THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL I---NO. 38. BALTIMORE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1861. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

RETIRACY OF LIEUT. GEN. SCOTT.

THE ACTION OF THE CABINET THEREON

MAJOR-GENERAL McCLELLAN PLACED IN COMMAND OF THE ARMIES OF THE REPUBLIC.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN GENERAL SCOTT AND THE PRESIDENT AND CABINET.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—The following letter from Lieutenant-General Scott was received by the President on Thursday afternoon :—

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, Oct. 31, 1861. }

The Hon. S. Cameron, Secretary of War:

SIR:—For more than three years I have been unable, from a hurt, to mount a horse or to walk more than a few paces at a time, and that with much pain. Other and new infirmities—dropsy and vertigo—admonish me that repose of mind and body, with the appliances of surgery and medicine, are necessary to add a little more to a life already protracted much beyond the usual span of man. It is under such circumstances, made doubly painful by the unnatural and unjust rebellion now raging in the Southern States of our so late prosperous and happy Union, that I am compelled to request that my name be placed on the list of army officers retired from active service.

As this request is founded on an absolute right granted by a recent Act of Congress, I am entirely at liberty to say it is with deep regret that I withdraw myself in these momentous times from the orders of a President who has treated me with distinguished kindness and courtesy, whom I know, upon much personal intercourse, to be patriotic, without sectional partialities or prejudices—to be highly conscientious in the performance of every duty, and of unrivalled activity and perseverance.

And to you, Mr. Secretary, whom I now officially address for the last time, I beg to acknowledge very many obligations for the uniform high consideration I have received at your hands.

I have the honor to remain, Sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

[Signed.) WINFIELD SCOTT.

A special Cabinet council was convened on Friday morning at 9 o'clock to take the subject into consideration. It was decided that Gen. Scott's request, under the circumstances of his advanced age and infirmities, could not be declined.

Major General McClellan was thereupon, with the unanimous agreement of the Cabinet, notified that the command of the army would be devolved upon him.

At 6 o'clock in the afternoon the Cabinet again waited upon the President and attended him to the residence of Gen. Scott.

Being seated, the President read to the General the following order.

Ordered: On the 1st day of November, A. D. 1861. upon his own application to the President of the United States—

Brevet Lieutenant-General Winfield Scott is ordered to be placed, and hereby is placed, upon the list of retired officers of the army of the United States, without reduction in his current pay, subsistence or allowances.

The American people will hear with sadness and deep emotion that General Scott has withdrawn from the active control of the army, while the President and a unanimous Cabinet express their own and the nation's sympathy in his personal affliction, and their profound sense of the important public services rendered by him to his country during his long and brilliant career, among which will ever be gratefully distinguished his faithful devotion to the Constitution, the Union and the flag, when assailed by parricidal rebellion.

(Signed) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

General Scott thereupon rose and addressed the President and Cabinet, who had also risen, as follows:

Mr. President: This honor overwhelms me. It over-pays all services I have attempted to render to my country. If I had any claims before, they are all obliterated by this expression of approval by the President, with the unanimous support of his Cabinet. I know the President and this Cabinet well. I know that the country has placed its interests in this trying crisis in safe-keeping. Their counsels are wise. Their labors are untiring as they are loyal, and their course is the right one.

Mr. President, you must excuse me. I am unable to stand longer to give utterance to the feelings of gratitude which oppress me. In my retirement, I shall offer up my prayers to God for this Administration, and for my country. I shall pray for it with confidence in its success over all enemies, and that speedily.

The President then took leave of General Scott, giving him his hand, and saying he hoped soon to write him a private letter expressive of his gratitude and affection.

The President added: "General, you will naturally feel solicitude about the gentlemen of your staff who have rendered you and their country such faithful service. I have taken that subject into consideration. I understand that they go with you to New York. I shall desire them at their earliest convenience after their return to make their wishes known to me. I desire you now, however, to be satisfied that, except the unavoidable privations of your counsel and society which they have so long enjoyed, the provision which will be made for them will be such as to render their situation as agreeable hereafter as it has been heretofore."

Each member of the Administration then gave his hand to the veteran, and retired in profound silence.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War, accompany Gen. Scott to New York to-morrow by the early train.

The following is the response of the Secretary of War, to the letter of Gen. Scott.

WAR DEPARTMENT, }
Washington, Nov. 1st, 1861. }

General:—It was my duty to lay before the President your letter of yesterday asking to be retired under the recent Act of Congress. In separating from you, I cannot refrain from expressing my deep regret that your health, shattered by long service and repeated wounds received in your country's defence, should render it necessary for you to retire from your high position at this momentous period of our history.

Although you are not to remain in active service, I yet hope that while I continue in charge of the department over which I now preside, I shall at times be permitted to avail myself of the benefit of your wise counsels and sage experience. It has been my good fortune to enjoy a personal acquaintance with you for over thirty years, and the pleasant relations of that long time have been greatly strengthened by your cordial and entire co-operation in all the great questions which have occupied the Department and convulsed the country for the last six months.

In parting from you, I can only express the hope that a merciful Providence, which has protected you amidst so many trials, will improve your health and continue your life long after the people of the country shall have been restored to their former happiness and prosperity.

I am, General, very sincerely,
Your friend and servant,
(Signed) SIMON CAMERON,
Secretary of War.

Lieut.-Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT.

Order of Major-General McClellan on Assuming Command of the Army of the United States.

Major-General McClellan to night issued the following order:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 1, 1861. }

General Order No. 10.—In accordance with General Order No. 94, from the War Department, I hereby assume command of the Army of the United States.

In the midst of the difficulties which encompass and divide the nation, hesitation and self-distrust may well accompany the assumption of so vast a responsibility, but, confiding as I do in the loyalty, discipline and courage of our troops, and believing as I do that Providence will favor our's as the just cause, I cannot doubt that success will crown our efforts and sacrifices.

The army will unite with me in the feeling of regret that the weight of many years and the effect of increasing infirmities, contracted and intensified in his country's service, should just now remove from our head the great soldier of our nation. The hero who, in his youth, raised high the reputation of his country in the fields of Canada, which he sanctified with his blood; who, in more mature years, proved to the world that American skill and valor could repeat, if not eclipse, the exploits of Cortez in the land of the Montezumas; whose whole life has been devoted to the service of his country; whose whole efforts have been directed to uphold our honor at the smallest sacrifice of life. A warrior who scorned the selfish glories of the battle-field when his great qualities as a statesman could be employed more profitably for his country. A citizen whose declining years has given to the world most shining instances of loyalty in disregarding all ties of birth, and clings still to the cause of truth and honor. Such has been the career—such the character of Winfield Scott, whom it has long been the delight of the nation to honor both as a man and a soldier.

While we regret his loss, there is one thing we cannot regret—the bright example he has left for our emulation. Let us all hope and pray that his declining years may be passed in peace and happiness, and that they may be cheered by the success of the country and the cause he has fought for and loved so well.

Beyond all this, let us do nothing that can cause him to blush for us—let no defeat of the army he has long commanded embitter his last years, but let our victories illuminate the close of a life so grand.

GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
[Signed] Major General Commanding U. S A.

From the South Side of the Potomac.

Dr. Lloyd, of Vienna, who for some time has been acting as a volunteer guide to the Federal troops in that vicinity, was arrested yesterday by order of Gen. Hancock, and conveyed to Washington. He is accused of giving information to the enemy.

A "contraband" who came within the lines of Gen. Hancock to-day, reports that he left Manassas Junction on Wednesday night—that the Confederates have extensive fortifications at Centreville, and an army of fifty thousand men, and that their camps extend within two miles of Fairfax Court House. At Manassas they have about ten thousand troops.

The outer pickets of Gen. McCall's Division were driven in last night, indicating an advance of the Confederate army. A large party was sent out to meet them, when they retreated. Their object was evidently to capture the men on the outposts.

Signal lights were plainly visible last night in the direction of Leesburg, and also towards Centreville.

From the Upper Potomac.

A letter received to-day from Darnestown, Maryland, says that the Confederates now picket Harrison's Island, and that reliable intelligence from Leesburg gives information that on Tuesday succeeding the fight at Ball's Bluff the Confederates withdrew their forces from Leesburg on our troops being thrown over at Edwards' Ferry, leaving only a few batteries to keep up appearances and watch our movements. They subsequently took away all their supplies, and were at last accounts resting on Goose Creek, seven miles south of Leesburg.

From the Lower Potomac—A New Confederate Battery.

A new battery of rifled guns, three in number, has been discovered about a mile and a half below any that have been heretofore fired. It is situated a little below a new brick house not far from the wharf at Evansport.

The gunboat Resolute came up to the Navy Yard yesterday afternoon and went down to the flotilla again in an hour or two. The Pusey came up late last night and left again early this morning. Both steamers report the state of affairs down the Potomac as unchanged. The Confederate steamer Page is still cooped up in Quantico Creek, but has worked her way sufficiently far in to be out of sight from the Maryland side. The work on our batteries is progressing finely, and a number of guns and mortars have been mounted.

A few oyster pungies run the blockade now and then, and yesterday a schooner is said to have passed down.

Experimental firing with a ten inch mortar was made at the Yard this morning; with a charge of three pounds of powder, and an elevation of 45°, a shell, not charged, weighing 102 pounds, was projected to a distance of 1,400 yards, the time of flight being about 17 seconds. The firing demonstrated that considerable accuracy may be attained with the old-fashioned mortars, and that at a distance of from one thousand to twenty-five hundred yards, they are very effective weapons.

Naval Court of Inquiry.

A Naval Court of Inquiry, to consist of Commodores Shubrick, Stribling and Sands, has been ordered to convene in this city on Monday the 4th instant, to inquire into the causes of the failure of Commander Gustavus H. Scott, as the commanding officer of the Kenstone State, to obey the orders given him July 19th by the Secretary of the Navy, to proceed to sea for the purpose of pursuing the Sumter, and to continue the pursuit until definite information of her should be obtained; and if such information could not be obtained, to proceed to Jamaica to coal; thence to St. Thomas, and return to Havana and Key West; and then to report for the Gulf squadron.

FROM GEN. BANKS' DIVISION.

DARNESTOWN, October 31.—The recent order assigning the Maryland Brigade to guard the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, causes general dissatisfaction among the privates and subordinate officers. They argue that, having performed extraordinary and arduous guard duty for four months on the Upper Potomac, they are entitled to a position where they can win distinction for themselves and their officers. It is but justice to state that this regiment, under the well known military ability and experience of Colonel Kenly, now stands in the first ranks of this division for discipline and efficiency, and officers and privates are ambitious to show to the country that the Union sentiment of Maryland is well represented on the battle field for the Union.

It may not be generally known that Hon John Strothers, the uncompromising Unionist, of Berkeley Springs, has been released by his captors, and is now enjoying good health at his own residence. His son, "Porte Crayon," is attached to the Engineer Corps of Gen. Banks' Division.

Governor Blair, of Michigan, and suite, were yesterday the guests of Brigadier-General Williams, of the Third Brigade, and a citizen of Michigan. The party enjoyed the hospitalities of the General's "Log Cabin Lodge" with evident satisfaction, and thence proceeded to inspect the condition and requirements of the Michigan troops under General Stone.

It is known to the writer, that notwithstanding the attempts in certain quarters to injure the reputation of the above officer, the confidence of General Banks in General Stone, is, if such a thing were possible, increased by the recent disaster of Ball's Bluff, that he, up to the present time, enjoys the fullest confidence of Generals Scott and McClellan. The publication of the official report of that affair, will, I venture to assert, raise that able and energetic officer above the reach of the shafts of calumny.

As an evidence of the rapidity of the movements of this division, and the energy and endurance of our men, the following data is submitted:

The Pennsylvania Twenty-ninth, Col. Murphy, left their encampment at 9, P. M., on the 21st, for Conrad's Ferry; arrived there at 2, A. M., on the 22d; distance fifteen miles. Crossed the canal and picketted the river two miles below the Ferry, a battalion crossing over to Harrison Island, to assist in removing the dead and wounded, without relief, food or rest until 3, P. M. They then commenced to fell trees to build a bridge over to the Island. At 4, P. M., were ordered to Edwards' Ferry, a distance of six miles; arrived there at dark; heavy rain during the day; no fire, shelter or rations; laid on arms all night.

At 2 P. M. on the 23d ordered to Muddy Branch to picket the river for nine miles; arrived there at 8 P. M., wading through mud and swollen creeks, waist deep; night intensely cold; no shelter, as the wagon train did not arrive until noon on the 24th. Notwithstanding all this exposure and privation not one of these hardy Pennsylvanians faltered or has since suffered any illness in consequence.

Information is being privately circulated in this section to the effect that a plan is on foot to surround, or cut off the supplies of this division, but your correspondent cannot learn how it is to be accomplished—whether by a concerted action of the Confederates and the Maryland disunionists, or otherwise; nor can he trace the report to anything like reliable authority. It is, therefore, probable that it is only a *canard* of the day.

FROM MISSOURI.

A Confederate Camp Broken Up.

JEFFERSON CITY, Oct. 31.—[Special to the St. Louis *Democrat.*]—The compromise entered into by General Henderson with the Confederates in Calloway county did not include the band of robbers that plundered James S. Ballin's premises a few days since. The band will be summarily dealt with. Other measures besides the compromise have been taken by General Prentiss to preserve quiet in these turbulent counties.

A detachment of Colonel Boomer's regiment, under Captain Cook, the day before yesterday broke up a small camp of Confederates at Coats' Prairie, capturing a lot of arms and their camp equipage.

Rumored Defeat of Price's Rear Guard, and Capture of Gen. Rains.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 31.—Intelligence has reached here that Gen. Siegel has attacked and defeated Gen. Price's rear guard at Bolivar, and taken Gen. Rains prisoner. This, however, can only be true in part, as Gen. Siegel was in Springfield on Monday last. If a fight has taken place at or near Bolivar, it must have been with some of the force belonging to Gen. Asboth's division.

Gen. Prentiss has gone out on another secret expedition.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER BORUSSIA OFF CAPE RACE.

ST. JOHNS, Nov. 1.—The steamer Borussia from Liverpool, on the 23th ult., has been intercepted off Cape Race by the news boat of the Associated Press.

The steamers Bohemian and Edinburg, has arrived out.

Cotton closed buoyant at prices ¼@½d. higher. Flour closed dull. Wheat had a downward tendency. Corn closed heavy at prices 9d @1s. lower. Provisions closed steady. Tallow closed firmer and prices had advanced 1s.

There is great abundance of money in the Bank of England and on change, with indications of a probable continuance.

Consols closed at 92¼@92½. United States 5's have advanced.

The *Gazette de France* denies the report of warm discussion between Persigny and Thouvenal on the Italian question, and says no difference of opinion exists.

The *Patrie* says that the English Admiralty have decided upon plating their ships of war already built. If the experiment succeeds, England could have twenty plated in one hour. The Admiralty have also determined to execute numerous defensive works in India, China, on the Red Sea, and at Malta.

The London *Times* says the American blockade is not effectual, and reminds the Washington Government that foreign nations are bound to recognize only a real blockade. The editor reminds the Lancashire people of the running of the blockade by the steamer Bermuda, and shows that the cotton supply is the work of the South as much as the North. The *Times* also says that it seems quite true that all cotton exportation has been forbidden by the Confederate Government in order that foreign nations, especially England, may be forced to take sides in the American quarrel.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, October 31.—The steam-tug Ethan Allen, of the Great Expedition, returned to Hampton Roads this morning in consequence of the rough weather on the coast below. She brings no particulars of importance respecting the expedition.

A flag of truce went up to Norfolk to-day with the twenty prisoners released some time since at Fort Lafayette.

The armed Government barks Gensbok and Amanda have just returned from a cruise. The latter took four prizes—three English and one American vessels, the names of which have already been published—for violating the blockade.

The gunboat Rescue is at Old Point, and will go to sea at once. The United States frigate Roanoke is hourly expected from the South.

General Wool held a grand review yesterday at Camp Hamilton.

From San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 29.—Arrived yesterday, whaler Dartmouth, from the South Pacific, with 500 barrels oil. Arrived to-day, whaler Julian, from the Arctic Ocean, with 1,200 barrels oil; ship Cyclone, from New York. Sailed yesterday, bark Isle of France, for Sydney.

About 20,000 sacks wheat, in good condition, have been saved from the ship Winged Racer. The balance of the cargo is damaged.

Rescue of a Shipwrecked Crew.

QUEBEC, Oct 31.—The steamer John Bell arrived last evening from Glasgow. She has on board the crew of the schooner John Silver, from Halifax, picked up in the Straits of Belle Isle, at midnight of the 26th inst., after being four days on the wreck. The Captain and one man had gone adrift in a boat.

From Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, Oct. 31.—A misunderstanding is said to exist between Gov. Curtin and Col. Thomas A. Zeigler, which it is supposed will probably lead to the disbanding of his regiment.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE EASTERN FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL.—The ninth annual commencement of the Eastern Female High School took place last night in the school room, Aisquith street, near Mulliken. There was a very large attendance, and the ceremonies were of the most interesting character.—The following was the programme:

Prayer by J. McK. Reiley; Chant—Class of 1862; Salutatory—Louisa H. Wentz; Fireside Musings—Annie S. Walton; Chorus—Class of 1862; Current Events—Emma Current; Currents—Elizabeth Hopkins; The Fountain of Oblivion—Written by Elizabeth V. Wonderly, read by Eliza C. Kenney; Solo; Titles—Mary T. Hichew; Slowly—Margaret J. Clark; Semi-Chorus; Woman's Work—Mary L. Simpson; The Sunny Side—Written by Catharine McWilliams, read by May M. Spedden; Chorus—Class of 1862; Cavour and Italy—Mary A. Darrington; Concerning Shams—Caroline F. Beacham; Dante; A Charade—Written by Elizabeth S. Clark, read by Elizabeth W. Cook, Hannah Lisner, Elizabeth Watkins, and Susan E. Downs; A little While —Sarah E Robertson; Chorus—Class of 1862; Valedictory—Rebecca J. Knight; Conference of Diplomas; Address to the Class—Principal; Semi-Chorus; Presentation of Medals—Peabody Committee; Presentation of Tickets to the Lectures of the Maryland Institute—President of Maryland Institute; Parting Side—Sung by Graduating Class; Home, Sweet Home—Class of 1862; Benediction—J. F. McJilton.

Graduates and Theses.—Honors.—Mary L. Simpson—Woman's Work; Rebecca J. Knight—Valedictory; Louisa H. Wentz—Salutatory; Caroline F. Beacham—Concerning Shams; Eliza J. Cox—Light through the Clouds; Elizabeth S. Clark—A Charade; Elizabeth M. A. Clark—My Neighbors; Margaret J. Clark—Slowly; Elizabeth W. Cook—The Soul's Expression; Mary E. Coombs—Rural Life in Winter; Mary A. Darrington—Cavour and Italy; Susan F. Downs—Little Children; Mary V. Hichew—Titles; Sarah L. Hall—The Golden Reapers; Henrietta M. Hyde—The Orient and the Occident; Elizabeth S. Hopkins—Currents and Counter Currents; Emma V. Hopkins—Drifting; Ellen M. Johnson—Popular Idols; Louisa M. Kelly—Beyond the Clouds; Elizabeth C. Kenney—Apostrophe to Sleep; Hannah Lisner—Trifles; Catharine McWilliams—The Sunny Side; Mary A. Pulley—Some Things we Live For; Eliza J. Pettecord—Mirth Browning; Sarah E Robertson—A Little While; May M. Spedden—Pictures; Mary C. Stiller—Come and Gone; Elizabeth V. Wonderly—The Fountain of Oblivion; Annie S. Walton—Fireside Musings; Elizabeth Watkins—Physical Beauty.

The following graduates were the recipients of the Peabody gold medals:

First Grade.—Mary L Simpson, Rebecca J. Knight, Louisa H. Wentz, Mary T. Hitchew, Eliza J. Pettecord.

Second Grade.—Mary A. Darrington, Margaret J. Clark, Mary A. Y. Pulley, Louisa M. Kelly, Elizabeth A Clark, Elizabeth V. Wonderly, Sarah E. Robertson, Elizabeth W. Cook, Mary C. Stilley, Emma V. Hopkins.

THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.—But two days remain for a visit to the present exhibition of the Institute, and in that time every citizen of Baltimore should embrace the opportunity to examine the many beautiful and useful articles deposited. The "popular corner" of the hall is that appropriated to a case of domestic cigars made by Mr. M. Leutsberg, and deposited by Mr. Hiram E Fox, corner of Baltimore and Light streets. Some of the best judges of cigars in the city have examined them and have been unable to say whether they were domestic or imported, although there is not a single imported cigar in the case. These are decidedly the finest specimens that have ever been on exhibition at any fair.

ATTEMPT AT SELF-DESTRUCTION.—John Patterson, commit suicide on Thursday morning by cutting his throat with a razor. The lady with whom he boarded discovered his condition, however, and procured aid before he was enabled to consummate his rash purpose. He was laboring under a temporary fit of insanity, superinduced by a severe attack of typhoid fever. A physician dressed his wounds, and he is now in a comfortable condition.

THE GREAT COMEDIAN.—We learn with pleasure that several of our indefatigable managers have proffered an engagement to Mr. Frank Brower, the Baltimore favorite, and *Happy Uncle Frank.* Mr. Brower has cheerfully agreed to play an engagement for the gratification of our amusement seekers. We may therefore expect to see Uncle Frank at some of our standard places of amusement within a few days.

Amusements.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATRE.—The great drama of *Handsome Jack*, with Miss Lucille Western in her famous character of *Jack Sheppard*, and a new local sketch, entitled *Seeing Biddyard*, are the entertainments announced for representation this evening. The new scenic drama of the *Angel of Midnight* will be performed this afternoon for the especial gratification of ladies and children, who will be admitted on this occasion at the low prices of 25 and 10 cts. Those who have not yet witnessed this most excellent piece we would advise to embrace this opportunity to do so, as it is decidedly the greatest sensation play that has been produced this season.

BALTIMORE MUSEUM.—This afternoon there will be a capital entertainment, especially for ladies and children, to which the price of admission will be but ten cents. The eminently ludicrous burlesque on *Richard III.* will be given, with all its original music, scenic effects, &c. Messrs. Lehr and Seymour will sustain the principal characters. To-night will be the last of the *Dahomey* programme; and if we may judge of the number which will be present by the attraction offered, the establishment will be densely thronged.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CITY CRIMINAL COURT—JUDGE BOND.

Archibald Stirling, Jr., State's Attorney, prosecuting.

Thomas Sorrell, colored, indicted for the larceny of a pair of boots. Tried before the Court and adjudged guilty.

Mrs. McCafferty, Indicted for the larceny of a $20 gold piece, the property of Elizabeth Johnson. Tried before the Court and adjudged not guilty.

Barney Hilbert, indicted for the larceny of a lot of jewelry, the property of Samuel Haggirdon. Verdict of not guilty.

Henry Ergenbredt, indicted for receiving a barrel of flour, knowing it to be stolen property. Not guilty.

Court then adjourned till this morning.

SUPERIOR COURT—JUDGE MARTIN.

Spear *vs.* Merrill. Before reported. Verdict for defendant.

Assignment for to-day from No. 544 to 593 inclusive.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—JUDGE MARSHALL.

Keisler *vs.* Tarr. Before reported. Judgment reversed and judgment for appellant for $75 and costs.

CITY CIRCUIT COURT—JUDGE KREBS.

State of Maryland *vs.* the Northern Central Railway Company. Bill for injunction and receiver. Opinion of Court filed and order passed denying the application of the State of Maryland.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

ANNAPOLIS, October 31.—Yesterday evening the jury in the case of Nathaniel Watts *vs.* Susan Anderson, before reported, returned a verdict in favor of the defendant.

This morning the Court was principally occupied in swearing a jury to try the case of the State *vs.* Ezekiel Vickers, indicted for the murder of Henry James, of this city.

ANNAPOLIS, November 1.—James Revell, Esq., Attorney for the State. James S. Franklin, and E. C. Gantt, Esqrs., appearing for the prisoner.

State *vs.* Ezekiel Vickers indicted for the wilful murder of Henry James, alleged to have been committed in the city of Annapolis, on the 28th day of September, 1861, by shooting him in the right thigh with a shot gun, from the effects of which he died in and about twenty-four hours after the occurrence.

The prisoner, a man of some thirty-five years, was placed in the dock, and the jury sworn to try the case. After hearing the testimony in the case, it was fully argued before the jury, who, after an absence of five minutes, returned with a verdict of "guilty of murder in the second degree and not guilty of murder in the first degree."

State *vs.* Jerry Richardson, colored, indicted for rioting and assaulting with intent to kill James Butler, also colored, by stabbing him in the left side of the breast, alleged to have been committed in this county, in September last. Tried before the court and adjudged guilty of a common assault, and not guilty on the other counts. Mr. Hagner for the defense.

Edwin W. Duvall *vs.* Dr. E. McSeany. On trial.

WHITE GUNPOWDER.—A good article of white gunpowder is made with twenty parts of prussiate of potash, twenty-three of sugar and forty-nine of chlorate of potash. In exploding this powder, one hundred parts of it yield 47.44 of gaseous products, and 52.56 solid residue. Ordinarily, black gunpowder furnishes only 31.38. The efficiency of gunpowder is measured by the gasses which are produced from it by explosion. An equal weight of white gunpowder will produce 1.67 times the explosive effect of the black. In order to obtain the same effect on projectiles and in mines, only sixty parts of white powder will be required for one hundred parts of the common kind. The residue of the white being as 31.53 to 68 of the black, it is more cleanly, while the heat generated when it is ignited is much lower.

WAR ITEMS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Washington Despatches to the Phila. Inquirer.

THE WOUNDED AND MISSING AT POOLESVILLE.

Pooleaville—a name already famous in history, situated on the Maryland shore of the Upper Potomac, forty miles distant from Washington—is now the Mecca to which many citizens are making their pilgrimage. The scenes enacted at this point by those who arrive there for the purpose named, are painful to behold. Unwilling to take for granted the report of such a one's death, the inquiry is first made whether such a person is living or dead. The intense anxiety of the moments intervening between the inquiry and the reply, is affecting, even to tears. "He is missing, sir," perhaps is the response of the officer to whom the application is made, and that is the only source of consolation to be obtained. After a day, or even days, of fruitless search, the distracted one, a brother or a father, returns to his home, and there repeats, in broken speech, those fearful words—"he is missing." Time will never unravel the mystery, and the loved one of the household will ever be known, hereafter, as the "missing" one.

THE WAY OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS GET IN PRINT.

There is great competition now among the newspaper correspondents for official reports, orders, and documents. Some of the papers will keep a man watching night and day around for the report to come in. One paper, a few days ago, stole a copy of an order that was prepared for the Secretary of War to sign, and published it, with his signature. The first he saw of it was in the paper and it has since been repudiated. The reports of Adjutant-General Thomas and General Stone, it is said, were furnished to the reporters of a New York paper before they were sent to the adjutant, and appeared in the paper simultaneously. A Baltimore paper published a report a few days ago that has never been made. To obviate these irregularities, we learn that an order will be issued to have all the reports, orders, &c., that the Departments are willing to have published, sent to the Government Censor, Mr. Thayer, at the telegraph office, who will furnish them to all the reporters equally alike. This would be the best disposition that could be made of them, as it would ensure fair play, and prevent the publication of matter the Government do not wish made public.

A FORAGING EXPEDITION—CAPTURE OF A CONFEDERATE PICKET—HIS DISCLOSURES.

A foraging expedition was despatched to Shroud's farm, four miles northwest from Falls Church. A picket was here captured and sent to headquarters, and voluntarily disclosed the fact that the Confederate pickets were stationed a short distance from the farm. Captain Norton accomplished the object of his mission. The prisoner's name is C. R. Bell, a private of Company C, 6th regiment Louisiana volunteers, commanded by Colonel Seymour, editor of the New Orleans *Commercial Bulletin.* The regiment is a portion of General Mather's Louisiana brigade. Around Centreville he states that there is a continuous range of Confederate camps, including sixty thousand Virginians under Gustavus W. Smith, and an equal number of North Carolinians and Louisianians. Some 15,000 troops are at Manassas. Beauregard's headquarters were but half a mile from Centreville. A new regiment of cavalry from North Carolina had arrived, and was well equipped. Stewart's cavalry was to the left of Centreville, Rodeford's to the right Latham and Kemer's artillery were under Smith's command. The Confederates are confident one hundred thousand men could not dislodge them. On Monday last his regiment came to Hunter's Mills, two miles northwest, in Virginia, to do picket duty there, relieving a Virginia regiment. The retreat from Fairfax by the Confederates was caused by a belief that the Yankees were coming upon them. His statement is not much credited.

THE LOWER POTOMAC.

It is reported that two schooners, laden with hay and other Government stores, were captured by the Confederates yesterday. They attempted to run the blockade. A gentleman, who came up from Fort Washington this morning, reports that the Confederates occupy Shipping Point in force, and are working on the fortifications now being thrown up by Gen. Sickles and Gen. Booker. Sometimes the shot pass inland half a mile; at other times they fall short. It is believed now that communication with the Confederates from the Maryland shore is entirely cut off. It appears that the Confederates are strengthening their old batteries, and erecting new ones all along the Virginia shore. The large body of Confederates who were encamped in the vicinity of Fairfax, it is thought, have been sent down to strengthen these batteries. They no doubt are in dread of an attack by land and water.

A RECONNOISANCE BY GEN. SICKLES.

A reconnoisance was made yesterday by General Sickles and staff, accompanied by a squad of Indiana cavalry, along the shore of the Potomac, about forty miles below Washington, when they were fired at by a battery on the Virginia shore. One of the shots fell short, and a negro was saved and captured a private of a South Carolina regiment, about three miles from Falls Church.

ISSUE OF TREASURY NOTES.

Ending with October, the Treasury Department has succeeded by employing a large force of clerks, night and day, in issuing the first fifty million of the Treasury note loan to subscribers, and will, at the present rate, finish the amount of subscription before the first of January. These notes bear seven and three tenths per cent. interest.

A PRESENT TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

Capt. Jones Brooks, Commissary, attached to the regular army, has just returned to this city from Western Virginia, and brings with him the sword, pistols and belt of John A. Washington, as a present to Gen. Cameron.

SCARCITY OF FEED FOR HORSES.

The horses belonging to the army across the Potomac have been placed on short allowance of feed for some time past, and the quartermasters attached to the different regiments send out foraging parties daily, in all directions, for the purpose of obtaining a supply of corn and oats. In most cases these expeditions prove unsuccessful, and but little else than fodder is obtained. Occasionally, however, a capture of corn is made, which still remains attached to the stalk. Previous to leaving the country now occupied by our army, the Confederates took good care to garner all the crops of the field, and thus, between the two armies, the country has been completely stripped of its produce.

A DIRECT ROUTE TO ANCONIA.

It is a fact that a stage runs daily from Washington to Port Tobacco, thus establishing a direct line of communication from that point with the Confederates at Richmond.

Special Washington Despatches to the Phila. Press.

MARYLAND STATE ELECTION.

The State election in Maryland, to take place on Wednesday next, commands intense interest here. There is no probability of the enemies of the Union succeeding in the election of their ticket; but in several sections of the State, the most energetic exertions are made to secure the defeat of the Union ticket and the success of the bogus Peace party.—It is probable the Government will be compelled to order the arrest of some of those who are openly exhibiting their opposition to the Union.

GENERAL STONE'S REPORT.

The report of General Stone is the subject of criticism here to-day. It is by no means satisfactory to the public, and rather establishes than otherwise the evidence that General Baker was guided strictly by instructions from General Stone. General Stone's intimation, that he threw the arrangements for crossing wholly upon General Baker, is considered a weak effort to throw the responsibility of the disaster upon that fallen general. Ignorance on the part of the commanding-general, on that vital point, is considered criminal.

RETIRED.

Colonel McCarthy has been notified by Governor Sprague that his services are no longer required as Colonel of the Fourth Rhode Island Volunteers. The Colonel, it is understood, is not removed for disability. He will probably be promoted. The colonelcy will be given to a resident of the State of Rhode Island.

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE.

The President and the Secretary of War had a long conference to-day with Adjutant-General Thomas, at the office of the latter, the purport of which has not been made public.

Special Washington Despatches to the N. Y. Tribune.

THE NAVAL EXPEDITION.

It is believed that there will be news from the fleet by way of Richmond to morrow or next day. Probably Jeff. Davis will hear from two points on the coast almost simultaneously—both between Beaufort and Cape Sable.

GEN. SCOTT TO RETIRE.

Gen. Scott will go to New York on Saturday morning, in the 6 o'clock train, accompanied by his staff. It is understood that next week, while in the city, he will retire from his high rank, and immediately thereafter sail for Europe with his son-in law, of his staff.

THE CASE OF COL. KERRIGAN.

The charges against Col. Kerrigan are of the gravest character, and he will probably be summoned soon before a court-martial. It is said that he held regular interviews with the enemy while in command of his regiment, passing through the lines without obstruction. His conduct is said to warrant the belief that he entered the service only to carry out certain plans he had devised before the commencement of hostilities, for giving aid and comfort to the Confederates.

ACTIVITY OF THE CONFEDERATES ON THE POTOMAC.

On the Potomac the Confederates are strengthening their works and getting more guns in position. On Wednesday the battery at Shipping Point threw three shells at Gen. Sickles and his escort of Indiana cavalry, who were reconnoitering on the opposite bank at Budd's Ferry. Two of the shells fell short, the third exploded beyond the party. Gen. Sickles's quarters are in Posey's house. This Posey and his family are here under arrest for signaling with lights from their house the passage of our vessels by night, guiding the shots of the Confederates. From Posey's house three batteries can be seen, all mounting heavy guns, the Confederate flag flying over them. Yesterday, with the naked eye, the Confederates could be seen getting a heavy gun in position, at the battery near the landing at Shipping Point. We have eight Parrot guns here in position which could shell every square foot of their forshaves only 31 38. The efficiency of gunpowder is measured by the gasses which are produced from it by explosion. An equal weight of white gunpowder will produce 1.67 times the explosive effect of the black. In order to obtain the same effect on projectiles and in mines, only sixty parts of white powder will be required for one hundred parts of the common kind. The residue of the white being as 31.53 to 68 of the black, it is more cleanly, while the heat generated when it is ignited is much lower.

From the regular correspondent of the N. Y. Evening Post.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Cases of highway robbery and murder increase rapidly of late in the capital. Within a day or two there have been several cases of open robbery, and two or three murders. The new police force has a good opportunity to exhibit its efficiency. The town is filling up with thieves, pickpockets, gamblers and other desperate characters, attracted here by the great influx of visitors and the constant presence of army officers at our hotels. It is estimated that there are from ten to twenty thousand additional persons now in Washington, not in the army, who come here to see their friends and to make money in various ways out of the soldiers congregated in the vicinity.

WORK AND WORKMEN.

As provisions and fuel are very high, there would be an immense amount of suffering here this winter, but for the fact that labor is in very good demand. The government employs a vast number of men as teamsters, draymen and in other occupations. A great deal of work formerly done by soldiers is now hired of civilians, it having been found detrimental to the soldierly character of the troops to be employed regularly as laborers, even upon earthworks.

THE INLAND COMMUNICATIONS.

It is said that Secretary Cameron hesitates about opening up any new routes of communication with the North, as Congress did not authorize him to do so. Besides, it is the expectation of the War Department that in the event of a battle opposite Washington the Potomac will at once be open to navigation one year in three, and even then for not more than five or six weeks. The difficulty is that if the Secretary awaits the action of Congress upon the subject, and the navigation of the Potomac be not resumed, the capital will, before winter ends, be devoured by famine.

FEDERAL LOSSES AT LEESBURG

Colonel Hinks's report of the Leesburg battle, published here for the first time this morning, creates some excitement. His estimate of our loss (over nine hundred men) is greater than the War Department has acknowledged at any time, but officers who were engaged in the battle, and understood all the facts, assert that Colonel Hinks's estimate is under rather than over the mark. It also appears that the troops under Colonel Baker were thrown into a temporary panic by the death of their leader and the ambush into which they were led, and retreated precipitately towards the river. This agrees perfectly with facts long ago in the hands of newspaper men here, but which were withheld from publication for fear that the Government would complain. So far as the conduct of the government is concerned in the temporary suppression of the facts of this affair, it seems that at the very outset the President and Cabinet and our leading military men were fully acquainted with the worst facts; but as they came by telegraph, and were gathered in a moment of excitement, they were not credited.

MCCLELLAN AND SCOTT.

It is reported from the Treasury Department that the sensation rumors continually flying over the country respecting the resignation of McClellan and the retirement of Scott, and the removal of Fremont, have, in portions of the country, already had a bad effect. I am authorized by a prominent member of the Government to deny the story of McClellan's resignation or Scott's retirement. In his department McClellan is supreme. Gen. Scott, with the members of the Administration, control the general military affairs of the country, but there is no interference whatever with Gen. McClellan in his department, nor has either McClellan or Scott an idea of retirement.

Special Despatch to the N. Y. Evening Post.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Gen James H. Lane, of Kansas, has made a requisition upon the War Department for a corps of engineers and sappers and miners. The department, however, does not recognize his authority as commander of a brigade, and refu