

all buried with their faces downward.—On taking up some four or five, we discovered the remains of Capt. Tower, mingled with those of the men. We took them, placed them in a coffin, and brot them home."

In reply to a question of a member of the committee, as to whether he was satisfied that they were buried intentionally with their faces downward, Gov. Sprague's answer was, "Undoubtedly! Beyond all controversy!" and that "it was done as a mark of indignity." In answer to another question, as to what their object could have been, especially in regard to the body of Col. Stearns, he replied, "Sheer brutality, and nothing else. They did it on account of his courage and chivalry, in forcing his regiment, fearlessly and bravely, upon them. He destroyed about one-half of that Georgia Regiment, which was made up of their best citizens." When the inquiry was put whether he thought these barbarities were committed by that regiment, he responded, "By that same regiment, as I was told." While their own dead were buried with marble head and foot stones, and names upon them, ours were buried, as I have stated, in trenches. This eminent witness concludes his testimony as follows: "I have published an order to my second regiment, to which these officers were attached, that I shall not be satisfied with what they shall do unless they give an account of one rebel killed for each of their own number."

The members of your committee might content themselves by leaving this testimony to the Senate and the people without a word of comment; but when the enemies of a just and generous Government are attempting to excite the sympathy of disloyal men in our own country, and to solicit the aid of foreign Governments by the grossest misrepresentations of the objects of the war and of the conduct of the officers and soldiers of the Republic, this, the most startling evidence of their insincerity and inhumanity, deserves some notice at our hands.

History will be examined in vain for a parallel to this rebellion against a good Government. Long prepared for by ambitious men, who were made doubly confident of success by the aid and counsel of former Administrations, and by the belief that their plans were unobserved by a magnanimous people, they precipitated the war at a moment when the General Administration had just been changed, under circumstances of astounding perfidy. Without a single reasonable ground of complaint, and in the face of repeated manifestations of moderation and peace on the part of the President and his friends, they took up arms and declared that they would never surrender until their rebellion had been recognized, or the institutions established by our forefathers had been destroyed. The people of the loyal States, at last convinced that they could preserve their liberties only by an appeal to the God of battles, rushed to the standard of the Republic in response to the call of the Chief Magistrate.

Every step of this monstrous treason has been marked by violence and crime. No transgression has been too great and no wrong too startling for its leaders.—They disregarded the sanctity of the oaths they had taken to support the Constitution; they repudiated all their obligations to the people of the free States;—they deceived and betrayed their own fellow citizens, and crowded their armies with forced levies; they drove from their midst all who would not yield to their despotism, or filled their prisons with men who would not enlist under their flag.—They have now crowned the rebellion by the perpetration of deeds scarcely known even to savage warfare.

The investigations of your committee have established this fact beyond controversy. The witnesses called before us were men of undoubted veracity and character. Some of them occupy high positions in the army, and others high positions in civil life. Differing in political sentiments, their evidence presents a remarkable concurrence of opinion and of judgment.

Our fellow-countrymen, heretofore sufficiently impressed by the generosity and forbearance of the Government of the United States, and the barbarous character of the crusade against it, will be shocked by the statements of these unimpeached and unimpeachable witnesses, and foreign nations must, with one accord, however they have hesitated heretofore, consign to lasting odium the authors of crimes which, in all their details, exceed the worst excesses of the Sepoys of India.

Inhumanity to the living has been the leading trait of the rebel leaders, but it was reserved for your committee to disclose, as a concerted system, their insults to the wounded, and their mutilation and desecration of the gallant dead. Our soldiers taken prisoners in honorable battle have been subjected to the most shameful treatment.

All the considerations that inspire chivalric emotions and generous considerations for brave men have been disregarded. It is almost beyond belief that the men fighting in such a cause as ours, and sustained by a Government which in the midst of violence and treachery has given repeated evidences of its indignance, should have been subjected to treatment never before resorted to by one foreign nation in a conflict with another. All the e-arties of professional and civil life seem to have been discarded.

Gen. Beauregard himself, who, on a very recent occasion, boasted that he had been controlled by humane feelings, after the battle of Bull Run coolly proposed to hold Gen. Ricketts as a hostage for one of the

murderous privateers, and the rebel surgeons disdained intercourse and communication with our own surgeons, taken in honorable battle. The outrages upon the dead will revive the recollections of the cruelties to which savage tribes subject their prisoners. They were buried in many cases naked, with their faces downward. They were left to decay in the open air, their bones carried off as trophies, sometimes, as the testimony proves, to be used as personal adornments, and one witness deliberately avers that the head of one of our most gallant officers was cut off by a Secessionist, to be turned into a drinking cup on the occasion of his marriage. Monstrous as this revelation may appear to be, your committee have been informed that during the last two weeks the skull of a Union soldier has been exhibited in the office of the sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives, which had been converted to such a purpose, and which had been found on the person of one of the rebel prisoners taken in a recent conflict. The testimony of Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, is most interesting. It confirms the worst reports against the rebel soldiers, and conclusively proves that the body of one of the bravest officers in the volunteer service was burned. He does not hesitate to add that this heinous desecration of the honored corpse was because the rebels believed it to be the body of Colonel Stearns, against whom they were infuriated for having displayed so much courage and chivalry in forcing his regiment so fearlessly and bravely upon them. These disclosures, establishing, as they incontestably do, the consistent inhumanity of the rebel leaders, will be read with sorrow and indignation by the people of the loyal States. They should inspire these people to renewed exertions to protect our country from the restoration to power of such men. They should, and we believe they will, arouse the disgust and horror of foreign nations against this unholy rebellion.

Let it be ours to furnish, nevertheless, a continued contrast to such barbarities and crimes. Let us persevere in the good work of maintaining the authority of the Constitution, and of refusing to imitate the monstrous practices we have been called upon to investigate.

Your committee beg to say, in conclusion, that they have not yet been enabled to gather testimony in regard to the additional inquiry suggested by the resolution of the Senate, whether Indian savages have been employed by the rebels in military service against the Government of the United States, and how such warfare has been conducted by the said savages, but that they have taken the proper steps to attend to this important duty.

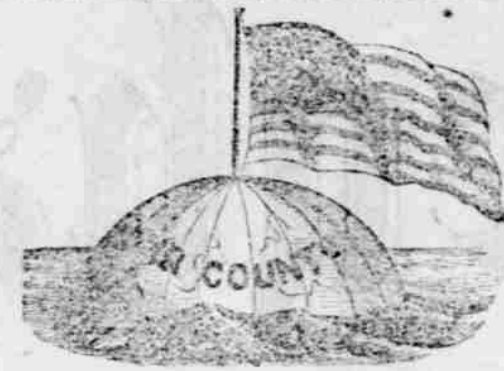
B. F. WADE, Chairman.

### The President at Fort Monroe.

President Lincoln, accompanied by Secretaries Chase and Stanton, paid a visit to Fortress Monroe on Wednesday. The party were met on board the steam revenue cutter Miami, by Major-General Wool and Staff in full uniform, who escorted them into the Fortress, where they were tendered a handsome reception by the garrison. As the President entered the Fortress he was favored with the usual salute of twenty-one guns. Mr. Lincoln made a thorough inspection of the fort, water battery and machine shop. At the latter place his attention was particularly directed to the machine for rifling cannon. It was in operation at the visit. The simplicity and efficiency of its movements were highly satisfactory. The President in turn visited Fort Wool, (Rip Raps,) where he was received without the customary salute, it being dispensed with at his request. The splendid rifled guns of the fort were loaded, and shell fired at the rebel battery at Sewall's Point. The President watched the *modus operandi* of loading the guns, and when the first shell was fired, he watched the curling smoke and listened attentively to the whiz of the burning fuse as the shell proceeded through the air. As it fell the shell struck directly in the rebel works, exploding with a loud report, throwing up a cloud of dust and smoke in the air. The President subsequently visited the iron batteries Galena and Monitor. He examined these vessels with much care, making the most detailed inquiries as to their construction and operation. On the Monitor, especially, his inquiries were numerous.

The President was about to proceed to pay a formal visit to Flag-officer Goldsborough, on board the flag-ship, Minnesota. As the officers of that vessel were getting their men ready to man the yards and fire a salute, the look-out on the foretop announced that the Merrimac was coming out of Norfolk. The men were beat to quarters, and the fleet in the harbor signalled to get ready for action. True enough, the Merrimac was seen off the north end of Craney Island, with steam up, and black smoke curling out of her pipe. The fleet formed in line of battle, and soon were in readiness to give the rebel monster a hearty reception, should it have the temerity to visit the Roads. The Merrimac remained stationary under the guns of Craney Island for several hours, and then returned to Norfolk. The President meanwhile visited the flag-ship Minnesota, where he was received by the customary honors of manning the yards, firing a salute, &c. The President examined particularly the portions of the ship that had been struck by rebel shot, and when the philosophy of how four state rooms were knocked into one by a hostile rebel shell was explained, he was forced to express his surprise at the terrible effect of an explosion of a ten-inch shell, which gave him a perfect horror of wooden war vessels.

## The Alleghanian.



RIGHT OR WRONG.  
WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT,  
WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG:  
THURSDAY, MAY 15.  
Breckinridge.

We need not remind our readers that, a week or two ago, we published an editorial article under the head of "BRECKINRIDGE," in which we took occasion to animadvert a little upon the career of that rapacious rogue, and to apply to the livid lizard a few epithets which, as we supposed, the cowardly craven richly merited. It will be remembered that, at the time, we declared that the hectoring hog had still a few secret sympathizers in our midst, but little did we think that any one of them would be fool-hardy enough to emerge from his kennel, and in the broad daylight, take up the cudgel in defence of such a stinking skunk.

But it seems we were doomed to be the victim of disappointment. The ostensible editor of the *Democrat & Sentinel*—that ponderous and world-renowned sheet, so popular among old women, and so useful for certain purposes not necessary here to be enumerated—the editor of that paper, we say, who has so long been feigning opposition to Treason and Traitors, has at last seen fit to throw off his mask of Loyalty, and stretch out his trail arm in behalf of the vile viper which had so long nestled in the bosom of the Union only for the purpose of stinging it to death.

We do not certainly know whether the editor made defence for this miserable malfactor of his own free will or not.—Our impression is, however, that he did not; but that, as usual, he was put forward as a cat's paw by the men who own him, and who, no doubt, like himself, were dreadfully mortified and chagrined by reason of the castigation which we administered to the scandalous scape-goat for whom they cherish such deep and everlasting affection. If this pack of jackals could have been heard to howl, as they certainly did howl, over our article, one would very naturally have supposed that we had first torn the hides off them, and then immediately afterwards "touched them on the raw."

In that unlish, drawing way for which he is so distinguished, the insipid scribbler for the *Democrat & Sentinel* calls us to account for our presumption in telling a few plain truths about the malignant monster. He speaks of our article as "remarkable," and as a literary curiosity in its way; and because we wrote it, he calls us an "ignorant and insolent old Abolitionist," "a low-minded blackguard," "an accomplished blackguard," and many other nice names—all of which, it was no doubt intended should be very severe. Following the heels of all this, the scribbler then takes us to task for "making malignant assaults on the private character of"—whom?—why, the mendacious miscreant that he still regards as his fast friend, and whose facile follower he delights to be.

If we could not employ our columns more profitably, we would re-publish this scribbler's article entire, just to prove beyond all cavil what we have hitherto only inferred from his dogged silence, namely, that he is a Secession-sympathizer. If our friends do not relax their encouragement and support in this most trying hour, we fancy we shall be able to bear up under the pressure of the abuse he has heaped upon our humble self, but there are certain features in his article which are intolerable. We allude to those portions wherein he speaks of the "unfortunate Breckinridge," and—Heaven save the mark!—of Mr. Breckinridge! To speak thus of such a bloody blot, is, of a verity, imposing as much upon poor, weak, loyal human nature as it can well get along with.

We have no disposition just now to dwell long upon the character of this dastardly deserter from the Union. It has not been our fault if the libidinous liar is not full well known to our readers. Benedict Arnold was a Christian and a gentleman when compared with such a hepatic hell hound, and the facts already disclosed will prove it. If any one wants further information in regard to the course in which the snouted snake is engaged, and of the conduct of the convicted cut throats whose chief he is, let us recommend a

perusal of the report of the joint committee on the Conduct of the War, recently made in Congress, in reference to the barbarous treatment by the rebels, at Manassas, of the remains of officers and soldiers of the United States, killed in battle there.

"The perusal of this report," as a contemporary well observes, "will make the flesh creep with horror. The brutal desecration of the dead, and the fiendish torture of the wounded it reveals, seem so unnatural and inhuman, that we hesitate to believe that such acts could have been committed by men. The rebels have indeed made a reputation for themselves, and when, hereafter, the world wishes to illustrate the perfection of malignant hatred and devilish cruelty, instead of pointing to the Sepoys or savages, it will take the Secessionists for its example." Aye, and when the world looks about for the chief conspirator in all this crime, and for the malevolent malicho who has been the prime cause of all these outrages, we venture to say it will have no difficulty in settling down upon the scaly scoundrel whose name heads this article.

And yet this wretched wretch has his secret sympathizers in our midst, and even has a Press and Types which, while it shams loyalty, publicly prostitutes itself to the base business of defending his rancid and rotten reputation! What a commentary does this furnish upon the depravity of the human heart! What is there in the character of this knowing knave and thoughtful thief that he should have such aid and comfort in the North? But—never mind. Sooner or later, Justice—eternal, retributive Justice—will claim the deep-deyed dastard as her victim, and only will she be satisfied when she has got the villainous varlet at the end of a rope, without a foothold. Then, when the last vital spark shall have been choked out of his cursed carcass, it will not require a prophet nor yet the son of a prophet to tell the world that his spurious spirit has taken its flight for that intensely Southern Confederacy established expressly for the Devil and his Angels.

SOMETHING UP.—A. A. Barker, Esq., editor of the *Alleghanian*, had a long talk with Hall, editor of certain papers in this county, last Thursday, in Altoona. Both these gentlemen are candidates for Congress. From the late tone of Mr. Barker's paper, one would suppose that he is to throw for Hall. Some think, however, that if Hall should carry the Counties of Blair county, he will throw for Barker. Wait and see.—*Blair Co. Whig.*

We have only to say in reply to the above, that we did have a talk with Mr. Hall on the occasion referred to, but it was by no means a "long talk," nor did it, so far as we can remember, embrace a solitary word in relation to the Congressional question. As to the "late tone" of our paper, we do not think it justifies the supposition which our neighbor makes, that we are "to throw for Hall." That gentleman's name, at least for a considerable time, has not even appeared in these columns, except through a quoted paragraph, and in an incidental compliment paid him at the close of the Legislature, upon the manner in which he discharged his official duties. Further than this, we can assure our neighbor of the *Whig*, that there is no arrangement that we know of, by which Mr. Hall is to throw for us, or we for him; neither would we feel ourselves warranted in entering into that sort of diplomacy. In conclusion, our neighbor will allow us to suggest—in a jokey way of course—that the extract which we have made from his paper, forcibly reminds us of that old saying, that "the wicked feel when no man pursueth;" and that those who are in the habit of making side-door arrangements themselves, are generally the first to suspect others, however innocent, of doing the same thing.

Adam Phule, Esq., has just announced to us his determination to apply to Government for a *hog-contract*. He proposes to take the editor of the *Standard* along down, and if need be to exhibit him as a sample of the article to be delivered. A. P. is confident that, with such a specimen in his possession, the Department will be so delighted that it will award him a contract, "on the most reasonable terms," for several hundred, if not more. The great difficulty which A. P. is likely to encounter, however, will be his inability to procure stock equal to the specimen.

Judging from the tone and temper of his paper, it would seem that the editor of the *Standard* really does suspect us with having had or having a *hog-contract*, and that the irritation which he is so wont to manifest towards us, arises solely from the fact that we didn't take the precaution to tender him the position of stable-boss.

The editor of the *Standard* occasionally amuses himself by calling us a *hog-contractor*. The name is as empty as the imputation is false, and certainly comes with a very bad grace from an old chronic mail-contractor.

The people are queer. When the *Standard* man calls us a *hog-contractor* or a *spoilsman*, they won't believe him; neither would they believe us if we were to charge the *Standard* man with honesty. So it goes.

Read the report of the Select Committee on the conduct of the War.

## General War News.

By the arrival of a United States ship at New York we have the first Union accounts of the bombardment of Forts Jackson and St. Philip, the capture of New Orleans, and the almost total annihilation of the Rebel fleet. The bombardment of the forts continued with unabated fury for six days and five nights. Twenty-one mortar boats and three gunboats had been engaged in the attack upon the forts, and succeeded on Friday, the 25th inst., in silencing the fortifications, and securing the safe passage up the river of fourteen war steamers, bound for New Orleans. The Hartford, Commodore Farragut's flag-ship, was set on fire by coming in contact with one of the fire ships, but the fire was extinguished before much damage was done. On the 25th a flag of truce was sent to Commodore Porter, asking what terms would be demanded in the surrender. The Commodore replied, "Unconditional," and the arrangements were duly made. The contest is said to have been the most desperate of the war, many of the men on the mortar boats falling at their posts with fatigue, so incessantly had they been kept at the work.—The Union gunboat Verona, and the rebel iron-clad steamer Webster had a terrible engagement. The Webster ran into the Verona, injuring her so badly (the Verona) that she was in a sinking condition. The Verona, while in this desperate state, discharged a broadside of eight guns into the Webster, with such destructive effect, that both ships went down together!—The celebrated ram, Manassas, was run into and sunk by the steamship Mississippi. The Union forces destroyed 11 of the Rebel gunboats, and the two iron-clad steamers, Mississippi and Louisiana. The "Stars and Stripes" now float over all of the forts and the Crescent City. The rebel loss was about 1,500 killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. The Union loss was about 200 killed and wounded. An immense meeting was held by the Union residents, after the city had surrendered to the Federal fleet, expressive of the joy and gratitude experienced at seeing the "Old Flag" waving once more over the rebellious city.

From the victorious army of McClellan we have the intelligence of two most signal victories achieved over the insurgent army. The first battle took place at Williamsburg and the details are briefly condensed in the following dispatch from Gen. McClellan: "I have the pleasure to announce the occupation of Williamsburg as the result of a hard-fought battle yesterday. The effect of Hancock's brilliant engagement yesterday afternoon was to turn the left of their line of works. He was strongly reinforced, and the enemy abandoned the entire position during the night, leaving all his sick and wounded in our hands. We have over 200 unjured prisoners, and more than 1,000 wounded. Their loss is killed is very heavy. I have sent cavalry in pursuit.—The conduct of our men has been excellent with scarcely an exception. Their works are very extensive, and exceedingly strong, both in respect to position and the works themselves. Our loss was heavy in Hooker's division, but very little on other parts of the field. Am I authorized to follow the example of other Generals, and direct the names of battles to be placed on the colors of regiments? We have other battles to fight before reaching Richmond." A correspondent who was on the ground says: "At the outset we took two of their works and were advancing, but the exhaustion of those of our regiments which were earliest in the field and which had had no provisions during the day, compelled them to fall back, as they were utterly worn out. One of our batteries was lost by getting imbedded, and its horses were shot. Gen. McClellan arrived on the ground at 5 o'clock, and assumed command. He directed all the exhausted troops to retire, filled their places with fresh men, drove back the enemy, repossessed the ground and works taken in the morning, captured another breastwork, and took a large number of prisoners. The enemy had a force of over 50,000 men, and only decided to evacuate after the brilliant bayonet charge of Gen. Hancock. The rebel General Ricketts was killed. The Federal loss was about 200 killed and 400 wounded. In regard to the second battle a telegram from Baltimore says: A battle has been fought at West Point, on the York river, and the rebels have been defeated with great slaughter. The battle took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 7th, between the troops under Generals Franklin and Sedgwick, and the rebels under General Lee, who were endeavoring to make their way to Richmond. It is said to have been the severest battle on the Peninsula, and the rebels were totally defeated and flanked, being driven back towards the forces under Gen. Johnston on the Chickahominy. The whole number of Federals killed and wounded was 300. The enemy were driven back by our gunboats with great slaughter. They had not less than 30,000 men, while our force was not over 20,000 landed. Had it not been for the gunboats we would have been defeated. The latest news received state that the pursuit of the retreating rebels, by our troops under command of General Stoneman, has been eminently successful. His headquarters are now within twenty-seven miles of Richmond! His advance, consisting of the Eighth Illinois cavalry, is five miles ahead. The enemy is in sight but gradually falling back. General McClellan, with the main body of the army, is rapidly following up within a few miles! The enemy's retreat has been most admirably accomplished, carrying almost everything with them in the shape of provisions

and forage. Their wagon trains moving in the day time and their troops at night. The enemy covered their retreat with a line of skirmishers, stretched along the country, driving in their stragglers at the point of the bayonet.

The most glorious news we have received is that of the capture of Norfolk, Portsmouth and the Gosport Navy Yard. The following dispatch from Secretary Stanton, gives the particulars: "Norfolk is ours, and also Portsmouth and the Navy Yard! Gen. Wool having completed the landing of his forces at Willoughby's Point, commenced the march on Norfolk with five thousand men. Secretary Chase accompanied the General. About five miles from the landing place, a rebel battery was found on the opposite side of the bridge over Tanner's creek. After a few discharges of companies of infantry, the rebels burned the bridge. This compelled our forces to march around five miles further. At five o'clock in the afternoon our forces were within a short distance of Norfolk and were met by a delegation of citizens, and the city was formally surrendered. Our troops marched in, and we now have possession. Gen. Veile is in command as military Governor of Norfolk. Gen. Huger withdrew his forces without battle. Commodore Rogers' expedition was heard from this afternoon ascending the James River."

We have the glorious intelligence of the defeat of the remnant of the Rebel navy which escaped from New Orleans, and which has been stationed at Fort Pillow on the Mississippi river. The following is the official dispatch of Captain Davis, Commander of the Western Flotilla, *pro tem*: "The naval engagement, for which the rebels have been preparing, took place on Saturday morning, the 10th. The rebel fleet, consisting of eight iron-clad gunboats, four of which were fitted up with rams, came up handsomely. The action lasted one hour. Two of the rebel gunboats were blown up and one sunk, when the enemy retired precipitately under the guns of the fort. The rebel iron ram, the Mallory, advanced in the face of a continued broadside from the Cincinnati until within forty yards of her, while men appeared upon the deck of the Mallory preparing to board with grapnels thrown out, which design was frustrated by throwing hot water from the steam batteries of the Cincinnati. The Mallory, undaunted by the failure in the attempt to board, crowded on a full head of steam, and came towards the Cincinnati, evidently with the intention of running her down. Captain Starnel waited until she was within ten yards of him, when he gave her a broadside from his Parrot guns, doing fearful execution. The two boats by this time were so close together, that it was impossible to scab out the guns of the Cincinnati, and it was only by bringing the steam batteries to bear upon the Mallory that she was compelled to haul off. Captain Starnel shot her pilot with his revolver, and was himself wounded by a pistol shot fired by the mate of the Mallory. The air was very heavy, and under cover of the dense smoke which hung over the river, the rebel fleet retreated. When the smoke cleared away, a broadside from the Flag Ship Benton was sent after the Mallory. Shortly after she was seen to careen, and went down with all on board. Mortar boat No. 16, in charge of Second Master Gregory, distinguished itself.—The rebel squadron is supposed to have been commanded by Commodore Hollis."

The following important intelligence, relative to the Merrimac, has been received from Fortress Monroe: The Merrimac was blown up on Sunday morning at two minutes before five o'clock. She was set on fire about three o'clock. She was destroyed by the rebels. It is said to have been a grand sight by those who saw it. It is reported that the iron-clad steamer Galena has sunk. The rebel steamer Yorktown, and captured the Jamestown in the James river.

Special dispatches from Cairo state that a plot had been discovered at Paducah on the part of the secession residents there to hand the town over to the rebels.—Steps have been taken to punish the conspirators. For several weeks past they have nightly met, six hundred in number, in a large hall in that city. But for the information given by one of their number, the plot would have been consummated within a week. The military force there has been largely increased, and every precaution taken to prevent a surprise.—The sixty-four pounders upon the parapet around the Marine Hospital are turned upon the town, to be used in case of an outbreak.

On Friday last the rebel Gen. Bragg's division, about 20,000 strong, attacked General Paine in his position two miles from Farmington. A sharp engagement followed, our men fighting bravely, and making several brilliant bayonet charges. Large reinforcements of the rebels having arrived, our men were compelled to fall back to Farmington. We lost nearly two hundred men in killed, wounded and taken prisoners, while that of the enemy was not less than five hundred in killed and wounded. The army being on its way to attack the rebels at Corinth it is impossible for any particulars to be given.

From all parts of the country we hear of an uninterrupted succession of brilliant Union victories.

Pickles of the *Standard* evidently thinks he is smart, but we opine the world would pretty generally set him down as a smart.

Our neighbor of the *Standard* calls us a *spoilsman*. We will probably soon let him know we get done with him.