THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States, the debate on the bill for the emancipation of the slaves in the District of Columbia, with compensation to loyal owners, was again resumed, and after a long speech in its favor by Mr. Sumner, its further consideration was postponed until to-day.

In the House of Representatives the consideration of the Tax bill was resumed at the expiration of the morning hour, and was continued up to the hour of adjournment.

By the arrival at New York of the steamer City of New York, we have advices from Southampton to the 19th of March. Contrary to previous announcement, it now appears that the Lieutenant of the Sumter and his companion, the ex-Consul of the United States at Cadiz, who were arrested at Tangier, were not given up, but are now prisoners on board of the United States sloop-of-war Ino. In answer to a question put to him in the English House of Commons concerning the arrest, Mr. Layard regretted that he had been originally misinformed. He stated the circumstances under which the arrest took place, and that the Moorish Government had remonstrated against it. "The facts," he said, emphatically "require no comment. For the sake of justice, of humanity, of the right of affording asylum to persons accused of political offences, he might be permitted to express an earnest hope that when the circumstances became known to the President of the United States, he would order the release of the prisoners." The London *Times* furnishes us with another article on the victory at Fort Donelson. After speaking of the sudden change from despondency to exultation, the *Times* pronounces it "a substantial victory, well planned, well won, and bravely contested." But the error of the Northerners is, we are told, to be over sanguine. "Instead of using it as a basis of peace they accept it as an omen of entire conquest." The intrinsic value of the victory, if the South is in earnest, it is contended, is no more in respect to the conquest of the Southern States "than would be the capture of a fort on the banks of the Danube towards the conquest of Europe.— * * * * It is but as the first mile stone from London towards Exeter." Finally, the *Times* argues that "if the North be wise it should make the moment of victory the moment for overtures of peace," and points out, as a fact to be well considered, that with their credit strain d, their revenues pledged, their treasury drained, and the whole power of their fighting men called out "they do not, after ten months effort towards the conquest of half a continent, occupy an acre of the enemy's land, *which is ten miles* distant from the sea or a navigable river."

The steamer Jura arrived at Portland yesterday, with advices from Europe to the 20th ult. President Lincoln's emancipation message had just been received in England, and had attracted much attention. The Liverpool *Post* entertains no doubt that it will be of great service in Europe to the Northern cause. The London *Times* regards it as the most important news received abroad since the split. The object of the message, in the opinion of the *Times*, is to recover the border States to the Union; but the proposition is regarded as important solely and simply because it is a proposition, and not because it is likely to be accepted. Attention is also called to the fact that the only reply of the South has been a resolution of the Confederate Congress to burn all cotton and tobacco that may be in danger of falling into the hands of the invaders.

Tenth Island, in the Mississippi, still continues to present its defiant front to Commodore Foote's flotilla. Various devices have been planned for circumventing the enemy. His batteries on the mainland were to have been attacked in the rear, but there the land was overflowed; the Federal forces were far up the Tennessee, and General Halleck had no troops to spare. Next, the flotilla was to run the blockade, but this was thought to be too hazardous an experiment. Finally, somebody discovered a bayou which entered the Mississippi above Tenth Island and kindly swept round New Madrid and opened again upon the Mississippi below Point Pleasant. The Chicago *Post* announces that the channel of this water course is being excavated, and boats will thus be enabled to pass through. The fact may well be doubted.—The exploring party which was sent to trace the course of the bayou was brought up suddenly in two and a half feet water, and therefore returned. It is only surmised that the bayou enters the Mississippi below, as it does above, and if it does, nothing drawing more water than a flat boat could traverse it.

Some of the Republican journals are growing quite restive under the late war order, restricting the press to the publication only of such facts as the War Department permits to be sent by telegraph. The Cincinnati *Commercial* most unaccountably styles it "an intolerable censorship," and is further guilty of the shocking impertinence of believing that "the general welfare" would be much better provided for if the "war order" in question smacked "something less of pomp and arrogance, and something more of practical common sense."

The march of the Federal troops beyond Warrenton junction does not appear to be entirely unopposed. The Confederates, however, fell back and crossed the Rappahannock, blowing up the bridge behind them. The Federal troops took five prisoners, and the Confederates six. Heavy firing was still heard along the front. Several Federal soldiers have been killed by outlying Confederates during the past week in the neighborhood of Fairfax Court House.

Commodore Dupont reports that during an expedition to Mosquito Inlet on the coast of Florida, Captains Budd and Mather, and eight men were killed, and two taken prisoners, by a party of Confederates in ambush.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad goes into effectual operation to-day. Nearly two hundred car loads of Western produce reached this city yesterday.

The Government having reason to believe that, notwithstanding the precautions hitherto taken by the police, persons in sympathy with the Confederates, if not Confederate emissaries, had managed to reach Liverpool via New York at about the commencement of the present month, orders were given to the detectives to-day to be more particular than usual in looking after suspicious persons on board the steamers Hansa, for Southampton and Bremen, Caledonia, for Glasgow, and Glasgow, for Liverpool. The detectives were faithful to these injunctions, but failed to discover anybody who was not all right. At a later hour in the day, they paid a visit to the British steamer Karnack, for Nassau and Havana, but could make no discoveries there justifying the detention of any person on board.—*New York Correspondence Philadelphia Ledger.*

HEBREW MOURNING AT THE HOUSE OF THE LATE COL. LEVY.—In accordance with a Hebrew custom, prayers were held on Thursday afternoon, at the residence of the late Commodore Levy, in St. Mark's place, New York city. The back parlor, where the remains of the deceased had lain before the funeral, was the place designated for the services. The room was darkened and the chandeliers lighted, while at the spot where the head of the coffin had rested a burning night-taper, typifying the soul, stood on the floor. The mirror was covered with a white cloth, but otherwise the room had undergone no change. The widow and brother of deceased sat upon low stools, in token of mourning, which is observed by the strictest Jews, by sitting on the bare floor during the seven days succeeding a funeral. A number of ladies and gentlemen were present, and participated in the exercises.

At half-past five o'clock the reader of the congregation Shearith Israel, Rev. J. J. Lyons, entoned the afternoon prayer, or Minchа, at the conclusion of which prayers were offered for deceased. The prayer of Kadish, or sanctification of the Almighty, was then said by a person in the room, although not the evening prayer, or Maariv, was recited. The services closed with the chanting, in a chant melody, of the 49th Psalm. At the conclusion of the services everybody sat down for a few minutes in the most abject silence, and then left the room, saying to the mourners, in a low voice:—"May Heaven comfort you, with the rest of all mourners in Israel."

The Princess Mathilde does not make a pious use of her Sundays. She employed a recent evening of that day in giving a magnificent *bal masque*, the costumes at which are spoken of as having been of unusual splendor. All times and countries were represented. M. de Sutrath sought to personate a river, and shimmered with a multitude of diamonds. The Count de Demidoff, the richest of the Russian nobles, wore a black costume of the period Louis XIII., which was thickly studded with magnificent gems. The Emperor and Empress attended, and remained to a late hour.

AN ENORMOUS GUN.—A cannon, said to weigh 36,000 pounds, while passing through New Haven, on Friday, broke down the car on which it was loaded, while the latter was switching off on a side track. The curiosity of the public to see the monster became so great that the railroad officials were obliged to put it under lock and key in an engine house.

The fourth Ohio volunteers, having taken possession of the office of the Olean Journal, at Bardstown, have issued a paper of their own, under the title of the Fourth Ohio Times.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Steamer Jura.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION MESSAGE IN EUROPE.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

PORTLAND, March 31.—The steamer Jura arrived here this evening with dates to the 20th inst. from Liverpool.

The steamer Hibernian arrived out on the 19th inst.

President Lincoln's emancipation message attracted much attention in England. There had been but little time previous to the sailing of the Jura for newspaper comment.

The Liverpool *Post* says there can be no doubt that it will have an uncalculable effect in Europe, and that the effect will be most favorable to the Northern cause.

The London *Times* says it is the most important news received from America since the split. The Presidents avowed object is to recover to the Union the Border States, and the proposition is important, not for its intrinsic likelihood of acceptance, but simply because it is a proposition and is the first bid made towards putting an end to the war. We may hope that others may follow and that the North may gradually rise in its offers until something acceptable has been put forth. The only reply of the South to Lincoln has been a resolution of the Confederate House of Representatives to burn all cotton and tobacco that may be in danger of falling into the hands of the invaders. In every point of view, the proposal of the President gives great scope for speculation, and perhaps some glimpse of hope—but it is, or what it may herald—not for what it is.

A general meeting of the Atlantic Telegraph Company was held at London on the 19th, when the Directors' report was adopted. Hopeful views were entertained, and Lord Palmerston was to receive a deputation from the Company the following week.

There was a heavy fall of snow in England on Thursday night.

FRANCE.

Additional troops are going to Mexico. A new brigade was to leave Toulon on the following week. The *Corps Legislatif* have adopted the address to the Emperor. There were nine dissentent votes.

ITALY.

It was reported that Garibaldi had another long interview with Ratazzi, and had postponed his departure from Turin for a few days.

Great precautions are being taken by the Austrian Government on the Venetian frontier. The advanced posts have been doubled and the garrisons augmented. Troops have also been posted along the line of the Po. The Emperor has gone from Venice to Vienna.

A captain and two officers of the Austrian fleet have been arrested at Mantua on suspicion of being partizans of the Italian cause.

GREECE.

All the cannon of the insurgents have fallen into the hands of the Royal troops. The insurgents at Nauplia asked an amnesty, and an armistice of 24 hours was granted.

A corps of observation of 20,000 Turkish troops have been despatched to the Grecian frontier.

ROME, March 18.—The Pope has been ill the past week and his strength much prostrated. He has in consequence suspended his audiences.

The U. S. gunboats Tuscarora, Ino and Kearsage were at Algesuiro on the 14th. The lieutenant of the Sumter and the Ex-Consul at Cadiz had been transferred from the Ino to the Honest Home, bound for Boston.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The funds on the 19th closed dull at ¼ lower. Discounts easy and the demand light. Gold flows to the Bank of England in large quantities, and there is some expectation of an early reduction of the bank minimum. The funds closed rather firmer on the 20th.

United States 5's are quoted at 76@77.

LIVERPOOL, March 21—Sales of the week 29,000 bales. Prices advanced ⅛@¼d, the market closing firm and unchanged.

Breadstuffs closed quiet, but steady. Wheat has a downward tendency, and previous quotations are barely maintained.

LONDON, March 20.—Consols close at 93¾@94.

The Paris Bourse has advanced. Rentes closed at 69f. 70c.

LATEST FROM WINCHESTER.

The Federal Loss in the Recent Battle—Condition of the Wounded, &c.

WINCHESTER, March 30.—The following wounded died yesterday and to-day, and were buried by Captain Vanderman:—Michael Martin, Jacob Wolfe, Sixty-seventh Ohio; George Gardner, Fourteenth Ohio; William Whitney, Thirteenth Indiana; Isaac Jackson, Twenty-seventh Ohio, died of fever; A. L. Brown and E. K. Bunce, Eighth Ohio, and three privates of the Seventh Ohio. James Gordon Evans, of the Rebel company C, Twenty-first Virginia, also died yesterday.

Previous to the foregoing deaths our loss stood 103 killed and died of wounds; 441 wounded, and 24 missing. Only a few of the detailed regimental reports have yet been received, owing to the distance and scattered positions of our regiments.—Three or four days will elapse before a full list can be received.

Dr. Kenney, Medical Inspector of the army, has been engaged looking into the condition of the wounded here, in connection with Medical Director Wm. S. King, of the Fifth Army Corps.

Notwithstanding the great scarcity at first of tinware, crockery and hardware for hospital purposes, the deficiency has been in a great measure supplied. The wounded are now contained in two hospitals, and are under the immediate charge of Dr. H. Bryant, Medical Director of Gen. Shields' Division. About two hundred and thirty of the sick and wounded have been sent to Frederick.—Six of the wounded Rebels have been taken from the hospital and placed in the houses of their friends on parole, to report on recovery to the nearest commanding officer. Our wounded are reported as generally doing well. The number here is about three hundred.

The statement that Major Perkins, of General Banks' Staff, was mainly instrumental in planning the recent battle is contradicted, although his presence and advice were of great service to Col. Kimball, who commanded on this field under directions from General Shields. Medical Director King, of the corps, and Surgeon Jackson, of the 29th Pennsylvania regiment, were present as volunteers, and rendered efficient aid in clearing the field of the wounded.

Gustave Arnheim, of the Zouaves d'Afrique, acted as aid to Colonel Baum, Chief of Gen. Shields' Artillery, and was severely wounded in the leg.

Col. Annisanel, of the 1st Virginia cavalry, rendered great aid to Col. Kimball, and was in the hottest of the fight. He has just been informed of his acquittal of the charge of cowardice instituted by Gen. Lander.

Our cavalry to day brought in two guerrillas from Hampshire county, one of whom belongs to Sheets' mounted militia.

To-day has been a most unpleasant day. A heavy fall of rain and sleet freezing on everything, imparting a gloomy and wintry aspect to the outer world. Tonight the first thunder storm of the season passed over this region.

Gen. Shields' wound continues to improve.

The Care of our Wounded at Winchester.

WINCHESTER, March 31.—The report that our wounded in the late battle were neglected, is pronounced by Surgeon J. C. Keeney, medical inspector of the United States Army, to be totally unfounded. He was ordered hither by the Surgeon General to investigate the Hospital and Surgical Departments, and, if necessary, remove the wounded to Washington and Baltimore or elsewhere, but he reported that they are well quartered and well treated by the surgeons of the division and generally doing well. He suggests that it would be inhuman to remove them to other places, at present. Surgeon Keeney, being armed with full power, has sent the sick to Frederick to make room for the wounded.

General Shields is so far recovered as to be able to start for Strasburg to-morrow.

Some firing was heard by officers in Strasburg yesterday, apparently in the rear of Jackson's rendezvous. The cause is as yet unknown.

THE ADVANCE IN VIRGINIA.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—Yesterday the enemy in large force were driven from the Warrenton Railroad Junction by Gen. Sumner.

A reconnoissance was made yesterday by our forces beyond Warrenton Junction. A body of the enemy's cavalry retreated as our troops advanced.

The Union army shelled the Rebels at the railroad bridge over the Rappahannock. The enemy retreated after blowing up the bridge.

There was some slight skirmishing, *but no loss of life or wounded on our side.*

MANASSAS, March 20.—At the skirmish at the Rappahannock bridge, last evening, Capt. Clarke's battery, of the Fourth Artillery, shelled the Rebels with remarkable rapidity and precision.

The enemy left, in their haste, a number of cars loaded with grain and other forage. We could have shelled them with terrible effect in the act of carrying off their sick and wounded, had it been desirable. A Rebel lieutenant and four privates were taken prisoners.

The enemy, day before yesterday, captured six men of the 66th New York regiment.

Heavy firing is still heard at intervals on the front.

The horse of Lieutenant King, of the Fourth Artillery, and nephew of General King, was poisoned last night. A bottle of strychnine was found among the Rebel forage abandoned in the vicinity of Warrenton Junction.

A secret meeting of the Secessionists was held at Fairfax Court House last Wednesday night.

Several of the troops have been killed by the rebel sympathizers in the neighborhood of the Court House during the week. Steps have been taken to detect the perpetrators, and to prevent a similar occurrence.

A drove of twenty-five cattle were captured from the enemy.

Contrabands Set Free by Gen. Curtis.

ST. LOUIS, March 31.—General Curtis has issued a special order directing that three children, formerly slaves employed in the rebel service and taken as contraband of war, are hereby confiscated—and not being needed for the public service, are permitted to pass our pickets northward, and are forever emancipated from the service of their masters, who allowed them to aid in the efforts to break up the Government.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Skirmish Near Chain Bridge—Two Union Ladies Taken Prisoners by Stewart's Rebel Cavalry.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—On Saturday afternoon a detachment of Stewart's Virginia Cavalry made a dash at the residence of a Union lady named Tennant, who lives about a mile and a half from Difficult Creek, and about six miles from the Chain Bridge.

While engaged in ransacking and pillaging the residence of Mrs. Tennant, they were discovered by a portion of Col. Bayard's Pennsylvania cavalry, who at once charged down upon them, when quite a smart engagement ensued, which resulted in the hasty flight of the Rebel cavalry, but not before they had secured Mrs. Tennant and her daughter, whom they conveyed away in Mr. Tennant's buggy, into which they had previously harnessed the horse for that purpose.

The only casualty to Colonel Bayard's cavalry in the skirmish was the wounding of one soldier, who was conveyed to this city the same night. The loss of the Rebels could not be ascertained, although it is supposed some of them must have been hit.

Applications for Admission to the Regular Army.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Frequent applications are made at the War Department for a change of position from the volunteer to the regular service. The Secretary of War has established the rule that no transfers of this kind will be made during the war, but that all must seek promotion in their own branch of the service.

Abandoned Rebel Property.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—L. C. Baker, for some time connected with important interests of the Government, was to-day appointed by the War Department a special agent to take charge of all abandoned Rebel property in Virginia. The amount is large.

The Tax Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The House of Representatives to-day, in Committee of the Whole, has acted upon seventy-seven sections of the 109 sections of the Tax bill. The former embrace the general provisions: Licenses, manufactured articles and products, auction sales, carriages, matches, piano fortes, billiard tables, plate, slaughtered cattle, hogs and sheep.

The Dead at Fort Donelson.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Wm. C. Butler, of Ohio, has procured an order from the War Department to have our scattered dead, who fell at the battle of Fort Donelson, removed to and buried within the walls of the Fort.

The Legal Tender Treasury Notes.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The first instalment of legal tender Treasury notes was received to-day from the engravers, and the Department will commence paying them out to-morrow.

From Island No. 10.

ST. LOUIS, March 29.—The St. Louis *Democrat* has a despatch from Cairo, which says:

The steamer Dickey went down to the fleet yesterday, heavily laden with ordnance and commissary stores.

Four fifty-pounders, navy cannon, were also taken down for the gunboat Benton; also some hand grenades to repel boarding parties.

Persons from New Madrid report that several of the Rebel transports and gunboats came up within range of our Biddle Point batteries on Wednesday and opened fire, but were compelled to retire after a short engagement.

The Grampus is the only Rebel gunboat above our blockade, which is constantly on the alert, watching our movements at New Madrid.

It is also said that the Rebels have erected batteries on the opposite side of the river, to prevent General Pope's command from crossing to attack their rear.

FROM MISSOURI

Defeat of Col. Parker's Guerilla Band of Rebels, and Parker Made a Prisoner.

ST. LOUIS, March 31.—A detachment of the First Iowa Cavalry regiment, under Captain Thompson, overtook the guerilla band of Col. Parker on the night of the 29th instant, about ten miles west of Warrensburg, when a skirmish took place in which 15 Rebels were killed and 25 taken prisoners.

Among the latter are Col. Parker and Capt. Walton. Our loss was only two killed and several wounded.

FROM SOUTHERN TENNESSEE.

No Active Operations Yet.

CAIRO, March 30.—There is nothing important yet from the Tennessee river. It is not expected that active operations will commence until the arrival of Buell's army unless our forces are attacked by Beauregard.

Re-Opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

HARPERS' FERRY, March 13.—The last rail completing the track of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was laid ten miles west of this place on Saturday night last, since which time 400 loaded cars have passed through the lately disturbed district East and West. Nearly 200 of Western produce, reached Baltimore over last week, were shipped. The first through passenger trains which leave Baltimore to-morrow morning direct for Wheeling will doubtless be welcomed along the entire line, as the sure token of the return of peace once more to this war-desolated region.

With the increased precautions of the Government, there is no fear entertained that this valuable route will be again interrupted. The forwarding of Government supplies for the entire Potomac and sea coast armies is greatly facilitated by the restoration of the road.

Burning of Great Bethel.

WATTS' CREEK, NEAR WARWICK, VA., March 27.—The Rebel forces under Gen. Magruder, previous to their evacuation of Great Bethel, set fire to the town about noon to-day, and completely destroyed it, leaving nothing but a mass of ruins. This is another act of vandalism on their part. You need not be surprised to hear of their burning Yorktown in a few days, as such a course may naturally be expected.

From the Washington Star of yesterday.

BOAT FIGHT AT MOSQUITO INLET.

CAPTAINS BUDD AND MATHER KILLED—EIGHT MEN KILLED AND TWO TAKEN PRISONERS.

The gunboat Bienville arrived at the navy-yard this morning from St. Augustine, having on board the bodies of Captain Budd, of the Penguin, and Captain Mather, of the Henry Andrew, who were killed by the Confederates at Mosquito Inlet on the 21st inst. From Mr. F. W. Baxter, hospital steward of the Wabash, who had charge of the bodies, we have the following particulars:

On the 21st, Captains Budd and Mather fitted out a boat expedition up the inlet, consisting of four boats—the Andrew crossing the bar and following up the boats for some distance—the Penguin remaining outside, being unable to cross the bar. The previous day they had landed on the island, and were not molested, but found on the island two white women who were strong secesh, and they probably informed the Confederate soldiers of their intention to return the next day.

As the gig's crew, who were in advance, were about to land, they were fired on by a body of concealed riflemen, the two captains being killed outright. Captain Budd received a ball through the right side of his neck, which severed the carotid artery.

Captain Mather was shot exactly in the same place, the only difference being that the wound was received on the opposite side of the neck. He also received a shot through the right breast, passing entirely through his body, coming out at the left side of his back.

The whole crew of the gig, which consisted of eight, were missing, and the Confederates informed them the next day, when a flag of truce was sent after the bodies, that they were killed with the exception of two, who were taken prisoners. In the other boats six more were wounded, two of whom died on the 23d.

Our men fired into the bushes and pulled off, not knowing what force they had to contend against.

The bodies of the captains had been buried by the Confederates, and when sent after next day they were returned, with also the watch and sword of one of the officers, and taken immediately to the Wabash, (ship-ship,) and after being enclosed in lead coffins, were transferred to the Bienville, in which they were brought to this city.

The bodies were this morning escorted to the chapel in the yard by the marines and crew of the Bienville, where they will remain until the funeral.

RUNNING THE CHARLESTON BLOCKADE

The Port Royal correspondent of the New York *World*, under date of March 26, writes as follows:

The English iron steamer Commerce, nineteen days from Liverpool, arrived at Charleston, March 10, having run in by Rattlesnake Shoal, and through Maffit's Channel, to the Harbor. It is to be remembered that this is the point at or near which the second stone fleet was sunk, in order to prevent vessels from availing themselves of the passage between the shoal and Long Island, where was hazardous for blockading vessels to lie, both on account of the shoal and the batteries on shore. The Commerce brought a cargo of woolens, shoes, arms, and ammunition, and is now loading in Charleston with cotton, and expecting to run the blockade and return to England.

The Cahawba arrived three weeks since, and is now loading with cotton, hoping to do the same thing. The ship Mackinaw is also in port loading with cotton and bound for an English port. One brig and two or three schooners, destination unknown, are taking in the same cargo. On the 2[illegible] inst. the steamer Caroline ran in about 11 o'clock at night from Nassau, with an assorted cargo.—The pilot-boat Chase arrived on the same day from the same place, loaded with salt. The Cecil and the Ella Warley are daily expected, also from Nassau—the Ella being the old Isabel, and having run in and out within two months, escaping the squadron when she last entered by help of a fog, but getting a shot in her stern from the Mohican.

The Associated Press Despatches on the Federal Loss at the Battle of Winchester.

Despatch, March 23.

Our loss is large, but does not exceed 150 in killed and wounded.

March 24.

A despatch from a surgeon in General Shields' army to the Surgeon-General at Washington, says, in relation to the battle of Sunday: "Our loss is from 75 to 100 killed, and 250 wounded.

March 25.

Our loss is killed, 65; wounded, about 125.

Despatch from Gen. Shields, March 26.

Our loss is 150 killed and 300 wounded.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF ACTING BRIGADIER-GENERAL KIMBALL.

March 30.

Killed, 132; wounded, 540; missing, 46; total, 718.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence of the New York Herald.

EXCITING AND GROUNDLESS RUMORS IN CIRCULATION.

The violent thunder storm which visited Washington this evening was accompanied by flying rumors of an exciting character respecting General Banks' column and the Merrimac. I learn from the highest authority that the reports are false and that everything connected with army movements is quiet so far as is known here.

THE PLANS OF BEAUREGARD.

The Government has learned through parties under arrest for disloyalty, that General Beauregard stated several weeks ago that he should never fight General McClellan at Manassas, but that his plan would be to draw our army as far into the centre of the Southern country as possible, and cut off his retreat.

TAMPERING WITH THE CENSUS RETURNS.

An attempt is being made to aggrandize Philadelphia as much as possible by swelling the statistics of that city in the census bureau. The amount of manufactures has been raised twenty millions of dollars in the census tables above the original returns.

Special Despatches to the New York Herald.

SLAVE-OWNERS AND THE EXCELSIOR BRIGADE.

A day or two since a Marylander came into one of the Excelsior regiments, seeking a runaway negro, who, seeing his master, attempted to run away, whereupon the master fired upon him. General Sickles, considering the lives of his own men jeopardized by the firing, ordered the master out of camp. In another camp a master, to enforce obedience, commenced belaboring his slave, when the negro seized the cudgel and forced him to beat a hasty retreat. The slave-owners in the vicinity of Budd's Ferry, having suspicions that many of their slaves are secreted in the various camps, have organized a band, and intend making a grand sweep whenever the troops move and leave the contrabands behind.

EXAMINATION OF FEMALE STATE PRISONERS.

To-day Mrs. Greenlaw and Mrs. Augusta Morris, *alias* Mrs. Mason, appeared before the commission to examine prisoners of State, and after a long and interesting examination they were recommitted. Some interesting facts, not proper to be published at present, were elicited.

OBSTRUCTIONS ON THE MANASSAS RAILROAD.

The freight train returning from Manassas to Alexandria last night found several rails placed across the track, just above Fairfax station, and in the darkness ran over them, but without throwing the locomotive off. These were evidently placed there by secessionists, as a number of them live in the vicinity, who make no secret of their disloyalty.

From the N. Y. Herald, March 31.

AN INUNDATION OF NEGROES.

The public has already been informed that the escaped contrabands of the South are pouring into Philadelphia in large numbers, and that in Washington they have become so impudent as to elbow white men off the sidewalks, insult white women, and be utterly unfit for servants. This influx of negroes and this saucy independence are the very natural results of the teachings of the abolitionists, who hold that a white man is as good as a negro only when he behaves himself and goes strongly for emancipation. But how will this negro inundation affect the North and the South?

In the North these escaped negroes will fill our poor-houses and increase our taxes. Many of them will learn trades, as they are already doing in Philadelphia, and white men and white women will be crowded out of employment. Already we have more negroes here than we know what to do with, and every fugitive contraband is an incubus and a nuisance. If the slaves continue to come North, let white laborers look out for themselves. In Jamaica and the Barbadoes, where the experiment of free negro labor is being tried, the mulattoes are rapidly gaining power and influence, and white men are being pushed to the wall. The same causes produce the same results. We shall fare no better than the whites of those islands.

But, while this black labor is a surplus here, it is greatly needed at the South. Cotton, sugar, rice and tobacco must be raised, and only blacks can raise it. But, if we permit the abolitionists to decoy all the slaves to the North, how shall we get them back again to the South when this war is over? Everywhere emancipation of slaves results in a scarcity of labor, and in the British West Indies, where the want of negro laborers is severely felt since the abolition of slavery, every effort is being made to persuade free negroes to emigrate from the United States. We shall be in just the same predicament, by and by, and the South will be almost valueless because of the scarcity of slaves.

The problem of the inevitable negro is taking this shape, therefore: slaves are becoming scarce at the South, where they will be sorely needed, and plentiful at the North, where they are not needed, but are a burthen and an expense. Something must be done to remedy this evil, and that immediately. Freedom for the blacks has been a popular cry in some quarters for years. It is almost time now to raise the cry of freedom for the whites; for the negroes are becoming masters of the situation.

AFTER THE WAR.

"The question, so often asked, 'what is to be done after the war?'" has been at length settled by Bennett, of the New York *Herald*, who, in his issue of Sunday last, speaks thus editorially:

Now that the war will very soon be brought to an end, and there will be some 600,000 troops in the South, and the negroes idle on the plantations of their absentee masters, or running about the country as vagrants, the question arises, What is to be done with both? The best thing to be done with the soldiers is to induce them to remain at the South, by dividing among them the estates of the planters who have run away, and also the slaves, so that these negroes may be set to work on the same plantations in the cultivation of cotton. The Northern troops would be the very life of the Union sentiment in the South, and a military government ought to be established in the beginning, after the manner of that in Tennessee, in order that the States may be reorganized under proper authority and law, and obedience to the Federal Government fully established. With a view to this end, the troops should take good care not to allow the minds of the slaves to be tampered with, or any foolish notions about equality inculcated. On the contrary, they ought to drive the missionaries out of their lines at the point of the bayonet, as dangerous incendiaries. This is the way to restore the Union, to maintain order, and to preserve to the country the vast wealth which it has hitherto monopolized by the culture of cotton.

ISLAND NO. 10.

AN IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE GAINED—A CHANNEL DISCOVERED ABOVE.

The Chicago *Post* says editorially:—Since the partial cessation of hostilities, our commanders appear to have been engaged in devising ways and means of getting around the Island, in order to maintain a foothold, being unable to cross the bar. The previous day they had landed on the island, and were not molested, but found on the island two white women who were strong secesh, and they probably informed the Confederate soldiers of their intention to return the next day.

As the gig's crew, who were in advance, were about to land, they were fired on by a body of concealed riflemen, the two captains being killed outright. Captain Budd received a ball through the right side of his neck, which severed the carotid artery.

Captain Mather was shot exactly in the same place, the only difference being that the wound was received on the opposite side of the neck. He also received a shot through the right breast, passing entirely through his body, coming out at the left side of his back.

The whole crew of the gig, which consisted of eight, were missing, and the Confederates informed them the next day, when a flag of truce was sent after the bodies, that they were killed with the exception of two, who were taken prisoners. In the other boats six more were wounded, two of whom died on the 23d.

Our men fired into the bushes and pulled off, not knowing what force they had to contend against.

The bodies of the captains had been buried by the Confederates, and when sent after next day they were returned, with also the watch and sword of one of the officers, and taken immediately to the Wabash, (ship-ship,) and after being enclosed in lead coffins, were transferred to the Bienville, in which they were brought to this city.

The bodies were this morning escorted to the chapel in the yard by the marines and crew of the Bienville, where they will remain until the funeral.

RUNNING THE CHARLESTON BLOCKADE

The Port Royal correspondent of the New York *World*, under date of March 26, writes as follows:

The English iron steamer Commerce, nineteen days from Liverpool, arrived at Charleston, March 10, having run in by Rattlesnake Shoal, and through Maffit's Channel, to the Harbor. It is to be remembered that this is the point at or near which the second stone fleet was sunk, in order to prevent vessels from availing themselves of the passage between the shoal and Long Island, where was hazardous for blockading vessels to lie, both on account of the shoal and the batteries on shore. The Commerce brought a cargo of woolens, shoes, arms, and ammunition, and is now loading in Charleston with cotton, and expecting to run the blockade and return to England.

The Cahawba arrived three weeks since, and is now loading with cotton, hoping to do the same thing. The ship Mackinaw is also in port loading with cotton and bound for an English port. One brig and two or three schooners, destination unknown, are taking in the same cargo. On the 2[illegible] inst. the steamer Caroline ran in about 11 o'clock at night from Nassau, with an assorted cargo.—The pilot-boat Chase arrived on the same day from the same place, loaded with salt. The Cecil and the Ella Warley are daily expected, also from Nassau—the Ella being the old Isabel, and having run in and out within two months, escaping the squadron when she last entered by help of a fog, but getting a shot in her stern from the Mohican.

Three Days Later from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

DEBATE IN THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE ARREST OF SOUTHERN REBELS IN MOROCCO.

THE AMERICAN TROUBLES AN EXCITING THEME IN INDIA.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The steamship New York, from Southampton on the 19th of March, arrived here last night, with three days later news from Europe.

The India, China and Australian mails have arrived, but without bringing any intelligence of special interest. The London *Times'* correspondent says:

The prospect of peace and the definite announcement that the Confederate Commissioners had been delivered up, had a marvellous effect in the Calcutta market. Five and a half per cent. paper, in one day rose from 3-12 to 3-8 premium. The question India is now interested in is, how long will the war between the North and South continue? If for another year, then India's chance of taking America's place in the cotton market will begin to seem probable.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived on March 13, at Siout, on his way up the Nile.—The Prince will return to Alexandria about the end of March, when he will re-embark for Syria.

A telegram from Berne says: News has been received from Turin that the Ratazzi Ministry are friendly towards Switzerland.

The Kangaroo and Bohemian had arrived at Liverpool.

The Niagara arrived at Queenstown March 18.

ARREST OF CONFEDERATE STATES CITIZENS IN MOROCCO.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, March 17, Mr. D. Griffith asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Lieutenant of the Sumter and the ex-Consul of the United States at Cadiz, who were arrested on landing from the Ville de Malaga steamer by the United States Consul at Tangier, were taken down to the harbor, and embarked as prisoners on board the United States frigate Ino; whether the Moorish government did not protest against this proceeding, and only yielded to the threat of the United States Consul that he would strike his flag; and whether it was the opinion of her Majesty's Government that the jurisdiction with which, by the existing capitulations, the European Consuls were invested over their countrymen in Mahomedan countries empowered them to take judicial cognizance of alleged political offences committed in any other country; and, if not, whether the British Government would take means to protect our faithful ally the Moorish Government from such infringement of its independence?

Mr. Layard said he owed an apology to his honorable friend and the House for having, on a previous occasion, misinformed them on this subject. In fact it was only at the close of last week that he received the information which he was now about to give. He had stated before that two gentlemen—one the Purser of the so-called Confederate States steamer Sumter, and the other a gentleman who was formerly United States Consul at Cadiz—were proceeding on a voyage from Cadiz to Lisbon, and, according to Mr. Myers', the purser's, statement, bearing that a fellow citizen was ill at Tangier, they landed to see him, and were returning to embark when they were met by the American Consul, accompanied by Moorish guards, arrested on the spot and carried to the Consulate. They were then loaded with irons and confined in an improper place. The commander of the Sumter, hearing what had occurred, wrote a letter to the Moorish authorities, and sent it to Mr. Hay, her Majesty's Consul, requesting him to deliver it, and to make use of his influence in behalf of the prisoners. Mr. Hay delivered the letter, but declined to take any steps in the way of interference. That happened on the 19th. On the 26 h the United States' sloop Ino arrived at Tangier; the captain landed with a number of his crew, armed, and proceeded to the Consulate.

The Moorish Government in the meantime had learnt that those gentlemen had been arrested upon political accusations alone, and they sent a letter of remonstrance to the Consul. The Consul declined to surrender the prisoners, and fell back upon an article in a treaty between Morocco and the United States. The 11th article of a general treaty between her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco stated that should the British Consul General or any British consul, vice-consul or consular agent, have at any time occasion to request from the Moorish Government the assistance of soldiers, guards, or armed force for the purpose of arresting any British subject, the demand should be complied with on payment of certain fees. By the 23d article of the treaty between Morocco and the United States it should be the duty of the Moorish dominions, and should enjoy all the privileges which the consuls of any other nation enjoyed.—When it became known in Tangier that those gentlemen were about to be transferred to the sloop Ino, a large assemblage of Europeans and natives took place.

They threatened the United States Consul, and for some time a serious riot was apprehended. The United States Consul sent for Mr. Hay, but he declined to interfere, and at the same time remonstrated with the Consul, who fell back on the treaty. Mr. Hay pointed out that the right of affording asylum belonged to the Moorish Government, and that the article of the treaty referred to really applied only to criminals, and not to persons charged with political offences. The United States Consul declined to receive that interpretation of the treaty, and on the remonstrance of the Moorish authorities he threatened not only to lower his flag but to declare war against Morocco. The authorities were so alarmed by this threat that they felt compelled to give the troops required, and the two gentlemen were marched down under the guard of those armed troops and of the seamen of the United States sloop, who were also armed, and put on board the Ino. Her Majesty's Government believed that Mr. Hay took a right view of his duty throughout, and approved his conduct. [Hear, hear.]

In reply to a question put by my honorable friend the other night, I stated that they had been released, but that mistake was owing to a despatch which had been received at the Foreign Office from Lord Cowley announcing that circumstance. Not hearing any such intelligence from other sources, the Foreign Office applied for information again, and Lord Cowley stated in reply that M. Thouvenel had received a similar despatch. The War Office then telegraphed to her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, but got an answer that he had no official intelligence whether they had been released or not. Upon that the War Office telegraphed to Sir W. Codrington, the Governor of Gibraltar, and it was not until late on Friday night that his answer was received—too late for communication to the honorable gentleman. That answer stated that the gentlemen arrested were carried off to the United States.

He (Mr. Layard) trusted that the House would acquit him of any intention to deceive them. (Hear, hear.) The facts required no comment. (Hear, hear.) For the sake of justice, of humanity, of the right of affording asylum to persons accused of political offences—a claim preferred by the weakest and recognized by the strongest Powers—he might be permitted to express an earnest hope that when the circumstances came to the knowledge of the President of the United States he would order