
THE HENKEL SQUARE HERALD

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VOL. 4

Henkel Square, Round Top, Texas, September 1863

NO. 9

We are glad to see that in several parts of the State efforts are being made by the ladies to establish Wayside Hospitals for the accommodation of sick soldiers who may be passing through their neighborhood.--This is a most praiseworthy undertaking, as many, when on their way to their homes require the attention of nurses and such treatment as cannot be had in hotels or private houses. We notice meetings have been held in Houston, Rusk, and several other counties for this purpose, and as we learn one of our hotels will close shortly in this city, we feel assured the ladies of Travis will not be behind those of other counties in this work of charity and benevolence.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 1, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

At the late entertainment at Navasota, for the benefit of sick and disabled soldiers, a young lady who was taking a part in a military scene, representing a Confederate General gone into summer quarters, remarked that "Gen. Magruder had determined to fortify the Piedmont Springs and hold it at all hazards."--Texas Ranger.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 1, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Heroism of the Vicksburg Women.—A

correspondent of the New York Times, writing from Grant's camp, states that a Federal captain who was taken prisoner during the siege, and who was kept in Vicksburg several days, reports the scenes of the city as fearful. He says:

"The women and children all remain in town, although ordered at various times to leave. On the day our men left, a morning report showed the sad fact that, up to that time 119 of these unfortunates had been killed by our shells, among whom is the wife of General Pemberton. The women of Vicksburg are either brave beyond ordinary mortals, or desperate in the extreme. Shells search every part of the town, and yet the children play as usual upon the streets, and the women seek no protection, but boldly promenaded the public thoroughfares and attend to their household duties without fear. In a house close to the jail our men saw several ladies, who sat in groups on the plaza, moved leisurely about the house, and at times made the air melodious with voice and piano.

What quality is this shown by these women? Is it heroism, desperation, or what? Death is all about them—it hisses through the air; crashes through their edifices, smites down their innocent children and themselves, and yet they unconcernedly sit, sing, chat and laugh through it all—through a combination of horrors that would almost make a coward of the bravest man that ever drew a sword.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 1, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

A correspondent of the Mobile News says he finds great disparity in the charges of hotel keepers, some charging most enormous prices, and others being content with barely a living profit, and not even charging soldiers anything. Those who are thus giving food and shelter to our soldiers will establish for themselves a reputation worth more than all the wealth made by extortion. The hotel charges seem to be equally diversified in this State. In this city the charge is \$7 per day, while we are told that equally good, or even better fare can be had in Galveston for \$4 per day.

There is a shoe peg manufactory in Gainsville, Ala., where the pegs are cut by steam with astonishing rapidity.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 2, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

. . . It is the constant boast of our enemies that they do not "feel the war." If this be an advantage, it is all their own. The South *does* "feel the war."—Her people cannot be driven from their homes, nor see their cities sacked and burned, nor read the names of their kindred in the lists of killed upon the battle fields, without much and deep feeling.—They feel the war in deprivation and in infliction; at home and abroad; upon the farm and in the city; by night and by day' everywhere and always, the war is a heavy weight upon their hearts. The acute suffering which it brings is more endurable than the constant depression accompanying the constant thought of carnage and destruction. No one exhibits his wonted cheerfulness. The whole country mourns. Everybody is ashamed that a question which should have been so settled as to ennoble the age, has simply attained to the arbitrament of rapine and slaughter. This comes of association with a people whose politics and decency culminate in Lincoln, Butler and the New York Herald—a people who practice hypocrisy and design in everything, from the putting on of a "dickey" to the publication of a President's message. The South feels the war as an evil in itself, as a disgrace in the character of her foe, unworthy of honorable steel—and as a blot upon the times.—But all her feelings concentrate in a determination to struggle out of the war on the opposite side from the Yankees. The hope of this consummation gives beauty to the ashes of our homes, lends a lustre to homespun, sweetens the bread of bitterness, shortens years of war into days, and lightens with its glory alike the prospect of death for those who are yet to fall, and the graves of those who have already perished in the strife. The feeling which makes the thought of association with the North a suffocation—the determination to be delivered—this rod of separation will finally swallow up all the magic of finances, all the sorcery of politics, and all the shams of diplomacy and trade, and when it has made an end of all these, it will be ready to smite the sea of blood and give us exodus from our enemies forever.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 2, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Camp Verda [sic?], Texas, Aug. 11th, 1863.

Ed. News:--In your paper of August 3d I notice a communication from J. T. C. of Round Mountain, Blanco county, in which he states that the Indians had been depredating in the North West of his county, &c., which may be true in the main. He also states that "if the frontier regiment keeps on hauling cotton, making dancing parties, visiting their friends and relatives, &c., it may as well be disbanded." Now, as to the regiment hauling cotton, I can say that there are but very few of its members hauling cotton and they only by special detail of the Governor for special purposes, to-wit: hauling cotton to the Rio Grande for the purpose of buying clothing, ammunition, &c., for the regiment and the State, in the absence of other teamsters, and certainly no reasonable man will blame the Governor or any member of the regiment for such a thing, when it is the only means of getting ammunition and other supplies for the regiment. Had the gentleman to whom I refer been stationed on the frontier for twenty months, with clothing issued only one time during the time mentioned, and that very scantily, no shoes, no blankets, no socks, no hats, and worse than no shoes, Mexican shoes something near one pair to the man, and they so worthless that many of the men would not draw them and pay, (for such it is called,) only up to the 24th of last December, he would certainly view the matter in a different light.

As to dancing parties I have about as little taste for them as J. T. C., but certainly men who are tied down in camp, as well as entirely absent from the settlements, on scouts for weeks at a time, ought to be allowed a little recreation of some kind when it can be had without any detriment to the service or neglect of duty, and many prefer the amusement of dancing with the ladies to some other amusement or recreation which they occasionally enjoy, though very seldom, in the immediate neighborhood of their station.

And now as to their visiting their friends and relatives. It is true that there is generally about two men on furlough from each company at a time, and sometimes there is one or more on special leave, and some on detached service to get in supplies for the companies. This will explain the appearance of so many men being absent from camp, at home, &c.

Mr. J. T. C. also states that Mr. Evans, of Uvalde county, represents that the citizens of Uvalde county have represented Capt. Edgar's company, Mounted Regiment, T. S. T., stationed in Uvalde county, as a nuisance, that they (the citizens of Uvalde county) have requested their removal by the Governor as such, and that certain it was that the frontier counties had never been protected by any troops stationed on it.

Now as to the charge of said company being a nuisance. I have to say that there is no doubt some reckless men in Capt. Edgar's company, as there are in all other companies, who not only trespass upon the rights of the citizens, but upon the rights of their fellow soldiers, but that a whole company should be set down and punished as a nuisance because of the wrongdoings of a few of its members, is really ridiculous and truly preposterous in the extreme. And further I have to say that I have positive information from a reliable and official source that some of the very same citizens who requested the removal of said

company, have now actually petitioned the Governor to suffer the said company to remain where it is and was at its reorganization, stating that the company was doing good service, and that they were generally as orderly as most companies.

And in conclusion I have to say that no regiment can protect the Indian frontier of Texas, let them be ever so well provided, on a line of some five or six hundred miles, and considering too that the frontier regiment have been illy provided for, particularly with regard to ammunition, forage, &c. The principal part of the ammunition which we have had to use, especially the powder and caps, are very bad, most of the powder used would not fire if it lay in the gun one night, even in dry weather, and a majority of the caps would not explode. Considering further that there has been half the time since the first organization of the regiment that the horses have been barefoot, and that forage has not been furnished more than half the time. In the Subsistence Department we have, by the energy of the company commissaries, been tolerably well supplied with the actual necessities of life.

Now, these facts considered, for they are facts, and facts are stubborn things, it appears to me, I suppose the more so because of the experience I have had from a residence on the immediate frontier for eight years, that any man who would, upon the grounds assumed, either directly or indirectly, accuse the men and officers of the frontier regiment (they too mostly residents of the frontier, with their whole interests at stake,) of a dereliction of duty, is either very much prejudiced, ensconsed as he is just inside the frontier, or is insane on the subject, and has given it but little consideration or reflection.

Very respectfully,

D. A. R.

Private Co. A, Mounted Regiment, T. S. T.
GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 2, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

We see that our young friend, Capt. Will Lambert is endeavoring to raise a company of Mounted Cadets, to consist of young men under the conscript age. This is a good move, and we hope that the young men in this and adjoining counties will turn out and give him a full company. He has had two years' experience in the army, is a good soldier, and deserves encouragement in this enterprise. This company is intended for service within the State, so that those who are not inclined to go beyond its limits, can have an opportunity of serving in the State, and at the same time do the Confederate States some service.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 2, 1863, p. 1, c. 1

The work of organizing minute companies is going on finely in the country. If all the counties of the state will respond to the call of Gen. Magruder and Gov. Lubbock as nobly as old Rusk, the Yankees will meet with a bloody reception, if they attempt an invasion of this State.—Henderson Times.

The Tyler Reporter says that the late militia draft was carried out in that county with a good spirit; every one evincing a willingness to serve their country in this time of trial.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 3, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Brownsville, August 13, 1863.

Editor Galveston News:--There is an old adage viz: "That a "bad penny" always returns." You see it verified for here I am, not in person but in spirit. And to begin at the beginning, I have a few words to say concerning the *outside* behavior of a *few* of our *Confederate soldiers*, who, I am sorry to say, are doing the "glorious cause" much harm, and by their acts casting reflections upon the whole Confederate force now stationed at this place, and said force, I can assure you, contains many honorable high minded men. To give you the particulars I will merely state one instance: Last evening about dark five soldiers entered the store of Dimas Barreda, (who is himself a Confederate soldier,) and took, without offering pay of any kind, a hat and a pair of shoes, and having their hands upon their *sixes*, no restraint was offered them. For such conduct the officers are in a great measure responsible, for if they would but use a little authority and put the men under a little discipline, such things would not occur. The parties most interested will make no complaint for the simple reason that they well know it will do no good and in all probability do them much harm. I mean to reflect no discredit upon our noble army, God bless them all, but they should remember, both officers and privates, that any dishonorable conduct upon their part, attaches dishonor to the cause and leaves an indelible stain upon our hitherto unspotted flag. "Hurrah for the Bonny Blue Flag," long may it wave. . . .

Gahn, Jr.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 2, 1863, p. 2, c. 6

Donations to the "S.S." for the families of Soldiers, from July 18th to August 31st, 1863.

[list]

The above includes such donations as have been paid in; those who have subscribed and not paid will please do so soon--particularly the corn and wheat subscribed is much needed. Part of the cash donations have been appropriated for the purchase of flour and wood. Sixty families have been relieved during the month. Those who feel an interest in this matter, can call on me and see the names and the quantity issued to each; or at the Adjutant of the "S.S." who will exhibit to them my monthly accounts.

Owing to the unaccountable fact that the farmers of the county have ceased entirely to bring provisions to the city for sale, it has required the utmost exertion to get a sufficiency of supplies, and it is hoped that those who have to spare will come in and make it known.

Regular monthly statements of donations will be hereafter published.

John Burlage

Q.M. & S.C.

Sons of the South

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 2, 1863, p. 1, c. 7

Color Presentation.

On Wednesday evening there was quite a display in our city, caused by the presentation of a beautiful stand of colors to the 3d Texas Regiment. This regiment has been until recently stationed at Brownsville. Some months since, the citizens of that place, desirous of giving the regiment a testimonial of their appreciation of the good behavior and gallantry of the regiment, determined to present them a flag. Quite a number of the citizens claimed the privilege of

of contributing. They made up a purse and sent it to Havana. On inquiry it was found there was no means of having the flag made there. Some patriotic ladies of New Orleans, who were then in exile, driven from their homes by Brute Butler, came forward and offered their services, claiming the privilege of making not only a regimental, but a battle flag also, and sending them to the soldiers. The result was the beautiful flags we mentioned the other day, which were publicly presented to the regiment on Wednesday morning.

At 4 P.M., the regiment, dressed in complete uniform, marched up Main street from their camp across the bayou, to the Academy square, where they underwent inspection and review. This over, they were marched into the Academy yard, and formed in front of the academy by their commander, Lt. Col. E. F. Gray. Quite an array of officers, including the Commanding General and his Staff were upon the balcony of the Academy, also many ladies and citizens, while a large crowd were assembled outside to witness the ceremony.

The flags were brought forward and presented, with an appropriate address by Mr. Mott, of New Orleans, in the name of the fair ladies who sent them. Mr. Mott gave a history of the flags as we have given it above, and, in the name of the ladies, called on the men to see that no stain of disgrace ever befel the work of their hands.

Capt. H. B. Andrews, in behalf of the Regiment, received the colors, and, while paying an eloquent tribute to the ladies who sent them, promised that they would be borne to victory or death. The brief oration of Capt. A. was full of enthusiasm, and was received with loud applause.

The colors were then handed to Col. Gray, who committed them to the Color Guard, with an admonition to bear them in the battle's front, and relinquish them only with their lives. The colors were received by the regiment with loud cheers.

Gen. Magruder was then called upon, and came forward, addressing the regiment in a patriotic and telling speech. He warned them to beware of demagogues. He told them what the war was for, and what they could only expect if conquered. He appropriately alluded to the recent difficulties in the regiment, and to the orders that had been made separating them; and wound up by announcing a change of orders, and that they should march together a band of brothers to the northern frontier, where they would meet the enemy, and prove their devotion to their country in the battle field. His remarks were received with hearty cheers; and at the close Col. Gray called for three cheers for Gen. Magruder, which were given with a will that showed no trace remaining of the ill feeling that had been heretofore thought to exist.

Gen. Lockett then added a few words to his old regiment, and the ceremony was closed. Altogether it was a fine display and calculated to have the best effect both on soldiers and people. [HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 4, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

There has been discovered, lately, on the Attascosa creek, immense quantities of copperas in its native state. Good judges of the article say [fold in paper] excellent quality. Preparations are being made to extract and chrystalize [sic] it for market. SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 10, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Letter from Natchez.

The following private letter from Natchez, has been kindly furnished us for publication. It gives a very lively idea of the condition of things in a captured city.

Natchez, July 19th, 1863.

May has requested me to write you a few lines this evening, as we cannot tell whether we shall again be permitted to write you; even this we have to slip through the lines. We are all prisoners; cannot go out of Natchez without a pass, and that pass given on certain conditions. Natchez is now garrisoned by at least 6,000 or 7,000 Yankees, part of Grant's force. They have turned loose the negroes here and have taken all the arms from the citizens. Not one gun is left them. If you do not give up the arms, they come and search your house, and have just issued an order compelling every person who possesses over a hogshead of sugar to give it up immediately. They say that in a few days every one will have to take the oath, those who do not to leave the lines with fifty dollars. This is all they are allowed, either the money itself or that amount of clothing.

Eight of the yankee pickets were killed last night, and that goes to show that some of our forces are near. Report says it is Loring and Logan. However the Yankees are beginning to look scared. They have dug trenches across every street and blocked the streets up with wagons, cotton bales, hogsheads and barrels of dirt and sand, pieces of iron and whatever they can get. No carriages can pass through the streets now.

The obstructions in some places are quite insurmountable, while in others they can be easily leaped by a horse, for I know I have had horses jump higher with me than some of the barrels are. I could lead our men in so they would not have many of them to pass over, for some of the streets are not yet finished.

Since writing the above, more troops have been landed here. Six thousand passed right by our door a few minutes ago. We have the full benefit of them for they are passing continually. The Yankees complain greatly of the manner the ladies treat them. They say when they pass a lady she will not even look at them. They pull down their veils, draw their dresses up and pass them with scorn. They say they can stand it in the men and boys, but cannot bear it in the ladies. They say they expected to visit and be sociable with the ladies, but not one is allowed to enter the ladies' houses for the purpose of visiting. So now they have got to walking with and visiting the negro women. The ladies will not notice them. The officers seem to be perfect gentlemen, and are as polite and kind as can be, but I cannot say much for the privates. It is they who are enticing the negroes off. The officers say they are tired and wish the negroes would stay at home. They had three shot yesterday, and some more are to be shot to-morrow for stealing. The negro men they have taken they have penned up in a pen, and it is perfectly awful the fix they are in. It is right below Henry Forbes' store, and they are not allowed to leave it for any thing. The stench is horrible. Some of the negroes are half naked, poorly fed, and some sick with scarlet fever.

One of Ma's negroes is gone, the others are making preparations to go. I suppose they will all be gone to-morrow. They stand up and tell you they are

as free and as good as you. Gen. Ransom says the negroes think they are free when they get with him, but says they are much mistaken—that he is going to put them on plantations and that they had better stay where they are. He tells them this when they go to him, but the privates tell them to do otherwise, and induce them to leave their masters.

I went to church this morning. It is the first time I have been outside the house since the Yankees came. They had armed men, one on each side of the church gate. I do not know what it was for. There were a good many in church, but had no guns and behaved very well considering they were Yankees. They took S. H. prisoner. He had just come home on a furlough, and got here the very day the Yankees did, so they arrested him. Another acquaintance of mine was home on a furlough, and he tried to get out of town, but finding he could not, concealed himself in his house and staid there two or three days waiting an opportunity to get out, but his negroes all left him and went with the Yankees, and one of the house servants told the Yankees that he was concealed there, and they sent his own negro men (six or eight) and two Yankees to take him; so as they started up stairs, his brother came, and standing at the head of the steps with a pistol, told them to come on, but the first step they made he would fire, so they left the house, but they finally got this gentleman. They got him last night, so he told me this morning, and now he will have to go to Vicksburg, there paroled.

The Yankees think they will have a fight here, and say they will fight right in the town. Some one asked one of them if they would not give them time to get the women and children out, and he said no; that they had given them time to get out before they came down from Vicksburg.

The Yankees admit that Grant was badly whipped by Johnston at Jackson. Some one asked where Grant was. One of the Yanks spoke up and said, "Well, the papers all said he was on Big Black, but the last I heard of him he was going, double-quick, towards the river."

Eustace was talking to one of the officers the other day, and in the conversation questioned him about the family and finds Eus had a single sister; told him he must come round and see her, and Eustace replied, "My sister would not spit on you." The officer said nothing, but looked at him awhile, then walked off.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 5, 1863, p. 1, c. 2

To Make White, Clear, Hard, Tallow Candles.—

For 40 pounds of unrendered tallow take eight or ten prickley-pear [sic] leaves, of ordinary size, burn off the prickles, slice up the leaves into small strips and cook them with the tallow. After it is strained put in about two pints of strong ashes-lye, and boil until the lye is all out, skimming off that which rises to the surface, which may be used in making soap. The tallow will then be very clear, and will make a very superior candle, which will give a good light, and be in all respects equal to the star-candle. We have seen and used candles made by this process, and we know it will work as stated above. For a less or greater quantity of tallow, the other ingredients should be used in proportion.—Telegraph.

DALLAS HERALD, September 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Head-Quarters, 29th Tex. Cav. }
Camp Watie, C. N. }
August 29th, 1863. }

Sir:--

Having read your official report of the battle of Elk Creek and deeming that more explicit acknowledgement is due for valuable services rendered by a tried, and always reliable officer, I beg leave to call your attention to facts, a full knowledge of which is alone necessary--I am satisfied to your official recognition of the services referred to. You mention that Lieut. Col. O. G. Welch commanding the 29th Texas Cav., after my withdrawal from the field in consequence of a wound, was cut off, with a portion of the command. Inferentially it would appear that he had been in a hazardous position; but it should be explicitly known, that with the left of the Regiment he retained his position upon the line of battle, *until all* other force had withdrawn, the right of my regiment included--that he then deliberately marched the men under his charge, to the ravine or branch, in the rear, where it had been understood that the second line of defence should be made; and after posting his men there, waiting a few moments, and discovering that his little force was entirely unsupported on the right, or on the left, and the enemy who had forced back the right, were already in rear as well as in front, he moved by the left flank, through the timber skirting the creek, and too late to overtake the horses of the command, marched on foot to the west of our regimental camp ground, and thence to North Fork town as mentioned in your report. For cool, courageous, deliberate action, I am satisfied, he is as well entitled to specific and honorable mention, as any officer on the field that day, and I desire also that it shall clearly appear that the 29th Texas cavalry, did its whole duty, as it has done on every field into which it has been called, & that it was beyond all question the last of the army to leave the field. This is the more important; as reports of the fight have gone out, in which the regiment is not recognized as having been in it, when in fact its participation was not secondary to that of any other force engaged but both in the original formation of the line, and the subsequent defence of the train, was of the first importance.

Very Respectfully,

(signed) Charles DeMorse,
Col Com'dg 29th Tex. Cav.
Gen'l D. H. Cooper.
Commanding 1st Brigade.
Head-Quarters 1st Brigade. }
Ca,[Watie, Aug. 29th, 1863 [sic] }

Respectfully forwarded for Gen Steel's information, with the request that this report from col. DeMorse may be transmitted to Dept. Hd. Qrs., and made part of my official report of the affair at Elk Creek on the 17th July last.

I will add my testimony to the invariable good conduct of Lt. Col. Welch, who served formerly in my regiment as Captain of a company of Texas Cav., and on several occasions, was distinguished, and is always, in case of danger, cool, collected, and brave.

[Signed] D. H. Cooper.
Brig. Gen'l

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 5, 1863, p. 1, c. 1

The following tribute to the ladies of the South is as beautiful as it is deserved:
For the Herald

Women of the South

By Robert Josselyn

God bless our Southern women young and old,
My heart would take them all to its embrace.
How nobly they have acted, they have won
Imperishable honor; after times
Shall make the world re-echo with their fame.
The ages, called heroic in the past,
The fabled themes of history and song
Afford no parallel. For days and nights
Their delicate fingers, so unused to toil,
Have plied the needle, or, beside his couch,
Have cooled the stricken soldier's fevered brow
Or dressed with softest touch his honorable wounds,
Soothing his anguish with the thoughts of home.
Among the dead and dying they have walked
As ministering angels, heeding not
The horrors of contagion, giving light
And hope and comfort in the darkest hour.
When dangers thickened and disasters came
And bearded men have faltered or despaired,
With faith unshaken and with purpose firm,
Their looks and words have cheered the wavering
on
And nerved the coward to renew the fight.
Where seized and menaced by the savage foe,
How boldly have they met his gaze with scorn
And hurled defiance in his very teeth,
'Till the false lion, stripped of his disguise,
Has stolen from them like a sneaking cur,
Kicked from his master's presence in disgrace,
No terms with tyrants, has their watchword been,
No compromise of principle and right,
No smooth compliance for expedience sake,
But open, stern resistance to the last,
At sacrifice of all the strongest ties
That bind and knit together human hearts.
The wife has labored while the husband fought,
The daughter urged her lover to the field,
The mother yielded up her darling child.
It is an easy thing to merely die
For God and Country, when the soul is fired
And wild enthusiasm aways the will.
But when the mother, in her happy home,
Perhaps a widow, bids her only boy,
The joy and stay of her declining years,
The pledge of love, now buried in the grave,
Shoulder the rifle which his father bore,
And peril health and limb and life and all,
O this is heroism worth the name,
This is the glory which can never die.
Once more God bless them; would that I had power
To throw the light of genius on their deeds
And sing their praises in immortal song.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, San Antonio Weekly Herald, September 6, 1862,
p. 1, c. 3

A Texas soldier writes us from Shreveport that the ladies there have provided a soldier's home for all passing soldiers. He says he received kind attention, and better far than was furnished at the hotels, and he urges the ladies of Texas to follow the example of those of Shreveport. It is an example well worthy to be followed.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Gonzales, Aug. 18, 1863.

Editor Telegraph:--Through your valuable paper we have been furnished many receipts particularly useful to the country at this time, and I would beg now, if you have it in your power, to give us a receipt for dying *red*, with any of the productions of the country. Winter is rapidly approaching and of course we lady spinners and weavers want to make the best show we can of our domestic labors, and to that end it is necessary to know how to dye red, with something beside cochineal and madder—neither of which you know can be obtained, under the present condition of blockade and warfare. If you have in your bundle of "information for the people," such a receipt, I beg you will give it to us.

An Enquirer.

Will somebody answer?—Ed. Tel.]

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 8, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

The Shreveport News, a paper about the size of ours, is now sold at 50 cents per copy. We shall also be compelled to advance our price, as we are now paying \$100 per ream for paper that only cost \$50 when our present rates were adopted.

The Dallas Herald declines to receive any more subscriptions in consequence of the scarcity of paper. We trust that scarcity may not continue long, but for the present we can see no prospect of any improvement.

The Tyler Reporter does not object to the large number of negroes now being brought from La. to Texas for security, provided their owners take proper care of them. But the editor complains that they are sometimes permitted to do pretty much as they please, and he states that one Dr. Blackman's negroes committed thefts on a large scale, and when informed of it, made light of the matter. The editor hopes that will be remembered as he passes on Southwestward.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 9, 1863, p. 1, c. 1

We have been showed a specimen of cochineal, gathered by the Misses Crow, of this county, from the leaves of the *Cactus Cochinitifer*. The specimen of this valuable insect is as good as those we find in the shops, lacking uniformity of size, however, which is of minor consideration. The rouge prepared from them is of a superior quality. The young ladies say that they have gathered them in large quantities.—Ibid. [Dallas Herald]

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 9, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

We are informed, that, on Sunday last, Mr. Riddel, of DeWitt county, the owner of a steam mill, was shot by some Confederate soldiers. The unfortunate man refused to take Confederate money, and was considered disloyal to the Confederate Government; and for these reasons he was thus summarily disposed of. Specie-mongers and traitors stand upon slippery places.—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 10, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

[prisoners from Sabine Pass]

We called to see the Federal prisoners yesterday. They were almost to a man foreigners, except the officers. The men made the usual professions of being tired of the war. We don't doubt their fatigue has greatly increased within a day or two. We hope if ever they get out of Texas they will be satisfied to keep out the balance of their lives.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

More Indian Depredations in Parker County.—

We learn from gentlemen from Weatherford, that a party of Indians, nine in number, murdered a Mrs. Brown, and two sons of Parson Hamilton, living on Patrick's Creek, about 10 miles south west of Weatherford, Parker county, on Monday, the 10th inst. At the same time they took two of Mrs. Brown's children—girls—prisoners, but after going a short distance they dismounted and the girls escaped, both, however, being slightly wounded. The Indians also took some horses belonging to Mrs. Hamilton, but they afterwards came home again. There are several scouts out after Indians, but we have not heard yet whether or not they have been successful.

Gen. Terry, commanding the militia, has allowed the citizens of Parker to remain at home for the present, in consequence of the frequent raids of the enemy lately. The Indians are becoming very troublesome on the frontier, and some decisive action should be taken to put a stop to their marauding and murdering raids.—Dallas Herald, Aug. 19.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 9, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

Soldiers Tract Society.

The undersigned, in consenting to act in the capacity of a "publishing committee" to supply religious tracts for our armies in the "Trans-Mississippi Department," [illegible] that nothing need be said to the christian public, upon the importance of the enterprise. Cut off from the Eastern portion of our Confederacy, the Government has inaugurated all the necessary plans to make the Department self-sustaining in military affairs. It is now imperatively demanded of the christian public, to employ all the means within our reach, to sustain and promote the interests of religion within our armies on this side of the great river.

For \$75 a thousand copies of a four page tract can be supplied; and for \$150 one of eight pages, and larger tracts in proportion.

Every donor of \$100 will be the [illegible] instrument of giving to our troops [illegible] thousand copies containing four thousand pages of religious instruction.

Donors desiring a special tract published at their own expense, are requested to forward the funds with the tract. And although the committee cannot pledge themselves to publish every tract so ordered inasmuch as they deem themselves responsible to christians of different Churches [illegible] confine their issues to those departments of christian theology which are not controversial; but, in declining to publish any [illegible] so ordered, they will return the money to the donor.

Parties wishing these tracts for publication will be supplied at cost of \$10 per hundred, by applying to the depository, [illegible] Burke, Houston.

Ministers of the gospel are respectfully requested to aid the committee in producing and selecting tracts suitable for or purpose, and to render earnest cooperation to this department of the enterprise. [illegible]ble opportunities will be afforded to all to distribute these tracts, not only among the troops, but distribute among the thousands of our neglected population.

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Soldiers Tract Society.

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The Rev. Mr. Ahrens will devote himself to the work of raising funds and forwarding tracts to the various camps, forts, &c. [illegible] him, as general agent, enquires are respectfully referred.

We would add, that at least one tract in the German language will be printed, at the earliest time convenient, for the benefit of our numerous German soldiers.

J. R. Hutchison,
Thos. Castleton,
J. R. Carnes,
C. Brown.

Houston, Sept. 2, 1863.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 7

We learn that a lead mine has been discovered in the Uvalde canon, the one of which yields so great a per cent. that bullets can be moulded directly from it.

Would not the working of this mine be a profitable business, at this time? We hope some enterprising person will enquire into the matter and undertake it. The time may not be far distant when it may be invaluable to the State. Besides we should develop [sic] all the natural resources of the State, and there will never be a more propitious time than the present.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 10, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We have received a letter, superscribed "Head Quarters of General Magruder, Piedmont Springs, August 31st, 1863, from which we take the following extract:

"To those of your readers who are seeking health or pleasure, I can say, this is the place. As to the conveniences and variations of water, we have them all here. First, we have fine cistern water; and next, sulphur water, which is stronger, stronger, strongest. Then, too, here is where you can amuse yourselves at various games; such as tenpins, billiards, cards, [illegible], checkers, dominos, &c. At night everything gives way for music and dancing, and for promenading on endless galleries. I think Head Quarters will be *kept* at this place, until the sickly season is over at Houston."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 10, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

One hundred and ninety-one Federal prisoners arrived on the train last (Thursday) night from Beaumont, captured at Sabine Pass on the gunboats Clifton and Sachem.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

Hd-Qrs. 1st Brigade I. T.
Imoclual Creek Near Canadian.
August 12th, 1863.

General.

My official report of the affair at Elk Creek on the 17th ult., has been delayed in consequence of the movements of the troops under your command, and the difficulty of getting correct reports from subordinate officers, of the killed and wounded. Referring to my note of the 18th ult. I now have the honor to submit the following.

On the 15th of July, reports were sent to me from the Officer in charge of Piquets on Arkansas River, that it had become fordable above the mouth of Verdigris—that federal officers were seen examining

the fords, that the two spies, Clark & Lane, formerly employees in the Qr-Mrs. Dept. at Forts Arbuckle and Cobb who imposed themselves upon you and thereby obtained permission to enlist in the Brigade, had reached Gibson—that they had been at the agency examining that Ford &c. &c. &c. Believing there was a probability that the attack might be made upon me before Gen. Cabell's arrival, whose movements were known to these spies, or at all events that a heavy scout might be sent across to capture the Piquets on the Arkansas, I directed their concentration on Coody's Creek, with instructions to send videttes to the different Fords.

Early on the 6th ult information reached me that the Federals were crossing in force at the Creek Agency. Col. Tandy Walker commanding 1st C & C Regiment, and Capt. Gillett Comdg. Squadron T. C. with their commands, accompanied by Lt. Heiston A. D. C. & A. A. G. were ordered out in the direction of the Chimney Mountain where the roads to Creek Agency & to Gibson intersect, with orders to send out small parties of observation on both roads & to withdraw the Piquets from Coody's Creek. Up to this time I had been unable to determine whether the force which crossed at the Creek Agency was merely a heavy scout, or the advance of the main body of the enemy. About two or three hundred had been reported moving from the Creek Agency down the River to Nevins and Rabbit Ford near Frozen Rock, who were supposed no doubt, still to be there. About daylight on the morning of the 17th the advance of the enemy came in sight of the position occupied by the Choctaws and Texians, commenced a brisk fire upon them, which was returned and followed by a charge, which drove the enemy back upon the main column.—Lt. Heiston reported the morning cloudy and damp, many of the guns failing to fire, in consequence of the very inferior quality of the powder of the cartridges becoming worthless even upon exposure to *damp atmosphere*. Soon after the Federals had been driven back, it commenced raining heavily, which rendered our arms wholly useless.

These troops then fell back slowly & in good order to camp, for the purpose of obtaining a fresh supply of ammunition and preparing for the impending fight; a few remained with Lt. Heiston at Prairie Mountain about three miles north of camp on the Gibson road and were so disposed as to create the impression on the enemy that a large force was there awaiting them. Accordingly their advance halted until the main body came up and formed in Line of Battle, thus affording my aid opportunity to form an estimate of their strength. He reported their force to be probably 4000, which I found nearly correct, though some 500 under the mark.

After ascertaining that the enemy were advancing in force, orders were issued to the officers commanding Corps to prepare for immediate action and take their positions, all which had been in anticipation of an attack previously defined by General Order No. 25 to copy of which marked A herewith, reference is made.

Capt. Lee's Light Battery had been moved up on the Gibson road the evening previous intending it to go with the scout under Col. Walker, but owing to

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Imoclauh Creek Near Canadian.

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some misunderstanding or neglect in delivering the order, the scout left without it. Col. Bass with his regiment was ordered forward to support Lee's battery, Scanland's squadron and Gillett's squadron were directed to support the Creeks, at the upper crossing of Elk Creek and Col. Walker to hold his regiment in reserve at their camp near Honey Springs, sending Piquets out on the road across the mountain in the direction of prairie Springs.

Having made the arrangements I rode forward to the position north of Elk Creek where Capt. Lee's Light Howitzer battery had been posted and found it supported by Col. Bass' Regiment, (20th Texas dismounted Cav.) by a portion of the 2d Cherokee Regt. and a body of Skirmishers on the right under Command of Capt. Hugh Tinnin of the 1st Cherokee Regt. the remainder of the Cherokee Regiments being near the Creek. A movement of the enemy on my right was discovered and Capt. Tinnin reported that the skirmishers would soon be engaged. One half of col. Bass Regt. under captain Johnson was then ordered to the right, to support Capt. Tinnin, and I rode over to their position and found movements of officers that there was a body of Troops on my extreme right. A part of the 2d Cherokee regiment just returned from a scout to Prairie Springs, who were getting breakfast at camp, were then ordered up, and a messenger sent for half of the Choctaw regiment, which soon arrived, and were placed also on the right along the edge of the prairie. Upon reconnoitering the enemy (from the high prairie, where I had a full view of them) then advancing upon the Gibson road, I found their force larger than reported by Lieutenant Heiston, and larger than I supposed they would bring from Gibson, and seeing a heavy force wheeling off to their right, and taking the road up the creek to the second crossing above the bridge—our weakest point, and from which the road continues up to the third crossing where the Creeks were posted. I returned to the main road—sent orders to the Creeks to move down and support colonels DeMorse and Martin, who were directed to support Colonel Bass, and if possible flank the enemy on our left. I then rode to where I expected to find the Choctaws in order to bring them to the support of Colonel Bass' command and the battery which was engaged with that of the enemy. Colonel Walker mistaking the order had moved off on the mountain several miles with his whole force instead of sending a piquet. Messengers were sent after him, and he returned promptly, but too late for the defence of the bridge. Riding back near the creek, I discovered our men in small parties giving way—these increased until the retreat became general. Colonel Bass' regiment, and Captain Lee's Battery after a most gallant defence of their position were compelled to fall back. Colonel DeMorse's regiment and Colonel Martin's on the left, also retiring—except a few who were cut off from the main body. We have to mourn the loss of many brave officers and men *who fell here*, sacrificing their lives in opposition to an overwhelming force; to save our little battery—all of which was brought off except one Howitzer dismounted by the heavy Ordnance of the enemy. Colonel Martin, who retired in good order across the creek, when the line along the prairie gave

way near the battery, was ordered to hold the ford above the bridge, but seeing the whole right wing falling back from the Bridge and below it. Colonel Martin was withdrawn and ordered to fall back to Honey Springs. Our forces were now in full retreat and the enemy pressing them closely. The Texans under Scanland's and Gillett's command were ordered to join me at Honey Springs, and the Creeks to withdraw from the extreme left, and also concentrate at the same place. Colonel Bass' and Colonel DeMorse's regiment, a part of which under Major Carroll had reached their horses, were directed also to rally at the same place.

The remainder of this regiment under Lt. Colonel Welch who bravely maintained his position on the North side of the creek too long to rejoin, were cut off and compelled to make a circuit via North Fork Town, to this camp. Captain Gillett's Squadron arriving promptly was formed on the road and for a short time held the advance of the enemy in check. The Choctaws under Colonel Walker opportunely arrived at this time, and under my personal direction charged the enemy, who had now planted a battery upon the timbered ridge about 1000 yards north of Honey Springs. With their usual intrepidity, the Choctaws went at them, giving the war whoop and succeeded in checking the advance of the enemy until their force could be concentrated, & all brought up. The Choctaws discouraged on account of the worthless [sic] of the ammunition, then gave way—and were ordered to fall back with the others in rear of the train, which had moved off in an easterly direction, covered by our troops, who remained formed for hours in full view of the enemy; thus giving the train time to gain some 6 or 8 miles on the road to Briar town; which had been indicated by yourself as the route by which reinforcements would be sent.

Too much praise cannot be awarded the troops, for the accomplishment of the most difficult of all military movements—an orderly and successful retreat, with little loss of life, or property in the face of superior numbers, flushed with victory.

The retreat of the forces under my command *eastward* instead of South, completely deceived the enemy; and created as I anticipated, the impression that reinforcements from Fort Smith were close at hand, and that by a *detour* in rear of the mountain east of Honey Springs, our forces might march upon Gibson, and destroy it, while Gen'l Blunt was away with the whole Federal force. Under the influence of this reasonable fear, Gen. Blunt withdrew his forces and commenced a hurried march for Gibson.

North Fork, where we had a large amount of Commissary stores was thus saved, as well as the whole of the train, except one ambulance purposely thrown in the way of the enemy by the driver. A quantity of flour; some salt and sugar, were necessarily burned at Honey springs, there being no transportation for it. Our loss was 137* killed and wounded [at bottom of page: Note--*Since ascertained to be 142], and 47 taken prisoners, while that of the enemy exceeded, as I learn from one of our Surgeons who was at Gibson, when Gen. Blunt's forces returned, two hundred.

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Imoclauh Creek Near Canadian.

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I feel confident we could have made good the defence of the position at Elk Creek, but for the worthlessness of our ammunition.—The Choctaws who had skirmished with the enemy on the morning of the 17th returned wet and disheartened, by finding their guns almost useless, and there was a general feeling among the troops that with such ammunition it was useless to contend with a foe doubtless superior in numbers, arms and munitions, with artillery ten times superior to our's—weight of metal considered. Notwithstanding all these untoward circumstances, the men of Col. Bass' Regiment stood calmly and fearlessly to their posts in support of Lee's Battery until the conflict became a hand to hand one, even clubbing their muskets, and never giving way until the Battery had been withdrawn; and even when defeated and in full retreat the officers and men of different commands readily obeyed orders, formed, falling back, and reforming at several different positions as ordered—deliberate and coolly. Their steady conduct under these circumstances evidently intimidated the foe, and alone enabled us to save the train, and many valuable lives. The Creeks under Col. D. N. McIntosh, at this juncture behaved admirably—moving off in good order, slowly and steadily across the North Fork road, in full view of the enemy, they contributed greatly to the safe retreat of the train and Brigade.

Among the officers who were distinguished for gallantry and good conduct; Col. T. C. Bass and Capt. R. W. Lee, were particularly conspicuous. Col. DeMorse's conduct though suffering under a severe wound, has been represented to me as all that should characterize a brave man. Col. Martin for his coolness and good management of his command, deceiving the enemy as to his real strength, and preventing our left from being turned, deserves great credit. Capt. Gillett behaved with his usual gallantry.—Maj. Carroll was active and prompt in bringing his men into line to cover the retreat. Col. Walker and his Choctaws behaved bravely as they always do. Capt. Hanks of Bass' regiment was also distinguished for his gallantry, being dangerously wounded while carrying orders which I had sent to Col. Bass to draw the right wing to his support, and the lamented Capt. Malloy of the same Regt. fell mortally wounded soon after having delivered my order to his Col. to move DeMorse's and Martin's regiments, up on the right flank of the enemy—who were advancing upon the Battery at the centre.

Captain Johnson who commanded a detachment from Col. Bass' Regt., came under my immediate notice. His conduct was at the most trying time cool and collected; that of a brave man and a good officer. The nature of the ground precluded the possibility of personally observing all the movements of our troops and the conduct of the men and officers. Among those who are mentioned with praise by their immediate commanding officers, are Captains Hugh Tinnin, J. L. Butler and Jas. Stewart, 1st Cherokee Regt. Adj't. L. C. DeMorse 29th Tex. Cavalry. Lt. Henry Forrester and Serg't. J. Riley Baker, Lee's Light Battery. Lt. A. G. Ballinger 2nd Cherokee regiment, killed.—And acting Serg't Maj. J. H. Riorson of Bass' regiment. Serg't Henry Campbell, Flag bearer

of the same regiment, was particularly distinguished for his gallant conduct during the action. Mr. P. A. Blackstone, after being severely wounded, succeeded in repulsing three of the enemy who attacked him, killing one of them and taking his gun which he brought off with him together with his own, closely pursued by the enemy, after the greater portion of our troops had left the Field.

Of my personal staff Lt. T. B. Heiston, A. D. C. & A. A. A. Gen'l all speak in the highest terms. He was on this as on all former occasions whenever duty called, conspicuous for his gallant bearing.

My son Douglas H. Cooper, Jr., A. A. D. C. mentioned favorably by Col. Bass in his report for his good conduct while conveying my orders amidst the thickest of the fray. I am also indebted to Samuel A. Robinson for valuable assistance in carrying orders.

Referring to accompanying reports for further details and to list of killed and wounded.

I am General
Respectfully,
Douglas H. Cooper,
Brig. Gen.

Brig. Gen. Wm. Steele,
Commanding
Dept. Ind. Territory.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 12, 1863, p. 1, c. 1-4

We learn that the road beyond Caddo Gap [Ark.] is filled with families of women and children, making their escape from the enemy, who are burning houses and laying waste without mercy. We hope those living in reach may send out to meet them without delay. They are mostly on foot and in great distress. . . .—Washington (Ark.) Telegraph the 9th inst.

DALLAS HERALD, September 16, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Volunteers.—A fine company of Volunteer Cavalry numbering 78 men, from Ellis county, passed through this place on Saturday last, *en route* for the seat of war, and *a fight*. They bore a beautiful battle flag, with the name of the company—Ellis County Bengal Tigers—inscribed on it. We learn that the company was raised and organized in one day, and has joined the 4th Reg't of the Arizona Brigade, Col. Baird which is now on our Northern frontier. . . .

DALLAS HERALD, September 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Home Manufacturers.—We were shown, a few days ago, a pair of spurrs [sic] of the finest polished steel, and most beautiful finish, made by our county man O. I. Baily. The workmanship and finish was equal to the finest we have ever seen, without exception, and would vie with any manufacture on the continent. They were designed by Mr. Bailey as a present to Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, by whom we have confidence they will be worthily worn. Truly the gallant General has "won his spurrs," and long may he live to wear them.

This is not the first time we have had occasion to speak of the skill of Mr. Bailey. As a practical mechanic and inventor of useful machinery for the farmer, he has no superior in the South.

DALLAS HERALD, September 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The Texas Republican has been shown a sample of shoe pegs made by machinery at Gilmer.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 23, 1863, p. 1, c. 7

Head-Quarters, 29th Tex. Cav. }
Camp Watie, C. N. }
August 29th, 1863. }

Sir:--

Having read your official report of the battle of Elk Creek, and deeming that more explicit acknowledgement is due for valuable services rendered by a tried, and always reliable officer, I beg leave to call your attention to facts, a full knowledge of which is alone necessary—I am satisfied, to your official recognition of the services referred to. You mention that Lieut. Col. O. G. Welch commanding the 29th Texas Cav. after my withdrawal from the field in consequence of a wound, was cut off, with a portion of the command. Inferentially it would appear that he had been in a hazardous position; but it should be explicitly known, that with the left of the Regiment he retained his position upon the line of battle, *until all* other force had withdrawn, the right of my regiment included—that he then deliberately marched the men under his charge, to the ravine or branch, in the rear, where it had been understood that the second line of defence should be made; and after posting his men there, waiting a few moments, and discovering that his little force was entirely unsupported on the right, or on the left, and the enemy who had forced back the right, were already in rear as well as in front, he moved by the left flank, through the timber skirting the creek, and too late to overtake the horses of the command, marched on foot to the west of our regimental camp ground, and thence to North Fork Town as mentioned in your report. For cool, courageous, deliberate action, I am satisfied, he is as well entitled to specific and honorable mention, as any officer on the field that day; and I desire also that it shall clearly appear that the 29th Texas cavalry, did its whole duty, as it has done on every field into which it has been called, & that it was beyond all question the last of the army to leave the field. This is the more important; as reports of the fight have gone out, in which the regiment is not recognized as having been in it, when in fact its participation was not secondary to that of any other force engaged, but both in the original formation of the line, and the subsequent defence of the train, was of the first importance.

Very Respectfully
(signed) Charles DeMorse,
Col. Com'dg 29th Tex. Cav.

Gen'l D. H. Cooper,
Commanding 1st Brigade.
Head-Quarters 1st Brigade.

Camp Watie, Aug. 29th, 1863.

Respectfully forwarded for Gen. Steel's information, with the request that this report from Col. DeMorse may be transmitted to Dept. Hd Qrs., and made part of my official report.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 12, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

Somebody will, we presume, volunteer to embroider the word "Sabine" and the wreath for each of the men engaged in the battle of Sabine. We believe it will be the proudest badge worn after this war is over. Let the ladies get the badges ready.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 18, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The people of La Grange and vicinity have made arrangements to feed and lodge all soldiers passing through La Grange, going to or returning from the army, free of charge. Sick soldiers will also be taken care of until able to proceed on their way home, or to the army. Cannot our patriotic citizens do the same?

At the late entertainment at Navasoto for the benefit of sick and disabled soldiers, a young lady who was taking a part in a military scene, representing a Confederate General gone into *summer* quarters, remarked that "Gen. Magruder has determined to fortify the Piedmont Springs and hold it at all hazards."—Texas Ranger.

The N. O. Era announces the arrival of fifty [sic] or sixty Texas Refugees at that place.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Red River Station,
August 5th, 1863.

Mr. Editor:--

Having just returned from a scout in the vicinity of the Wichita Mountains, and other parts of the frontier, I imagine the events of the excursion will be interesting somewhat to yourself and readers. On the morning of the 18th of July, Lieutenant James R. Gideon in command of twenty-six men left this place on an Indian hunt. On the day of our departure, we traveled about 10 miles, and reached the old post formerly occupied by Captain James Bourland's company of Rangers; finding good water, and grass, we encamped for the night. At an early hour of the 19th we were again on the march, and after a travel of three hours we crossed "Little Wichita" where we nooned, remaining until about four o'clock, when we were ordered to "saddle up." A few moments only were occupied in saddling our horses and packing our mules, when we were ready for our journey. We put out—accomplished an eight miles ride—found good grass and water on Long creek, a tributary of the Little Wichita, and here camped for the night. On the morning of the 20th, we started for the Big Wichita at which we arrived about 11 o'clock—crossed at Valentine's crossing—went up the River about a mile—nooned at an old vacated Rancho formerly occupied by a Mr. Nechard [?] who was killed sometime since by the Indians. At this place we found good grass and excellent water—we lounged around in the shade until late in the evening, then pursued our course up the Wichita. About sun down we found ourselves at Campbell Gooche's Rancho which was situated upon an elevated point fronting on one of the most beautiful vallies of the Wichita. Here were several buildings. A large framed house consisting of three spacious rooms and various little huts, built upon the Mexican style. These huts I presume were once occupied by the Mexicans in employ of Mr. Gooch. These premises were evacuated about the time of the Fort Cobb affair. Many things were here left, and destroyed. The grass and water being good, at this place, our Lieutenant ordered us to strike camps. On the morning of the 21st at the rising of the sun, we were again on the march—travelled a north west course about 10 miles, struck Red River at Gilbert's Rancho. Here again was desolation and destruction—here were marks of the outrages of

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Red River Station,

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these merciless red devils who have ever since my first recollection infested the frontier of Texas. Mr. Gilbert left his home at or near the same time that Mr. Gooch was compelled to abandon his place. Gilbert's was also a well finished home.—The dwelling house was a large framed building, consisting of four extensive rooms, and erected with much taste and skill; it was situated upon a high bluff of Red River, fronting south on a beautiful slope of Prairie. At the rear of the building was a fine clustre of elm, and other magnificent shade trees. In this grove, bursted out a beautiful spring of water, from under the rock, it was pure, clear, and cold, and was quite refreshing to the thirsty Rangers. The good water, and beautiful shade, were truly inviting; we could not help but while away a few hours at so delightful a place. The owner of this valuable place had left many things of worth at the mercy of the Indians, and after its abandonment they had not failed to visit, and leave many marks of their presence. The windows were all broken out, both sash and glass. In one room, had been left a neat bureau; even this they had destroyed. Valuable books were torn to pieces, and scattered to and fro. The black smith's bellows, together with numerous other things, were totally ruined. The wheat crop remained standing in the field, had not been reaped. We remained here until late in the evening, then pursued our journey about four miles; camped on Gilbert's creek. On the 22nd we traveled about 15 miles leaving Gilberts creek, on our right, water began to get scarce; but at length found a sufficient quantity to answer our purpose, and notwithstanding it was very bad, we camped until the 23rd, when we took a south west course—travelled about 16 miles; and came to the Big Wichita, at what is known as the upper Van Dorn crossing. Here we got our dinner, and grazed our horses a while, but the grass and water being indifferent, we travelled that evening up Beaver creek seven or eight miles and took up for the night. On the 24th we continued to scout up Beaver some fifteen or twenty miles, finding no sign of Indians—in fact there was no game in that country, therefore Indians could not subsist.

On the 25th we continued up the creek a few miles, but the grass getting worse; the Lieutenant concluded to take a north east course, for Pease River. We travelled in this direction all night, and camped until the morning of the 26th, when we again set out for Pease River. On this day it was my misfortune, in company with one John Higgins, to get separated from the command. It was partly carelessness on our part, that we lost them. After having rambled about until near moon down, we stopped for the night, believing that we could find the trail of the command, the next day, but unfortunately for us, clouds began to gather and at daylight, a tremendous rain was falling; of course the trail that we were expecting to find, became entirely obliterated, by the falling of such an immense quantity of water. However on the 27th we searched most diligently, hoping to find some trace of them. We rode till moon down—found no sign of them whatever. By this time we had become hungry, and much fatigued; yet we did not despair but early on the 28th, we resumed our search, and continued to ride

until night fall, when both ourselves and horses were almost exhausted. By this time our hunger had ceased, and we grew sick and sleepy. We unsaddled our horses and threw ourselves on the damp ground, and there reposed until morning. The 29th was a clear and beautiful day. After getting up, and taking a view of the country around I informed my comrade that I was acquainted with the country, and that we had better abandon our search for the command, and start for the nearest settlements that we might get something to eat. To this proposition my comrade readily acquiesced; and by 7 o'clock we were on our course homeward. After travelling about 12 miles, we struck a large trail, which we very naturally concluded was "Injun sign." A closer examination soon confirmed us in our belief. You may imagine that we began to feel "woolfish" for our situation was by no means viable. Our arms consisted of two rifles and a Colts navy, and in consequence of so much rain, and the inferiority of the powder and caps that we have to use we could place but little confidence in our shooting irons. But believing it a desperate case at best, we continued to travel homeward, resolved that if we were attacked by Indians, to sell out as dear as possible. We had not travelled two miles, when we found another trail of ponies which apparently was not more than three hours old. We examined close, in fact followed it a few hundred yards, to ascertain where they were going. We soon concluded from the course they were travelling that they were on their way, to the white settlements.—We left the trail, took our course, and you may readily imagine travelled rapidly—accomplished a ride of nearly sixty miles, having had nothing to eat since leaving the scout, but one prairie dog and one rabbit. At night we were much fatigued and my companion complained of hunger, but I was sick, and sleepy—therefore laid down, and slept till day.

On the morning following, we took an early start; and after a ride of about sixty miles, reached the settlements on Little Wichita.—Here we were given something to eat by the settlers—allowing us to eat only in small quantities at a time. After satisfying our hunger to some extent, we retired for the night—slept pleasantly, and awoke next morning much revived—ate a hearty breakfast, and started for our Station, where arrived that night, got something more to eat, and by next morning felt as well as could be expected. In a day or two the command returned, but unfortunately did not find the Indian trails which I have mentioned. Since our return the very Indians that made the trails of which I have spoken, have been in the settlements, committing their bloody, and inhuman depredations. On Saturday last, they attacked five cow hunters about 12 miles from camp Brunson, killing three and wounding one. The wounded man and his father escaped. The names of those killed were John McGehee, Wm. Hodge, and Levi Hill. The Indians got their horses and saddles. The two men that escaped made their way into camp Brunson, and informed Captain Ward of what had transpired. He sent men to bury the dead, and follow the murderers.—At last accounts, they were on the trail, but I do not know how far behind. As soon as the intelligence came to Red River station, Capt.

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Red River Station,
Continued from page 1

Rowland started out two scouts. We have not heard from them since they left, but feel confident that they will use every exertion to catch them.

We have in anticipation an expedition to the North Canadian, and the Arkansas river. Our Lieutenant Colonel has just returned from Fort Arbuckle, where he had been for the purpose of procuring aid from the Indian troops that are stationed there. While there he made an arrangement for the Tonkows to come, and live in Texas again. Five of them are here now, and the remainder of them will be in to night. This tribe is now almost extinct. The bringing of the Tonks among us, is not approved of by many. If I am correctly informed, it is the intention of the Colonel, to divide them out, and put a few at each station, on the frontier. In my mind it will cause trouble, however time will prove.

I believe I have written about all that will interest you; as we never hear any war news. It has been rumored here that Vicksburg is in possession of the enemy; but we do not know, whether this is true or false; but I presume you are by this time posted. Should anything worthy of communicating transpire, you shall hear from me again.

C. A. W.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 17, 1863, p. 1, c. 1-3

Head Quarters 29th Texas Cav.
Camp Prairie Springs, C. N.
July 25th 1863.

Colonel:--

In obedience to orders from you on the morning of the 17th inst. this regiment was promptly mounted and marched across Elk Creek to its north fork, when it was dismounted under cover of the timber, and proceeded rapidly on foot across the skirt of timber into the prairie, where we were under your directions posted in line of battle. Captain Harmon's Squadron, [Co's C and A] and Capt. Mat Daugherty's company "E" were thrown forward as skirmishers. In this position we remained some half hour when by your order we moved to the right some three hundred yards, and closed on your left. Captain Harmon's Squadron was retained as skirmishers in front of the new position, and Captain Daugherty's company was sent up a small bushy ravine, that extended into the prairie a few yards from our left, to the front. Some 15 or 20 dismounted Choctaws, came along our rear hunting a place to fight, these I immediately placed on our left, which extended our line nearly to the centre of the ravine, up which Captain Daugherty had been posted. This was our position at the commencement of the fight. The whole space in front of us was covered with small bushes, which concealed our position, and almost masked the approach of the enemy. A battery to the left of us, also one in front, complimented us occasionally with shot and shell, though the heaviest fire was directed to the right. A constant fire was kept up by the skirmishers on both sides. Captain Daugherty was driven from his position in the ravine.—The enemy advanced in line of battle four deep along our entire front, and extending to some distance to our left, keeping up a very rapid and constant fire of small arms. We reserved our fire until the enemy had approached

within twenty yards, and then poured upon them a galling fire; in the mean time the whole right had given away, and we were fast being flanked on our right and left. The right of this regiment hearing an order given to your regiment to fall back, obeyed it; the left still maintained their position until ordered back by me. It is proper here to mention, that besides the line of battle extending along our front, a heavy column of infantry bearing down from the right, swept everything before it.

We fell back to a small branch directly in our rear, where I ordered a halt, and made a stand, supposing that I was supported by the whole brigade. I sent Major Carroll to the right to ascertain the position of your regiment, in order to close upon it, and to rally our right. I remained with the left. The Major not returning I sent to the right myself, to ascertain the cause, when I found that all on our right had given away, and that the enemy were passing rapidly to our rear, on the right. I immediately ordered the remainder of my men out of the branch, and being cut off from our horses, and the main command, we made our way up Elk Creek, thence on foot across the prairie to North Fork, and camped. Major Carroll and the right succeeded in reaching our horses, and assisted in holding the enemy in check, while the train &c got off, and then came off *in rear of the entire command* to the Canadian.

Colonel Charles DeMorse, who commanded the regiment in person at the commencement of the action, was severely wounded in the left hand by a minnie ball from the enemy's sharp shooters, and after much earnest persuasion from myself and several other officers, reluctantly left the field—his conduct and bearing while on the field won the admiration of us all. Major Carroll as usual behaved with much coolness and gallantry, and rendered me valuable assistance on the field, and in bringing off the right wing of our regiment when cut off from the left, and deserves my unqualified approbation.

Adjutant DeMorse seemed quite in his element, amid the shower of lead. All the officers and men with very few exceptions in the latter class, behaved with coolness, and deserve and receive my thanks for the prompt manner in which all my orders were obeyed.

Our casualties are as follows:

Killed	14.
Wounded	29.
Missing	<u>8</u>
Total	51

This report has been delayed with the hope that Colonel DeMorse might be able to at least superintend it in person, but in this I have been disappointed.

Very Respectfully
Your ob't. Ser'vt.
Otis G. Welch.
Lt. col. Com'dg. 29th T. C.

Colonel T. C. Bass
Com'dg. Centre

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 2-3

**New Goods
Just Received, and
For Sale by the Undersigned,**

4000 yards, best Calico.
1000 " Bleach Domestic.
200 " Chambray.
100 dozen Gingham Handkerchiefs.
20 " White cotton Hose.
50 yards Irish Linen.
400 fine French Calf Skins.
50 lbs. best shoe thread.
100 dozen Spool thread.
20 lbs. Patent thread.
[illegible] lb. Black Sewing Silk.
50,000 needles assorted sizes.
500 lbs Sal Soda.
400 lbs Black Pepper.
12 Keg of nails 5 to 10d.
12 dozen Tin Caps.
12 hhds. Sugar.
And various other articles in store, which will be shown upon application.
Clarksville, Texas, Sept. 18th 1863.

J. H. Darnall.

I have also in Jefferson, Texas, sixty hogheads of Sugar, and 100 barrels of Molasses for sale.

J. H. Darnall.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The Dallas Herald of the 19th says that a few prisoners passed through there on the Sunday previous en route for Galveston, being condemned by court martial as renegade citizens of Texas to work on the fortifications during the war and afterwards to be banished from the State. They were all citizens of Cooke and Grayson counties, absconded from the country, joined the Feds and were returning with arms to Texas, on a spying excursion. Three were shot at Gen. Bankhead's head quarters by order of the court martial, and the rest sent to Galveston.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

More Indian Murders.—The Indians are overrunning our frontier counties. In Erath county, about ten days since, they murdered Mr. John Woods, a soldier at home on sick furlough, and his brother-in-law, young Mills, son of Gideon Mills, Assessor of that county, who were in the woods hog hunting. Scouts started from Stephenville in pursuit of the Indians, and overtook them the second day in Palo Pinto county. They killed two of the Indians, took fifteen head of horses which they were running off, some buffalo robes, blankets, three saddles, and two lariats stained with blood.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

There has been discovered lately, on the Attascosa creek, immense quantities of coppers in its native state. Good judges of the article say that it is of a most excellent quality. Preparations are being made to extract and chrystalize [sic] it for market.—S. A. Herald.

There is no doubt but we have vast quantities of coppers in Texas.

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Excellent bar iron is manufactured in Anderson county. One foundry is in operation and another will soon be started.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Are We Prepared?

Should the enemy carry out their programme this winter of which we have already had timely warning, how are we prepared to meet the emergency? We do not ask this, in relation to the number of troops we shall have in the field or the ability of our commanders to cope with the enemy in the way of strategy, for we believe so far as regards these matters all has been done that prudence and foresight could suggest; but the question is, how are our people, (those who are not in the army, or do not expect to be) how are they prepared to endure a raid of the enemy through their midst? Has each man set his house in order, cleaned up his rifle or shot-gun, placed in the hands of his wife a pistol, with instructions how to use it, or is there a portion of our people waiting the enemy's approach with fear and trembling, and a hope that tamely submitting to all demands made upon them, they may save their homes from desecration, their families from insult, and themselves from the risks they would run by fighting in the ranks of the army? If so, it is a delusive hope, and will soon be dispelled. The enemy have shown in every instance a determination to treat all alike, and we have many cases reported where those profession Union sentiments have fared even worse than open and avowed secessionists. ... Texas must, and will, be free, or had better share the fate of a second Alamo.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Mr. Editor: Sir—I know from experience that one dollar per letter will not begin to pay the expenses of Mr. Rose for carrying letters to our armies east of the Mississippi, and being myself interested in sending letters to my friends, I suggest that three to five dollars per letter will not be too much, and I would rather give twenty, as I have done, rather than that Mr. Rose should not be remunerated for this important service.

J. B. [?]

GALVESTON WEEKLY NEWS, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 7

[Summary: account of murder of traveler on the Aransas River in San Patricio, "evidently" by a "Mexican"]

Suspicion attached to certain parties--they were arrested by the citizens, and handed over to the nearest Justice of the Peace. The evidence was strong, and they were fully committed to trial. Verily, for *murdering* and *voting* our Mexican population is becoming dangerous to the community. Traveling is no longer safe.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 5.

The Corpus Christi Ranchero, speaking against the privilege extended to Mexicans to vote at our elections, says: "The Legislature and the people are certainly not aware of the great inconsistency they commit when they thus allow practical abolitionists to control the elections which were designed to guard against that particular class." To which remark we say--Amen.

AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

We visited the government shoe shop yesterday and were much pleased with the admirable arrangements for the manufacture of shoes for the army. Capt. Elsbury the superintendent is entitled to much credit for the success he has brought this establishment.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 29, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

Camp on Little Boggy, C. N. }
September 9th, 1863. }

Dear Standard:--

We are pleasantly situated in camp on this Creek; detached from the main portion of the brigade, occupying the Perryville road. Colonel Martin's regiment, is camped below us in the road leading to Fort Smith. We are enjoying the dull life of a soldier in camp without any thing astir, and perfectly in ignorance as to when any movement will be made forward or backward; but imagine we shall remain in our present camp, unless General Blount should issue a special order, protesting against our longer staying here, and at the same time sending sufficient force to remove us.

Having met with nothing but defeat heretofore, on account of inferiority of numbers, and the character of our troops, we are cheered by the intelligence, that Gen'l McCulloch, with three regiments of whites, is *enroute* for here, and that Gen'l McCulloch is to assume command of the Department. It is to be hoped that this is not one of the thousand rumors that are afloat every day, but will prove true, for McCulloch is represented as a strict disciplinarian, a soldier of the old school, and such a man is sadly needed here.

Colonel Bankhead, who went to reinforce General Cabell, in command at Fort Smith, did not make the junction in time, and Cabell was forced to give way, before superior numbers, the enemy taking possession of Fort Smith.

Individuals here from Texas, represent the people despondent, whipped, and willing to go back into the union. It is said, that in your country, there are hundreds who are ready, at the first touch of the invader upon Texas soil, to welcome him with open arms. This may be the feeling of the people in your county, and around there, but it certainly cannot be over the whole State. Why should the people be whipped, when the army is not? Not the least despondency exists among those who have for over two years, endured the cold of winter, and the heat of summer, and all the hardships of a soldier's life, and yet they are in better spirits today, than ever, and to the army the prospects look brighter than ever before.—It is for the sake of property that these timid individuals are ready to yield the palm to Abraham, their king, thereby to save their little of worldly goods, they have treasured up. They can possibly be actuated by no other motive, for the people in that part of the country are in no danger of life or limb, nor likely ever to be. Do they not know that the very property which they would save, will be turned against us, to swell the ranks of the enemy, and as a means of accomplishing our subjugation: All this scary feeling upon the part of the people is useless, let them be of good cheer, do their duty and the end is not far off. Let them send back those who in the hour of trial have deserted their regiments, and are still absent, let them take those in hands who have skulked the issue from the beginning, and carried themselves as gentlemen of great dignity, behind their tickets of exemption, gentlemen of *profession*, quack doctors, young men of disability &c. Send them all into the army, with guns upon their shoulders, and let them taste for once the proud joy of defending the soil that has fed them.

It is rumored here that we are to be reinforced by "Cabell's Battalion," heretofore stationed at Bonham, and *quartered* at the "Burney House." I cannot vouch for the correctness of this, but hope it may prove true.—Having been highly fed, and pampered it is to be hoped they will do good fighting.

Should anything of interest occur soon, you will hear from me again.

Yours truly

Phil.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], September 17, 1863, p. , c. 3-4

Shoe pegs are made by machinery at Gilmer.

The Dallas Herald represents the citizens of Paris and Bonham as in a state of excitement in view of a Yankee invasion of that section, said to be imminent. The enemy are reported within fifty miles of the Texas line, and the men of the Northern counties are turning out in mass.

The Gonzales physicians have published a card acquitting themselves of the charge of demanding specie for their services, and stating that they only make speculators pay them specie. All right.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

To Dye Red.—Take equal measures of the juice of polk [sic] berries and strong vinegar. Dip your hanks in alumn [sic] water and boil in this mixture, in a brass kettle, until you have the desired shade.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 1

Confederate Shoe Factory.—Wanted immediately to work in the Government Shoe Factory. Persons exempt from military duty, those not understanding the business can easily be taught it. The demand for shoes for our army now in the field is great, and it is not desired to fill the shops with soldiers who are needed to fight.

Those wishing employment will call at the clothing department, Captain Mills, A. Q. M., opposite Postoffice. Planters or others having negroes capable of making shoes will send them forward immediately to assist in filling our orders to shoe the soldiers now in the field.

C. L. McCarty, Lieut., C. S. P. A.

Superintending Shoe Department.

Approved, W. J. Mills, Captain, A. Q. M. C. S. A.
Houston, Texas, Sept. 23, 1863.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 25, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

We learn from a private letter from San Antonio, that the Texas Paper Manufacturing Company, which was incorporated by an act of the last Legislature, opened their subscription books in the town of New Braunfels, on last Saturday week, and that the whole of the stock was taken up, when the company proceeded to organize by electing Sam. Mather, Esq., (late of Williamson county) President, and Dr. Theo. Koester, Secretary.

The Company have already purchased a mill on the Comal Spring, and are making the necessary alterations to adapt it for proper machinery, an order for which has been sent on to Europe, and the manufactory will go into operation just as soon as it can be got out. As we have every assurance now that this enterprise will be carried out, we hope every body will do what they can to aid it, by saving all their rags, for which a liberal price will be paid.

Any letters addressed to the Secretary at New Braunfels will receive prompt attention.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 29, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The ladies of Brownsville have made a beautiful garrison flag for Fort Brown, which was presented to the troops stationed there on the 7th inst. Jno. Tabor, esq., editor of the "Flag" was the spokesman of the citizens and presented it with an appropriate speech. Gen. Bee accepted the present, in a patriotic address, pledging himself and his soldiers to defend the same.

DALLAS HERALD, September 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

A Huntsville Item.

This, our Item does not concern the printing establishment at Huntsville. No. We are not acquainted with the proprietor, editor, nor even the "devil" of that respectable establishment.

Our Item is simply a warning to the good people of Texas, who are *probably* preparing for a pilgrimage to Huntsville in search of cloth.

From the financial agency we received the following in answer to our interrogation: "Mexican wool we cannot work. Our cards are too fine. The other quality, free from burrs, we may probably exchange some of our cotton goods for your own family use—one yard of plain Osnaburg for one pound of wool—for the balance we will give you 80 cts., if of good quality, on delivery here."

According to the above, having the *affirmation* of a *probability*, we rigged up a team and loaded our wagon with wool of good quality to procure a suit of clothes for our family all round. After various adventures and hardships "by flood and field," we arrived, early one morning at the penitentiary building—learned that the office hours of the financial agent are from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. so made use of the permission to go through the factory, where cotton and wool is manufactured into thousands of yards of cloth.

We will not pretend to speak of the factory as it would fill a volume if we had the ability to write on the subject.

Of course we were convinced that we were, according to the financial agent's letter, entitled to our share of the cloth. But at 9 o'clock we were informed by Gen. Besser that he had not given us a *positive promise* and that we would have to retire without a yard of cloth, if it were a thousand miles.

Our affidavits were not taken into consideration, our wool not looked at, and we remained in astonishment and silence for a while in the office. There were applicants from 50 to 280 miles with their loads of wool to be disappointed as we were. Among the many applicants who had pilgrimaged to the factory for relief were soldiers' wives, and soldiers' mothers who had from three to five sons in the army. They had bought wool for \$1,00 to \$1,50 per pound, having information that the factory would exchange cloth for it. The ladies were sarcastically told to go home and attend to their spinning wheels and looms. A disabled soldier, using crutches, had come 150 miles to present the claims of needy soldiers' families and the agent admitted that he was entitled to a certain share of cloth—but there was an insignificant lack of form in the application, and therefore the invalid soldier had to return without accomplishing anything for himself or his friends. In our humble opinion there is something foul in Denmark. We saw that there was plenty of cloth on hand, and were informed that near 5000 yds are daily made. The wool is needed for the fabrics, and had to be hauled away to the original sheep range, if people would not take *half price* in currency.

What does it mean? The day we were at the agency everybody was heard with a refusal to exchange. The claims presented were found "not valid"—the affidavits "not correct." Fault finding seemed to be the order of the day. However one young man received in exchange a lot of lard for cloth—from

which it appeared the agent needed *greasing* more than anything else.

The office hours of the financial agent are from 9 to 3. The office hours of the farmer and wagoner are from daylight till dark night. The soldiers' office hours are only 24 per day. Now if the "minister of the sanctum" of our pilgrimage had an idea of a wearisome journey such as ours, he would inform the applicant *positively* and not *probably*.

It should be positively known what articles will be accepted for exchange, and the time should be specified, so that the people of the State not be misled by their State factory. Our county papers will give the people the proper information, the agent will give notice as he ought to do in the Huntsville Item.

M.

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, September 26, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Wanted for the Hospital Department.—500 pounds of Beeswax. Address, stating prices,
Howard Smith,
Medical Purveyor Dep't Trans-Miss. Houston,
Texas.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 25, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Editorial Correspondence.

New Braunfels, Sept. 23d, 1863.

The Texas Paper Manufacturing Company was organized here on Saturday, and the whole of the stock taken. Sam Mather Esq., (late of Williamson county), who has just moved to New Braunfels for the purpose of prosecuting this enterprise, was elected President, and Mr. Theo. Koester, Secretary. An excellent mill site, situated on the Comal Spring, with an abundant supply of clear water, and a good water-power, on which there is now a grist and flour mill in successful operation, has been purchased by the Company, and hands are already employed quarrying rock for the purpose of enlarging it, and adapting it to the manufacture of paper. The latest and most improved machinery has been ordered from Europe, through a large mercantile firm in San Antonio, and, should no unexpected delay or interruptions in transportation occur, the Company expect to have it in operation in a few months. The incorporators have had many difficulties of shipping cotton, but all these obstacles have been surmounted, and we now confidently anticipate, in less than a year, to be printing the Gazette on paper made in our State. The high price we have had to pay for paper of every description, for many months past, has made the publishing business a most unprofitable one, and we believe there are few, if any, papers now in the State that do not cost the publisher more than double the price of his subscription, while many papers have had to suspend altogether from the impossibility of procuring paper. It has been a matter of surprise to us, that the attention of the Government has not been directed to the necessity of offering every encouragement to the introduction of machinery, which the State is now so much in need of. At this time, a gentleman from this place, is in Europe, negotiating for cotton machinery, to be put into Torrey's mill, which would now have been in operation, but for the interruptions that occurred in

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Editorial Correspondence.

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the shipment of cotton from Brownsville. The continued interference with the Rio Grande trade, by military orders, and the uncertainty how long any order would remain in force, has deterred many from engaging in manufacturing enterprises, and the consequence is the State is suffering for many articles of necessity, which could have been manufactured here at one half the cost of importation.

But few of our citizens have any idea of the facilities here afforded for manufacturing purposes. Situated in the heart of an agricultural region, and within a short distance of the finest sheep ranges in Texas, the transportation of the raw material will be but trifling, while the means of obtaining hauling, and every other kind of labor is greater than can be found elsewhere. Mechanics of every description are here in abundance, and labor, suited for factories, can be had at reasonable rates. The numerous water powers on the Comal and Guadalupe, afford the finest sites for mills we have ever seen, either in the North or Europe, and all with whom we have ever conversed on the subject who have any knowledge of manufacturing, say New Braunfels must ultimately become the Lowell of the Confederacy. Had proper inducements been held out by the Government, we might at this time had several cotton and woollen factories in operation, which would have supplied the whole Confederate army with clothing, and had one fourth the cotton, that has been sent to the Rio Grande, been invested in machinery, there would have been no necessity for impressing planters cotton to procure army supplies.

We have all the elements, right in our very midst, for making nearly every article of necessity. With our great staples, cotton and wool, right at our very doors, with hands able and willing to work, and with water-power capable of turning all the machinery that can ever be put up, it is something remarkable, that while our ports have been nearly all closed, so little attention should have been directed to home manufactures.

It cannot surely be that our people are looking forward to a renewal of commercial intercourse with our enemies at the close of the war; and if not, where are we to obtain our supplies from? The only alternative, if we do not make them ourselves, will be to ship our cotton and wool to Europe, and wait till it is made into cloth and sent back to us. We can hardly suppose an enterprising people would consent to such a dependence upon foreign countries for the necessaries of life, when we have the resources within ourselves to supply these wants. To be independent we must be self-sustaining, and that can only be by manufacturing our own cotton and wool, and all other

raw materials which are to be found in such abundance all over our state, and which other countries, with much inferior resources, have turned to such a profitable account. It may be said, "wait till the war is over." That is all true—so far as policy and individual interest are concerned, but "while the grass is growing the steed is starving." Had we taken this advice, we might possibly have to go without paper, and close up our office, just as we expect to see others going without coats on their backs, should the war continue a year or two longer, and our ports remain blockaded, as there is every reason to believe they will be.

Let those who know anything about manufactures come forward and tender their services; let capitalists invest their means, and let the Government offer every facility for the introduction of machinery, to make clothes, as well as arms and munitions of war for our army, and we shall be better prepared, in less than a year, to stand a protracted war than we can ever hope to be by depending upon foreign importations. D. R.
AUSTIN STATE GAZETTE, September 30, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

To Our Patrons.

With this number of the Herald, we close out our supply of paper, and of course, cannot continue the Herald until we get more. We have had money at Houston for the past four months to purchase paper, but none has arrived there in that time, and of course we could get none. Just as soon as we get a supply we shall recommence our issues, when those who have paid us ahead, will be supplied.

We regret being compelled to discontinue, if even for a time, but expect that we shall soon be able to renew. We shall next week issue a small slip containing some legal advertisements that are not yet completed.

DALLAS HERALD, September 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Cotton Wool Cards for Socks.

Office of Clothing Bureau, Mil. Dist. Texas, }
Houston, Sept. 29, 1863.

Any person delivering twenty-five pairs of home made socks, strong and well made, to Captain W. J. Mills, A. Q. M., in charge of the clothing department at Houston, will receive one pair of cotton or wool cards, at their option.

E. C. Wharton,

Major and Chief of Bureau.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 30, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

We had the pleasure of meeting Capt. Ashby, of the Rangers, yesterday. He brought through about 700 letters from Bragg's army, most of which he mailed at this place. Among his letters, we have to thank him for one from our special correspondent in the Rangers, R. F. B., whose letters are always so welcome to our readers.

[HOUSTON] TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, September 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 1