery and the clink of the hammer.

Capt. Geo. S. Polleys is superintendent of the work here, and deserves much credit for the orderly manner in which all is carried on.

I do not mention, for particular reasons, the

precise number of fire-arms added to our supply every week from the establishment, but it is by no means inconsiderable.

Col. Hill is engaged in fabricating nearly everything belonging to the ordnance department, excepting cannon, round shot and shell; and certainly no more faithful or skillful officer graces this branch of the service.

It might be well to mention that a great many mechanics employed in these shops are Master Masons, and this fact, no doubt, accounts to some extent for the extraordinary good conduct of the laborers, who by dint of their honest industry and skill will yet live to be called from their many months of labor to many long years of refreshments, amid the smiles of independence, peace and plenty, Heaven speed the time!

Col. Scott Anderson is in command of the Post here and the Prison Camp, which now contains nearly 4800 Yankees. The Colonel is a gallant officer and well known to Texians.

Everything goes bravely on in this section, and an early peace is anticipated. There is a good prospect now of effecting an exchange of a goodly number of prisoners soon.

Fraternally yours,

Alamo.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 6, 1864, p. 2, c. 5

Confederate money in Houston is said to be improving, having risen from 45 to 25 for 1, within a week or two. The "News" says it could not be obtained at the latter figure one day last week. It is rated here, we believe, by the merchants, at 50 for 1, and nobody cares to touch it, even at that rate.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 6, 1864, p. 2, c. 1

## Special Correspondence of Gazette.

San Antonio, July 2, 1864

. . . Day before yesterday the funding business closed in this city; Confederate money rulling (sp?) up to that time at 20 and 25 to 1. What it is to be in the future I have no means of knowing. It is not used at all here as a circulating medium, but is confined to paying taxes.

I have never known our market so well supplied with vegetables as now; yet prices are exceedingly high, even for specie. Corn, however, has taken a great fall, selling at 50 and 75 cts., and flour at \$ and 10\$ [?]-the only articles that sell at reasonable prices. Goods are also very high. Coffee, 60 to 65, and other articles in proportion.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 6, 1864, p. 2, c. 3

## Mayor Dye's Family Expelled from the City of Brownsville

Our readers are aware that Mayor Dye when the Yankees first landed at Brownsville, went out and met them and surrendered the city into their hands, and received them with open hands. The Mayor had previously been an open-mouthed secessionist, but the presumption is, that the hope of saving his property, caused this sudden change to come over the spirit of his dreams. It seems, however, that the Mayor's wife and two daughters who are intelligent, accomplished ladies, were not so easily converted, to the Lincoln cause. As an evidence of their rebel proclivities, when the Yankee officers, visited their house, the ladies were never at home. That was too bad. Finally the ladies were called on and officially informed that they must do one of two things—either take the 'ironclad oath,' or leave the United States. The ladies promptly replied that whatever might be the consequences, they would never take the oath. Whereupon the Yankee officer requested them to fix upon some hour when they should be set across the river. This they refused. He then told them that he would appoint the time of their departure at 4 o'clock that evening. The ladies went to work to get ready to leave their home and country, and having made the necessary preparations before the appointed hour had arrived, and wishing to get off without exciting attention, they quietly proceeded to the river, when they were met by a squad of Yankee soldiers, who refused to allow them to cross. They were then marched back to the Provost marshal's office, when an order was issued forever expelling them from the United States, on account of their inveterate rebel proclivities and sympathies. They were then escorted by the guard, with as much parade as if they had in charge a thousand rebel prisoners, to the river to be crossed over to Matamoros.

It so happened that a Mexican Colonel was at the boat and about to cross at the same time. Mayor Dye, who by this time had arrived, to bid his fleeing family farewell, spoke to the Mexican officer in Spanish, requesting him to see the ladies safely conducted to a friend's house in Matamoros. To which the Mexican officer replied aloud in English: "I shall most certainly escort the ladies to your friend's house. The Mexican flag has ever protected the ladies, no matter from what country they came!"

When the boat reached the middle of the river, one of the Mayor's daughters turned to the Yankee vandals and waving her handkerchief, remarked in substance as follows: "You have driven us from our home and country to take refuge among foreigners and strangers, but thank God! there are Confederate soldiers enough in Texas to drive you out of Brownsville, and off of Texas soil, and before next Fall it will be done!"

While we can but have mingled feelings of pity and contempt for Maj. [sic] Dye, we glory in the *spunk* of his noble wife and daughters! God bless them, and all our noble Southern mothers and daughters! They are as true as steel. Their patriotism is an ever-increasing, ever-glowing fame—warming, enlightening, cheering all around.—Goliad Messenger.

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, July 12, 1864, p. 1, c. 3

The grand barbecue, given at Galveston to the soldiers on the 2d inst., passed off well, and appeared to give very general satisfaction. The News says:

About five thousand persons were present at the barbecue, and every thing went off in an orderly manner, nothing having occurred to mar the peace and quietness which prevailed here for the last three months. Five tables, running the whole length of the extensive cotton shed of the Shipping Press, were loaded with cakes, pies, fowls and meats, all cooked in the best manner, and the soldiers present showed by their appetites and smiling countenances their appreciation of the liberality of the donors, and the labor of those who took upon themselves the management.

Several speeches were made by Major Gen. Magruder, Col. A. M. Hobby, (the most eloquent orator of the day), Gen. Robertson, and Lt. Col. Andrews, and the cheers of the multitude showed that the patriotism was intense and never dying. By sundown the military had all returned to their quarters and city resumed again its former quietness.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 13, 1864, p. 1, c. 4

We learn from a gentleman who arrived in this city on Friday, that the enemy had entirely abandoned the vicinity of Aransas Pass, removing their forces towards Brownsville. The cavalry from Saluria and Mustang Island has gone down the coast by way of Padre Island, numbering over three hundred, mounted on horses which they had stolen and obtained from renegades. A portion of the renegades, with their families, were sent to New Orleans, and prisoners and others, captured in the vicinity of Corpus Christi, were taken to Point Isabel.

The damage committed by the Feds, while in possession of Corpus, was slight, compared to other places. Some seven or eight houses were torn down and the greater portion of the lumber removed to Mustang Island. It is stated that they had erected over 100 houses on Mustang, but what condition they left them in, on their departure, was not known when our informant left. Some of the Federal officers stated, previous to their departure from Corpus, their object in evacuating that section of our State was to reinforce Brownsville, as they understand Ford was shortly to attack that place. They captured Doctor Allen, formerly connected with the "Galveston Civilian," and others, whose names our informant did not recollect.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 13, 1864, p. 2, c. 3

Tyler, Texas, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Dear News:--The weather in this part of the Confederate vineyard, is at present oppressively hot and sultry—winds dry and dusty. Yesterday, the Fourth of July, passed without any celebration among the quiet denizens of old Smith; no mint juleps, sherry cobbles or brandy smashes with ice; the few who indulged took whiskey straight, for the same reason that the fox thought the grapes were sour.

Last night we had a "small sprinkling" of excitement in the way of a reliable report from Camp Ford, informing the commander of the Post, Continued on page 3

Tyler, Texas, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864  
Continued from page 2

that the Yankee prisoners of war, intended celebrating the Fourth of July by storming the little picket fence which surrounds their plantation, paying a summary visit to their numerous overseers, (who with muskets in their hands, have an eye to their interests and frequently anticipate their wants) after which they would prepare to take a journey of more magnitude by way of calling upon their brethren of "African descent" in lower Louisiana, and on the Arkansas and White rivers—their plans were all made known by one of their own number, and the ever vigilant Col. Anderson, immediately took steps to prevent the attempt as well as defeat it, should their temerity lead them thus far—by his prompt action he no doubt saved these poor deluded fanatics and negro worshippers, from being "welcomed by bloody hands to hospitable graves."

Last Saturday night, seven of them undertook to escape by removing two of the pickets and then stealing away. One was shot right at the line, but not killed; the other six ran away as fast as their pedestals would carry them, they were trailed up by dogs, and four of them caught up in tree tops the same night, and the other two captured in the same manner the next day. As the trailers came up, the Yanks shouted most lustily, "here we are boys, come and take us, but please dont hurt us!"

All is quiet today. Colonel Scott Anderson is the right man in the right place, and your readers may rest assured that should any attempt be made, on the part of the prisoners, to over run the guard, they will be repulsed with most bloody results.

In haste fraternally yours,

Alamo.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 13, 1864, p. 1, c. 4

**Drugs and Chemicals**--In another column will be found the advertisement of Koester & Tolle, of New Braunfels, to which we invite the special attention of all who wish to procure a pure article in drugs or chemicals. We have been well acquainted with this establishment for many years and have had repeatedly, since we came to Austin, to send there for things we could get no where else in the State. Dr. Koester, has been a practicing physician for over twenty years in Texas, and is familiar with the drugs and medicines most in use in this country; besides the firm is extensively engaged in manufacturing alcohol, and medical liquors, the quality of which we have had frequent opportunities of testing. It is the only establishment in the State, at this time, that we know of where a full and complete stock of chemicals is always kept on hand, from which orders wholesale and retail can be filled. Having a large amount of capital invested in the business, and an agent in Mexico, especially employed to make purchases for them, they are also able to offer their goods at lower prices, than have been usually charged since the war commenced.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 13, 1864, p. 2, c. 1

#### [From the Louisiana Democrat.]

The men and material of the army of the Liberator of Louisiana, while here on their last trip *en marche* to Shreveport, amused themselves wonderfully at the expense of the citizens. It would take months to

relate their doings. We will, however, give a few of these tricks as we witnessed them. The navy were the first to arrive, and had full sway before the army of Smith arrived, and well did they play their part. As soon as they reached the shore they broke out in town in squads, each under an officer, and charge chicken coops was the word, and never since the days of the far-famed Jeremy Diddler was such stealing, or as they call it, foraging seen. Not a chicken, not even the old veteran Shanghais were respected, and a clean sweep was made in less than an hour. While this game was going on, a few select naval crowds, the most respectable of old Abe's web footed boys, were entering private houses, *sans ceremonie*, and helping themselves. We saw a naval officer, with sword belted on, and two non commissioned marines in broad day, walk into a house, take the clock off the mantelpiece, wrap it up in a quilt on the bed, and marched to the gunboat with both. Just think of the navy of the United States, once the pride and boast of the world, so low sunk in depravity as to turn thieves of family furniture. Again, while the town was in flames and the women and children were saving at the risk of life a few articles they most needed, we saw a naval officer, with two negro marines under his orders, go to a pile of saved furniture, and take two family portraits, a pair of curtains and a musquito [sic] bar from the pile and walk off aboard of his boat. The same day we witnessed two soldiers on front street, in the presence of more than one hundred officers, go into a private yard, take off an old brood mare with a young suckling colt, cut the throat of the colt from ear to ear, and both mounted the mare and rode off, yelling and whooping. Reader, these are facts our own eyes, without specs, have seen, and we place them on record as a few of the infamies of the Union saviors.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 20, 1864, p. 1, c. 3

#### Drugs, Chemicals, &C.

The undersigned have received a large supply of DRUGS, CHEMICALS, &c. from Mexico, carefully selected there by a professional man, sent there expressly for that purpose, which they are selling at comparatively moderate prices. Among other things, they have on hand--

Ether, Opium, Iodine, Iodide Potash, English Calomel, Blue Mass, Nitrate of Silver, Copaiva, Gum Camphor, Quinine, Chloroform, Morphine, Copperas, Chlorate of Potash, Spirits of Hartshorn, Soda, Epsom Salts, Castor Oil, Dover's Powders, Rhubarb, Strychnine, Cream of Tartar, Borax, Carb. of Magnesia, Wright's Pills, &c. &c. The undersigned have also always on hand Pure Strong Alcohol, which they manufacture at their own distillery.

Koester & Tolle.

New Braunfels, July 6, 1864

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 13, 1864, p. 2, c. 5

**The Condition of the Frontier.**—We have a communication from Gainesville, correcting some errors and exaggerations made (as the writer says) by a previous communication published in this paper. Want of room compels us to condense this article, but, as we understand its statements to be generally correct, we feel it due to the people to give them in Continued on page 4

## The Condition of the Frontier

Continued from page 3

substance. He says the large amount of property represented to have been captured from the disloyal people on the frontier by Gen. McCulloch, is an exaggeration. The property taken was really very insignificant, and what was taken has generally been returned to the right owners, from whom it had been stolen. Our previous communication represented that there were a very large number of traitors and bushmen in camp in the Western counties, whereas, this writer says there are really very few of them, with the exception of some misguided militia men from Jack county, but that these had returned to their homes. This writer says, that at this time the entire section, embracing Wise, Jack, Young, Stephens, Palo Pinto, and adjoining counties, is in a healthy condition. An officer just from Gen. McCulloch's headquarters, to whom we have shown this letter, says it is true in the main, and that Gen. McCulloch, by his energetic and prudent administration in that Department, had rid the country of nearly all that disaffected class of persons—some having been sent in chains to Shreveport and others to camps of instruction. There are, however, still a few left, but they will probably soon come in. Both our correspondent and the officer above referred to, concur in stating that the number of the disloyal in that section has been exaggerated, and that many included in that category were good soldiers, who had been induced to desert and fly to their families, on account of the unfounded reports of their suffering and the dangers surrounding them. These soldiers having found that they had been misled have returned, or are returning, to their duty. They have done good service to the country, and are ready to do it again. There are, however, skulkers all over the country, who have hitherto succeeded in evading the service, and are still making every exertion to escape our conscript officers. This class are doubtless numerous, and by no means confined to the frontier, though many have gone there from the lower counties, the better to escape detection. These are really far more deserving of punishment than the soldiers who have deserted temporarily, for no other motive than to protect their families. We give the following concluding portion of the correspondence:

The line of defence as established by the State under the direction of Colonel McCord, that has been so remarkably successful—no important Indian bands in this section ever having penetrated or passed through it—has been strengthened north of Belknap by twenty-five hundred cavalymen, the substance of the families of absent soldiers has been consumed by useless soldiery and their service needed elsewhere. Not an Indian has been seen in the country this year. Major Quail's command organized under the direction of the State authorities numbers fifteen hundred and seventeen men and Colonel Bourland's near one thousand and other troops are near at hand; this is besides the Frontier regiment.

During the past winter and spring we had many troubles here resulting in killing, robbing, &c., but that all passed away and perfect quiet restored with the departure of restless, ambitious independent warriors, who adjourned among us for a time. We

say to your readers and to our gallant defenders on the distant fields, that no such military preparations, no such concentration of supplies and outfit as above alluded to could be gathered together in our midst or upon our borders for the enemies purpose, and the huge stories about formidable camps and troops of Tories, deserters, and skulkers are circulated for a purpose either by speculators or apprehensive frontiersmen or the officer or soldier who had rather while away his time here in useless marches or fruitless campaigns after vague rumors or imaginary apparitions, than aid their brothers upon the field of honor. We will write you again.

Yours, Cook.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 20, 1864, p. 1, c. 5

Tyler, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864.

Ed. News—One of our agents of exchange, Capt. Birchett, arrived here a few days since, and has been busy making out his rolls for the exchange of 1,000 Yankee prisoners of war. One squad of them started this morning, and the balance will leave tomorrow morning for Alexandria via Shreveport. This number, I am informed, covers all that the Yankee Government now has on hand of our men in this Department, and we still have an excess of at least 4,000, the most of whom are still at this point.

Our news from Virginia and Georgia is very fine, but you no doubt have later dates than we. The signs of the times are all pointing towards the rainbow of peace. Great, skillful generals and brave soldiers have given us many glorious victories. Crops are splendid—yesterday gave us some fine showers.

The Yankees who recently made their escape, and were recaptured by the dogs, are very bitter in their denunciations of poor Tray. Some of the swear that after the war is over, they intend to raise dogs just to kill.

The dogs used here are nothing but common fox hounds, yet it is truly wonderful how they will strike a trail and follow it—five or six of them are worth more than one hundred soldiers, to catch runaway Yankees or deserters with, and this is another improvement developed by the war. The time will come when every Sheriff will have his pack of hounds, kept by the county, expressly for the purpose of capturing evil doers.

Fraternally yours,

Alamo.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 20, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

Trinity, on Black River, La.,  
June 28, 1864.

Ed. News.—As announced in my last, our cavalry is now on the move. The advance reached this place this morning.

The country through which we have journeyed since leaving Red River at Alexandria, is a high and dry pinny [sic] woods soil, worthless section, sparsely inhabited, and it would have been better for us if it was not inhabited at all. The people have been in the bushes sneaking nearly ever since the war commenced, and constantly conveying to the Yankees information that they acknowledge as being of a most valuable nature. Whilst Banks was in Alexandria they organized as a regiment of cavalry in the Yankee service, (to them the prisoners

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Trinity, on Black River, La.,  
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we took lay all the house burning, and everything else done contrary to civilized war,) and with them left the country. The commandant of the "District of Western La.," being desirous that they should not be separated from their families, took it into his head to rid the country of the stock, by sending out of our lines the families of the aforesaid traitors, consequently this country is indeed quite sparsely settled at this time. The last remnant of them crossed at this place but a few days ago on their way to Natchez, Miss. Should the war end shortly, this State will present great advantages and opening for young men of industrious and stirring habits, whether farmers or mechanics. For the farmer, the land is already cleared, whilst there is no place to which the mechanic can command better wages. I speak of Louisiana proper, not of this back woods, worthless region—where none but thieves as have just been compelled to leave it, would live. Our horses are catching it out here on the pine straw and burrs, which suggest to me that we have altogether too much cavalry in this district for the present condition of affairs. There has been no corn raised in this country for the last three years, and to ship forage for the horses and mules from Shreveport would be out of the question, but we must have forage, else our horses will still be of less use to the government than they are now, and were the inspecting officers so disposed, they could with perfect propriety condemn, as being unserviceable, at least one third of our present cavalry horses. Should our stay in this country be protracted over a week, no one can conjecture what is to become of our horses. . .

N.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 20, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

A barbecue was given on the 5th inst., by Col. H. R. Crawford, on York's Creek, in Comal county, to a number of soldiers who had returned to their homes in the neighborhood on furlough. The entertainment was gotten up by Mrs. Crawford, and is highly spoken of by those who were present. When the company were assembled, Col. Crawford addressed them in a most patriotic and eloquent speech, which has been forwarded us for publication by request of several gentlemen present, but which we regret our limited space will not permit us to find room for, on account of its length. After referring in detail to many of the battles, in which our brave soldiers have so pre-eminently distinguished themselves, Col. Crawford concludes as follows:

"You have filled up the full cup of your duty, and deserve the gratitude of your country; by your noble deeds of valor, and the smiles of a kind Providence, we are to-day at home in peace and reaping a rich harvest throughout our State. Well may mothers be proud of such sons, sisters of such brothers, and wives of such husbands! May your days be many, and your fame never grow dim! Mrs. Crawford, as a manifestation of her approbation of your valuable services, in defending her and her sex from the brutal insults and savage barbarity of the enemy has prepared for you a sumptuous feast from the fat of the land, she bids you come and be welcome—you, thrice welcome to her beautiful feast."

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 20, 1864, p. 2, c. 3

**A Manufacturing Town.**—Danville, Virginia is becoming quite a manufacturing town. The Register says:—"As a part of the machinery lately introduced into this town, we may mention an apparatus for knitting which has just been put up, and is now in successful operation. It not being open to general inspection, we have not had the opportunity of witnessing the working of this machine, but we understand it is a valuable invention for saving labor, as it will turn out several dozen pairs of stockings per hour. It is something new in this land. The Yankees have heretofore worked the machinery for the Southern people, and no doubt this is one of their machines, brought hither to help along the needles of our good country-women of the South. We may add, that we have now in Danville, established since the commencement of the war, two large woolen mills, two factories for making cotton cards, a match factory, and a knitting establishment. But there is plenty of water-power yet unemployed."

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, July 26, 1864, p. 2, c. 1

The "News" of the 21st says a friend just from Laredo informs us that corn is there worth \$8 per bushel by retail, \$6 by wholesale. There is not a green thing to be seen in the market. Not a vegetable of any kind to be found. There are no beds. Every one lies on his own raw hide and blankets, and if he sleeps in a house, he pays usually 50 cents a night in specie for a space he occupies on the floor. Confederate money is not there seen, and scarcely heard of. Furniture is so scarce that chairs and tables are rented at \$1,50 each per week. The Mexicans charge 25 cents specie for turning a bale of cotton. Their wages per day is \$5 in specie.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, July 27, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

#### Letter from Richmond.

We have been favored with extracts from a private letter of Hon. Jno. R. Baylor, M. C., written at Richmond, Virginia, May 26<sup>th</sup>, just after taking his seat in Congress:

. . . "Should Congress adjourn soon, (which is likely,) I shall visit all the Texas troops in the army, on this side of the Mississippi, especially the sick and wounded. The Texians, I find, are at the head of the army here for gallantry and good conduct. Gen. Lee says they are his best and bravest troops. The State may well be proud of such men. The State, herself, stands high on this side of the river.

"I met a train of Yankee prisoners the other day, and as they passed, seeing the star on my hat, they pointed me out, one to the other, saying, "There's a Texas Ranger! they're the boys to fight!" "I have seen thousands of Yankee prisoners in the last few days. It is amusing to hear out boys talk with them. They chat, laugh, and trade together as if the best of friends. . .

"I visited the hospitals at Atlanta, and found some of our wounded Texians there. They were delighted to hear the latest news from home, and I was equally well pleased to give the poor fellows all the consolation I could, and to find the hospitals so well conducted. They are neat, plank buildings, whitewashed and scrupulously clean. The men receive all the care and attention that are necessary,  
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### Letter from Richmond.

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and the ladies do all in their power to make them comfortable, and to cheer their tedious hours.

"Whilst I was at Atlanta, I saw a train come in with 1500 of our wounded. Committees of ladies were waiting to receive them. Each had something nice to eat or drink to bestow on the sufferers, and hundreds of little girls had beautiful boquets [sic] for them.

. . . "It is difficult to believe that this city is really threatened by an army of 150,000 men, bent on its capture—so unconcernedly do the citizens take it. Wounded soldiers are constantly coming in from the front; every hour the sound of cannon is heard, for Beauregard is only five miles distant, and is fighting Beast Butler daily; yet the people here are as calm and cool as if in the midst of peace. . .

"Living in Richmond is dear, dearer, dearest. A beef steak costs \$8; meal \$50 per bushel; flour \$5 per lb.; and other articles in proportion.

John R. Baylor.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 27, 1864, p. 1, c. 5

A friend just from Laredo informs us that corn is there worth \$8 per bushel by retail, and \$6 by wholesale. There is not a green thing to be seen in the market. Not a vegetable of any kind to be found. There are no beds. Every one lies on his own raw hide and blankets, and if he sleeps in a house, he pays usually 50 cents a night specie for the space he occupies on the floor. Confederate money is not there seen, and scarcely heard of. Furniture is so scarce that chairs and tables are rented at \$1.50 each per week. The Mexicans charge 25 cents specie for turning over a bale of cotton. Their wages per day is \$5 specie.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 27, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

We were present for a short time at Colonel Sydnor's auction on Tuesday. We saw prints sold for \$8.50 to \$9 per yard, which he assured the audience he had sold for \$13.50 per yard one month ago, but which had been left with him for sale again by the purchasers. The speculation was a loss of about \$5 per yard in one month. We noticed that socks were sold for \$5 per pair, which Col. Sydnor stated were sold for \$11 per pair only a week previous. Boy's socks were sold for \$3.40 to \$3.70 per pair. Girls hose for \$6 to \$7 per pair. We were not able to see the end of the sale, but the prices paid leave no doubt that there has been a heavy decline in prices of late in Confederate money. It should be borne in mind that we have none but the old issue. But the truth is there is a great scarcity now of Confederate money. There is every appearance that it will become more scarce before those who want it can get it. The taxes for 1864 have not yet been collected but will soon have to be collected. This should be borne in mind.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 27, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

Lavaca, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864.

Editor News:--One of our citizens yesterday, whilst on the opposite side of the Bay, at Cox's Point, saw two men in a skiff, who he supposed, from their actions, to be deserters. On his return, he reported the fact to our Provost Marshal, Gen. Woodward, who, with his characteristic promptitude, dispatched a party of pickets across the water, who captured them and brought them to this place. At first they represented that they belonged to Colonel Cook's regiment, and were part of a detail serving on the Confed. gunboat J. L. Carr. To corroborate their statement, they exhibited furloughs from Col. Cook, endorsed by Col. Steele and Gen. Magruder, the furloughs dated 13<sup>th</sup> June, and the approvals on 14<sup>th</sup> May. On being asked how they could reconcile the discrepancy in dates, they caved in and acknowledged that they were Yankee prisoners, taken at Calcasieu, and that they had escaped from Camp Groce. The furloughs were in the names of Jones and Smith.

On asserting their individuality, they were found to be Lieutenant Loring and Ensign Howard, of the steamer Wave, captured in the late gallant affair at Calcasieu. They left Camp Groce on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and after many trials and vicissitudes, in which they were nearly worn down, the succeeded in getting so near the blockader at Pass Cavallo, that in a few hours more they would have been safe on her deck, but for their untoward luck. Gen. Woodward will dispatch them to Houston to-morrow morning, via Matagorda.

West.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, July 27, 1864, p. 2, c. 4

Late on Friday night, the 22d inst., information was received by Col. N. H. Darnell, commanding this Post, that a body of Deserters from Tyler, had reached the vicinity of Butler's Bridge, on East Fork, in this county, and were making their way to the frontier. Preparations were immediately made to intercept them. Col. Darnell called together Capt. Smith's company of the Reserve Corps, a part of Capt. W. H. Darnell's company, and such of the Government operatives and citizens as could get arms, numbering in all about 80 men, who started in pursuit about 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. Having taken the trail, at the crossing of the Trinity River, at Cedar Springs, Col. Darnell travelled [sic] all night, and proceeded in coming up with the Deserters a little before daylight, on Sunday morning, a few miles S. W. of Cedar Hill, where they had camped, and captured the whole party, with a few exceptions, who made their escape. They were brought into town on Sunday afternoon, and started back to Tyler, on Tuesday. A squad of men from Tyler who had followed the deserters, was met by Col. Darnell after the capture, and returned with him to town in whose charge the prisoners were placed. The whole affair was well arranged, and carried out, and reflects much credit on the promptness and energy of Col. Darnell, as well as on the soldiers, the operatives in the Government troops at this place, and the citizens, all of whom responded with alacrity to the call of Col. Darnell for men.

DALLAS HERALD, July 30, 1864, p. 1, c. 1