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San Antonio [TX] Herald, November 1861-October 10, 1863

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SAN ANTONIO HERALD
November 1861-October 10, 1863

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 2, 1861, p. 1, c. 6

The following extract from a letter from a young gentleman in the army in Virginia, Wm. H. Noel, to his mother, in Atascosa county, Texas, will be read with interest.--It breathes the true spirit. We regret that our contracted space prevents us from giving the letter entire, as well as the reply of the noble mother:

"My Dear Ma:--If you could see what I have seen, you could not for a moment (aside from political causes) doubt of the North's being in the wrong. If you could see the beautiful plantations laid in waste, the historical and romantic town of Hampton reduced to ashes, slaves carried off to labor upon fortifications, to protect them from our just vengeance; peaceful citizens shot upon their own door steps while vainly striving to defend their wives and daughters from the loathsome embrace of these boasted upholders of the constitution and the law, and last, most horrible of all, if you could know how often they have violated the persons of unprotected females, then you could no longer for a moment doubt of the South being in the right; and this is not a tenth part of the horrors daily enacted in Virginia! You speak of being sorry that I ever had any thing to do with this war; God knows I wish I had a thousand lives to sacrifice in such a cause, and with my dying breath I would shout for Jeff Davis and the Southern Confederacy! You say you pray for your poor boy, and for the cause in which he is engaged. Millions of prayers from the Southern mothers ascend daily to the throne of Grace in the same cause; and we consider this the pole star lighting us on to victory, and steer by its light with a bold heart and a steady hand. The recollection that you pray for me will nerve my hand to meet any danger, or to endure any privation, and if I should fall, as perchance I may, I will have the consciousness of having died in a good cause; and those who die fighting for their country, shed their blood like Martyrs to water the tree of liberty.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 2, 1861, p. 1, c. 6

Almost daily, we see our streets thronged with emigrants from Missouri, many of whom bring valuable slave property.

It is quite refreshing to hear these men open upon the Jayhawkers and Union men, they do it with an unction and relish that astonish even the fiery Texans.--[Dallas Herald.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 2, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Friction matches are now being made in Galveston--the first probably ever made in the State, if not in the South.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 2, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The want of bleaching powder is now the chief obstacle to the manufacture of paper in the South. That which has been used--"Tennant's"--came from New York, where it was had from England, at a very low price.

Prof. Darby, of Auburn, Alabama, writes to the Houston Telegraph that he has succeeded in making pure sulphuric [sic] acid from iron pyrites, which are in abundance in Alabama, and he will have no difficulty in making sal soda, chloroform, nitric acid, muriatic acid, and bleaching powders for paper making.--[Galveston News.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, January 4, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

The Christmas holidays have passed off pleasantly. The young people have enjoyed themselves at social parties. Egnog, cakes and wines have received a due share of attention, and powder enough has been burned to kill a thousand Hessians. The gay appearance of the city during the past week would hardly indicate the hard times and general distress which might be expected to result from such a war as the country is engaged in. Were old Abe in San Antonio, he would be more than ever convinced that "nobody is hurt."

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, January 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Tableaux and Concert given by the ladies of San Antonio at the Casino on Tuesday evening, passed off most agreeably, netting the handsome sum of \$500, which will be applied to the relief of sick Texan soldiers in the Confederate service.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, January 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Acknowledgments.--The thanks of the "Jeff. Davis Life-Guards," are extended to the officers and members of the "San Antonio Southern Aid Society," for camp furniture and provisions to the handsome sum of \$377.31. The above named society have done a noble work, having contributed more or less towards the fitting out of nearly every company in and around this county, besides supporting the families of a number of poor men who are now in the service of their country. Our citizens generally have subscribed liberally towards sustaining the funds expended by the officers of the society.

We hope the good work will continue until the independence of our country is established. The transactions of the society constitute a part of the history of the times.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, January 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 3-4--[Summary: Recent Indian raid]

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Southern Defense Aid Society.

Whilst military men are attracting a great share of public attention, and immortalizing their names by gallant deeds upon fields of battle the services equally important, of those in less showy avocations scarcely attract notice. We will cite an instance.

Some months ago certain citizens of this city organized the "Southern Defense Aid Society." Its prospects for a time looked gloomy; but management and industry overcame all obstacles, and the "Society" became a permanent institution of great benefit to the State and country. It has fitted out troops for the war and sustained many destitute families of volunteers. For months it has employed hundreds of seamstresses to make up clothing of every kind for the Government, thus furnishing employment for the poor and contributing to the comfort and efficiency of our patriotic troops.

It has at present about 850 persons in its employment, who receive fair wages, in "Southern Defense Aid Society" bills, of small denominations, "payable when ten dollars are presented." These bills, signed by the indomitable secretary, G. W. Caldwell, are known to be good, and consequently pass into circulation, and afford great facilities in making change. All honor to the Southern Defense Aid Society and its worthy founders.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, June 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 4

What We May Expect.

While it would not be strictly just to say that none of our enemies pay respect to private rights and property, we do say that innumerable instances come to our knowledge showing a depravity, and outrages so horrid that a *Sepoy of India might be satisfied with them*. The following is from Rev. Dr. _____, one of the most highly esteemed Presbyterian ministers in N. Carolina, in a letter to one of our brethren in Richmond.

"Their pilfering and depredations in old Newbern are most outrageous and distressing. A few houses--some 10 or 12--were *guarded* on special application of the owners to Burnside. As to the rest, whether the families were at home or not, they were broken open and plundered of everything the wretches could carry off. For two days and more, after the capture, 300 drunken soldiers might be seen in the streets at a time, quarreling and fighting over the spoils. One fellow might be seen walking along with a half dozen silk dresses (of ladies) on his arms; another with an elegant rocking chair on his head; a third with an elegant mantle clock, &c., &c. They broke open cellars for liquor, and pantries and wardrobes and bureaus and trunks, whether the owners were present or not, and carried off whatever they wanted. But why do I mention these things? They have done so everywhere they go, and will do so in Richmond, if they ever take it. The worst thing they did in Newbern, after they had made a clean sweep of the private houses, was to go to the graveyard and break open the vaults and steal the silver plate from the coffins. A list of these abominations was published in the Raleigh Register last week, in which it was stated that Judge Gaston's vault had been forcibly entered and rifled of every thing of the sort. And all this, after Burnside had issued his orders to respect private property, and threatened severe punishment to those who did not.--[Central Presbyterian, Richmond, Va.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, June 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 4--[Summary: How to make saltpeter]

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, July 12, 1862, p. 2, c. 4

We are requested to state that the Ladies' Sewing Society will meet in the vacant building adjoining Lavanburg's every Wednesday and Friday.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, August 2, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

When flour is selling at forty dollars per barrel, corn meal at two dollars and a half per bushel, ordinary calico at one dollar per yard, shoes at ten dollars, and boots at twenty dollars a pair, and everything else in proportion, we would like to know to what extent Confederate money represents gold and silver. We would like to know if Confederate money is not as effectually depreciated as if it were openly proclaimed worth but three bits on the dollar on this market?

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, August 2, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

It is astonishing how cheap dry goods and provisions are getting in this city. Flour is *only* 20 dollars per sack; corn meal *only* 2½ dollars per bushel whilst sugar, molasses, salt and all other edibles are in proportion. Calico is only from 75 Cents to one dollar a yard, shoes from eight to ten dollars, and boots 20 dollars a pair, with everything necessary to the subsistence of a family at similar prices. How such cheap rates can be afforded is a mystery. These cheap prices

afford the families of poor soldiers, who are fighting for the country, excellent facilities for sumptuous living; and the poor widow, with numerous little ones, dependent upon her daily labor for their bread, by earning two dollars per week with her needle, when she can find time from her domestic duties to devote her whole energies to sewing, will thus be enabled to make her household joyous with good living.

There is an abundance of provisions in the country, and there is but one reason why the prices of the present season should vary materially from those of former years. That reason must in some way be connected with Confederate money. If Confederate notes may not be depreciated, the same effect may be produced by tripling the prices.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, September 13, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Match Manufactory.--Our neighbors, opposite the Herald Office, are manufacturing friction matches, of a very superior quality, and selling them at one dollar a thousand, or 50 cents for five hundred. A cheaper or better article could not be desired.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, September 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Polk Childress, a son of Sol. Childress of this city, is a fine specimen of young American Texas Chivalry. He is a member of Forrest's Brigade. Speaking in a letter to his father of the battle of Murfreesboro he says "My outfit has not cost me much. I have a Yankee horse, valued at 175 dollars, got by me at Murfreesboro, a Yankee six shooter, got in Lincoln county, Tenn., where I captured a Yankee and secured his six shooter, Yankee shoes, Yankee hat and breeches." Polk is a mere lad in years and size, but in bravery a full grown man.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, September 27, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Hd. Qrs. 1st Brig. 1st Division, }
Army of the South West }
Camp Hope, Sept. 2nd, 1862 }

. . . There are two brigades here, about 25 miles from Little Rock, on the Searcy road. The Arkansas brigade consists of six regiments, and is commanded by Col. D. McRea. The Texas brigade consists of five regiments as follows, Col. Nelson's, Col. Sweet's, Col. Fitzhugh's, Col. Darnell's, and Col. Taylor's. All of these last named have been dismounted, except Col. Nelson's, which was Infantry at the start. The well men are being drilled in Infantry, at the rate of six hours a day, and the convalescents as they can stand it. We have the promise of new arms in the place of our shot guns and old squirrel rifles--a change much to be desired in the Infantry service. I learn that a portion of these arms are now en route from Monroe, La. to Little Rock. Some are said to be Enfield rifles, the others Minnie and Belgian muskets. . . .

Our friends at home must do all in their power to manufacture clothing; we shall be needy on that score when cold weather sets in, many of our men have not now the second shirt to their back, their pants are worn out, and they are barefooted. There is nothing in this State to supply their wants with, they are looking to their friends at home to meet the emergency, and unless prompt steps are taken by the citizens in each county from which the men have so promptly volunteered, there will be a great deal of suffering--let county depots be established and as soon as the clothing can be deposited, let wagons be started with it for the various regiments. The Government does not ask these efforts to be made gratuitously--it is able and willing to pay promptly for all the goods thus furnished, but the difficulty is to get them in time to save the army from suffering, unless many and willing hands contribute their industry. Let the

ladies organize societies and attend to the task in person, then it is sure to be accomplished. . . .

Very Respectfully,
Henry C. Logan, Act. Adjt.

To Col. Geo. H. Sweet,
Commanding Brigade.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, September 27, 1862, p. 2, c. 4

Wanted for the Troops,

Woolen or cotton socks for which I will pay fair prices delivered at the Clothing Depot in this city.

Wm. Prescott, Capt. A. Q. M.
P.A.C.S.

Asst. Qr. Master Office. }
San Antonio, Texas, }
Aug. 20, 1862

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, October 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Lavaca County.--We have always admired Lavaca County. The people are patriotic, industrious and independent. A gentleman from Hallettsville gives a good account of the condition of things in that vicinity. The crops the past season were quite fair; grass is fine, corn is selling at \$1 00 per bushel, bacon at 15 cents per pound, butter 12½ cents, eggs 12½ per dozen, chickens, turkeys and beef at old prices. Verily, the demon of extortion, which curses and paralyses the inhabitants of this city, is unknown in Lavaca County, and its citizens are a happy people. The farmers are manufacturing their own clothing and having enough to eat, drink and wear, they are independent of those mercantile cormorants who are devouring the substances of less favored communities.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Extortion.--We are informed by a reliable gentleman direct from Kemper's Bluff, Victoria County, that Messrs. Graves and Milton of that place, are selling goods of every description, brought from Mexico, at from 100 to 300 per cent cheaper than the merchants of this city. Fine Casimer for pantaloons sells there for ten dollars a pattern--here at \$22. Calico at 60 cents there--at \$1 25 here--Ladies hoops at 6 dollars there--here at 25 dollars--and books and shoes at the same comparative rates. One establishment in particular in this city, that is selling for the above named extortionary prices, procured their goods and started with them at the same time with Messrs. Graves & Milton, and there is no reason why the former should sell higher than the latter. Let them be gratefully remembered.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Tallow Candles Equal to Star.--Messrs. Editors: It may be of some interest to your readers to know that without a cent of additional cost, tallow candles can be made fully equal in point of merit to the common star candle.

To two pounds tallow add one teacupful of good strong ley [sic] from wood ashes, and simmer over a slow fire, when a greasy scum will float on the top skim this off for making soap (it is very near soap already,) as long as it continues to rise. Then mould [sic] your candles as

usual, making the wicks a little smaller, and you have a pure, hard tallow candle, worth knowing how to make, and one that burns as long and gives a light equal to sperm. The chemistry demonstrates itself. An ounce of two of beeswax will make the candle some harder, and steeping the wicks in spirits turpentine will make them burn some brighter. I write with one before me.-- Mobile News.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

A Good Example.--We saw a day or two ago, an excellent quality of jeans, which was manufactured in this place. The cotton and wool were carded and spun, and the cloth woven by the ladies of one of our wealthiest families. They have produced a sufficient quantity to clothe the family, white and black, and to give liberally to destitute soldiers. We should like to give the names of these useful and patriotic ladies, but as true merit is generally modest, we fear such notice might be offensive.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, November 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

A valuable donation of 100 pounds of wool to the Ladies Southern Aid Society of San Antonio, by Mr. Caldwell, and 40 pounds by Mrs. Cline, will give the members an opportunity of knitting socks for the soldiers; a number of the members have offered their services to do so.

Any lady who has it in her power to prepare the wool for knitting, will confer a great favor by reporting it to the President, Vice President, or Treasurer.

A list of articles sent by the Society to the destitute of Gen. McCulloch's command in Arkansas will be given next week.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, December 27, 1862, p. 1, c. 5--[Summary: Sale of Fort Duncan on the Rio Grande, and Fort Martin Scott]

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, December 27, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

A Bright Christmas Thought from One of Our Little Friends.--A little six-year-old, in speaking of Christmas the other day remarked that he did not expect to get any thing this time, as he reckoned *Old Santa Claus was a Conscript* and had been sent to the wars.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, February 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

Tableaux.

The ladies of the Hospital Fund Association having been solicited to have a repetition of the Entertainment given at the Casino on the 17th inst., have determined to give another on Thursday the 5th of March, with an entire new programme, and to devote the proceeds to the suffering poor of San Antonio.

To avoid the confusion usually attending a crowded house, the seats will be numbered and no more tickets sold than can be comfortably accommodated.

Tickets can be had after Wednesday morning at the stores of Messrs. Vance & Bro., S. Sampson, and the Mutual Aid Association, on Solidad street, at which places diagrams of the seats can be seen.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, February 21, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The San Antonio Mutual Aid Association.

This charitable institution is now in operation, and has over ten thousand persons on its list as beneficiaries and stockholders. The families of soldiers and the indigent poor of this city and surrounding country are alone permitted to trade at the store. This Association opened its first stock of goods on the 5th of Jan. Since which it has sold over \$20,000 worth of staple goods--just such articles as our people stood most in need of. The management of this institution is left by the stockholders, under strict by-laws, to the president, secretary, treasurer, and a board of seven directors. All of these gentlemen have devoted much of their time from their private affairs, and several of them have made long trips into the country, yet no charges have ever been made, or any expense incurred except for house rent and clerk hire. As a refutation of the argument used by our merchants, that goods cannot be sold here for less than they are selling for, we append the prices at the "Aid Store" and at other stores. At the Aid Store, coffee 133½c; sugar, 33½c; shoes \$2 75 to \$4 per pair; calico, 60c to 125c; heavy unbleached domestic, 80 to 90c; bleached do 60 to 70c per yard; good cottonades, \$1 50 to \$2, and all other articles at like prices. At other stores, coffee \$2 and sugar 75c; shoes \$5 to \$8; calico, \$2 75 to \$2; cottonades, \$3 50 to \$4 50, and other things in proportion. It should be remembered, too, that the Association has not been able as yet to get any cotton to Mexico to pay for goods, but had to buy them from Mexican traders here, at the loss of at least 75 per cent. Gen. Magruder has beneficently extended to them all facilities for getting their cotton out of the country and goods into this market in return. When this is accomplished, our people will learn how much they have paid to extortioners, who are growing rich, even to millionaires, from the calamities which now hang over our country. By an article of its by-laws the Association is not allowed to sell to shareholders or poor people at a profit above ten per cent.; and it is now selling flour at actual cost, and will soon have corn and corn meal at more than fifty per cent below present prices.

This Association must not be confounded with the original "Supply Association" of this city, which was organized and in successful operation long before the one under consideration was thought of. Both are proving themselves extremely useful. The plan upon which they are organized and conducted works well, and, in times like these, every city, and village, and settlement, should have a similar establishment for the protection of the people against speculators and extortioners.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

We have seen a pair of pantaloons, the cloth of which was manufactured on the plantation of Doctor Houston, of Wilson County, and the garment cut and made by a negro seamstress, that would be a credit to any country. The blockade is turning out to be a blessing by showing our people how independent they may be of all other countries.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The Entertainment at the Casino Hall last Thursday night, for the benefit of the poor of San Antonio, drew a full house and gave general satisfaction. Excellent taste was displayed by those who got it up; and much tact and skill by the numerous performers. It was a great success.

The opening scenes, "Love and War," were happily conceived and well executed. With such a display of loveliness in the first scene, the war feeling, as manifested in the second, was quite amiable. Cupid boasted more trophies than Mars.

"Courting in the dark" had a good deal of human nature in it, and was evidently well

understood by the actors. It was splendid.

"Married and Happy" was a representation of what sometimes actually happens.

"Cleopatra," the most beautiful and accomplished woman of ancient times, was still lovely. We did not blame Pompey, Antony and other illustrious heroes for becoming fascinated by her and acting the fool.

The "Surprise" was true to life--we mean that kind of life it was intended to represent. It produced a sensation.

"Beaux in abundance," and "Beaux Scarce," were, to a portion of the audience, the extreme of beatitude and despair. Our sympathies were deeply excited.

"Our Boys in Camp," with which the Entertainment closed, was a correct representation of the camp of the Texas Rangers--an easy, careless, lounging, reckless, good natured set of fellows when in repose, but very tigers and hyenas when confronting an enemy.

The proceeds of the Entertainment must have exceeded \$2000, a sum that will materially alleviate the sufferings of many a poor family in this city. Those benevolent and persevering ladies and gentlemen who got it up with so much taste, and executed it so successfully, are entitled to the thanks of all who appreciate true benevolence.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

How to Make a Good Article of Coffee.--Take coffee grains and pop-corn, of each an equal quantity. Roast the same together. The corn will hop out, and what remains will be unadulterated coffee.--[Mobile Register.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 21, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

We are requested to make the following statement of the funds received and disposed of by the ladies of the Hospital Fund Association of San Antonio in their late Tableaux entertainments: Received from Mrs. G. W. Kendall, a donation of \$100, which, together with \$1100 net proceeds of the first Tableaux, was forwarded to Mr. Cushing for the benefit of the Texas Hospital in Virginia.

The net proceeds of the last entertainment amounted to about \$550, the sum of \$775 having been the gross receipts. \$100 were donated to the Orphan Asylum; \$200 were given to the Mayor of the city for distribution among the soldiers' families or others who may be in need; \$200 to Mr. Schleicher to be distributed in like manner in breadstuffs; \$50 have been expended for private charities.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 14, 1863, p. 1, c. 2

[From the Charleston Courier.]
Song of the Texas Rangers.

Inscribed to Mrs. General John A. Wharton.

Air--The Yellow Rose of Texas.

The morning star is paling,
The camp-fires flicker low,
Our steeds are madly neighing,

For the bugle bids us go,
So put the foot in stirrup,
And shake the bridle free,
For to-day the Texas Rangers
Must cross the Tennessee
With Wharton for our leader,
We'll chase the dastard foe,
Till our horses bathe their fetlocks
In the deep, blue Ohio.

Our men are from the prairies,
That roll broad, and proud and free,
From the high and craggy mountains
To the murmuring Mexic sea;
And their hearts are open as their plains,
Their thoughts are proudly brave,
As the bold cliffs of the San Bernard,
Or the Gulf's resistless wave.
Then quick! into the saddle,
And shake the bridle free,
To-day with gallant Wharton
We'll cross the Tennessee

'Tis joy to be a Ranger!
To fight for dear Southland;
'Tis joy to follow Wharton,
With his gallant, trusty band!
'Tis joy to see our Harrison,
Plunge like a meteor bright,
Into the thickest of the fray,
And deal his deathly might.
Oh! who would not be a Ranger,
And follow Wharton's cry!
To battle for their country--
And, if needs be--die!

By the Colorado's waters,
Or the Gulf's deep murmuring shore,
On our soft green peaceful prairies,
Are homes we may see no more;
But in those homes our gentle wives,
And mothers with silv'ry hairs,
Are loving us with tender hearts
And shielding us with prayers.
So trusting in our country's God,
We draw our stout, good brand,

For those we love at home,
Our altars and our land.

Up, up with the crimson battle-flag--
Let the blue penon fly;
Our steeds are stamping proudly--
They hear the battle-cry!
The thundering bomb, the bugle's call--
Proclaim the foe is near;
We strike for God and native land,
And all we hold most dear.
Then, spring into the saddle,
And shake the bridle free--
For Wharton leads, thro' fire and blood,
For Home and Victory.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

From Brownsville

Brownsville, March 11th, 1863

Eds. Herald:--In this far off place, we, of San Antonio, always welcome the Herald with delight, not solely for the news it contains, but principally to glean from the local items, something that is transpiring in our beloved city. The advertisements even are conned over with interest, and when at length we have read and re-read, the paper is reluctantly thrown aside with a sigh.

Three days ago a Yankee gunboat made her appearance at the mouth of the river and landed some officers and men on the Mexican side. The officers were rigged out in the Cavalry uniform of the Federal army. Immediately rumors of all sorts were spread through Brownsville and Matamoras, one was that the vessel in question was the "avant courier" of seven others, with 2400 men on board, the object of the expedition being a descent on Brownsville. The truth of the matter is, that the vessel brought no less a personage than Judge Davis of Corpus Christi, now a Colonel in the abolition service. He was accompanied by Major Somebody (who used to be a preacher in Austin,) Lieut. Daniel Bonnet (another renegade from Austin,) and three other subaltern officers, two of whom are also refugees from this State. On yesterday they were all in Matamoras cutting a great swell. I have just learned that one of the subaltern officers mentioned above is Branbach, once the Sheriff of Gillespie county, who escaped from the guard house in San Antonio, last summer. Their intentions in coming to Matamoras are not positively known; but they are offering inducements for our men to desert. They have partially succeeded, as some ten or twelve of the 3d Reg't. have deserted in the last two days. A Lieut. in the same Reg't. has also deserted; his name is Holtz, and used to live in New Braunfels. Judge Davis has come to a bad place for his health, for if he should fall into the hands of any of our soldiers, they would hang him on the first tree. Several amusing things occurred in Matamoras between the renegades and some of the Texans over the river. The parson Major above alluded to, was galloping up the main street when he was accosted by an old negro acquaintance; he immediately stopped, shook hands with his colored brother, leaned over his saddle and putting his hand familiarly on the

negro's shoulder, commenced a conversation with him. Mr. L____g, a merchant of San Antonio, who was standing near cried out "Look at the Abolition nigger loving son of a _____." The gallant Major merely looked up when he heard these words applied to him, and then resumed his talk with the negro. A crowd commencing to gather around, he concluded that it was best to ride off.

Pearce, the Yankee Consul at Matamoras, keeps a regular recruiting office. All of our deserters are fed and clothed by him, when they are sent to New Orleans by first opportunity. Many a poor deserter has found out his mistake, after a few days residence in Mexico, and would have given any thing to return, but feared to risk his neck by coming back. Many disaffected San Antonians are also there, among whom are ??? Lyons and John S. Marsh, the latter is said to be very bitter against the South. He ought to be after having made a little fortune off the charitable feelings of the people of San Antonio.

About two weeks ago the U. S. Brig "Young Harry" went ashore and was wrecked on our coast, at the "Boca Chica," about 5 miles from the mouth of the Rio Grande. Her cargo consisted of flour, corn, clothing, domestics, shoes, and all sorts of dry goods. About one half the flour and dry goods was saved, but the corn was a total loss. The crew was taken, brought to Fort Brown, and afterwards paroled. The property saved from the wreck was appropriated by the military authorities, but was subsequently claimed by the C. S. Receiver, who is now selling it at public auction. There has been no blockader at the mouth for some time. About sixty merchant vessels are lying outside the bar.

Truly Yours, Rebel.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Capture of Traitors!!
[Extract from a private letter.]

Brownsville, March 17th, 1863.

Exciting occurrences have transpired here in the last day or two. Judge Davis now Col. Davis, and the notorious Montgomery [Major] of Lockhart, were over in Matamoras, last week; they enticed away many of our Regiment, who for \$50 went over and swore into the Northern army. Last Friday the above named renegade officers left Matamoras with about 120 renegades and deserters, to embark on a Yankee steamer at the mouth, which was there to take them to New Orleans. A party of Confederates went down at the same time on this side of the river, to watch their operations. On Friday and Saturday the sea was so rough that they could not go out to their steamer. On Sunday morning at day-break the Confederate boys crossed over to the Mexican side and took Davis and Montgomery prisoners, and killed and captured about a dozen of the deserters. Two men on our side were wounded. Col. Davis was sent prisoner to this place, and Montgomery went up a tree on the end of a rope. He was a wealthy man, and has a family in Lockhart. The Mexicans were very angry at our having violated the sacred neutrality of their soil. Yesterday their blood went up to 100 degrees on the subject, but in a day or two it will be down below zero. Last night at about 11 o'clock the whole Regiment was called to arms, it being reported that the Mexicans were about to cross over. The men were under arms nearly all night. They have cooled down considerably on the other side to-day, and I believe everything will go on as smoothly as ever. Davis has been sent into the interior. He looked "awfully" down hearted when I saw him.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The affair at the mouth of the Rio Grande was highly brilliant, glorious, and gratifying, and adds another bright chaplet to the brows of our Texas boys--we mean the capturing of those notorious traitors and renegades Judge E. J. Davis, (now a Federal Colonel) and the equally traitorous Montgomery, late of Lockhart, who immediately "went up a tree." What a great pity Davis had not been sent up at the same time. The particulars will be found in another column.

We learn that Davis has since been surrendered on demand of the Mexican authorities.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, March 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The citizens of San Antonio tendered to Gen. Magruder the compliment of a public Ball, which came off at the Casino last night. There was a regular jam, and all seemed to enjoy themselves excessively. San Antonio never presented a gayer spectacle. Not being a poet ourself we can only use the fine thought of one who was:

"A scene of beauty is a joy forever."

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, April 25, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Letter from R. F. Bunting.

Rangers' Camp, Fairfield, Tenn., Mar. 12.

. . . We hear sad and painful tales from our friends within his lines. Everything is paralyzed, robbery, plunder and destruction seem the watchword. For five miles around Murfreesboro the fencing is totally destroyed. The provision of all kinds is seized, and the people are compelled to submit to the humiliation of drawing rations for their support. Then there seems no hope for the future whilst he occupies our territory, for the farmers are prohibited from planting any kind of grain; while implements of husbandry are all taken and destroyed, by military order. The stock is all pressed for the use of the army. They say the sheep shall all be killed and this will diminish the supply of clothing; and no crop being in the ground for the support of the old, the women and children, this will compel the male population who are absent in the Southern army, to return home and provide for their wants. Thus it has come to be a warfare upon the women and children, and the helpless. All alike are called upon to suffer, rich and poor, friend and foe. What all the region thus occupied by the enemy must do next year for supplies is a problem that time must solve. If it is our policy still to fall back, and ever to yield our territory acre by acre and mile by mile, when are we to stop? How are our people to be sustained? It does seem that the time has come for a change in our programme. We should begin now with the opening spring to cease the defensive and vigorously act upon the aggressive. FORWARD should now be the watchword for our army. . .

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, April 4, 1863, p. 1, c. 6-7

From Brownsville.

The Capture of the Renegades.--The Brownsville Flag gives the following account of this affair:

The Texans crossed the Rio Grande early in the morning, and soon surrounded the house in which Montgomery and Davis were lodged. Quite a number of renegades were in the house,

and they soon showed a disposition to fight. This was just the card that suited the Texans, and our boys pitched in. The renegades soon found that fighting was not their game, and they commenced a lively skedaddle over the sand hills. They were fired at by our boys, and we are informed through their own party that they lost three men killed and some wounded.

As we said before, owing to the secrecy observed about the affair on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, we can ascertain none of the particulars of the transaction from those of our men who were engaged in it, and therefore we have to rely mainly on the statements of parties who have heard the talk of the runaway renegades.

Montgomery and Davis were brought to the Texas side of the Rio Grande. Montgomery is said to have been hung immediately after he was landed, and Davis was concealed in the bushes near Brownsville to prevent his being taken possession of by Gen. Bee. As a matter of course this invasion of Mexico and capture of yankees in that country, created great excitement and much anxious regret both in Matamoras and Brownsville. The renegades took it in high dudgeon, and got up a torch-light procession in Matamoras, which consisted of runaways, white and black, a few bare-footed Mexicans, and any number of children. The same crowd could have been hired to turn out for any disreputable purpose, ??? to attend the funeral of a thief or the orgies of a prostitute.

The Mexican authorities acted very promptly and very calmly on the subject. Gen. Lopez simply made a demand for the surrender of the captured individuals, and as soon as Gen. Bee could obtain control of Davis, he returned him to the Mexican authorities. This act of justice was done on Wednesday, Maj. Gray acting as the agent of the military in surrendering the renegade.

The Mexican population of Matamoras, that is the respectable portion of it, acted with a great deal of calmness on the occasion, and used their best endeavor to bring the matter to a peaceful and satisfactory termination. They perceived that the act was one purely personal and that the two people should not embroil themselves for one of those events which no authority can at all times control.

When the renegades were captured they were at the mouth of the Rio Grande for the purpose of going away on a Yankee transport. When she learned of the capture, she put to sea with the threat to return soon with forces to thrash the Texans at the mouth of the river.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, April 11, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Giving Up Davis.

We cannot help believe that Gen. Bee has but performed his duty, in delivering up the traitor Davis, to the demand of the Mexican authorities. Davis, it is true, is a scoundrel whom any Texan would be justified in shooting down like a dog, should he be found voluntarily upon our soil. There was very naturally a general clamor for his death--but from important public considerations, Gen. Bee exercised the judgment and the firmness to return him. There is no computing the value of the Mexican trade to our Government and people during the war. It is worth the lives of a thousand such ??? Davis. A war with Mexico, at the present juncture would be a severe misfortune to our cause. It would not only cut off our supplies from the only portion of the Confederacy that the enemy has not been able to blockade, but would enable him to recruit the thousands of renegade desperadoes who infest that portion of Mexico by which our Southern frontier is bounded, and to keep a large army near our borders, sufficient to break up all the settlement between this city and the Rio Grande. Ever since the war began, it has been the policy

of the Yankees to engender such ill feeling on the part of Mexico against the Confederate Government, as would lead to war. Had Davis not been given up, their schemes would have been successful. But thanks to the prudence of Gen. Bee, they have thus far been defeated.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, June 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Fair.

The Fair gotten up by the ladies of this place for the benefit of Gen. Baylor's guerilla company was a great success. The spacious dining room of the Menger Hotel was tastefully adorned with wreaths of evergreens, and brilliantly lighted up. The supper tables, extending nearly the full length of the room on either side, were loaded with all the luxuries of the market and the season, and the articles prepared by the ladies to be raffled off, or for sale, made a splendid display. But more beautiful and blooming than all the pretty flowers that adorned the stands and tables, and shed their fragrance over the room, were the fair ladies who offered them for sale, or who, in other respects, contributed to the gayety and brilliancy of the occasion.

During the evening a beautiful Flag, made by Mrs. Samuels, the wife of Capt. Samuels of the Ordinance Department, was presented to Gen. Baylor, by Miss Victoria Palmer, who accompanied the presentation with the following address: . . .

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, June 13, 1864, p. 2, c. 4--[Summary: Semi-annual report of the Mutual Aid Association]

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, July 25, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

The Ladies' Southern Aid Society of San Antonio is much indebted to Mrs. Houston for a supply of Knitting Yarn prepared by her own hands for the benefit of our soldiers this winter. The members of our society will get any amount they may wish for knitting by applying to Mrs. Maverick, the Treasurer. The President of the society recommends busy fingers as a relief for the anxious hearts of her country women in this hour of trouble, which doubtless is the prelude to a brilliant day for our beloved South.

SAN ANTONIO HERALD, August 15, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

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.

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

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.