

2016

## Semi-Weekly News [San Antonio, TX]

Vicki Betts

University of Texas at Tyler, [vbetts@uttyler.edu](mailto:vbetts@uttyler.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/cw\\_newstitles](https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/cw_newstitles)

---

### Recommended Citation

Betts, Vicki, "Semi-Weekly News [San Antonio, TX]" (2016). *By Title*. Paper 130.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10950/764>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil War Newspapers at Scholar Works at UT Tyler. It has been accepted for inclusion in By Title by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at UT Tyler. For more information, please contact [tbianchi@uttyler.edu](mailto:tbianchi@uttyler.edu).

## SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [SAN ANTONIO, TX]

1862 - 1863, 1865

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

By a letter received a few days since we learn the sad intelligence of the death of Martin Mitchell, one of the Lieutenants of Capt. Houston's company of Texas Rangers in Kentucky. He died of the measles as we are informed. He was a promising young man, in the prime of life, and an efficient officer.

His unexpected death will be severely felt by his parents and relatives here; and by his numerous acquaintances.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 3, c. 3

Dressmaking & Sewing Work  
--of All Kinds—  
Done with Neatness and Dispatch  
By Mrs. Potschusky,

Having purchased one of Singer's largest Sewing Machines, is now prepared to do all kinds of Sewing on the most reasonable terms and after the latest fashion.

Residence, Commerce Street, opposite St. Mark's store.

San Antonio, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 3, c. 3

Notice.

The undersigned having been appointed enrolling officers for the city of San Antonio by R. W. Drahan, Brig. Gen'l 30<sup>th</sup> District Texas Militia. This is to notify all free white male inhabitants over the age of eighteen years and under forty-five, excepting [sic] such as are exempt by law, or members of volunteer companies reported to the State and volunteers under the various calls of the Governor since January last, to come forward and enroll themselves. All those refusing or neglecting so to do will be reported to the Brigadier General of the District to be dealt with as the law directs.

All Persons to report themselves within 10 days time.

For Precinct No. 1. G. W. Caldwell, at his Store Commerce street.

For Precinct No. 2, G. M. Martin, in the building on the Northwest corner Main Plaza.

For Precinct No. 3, Henry Burns at his store on Commerce street.

San Antonio, Dec. 10, '61.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 3, c. 4

Menger Hotel.  
(Alamo Plaza, San Antonio.)

The undersigned has with great care and expense built and fitted out a large ;& commodious Hotel on Alamo Square, which he opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Feb. 1859.

He flatters himself that his establishment will be found by the traveling public generally as fully equal to the wants of all. He will spare no pains to have his Table, and all the accommodations of his house, at least equal to those of any hotel in the West.

Attached to the establishment will be a large and well ventilated

Stable,

which will at all times be kept supplied with the best provender, and attended to by experienced hostlers.

W. A. Menger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 3, c. 4

Bookbindery  
in San Antonio.

Hermann iebanmann [sic? L missing?] respectfully announce to the citizens of San Antonio, that he established a Bookbindery, between the C. S. Hospital and the mill, on Carcel street, where he will be happy to receive all kind of Work in his line.

San Antonio, Nov. 14, 1861.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 2, 1862, p. 3, c. 3

Gamble's  
Circulating Library

is open all hours and to all who wish to borrow books

Large Additions

have recently been made to the collection consisting of a varied assortment of general literature, Histories, Biographies, Novels, Tales, Essays, Travels, voyages &c. &c.

Terms: 50 Cents per month or a reasonable price per single volume.

For rules, regulations &c call at Gamble's Book Store on Commerce street opposite Caldwell & Cochrans.

San Antonio, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1861.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 27, 1862, p. 3, c. 2

Wm. Hicks,  
Painter,  
San Antonio, Texas,

Is prepared to do House and Sign Painting, Carriage Painting, Lettering and Fancy painting of every description, upon short notice.

Shop--In the lot directly west of Cotton's Livery Stable.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 27, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Out of some sixty or seventy newspapers published in Texas a year ago, only some ten or twelve are now living. War and blockade is the cause of many newspapers going under. If the blockade is not raised wonder how many will be published six months hence?—Seguin Confederacy.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 17, 1862, p. 4, c. 1

More Light!!!  
Steam Factory of  
Soap & Candles,

By

B. Menger,

West side of San Pedro.

Laredo street, San Antonio, Texas.  
San Antonio, February 8, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 3, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Houston, Feb. 20th, 1862.

Mr. Cushing--Dear Sir--For the first time in my life I address a letter to a newspaper. It is from no vainglorious desire to see my own composition in print, but for the pleasure of giving vent to my long pent-up feelings on one subject--unmarried citizens. Day after day as you walk our streets you may see--I say it with shame--young, healthy, even stalwart men in the habiliments [sic] of peace. Why is this, Mr. Cushing? Why do they not go into the army? Are they cowards? If so, as breastworks, they might save the lives of men nobler and fitter to live than themselves. Let me ask them through the medium of your paper, why in the name of all that is great and noble, are they here, when their schoolfellows, men with whom they have associated for years, are suffering and dying for the homes and comforts for which these self yclept men are enjoying. They are a stain on the fair name of Texas. Little did I think when the discordant blast of the war trumpet sounded over the chivalrous South, that I should ever blush for Texas! And yet as I write, bitter tears of shame fill my eyes, for I know that, in our own town there are Southern-born men who refuse to fight for freedom! Instead of giving up all for their country, they give up *nothing*. Surely they have neither sense of honor nor patriotism. They refuse to do what I would give all I have to be able to do--to fight, even to die for my country.

Oh Southern women! I appeal to you for your influence with these men. Mothers, urge your sons. Sisters, appeal to your brothers. Sweet-hearts *command* your lovers. We all have an influence--can you ask how we shall use it?

A last word to the soldiers. How proudly grateful are we all to those who have left the comforts of home to endure the hardships of war, some in our own, some in sister States! Brave and true men! every night tearful prayers ascend to God's throne for your safety and welfare.

I cannot close my letter without asking the question, "Who shall be the greatest among

us?" the citizen or the soldier? The heart of every true woman responds with the ready echo--the soldier!

Texas Woman.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Capt. Long's Company.—Company A, Capt. R. B. Long, of Judge Roberts's regiment, arrived here last Saturday from Smith county. This is the third company from Smith county that has come down to the coast and is, to all appearances, made up of the best material in the State. The company numbers 80 men, and the average age of the men is over thirty years. The men are all of sober character, and among them are some of the wealthiest men in Smith county. They are well armed, each man furnishing his own gun. We welcome them as the advance guard of what bids fair to be one of the best regiments in the service. The balance of the companies will be along shortly. The officers of the company are as follows: Capt. R. B. Long; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. L. H. Stillwell, 2d do. Levi Wilcoxon; 2d do. G. T. W[illegible]; Orderly, E. H. Wells; 2d Serg't. R. W. No[illegible]; 1<sup>st</sup> Corporal W. F. Bass, 2d do., W. T. Hodges; 3d do. A. [illegible] Baxter; 4<sup>th</sup> do., G. W. Spivy.—Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 7, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Old Bexar will do her Duty.

Never have we seen aroused such a spirit of patriotism as is now manifested in our county. Capt. Newton's Company of Precinct No. 2, took a vote to see who would enlist for the war; and of 48 members, 45 voted to go! The Alamo Rifles, as far as we have been able to learn, will all go; although some few will go with a cavalry company, now forming. You may set down Bexar County as good for six Companies.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 7, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Alamo Rifles.

This Company will be prepared for the camp of instruction in a few days. They have the best arms in the South, and are warranted to shoot a Yankee 1000 yards. Some five or six members have joined a cavalry company, and those improving the opportunity can take their place and arms.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Bexar County is coming up nobly to the rescue in this hour of our country's trial; nearly all are going to the wars; the only difficulty is we have not men enough to fill all the companies, but any number of officers. Nearly every man you meet is [or would be] an officer, or a cripple, or over fifty years of age.

May we not look for some tall fighting soon?

Note: Very poor paper quality, dark color, very difficult to read

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 24 [?], 1862, p. 3, c. 1

Grand Entertainment.  
For the Benefit of the Texas Hospital Fund.  
Two Nights only:  
Thursday and Friday, March 27 & 28,  
To-Gon-Won,  
The Prince of Wizzards [sic].  
Mlle. Benoit,  
The celebrated Danseuse.  
Mons. Alberti,  
The celebrated and unrivalled Violinist.  
Mons. Benoit,  
With his speaking Automaton and Moving  
Figures.  
For full particulars see Programmes.

Admission	\$1.00
Children and Servants	.50.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Man Hung in Galveston. April 10<sup>th</sup>, 12 M. A German named Charles Baker, was hung, by a mob here this morning in front of his house on his own sign board. He kept a beer shop in west end of Strand, and the following are the circumstances as near as we can learn.

Baker had had chickens stolen from him several times by unknown persons, and has been watching to see if he could not catch them. Last night he was on the watch, when several members of Capt. Dupree's company passed the back of his house on their way to their quarters next door to Baker's. As they were passing, Baker deliberately fired at them, mortally wounding one of the company named White, who died last night. This morning a crowd collected and took Baker out of his house and hung him to the sign board, where he still hangs. From what we can learn, he deserved it on account of killing an innocent man without provocation.—Houston Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 24, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Capt. Penaloza's Company.—This morning Capt. Penaloza's Company drilled on the Main Plaza. They are comprised of Mexicans, able bodied, hardy, intelligent looking men. Success to Capt. Penaloza.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 24, 1862, p. 2, c. 1 [note: two issues dated April 24, back to back. This is the second one]

Death of Clinton Terry.—Clinton Terry, younger brother of the late Col. B. F. Terry, was wounded in the right breast on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the fight at Shiloh church. He was acting as aid to Col. Wharton, and received the wound on the first charge of the regiment. He lingered till the 14<sup>th</sup>, on which day he died at 7 in the morning.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 24, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

One Hundred Officers

Wanted, to fill the vacancies created at the battle of Shiloh, where so many of our gallant officers fell leading the charge. The undersigned has authority from the proper department to raise the above number in Travis. I will commence at the Capitol first. I wish the Sec. of State to head the list. Next all the able bodied men in each of the departments. Next, the C. S. Receiver and the Clerks in the C. Court. Next comes the District, Judge and District Attorney. I will say this: It will not be in my power to give such of you your rank, but will say this much, if any of your salaries should fall below the present it will be made up by the patriotic ladies of Travis. There will be an offensive war in the future, and officers will be expected to lead the charge. For further particulars apply to

J. R. Simms.

P. S.—I have been told by the proper authority that the county shall have credit for the number and thereby save Travis from the odium of a draft.

J. R. S.

We copy the above from the State Gazette, but we believe that many other counties in our State could furnish fifty or one hundred officers. How many can Bexar County furnish, including those who will not enlist if they could get an office in the army? These are all patriotic men, no doubt.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 24, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The following resolutions were passed at a late meeting of the San Antonio Fire Association:

Whereas, a pressing demand is now made for every available man, to repair to the theatre of war, to battle in vindication of Southern rights and Southern institutions; and, whereas a large number of the San Antonio Fire Association have joined companies, or expect soon to do so, in order to repair to any point that may be designated, thereby leaving a great deficit of members; Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That all good citizens, who are except from military duty, or are otherwise excused, be, and they are hereby requested to sign themselves as members of the Association, so as to fill up the places of those who have embarked in the war.

Be it further Resolved, That the Corporation of this city of San Antonio be requested to take into consideration the propriety of making some appropriation towards paying some person as engine keeper, and will be required to keep the engine well oiled, cleaned, and in good repair for use, at any moment it may be required.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the San Antonio papers for the information of the citizens.

F. R. Frankel.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 28, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Martial Law.—By bills, posted in this city, we see that Martial Law has been declared. Having no authority whatever to publish it, we shall do so in our next number *gratis*. Mr. James R. Sweet is Provost Marshal.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 28, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Committee of Public Safety

To all whom it may concern:

This is to notify all persons, citizens or alien residents, or transient persons, that any depreciation or attempted depreciation, of the St. Tr. Warrants or Confed. Notes or Bonds, either by what is known as "Shaving the paper," or asking exorbitant prices for goods or any other article of value, either for the purpose of gain on the part of the individual, or for motives of hostility to our government, will be considered and treated as evidence of disaffection or disloyalty to the cause of Southern Liberty. [rest mostly illegible]

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 1, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Martial Law.

Confederate States of America, }  
Head Quarters Sub Military District of }  
the Rio Grande, San Antonio, April }  
28<sup>th</sup>, 1862. }

[General Order No. 5.]

By virtue of authority vested in me as Brigadier General in the Provisional army of the Confederate States and Commanding the sub military district of the Rio Grande, it is ordered that the Military jurisdiction of the camp of the Confederate States, at the Salado shall be amended so as to embrace the city of San Antonio and the county of Bexar, and that within these limits Martial Law is hereby proclaimed.

Every white male person above the age of sixteen years, residing temporarily or otherwise, within the aforesaid limits, whether he be a citizen of the Confederate States or an alien, shall within six days from the publication of this order at San Antonio, present himself before the Provost Marshal, at his office in this city, to have his name registered, and to furnish such information as may be required of him. . . .

J. K. Sweet is appointed Provost Marshal.

By order of

Brig. Gen. H. P. Bee.  
E. F. Gray,  
Major A. A. A. G.

[Official.]

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 1, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Letter from the 7<sup>th</sup> Regt. T. M. V., camp above Dona Ana, N. M., April 6th, 1862, mostly illegible.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 1, 1862, p. 3, c. 1

Public Sale  
of  
Government Property

Will be sold at Public Auction, at the Quartermaster's Dept., Alamo Buildings, on Saturday, the 10<sup>th</sup> [?] inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M. a quantity of condemned stores.

Terms Cash.

By order of

J. F. Minter  
Major C. S. A. & A. Q. M.  
M. Carglan [?] Agent.

San Antonio, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 22, 1862, p. 1, c. 2  
From the Richmond Dispatch

### The Patriotic Women of the South.

We cannot too much admire the noble spirit of the mothers and daughters of the South in the present crisis. Revolutions and great struggles of people for honor and right, always depend in a great measure for success upon the support and encouragement of women. And never on this earth was a more brilliant example of female patriotism, devotion, and heroism, than that exhibited by our own country women in the pending war. They are worthy descendants of the women of '76. Every day brings instances of their self sacrificing spirit, their unwearied exertions and undying zeal in the cause. Their spirit is more constant than that of the men. Reserve but strengthens their resolution and increases their enthusiasm, whilst disaster subjects the greater number of men to despondence which is sometimes hard to shake off.

We have before us a letter showing the national devotion of the ladies of Mississippi, which we take the liberty of publishing it. It is from a most respectable gentleman. The plan proposed by the ladies of Pontotoc has been already suggested to the Government, and Mr. Memminger has written several interesting letters to ladies tendering their trinkets and plate. He declined, on behalf of the Government, the presents tendered, on the ground that they could not be conveniently made available; and he trusted the Government would not be reduced by the strait of resorting to that mode of raising means. We refer to these answers of the Secretary as applicable to the proposition of the devoted ladies of Mississippi, whose generous and patriotic offer we present, as a noble example of the spirit of our Southern women.

Tupelo, Miss., March 29, 1862.

Mr. Editor:--A number of ladies in the eastern part of Pontotoc, Miss., have recently united and formed what is called the Coonewah Soldiers' Aid Society. At their last meeting they resolved to give their jewelry, their gold and silver plate, to the Confederacy, and to make an earnest appeal to all the ladies in our country to do the same, for the purpose of purchasing or assisting to purchase a navy for the Confederacy. An old gentleman present said he would give five hundred, or if necessary, a thousand dollars, for the same purpose. Will you be so kind as to present this matter to the President and Congress? and if they think well of it, please give it a place in your paper. The society desire the President, if he think it wise, to call upon all the ladies in the Confederacy to present their jewelry, and their gold and silver plate, as a free-will offering upon the altar of their bleeding country. Thousands and thousands of them would gladly make this sacrifice, and their contributions would be swelled by hundreds and thousands from their fathers, husbands, and brothers.

Yours, very respectfully,  
Jas. H. Gallard.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Last evening, Capt. Penaloza's company was presented with an elegant Flag from the Mexican ladies of San Antonio. Capt. Newton's and Capt. Tool's Companies were present on the occasion.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Capt. Duff's Company of Cavalry left town last Monday. They are encamped at the Mission La Concepcion.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

#### Military Matters.

Col. P. N. Lockett assumed the command of this post last Sunday. Col. Ford having been ordered to San Antonio to be assigned to some other field of duty. We understand that Col. Lockett will be considerably strengthened at this post, as Brigadier General Bee, now in command of the Western Department of Texas, considers the Rio Grande deserving of great consideration. Gen. Bee will infuse new life into the Western Department, as he will be enabled under the Conscription Law, to muster into the field as large a force as he may deem necessary to hold this frontier.

Martial law was proclaimed in the counties of Cameron, Hidalgo and Starr, on Monday, and Mr. Albert N. Mills was appointed Provost Marshal, under the order. The new system works well, and will no doubt be productive of much good in preventing the conspirators against the government from their open and bare-faced expression of disloyalty, and also from their flagitious speculations upon the credit and currency of the government. Several interesting spirits have been arrested by the energetic and inflexible Provost Marshal, and have paid the penalty of their negligence or cupidity. Mr. Mills has the advantage of a professional knowledge of the law, and moreover, he is universally esteemed as being as just as he is incorruptible. We congratulate the community on the new order of affairs. A proper system of passports has been adopted, and we are in a fair way to get rid of the reprobates who have lived under a government they secretly detested.—Fort Brown Flag.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

On account of the scarcity of paper, no more new subscribers for the Semi-Weekly News will be taken for the present.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Fort Brown Flag.—This paper after an absence of two months has safely arrived. We consider the "Flag" as our right bower and hate to miss it.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 26, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

On account of the scarcity of paper no more new subscribers for the Semi-Weekly News will be taken for the present.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 26, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Fort Brown Flag.—This paper after an absence of two months, has safely arrived. We consider the "Flag" as our right bower and hate to miss it.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 5, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Substitute for Quinine.—The extremely high price for quinine renders it very difficult for persons of moderate means to purchase it and yet it has been considered almost indispensable for the cure of our summer and autumnal fevers.

The best substitute for it (if indeed it be not equal to the quinine itself) may be obtained with all ease, by taking the inside bark of the red dogwood (thought to be preferable to the white dogwood) cut it up fine and put it into a kettle covered with pure water; then boil it down to the consistency of molasses or jelly. During the process of boiling, it should be strained once or twice to free it from all impurities. After thus being boiled down it may be put away in bottles—When wanted for use, it can easily be made into pills by mixing with flour.

The writer of this has known three cases of severe chills and fevers cured within the last thirty days, by taking a few pills of three or four grains each, in twenty-four hours, taken every hour.

This information is obtained from an eminent Texas physician and chemist, who has thoroughly tested the preparation in his last year's practice.—B.—Nat. Union.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 5, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

We have been shown a splendid dragoon six shooter, made from beginning to end by Mr. George P. Dance, of Columbia. This pistol is equal, if not superior to Colt's revolvers. We understand the maker has enlisted in the army, and we suggest the propriety of his being released from his enlistment and the necessary means furnished to him to set up a manufactory of these pistols. We understand they can be made at a low rate, and that six hands can turn out about one per day.—Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 9, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The election for Mayor of San Antonio came off on Saturday last, and resulted in the election of Hon. S. A. Maverick. The vote was as follows:

S. A. Maverick	485
I. A. Paschal	251

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 9, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We learn that a portion of Capt. Duff's Company arrived in our city on Saturday last, from Fredericksburg, via Castroville, bringing in several prisoners with them. These prisoners, we presume, are persons who have not yet been convinced that the South is in earnest.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 9, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We are proud to announce that Mrs. Surgeon Ganahl was most successful in her efforts to obtain contributions for hospital purposes, last week. The amount subscribed amounts to within a few dollars of \$3000.—Fort Brown Flag.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 16, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Capt. Duff's Company continue to send to our city more prisoners from Fredericksburg

and vicinity. Last week among the prisoners from there, arrived here the Sheriff of Gillespie County, carrying along with him a ball and chain. We learn he had under way a body of *home guards*, intended for frontier defence [sic] no doubt, in case Abe's forces should land in Texas.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 26, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

See advertisement of Capt. Samuel, of the Ordnance Department: "Brown Paper for Cartridges wanted." A liberal price will be paid for that article.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 26, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Brown Paper  
Wanted!!  
at the Texas Arsenal,

Suitable for making Cartridges, for which a liberal price will be paid on deliver.

W. G. M. Samuel,  
Capt. & P., C. S. A.

San Antonio, June 21<sup>st</sup> 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 26, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Wool! Wool! Wool!  
Government Agency.

The undersigned having been appointed Special Agents of the

Confederate States Governm't,  
for the State of Texas, to purchase  
Wool,

are now prepared to pay liberal prices for all grades, and invite all Wool Raisers to an early interview at their office on

Alamo Plaza,

opposite the Menger Hotel, or to address them by letter.

Vance & Bro.,  
Special Agents, C. S. Government,  
for the State of Texas.

San Antonio, March 27, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 2

From the Fort Brown Flag.

Indianola Preparing to Surrender.—We have been furnished in advance of the occasion, with the following response which the authorities of the city of Indianola are prepared to make to the Yankees, provided the surrender of that town is demanded by any Gorilla [sic] force. The document may be fictitious, as we doubt the surrender of the place; but, if the town is given up, the demand could hardly be answered in a more independent spirit:

Mayors Office, Indianola ..... '62.

Sir—In reply to your demand for the surrender of the port and city of Indianola, I beg to say in the name, and by the authority of the Hon. Board of Aldermen, and many influential citizens, (all of whom are No. 1 Secessionists,) that they have built and held said city, for a period not short of 15 years; that they have so far failed to make anything of it, that they have spent the best part of their lives, (except that portion of it which is yet to be devoted to the killing of Yankees,) in the vain endeavor to make it the metropolis of Western Texas. You may therefore take possession and d-----d, as by rights you ought to be for hunting such small game.

Your servant,

The Mayor.

N. B.—I deem it my duty to tell you that I represent the civil authorities only, and that it may be advisable for you to obtain the consent of the military, as you know these military men are unusually very punctilious.

The Same.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 2

Highly Interesting from Missouri.—A St. Louis correspondent of the Milwaukee News writes as follows, under date of April 24<sup>th</sup>:

I have spent a good many hours in looking around this city and chatting with men from all parts of the State, and I am satisfied that there are as many Secessionists here as ever. Nine-tenths of the Americans in this city are Secessionists, and nothing but the sight of brass-buttons and red tape keeps them down. Our pickets at Benton barracks are fired at nearly every night. One of Col. Barstow's men was shot in the leg and one of col. Washburn's through the hand, a few nights since.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 2

Gen. Beauregard has caused to be published an order calling attention to an act of heroism on the part of private John Mather Sloan, of the 9<sup>th</sup> Texas Regiment only 13 years old, regularly mustered into service, who lost his leg at the battle of Farmington on the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. This gallant young hero, when wounded by a grape shot, said the only thing he regretted was that he would not be able to get another shot at the enemy! He is to have conferred upon him the badge of the cross of honor for distinguished gallantry.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Mr. Walker, whom we mentioned in our last issue, as being under trail for disloyalty, was honorably acquitted. The trial consumed the greater part of Saturday last. The Provost Marshal after a patient hearing of the testimony for and against the accused, and having administered the oath to support the Confederate States to Mr. Walker, gave him an honorable discharge. We are glad Mr. Walker has come off in flying colors.—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Judge J. F. McKenney has returned from Corpus Christi, where he had been holding court. He says the Provost Marshal sent an armed force to the Court House in order to prevent his holding court; but the Judge persisting [sic] in a determination to discharge his duty, was allowed to proceed without further molestation.

We are under the impression that the Provost Marshal has no right to interfere with the ordinary course of the law.—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The firing of cannon in our city at noon to-day announces the glorious intelligence of the arrival of the battery of six guns, captured by our forces at Valverde, N. M. They are splendid guns, and the account of their capture will form an interesting page of unexampled heroism in the future history of this great revolution.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We understand that a singular epidemic has lately broken out above Austin, and in the country around there generally. It acts only upon traitors to our country; and, to avoid it, these characters are fleeing to the mountains or leaving the country.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 7, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

To Rent.

The large and commodious Dwelling house near the Powder house, is for rent from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 1862.

For particulars apply to W. A. Menger, or to

John G. Miller.

Selma, Bexar County, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 10, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

Heart-Rending Casualty.—Miss Mary Jane McCrabb, a young lady aged about 20 years, was drowned on Sabbath last at Clinton, under the most afflicting circumstances. She was returning home on horseback after the morning services at the Presbyterian church, and rode upon the after part of the ferry-boat, in company with a young man as an escort, while the forward portion and much the larger portion of the boat was occupied by a wagon and team carrying salt. The young lady's horse became restive, and the young man, after trying to pacify it, at length seized the rein of the bridle and fixed it to the pommel of his saddle. The pony soon after gave another fearful lurch backward, and instantly fell back over the end of the boat into the deepest part of the river. In falling, it was afterwards ascertained, that the horse struck the young lady, breaking her collar bone and frightfully bruising her face. This probably explains the fact of her not rising to the surface after the first awful plunge. To render the scene yet more afflicting, the mother, a younger sister and a brother were spectators on the shore from which the boat had just departed. Frantic with grief at this startling bereavement, it was almost an impossibility to restrain the mother from rushing into the river to attempt the rescue of her child. Every effort was instantly put forth to recover the body, but in vain. There were several Mexicans present, already stripped for swimming and diving, and they, together with the young

man accompanying Miss Jane, at once plunged into the water where she disappeared. Diligent search was continued through the day, but not till 10 o'clock next morning was the body found; and then, to the astonishment of all, it was found a mile below the ferry. The funeral was attended by a large concourse of sorrowing citizens the same evening, at the residence of the mother Mrs. Ryan, about two miles from Clinton.

Miss Jane McCrabb will be remembered by many persons in this region, as the daring and accomplished equestrienne who took a prize at the Gulf Coast Fair in 1860. In the private relations of life, her strong attachments, and her unaffected kindness of heart, rendered her an object of undying love in the kindred circle, and of lasting esteem with friends.—Vict. Adv.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

We regret to learn that most of the town of Bastrop was burnt to the ground on Wednesday night last.—The fire destroyed one hotel, a large block of brick buildings and ten stores, only one store remaining. Loss estimated at \$80,000. There were also 125 bales of cotton burnt. We have no further particulars.

The people of Austin, we are informed, having learned that A. J. Hamilton was raising a company in opposition to our Government, raised and sent a force of 300 men to arrest his operations. This force, it is said, captured 25 of Hamilton's men, but he escaped—Galveston News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 1, c. 4

Spirits of Turpentine.—We are gratified to be able to add another article of domestic manufacture to the many we have heretofore noticed that have been brought into existence by the present war.

We now allude to the manufacture of Spirits of Turpentine, which has been commenced by Messrs. Hayness & Pearsall, at Weiss' Bluff, Jasper county. These gentlemen began this enterprise in January last, and are now about prepared to commence distilling. They have about 40,000 boxes which yield remarkably well. They have had experience in the business in North Carolina and therefore are able to determine with reasonable certainty what results to expect. They were not able, in consequence of the blockade, to procure a sufficient large distill, but expect to make a barrel of Spirits of Turpentine per day with the present distill, and will soon enlarge the business. They will probably be able to fill small orders in two or three weeks to meet the wants of the State. Of course they will have for sale rosin and other usual products of the business.

It is hardly necessary for us to state that Spirits of Turpentine is one of the necessities of the country, required as a medicine, also for manufacturing and various other purposes. The supply of other nations as well as our own, has heretofore been procured chiefly from North Carolina, and that supply, as well as cotton and tobacco, has now been stopped effectually by the war, and hence other nations are suffering quite as much as we are for Spirits of Turpentine, and that too without the extensive pineries that we have to make it at home.

We may here remark that we understand the above enterprising gentlemen took the contract to complete the Texas and New Orleans railroad to Orange, which contract is now completed. The cars will probable [sic] extend their trips to Orange in a few days.—Galv. News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We were shown a few days ago a fair specimen of indigo prepared by a lady living in Lavernia. The indigo is compact and dark-blue, and went not through the second manipulation of washing. It was further mentioned that the water contained yet plenty of indigo in solution. We advise our lady to use lime water at her next trial. In our next number we will give a treatise "On the manufacture of Indigo" for her benefit.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

In the "Texas Democrat," published at Victoria, we see that Mr. S. A. White, publisher of the "Victoria Advocate," has been arrested and put on bail on account of an article published lately in his paper, headed "Martial Law." The case will be martial lawed pretty soon, and will give our readers the decision of the court.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Who are They?—A person who arrived here last Saturday, from Laredo, gives the information that when near old Fort Ewell, on the Nueces river, he met some thirty men, on horseback, well armed and equipped. Coming into hailing distance he accosted them, but could get no reply. He supposed they were bound westward. He met them at night, and thinks they were all Americans. Who are they?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Our War Correspondent.—We have secured the services of a gentleman, well known in this city, for our war correspondent. He belongs to one of the best companies ever raised in this city, and goes in "just for the fun of the thing."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Paper.—We have ordered a supply of printing paper lately. Our supply on hand may last us half a year. We mention this that our readers may not despair, rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. As soon as our last order is filled, everybody, who is a good pay, can get our paper.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 14, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The following companies, members of Col. Ford's regiment, but more generally known in Arizona and New Mexico as that of Col. Baylor's have, within the past few days, organized themselves anew for the war. We cannot refrain from making a few remarks concerning this regiment. We expected from the great exploits achieved by Col. Baylor in those countries that his men must have been experienced frontiersmen or veterans in warfare, but to our astonishment we found most of them young men, some of whom the age of manhood had not yet impressed its seal upon them with a moustache, with a gay, devil-may-care countenance, yet thoroughly imbued with southern principles, and determined to bear arms so long as a single yankee vandal dares to show his phiz on southern soil. The "Spy company" of that regiment, commanded by Capt. Bethel Coopwood, is yet unorganized in consequence of his non-arrival. The Captain is expected in town daily, where he will no doubt meet with a warm reception, as there is no man who has hunted up and fought the disciples of the emperor Abraham I with more energy and perseverance, in that far off country, than he has. The following is a list of the newly elected

officers in the above named regiment:  
[list]

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Headquarters Trans-Mississippi District }  
Little Rock, Ark., June 8<sup>th</sup>, '62. }

General—I have received information, that you have in prison at Batesville, certain citizens of Izard county, Ark., captured a few days ago, by a detachment of your cavalry, who are charged with firing upon your men, whilst attempting to arrest them and whom it is your intention to hang as outlaws. Without stopping to inquire whether they did actually fire upon your soldiers or not, I assert it to be the duty, as well as the right of every citizen of the District, to fire upon the soldiers of the U. S. Government, so long as that government persists in the invasion of their homes, and they have the arms to defend these homes with; and in the performance of that duty I should sustain them at every hazard.

I have in custody several officers and soldiers of the army of your government, and I write this to warn you that if your threat is carried into execution against one single citizen of this District, who now is, or hereafter may fall into your hands. I shall avenge his death by hanging every Federal officer and soldier whom I now hold as prisoner of war; and from that time forward this becomes a war of extermination between us. Neither asking nor granting quarter, I shall put to death without mercy, every soldier and citizen of the U. S. who shall fall into my hands.

I am further informed that in a published order you have already declared this to be a war of extermination and that you expect to wage (?) such. I request, sir, that you specially advise me as to the truth of such information, and if compatible with your duty, furnish me with a copy of the order in question. If such proves to have been your declaration, however, you can consider this as an acceptance of issue tendered, and we will ignore all reorganized [sic] rules of civilized warfare, and make our campaign one of savage cruelty and unsparing butchery. Hoping, General, that there is some mistake in this matter, and that the rules of civilized warfare will continue to influence us both in conducting the campaign in which we find ourselves engaged.

I have the honor to be  
Your obedient sev't,  
T. C. Hindman,  
Maj. Gen. C. S. A.,

Brig. Gen. Curtis, commanding U. S. force in Arkansas.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

From the Brownsville Flag of the 3d inst:

The blockading vessel left our coast last Tuesday week, and has not since returned.

Cotton continues to roll in considerable quantities, and we hear of large quantities on the road, bound for this market. A gentleman from the interior informs us that there are probably six hundred bales of cotton on the road from here to Victoria, which has been thrown off of the wagons employed to transport them, because some Receiver or other officer thought it was being improperly sent out of the country. Many thousands of dollars worth of property has thus been lost to the owners and to the country by this stupidity, and the good faith of the government has been challenged where one man has had his teams taken to haul another man's cotton. Parties of

questionable honesty have represented that they had "government cotton," and by this falsehood, which should subject the author to arrest if the military did their duty under martial law, have pressed teams into their service which were hauling for as good patriots as there are in the South. It is to be hoped that a suit for damages will reach some of these stupid officers, that they may learn that not only curses, but that fines and penalties are the results of such ill-advised and improper proceedings.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

A Retribution.—An incident in the career of "Picayune" Butler, in New Orleans has come to our knowledge, which we deem should be made public, it being such a highly proper *succedaneum* [sic?] of his infamous order recently issued with reference to the ladies of the city.

A few days since preparations were making for a dress parade, and a number of officers had congregated in front of the St. Charles, Butler's headquarters. A splendid carriage was driven in front of the hotel, accompanied by servants in livery—the whole affair betokening an ownership of great wealth and excellent taste. The occupant, dressed in the latest fashion and sparkling with jewelry, drew from her pocket her gold card case, and taking therefrom her card, sent it up to Butler's rooms. The next day himself and lady called at the residence indicated on the card—a fine mansion in a fashionable part of the city—where a couple of hours were agreeably spent in conversation, followed by the introduction of wine and cake, when the highly delighted visitors took their departure. Picayune did not appreciate the fact that he had been made the victim of a successful "sell," until he learned shortly afterwards that he had been paying his respects to the proprietress of one of the most celebrated *bagnios* in the State, who is at this time "*considered a woman of the town, plying her vocation as such.*"

The retribution that thus fell upon Picayune was deserved!—Memphis Appeal.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

We have been furnished with an account of the loss of the schooner R. O. Brian, which was run ashore near Velasco on the 4<sup>th</sup> inst., to escape a Federal steamer. The crew then went on shore out of the reach of the steamer and guns, while men were sent from the steamer to the schooner, and not being able to get her off they set fire to her and left. When they had returned to the steamer, the steamer went two or three miles further out, when a man from Col. Bate's regiment went to the schooner for the purpose of putting out the fire, and succeeded, as the account says, in saving medicines to the value of \$2,500, among which were some 250 ounces [sic] of quinine, and 30 lbs. of blue mass—also 6 bbls. limes. The balance of the cargo and vessel were a total loss. The vessel was loaded by C. Ennis & Co., of this city. Our account says the loss took place in presence of col. Bates' regiment, but under such circumstances that no assistance could be rendered.

The account says the Federal steamer, fired near 100 shots at the schooner and her crew while making their escape, and also at Capt. Saunder's company, which was drawn out for the purpose of attacking some 60 of the enemy who had been sent on shore in launches. We prefer not to go into the details explaining why no attack was made.—Galv. News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

Manufacture of Arms.—We learn through Mr. J. Llewelyn of Mound Prairie, Anderson Co., that an extensive manufactory of small arms for the State, has been established in that place will soon be in operation. The services of experienced armorers from Harper's Ferry are

secured. We are requested to state that good gunsmiths can find employment there, and all such are requested by the proprietors to tender their services. It should be borne in mind that all those engaged in this employment are exempt from military duty.—Galveston News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

A salute was fired in honor of Brig. Gen. Sibley, last Tuesday. He arrived here on Monday evening last.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 17, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

[From the London Punch.]

The Age of Paper.

Yankee Doodle borrowed cash,  
    But could not pay the lender;  
So he issued paper trash,  
    And made it legal tender.  
To manufacture six per cents  
    He set the mill a-going—  
The plainest written evidence  
    Of sums that he is owing.

The money pulse is very low  
    Throughout the Yankee nation.  
But their Treasury Notes I know  
    Will help the circulation.  
The backs of all are printed green—  
    A proper way to make 'em;  
For by and by it will be seen  
    That those are green who take 'em.

A vehicle of promises  
    To drag you down to ruin—  
To add to your indebtedness,  
    With all the ills accruing;  
With foreign powers your credit gone,  
    And from the people's bags, sir,  
Their gold and silver all withdrawn,  
    And you reduced to rags, sir.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We learn that the boy who was lately shot accidentally by his companion, died since of his wound. This is one more sad accident to the many thousand that happen annually; by permitting children to play with fire-arms.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

News from El Paso.

The following intelligence was received by the last El Paso Mail:

Capt. Hoffmann, in passing through a small town, some ten or 15 miles this side of El Paso, made a requisition of that place for a certain number of beeves. The population, either acting in bad faith or not being able to fulfill the contract at the stipulated time, delivered but a few beeves. Capt. Hoffman, not satisfied, refused to pay for them, or give them a receipt for the amount delivered. The inhabitants rallied their fighting men, from 2 to 300 strong, pursued our men, killed some 14 or 20, mostly stragglers, and captured about 15.

Major Teel, hearing of these proceedings, came to the rescue, killed 30 Mexicans and liberated the prisoners.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Revue of Last Saturday.—A general inspection of the troops stationed in and near San Antonio, was held last Saturday evening, on the Alamo square. The following companies were present: Infantry—Capt. Newton's, Bose's, Tod's and Penaloza's; Cavalry—Capt. Duff's and Bell's. Long before the appointed time, a large number of our population assembled on the square to witness that novel spectacle. At 5 o'clock the different companies arrived with their fine brass band, and soon after, Gen. Hebert and staff. The tout ensemble passed off to every body's satisfaction, giving that evening the appearance of a holiday.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 31, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

(From the Galveston News.)

Federal Blockaders on our Western Coast—  
their Operations.

Lamar, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

Messrs. Editors.—A month since, on the abandonment of Shell Bank Fort, at the junction of Aransas and Corpus Christi Bays, Capt. Kittridge of the U. s. blockading barque Arthur, considering it a virtual invitation to take possession, sailed for N. O., and returned on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst., with a fast schooner of 5 feet draught and two lugged sloops, the first, mounting a Parrot pivot-gun of 4 or 5 inches and a brass 12 pounder mounted as a field piece with 30 men; the latter, mounting each a brass 24 pounder howitzer with 14 men. He has captured in all 97 bales cotton, the sunken schooner Monte Christo, schooner Reindeer, sloop Belle Italia and some small boats. The schooner Monte Christo was afterwards partially burnt by order of Capt. Neal—sails, &c., saved.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> inst., Capt. K. landed here with 20 men, with the Federal flag, surrounded the house of your correspondent and stated he had special orders from his government to arrest him for capturing the schooner Twilight last year. Intimation of his intention by the Federal crew of prisoners had been received, and of course he was unsuccessful in carrying out his orders. It is very singular that the Federal government should there attempt to arrest for treason a civil officer for executing the order of his government, an act which in a military or naval officer would be no offence.

Capt. K. stated that he should molest no quiet citizens; that he had one gun which throws shell 4½ miles; that he should proceed with the first fair wind to Corpus Christi and demand the

surrender of the place, (the ship canal has been obstructed and it is uncertain whether he can get there ([sic] that he was waiting a steamboat which would shortly be here; that the Port of Aransas was now open to commerce and cotton could be shipped.

The barque sailed up the coast yesterday and I suppose Capt. K., with his flotilla, is now attempting to get to Corpus Christi, as he went in that direction night before last.

Several hundred bales of cotton were saved from the enemy by prompt measures.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Notice  
From the People's Store

To the Citizens of San Antonio.

We have been legitimately engaged, (*as is usual with all merchants of this city,*) in dealing in produce of all kinds in connection with our Grocery business, for the benefit of all concerned; but owing to the present tendency to extraordinary high prices, we shall hereafter desist from dealing in the same, except when consigned to us personally in large quantities from the country.

Also, I shall distribute from my store, twice a week, namely on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, at 6 o'clock, 50 loaves of bread, *without charge, to all who may be in need.*

Martin Schnetz.

San Antonio, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

S. A. Herald please copy.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Price Current.

We have been trying from various sources to get at the prices of the various market articles, and give the following as the result of our observation without comment.

Flour \$22 per cwt; Bacon, 25 cts pr. lb. Lard, 37½ cts per lb.; Coffee, \$1 00 per lb. Sugar, 25 cts. do.; Butter, 50 cts do; Rice, 40 cts do; Molasses, \$2 00 per gal.; Black Pepper, \$1 00 per lb.; Tea, \$4 to \$5 do; Eggs 37½ to 40 cents per doz.; Potatoes, 6 lbs at \$1 00; Roasting ears, 5 cents a piece; cabbage, from 37½ to 50 cts a piece; Beets, small, 3 for 25 cts; Milk, 12½ cts per quart; Tallow Candles, 60 cts. a doz.; Bar Soap, 50 cts per bar; Melons 25 cts to \$1 a piece; Butter Beans \$1 00 per quart; Vinegar, \$1 00 per gallon.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 21, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Texan Scalps.—A Mr. Curtis who escaped from Denver city when in the hands of the blood-thirsty Yankees informs us that they were offering rations and reward for Texan scalps, and that he saw, while passing through Ft. Bend, three scalps paid for the Yankees. Mr. Curtis wrote himself a passport and commission to buy mules for the Federal Government and by it was enabled to make his way back to this State. Texans know well how to repay this act of brutality of which the Northern cannibals are best pleased when performing. Let us have enough of them, free of vermin (if such can be found) to pad our saddles and make foot-matts [sic] for our kitchen-doors.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 11, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

Paper.—A large supply of paper has been ordered for this office. It has to come a long distance, say 1300 miles by land, and the weight of paper will about equal the weight of silver we have to pay for it. But as we said at some former period, the 'Semi-Weekly News,' is a permanent institution, and in spite of the present high prices, it is bound to flourish.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

### Hunter and his Negro Brigade.

We learn that the Federal Gen. Hunter, has organized and armed the negroes of Port Royal, Ladies' and St. Helena Islands, for the purpose of plundering our homes and butchering our wives and children. Soldiers and citizens, what do you think of that? Think of the brutal licentiousness of the Northern soldiers and then of the same license extended by them to our negroes! Does not your blood course hotly and madly through your veins when you think of such measures as they are to accomplish by such means? What will you do with those negroes when you take them prisoners? Take them to your hospitals and nurse their wounded and sick and exchange them as whites? Here is a new feature in this war. What shall we do with them? When we say what we *think*, we believe we speak the sentiments of our people in this case. We say it shall be a war of extermination to every negro taken in arms against us. There is not a Southern soldier who would accept a surrender from such a class; and above us when we go to meet them shall *the black flag and cross bones* wave, and victory or death to us shall be our watchword, and death any how to the black slave soldiers. Rather than accept them on any other terms let us make it a war of extermination. No man whose soul is the home of one spark of humanity, would think for a moment of arming such a class against such a people, and he who would do so, should be tortured to death and afterwards confined to the leg of Tantalus through eternity. Let every slave taken in arms against us be shot, and every white officer for them share the same fate.

Such a course will deter the hollow headed and hollow hearted Yankees from such brutal measures—measures that make the heart's blood curdle with indignation. Certainly Hunter and Butler are twin-apples (rotten ones, and the devil will be in good luck if he keeps them out of our hands until this war is ended.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

A Southern Lady's Brother Murdered for Protecting her from insult.—We find the following in the Baltimore "American" of the 24<sup>th</sup> instant. God grant that the day of retribution for these Yankee hirelings may speedily come:

Some days since a lady entered General Viele's headquarters to obtain from him a pass to go to Suffolk, to see some friends and relatives residing there. Gen. Viele received her with his usual politeness, but suddenly noticing that she wore the Confederate colors prominently, in the shape of a brooch, mildly suggested that it would perhaps have been in better taste to come to his office without such a decoration. "I have a right, sir, to consult my own wishes as to what I shall wear." "Then, madam," replied the General, "permit me to claim an equal right in choosing with whom I shall converse;" and the dignified lady had to withdraw from his presence. Subsequently the proud daughter of Secessia returned to the General's office without the offensive brooch, and, making a slight apology for her indecorous conduct on a former occasion, reiterated her request

for a pass, which was promptly filled up and handled [sic] to her.

The lady proceeded to Suffolk and, after visiting her friends, she very injudiciously walked around among the Provost Guard of National troops, wearing the brooch above mentioned in a very conspicuous [sic] portion of her dress. The attention of the soldiers was at once attracted to the emblem, much to the gratification of the giddy girl. A very polite and gallant officer, of the Thirteenth New York, accosted her at once, and told her it would be better for her to remove the brooch out of sight or it might cause a difficulty; but the young lady heeded not the admonition. Passing along, she was met by a soldier who told her she must not wear the "Stars and Bars" now, as it was nothing now but an emblem of weakness and evacuation. She said to the soldier that she would not remove the brooch for any Yankee hireling, whereupon said soldier snatched the hated brooch from the girl's bosom and removing the colors, he handed the golden bauble back to its owner. Some citizens observing the act fell upon the soldier, and were belaboring him pretty badly, when he drew his bayonet from his scabbard and striking one of the attacking party several blows he felled him to the earth, and injured him so badly that it is feared he will not recover. The injured man was the silly girl's brother. Yet this is no lesson to the ladies of Norfolk, who daily insult our soldiers when they get a chance.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 1, c. 4

Good for the Thirsty Soldier.—Extreme thirst is one of the most severe trials the active soldier has to encounter. During a long march and on the field of a long and hotly contested battle, he is often almost overcome with fatigue and thirst. An old frontiersman, who had long experience on the Western borders on the plains, suggests the following as the best remedy and preventive of thirst that has ever been discovered:

After a meal, take the coffee grounds, boil them over again, and pour it off into your canteen, and let it cool for your next march. It is not only [sic] nutritive and stimulating but it will quench the thirst more effectually than water. Also, take the coffee grounds after being thus used, dry them, and put them in your pocket, and chew them at intervals on your march, or during any arduous service and they will repress thirst and satiate greatly the cravings of hunger. This course has been tried with the most gratifying results, and is worthy of trial by every soldier in the service.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

An Affecting Scene.—A late Richmond letter contains the following: A few evenings ago, at sunset, a small party of soldiers bore the body of a beloved comrade to the *posse commune* of Hollywood. They expected to find the Chaplain on the grounds, but he had finished his interments for the day and gone home. With heavy hearts, they relinquished the consultation of religious services at the grave, expressing, in sad terms, the bitterness of their disappointment. A lady of Richmond, whom a pious office had carried to the cemetery [sic], overheard them and coming forward, she volunteered to recite from memory the solemn and beautiful burial service of the Episcopal church. The offer was gratefully excepted [sic]. A more affecting scene had rarely been witnessed than that little body of mourners presented as beneath the grand old oaks yet leafless, in the waning purple twilight, the gentle sister repeated, in feeble, but clear and musical tones the noble ritual of the common prayer. The rough sons of the camp wept as children.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2. c. 1

The Lagrange True Issue suggests Piedmont Springs as the place, and October as the time, for the meeting of newspaper publishers to adopt some resolutions to avoid being troubled by delinquent subscribers. We would most respectfully mention Shanghai, or Cochin in ----- in ----- in China as the place, and the time, six months after the treaty of peace between the Confederate States of America and the United States. All who are in favor of this suggestion will please say I—all at one time. Those to the contrary, No.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

### Mortuary.

Died, on the day of the Secession of the State of Texas from the United States, JACK HAMILTON, who instead of going strait way to Abraham's bosom, took a circuitous route through the mountains of this State to the clime of greasers, from which part, it is expected, he will seek the kingdom of Abraham, which beth [sic?] beyond the Potomac. The ministering angels who bore him safely through the vale and over the mountains will soon be bright and shining peons on the stately rancheros of Mexicans. The same promising situation is held out to all who walk in his crooked path.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We are in the habit of going to the market every morning, to witness the extortion of those who hold the strings to our stomachs, but it is not with the same feelings that the people of olden times beheld the barbarous exhibition of gladiators, that we experience. We do not mean any particular man, but that class of men, who makes a monopoly of all the eatables in market. We can in one day eat two and a half dollars worth of the market articles and not do our stomachs injustice, though we are no epicure. What will the laborer do who earns two dollars a day and with it feed six healthy children and a healthy wife? We think when they have finished their breakfast, he must still have an appetite about as big as a piece of chalk, unless there is another miracle wrought, like that of the loaves and fishes, which is not likely to happen in these degenerate days of dove-selling. Listen! Did'nt [sic] you hear some pale-face-weak-voiced urchin, lean and and lank as a coach-whip, asking for bread, and Ma say, there is none?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We had the satisfaction of conversing with one of Capt. Duff's Company who has been in pursuit of the enemy in the mountains of Fort Clark, and from him we obtained a list of the casualties of the battle in which Mr. Frank Robinson, of Uvalde was killed, but was not. There were two killed—W. E. Poe and L. Stringfield—and sixteen wounded—W. Williams, Welch, J. Singleton, W. H. Barker, John Morris, S. Irvin, Charles Bergusen [?], Wm. H. Barker, R. Elder, Albert Elder, Benj. Rossey, John Hill, Dow Yarborough, Edmonson, and Lt. McRae. This engagement has, we thrust [sic] broken up the foul nest in the Mountains, which has been hatching so many vile and cowardly enemies to our cause. More than half of them were left dead on the field and the remainder ----- (?). [as written in article—VB]

Among many the hardships endured by the boys on that scout they found some pleasures and amusements. Away up in the mountains, gushed forth crystal fountains fresher than their air and perfectly limpid, to slake their thirst. Wide and deep pools, filled with Perch and Mountain-

trout, gave themselves up most readily to satisfy their hunger. And sweeter too than all this, under the projecting rocks from the rugged brow of the mountain, hung geometrically and [illegible] wild bee's honey, which made us feel like going on a scout. May such luxuries ever fall in their way.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

A Remedy for Congestive Chills.—The Mother of a soldier has sent to the Petersburg Express a remedy for congestive chills, which she has never known to fail. She has, (she says) for a number of years been managing a large boarding school, and has had some experience in nursing. The remedy is spirit of turpentine—give from ten to fifteen drops, in syrup or toddy—rub the spine, chest and extremities well, adding a small quantity of oil of turpentine to prevent blistering. The extremities should be rubbed until re-action takes place. A cloth saturated with the mixture should be applied to the chest.—Telegraph.

We unhesitatingly pronounce the above a dangerous humbug. Newspaper publishers commit a grievous [sic] wrong in giving publicity to those "infallible remedies," which the too confiding never discover until the patient is beyond the reach of the physician's skill. We advise the sick when in need of medical aid to send for the best physician within their reach immediately, and to follow his directions that they may not, when too late, repent them of trusting unprofessional remedies.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

In the S. A. Herald, of the 23d inst., we see a notice to the poor by W. G. Allen & Co., who proposes to give from their stall No. 11 in the new market, from 50 to 75 pounds of fresh beef to the poor.

God bless the man, who in these days of extortion, destitution and avarice, opens the doors of his heart and lets charity flow to the poor. These are small things, but are regarded like the widow's mite, and shall bring their reward. The "People's Store" is issuing bread, and bread and meat will keep soul and body together. Remember the Poor!

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 4

Wanted for the Troops,  
Woolen or Cotton Socks

For which I will pay sixty cents for Woolen and fifty cents for Cotton per pair, delivered at the Clothing Depot in this city.

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

Asst. Quartermaster's Office,  
San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 20, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 1, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

Extortion.—An old friend blames us for not thundering away more continuously at the extortioners. There are two reasons for it. The first is, it has done no good—never reformed anybody, and, on the contrary, made them all worse. The second is, that for something else has

made a thousand new ones, and now we rather like the fun seeing them eat up each other. Extortioner comes into town with a load of watermelons and diminutive fowls, weighing perhaps half a pound each. For the first he requires one dollar each, and for the second fifty cents. He sells out his wagon load at one or two hundred dollars, and then, when he goes to the store and finds sugar forty cents a pound—flour seventeen dollars a hundred—molasses two dollars a gallon—there, you see, is 'retribute injustice at once.' Like Snuggs he is "kinder tuck up short," and looks both ways for Sunday. He skins us—we skin him—it's fair all round, and when he gets home of a night he goes to bed with the consoling reflection that "he's been done as he's done to others." As far as we outsiders who are skinned by both, we pay the prices in the way of a ticket to see the show.—Macon Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 1, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Since some of our citizens have been trying to do something for the poor, somebody above had been doing a good thing too. We were sitting in our sanctum with the dust about ten feet—(we was about to tell a story)—with the dust about half an inch thick all over our table, and were thinking of appointing a committee on "ways and means," to get a shower, when, lo! the winds blew as if they were tired, and had come from mountains of snow, and down came the rain, not "a refreshing shower" as the good old deacon prayed for, but what an enthusiastic young brother wanted when his corn was "burning up"—a root soaker and gully washer. After the rain had "done its do" we were enjoying the fresh air, feeling so much revived and encouraged, when the beautiful lines of that sweet poet, Tom Hood, came to our relief, and we shouted, half aloud oh, for winter, the cool and bracing winter when we can say:

At first it blew,  
And then it snew,  
And then it thew,  
And then it frized!

Would that Hood were here to-day that he might transfer to rhyme our jubilant feelinks about the rain. However, if Hood can't come send another shower.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 4, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Danger Ahead!!!

We hear it whispered on every street-corner that a mob is organized for the purpose of going to the Market and getting what they need at their own prices, and it is determined to have its meat and vegetables on reasonable terms or hang every butcher on a hook in his own stall. We tell you, functionaries, once for all, unless you do your duty, the people will do it for you, and to your sorrow. There can be a number of men raised in the cause in question in one hour in the morning to clean out Malitia [sic], Conscripts, and all the soldiers hereabouts. A hungry stomach [sic] knows no conscious, and woe be to extortioners when this mob in its hungry fury breaks upon the market-stalls and takes what it wants and hangs every opposing voice!

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 4, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Weigh your meat at the market-stalls, or make arrangements with the butcher to let him guess one day how large a piece of beef should be to be worth 25 cts., and you will guess on the next day.

Why cannot some one be appointed to superintend the weights and measures of the market? Who has ever heard [sic] of such neglect in the midst of such a population?

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after meats and vegetables, for the butcher's heart has shut its doors on compassion, and the hungry stomach shall improve the mind and through privations shall each one read his "titles clear to mansions in the skies!"

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We are requested by Mr. Alex. Young, to say, that persons visiting the Texas Powder Mill, will not be allowed to visit any of the works, excepting the Sulphur [sic], Saltpeter and Charcoal establishments.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The Galveston News murmurs about our silence concerning powder-mills, cartridge-making establishments, &c., in San Antonio. Neighbor, it is not best to tell all we know, and we forbear to say anything about such things; for the same reason you did not give a description of the Bullet-Making-Machine—that our enemy may be kept in the dark.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

In all conscience we would ask to know the difference between the present exorbitant [sic] prices and the depreciation of our currency.

We have a vast deal of tickets, notes, &c. in circulation here, which, we think, tends to the increase of the prices. We do hope some steps may be taken by those who have the power to put a stop to their issue. The cry is "*tickets, tickets, tickets!* dat ish no monish—may be he be goot for buy someting else quick for me!"

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

"Beware of dogs," says the bible, and so say we. The population of this place amounts to about thirteen thousand human souls and forty thousand dogs of every variety; who, when congregated at the market of a morning, are an egregious nuisance. We tried to amuse ourself counting them the other morning, but in our effort to do so, we were discouraged on thinking of the poet, asking us to "count the sands upon the sea shore, number the leaves upon the forest trees, count the stars, &c." and we thought it so impossible to number the dogs.

Query: How many suffering poor could be fed, by what those dogs devour? and what good do the nasty flea-breeding canines do?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 15, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Lieut. R. B. Harvey, of Colonel Garland's Regiment, is now in this State, on his way to San Antonio, and from thence to the counties in Texas where companies for that Regiment were organized. He is on detached service, to obtain clothing for the soldiers under Col. Garland's command, being at present in great need. Many of the men have no shoes, and several are reduced to the greatest extremity of the want of clothing. All those who can furnish aid should have everything ready when the Lieutenant comes round, as there is no time to spare. Prepare and send anything in the shape of clothing, warm and comfortable, for coming winter. Send blankets, comforts &c.

Mr. J. R. Crew of Victoria, will assist in collecting this material.

The regiment had much sickness, but nearly all have now recovered. Only three have died since it left the State.—Houston Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Mr. David Taylor, a subscriber of our paper, living in Rocky Comfort, Ark., writing to us, adds the following postscript:

No news of import. You of course have heard that the Yankees have left Arkansas, also that Curtis took with him on his retreat all the negroes, for six miles, both sides of the road, and destroyed all that was not portable; even rudely removing the ear and finger rings off the ladies. All the clothes that the negro *fair sex* did not want were torn to shreds. To those that claimed to be Union, he said prove it by joining the first *Federal* Arkansas Regiment, under the backslider Fishback. He, Fishback, Colonel of said Regiment, is the only signer of the secession ordinance that has as yet fallen from grace. If they joined the regiment then he would give them a Federal receipt for what property he had taken; so you see the property had to go, Union or no Union. I think next time, if it ever comes, our people will not be quite so credulous. Federal promises will not do to tie to.—Shreveport News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

On the Telegraph office at Tupelo is the following placard:

"This is the Telegraph Office. We have no time or inclination to answer questions; nothing for sale or to eat; can't fill requisitions, don't command the post; don't know where any brigade, regiment, battalion, company, officer or private is. Enquire next door."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 1, c. 4

We understand that Newton the Musician who amused the citizens of this place for a short period, sometime since turned out to be a spy and was hung in Ellis county. It seems that another very fine gentleman of the sort, stopped at a house and asked permission to remain all night. The lady's husband being absent she refused, when he said he would stay and got off his horse. She told him if he approached the house she would shoot him. He made the attempt and she did shoot him, when he, believing himself mortally wounded, confessed to being a spy, whom he described, the description suited Newton, who was taken up and hung.—Texas Times.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We thank the "True Issue" of La Grange, Texas, for his compliment, and inform him that we expect to start for Cochin-China in time to get to Piedmont Springs, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, *proximo*, where we hope to see the mug and phiz of every Texas Editor, and to kiss the mugs of (not of Editors,) whatever may be there to increase the "feast of reason and flow of soul."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We have been told that those who are hauling the necessaries of life to the volunteer aid societies of this city, are exempt from the conscript act. We think this is as it should be. There is hope for all in this country. We think that we have felt less of the deprivations consequent upon a war, than any other section of our country, and yet we complain.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Our readers are referred to the "Dixie Call for Baylor's Partisan Rangers" in another

column, for something better in its way, than the Houston 'Telegraph's' pet poetess ever has, will, or can furnish that paper. We think there is more true poetry in that article than there is in Albert Pike's stanzas adopted to the same air, and we prophesy that it will be committed to memory by every member of Col. Baylor's command and sung wherever they go. We find in the fair Authoress an old contributor to our paper, who has been silent for a long time. We hope, now that she has taken her harp from the willow tree, that she may often cheer us with her songs again.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Suppose the Merchants to-day were to reduce their present exorbitant [sic] prices to a fair, 'living *per cent*'—what would be the result? Some greedy speculator with mouth open, like an alligator to catch flies [sic], would be ready to rush in and buy the whole stock to sell at their own prices again. But this could be remedied by limiting the allowance of the purchaser so that all could get a part of the stock. There can be no doubt that the merchant's expenses on all merchandise are enormous, but that it is to come out of the people who purchase of them, and a tremendous *per cent* above the first cost.

The Provost Marshal can do nothing to regulate the prices of produce in San Antonio, as there is a law prohibiting them from so doing. We have been informed, by the Provost Marshal, that he made out a price for every article and handed it in to the General Commanding for his sanction, but has heard nothing from it, from day to day, until there was a law passed, depriving him of the power to enforce it.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

#### Ornaments.

When the "Gift Book Establishments" of the North, circulated their abolition prints so extensively through our country, they offered "brilliant prizes" to those who would buy, which "brilliant prizes" consisted in galvanized jewelry, the intrinsic value of which was below the lowest decimal part of a fraction, our people seemed to have a mania for sporting jewelry. Such ornaments in themselves did not possess any very great evil, but the books that came with them were poisonous to the minds of our children, which, no doubt, was the end many of these establishments intended to accomplish.

Since the commencement of our present struggle for independence, for the maintenance of that institution, those very books by their jewelry were intended to destroy, there seems to be a mania for wearing other ornaments—bowie-knives and six-shooters. Almost every man wears them as if he expected an engagement imminent, or thought them an ornament. We would suggest for the consideration of those who wear them on all occasion and to all places, that it would be better to put them on only when special occasions requires; such as parades, drills, duty, and such like times. Our reason for thinking so is this:--It very often happens that in an unguarded moment of excitement a dispute or quarrel occurs in which the parties become exasperated, and as such weapons as those alluded to reduce a man of Herculean strength to an equality with a Pigmy, they are too often resorted to, to settle those quarrels, and when all is over, the act committed, may be forever a source of regret to one or both parties, and that act would not have been committed had those weapons been worn only on proper occasions. There have been many occasions where weapons would have been used if one party had found them at

his side and that party afterwards was glad they were not at hand. "Let us shun the appearance of evil."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

(For the Semi-Weekly News.)  
A Call for Baylor's Partisan Rangers.  
Air, "Dixie."  
By Mary L. Wilson.

Hear the summons, sons of Texas,  
Now the fierce invaders vex us,  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas.  
Daring, Dauntless, reckless ranger,  
First in glory, first in danger,  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas.  
    Exalt the fame of Texas,  
    Strike home, strike home!  
Where Baylor leads the foeman bleeds,  
Then strike with him for Texas.  
    Come on, come on, ye gallant sons of Texas.

A year ago they dared defy us,  
Now they meet us but to fly us,  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas;  
Bright the stars and bars are gleaming,  
Bright our future's star is beaming,  
    Come on, &c.

By base Butler's proclamation,  
By our sister's defamation,  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas.  
Be the sword of justice sheathless,  
Be the fires of vengeance quenchless!  
    Come on, &c.

Let our martyred dead inspire you,  
And to deeds of daring fire you;  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas,  
Dare not pause 'till thrice their number,  
In their graves dishonored slumber,  
    Come on, &c.

Honor, safety, vengeance, call you,  
Ere the tyrant's chains enthrall you,  
    Come on, come on, come on for Texas.

Cities burning, women wailing—  
Shall their tears be unavailing?  
Come on, &c.

Fierce the vandal foe are smiting,  
Southern homes their touch is blighting—  
Come on, come on, come on for Texas.  
Well they know they'll conquer never,  
So would ruin us forever,  
Come on, &c.

A Texan's name, who would not wear it?  
Well the foe have learned to fear it!  
Come on, come on, come on for Texas.  
Green the laurels for you springing,  
Bright the halo 'round you clinging,  
Come on, &c.

Chosen by the gallant Morgan,  
The North shall hear the Texan's slogan,  
Come on, come on, come on for Texas  
Rangers, ask not, give not quarter,  
Be your pathway marked with slaughter!  
Come on, &c.

Martinez, Texas, September.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 22, 1862, p. 1, c. 5  
Camp Clark, on San Marcos, }  
Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 1862. }

Editor, Semi-Weekly News.

Sir—Here I am on my saddle blanket, reclining on my saddle, on the prairie, with a few fellow-soldiers sleeping around me. In the distance, on one side, are several hundred head of cattle, ring streaked, speckled and spotted; and on the other side any number of horses belonging to our regiment. Dull times these, when soldiers have to remain in camp, going over and over the *same* tedious and toilsome drill every day, without any variations; and, too, when every mail points us to tens of thousands of our fellow soldiers, who are now in the battle field, fighting for our country—*just what we should be doing*. It is this state of affairs that brings a shadow of melancholy disquietude, approaching madness, over soldiers. Six months in the service and nothing done,—how long will affairs remain thus?

Only six companies of our regiment are now here—the balance being on special service, *doing nothing* in some of the surrounding counties, and one company, that of Capt. Holmes, guarding prisoners of war in your city. We learn that Capt. Maverick's company will soon take the place of Holmes, and the latter will report at Camp Clark.

It might be of some interest to your readers to know the future destination of this regiment. Well, I can only tell them from rumor. One day dame rumor tells us we are going to

Arkansas another day to New Mexico, another to Louisiana, another to Corpus or Waco; but every morning finds us here in camp baking corn dodgers, for we have had nothing else to eat in way of bread for the last three weeks. Our meat rations have been cut down twice during two weeks, and now we have the extraordinary quantity of one half pound of bacon per man, once in seven days. But this amount suffices to grease pans, kettles and sore backed horses. We have beef occasionally, and it is but justice to say, that while it is diminishing in quantity, it is better in quality. A friend by my side suggests, that it is because we have eaten up all the poor cattle in the country around, and of course no more can be obtained.

We spend our time in drilling five hours a day, and one hour in performing "fuss and feathers." We are learning but little in drill now, from the fact, that we are going through yet the same half dozen elementary manoeuvres [sic] that we were six months ago,—so how can we expect to be advancing? I have no doubt that many of our military maneuverings would astonish Gen. Beauregard, or entrance Sancho Panza. However, we hope on, and hope ever, that a change may come over the spirit of our dreams, and that we may have something new, either in manoeuvres, or movements towards the seat of war, or somewhere else, before long.

Thank God, our fellow countrymen, who are not thus *hobbled* in camp are doing their duty on the battle field, and they have our prayers and best wishes for their success.

I remain Yours as ever,  
Valverde.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Attention!!!—Those things, who are in the habit of coming into our office and reading our manuscripts in advance of publication and going out and telling the "good things to be out next issue," are pointedly requested to make themselves scarce about this locality, unless they wish to receive an *introduction* to nine inches of the palm cane we always carry.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

A gentleman who has just arrived from Corpus Christi, informs us that a detachment from the Federal fleet off that place was sent to destroy the salt works in that neighborhood and that they were surrounded and captured by our cavalry, who had been apprised of their movements. The prisoners will be here in a few days.

Since writing the above, we have had the satisfaction of seeing a live kicking Yankee Commodore of the fleet off Corpus Christi. Hurrah! for the gallant boys about Corpus!!!

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], September 22, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

A gentleman who has just returned from Matamoras informs us of the way in which dead Jack Hamilton made his escape from Mexico. He with six of his parasitical dupes went aboard of a schooner off the mouth of the Rio Grande and hoisting anchor, left for parts unknown. A vessel was sent after him, but not till it was too late to overtake him.

Several others of his party, who were left behind, went to a fandango in Matamoras, to console themselves for his absence, when they got a little too much of the overjoyful, got up a muss, and were taken to the guardhouse. One of the party did not get any water for twenty-four hours, after which time a bucket was set out in front of his door, and the guard concealed himself; the renegade approached the bucket, and seeing no guard, tried to make his escape, but was fired upon and killed instantly. Such is the fate of traitors.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 6, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Alleyton, Colorado County, }  
Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1862. }

To the Editor of the San Antonio News.—

Dear Sir.—You will please announce to the beef drivers of Western Texas, that when they are driving, to use great care not to let beeves or stock cattle run in their herds, as there have been vigilance Committees or mob parties formed in all the counties between the Colorado and Brazos rivers, and any person who lets anything run in their herd, will suffer if it is not taken out before he reaches the Brazos river. The people say, the reason they have taken these steps, is, that they have lost a great many cattle by beef drivers. A man was hung in Austin county, not long ago, because there was a beef found in his herd, that belonged to a soldier, and probably the man was innocent, for cattle will run in herds and drivers cannot always see them unless they pay very close attention. The man that was hung plead not guilty, but all to no effect. As I passed through, several men came out and examined my herd, but luckily, I had nothing that was not mine.

You will please give notice of this in your paper, so that the innocent may not suffer.

Yours truly,  
A Beef Driver.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 6, 1862, p. 2, c. 1-2

#### Our Books.

[next line foreign phrase, partially illegible]

Long ago a French essayist observed that "the South could not learn to read without the North;" and acting on the forseeing [sic] Frenchman's idea, the North commenced to compose, publish and send to us books of every size, quantity and quality, which were eagerly sought for amusement, pastime and instruction, and while we filled the Northern coffers and emptied our purses, with what were the heads and hearts of our people filled? what did we get in exchange for our gold and our silver? We shall see. When we got to our school-rooms and look upon the desks and tables, we find the First Reader, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Readers, written by men of Northern principles and published by men of absolute Northern ideas. We mean by Northern ideas the opposition the people of that country bear towards our institutions—not towards the institutions of the South only, but towards us as a people in a commercial point of view. The abundance of gold and silver, our cotton sugar and rice has given us, allured them, and envying our prosperity they sought through the publication of books for us, first, to fill their pockets, and, secondly, to break down our institutions by insidiously inculcating in the minds of our children and people ideas inimical to that very institution which has been such a fruitful source of wealth to us and benefit to the world at large. And they have spared no means, wealth or talent to accomplish their purpose. We of the South could easily have procured the time and talent of our own people, and in encouraging Southern literature have done much to make us independent and to avoid many of the evils we have experienced.

Instead of having pursued that course, we encouraged Northern publishers by buying their productions, which enabled them to give us books cheaper than we could get them at home, and that fact discouraged Southern Authors and Southern publishers and made us dependent on that country for ever book, magazine or newspaper of any literary merit to be found in our

houses. Go now into our parlors and libraries and you may see the poisonous emanations of the cunning Yankee Harper, the bold and [illegible] pages of Harriet Beecher Stowe's trumpet, the Atlantic Monthly, and that systematic world-wide promulgator of abolition disciples, the Ledger, and a host of others of [illegible] magnitude, though usually [illegible] in their sentiment to our institutions.

Our children are still taught, the glowingly Federal speeches of Daniel Webster, and burning, misplaced eloquence of Phillips may still be heard in our school-rooms, and still are the poems of Wm. Cowper read in the easy chair and on the sofa while his "Pity for Poor Africans" is ready to tell any one what no abolitionist ever dared to say in our midst, and "The Negroes Complaint" talks Beecher Stowe, Seward, Greeley and every abolition "sympathy argument" that is necessary to stir up the softer feelings of our nature by drawing an impenetrable mantle over the head of reason.

Should these works still occupy their place on our tables and on our shelves? Shall they longer remain ready to instruct but to poison the minds of the rising generation, or shall we commit each and every book and paper containing a sentiment inimical to our institutions to the flames? Is it not better to destroy them now, or at least such parts of them as are calculate [sic] to make deep and fasle [sic] impressions on the minds of our children, than to let them create a false sympathy destructive of reason and subversive to the institution of slavery? WE would say burn, burn them when the south winds blow strongest, that even their ashes may be borne from the soil of the South back to the land from which they came. Let us put on our energies and gird ourselves for the task of writing and publishing our own school books and giving our children southern teachers to instruct them; for, not being satisfied with *publishing* those books they had to send yankee teachers to do the work they had left undone. Southern books and Southern teachers will insure us Southern children, and will develop Southern talent equal to any of that misplaced in the Northern States of North America. Let us begin at the beginning, if we would root out the foul seed of thorns and thistles so industriously planted in the Southern fields of education by the Northmen. Let us have nor seed, nor root, nor branch of anything anti-southern in our country. It is the education proper of any country that gives it its strength and importance at home and abroad, and insures it peace and permanent prosperity. If we neglect a thing of so great importance we will find too late the error into which we have fallen, and it may require years and perhaps ages to place us where we could in a few short months have stood securely, and by the education of our children through the talent and genius of the sons of the South commanded the respect of all nations. Away then with Yankee books, and Yankee papers, and Yankee magazines, and give us Southern teachers, Southern books and Southern manufactures now and forever more.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 9, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

Distinguished Arrival.—Major Hobby having in charge his Yankee poet, Capt. Kitridge, arrived in our city from San Antonio on Sunday evening last. There was a general rush to Biscoe's hotel to see the Yankee captain. He is a pretty fair specimen of a Yankee—looking rather savage and more courageous than the generality of his countrymen. He has been paroled and is to go North. His men would be glad to stay in Texas; but our authorities do not wish their presence among us.

Kitridge still insists that the North will "wipe us out." Of course the wish is father to the thought.

Major Hobby is looking well and bears an honorable scar upon his forehead, his hat also

shows how near a Minie ball came taking his scalp. La Vive the gallant Major Hobby!—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 16, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

#### Shoemakers & Saddlers.

50 Shoemakers and Saddlers wanted at the Texas Arsenal. Liberal wages paid. Conscripts exempt [sic] from military duty when employed by the Government.

G. W. M. Samuel,

Capt. P. C. S. A.

Ordinance Officer.

Texas Arsenal,

San Antonio, Oct. 16, '62.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 16, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

#### Guns, Guns, Guns.

The undersigned will purchase and pay the cash on delivery, for all kinds of serviceable arms, suitable for the troops in the field.

W. G. M. Samuel,

Capt. P. C. S. A.

Ordinance Officer.

Texas Arsenal,

San Antonio, Oct. 16, '62.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We had the satisfaction and pleasure of a visit from Mr. Ferdinand Lindheimer, Editor of the New Braunfels "Zeitung," an interesting and bold paper. The old gentleman appears to be in fine health. Long may he live to advocate the right.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Confederate Minstrels.—This troupe, composed of gentlemen from Houston, and who come well recommended from persons who have seen their performance, will give an entertainment to-night at the Casino. This troupe, with that patriotism which has characterized every Southern patriot, gives a great portion of the proceeds arising from their entertainment to soldiers and soldier's families. Therefore, those who will contribute something to the cause of the South may expect to be highly entertained. Come one, come all, and help in every good word and work.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We paid the other day a visit to Mr. S. Menger's Steam Factory of Soap and Candles. During our presence he was manufacturing star candles on his patent machines, which in quality beat any thing of the kind ever imported from Yankee doodle-oo. He can turn out some 16 dozen candles every 5 minutes. We wish Mr. Menger every success.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

H. Mayer, a strong merchant of this City has been receiving a great many articles for clothing, and deals them out in broken doses, so that every one may get a part. Now, Merchants, there is an example for you. Let no one buy all of any one article to speculate on the consumers in these times. Give it out in broken doses as Mr. Mayer does, and every Lady can have *one new calico dress*.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 20, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

More Renegades.—Poor Pierce!—About one hundred renegades, with long faces, unkempt hair, dirty shirts, wide brimmed hats, hang-dog looks, fanatical speech, noses that would rent for steamboat whistles, quietly marched into Matamoros during the week, and squatted themselves down in front of the Yankee Consuls. They said that they wanted to join Lincoln, and they wanted to be fed and shipped to a country less hospitable than Texas, called Yankeedoodledom, where every man claims the right to be meaner than his neighbor. They were a sorry set, and if Pierce ever gets enough fight of them to pay for the grub he is giving them, it will be a surprise to those who believe that renegades are constitutionally cowards. The whole detachment marched down to the sea shore on Tuesday, where they expect to draw rations until a chance offers for them to go north. A singular circumstance is that all these renegades are very anxious to sell their weapons to the white folks behind them.—Fort Brown Flag.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 23, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

#### A Lincoln Raid in the Interior.

Gainesville, Texas, Oct. 3d, 1862.

Editors Galv. News:--I reached this place yesterday amidst the wildest state of excitement. A secret organization of the Lincolnites was detected within the last few days, the object of which was to murder all the secessionists, take the moveable plunder with them to Missouri, and burn up the balance that might be left. The militia of this and adjoining counties have collected to the number of four and five hundred. They have caught twenty-nine of the outlaws and hung two of them yesterday. Dr. Childs and brother, will examine the balance today, and if found guilty, they will meet the same fate. It is said that they had secret signs and pass-words. Those arrested are mostly from Cooke and Grayson counties, though they are said to exist all along the frontier counties.

Yours respectfully

H. C. Stone.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 23, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

The Corporation of Richmond have passed a Quartertime [sic] Ordinance, by which persons from Houston or any district infected with yellow fever are prohibited from entering Richmond to remain longer than half an hour. Passengers on the cars are prohibited from getting out of the cars, except under guard, and then only to remain half an hour, &c.—The Ordinance went into effect from on the 14<sup>th</sup> inst.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 27, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We hear that by an order of Gen. Hebert, Martial Law is repealed throughout the State of Texas.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 23, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Wanted.

Persons having PAPER for sale, suitable for making cartridges, will confer a great favor on the undersigned by making it known. I will pay a very liberal price for all such paper.

W. G. M. Samuel,  
Capt. P. C. S. A.  
Ordnance Officer.

Texas Arsenal, San Antonio, Oct 23, '62.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Bombshells.—The Victoria Advocate says "not many of our citizens have ever witnessed the flight of these destructive missiles; but a few did have the satisfaction of seeing and appreciating their influence in the bombardment of Lavaca on Friday and Saturday last. Their flight in the air is described as looking grand. Capt. Rupley and Mr. Wm. Rupley brought up a couple of specimens, which are truly ugly. One is a whole shell with a minute portion of the fuse attached, unexploded, and was fired from a rifled gun; it is cylindrical, and somewhat in the shape of a Minie ball, about a foot in length. The other is the sharp end of a very large shell supposed to have been fired from an 84 pounder.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We call the attention of the Executive Aid Committee and the poor of this place to the advertisement of Dr. Kingsbury. "He that giveth unto the poor leadeth unto the Lord." Who is unwilling to trust him for this reward?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Jack Hamilton has not only proved a traitor to his country, but a traitor to the very principles that he has contended for during his political life—and has at last fallen into the cesspool of abolitionism. Alas for the poor drunken bankrupt debauchee.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Will some one answer this question for us? If merchants whether Jews or gentiles, who are able, and ought to be in the army, sell the necessaries of life to the families of soldiers, who are in the army, at from 100 to 200 per cent. profit.—thus taking away their last dollar, are such persons to be permitted to remain among us any longer?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 1-2

Brutal Murder by Bushwackers.

We mentioned in our last the rumored killing of two of our cavalry officers near Clinton. The particulars, as we have since learned, are as follows: On the evening of the 5<sup>th</sup>, Captain Conger (in the cavalry force guarding commissary stores at Clinton, was out on a foraging expedition with twelve or fourteen men, when they were bushwacked in Frost's bottom by some 60 bushwackers, supposed to be a part of Cliff's disbanded regiment. The captain and second

Lieutenant were captured, and the first Lieutenant dangerously wounded. The captain and 2d lieutenant were robbed of some \$2500, and then deliberately murdered by shooting through the head.

The 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant who was dangerously wounded, escaped by crawling into the bushes.

Five prisoners were brought in yesterday from the neighborhood of this occurrence, charged with giving information to, and otherwise aiding the enemy. It does not appear that they had any hand in the fiendish outrage perpetrated by Cliff's band.—Knoxville Register.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 10, 1862, p. 2, c. 3

Editor News:--

Sir, I have between four and five hundred dollars worth of sweet Potatoes, which I wish to give to poor families of this City. Parties applying must bring checks from the Committee of the "Executive Aid Society" stating quantity. The Potatoes to be delivered at my residence, on Flores street, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Very truly Yours,  
W. G. Kingsbury.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 13, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Attention!!

Capt. Asa Mitchell's Company of Minute Men, being now fully organized, will meet for drill, on the Main Plaza, on Saturday evening, at 5 o'clock, P. M.

The Captain wishes it understood, both by officers and men, that this is no holliday [sic] company, but is intended for active service should occasion require. Therefore it is expected that all on the muster roll will attend punctually at the time and place specified as none are wanted on the roll that cannot or will not attend the regular musters.

By order of the Captain.

Thomas Whitehead,  
Orderly Sergeant,  
San Antonio, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 17, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

A Worthy Example.

On Tuesday evening last we happened in at the long Hall, on the North side of Main Plaza in our city, and there saw a company drilling "for the war." This is a new company just raised, and no conscripts either. It is composed of men whose age would exclude them from military duty. The captain is an Octogenarian, and we would even now rather be after half dozen live Yankees than have him after us. He has an eye that does not need spectacles to draw a bead on a Yankee at a distance of 600 yards. This was the first meeting, we learn, of the Company, and it already numbers over sixty names. They meet twice a week, armed and equipped with guns, pistols and Bowie Knives and a supply of ammunition. The majority of the company are over fifty years of age—and among them we saw those who fought at San Jacinto, those who were of the forlorn hope of "Deaf Smith at the burning of the bridge,"—those who were in the

Santa Fe expedition in the Mexican war, the millionaire [sic] by the side of the poor man; those who have been Captains and Colonels, Judges, Senators, and Members of Congress, and who have sons and grandsons in the army,--all standing side by side, going through the drill of the soldier. It was a grand and noble spectacle, and one we shall never forget. Noble men,--they have passed through many a struggle already in this life, and are now volunteers in defence [sic] of their homes and families. All this speaks with a voice not to be mistaken, and woe be to an enemy that shall attempt to wrest from such patriots the homes and inheritance already sealed to them by their own blood.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 24, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Our police spend nearly half of their time in the disentangling and clearing our streets of wagons and other vehicles. There should be some remedy for this. It is true the streets are very narrow and quickly filled, but these jams may be avoided by some regulations. The City Council should pass an ordinance, requiring wagons and vehicles of every description, to keep to the right, and notice of this should be posted on the corners of all the principal streets. In this way much confusion, damage and delay may be avoided.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], November 27, 1862, p. 1, c. 2

The following is well known in your city but may be new to our country readers; I know it is to a good many in this section:

To make Coffee.—Take a teacupful of green coffee; parch and grind in the usual way; take a quart of molasses and burn it (or candy it) till every particle of molasses taste is burnt out of it; then set it off the fire and let it cool a few seconds until the fiery heat is gone; then stir your ground coffee into it well, and pour out into greased plates to cool. To make coffee, a piece of this substance about the size of a thimble will make a strong cup of good coffee by pouring hot water on it and letting it stand a few minutes; or take a piece of it about the size of your thumb and make in the usual way, and it will do a small family one time.—Galv. News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], December 18, 1862, p. 1, c. 2

Texas Renegades.—The New Orleans Delta announces the safe arrival in that city, of seventy-three Texas renegades, who immediately joined a force said to be organizing in that place for the invasion of Texas. Nothing can be more satisfactory to us than the prospect of a return of these scoundrels to the State they have disgraced, for our boys will give them the burial due to traitors.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], December 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Cotton Cards.—The Camden Herald, Ark., informs us that a Mr. Barber has completed a machine in that place for making card teeth, which is now in operation. The editor says persons having old card backs can find ready sale for them there, and we suppose they can get cards in return.

We also notice that a comb manufactory is in operation not far from Camden.—It thus appears that our neighboring State is fast becoming independent of the Yankees and Yankee notions.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], December 29, 1862, p. 1, c. 3

The Chattanooga Rebel compliments the ladies for taking the carpets from a church and

making blankets of them. In Arkansas and Texas the carpets are being taken from the dwelling houses for this purpose.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], December 29, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

On the night of Christmas Eve, a portion of Maj. Taylor's Battalion, estimated at about thirty-five, came into the city about 8 o'clock, and after throwing a quantity of meat into the streets, broke up the tables and coffee stands in the market, and piling the fragments together, attempted to burn the market house, by setting fire to them. They were disturbed in this by some unknown person firing upon them. They then went to the Main Plaza, broke up and burnt the *tomale* tables, kept by Mexican women, on the South side of the Plaza. About this time they were attacked by some twelve or thirteen Mexicans of Capt. Penaloza's Company. One man was killed instantly, and was horribly mutilated, having been shot and bayoneted [sic] in several places; three others died that night and next morning, and three more are reported to have been wounded. Besides, one horse was killed instantly, near the middle of the Plaza. The rioters held possession of the Plaza and adjacent streets, for a considerable length of time, and, in the meantime, fired a great number of shots. They appear to have come into the city for the purpose of being revenged for some injustice inflicted some weeks since, by a Mexican of Capt. Penaloza's company, on one of their comrades.

On Christmas night, the city was guarded by a large military and police force, besides two hundred and fifty citizens, with the expectation that they would make another attack and attempt to burn the city, but all remained quiet. We learn that this battalion has been ordered away, which is very gratifying to our citizens, as they have been guilty of a great many disturbances [?] for some time past.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], December 29, 1862, p. 1, c. 5

Mr. Peter Frank, a butcher and well known in this community for his gentlemanly behavior, was attacked yesterday morning, about 11 o'clock, with a bayonet, by a drunken Mexican belonging to Capt. Penaloza's Company. Mr. Frank drew his six-shooter to save himself and keep the Mexican at bay. During this time a large concourse of persons arrived, and happily put a stop to a most serious affray, as the Mexican was backed by many more friends.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Since the riot on Christmas Eve night our City has been exceedingly quiet and orderly. Previous to that time, all kinds of disorders prevailed which culminated on that night. We are glad they have terminated, for we began to fear the very worst consequences. There was very little apparent drunkenness on Christmas and New Year's days.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We received a communication purporting to be a defence [sic] of Taylor's Battalion, but as the greater portion of it consisted of abuse of our citizens and of our friends of the Herald, we declined to publish it, unless it was modified, which the writer has not yet seen proper to do.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Captain Taylor (formerly Duff's), and James R. Sweet's Companies of Duff's Battalion left on Saturday, for Brownsville.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Lagrange True Issue perpetrates the following on the Texas Press:

"There are, we believe, just 27 newspapers published in the State. Of these the Houston Telegraph is the largest and the McKinney Messenger the smallest; the Telegraph has the largest circulation and the Gonzalez Enquire the smallest; the Telegraph has the most editorial, and the State Gazette the least; the Telegraph is the [illegible] paper, and the Galveston News the [illegible] paper; Victoria has its Advocate; Goliad its Messenger; Huntsville its Item; Washington its Ranger; Tyler its Reporter; Corsicana its Express; Clarksville its Standard, and Brownsville its Flag; but it must be acknowledged that there is in the whole State, but one *true* one, The True Issue.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

We call attention to the advertisement of Maj. Chas. Russell, for one hundred wagons and teams to serve in the Quartermaster's Department of this District. Transportation is absolutely necessary for our army; we therefore urge all who have wagons and teams to come forward immediately and engage in this branch of our service, and avoid the disgrace of impressment. The planters of Middle and Eastern Texas are responding freely and promptly to the call of Gen. Magruder, for negroes to work on the fortifications at Galveston; let it not be said that the West is less patriotic.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Tallow Candles Equal to Star.—Messrs. Editors:--It may be of some interest to y our numerous readers to know that, with not a cent additional expense, tallow candles can be made fully equal in point of merit to the common star candle:

To two pounds of tallow add one teacupful of good strong *ley*, from wood ashes, and simmer over a slow fire, when a greasy scum will float on top; skim this off for making soap, (it is very near soap already) as long as it continues to rise. Then mould 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 or two of beeswax will make the candle some harder, and steeping the wicks in spirits of turpentine will make it burn some brighter. I write with one before me. Mobile News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

To-day we resume our former size of paper, and hope to continue so to the end of the war. On account of the high prize [sic] of printing paper, we are compelled to raise the subscription prize [sic] from \$1 50 to \$2 00, for three months and advertising at 25 cts. per line for the first insertion and 12½ for each subsequent insertion.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

#### Soldiers Families.

The Legislature should pass an Act, authorizing the County Courts to impose a specific tax, for the support of the families of soldiers. Many think that such an act already exists; but it is a mistake.

The present mode of supporting them, by subscription, is very objectionable, besides, in

many places, it fails entirely; and thus a great many become wholly dependent upon private charity. One individual informed us that he supports thirty persons, the wives and children of soldiers. Besides its bearing unequally, it is humiliating to them to be compelled to beg, as it were, that which is due them by the public. Pass the Act then, and compell [sic] all to contribute their proportion.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Saturday last, Miss Martha Vance presented Capt. Asa Mitchell's Company through Miss E. R. Napier, a beautiful Confederate flag. Miss Napier delivered the following eloquent address, which was responded to, very ably and appropriately, by Capt. Mitchell.

Captain Mitchell:--

Permit me on behalf of Miss Vance, to present you and the veteran band under your command, this flag—proud emblem [of] our country's honor—accept it as a slight memorial of our admiration for your patriotism, and our confidence in your courage—and as its stars and bars float over you, be it in the sun-shine of peace or amid the storms of battle, may they prove to you, beacons lights to deeds of valor and heroism.

When the tocsin of war first sounded throughout our beloved land, and our country called for strong arms and brave hearts to defend her rights, you sent forth your *sons*, in response.

And on the *distant* battle-field they sealed with their *life's blood* their, and your devotion to our country. You weep for them, the noble and the brave—yet you rejoice, that they preferred death to dishonor—how you have girded on your swords in defence [sic] of the homes and loved ones they have left behind. Venerable Fathers! long years ago, you learnt your first lessons in war, and won your titles as *soldiers* and *patriots*. Then beneath the shades of the "Alamo" you first enlisted as champions of truth and liberty, and from "Bowie" and Crockett were taught to conquer or die.

Then younder [sic] in the proud capitol of the Montezumas you gave to history a new page—and in 61 when the miserable despot of the North, sought our subjugation and called upon us to bend our necks to his yoke you rose in your might and hurled back to him the defiant reply—"That we would live as freeman [sic] or die as heroes."—Two years has this contest against us been waged, privations and hardships have been ours, yet we murmur not, nor shrink from the sacrifice our liberty demands. Then patriots of 36 and 61 stand firm—for truth and justice will conquer at last.—Now Fathers accept this our offering—this flag—as an evidence of our regards. Cling to and protect it.—It is the same guiding star that lead our noble "Beauregard, Johnson, Jackson" and our Lee, (the Washington of the world,) to victory. Yes, the same that conducted our gallant and immortal 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> to their unequalled victory. Follow it and it will soon lead you to an honorable and a glorious peace.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 3-4

[Communication.]

San Antonio, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1863.

Mr. Editor:--The last number of the "San Antonio Herald" contains an article, over the signature of "S.", which is doubtless intended to call into question the patriotism of the undersigned, as well as his good will towards the Government of the Confederate States.

Although my name is mentioned in connection with the names of other Aldermen of this city, I am only responsible for my own course of conduct; nor do I propose answering for any but myself.

The writer, "S.," complains of my vote against the sale, to the Confederate States Government, of a tract of land, by the City of San Antonio, for the purpose of establishing "a manufactory of cloth, clothing and shoes for the army."

The facts are these: The City Council, on the 9<sup>th</sup> inst., unanimously passed an ordinance, to sell to the Confederate States Government, all the right, title and interest of the City of San Antonio to a certain tract of land lying between the Upper Labor ditch and the San Antonio river, containing seventy-eight acres, more or less, for the sum of five thousand dollars, providing in the first section of said ordinance "that the said Confederate States Government shall purchase of Pedro Flores and all other adverse claimants, any and all conflicting claims to said land. And further that said Confederate States Government shall arrange and make clear, with all parties, the proper metes and bounds of said tract of land."

The second section of said ordinance provides, "that it is the distinct meaning and sense of this council that said tract of land shall be used by said Confederate States Government for the establishment of manufactories and for no other general purpose; and that if in two years from this date no factories are established thereon, as proposed by said Government, and according to the agreement to be drawn up by the parties, on contemplation of this ordinance, then all interest of the Confederate States government in and to said tract of land shall revert to said city of San Antonio."

The agent of the government refusing to purchase with these stipulations, the Mayor called an extra session of the council. At this session the above action was re-considered, and an ordinance passed, agreeing "to sell and assign unto the Confederate States Government, for manufacturing purposes, for the consideration of five thousand dollars, all the right, title and interest of the City of San Antonio, in and to said tract of land."

I voted against this ordinance, and why? The land in question—78 acres—contains one of the finest water powers in this section of the State; forty acres of it are irrigable by means of the ditch already constructed and running along its boundary, and it adjoins one of the best stone quarries in this neighborhood. From the best information I could gather—and this was my own judgment, after full investigation—this tract of land is worth not less than twenty thousand dollars. Would any citizen—nay would "S.," whoever he may be, sell a piece of his own property for \$5,000, if it was worth \$20,000? What would S. say to an agent of his, who had made such a contract for him? What would the community say of such an agent? And yet I was acting as the agent of others, when I cast the vote above referred to. A man may be most liberal with his own property; but is not authorized, in my humble opinion, to give away that which belongs to others—even though he be an alderman of the City of San Antonio, disposing of her surplus lands.

The fact that the Confederate States Government is intended to be the purchaser in this instance, does not, in my opinion, authorize a different rule of conduct, particularly when the Government is not under the necessity of asking charity, but is simply seeking to make a purchase for its own purposes.

Nor is the "liberality of former boards to the old government" any criterion for me in a transaction of this character. In all matters of this kind every man must be governed by his own sense of duty, without looking to the conduct or motives of others. For this reason I have no complaints to prefer against those, who favored and voted for the sale. I did what I believed to

be my duty, and neither sneers nor threats can change that belief.

"S." tauntingly says: "The benefits to arise from such an establishment to any selected locality, none but the most stupidly obtuse, would at once fail to comprehend." The acumen of S. may enable *him* to discover great future benefits. Others may think and fear, that after the expenditure of thousands of dollars, and much valuable time, by the Government, and long before any practical results can be produced, such doubtful experiments will be abandoned as unprofitable to the country, and that then the lands purchased, as well as the preliminary work done, will pass into the hands of a few speculators at inadequate prices, and, consequently, at a loss to the Government.

Whether the evident design of S., to impeach my patriotism, has been accomplished, I must leave others to judge. If, however, my position with the friends of Southern Rights at the very commencement of the Secession movement, and my continued devotion to the cause of Southern independence, from that time to this, is any guarant [sic?] for my present loyalty, then a mere difference of opinion as to a pecuniary question will not affect my political standing with reflecting men; and all shafts aimed at me by open or disguised enemies, will fall harmless at my feet.

C. Hummel, Gunsmith.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Wanted,

For service in the Quartermaster's Department, for the Western Sub-District of Texas,

One Hundred Wagons and Teams,

This service will probably continue during the war, and all persons thus employed will be exempt from military duty, both in the Confederate and State service.

A liberal rate for transportation will be paid. This transportation is required immediately, and if parties who own teams fail to come forward and tender their services to the Government, at fair prices, I shall be forced to the necessity of exercising the authority vested in me, *to impress them*.

Apply to

Charles Russell,  
Major C. S. P. A.,

Brig. Qr. Master West. Sub Dist. of Tex.  
San Antonio Texas, }  
Jan. 16, 1863. }

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 26, 1863, p. 1, c. 1-3

An Interesting Diary.

The following is copied from the torn and defaced leaves of a pocket diary found at Galveston, on, we believe, the body of a Federal Orderly Sergeant. It commences in the midst of Friday Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. The writer, with a party, were scouting through the town, and he is obviously speaking of the cotton presses:

The yards in each of them are large enough almost to manoeuvre [sic] a regiment in, with high brick walls around, 15 inches thick, and the buildings fire-proof, so it will make snug quarters for us. The rebel cavalry made a descent last night on the city and took away all the horses they could steal. After coming out of the cotton press, on the road to the other side of the island, we met the owner of the presses, and he requested that he might be allowed the privilege of removing his books, which was granted him. He also inquired whether we were to pay him for the use of his property, or calculated to take it as property. The Commodore told him, in very forcible terms that he intended to take it the same as he would any other rebel property; and after thanking him for the privilege of removing his books, the old secesh left. While I am writing, the boys thought the whole force had been surprised. It happened like this: Capt. Sheriff and a squad of 30 men went up into the city to get some stoves from a store that was closed, and while there, were surprised by a squad of rebel cavalry, and brought to a stand still. The officers said they had some messages from their General to our Colonel and Commodore, and Captain Sheriff sent a Sergeant and two men to escort them down. They conferred with them, and told them they should have their answer at 6 o'clock. P.M., and it was sent; but what the dispatches or answers were, I do not know. When our men came down from the city, they brought with them many rebel relics, which they obtained in the stores while foraging: such as pipes, rebel buttons, inkstands, blacking, clocks, candlesticks, books, pails, brooms and the like. We are in hopes, when the balance of the troops get here, business will revive, and everything look different from what it does at the present; and God knows it needs a change here, for it is the most God forsaken looking city that I ever saw. But still it looks more like home, and we feel more contented than we have at any time since leaving Readville.

To-night we have a Union man a resident of this city with us, who has been obliged to quarter on the steamer Harriet Lane, and for the apprehension of whom they have offered \$300, dead or alive. He seems to be very grateful to us for the little hospitality we have shown him, and although his house is in sight of our quarters, the poor fellow is obliged to leave every night and quarter on the wharf, away from his family. We, that [illegible] our folks securely at home and well [illegible]ded for while we are away, would [illegible] much harder if we were right in [illegible]wn houses and not be [illegible] our families [rest of column torn away] We arrived at our quarters at about 12 o'clock at night, very tired with our day's and evening's tramp.

Some poor people came down to-day, and we gave them some of our hard tack, for which they appeared very grateful. Have heard nothing from any of our other transports, and would like to get some news of them, for when they arrive we shall be all right, and can then occupy the whole city, and get business started here once more. I got possession of 2 bank bills to-day, in the safe of the store we entered, and one man got over \$600 in Confederate notes, besides plans for all the fortifications, and dept of water at all the approachable points to and from the city.

Sunday, Dec. 28.—Rose at 6 o'clock, got breakfast and had orders to fall the men in for divine service at 10 o'clock. We did not have any, however, owing to the indisposition of the Chaplain, or his laziness, I don't know which.

Monday, Dec. 29.—After breakfast drew in pickets, as it was not deemed safe to have them so far away; and they have been threatening to attack us so long that, although it seems like an old story, we can't help being on the watch at all times for fear of surprise. To-night we sleep on our arms again.

Tuesday, Dec. 30.—Last night the rebels went over to the light house on the point and burned it. It made a great illumination, which we could see nearly all night. To-day our

Commodore went up to see the rebel General, under flag of truce, and what the result was, I do not know. This afternoon we got news that the rebels, to the amount of two or three thousand, were to attack us to-night and burn the city, and we have put up extra barricades and entrenched ourselves as strongly as possible to await the attack, and we are all armed and ready, and I am writing now with all my equipments on.

They say their intention is to burn the city and some of the families have moved from the city for fear of them. 9 a.m., ordered to fall the company in and distribute 10 extra rounds of cartridges, which was done, and every man was to retire at 12 o'clock, when our company was to go on guard at the barricade. At 11, however, we were startled by our pickets firing and we turned every man out in double quick time, expecting momentarily an attack, but it did not come, and we were turned in again until 12, when we were called out and did our duty. No man is allowed to sleep, but is expected to jump when he gets his orders. The scare we had to night came from the pickets. A squad of them came down the road and, as the instructions to them were to fire without halting any horseman that they can see, and they fired on this squad of 15 or 20 and they turned tail and ran like thunder. We can see plainly the fires at the rebel encampment.

Wednesday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, rose at 7 o'clock very tired after our night watch. The good little steamer that has been so much of a companion and shelter, left this morning for New Orleans to report at Headquarters with the Quartermasters on board. At 10 A.M., a new gunboat came to anchor off the wharf, and by the appearances I think they intend shelling out the rebels at the bridge and burning it, which would be an easy matter to her as she only draws four feet of water. What can have become of the rest of our transports? What a quantity of conjectures in reference to their fate! Should they never get here I am fearful we shall be put into some other regiment. This afternoon at 4, we saw a vessel which looked like one of our transports, and one of the gunboats ran down to her. We cannot make out who she is, but shall probably know in the morning. I sincerely hope so. We need the troops very much and also the ammunition that they have on board, as we have but about 40 more rounds to a man, and one good smart brush would use us up on ammunition. At 8¼ o'clock, while we were having a squad drill in the armory the Captain ordered me to detail 25 men, 2 sergeants with myself and make a scouting party, and we started up town with our handful of men to see what was going on, as the Colonel said; and a dangerous piece of business it was too, as the rebels could easily have cut us off and bagged every man of us. They are in the city to night in some considerable numbers, both cavalry and infantry. We learned from a source on which we can rely that they intend burning the city to night, and we saw as we passed through the streets lights burning in the houses at ten and half past ten, which is late to be up here. We also saw family carriages laden with household goods, ready for starting. Women were standing in the door of the houses waiting for the time when the gunboats should retaliate, to leave. Others had bundles, and all were making for the other side of the island. At 12½ P.M. we had just got snugly ensconced in bed when they turned us out, but it proved to be a false alarm.

Here the diary stops. This false alarm was the first appearance of our gunboats. They retired. A little before 5 A.M., the writer undoubtedly found out what was up. The gunboats retaliated, and our gunboats retaliated on them. The writer above did not live to enter the balance of the history of his visit to Texas in his little book.—Houston Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 26, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We request a careful perusal of the communication of Major Chas. Russell, in to-day's

issue. It will be perceived that [illegible] in procuring the necessary [illegible] the army, originated with [illegible] every class of persons transportation [illegible] What would the speculators, the [illegible] who are most protected by it. [illegible] their property be worth if the army on the Rio Grande should be disbanded or be compelled to fall back beyond the Colorado, for the want of supplies and thus leave the road to San Antonio open to the enemy?

How long, then, would it be before the robbers of Mexico and the Federals would devastate the whole of Western Texas?

But again, suppose Gen. Magruder should say to you that, as you not only refuse to assist the army at this critical period, and in this great emergency, but are crippling the exertions of the Government, I will, by an order, place you out of its protection, and leave you to the tender mercies of the mob and the enemy? Do you think you would have any cause to complain, if the military authorities stood calmly by and saw your property destroyed? The duties of the citizens and the Government are reciprocal, and when he refuses to comply, he may be coerced, or left without protection. Come forward then, immediately, and furnish all the transportation in your power, until this emergency is past.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 26, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

San Antonio, January 23d, 1863.

To the Semi-Weekly News.—

On account of the excitement which I understand exists throughout this section of country, in regard to the impressment of teams for the transportation of Army supplies to the Rio Grande, I have concluded for the information of all concerned, to state, through your paper, the circumstances under which the order was issued, and the class of teamsters to whom it is applicable.

A large military force having been ordered to the Rio Grande, I was required to furnish the necessary means of transportation, and employed agents with authority to contract with parties engaged in hauling at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per 100 pounds for every 100 miles travelled, *which at that time was considered high*; as soon, however, as it was ascertained that the Government required a large amount of transportation, speculators and others engaged in the transportation of cotton, increased their rates, and offered, as an inducement, to pay one half and in some instances the whole amount in specie. Under these circumstances my agents returned without being able to employ a single team. I then called on the merchants and parties engaged in transportation in this city, stating the emergency, and the results of concentrating a large army without means of subsistence, and earnestly urged them to come to their relief; still I was unable to get a team.

The troops were under marching orders, and I was expected to furnish the transportation, and, as a last alternative, I applied to Gen. H. P. Bee, for authority to impress, and received the order.

My agents were instructed not to interfere with the following class of teamsters:

1<sup>st</sup>. Teams belonging to and driven by citizens of Mexico, or other foreigners.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Those employed by legally appointed Government agents.

3d. The necessary working stock for agricultural purposes.

They were also instructed to subject the people to as little inconvenience as possible, and *before impressment*, to propose and urge a contract.

All teamsters impressed were required to report to me, and if upon investigation, I found that they were not regularly engaged in hauling, or that their teams were necessary for

agricultural purposes, I gave them permission to return to their farms. I know of no case in which parties sent out to impress have acted improperly, but, on the contrary, they have made very effort to conciliate. I make this statement that farmers and others engaged in hauling family supplies, need not fear any interference from the military authorities at this place; but where persons are regularly engaged in hauling as a business, and subject to military duty in the State or Confederate service, refuse to haul for the Government, in an emergency like the present, I am [illegible] the authority vested [illegible] determined to [illegible] in me, until a sufficient quantity of supplies can be forwarded to the Rio Grande for the army, allowing them a liberal remuneration for any service they may render.

It is to me a source of deep regret, and humiliation to know that, in the city of San Antonio and the adjacent country, it is necessary to resort to extreme measures to procure transportation for the subsistence of an army, many of whom are citizens of this place and vicinity; and I again appeal to the people to come forward voluntarily, and contract at fair prices, for the supply of our troops.

So far as I am concerned, as an individual and as an officer, I have endeavored to discharge my duty, and it is not for the purpose of relieving myself from any responsibility, that I make these statements, but that the people who are interested may know why the authorities ordered this impressment and that those not subject may feel secure in the transportation of their family supplies.

Charles Russell,  
Maj. C. S. P. A., Brig. Qr. Master.

The New Braunfels and Austin papers will please notice the above communication.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 29, 1863, p. 1, c. 1-2

#### Captain Wainwright's Letters.

Certain Federal official documents, letters, &c., have come in to the possession of our authorities, and among them are the following extracts of letters by Capt. Wainwright, which we copy from yesterday's Telegraph. . . .

U. S. Steamer Harriet Lane, }  
Galveston, Texas, Nov. 4, 1862. }

General:-- \* \* \* I am now holding this harbor with this vessel, the gunboat Owasso and one of the mortar schooners, Commander Renshaw having gone into Matagorda Bay with the Westfield and Clifton a fortnight ago. Though the town is under our guns, we have no force to occupy it, and feel the want of some troops sadly. The place can easily be held by a regiment, with the aid of one or two vessels in the harbor, and the people remaining here are looking anxiously for the arrival of our troops.—Most of them are citizens of foreign birth, who have no sympathy with the Confederate cause, and I am assured that large numbers would gladly enlist in our service, and had I arms to give them they would undertake to organize themselves and hold the town.

Under cover of the night patrols of the enemy come in from the other side, pick up conscripts whenever they can catch them, and harrass [sic] the people in every possible way, which we are powerless to prevent, and which renders our occupation hitherto anything but a fortunate event to the well disposed inhabitants. We have now some thirty refugees lieing [sic]

on the end of the deck near our vessel, as their only asylum from seizure by the Rebels.

This town is well built, containing many fine stores and dwelling houses, together with other structures, which could be converted into quite formidable strongholds, and easily held against anything less than artillery, from which the guns of our vessels would prove an ample protection. There are two fine foundries here, one of which I understood to be in complete running order; the machinery of the other I had taken down, but it can easily be replaced.

In conclusion, permit me to say that if you can spare a detachment from the forces under your command to hold this city, I am sure the good of the public service will be vastly benefitted.

With great respect, your ob't serv't,

J. M. Wainwright,  
Commander.

Maj. Gen. Benj. F. Butler, Commanding Department of the Gulf, New Orleans, La.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 29, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

#### Tobacco Culture.

Editor News:--To your call for an article for the public benefit, as to the proper time for sowing the seed of tobacco, its cultivation, &c., I may state something in relation to it, which you can hold in reserve, for consideration until some one contributes a better article.

The time for successful tobacco plant beds in Southern Texas is past for this year. Plants may, however, by proper management, and some pains, be yet obtained. The bed where it is intended to sow the seed should be low, rich mold, mellow and somewhat shaded. Previous to sowing the seed, the ground should be sufficiently burnt to destroy the seeds of the wild plants that may be on the bed. It should then be well dug or spaded up to the depth of three or four inches, then made smooth and light by clearing it with a rake, of clods, roots, sticks and the like. It is now ready for the seed, which must be equally scattered broad cast, in the proportion of an even tablespoonful to 50 square yards. Then tread the bed all over firmly and smooth with the feet; after which cover the entire bed with a pretty thick coat of leafless brush, which may remain until the plants are ready for transplanting. To insure the coming up of the seeds at this late season they should be placed in hot water, which should cool down with the seed in it, and suffered to remain at least twelve hours before they are scattered on the plant bed.

Mr. Silas Wood, an old Virginia tobacco planter, says that to increase the growth and strength of the plant, it is proper to sprinkle a pretty fair coat of hog hair over the bed after sowing the seed, which may be all tramped down together. The gentleman will, when the time comes for transplanting furnish a article for the manner of planting, cultivating, cutting, curing, &c., which makes this article sufficient for the present.

GID.

Galv. News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 29, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We are pleased to see the well merited compliment of our townsman, Dr. Cupples, in the following paragraph, taken from the correspondence of Sioux to "The Tri-Weekly Telegraph." He was our physician for nine years, and we can truly say that there is not a more scientific one, or a more perfect gentleman, in the State:

"Major Cupples and Surgeon Kavanaugh, of the Military Hospital, inform us that they

have done all in their power for our wounded. Luxuries have poured in for them, and they have proved the "Good Samaritan" to all our sufferers. Of Major Cupples and his talented staff, we cannot speak too highly. Often during the battle we observed them attending to their duties when the crash of buildings and the bursting of bomb-shells scattered death and destruction around them. One of them, the lamented Fisher, fell at a cannon. To Dr. Cummings, of 42d Massachusetts, and Chief Surgeon, of the U. S. Navy, Major Cupples bears witness to their valuable aid, and after they had attended the Federal wounded, they stripped off their coats and knew not our sufferers as enemies. This act speaks well for these officers, and I feel proud to put on record the event."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 29, 1863, p. 2, c. 2-3

We publish below the speech of Captain Asa Mitchell, in reply to Miss Napier upon the presentation of the flag to his Company. It needs no encomiums from us, but speaks for itself.

Miss Emma Napier:--We receive this beautiful flag from you, presented in the name of Miss Martha Vance, the donor, as the proud emblem of a newly born nation which our hands and hearts have assisted in bringing into existence. Yes, ladies, we highly appreciate the honor you have done us in this presentation; we hail it as the proudest day of our lives, and when these stars and bars float over us, it will stimulate us to deeds of daring. You speak of us as fathers sending forth our sons to distant battle fields, and who have sealed with their life's blood their and our devotion to our country's cause; yes, you may well say we weep [illegible] the noble and the brave, who preferred death to dishonor. Miss, to this part of your address I have no words to answer, for human language fails to express the anguish of the father's heart, and all that I can say is, to let silence expressive move on the scene.—We hope to meet them in happier climes, where infidels will not invade. Miss, when you speak of the patriots of two revolutions, that of 1836 and 1861, I look over my Veteran band, and see many who have participated in both. I see by my side my first Lieutenant, the hoary headed Maverick, who fought and suffered long as a prisoner in the dungeons of Mexico. It would be egotism in me to speak of the part I acted on in the former revolution, but I cannot forbear to say in that struggle I lost a noble son, whose bones now bleach, unburied, on the mountains of Mexico.

Ladies and Gentlemen:--Many politicians have written and spoken of the cause of this unjust war now upon us, and none have gone back, further than the wrongs and impositions imposed upon us, of the South, in the Congressional halls of the U. S.; this is true, so far as it goes, but the question is, what was the cause of the wrong? I answer, *infidelity*; mark that, ye young of both sexes, that now hear me. A disavowal of God and the revelation that he has given to men, is the cause of all evil upon earth. Indeed, in his revelation to man hath declared that some men shall be servants and bondsmen to others; the Constitution of the U. S. sanctioned this divine law; but Mr. Lincoln and his infidel party say, they have a higher law than that of God, and as such, they will abolish slavery. Will they do it? No, not at the present crisis of the world, for the good reason that the African race, now in bondage, are not prepared for emancipation; and for the further reason that, as slavery is a thing of God, as all christian Theologians admit, then it must be admitted that God has some great good and unfathomable designs in the bondage of Israel in Egypt; and when his great design was accomplished, he sent Moses to lead them to deliverance, and, with a might God-like hand, he led them "in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night." Has Mr. Lincoln and his infidel army had any manifestations of God in their favor? No; but, to the reverse, God has been against them in nearly every battle. We weak mortals must only judge of God's future designs, by what we see he has already done; and from

the evidences before us, we come to the conclusion that God intends to civilize and christianize the cannibal people of the continent of Africa, by and through the means of the African slaves, and their descendants [sic], that are now on this continent. And when we behold the great stream of time that is drifting the inhabitants of the earth Southwest, we may reasonably suppose that the same stream will flow on in the same direction, till we, with our servants, have crowded together on the extreme Southern part of South America; then, if God's great design is to emancipate the African race, and if, by that time they may be sufficiently civilized and christianized, to act as leaven upon the heathen and cannibal tribes of Africa, then God may open a channel through that narrow neck of the Atlantic ocean, that lies between South America and Africa and let them pass through on dry land, as the hosts of Israel passed through the Red Sea. Again, if it was possible for Mr. Lincoln to accomplish his hellish abolition designs, at the present crisis, it would result in the greatest evil that ever befell the children of men; for it would finally result in the extinguishment of the African race now in America; for they are not yet prepared for that great change. They would starve and perish for lack of knowledge and industry. I have not time to enumerate the woes that would befall them.

History and experience informs us that all inferior tribes dwindle and perish before the superior races and, if the African slaves were now emancipated, in a few brief centuries, they would be no more. In evidence of this, see our Indian tribes of America! Again, if Mr. Lincoln should succeed in his hellish schemes, we would have a greater reign of terror in America, than they had in France in Robespierre's time. It was infidelity of the French people that brought on that great disaster, that caused all the civilized world to stand aghast. Some may ask, from whence sprang this infidelity amongst the people of the Northern States? I answer, it came from the old world. It was brought by the many ten thousands of paupers and criminals that were thrown into the Northern cities and States, and were mixed with the Northern witch hangers, ghost seers, spirit rappers, free lovers, &c. We of San Antonio, had a fair sample of these same sort of beings, who met on yon Powderhouse hill, a few years ago, under the disguise of a singing convention, and passed their hellish, infidel resolutions, abolishing the constitution of the United States; abolishing all law; abolishing marriage and the Sabbath day; and of these same sort of brutalized beings is the Lincoln dynasty and the Lincoln army composed.

In proof of my position as to infidelity, I call your attention to those you have known, viz" Joe. Ulrich, Jack. Hamilton and Chas. Anderson, who announced himself, from the public stand, an infidel; and all the singing convention on the hill all are infidels; and this sort, with the many ignorant paupers and convicts from the old World, elected Abe Lincoln.—one of their own sort.—for President. And he, and such as him has brought this war upon us.

I am talking to a standing multitude; I must therefore close. We are now threatened with an invading army of 30,000 men; let them come, thick as autumn leaves, if they will;--you ladies of San Antonio have nothing to fear.

God has told us, the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong, and what we can't kill, we can wear out. And, again I say to you ladies, that should that flag fall, History will tell that many of these veteran soldiers fell with it. Yes, the foe shall walk over our dead bodies before they pollute your peaceful homes. Yes, we will be found grappling with the enemy in the last agonies of death.

Ladies, give us your prayers. O, pray in faith! let your prayers rise like holy incense before the throne of God, for a speedy and an honorable peace, and when God and the Ladies are for us, who can prevail against us?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], January 29, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

From Louisiana.—The Franklin Register of the 16<sup>th</sup>, says the exodus of people from that region is very heavy. Four or five thousand persons have left or passed through St. Marys since the battle of Lafourche.

The prairies Texasward are filled with people seeking safety. They have left their homes, trusting to chance than to the tender mercies of an outrageous foe.

The enemy have not yet been able to pass the obstructions in the Teche at Cornay's bridge, or to make the gunboat Cotton leave. One of their gunboats was struck fifty times by the Cotton's guns; and was towed back to-day in a crippled condition. The Confederate loss in the engagement was 2 killed and 2 wounded.

The Franklin Banner was moved from Franklin to Abbeville.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 9, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Consulate's Chancery, }  
Galveston, Jan. 24, 1863. }

To the French, Spanish and Italian subjects, now residing in the counties of Colorado, Austin and Fayette, State of Texas:

Dear Friends:--martial Law has been declared in your counties, on account of some insurrectionary movements. I hope that none of you have taken part in it; and if you should have been induced to it, beware not to join the enemies of your adopted country.

As Aliens, be neutral, and your nationality shall be respected. I have full confidence in Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder. His chivalry and integrity are sufficient protection against any injustice.

B. Theron,

Consular Agent for France, Vice Consul for Spain, and acting Consul Portugal & Spain.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We call the attention of the Alderman of Ward No. 3, to the number of jacks and jennets running at large in that part of the city. They should be impounded and sold, or an ordinance passed imposing a fine upon the owners of such animals as permit them to go at large in the city. They are an intolerable nuisance. Aside from their unseemly acts in the streets, they destroy the shade trees. A large number in that Ward have already been destroyed by them. Unless the city authorities attend to and correct this evil, individuals will commence killing them, which may lead to other violences.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Through the politeness of Capt. W. G. M. Samuels, we were shown through the Ordnance Department of this place. We were astonished at the amount and character of work done in this department, and we believe that there are few in this community, that have the slightest conception [sic] of it. We saw several caisons [sic] prepared for Capt. E. Abat's artillery company that are equal if not superior, to any made here by the old Government. In every portion of this department we witnessed the greatest activity, which proved to us, conclusively, that Capt. Samuels permitted no idlers to remain about him. Several cannons have been mounted, and a great amount of ammunition has been prepared and forwarded to different parts of the State. Since our last visit to this department we missed several pieces of ordnance, which we learned are on their way to Brownsville. We were particularly interested in an old

Spanish piece, taken by the Texans at the battle of San Jacinto, which was regarded before the beginning of the war as worthless and as a mere curiosity, but is now polished up and mounted, and, we doubt not, will be of considerable service in case of an invasion. All this is due to the great energy and efficiency of Capt. Samuels, who has had uninterrupted control of this department for two years past.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We were kindly shown a private letter, from which we take the following:

"Fredericksburg, February 3d, 1863.

I have to report a very sad incident, which happened Saturday last. The Indians are again all around us. Mr. Billings and son, who live about 15 miles East from this town, went out to hunt some sheep-lambs, which had strayed from the herd. When they were several miles from their home, they were attacked by some 15 Indians who killed Mr. Billings on the spot, and not being satisfied that he was dead, they smashed his head with stones. The boy, a lad about 12 years old, is severely wounded, but he was able enough to escape, and drag himself to a house two miles distance. The boy, as I heard, will also die.—A scout of citizens went out, but I doubt very much that they will be able to catch them."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

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

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

We extract the following from a letter to the Galveston News:

But after all, many of the buildings are probably now suffering more from their exposure to rains by damaged roofs, than from the immediate effects of the shells. But I am sorry to State that all the loss occasioned by the enemy is by no means as great as that gratuitously inflicted by some of our own troops. I have this from the most respectable people in Galveston, or I would not venture to state it. It is discreditable enough, but then the truth ought to be known, or else the evil may never be corrected. I will not go into the disgusting details of these plundering, thieving operations, which, I am told, were commenced almost simultaneously with the terrible bombardment, and were continued till late in the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>, so that there was scarcely an unoccupied house or store in the city that was not broken open and plundered. These disgraceful depredations were perpetrated by some hundred or two of stragglers, who, in the darkness of the night, left their respective companies or regiments, and the only service they rendered was thus to pillage the city. I understood that efforts have been made, and are perhaps now being made, to identify these wretches, for whom hanging would be too mild a punishment, but I fear very few of them can be brought to justice.—I have seen evidences enough of these depredations to need no further proof. Buildings that were never touched by the enemy's balls or shells, have their windows and doors smashed in by bayonets and guns, and all their contents taken or wantonly destroyed, and their floors are now scattered over with the empty drawers, broken shelves, and such articles as were found to be worthless to the pillagers, or could not be conveniently carried away by them. It is said, by some, that this pillaging was done under a prevailing impression that the city was to be set on fire and destroyed by our own authorities, and that what they did not take would soon be reduced to ashes. It is now raining heavily.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

[From the Corpus Christi Ranchero.]  
Boca del Rio Grande,}  
Jan. 22 1863}

Friend Maltby:--Yesterday the steamer Matamoros was about going out of the river with a cargo of cotton, specie and several passengers for a ship outside, when the officer of the customs (Mex.) ordered her to return and take out eight two renegades to the U. S. transport Kensington, which has been waiting for them several days, at about half the usual price for passengers. Capt. D. of the steamer, not being of the kind who are in favor of serving Abe's friends in preference to Jeff's refused to comply with the modest demand, tied his boat to the bank, and delivered her up under protest to the authority who interfered. Is it not rather singular that the Mexican custom-house officer should be acting as deputy U. S. Marshal?

The disappointed eight-two, among whom is our quondam citizen, Ass Ass Jones, with his tall hat, now woefully dilapidated, was conspicuous; returned ruefully to camp and rations of beef and river water. I believe they are allowed fish when they can catch them. . . .

H. Shell.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

Notice to the Subscribers  
of the  
Executive Volunteer Aid  
Committee.

All Subscribers, who have not paid their subscriptions to the said Committee, will please come forward immediately, and make payment to the amount of 50 per cent. of their subscription. Those who have subscribed beeves are required to make full payment.

C. Hummel,  
Treasurer of E. V. A. C.

San Antonio, Feb. 5, '63.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Mustard.—The supplies of this article of which immense quantities are generally used in the South, have heretofore been mostly supplied from the Western States, although it can be raised here much more easily and abundantly. It is another example of the shameful dependence upon our enemies, we have hitherto lived in. In this, as well as in many other matters, we are at last happily compelled to depend on ourselves. Aside from the necessity we are under now of providing a large supply of mustard for medical and other uses, in the point of profit there is no crop a farmer can raise more remunerative. We have seen in some of the Patent Office Reports, a report from an Illinois farmer, of his experience in raising mustard for market, and he estimated his profit at, we think, \$300 per acre—much better than making cotton at nothing per pound.

It should be planted early in the spring, in drills 18 inches or two feet apart, and thinned to six inches in the drill.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Col. Bankhead has arrived, and entered upon the discharge of his duties as Commandant of this Post on yesterday.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The entertainment given by the ladies of the Hospital Association, on Tuesday night last, for the benefit of the Texas Hospital in Virginia, passed off very pleasantly, and, we believe gave general satisfaction. We were present, but, as the room was densely crowded we were unable to see much of the performance. We would be pleased therefore to hear a more particular notice of it, from some one who was more fortunate than we were.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Monday, a Mexican soldier belonging to Capt. Penalzoza's Company was hung on the corner of the Military Plaza, for stealing guns, blankets, &c. We learn that it was done by order of Captain Penalzoza, who is now under arrest. As we presume, the matter will be investigated, we will refrain from any remarks at present.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We again call the attention of the Commandant of this Post to the fact, that the sentinels stationed about the Ordnance Department are in habit of ordering persons off the pavement. It is creating a great deal of dissatisfaction, and will certainly lead to difficulties. It is trying to the patience of any one, to see a lady ordered into the mud more than ankle deep.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Sunday Dispatch makes the following astounding statement:

"There is not a shadow of doubt that our officers have been 'picked out' and shot by their own men on the battle field, in numberless instances, to gratify private grudge. A staff officer, in conversation with me on this very subject, stated that he had been informed by a surgeon, who had gone over the battle field at Antietam, that he found to his great horror and surprise that nearly all the officers killed were wounded from behind! Alas, what a heavy reckoning!"

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

We are requested to state by Genl. J. B. Knox, in the article mentioned in our Thursday's paper, about the proposed hanging of a Mexican, that the Vigilance Committee was not implicated in it whatever; that the Mexican, being suspicioned of knowing the whereabouts of the saddle, was only examined as a witness.

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

#### A Warning in Time.

The following, furnished a Georgia paper by its correspondent, is what we may expect to happen all through our country, if a change for the better does not present itself:

Things are tending to a point when, with the utmost sagacity and effort upon the part of communities and individuals, popular outbreaks may be well apprehended. There is bread and

meat enough in the country, and clothing too, commensurate with the wants of the people. The alternative is now presented to the holders of these prime necessities to throw them upon the market and relieve the public wants, or force upon the necessitous and suffering, the painful task of helping themselves. People are not going to starve and freeze in sight of plenty.

I learn that a "detachment" of women entered a store in Cartersville, the other day, and helped themselves to yarn, asking the owner no questions and no odds. They also helped themselves to salt at the depot. So will it be elsewhere if the hoarders, extortioners and monopolists do not change their course.—Soldier's wives and children will not famish whilst their husbands and brothers are fighting for our liberties.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 5, 1863, p. 1, c. 2

Robbery and Hanging.—The usually quiet and law-abiding county of Pike has been lately the theatre of some events which must give pain to all lovers of their country. A band of deserters, disaffected persons, and turbulent characters, assembled on the upper part of the Little Missouri and entrenched themselves in camp to defy the law and the military authorities. Two men connected with them, named Greer and Clark, about ten days ago, attacked a man traveling with a wagon and a negro man. They robbed him of his negro, wagon and team, and as they supposed, all his money, made him get upon his knees, shot him in the back of the neck and left him for dead. Fortunately, the man lived, and perhaps will recover. A number of citizens collected and attacked their camp, routed them, and captured and hung Greer and Clark. Since then rumors have reached town that the outlaws had re-assembled in great force, but we hope they are exaggerated.

We pity those misguided men amongst them, who are misled, but have no sympathy for the thieves and robbers, and hope they may be brought to speedy punishment. How much better would it be for them to [illegible] their lives in the service of their country.—Washington [Ark.] Telegraph.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Monday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst., Capt. E. Abat, by order of Col. Bankhead fired a salute of fifteen guns, in honor of Texas independence.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We learn from a gentleman of this place, that last week, whilst hunting cattle in Atascosa County, he found three women butchering a cow, and was informed by them that their husbands were in the army; that no man lived within 7 miles of them, and that they were compelled to kill a gentle cow to prevent themselves and children from starving. What has become of all the exempts of that county? Have none of them manliness enough to ride 7 miles and butcher a beef, to prevent three soldier's families from starving?

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Thursday night last, thirty of Capt. Penaloza's Company deserted. This command is composed entirely of Mexicans, who are known to be the best teamsters in the world, and, had they been put at their legitimate employment, would have served the government, we have no doubt, efficiently and faithfully; but, as it is, their services are entirely lost, and other men, who will make good soldiers, have to take the places they should have filled. The blame of this mismanagement should be attached somewhere, as their qualifications as teamsters and the want

of them for good soldiers, have been known from the time they were enrolled; moreover they have been discontented and deserting for some time.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Died:

In this city, on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1863, Col. Alex. Young, aged 42 years, after a severe illness of three weeks, which he bore with Christian fortitude and resignation, retaining his faculties until his spirit departed for its heavenly sphere—"where the weary are at rest."

Col. Young leaves behind him a young and loving wife and a large circle of friends to mourn his irreparable loss.

The subject of the above notice, was born in Philadelphia, and was educated there; but on coming to manhood chose the sunny South for his future home, and New Orleans for his business place, which city he left to take part in our struggle with Mexico.

After the close of the Mexican war he was elected Sutler for the U. S. Army at Forts Worth, Davis and McIntosh, which position he held when the Ordinance of Secession was accepted, when he espoused our cause and has proved one of our most ardent, steadfast and liberal patriots.

At the time of his death he was Treasurer of the Texas Powder Company, which Company he assisted to organize for the purpose of aiding our cause without the selfish end of profit, and to which he devoted his time, money and energies without stint.

As a husband, beloved; as a friend admired; as a man respected.—Adieu.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Office of the  
Confederate States  
Wool Agency  
San Antonio, Texas, Febr. 12, '63.

The undersigned, sole Agents of the Confederate States for the purchase of

Wool

in the State of Texas, have divided the wool growing counties into sections, and to each section have appointed a Sub-Agent whose duty it will be to visit all wool growers within their section, or communicate with them by letter, with the view of purchasing their clips of wool, for which they are authorized to pay a fair and liberal price.

The following counties constitute section No. 1. Sub Agent Mr. J. C. Evans. Post Office, San Antonio: Comal, Guadalupe, Atascosa, Medina, Bandera, Kerr, Uvalde, Dawson, Wilson and Bexar. It is expected, that all good and patriotic citizens will give the preference to the government over all other purchasers.

All citizens are requested to report to this office the name and residence of any person or persons, whom they know or hear of, representing themselves as Government Agents for the purchase of wool, who have not received written authority from the Qr. M. General, Major J. F.

Minter, Chief Qr. Master, Tex., and the undersigned; or if possessing sufficient evidence to convict them of the offence to make affidavit against them before a Commissioner of the Confederate Court.

Bagging, Rope and Twine will be furnished by the Sub Agents, and by the undersigned at their warehouse in San Antonio, to those needing it to bale their Wool.

Vance & Bro.,  
Agents of the Confederate States  
for the purchase of Wool.

Adjutant [sic] & Inspector Gen'l's Office,}  
Richmond, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1863.}

General Order, }  
No. 6. }

\* \* \* \* \*

II.—The appointment of Agents to purchase Wool by any officer, except the Quartermaster General, and such officers as may act under his authority and sanction, is hereby prohibited; and all agencies for that purpose, heretofore authorized by other officers is revoked.  
By order

(Signed)

S. Cooper.  
Adjutant and Inspector General.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

#### Letters from Federal Soldiers.

The Dubuque (Iowa) Herald publishes extracts from two letters received by private citizens from soldiers in the Federal army. The first is dated Havana, Ark., Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>:

"Had I known as much six months ago, as I do now, my father could have had my assistance at home this fall, as I never would have joined such an army as this. You may think it strange, but it is true and well known to every one, that officers and men enter the houses of defenceless [sic] women, and then after taking their provisions and clothing, even down to children's dresses, *ravish the women!* I had supposed that this was a war for the restoration of the Union, and not a war of oppression, as it really is, and I cannot believe for a moment that Providence will tolerate much longer the outrageous acts of our army. Southern women may be very saucy, as the reports say, but retaliation in this manner is barbarous to the last degree. Yesterday 20,000 or 30,000 troops here were to go South for what purpose we do not know. They may intend to meet Price, but probably they will accomplish about as much as they did a few days ago on a celebrated expedition—plunder and burn a house or two, and come back with some baby linen and other things of that sort. It is not astonishing that the South won't give up. The manner in which we are carrying on the war is calculated to unite them firmly and make rebels of Union men. You may think that I am secesh, but I love the Union as much as ever, and for this reason, if we are to fight let it be according to the principles of civilized warfare at least, and not after the manner of savages. War is horrible at best, and the sooner it is ended. I do not believe this rebellion will ever be put down by force of arms. The South are as rich in resources as we are, for that matter, and they are all united and determined, and the great majority of them would rather die than yield."

The other is dated a week later, from a Republican soldier to his wife:

"I am about to start on a scouting expedition in earnest, although I ought to be satisfied, and am disgusted with what I have already seen. Corruption and fraud of the most glaring character stalk abroad everywhere in this army. The Generals in command are speculating in cotton and keeping the army here to protect them in their corrupt schemes. I am afraid this war will last till we are all killed off, and as many more and then we have to give it up. I cannot see that we are any nearer the end of the war than we were a year ago. It is awful to hear of the manner in which the Union soldiers plunder the Southern people. They rob them of their property, steal everything in their houses, take the clothes from the backs of the women and children, and *violate the persons of unoffending women, and set fire to their houses*. I do not blame the Southern men for being rebels. By our outrageous proceedings we force them to fight for their firesides their wives and children."

The Providence Post publishes several letters from soldiers in the army of the Potomac. Here is one from a soldier, who has been with the army almost from its organization, and has never been known to complain before:

"*I am sick of this war*—sick that I do not care upon what terms it is settled. I have seen thousands of men lying mangled on fifteen or sixteen different battle-fields—all for nothing. Wives, sisters, mothers and children, loosing [sic] their husbands, brothers, sons and fathers, all for nothing! for here we have been fighting over a year and a half, and we have not gained one point. We have lived and are now living on nine or ten crackers, a piece of raw pork, and some miserable copperas-water, called coffee, per day, all to fill the pockets of thieves, who are trying to make all they can out of the people and the government. *The soldiers are all discouraged*, and will not fight as they would once on the Peninsular. All we hear from Washington is the nigger, the nigger, the \_\_\_\_\_ black, filthy nigger. One nigger is thought more of than twenty white men, who have left home and all that is worth living for, to come and lay down their lives, if need be, to save their country, while the leaders are doing their utmost to ruin it. It is not because we can't beat the rebels that the war is not over by this time; for we can beat them. But it is because the government is too busy thinking of the nigger, to see that the men are where they ought to be when they are wanted. You must not set me down as a growler. I have good reason for my growling. *Almost every man in the Army* thinks as I do. If Job had served in the Army of the Potomac, he would have sinned, and most fearfully, too.

The following extract is from a letter written by a member of one of the regiments raised in 1862. The writer has been known for several years in the village of Woonsocket as an *active Republican politician*, and was a vote distributor at the polls at the last town meeting which he attended:

"Had I known as much of the management of things six months ago as I know now, fifty yoke of oxen could not have drawn me out here. It is all a d\_\_\_\_\_d political humbug, and got up to make offices for lazy office seekers. I wish the leaders were as far the other side of purgatory as they are this side. *It has turned out to be an Abolition war, and ninety-nine soldiers out of one hundred say that if the Abolitionists are going to carry on the war, they will have to get a new army*. They say they came out here to fight for the Union, and not for a pack of d\_\_\_\_\_d niggers. These niggers are dirty and lazy; they will lie and steal; and they are saucy where they dare to be. If a soldier touches an officers nigger, he will get court martialed and loose [sic] a month's pay. A nigger is thought more of by the government than the soldiers are. They get as much or more to eat, get as much pay, and don't have to fight any. A curse on such things! I hope something will turn up before to-morrow night that will settle this war. We got shipped at Fredericksburg,

*and we shall get shipped every time we fight in Virginia! I don't think the North is right, any more than the South."*

The Tribune correspondent confirms this as follows, under date of Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, speaking of the present movements:

It is much regretted that the Army of the Potomac could not have been paid before the present movement had been commenced. It is useless to deny that, during the inactivity of the past month, a universal murmer [sic] gone forth from the soldiers who have been—many for six months most of them for four months—without a penny of their hardearned wages. Thousands of letters have been sent to the men from their half-starved and destitute families, depicting their needy condition, which have made the inactivity of camp almost intolerable. Had not the Potomac been in their rear, we should have heard of thousands of desertions, from the simple fact that the men have been unable to send money to their families at home. The prospect of a movement may possibly dispel all discontent and despondency; but certainly Gen. Burnside is the most courageous of men to lead this army against the enemy in its present condition.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 12, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Several persons who took the alien oath to avoid Conscription have been indicted for perjury, by the Grand Jury of this county.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Mr. Polk Childress, who in Capt. Houston's Company, Terry's Texas Rangers, wrote to his mother, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, from near Shelbyville, from which we take the following:

"I went all through the Murfreesboro fight and never received a scratch. One Regiment lost sixty four killed and wounded; our company three; Ellis and Burns supposed to be badly wounded, and Blair shot through the arm. Our company has only fifty men, officers and all; it is next to the smallest company in the Regiment.

I have been in the war sixteen months, and can stay that much longer if necessary, but I would like to have peace and go home; but I have never regretted coming to Tennessee, where I can have the fun of shooting at Yankees, occasionally, It would have killed me to have been compelled to lay in one of the forts on the frontier, doing nothing; here I have something to keep me alive and stirring; and I consider the good health I have had owing to the constant exercise. I have plenty of money, a good horse, six-shooter and sharp-shooter."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 19, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Murdered.—Mr. Asa Perry, late of this county, and Mr. John Means, of DeWitt county, were found dead on Monday last, near a camp of Mexican cartmen, some ten miles beyond Clinton. Both the unfortunate men had been shot, and if we mistake not, also cut with a knife.

There were, we understand, about 100 Mexicans at the camp. All the circumstances connected with this revolting tragedy, go to fasten the killing of these men upon some or all of those Mexicans. It appears, that on Sunday last, a party of those infamous Greasers, went to the house of old Mrs. Means and grossly insulted her. She dispatched a messenger to her son, John Means, informing him of the fact. Mr. Perry, it appears, was at his house when the messenger arrived. The men became indignant, and went over to the Mexican camp, with the view to ferret out the guilty wretches, and punish them for their gross insult offered to a helpless woman. What further ensued is not known, except that the two men were killed near the Mexican camp.

We learn from Mr. Collier, who came through Clinton on Tuesday last, that the

melancholy affair had produced great excitement in DeWitt, and that a large number of citizens had gone to the Mexican camp, to meet out condign punishment upon the murderers. The general feeling which pervaded the community was *to clean up the camp*.

Both the unfortunate men were esteemed among their acquaintances, and they have left behind them young wives and helpless little children, to mourn on account of their untimely and melancholy end.—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We learn that the Indians are again down in Gillespie and San Saba Counties. They killed one man and wounded another a few days since.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

There will be divine service in the Methodist Church, Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>, the day appointed by the President for fasting and prayer. Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Thurmond of the Baptist Church.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

#### For Sale

A good travelling or Family Ambulance and Harness in perfect order, with three seats to accommodate six persons, can be seen at John Binn's Stock lot, opposite the Commissary buildings.

Application to

John Binns.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The ball given Gen. Magruder at the Casino, on Friday night last we understand, passed off very pleasantly.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], March 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

#### The Capture of Traitors, [Extract from a private letter]

Brownsville, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 Matamoros, 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 Matamoros 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.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Capt. E. Abat's Company of Artillery left on Saturday for Corpus Christi.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Dr. Oakes has orders from General Magruder, to fit up a general hospital in Galveston, which will be able to accommodate 500 patients. The Galveston News calls the attention of all patriotic ladies to the fact, that this hospital has not one dollar of fund to purchase delicacies for the sick.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Wanted,  
Horses for Artillery  
Service.

The undersigned will purchase a number of Horses suitable for Artillery Service, they must be fifteen hands high and not over nine years old, for such, fair prices will be paid.

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

Dept. Qr. Mr. Office, San Antonio, Texas, April 3d.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We are requested to state, that confirmation of some thirty children will be held next Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of San Antonio.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Rags! Rags! Rags!

Five cents per pound will be paid for cotton or linen rags, delivered to the undersigned in Austin, or to Dr. Theo. Koester, in New Braunfels.

These rags are wanted to make paper with, and as this is a new enterprise in Texas, it is hoped every family will provide themselves with a rag bag. Agents to collect rags will be appointed in each county, of which due notice will be given.

D. Richardson, Austin.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Our Senator, N. A. Mitchell, Esq., has returned from Tennessee where he has been serving as an independent volunteer in Capt. W. Y. Houston's Company. He represents our army as being in fine condition and spirits, and thinks we have nothing to fear but a failure of a supply of provisions.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

San Antonio, Texas, April 11, 1863.

Owing to the present circumstances, which make it almost impossible to keep a Hotel, I take this mode of notifying the traveling public in general and the present inmates of the house in particular, that I shall close the Menger Hotel on the first day of May.

Grateful for the patronage I have received at all times, I confidently hope that my house, when reopened, (which I trust will be soon,) will be patronized again by all my friends, of whom for the present I take my leave with much regret as the proprietor of the Menger Hotel.

W. A. Menger.

Houston Telegraph and Austin Almanac copy twice and send bill to Hotel.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 27, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Gen. Bradfute is on his way from Galveston, with his bride, to take charge of the frontier.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 4, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

A Submarine Boat.—A draft has been presented to us by Messrs. Wilson & Richardson, of a newly invented submarine boat, designed for the destruction of the enemy's blockaders at our ports! Of course no description can now be given of this invention in print, but it will be fully explained on application to Messrs. Wilson & Richardson. It is sufficient here to state, that the invention has been fully tested in Mobile, and no doubt of its entire success as a submarine boat, remains. A boat of this kind is now being constructed in Mobile. Messrs. W. & R., desire to organize a company in this city, to carry this important enterprise into execution, near our bays. The cost will be quite small, and they have already been ordered half the amount by a prominent citizen of Texas. Those who feel willing to lend their aid to this patriotic enterprise, may obtain full information by applying to Messrs. W. & R. who may be found, for two or three days, at Mr. Sessum's store on Maine St. Messrs. W. & R. say the enterprise can, and should be carried out in the course of a few weeks, and no time should be lost.—News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 4, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Mr. Editor.—I wish to say to the good people of San Antonio, that the contributions so liberally being made for the benefit of Col. Pyron's regiment will be wholly appropriated to the Hospital. I make this statement so that the matter may be fully understood.

Wm. J. Joyce,  
Chaplain.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 7, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

The Knoxville Register learns, through a letter from a lady living near Murfreesboro', that the vandals are committing terrible excesses in Tennessee. They are turning women and children

out of their houses without food or shelter. They had ravished four girls of good respectability in society, two of whom had become deranged.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On account of the unprecedented high price of paper, we will be compelled to charge \$2.50 per quarter, or \$10 per year, for the Semi-Weekly News, after the 11<sup>th</sup> of May.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

From a circular addressed to the Chief Justices of Counties, we learn that the Military Board have succeeded in pro- [fold in paper] Cards of the very best manufacture, to be sold to the Counties for \$10.00 per pair, in currency, and which are required to be distributed at the cost to the County, including transportation. The needy families of those in the army are to be first supplied. It is estimated that this importation will save the people \$200,000, independent of the effect it will have in putting down the price of these in the hands of speculators.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The Southwestern says that "recently handbills were posted up in Mobile, headed "bread or peace." This is considerably different to accounts we have noticed about things in Alabama, and we are sorry to hear that such is the case.—Shreveport News.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 7, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

(Communicated.)

To the Semi-Weekly News.

Why is it, while our attention is so often called to our hospitals in Galveston, in Arkansas and in Virginia, that nothing is said or done for our own sick and suffering soldiers here at home? Why should they be kept in "durance vile," in a hot, close, unhealthy place, in one of the noisiest, dustiest, and most public streets in the city, a miserable situation and a badly ventilated house, while at the same time the fine building, containing 18 rooms, situated on the Arsenal grounds, which are so well adapted for hospital purposes, where the fevered brow of the sufferer could be fanned by the cool invigorating breezes and his appetite tempted by the fresh fruits and vegetables which are cultivated on the place at the expense of the Government, is occupied as a *private residence* by an officer, with the rank of Major, and therefore *entitled* to but *three* rooms? Why it should be so is a mystery, and looks very much as if "there is something rotten in Denmark." The matter should be investigated.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 11, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

War Saddle.—Gen. Wharton's cavalry saddle is a magnificent affair. Its mountings are all of heavy solid silver, with stirrups heavily plated with the same metal, and the quilting is of gold and silver threads. The bridle is also heavily adorned with silver, and on the point of the holsters are two solid gold balls half an inch in diameter. The outfit cost, in Mexico \$1000 in specie.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 11, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Comptroller has decided that all property should be assessed at its former price in specie valuation, in ordinary times.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 21, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We call attention to the advertisement "Notice," in another column, by which families and other dependents of Officers and soldiers, requiring necessary assistance, are notified to file their applications. Mr. Sam Smith will attend to them, at the Court House, free of charge.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 21, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Notice.

The County commissioners of Bexar Co. during the absence of the Chief Justice, will attend at the Clerk's Office on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday, June 3d, 1863, and at such other times as may be necessary, to take the affidavits of soldiers wives [sic] and widows or orphans, and give them certificates necessary for them to procure goods from the Penitentiary, they will render this service free of charge and invite all to come as soon as possible. San Antonio, May 18<sup>th</sup> 1863.

R. W. Brahan, } County Commis-  
W. J. Mitchell, } sioners Bexar  
Jacob Linn, } County.

Notice.

"Families and other dependents of Officers and Soldiers requiring necessary assistance," are required to file their applications in writing with the County clerk, stating number of family, age and sex, the property owned (if any) and condition, the petition to be signed by the applicant, or in case of children only, by some person for them, and to be sworn to, before some Officer, authorized to administer the Oaths. The County Court will hold a special Term on Friday, the 29<sup>th</sup> instant, and Wednesday, June 3d, 1863, (and at such other times as may be necessary) to act upon all applications that may be filed or made.

San Antonio, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 1863.

Wm. J. Mitchell, } County Commis-  
Jacob Linn, } sioners, Bexar  
R. W. Brahan, } County.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 25, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Penitentiary Committee.

We have received a copy of the report of the Joint committee of the Legislature appointed to investigate the affairs of the Penitentiary. It is very able and explicit. It appears that the former Financial Agent, M. C. Rogers, is a defaulter to the amount of \$42,114.93. That the manner of the present Financial Agent, John S. Besser, has been considered unsuitable and offensive, which is imputed not to "intentional rudeness; but rather to a want of regard for the

feelings and other circumstances of those persons with whom he has to deal." The Committee exonerate him from the charge of mismanagement and speculations in the goods of the Penitentiary, but say the Directors, early last fall, advised him to purchase a supply of cotton, the price being then about ten cents per pound and the institution having plenty of funds on hand, but he declined to do so for certain reasons. "But he did proceed to purchase cotton, one hundred and fifty-two bales, with his own funds," brought it to the Penitentiary, had it entered on the books in the ordinary made, used it for the Penitentiary, and then claimed twenty cents per pound, being twice as much as he paid for it. They say that such conduct is incompatible [sic] with his duties to the State as its agent. They also blame the directors and express the opinion that their conduct falls far short of the proper measure of their duty, and that their want of vigilance, decision and efficiency, with their partial and temporary countenance of error, have conduced to its extension. The committee are satisfied that a large amount of the goods, supplied to the Government, have been misapplied, but it was after they left the Penitentiary. They advise an advance in the price of the goods and report against allowing political prisoners to be confined there.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Murder.—A Mr. Day is said to have killed a Mr. Burke, a highly respectable citizen of Nacogdoches county. After the murder, Day is said to have robbed the murdered man of the sum of \$500, the money doubtless the object of the murderer. Several men were in pursuit of Day, passing through this place on Tuesday morning.—Texas Pioneer.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], May 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

Quartermaster's Office. }  
San Antonio, Texas, May 23d, 1863 }

The San Antonio Mutual Aid  
Association

having been chartered by the Legislature of the State of Texas for the express purpose of supporting the families of soldiers now in the army, and all indigent persons in this section of country, is eminently engaged in supporting the Government.

The Association is therefore permitted to retain the thirty conscripts allowed it by Special Order No. \_\_\_ from Gen. Magruder, and all Officers and Agents of the Government under my control or authority are ordered not to interfere with the cotton, merchandise, provisions, &c., of such Association, or its transportation, or conscripts, but to give them the same assistance and protection it would be their duty to give were they the common carriers of the Government.

S. Hart,  
Major & Quartermaster,

Approved:  
Sackfield Maclin,  
Maj. C. S. Army  
and commanding  
San Antonio & vicinity, }  
May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1863. }

Approved:  
by order of  
Col. S. P. Bankhead,  
Comd'g Post.  
Jo Philips  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. & A. Ast.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 4, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

A short time since, Col. Bankhead ordered a cavalry company to Medina County to arrest conscripts; Castroville was surrounded and about twenty were taken out of about one hundred and fifty in the County; the remainder escaped in consequence of some persons getting through the lines and giving them information of what was going on. A few nights since, eighteen of the twenty taken escaped, carrying away with them several horses, guns, pistols, &c. At the same time the sergeant of the guard deserted. We have not learned that any of them have been re-taken.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 4, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Corn is selling in this City at \$3 per bushel. We cannot understand why it should continue so high, where there is such a fine prospect of abundant crops, unless it is owing to the scarcity of transportation. Wood is also very scarce and high for the same reason. The cotton trade seems to monopolize all the wagons and carts in the country. We think that many, who are not engaged hauling for the Government, would find it very profitable in supplying our city with [fold in paper]

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 11, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

In honor to the glorious victories won at Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Helena, &c., a national salute (16 rounds) was fired both at day break and at 12 o'clock yesterday noon.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 11, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

The San Antonio Mutual Aid  
Association.  
Notice!

By order of the Board of Directors, parties holding certificates of privilege to trade at the store of the Association are required to have the same renewed. Parties holding such certificates or requiring an original one can have the same renewed or granted, by calling upon either of the following officers and making satisfactory proof of their being entitled to trade.

Asa Mitchell, President.            }  
T. G. Gardiner, Vice-President, }  
J. H. Thurmond, Secretary,        }  
Dr. F. Kalteyer, Treasurer,        }

T. J. Devine,  
H. Meyer,  
Sam. S. Smith,  
T. G. Anderson,  
W. G. Kingsbury,  
J. A. Forbes,  
A. W. Dauchy,  
Directors.

San Antonio, June 10<sup>th</sup>, '63.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 18, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The store of the Mutual Aid Association was densely crowded on Monday and Wednesday. Some seemed to be very much pleased, and others very much displeased. So far as we could understand, the dissatisfaction grew out of the impossibility of waiting upon so many persons immediately. The prices we believe, gave pretty general satisfaction.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 22, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Highway Robbery by Women.—The Macon Telegraph of the 2d, contains the following: A factory at Seven Island, in Butts county, had loaded a wagon with seven bales of manufactured goods, and dispatched it by their customary driver, a trusty negro, to Forsyth, for transportation upon the Macon and Western R. R. The wagon arrived at Forsyth in due time with only three bales, and the driver's story, (which there is no reason to doubt, as he identified many of the parties and is also confirmed by circumstantial evidence,) is as follows: When the wagon had progressed about seven miles on its journey, it was stopped by a line of 28 women drawn up across the road—the most of them armed with knives and pistols, and in the thicket close to the scene of action set a man upon a stump, also armed with a double-barrelled [sic] gun. The women called upon the negro to halt upon peril of his life, and then immediately commenced discharging the load of the wagon—cutting open the bales, and as soon as they had taken as many pieces of cloth as they could carry away, made off, leaving Jim to proceed on his journey with the three bales left.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], June 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

There have been one hundred and eighty applications filed in our County Court for relief, under the act of the last Legislature, granting assistance to soldiers' families. The wife is allowed five dollars per month, and children two dollars; additional allowances are, however, made under peculiar circumstances; such as widowhood, orphanage, having house rent to pay, &c. They are also allowed the privilege of trading at the store of the Mutual Aid Society.

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

On Monday morning, about a quarter past 8 o'clock, the work house of the Powder Mill blew up, instantly killing a German, named Ernst Guenther, and a Mexican, named Ignacio Salinas, who were at work in it, at the time. Mr. Frederick, the superintendent of the mill, had left it only a few minutes before the explosion took place. The room was about two hundred yards from the mill and adjoining the packing room, which also blew up, thereby destroying about fifteen hundred pounds of powder. The mill itself received no injury. The cause of the explosion is unknown, but is supposed to have originated from some explosive or metallic substance, which accidentally got into the powder, and which the friction of the rollers caused to ignite it. This is the second explosion that has taken place there, and we are told that it is impossible to avoid them; that they frequently occur in the very best regulated mills, where every possible safeguard is used. How very uncertain, then, must be the lives of the operatives!

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

An aid-de-camp on the Yankee General Mitchell's staff in Nashville, named Osgood, was formerly a clown in a strolling circus company—this fact is established, and notorious in the "City of Books." A few mornings ago, one of the ladies of the city called at Gen. Mitchell's office, for a passport to return to her home in Edgefield.

Osgood, the *aid de camp* and late buffoon of the "ring," happened to be the sole occupant of the office.

Said he:—"Madam, the General is not in, if there is any business connected with the office to be transacted, I can attend to it for you.

An expression of ineffable contempt curled the lip of the lady visitor, and she replied, with withering sarcasm:

"I thank you my business is with the ring-master, *and not with the clown!*"—Chat. Rebel.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 6, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The Natchez Courier of June 3d, has the following:

A few days ago I was in a store and saw a soldier's wife buying a small oven and lid, weighing about eight pounds, and which I knew to have been bought at our landing before the war at *four cents per pound*, and she paid *five dollars* for the oven and lid. The merchant's inability to look me in the face, I thought the *devil's brand*. The next day I saw him at church, and as he kneeled to pray, I thought of the soldier's wife. Are such men christians? No. If there is a hell they will find it. To-day their souls are numbered and registered, and if there are any degrees of punishment, they will occupy warm places. How they delight in abusing the poor Jews, who only exercise the natural right of their race. I think they are worse than the Jews, for from their "christian" character, we expect better of them, and whenever their envy leads them to speak ill of the Jews in my hearing, I am reminded of the old fable of the fox and rabbit, who stole the roll of butter. While the fox was gone off, the rabbit helped himself to butter freely, and went to sleep. The sly fox came back and determined to hid the remainder, and then accuse the poor rabbit of stealing it. He did so, but upon examination, the fox's paws were the greasiest.

At the commencement of the war every man was a patriot, but patriotism cannot stand the test of time, but disappears as the mist of an April shower before the sun. Love of country was a great principle, and improved human nature; but it was of too fine material; it has worn out, and given place to love of self, which, though of coarser texture, is a stronger piece of cloth, and will wear longer.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Monday last, a man named Franks, was hung, by a mob, on a china tree, in front of the Priest's House. He was accused of having, in connection with two others, murdered a Mexican, and attempted to murder two more, for their money, in Atascosa county. It appears that the Mexicans came from the Rio Grande for the purpose of purchasing horses and brought a large amount of gold and silver. Franks enticed them into the woods, under the pretence of hunting cattle, and was there joined by the other two men. They encamped for the night, but, for some cause, the Mexicans became suspicious of their intention to rob them and lay awake. The next morning, however, the attack was made and one Mexican killed instantly, but the others escaped and gave the alarm. All the Americans were arrested, but two of them managed to escape. Franks was brought before a magistrate, and, after a lengthy trial, was committed for murder and ordered to be confined in the jail here. He was almost at the jail door when seized by the mob and hung. The conviction is very general in the community that he and his [illegible] murdered Mrs. Hobdy and her two daughters, some three years since. Franks lived only three miles from Mrs. Hobdy at the time.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 13, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

S. S.  
Thursday, 8 P.M.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 13, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

[Communicated.]

To the Citizens of San Antonio.

Are you aware of the impending danger with which you are, every moment, surrounded, placing in jeopardy your lives and property? If not, let me call your attention to the powder magazine, now located in our midst, in which there is, at this time stated—some eighty thousand pounds of powder, which is liable at any moment, to be blown up, and in which event our lives would be destroyed, our city blown to atoms, and possibly no one would be left to record its history. Under such circumstances, with the destruction of property and immediate death staring us in the face, how can we thus remain idle or indifferent? Let us rise en masse and have it removed to some suitable place beyond our city limits, and see that it then be properly guarded. Are you aware that it is, at present, and has been, guarded only by two persons for the last six weeks, and one of the two is a Polander, who is well known by many of you, and who is totally and wholly [sic] unfit for so important a trust, and I am informed is an enemy to our country. Is it possible for us longer to suffer this? Is it not in our power to remedy the evil? If so, then let us to action at once, ere it is too late. The buildings at the New Armory were erected by the U. S. Government, and were not designed, nor intended, when erected by that Government, as an arsenal of fabrication of ammunition as it is now made use of, but only as a depot; and it never was intended, neither would it have been allowed, that large amounts of powder should be stored in the magazine. This magazine, when erected by the U. S. Government, was for the purpose of storing fixed ammunition for supplying other arsenals. Fixed ammunition being considered safe by our citizens when the arsenal was erected in our city, it was allowed to be built, but not for the purpose for which it is now made use of, for storing tons of powder, a portion of which is received in loose sacks, and so deposited in the building in our midst. Is this right, fellow citizens? Will we longer tolerate or allow it to remain so? It is for us to say; it is for us to act in the matter; and, the savety [sic] of ourselves and families demand it at our hands, to remove without delay to some suitable and safe locality from our city, the tons of powder which are now in our midst, and unguarded. Let us call a meeting today, and take some decisive action in the matter.

A Citizen of San Antonio.

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1863.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

The Greensboro' Mississippi Native speaks of the universal spirit of home manufacture there. Scarcely a house you pass but the noise of the spinning wheel and loom is heard. Go to church, and you see the fair ones, with bright eyes and glowing cheeks, dressed in beautiful homespun. It is not with them, who can sport the finest silks, but who can make the prettiest homespun.

Would that it was so everywhere. When we return to the simplicity of our fathers we may look for the purity they possessed.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

A correspondent informs us that a few days since, in Lee county, Va., near the Tennessee line, a tory, who had slandered the widow of a deceased Confederate soldier, was tied up by some half a dozen indignant women, and received twenty stripes. The women who administered this wholesome admonition, were soldiers' wives and widows.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Ranaway.—A few days since two sons, one 14 and the other 18 [13?], left their father's house near Lockhart to join the army, with out his knowledge or consent. The old gentleman, not pleased with this move of the lads, sent his oldest son, about 18, in search of his brothers. This son caught the war fever also, joined his brothers, and they all went on together to enlist in the army to do battle for Dixie.

The old man passed through our town yesterday going on to hunt his three runaway boys. Will not the budding patriotism of the young soldiers excuse the disobedience of the wayward sons?—Issue.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

For some days past a dense cloud of smoke has hung over our city, partially obscuring the sun and causing it to assume a deep red color. We understand it extended as far east as the San Marcos river, various conjectures have been made relative to it. The most plausible supposition is, that some of the cedar brakes North of this place have been on fire, and the smoke was driven down by a North wind.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We were called upon by Mr. Torasinski, who said he was the Polander alluded to in the communication published in our last issue, relative to the Arsenal, and he requested us to say that he is not an alien enemy to the Confederate States, but, on the contrary, has been a citizen of the State of Texas since 1845.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 20, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The County Court of this County has ordered that a special tax, for the benefit of soldier's families, o twenty-five cents on the hundred dollars be assessed & collected.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 23, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Richmond, La., June 6, 1863.

Editor Telegraph.—I have news to communicate to you to-day which will cause a wall of sorrow in Caldwell county. Yesterday was another dreadful Sabbath for our little brigade.

We marched all Saturday night in the direction of Milliken's Bend, on the Mississippi river, just above Vicksburg. At 3 o'clock, A. M., we met the picket guard of the enemy, and drove them in. Four of our field officers had their horses killed in the encounter with the pickets. We immediately formed line of battle, and pushed on in the direction of the Federal camp, which was located in the bend of the river.

Just at daylight we reached the camp of the enemy, and our regiment opened the battle by a furious charge upon the entrenchments. Then ensued a scene of carnage I shall never forget as long as I live. For forty minutes we fought the enemy on top of the breastworks which we had scaled, in a hand to hand fight. So close were we that we could catch the bayonets of each other,

and did use our muskets as clubs to fight with. Then came the command to forward; three companies only of our regiment responded to the command—companies C, E, and K, went over the bank, and into them with the bayonet. A short, desperate struggle ensued, and the enemy fled through their camps into the transports on the river. In the meantime two gunboats opened a dreadful fire upon us, at a distance of three hundred yards, but luckily for us they fired too high, and their huge shells flew harmlessly over our heads.

The battle still raged dreadfully, for the enemy continued to pour volley after volley upon us from their transports, but we finally drove their transports off, and after six hours hard fighting, the battle was over and the victory ours.

I come now to the saddest part of the tale, and that is our loss. Only eight companies of our regiment were in the fight, two being left behind to guard at bridge. Our regiment lost twenty-one killed and seventy-two wounded. Our company suffered more than any other in the regiment or brigade. Thirty-six of our company went into the action, and we had seventeen killed and wounded. E. S. Kirksy [?], M. C. May, J. R. Jeffrey, Wyatt Stone, C. D. Bishop, and Stephen Bishop were killed on the field. Capt. McDonald was shot in the shoulder. \*

\* \* I received a bayonet wound, but it was so slight, I would not report wounded. One big Yankee made a lick at me with his bayonet, but I fended off the blow and killed him with my pistol. I also killed the man who shot Captain McDonald. Col. Allen was shot through the shoulder and in the leg. His hurts are slight. He is the bravest man I ever saw. He fought in front like a private, and led the charge. We captured a large number of prisoners, and got a quantity of fire arms. Our regiment nearly all got new guns. I can give you no further particulars now, as I have not time. Yours in haste, \_\_\_\_\_.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], July 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

#### San Antonio Supply Association.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the San Antonio Supply Association, held on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, it was determined to re-organize the Association for another year, and it was further

Resolved, that no one shall be regarded as a stockholder hereafter, unless he owns as many as three shares of the capital stock; provided, he has the ability to purchase three shares, and provided, he is not in the military service of the country.

Resolved, that the books shall remain open for at least ten days, and in the event of the present stockholders not increasing, the capital stock to at least fifty thousand dollars in that time, then the books shall be open to subscription to all, for a period of not less than twenty days—such persons subscribing for at least five shares each.”

Agreeably to the above resolutions the books will be opened on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, and remain open for ten days,—each day from 8 to 9 o’clock A. M., and from 4 to 6 o’clock P. M.—during which time the present stockholders are invited to make additional subscriptions, to increase the capital stock of the Association to the amount above stated.

During the same time any stockholder, who designs to do so, can withdraw his stock with its dividend.

Stockholders, who are included in the provisions of the second resolution, are also requested to call and submit their claims.

Jacob Wælder.  
President.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 6, 1863, p. 1, c. 1

In consequence of the scarcity and the price of printing paper, we have concluded to publish only a weekly, but, by using smaller type, we expect to furnish [illegible] the same amount of matter as was sustained in two numbers of the Semi-Weekly, and for that reason we shall not diminish our rates. In future, therefore, this paper will be known as the "San Antonio News" and will be published every Thursday morning.

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

In consequence of the scarcity and high price of printing paper, we have concluded to publish only a weekly, but, by using smaller type, we expect to furnish nearly the same amount of matter as was contained in two number of the Semi-Weekly, and for that reason we shall not diminish our rates. In future, therefore, this paper will be known as the "San Antonio New," and will be published every Thursday morning.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 10, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

We were made to pay twenty-five dollars for a pair of girl's shoes, No. 11, in one of our stores a few days since. In ordinary times one dollar and a quarter would be the price. Well, all we have to say, we pity the man that comes along for a job in our office, or the next man that dies, and wants funeral tickets printed.—La. Democrat.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Four is selling here at fifty dollars per hundred, and wood at 55 [?] to \$60 per load, and yet scarcely any can be had at these prices. Flour is worth from \$15 to \$20 in Dallas. We should think that these prices ought to satisfy the most inveterate extortioner.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

We learn that the impressment of cotton has completely stopped the importation of goods, the merchants having no means with which to make purchases. Our place already has a deserted and forlorn appearance, but we may expect, in a short time, to see what little business that is now done, completely suspended. The Mexican trade, interfered with as it has been, has ruined Western Texas, and particularly San Antonio. It would have been a thousand times better, if the importation of goods had been entirely prohibited in the beginning of the war, for we would then have relied upon and developed our own resources. Besides many a fellow, who has been engaged in bringing gewgaws into the country to turn the heads of our women, and others, who are now worthless and idle, would have turned their attention to something useful. But what inducement was there to engage in any employment when the Mexican trade constantly interfered, or was brought in competition with it? Or what inducement was there for the respectable merchant to engage in the trade and bring in articles useful to the country, where he was constantly [illegible] by cotton orders, and in momentary danger of being ruined by them. Therefore, none but adventurers have embarked in it, and having no reputation to sustain, and thinking it, possibly, may be their only chance, have brought in only such goods as they could realize large profits from without, scarcely, any regard to the real and substantial wants of the country.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Outrageous.—Last week a wagoner, going west, stopped on the road and went into a German's field and commenced helping himself to the corn or melons, as the case may be.—When seen by the owner of the field and informed that he was trespassing on his rights, the wagoner replied that he had as many rights there as anybody else, and declared that he intended to fight for his rights. Accordingly he went to his wagon and got his pistol and returned, when the German walked up to him, being unarmed, when the man deliberately shot him in cold blood. The German lingered a few days and died. The perpetrator of this outrageous deed has been permitted to pass on, without being arrested.—He should be brought to justice. August Rahke [?] is the name of the German.—Goliad Messenger.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 20, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

[From the Victoria Advocate.]

As stamps are scarce I would be glad to communicate through the Advocate.

Horrible.

To the President of the Vigilance Committee  
of San Antonio:

Sir—I have the honor to communicate to you an enormity which transpired in broad daylight within sight of this hotel, and also in the presence of a stable keeper, a retail grocer, a lawyer and a physician, all of whom have maintained undoubted patriotism and devotion to the South, and love for its circulating medium. What aggravates the offence in the eyes of all the buyers of produce is was an old woman, bare-footed and bare-legged, with apparently but one garment on, with a basket of peaches; and in the presence of these suffering applicants, this ungrateful critter, she herself, old Mrs. Katrina Meregold, who owes the highest obligations to the people of the South for security of *person, property* and *freedom*, told the suffering applicants above named that she would "geld haben." Here is a case for the [illegible] of your sample county; and hoping she will be made to suffer the *extremity* proposed in your resolutions, I subscribe myself yours,

B. Keeper.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 20, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

One company of the drafted militia was organized, on Monday last, at the head of the river. Citizen Byrn was elected Captain. Adam Ewald, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut., Jacob Goll, 2d Lieut., and James Jeffries, junior 2d Lieut. The organization of the remainder will be completed at 10 o'clock, on Saturday next, at San Pedro Springs.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 27, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Note: Every issue includes S. S., Thursday, 8 P.M.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 27, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Physicians of Gonzales County refuse to receive anything but specie for their

services. In Guadalupe County, the people will not permit any distinction to be made between specie and Confederate money.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], August 27, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

On Saturday last, sixty-four Federal prisoners arrived at this place, from Louisiana, escorted by Captain Harrison. They are Yankee farmers, who had taken possession of plantations and gone quietly to farming, as if they expected always to retain them. We learn that they will be sent across the Rio Grande, probably under an escort of the parties of our lately drafted militia.

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

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. 2, c. 1

There has been discovered, lately, on the Attascosa [sic] 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

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 [sic] 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 develope [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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 [sic] 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], October 1, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Summary: Resolutions passed by the San Antonio Mass War Meeting, held at San Pedro Springs, Saturday morning last.

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

Proposals for Mule Collars.

Office of Principal Purchasing Officer of }  
Quartermaster's Department, Dist. of Tex. }  
San Antonio, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 1863. }

In accordance with instructions received from the Quarter Master General. I invite proposals for furnishing Ten thousand (10,000) Mule Collars, made either of bark or of black moss for Government use.

Bids for furnishing such collars in quantities not less than 500 will be received at this office, or by the various Post Quarter Masters in this District, in their capacity as subordinate Purchasing Officers by virtue of the Circular Orders of the Quarter Master General of the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1863. Bids should stipulate for the delivery of the collars at the respective Posts on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December next; should specify the kind (Bark or Moss) proposed to be furnished, and the price asked for each kind.

Upon receiving such Bids, the subordinate Purchasing Officers will forward copies of them promptly to this office.

B. Hart,  
Major & Quartermaster,

Principal, Purchasing Officer, Dist. of Texas.  
San Antonio, Sept. 25, 1868.

Other Newspapers in the State copy for one month, and forward bills to this office.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 8, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Note: List of rules for Company A, San Antonio Home Guard, very poorly printed. Rule 5 is "That our mode of drill be the same as "Hardee's army infantry tactics."

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 8, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Texas Arsenal,  
San Antonio, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863

By direction of the Secretary of War the undersigned hereby assumes command of this Arsenal.

Phil Stockton,  
Colonel Artillery, P. A. C. S.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], October 15, 1863, skips to April 7, 1865

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 7, 1865, p. 1, c. 1

The upper story of Guilbeau's building has been rented and fitted up by the Cumberland Presbyterians as a church room. Hereafter, there will be divine service very Sabbath and Sabbath night. The Rev. J. A. Zinn has been employed as Pastor and will preach at half past 10 o'clock, on Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> inst.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 7, 1865, p. 1, c. 2-4

Summary: Report from the City Council on the causes of the flood of March 26, and the best means, in the power of the Council, to prevent a recurrence.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 7, 1865, p. 2, c. 2

Dr. F. Weisselberg,  
Practicing Physician  
Office at Nette's Drug Store.

Office hours from 8 to 12 o'clock, M., and from two to 6 o'clock, P.M.  
Soldiers, soldiers' wives, widows and children, attended to without charge.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 7, 1865, p. 2, c. 4

Menger Hotel.  
Re-Opened.

The undersigned has re-opened his large and commodious Hotel on the first of May, for the accommodation of the Public and travellers [sic] generally. He flatters himself that his establishment will be found to be fully equal to the wants of all. No pains will be spared to have the table and all the accommodations of the house, at least equal to those of any hotel in the State.

He respectfully solicits the patronage of his former friends.

Attached to the establishment is a large and well ventilated stable, which will at all times be kept supplied with the best provender, and attended to by experienced hostlers.

W. A. Menger.

San Antonio, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 7, 1865, skips back to March 24, 1865, then April 4, 1865

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 4, 1865, p. 1, c. 1-2

Summary: Report of A. B. French, Capt. 1<sup>st</sup> Cav. Cal. Vols., of the capture of Capt. Skillman's Party at Spencer's Ranch, Texas, as written in an old Santa Fe Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS [San Antonio, TX], April 4, 1865, c. 2, c. 1

Passports.—Of all the greatest humbugs of the present day is the passport system, as established in the State of Texas. A traveler when he sets out on a journey on any of the railroads has to go before the Provost Marshal and obtain a pass. No matter who he may be, whether he be a San Jacinto soldier or member of the Legislature, he has to suffer this annoyance. At the depot he finds able-bodied soldiers, with bayoneted muskets, who demand his pass. The soldier reads it, and knows as little of the genuineness of the signature as we do of the "man in the moon," and the traveler takes his seat in the cars. Soon another chap comes along during the trip, and demands the pass again, you show it, and O.K. is the response. Well, reader, do you suppose that a Yankee spy would take the trouble to go to the office of the Provost Marshal? No, he has only to mount his horse and will not be again molested until he has matured all his schemes and is safe under the Yankee flag. We have traveled over three-fourths of the State, a few months past, and was never asked to show our pass only when we left Houston—this was at the depot. Now, what is the use of the system unless it be to trip up

Yankee spies. We expose this for the public good, and respectfully call the attention of Generals Kirby Smith and Walker to the error. We are posted and know what we say. We cry, reform, reform!—Freeman's Champion.