THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

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WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States, on Saturday, a bill was introduced to enable slaves to establish their right to their freedom, under the confiscation act of August, 1861. The bill was referred. A resolution was introduced, but was ordered to lie over, appointing a committee of five to investigate the official conduct of Adjutant General Thomas. A bill was introduced to legalize the previous acceptance of volunteers by the President, and authorizing a further call for volunteers to the extent, in the aggregate, of seven hundred thousand men. The consideration of the Tax bill was resumed, and was continued up to the hour of adjournment.

General McClellan telegraphs to the War Department that the great battle before Richmond commenced on Saturday. At the outset, the Confederates attacked and routed General Casey's Division. The ground lost was, however, recovered by the advance of the Divisions of Heintzleman, Sedgwick and Richardson, who "drove the enemy back at the point of the bayonet." Yesterday morning the battle was renewed, when General McClellan states that the Confederates were everywhere repulsed. He adds: We have taken many prisoners, among whom are General Pettigrew and Col. Long. The Federal loss is acknowledged to be heavy, "but that of the enemy," says the despatch, "must have been enormous."

A despatch received at the War Department, on Saturday, reports the recapture of Front Royal, on the day previous, by the Fededal troops, and the capture of six Confederate officers and one hundred and fifty privates. The Federal loss is estimated at eight killed, five wounded—a remarkable disproportion—and one missing. What loss the Confederates sustained is not known, but it is said to be large. Fifteen of the prisoners belonging to Kenly's command were retaken. The reported killing of Col. John R. Kenly, under aggravating circumstances, is now believed to be false. A telegram from Williamsport, to Gen. Dix, states that Col. Kenly was then at Winchester, wounded; but the nature of his wounds had not been ascertained. The Baltimore correspondent of the New York *Post* writes to that journal that Col. Kenly will be made a Brigadier-General.

By a despatch from Corinth, as late as Friday last, we learn that the Confederates commenced evacuating that stronghold on Wednesday night. They are said to have retreated southwardly on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. The report was prevalent at Corinth that Richmond also was abandoned, but this of course was a mistake. The retreat of the Confederates was followed up for several miles. General Halleck telegraphs to the War Department that the position and works at Corinth were very strong. An immense amount of private and public property had been destroyed by the Confederates before retiring, while large quantities of arms, knapsacks, &c., are reported to have been scattered along the highways south of Corinth. General Halleck expresses the belief that Beauregard's troops are much discouraged and demoralized.

From Richmond, via Norfolk, information has been received to the effect that the Confederate army now in front of McClellan numbers some two hundred thousand men, but that great dissatisfaction exists among them. It was generally believed, however, that Richmond would be defended to the last extremity.

Inland communication has been reopened with Norfolk by way of Pamlico and Carrituck sounds and the Elizabeth river canal. General Burnside can now communicate with the War Department at Washington by a shorter route, and without the risk which always attends the passage of Cape Hatteras. Scouts sent out from Norfolk report that Petersburg has been or is to be evacuated; but this is scarcely likely to happen so long as the army of the Confederates holds Richmond.

Passengers from Key West state that when the steamer Baltic left Ship Island, Porter's mortar fleet was at anchor off the Island, waiting orders which were hourly expected, to join the blockading fleet off Mobile, preparatory to an attack on Fort Morgan. Considerable secession feeling was manifested at Key West, but the presence of the Federal troops rendered the inhabitants cautious in expressing their sentiments. The Confederate steamer Swan was captured off Havana, with a cargo of cotton. The vessel and her cargo were valued at forty-five thousand dollars. Several other [illegible]

If Gen. Butler has failed, hitherto, to win laurels with the sword, he has certainly evinced a determination to distinguish himself with the pen. He had already attracted public attention by proclamations which afforded matter for much comment in the public journals. He has now got into a serious difficulty with the foreign Consuls at New Orleans, and the correspondence which has ensued is—upon his side at least—of the sharpest. His seizure of eight hundred thousand dollars in specie, belonging, it is alleged, to the Messrs. Hope, of Amsterdam, and the personal indignities offered to the Consul of the Netherlands, in whose charge the money had been left for safe keeping, has not only led to the taking down of the Consular flag, but has also elicited a strong protest from all the other Consuls residing in New Orleans—eighteen in number. The New York *Courrier des Etats Unis* asserts that in acting in this matter, as he has done, General Butler has committed a grave error; that the specie became foreign property the moment it was formally transferred, and that the right of disposing of it belonged to the Consul, the money being legitimately under the protection of his seal and national flag. "The question," adds the *Courrier*, "is to be diplomatically settled at Washington. We await its solution with confidence that it will be of a character to prevent the recurrence of a similar misunderstanding." The New York *Tribune* charges the *Courrier* with attempting to bully the Federal Government. "If an American journal in Paris," says the *Tribune*, "were to bully the French Government after this fashion, the editor would be laid by the heels." The remark is quite suggestive as to what ought to be done to the *Courrier* for venturing to express an opinion upon the act of General Butler.

A special despatch, from Harper's Ferry to the New York *Times*, states that a German regiment—the New York 11th—one of the new regiments that were recently hurried forward in response to the President's proclamation, refused to be sworn in, the men declaring that they "wanted to go to Washington." An appeal by Major Bowen produced no effect. "Those" said he "among you who are willing to acknowledge yourselves cowards in the face of the enemy will step out from the ranks." Nearly all of the men stepped out immediately. The result was that General Saxton rejected the whole regiment.

Mr. E. F. Hazelton, No. 74 Baltimore street, near Gay, is the agent in Baltimore for the New York *Express*, and is prepared to furnish subscribers every morning with the fourth and last edition of this valuable journal of the previous afternoon, at the low price of 75 cents per month.

LATEST FROM COL. KENLY—STILL LIVING BUT A WOUNDED PRISONER.

Just as we go to press we have received a confirmation of the gratifying intelligence published yesterday that Colonel Kenly, of the 1st Maryland, still survives his wounds. He has been brought by his Confederate capturers from Front Royal to Winchester, and it is hoped will soon fall into the hands of his friends again. The following despatch was received this morning by General Dix:

WILLIAMSPORT, May 31.—Col. De Forrest, advanced beyond Martinsburg, reports this morning that Colonel John R Kenly, of the 1st Maryland regiment, is at Winchester, wounded.

As to the character of his wounds we have no information, but from the fact of his being brought to Winchester, some hopes may be entertained of his recovery.—*American of Saturday Afternoon.*

THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD AGAIN OBSTRUCTED.—The Wheeling *Intelligencer* of Thursday says:

There was no train from Baltimore yesterday morning, over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and no train was sent out last evening for that city. The train, however, arrived from Cumberland as usual. There was telegraphic communication with all the stations along the road yesterday morning, but during the forepart of the day it was cut off, and last evening communication by telegraph could only be had as far as Green Spring Run, which is thirteen miles east of Cumberland. These facts would seem to indicate that the Confederates have again gained possession of the road, perhaps at Martinsburg.

THE BARBAROUS KING OF DAHOMEY.—This human monster lately attacked a neighboring power, beheaded about one thousand of the inhabitants and took the remainder prisoners. An English missionary was captured and a ransom of $10,000 demanded.

The negro brigade at Port Royal does not get along very flourishingly. As soon as the negroes heard they were to wear red trousers and carry a musket, they made a stampede, and two hundred of them are missing—lying in the surrounding swamps.

The United States gunboat Naugatuck has arrived at the Washington Navy Yard, from James river, for repairs. She has on board the wreck of the Parrott gun which bursted during the late engagement at Fort Darling.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

A GREAT BATTLE BEFORE RICHMOND.

TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER.

REPULSE OF CASEY'S DIVISION.

THE REBELS FINALLY DEFEATED AND REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS.

CAPTURE OF GENERAL PETTIGREW AND MANY PRISONERS.

SPLENDID BAYONET CHARGES.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—The following despatch was received at the War Department this afternoon from the

FIELD OF BATTLE, 12 O'CLOCK, June 1st, 1862.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

We have had a desperate battle, in which the corps of Sumner, Heintzleman and Keys have been engaged against greatly superior numbers.

Yesterday, at 1 o'clock, the enemy, taking advantage of a terrible storm which had flooded the valley of the Chickahominy, attacked our troops on the right flank of that stream. Gen. Casey's Division, which was in the first line, gave way unaccountably and disunitedly. This caused a temporary confusion, during which guns and baggage were lost, but Heintzleman and Kearney most gallantly brought up their troops, which checked the enemy. At the same time, we succeeded by great exertions in bringing across Generals Sedgwick and Richardson's Divisions, who drove back the enemy at the point of the bayonet, covering the ground with his dead. This morning, the enemy attempted to renew the attack, but was everywhere repulsed.

We have taken many prisoners, among whom were Gen. Pettigrew and Col. Long.

Our loss is heavy, but that of the enemy must have been enormous.

With the exception of Casey's Division, our men behaved splendidly. Several fine bayonet charges have been made; the Second Excelsior made two to-day.

(Signed) G. B. MCCLELLAN, Major-General Commanding.

A Balloon Reconnoissance of the Battle Field —A Telegraphic Station Established in the Air.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—From despatches from before Richmond to-day, we learn that during the whole of the battle of this morning Professor Lowe's balloon was overlooking the terrific scene, from an altitude of about 2,000 feet. Telegraphic communication from the balloon to Gen. McClellan, in direct communication with the military wires was successfully maintained—Mr. Park Spring, of Philadelphia, acting as operator. Every movement of the enemy was obvious, and instantly reported. This is believed to be the first time in which a balloon reconnoissance has been successfully made during a battle, and certainly it is the first time in which a telegraphic station has been established in the air to report the movements of the enemy and the progress of a battle. The advantage to Gen. McClellan must have been immense.

[The foregoing is all that was received up to one o'clock this morning. The storm of last night is supposed to have prevented the transmission of details.—*Reporter.*]

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

Front Royal Retaken—The Rebels Surprised and Driven from the Place with Considerable Loss—The Defeat of the 1st Maryland Regiment Avenged—Six Officers and One Hundred and Fifty Privates Captured.

WASHINGTON, May 31.—A despatch received at the War Department this morning, states that a brigade of our troops, preceded by four companies of the Rhode Island cavalry, under Major Nelson, entered Front Royal (on the Manassas Railroad, where Colonel Kenly was defeated a week ago) yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, and drove out the enemy, consisting of the 5th Louisiana, four companies of the 12th Georgia regiment and a body of cavalry. Our loss is only 8 killed and 5 wounded and 1 missing, all belonging to the Rhode Island cavalry.

We captured 6 Rebel officers and 150 privates.

Among these officers are Capt. Bockwith West, of the 48th Virginia; First Lieuts. J. K. Dickson and Waterman, of the 12 h Georgia.

We also recaptured 15 of our own troops taken prisoners by the enemy at Front Royal a week ago. Among whom are Major Wm. T. Collins, 1st cavalry; George H. Grillin, Adjutant 5th New York cavalry, Lieut. Burress, 5th New York, and Fred[illegible]

We captured a large amount of Rebel stores, including two engines and eleven railroad cars.

Our advance was so rapid that the enemy was surprised, and therefore not able to burn the bridges across the Shenandoah.

A despatch from the Associated Press correspondent, with this advance, gives the names of our killed and wounded.

The loss of the enemy is not yet ascertained, but is said to be large, as our cavalry went in among them in splendid style.

FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC.

WILLIAMSPORT, May 30.—Yesterday afternoon a body of Rebels, force unknown, consisting of infantry, cavalry and one gun (some officers say three guns), drove our pickets back from near Falling Waters, on the Virginia side. They shelled our pickets back until one of our guns was brought up. After throwing about thirty shells among them they disappeared, and our men retired to the ford at this place in consequence of approaching darkness.

It is reported from below that the people of Sharpsburg, Maryland, and Shepardstown, Virginia, had a collision on Wednesday, the former using an ancient field-piece, and the latter rifles. Great hostility exists between these communities.

When known on Saturday last that the Rebels were approaching Strasburg, 350 of the disabled men, formerly belonging to Sanders' command, took their bedding, knapsacks and rations, and made their way to this town, far in advance of our van, performing at least thirty-five miles in one day.

Among the missing are Messrs. F. Drummond, of Canada, H. C. Buell, of New York, ——— Lamb and ——— More, military telegraph operators. It is feared that all the telegraph manuscripts and apparatus have fallen into the enemy's hands. Mr. Lounsbury, of New York, another operator, had a narrow escape, but finally arrived here.

Commissary Sergeant Reese, of the 46th Pennsylvania, was cut off by the enemy at Middletown. He returned to Strasburg, and concealed himself in the woods. At daylight on Sunday morning he heard the *reveille* beat by ten Rebel regiments, who an hour later left town and took the turnpike up the valley towards Woodstock. This force did not participate in Sunday's fight, and probably went to Harrisonburg to intercept Fremont's army from coming to our rescue. Reese left his hiding place, and was pursued through the woods fifteen miles by some Rebel cavalry, passing on his way two wounded men of the Connecticut 5th.

On Saturday, near Middletown, a Rebel Surgeon came up to one of our men, whom he took to be one of his own stripe. Ascertaining his true character, the Surgeon said, "you are my prisoner." "You are my prisoner," said the soldier, who made his word good. The Surgeon was taken before Colonel Gordon. He demanded good treatment, "for," said he, "to-morrow you will all be prisoners or killed. Our army, outnumbering yours by many thousands, will attack you at daylight, and nothing can prevent your annihilation." He gave his word as a man of honor that what he had stated was true, and so it proved. Since arriving here he said nothing but an interposition of Providence had saved us, and learned with astonishment that our losses were comparatively small.

Much of the personal baggage of the officers is missing, some not having even a change of linen.

Lieutenant Colonel Parham, of the 29th Pennsylvania, was twice captured at Front Royal, and as often escaped, and now commands that regiment in place of the lamented Colonel Murphy.

Surgeon William S. King, long Medical Director of General Banks' Corps, has been detached, and placed in charge of hospitals in Philadelphia.

Lieutenant Colonel Pinkney, of the 3d Wisconsin, has been tendered and accepted the command of the 20th Wisconsin.

List of Casualties in the 1st Michigan Cavalry.—Killed—Robert Barclay, Augustus Lane, Leander Breullard, Oliver Marcitt, Philip Rowland, Thos. Waltman, Leroy Ensign, C. E. Denton, M. L. Leach.

Wounded—Lieutenant Brevoort and a prisoner, C. Phipps, J. C. Bigelow, Peter Clark, William E. Bell, David Knight, John Thomas.

Missing—Thomas P. Pierson, W. C. Niver, Jacob Spellman, Lorenzo F. Poore, Henry W. Ellis, Charles C. Willcox, Henry Pratt, Joseph Garfield, Harrison Burnham, Charles Lott, Peter Jullique, Nicholas Kittle, B. O. Chapman, Henry King, Cyrus McBride.

Reports from Companies F and G not received.

The Rebels Retreating---Martinsburg and Charlestown Evacuated.

NEW YORK, June 1.—A special despatch to the *Tribune*, from Harper's Ferry, dated to day, says: All is quiet here. The Rebels have evacuated Martinsburg and Charlestown. The damage done by them to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is trifling, and the road can be put in operation again to the Ohio river within two days. The Union cavalry, on Saturday afternoon, occupied Martinsburg and several miles beyond. Refugees in large numbers are returning home.

From Fortress Monroe, per telegraph---Arrival of the Released Privateers from Boston---Union Meeting at Norfolk.

FORTRESS MONROE, June 1.—The steamer S. R. Spaulding arrived this afternoon, from New York, with the released privateers and others from Fort Hamilton, and will probably go up James river to-morrow.

A Union meeting was held in Norfolk last night. Hon. Mr. Segar made a speech, and great enthusiasm prevailed, cheers being given for the stars and stripes. The meeting was arranged on short notice. More extensive demonstrations will be made in a few days.

FURTHER FROM CORINTH.

THE RETREAT OF THE REBELS.

EVIDENCES OF THEIR DEMORALIZATION.

MANY PRISONERS TAKEN.

MEMPHIS NEARLY DESERTED.

RICHMOND SAID TO BE EVACUATED.

CORINTH, May 30.—It has now been ascertained that the evacuation of this place by the Rebels commenced night before last (Wednesday night), the enemy retreating southwardly until the railroad bridge was burned, when they went to Grand Junction, and thence moved southwardly.

Some ladies and several citizens remain here.

The citizens inform us that Richmond has been evacuated, and that Memphis is almost wholly deserted. All the stores have been closed with the exception of a few groceries.

It is ascertained that Van Dorn had a band of Indians under him.

Colonel Jackson, who pursued the retreating enemy, reports finding the road, for several miles, strewn with knapsacks and haversacks, arms and canteens, showing great demoralization. The roads are full of stragglers, who are being brought in as fast as possible. They probably number between two and three thousand men. Almost the entire 13 h Louisiana regiment are in our lines now, from desertions and recent captures.

The Government telegraph line was completed to this place last night.

[OFFICIAL.]

WASHINGTON, May 30.—The following despatch was received at the War Department this morning:

HEADQUARTERS, CAMP NEAR CORINTH, May 30.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

The enemy's position and works in front of Corinth were exceedingly strong. He cannot occupy a stronger position in his flight. This morning he destroyed an immense amount of public and private property—stores, provisions, wagons, tents, &c., and for miles out of town the roads are filled with arms, haversacks, &c., thrown away by his flying troops.

A large number of prisoners have been captured, estimated by Gen. Pope at 2,000.

Gen. Beauregard evidently distrusts his army, or he would have defended so strong a position. His troops are generally much discouraged and demoralized. In all their engagements for the last few days, their resistance has been weak.

[Signed] H. W. HALLECK, Major General Commanding.

AFFAIRS AT RICHMOND.

Reopening of Inland Communication with North Carolina—Courtesy of the Officers of the British Steamer Rinaldo—Progress of Union Sentiments in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, May 30.—Two refugees arrived here yesterday, direct from Richmond. They report an army of 200,000 men gathered in the vicinity, among whom, both officers and men, dissatisfaction is very general. They were living upon half rations of bacon and hard bread. These fugitives states that Jeff. Davis had been heard to say that he would make the streets of the city run with blood before surrendering.

Colonel Hawkins, of the Ninth New York regiment, with twenty men, arrived here in the Port Royal last night, having left Roanoke Island yesterday morning, and passed up by the way of Currituck Sound, and thence by the canal to the Elizabeth river. Thus the inland route is opened by which General Burnside's Department may communicate with the capital, without the risks of the passage outside of Hatteras. Colonel Hawkins is not the first, however, to arrive here by the canal—several sloops and schooners flying the American flag have already come through, and been allowed to proceed to Baltimore. There is no late news from Newbern or other points in the Department of North Carolina.

By special invitation of the officers of the British war steamer Rinaldo, General Viele, Military Governor of this city, paid a visit to that vessel yesterday. He was received with the greatest politeness and courtesy, and with the honor of a salute of 17 guns and the manning of the yards.—The American ensign was displayed at the fore, and no doubt could remain of the sympathies of the officers with the Government in the suppression of the rebellion. The Rinaldo left this morning, and will proceed to sea.

Preparations are making on an extensive scale for a grand Union demonstration, to take place shortly. The oath of allegiance has been administered up to this time to nearly 2,000 citizens. They offer themselves in large numbers every day to take it voluntarily, and in fact it is not made compulsory upon any one. If the sentiment of the proposed meeting should be satisfactory to Gen. Wool, it will probably induce the President to come Petersburg is to be, or has been, evacuated by the Rebels. The Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad, it has been ascertained, is in good order as far as the Blackwater river.

When Craney Island was evacuated the sutler loaded his goods on a sloop and endeavored to save them, but was unable to do so, and the sloop was found to-day, with all the goods, a few miles below the Island, ashore upon the beach. The property is supposed to be worth three or four thousand dollars. It was taken charge of by the marshal.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Severe Storm—Congressional Pleasure Party —Arrival of 541 Rebel Prisoners, Taken at Hanover Court House.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 31.—We were visited by a remarkably severe thunder-storm last night, and torrents of rain. For several hours the operators were unable to use the telegraph lines at Headquarters. Shortly before 11 o'clock the lightning struck the old wooden building opposite the hotel on the corner of the road to Camp Hamilton, setting it on fire. There was considerable delay in getting the engines into operation, in consequence of sentinels stopping people without the countersign. The building was entirely destroyed, but others in the vicinity, which were threatened, were saved. The building was occupied by the engineer department, and contained three horses and a quantity of oats and corn. Two horses were got out safely and the greater part of the oats and corn. Loss not over $2,000.

A large number of deserters from the Rebel army are scattered through the country between this place and Richmond, who, while professing to be Union men, and insisting that they were reluctantly forced into the ranks, still retain all their bitterness and make it almost dangerous for a solitary traveller to meet one or two of them. Their object is, no doubt, plunder, and our cavalry scouts are out in the direction of Bethel and Back River, making frequent arrests of these guerillas. They are extremely ignorant, miserable c'ad and most ugly, ill looking fellows. Many depredations and outrages are also being committed by runaway contrabands, who roam over the country and do pretty much as they please.

The Government steamer King Philip came down from Washington this morning, having on board the Congressional Committee on Naval Affairs and others, *and a party of ladies!* Mayor Wightman, of Boston, is also here to-day. The whole party visited Norfolk with Gen. Wool.

The despatch steamer Eastern State sails hence this afternoon for Hatteras Inlet, with the mails, despatches and passengers

The steamer Ariel arrived here this morning from White House, having on board the prisoners captured by Gen. McClellan at Hanover Court House the other day. They came in charge of Lieut. Mahaffey, 1st Infantry U. S. A., an Aid de-Camp of Gen. Porter, Provost Marshal of the Army of the Potomac. The prisoners, numbering 541, proceed to New York this afternoon on the Star of the South, in charge of Co. D., 99th New York regiment. The prisoners include a Major and about a dozen other officers.

From the Agent of the Associated Press.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 30.—The Brazilian war steamer Paraense, with the Brazillian Minister on board, arrived in the Roads this morning from Baltimore. The Commander and the Minister paid their respects to General Wool, and salutes were exchanged at 5 o'clock this afternoon, the Paraense having the American ensign at the fore.

The United States frigate Minnesota, which got aground yesterday on her way to Norfolk, was got off this morning and proceeded up to the city.—The only war vessels now in Elizabeth river are the Minnesota and the Dacotah.

Arrival of the Steamer Baltic—Later from the Gulf—Occupation of Pensacola—Another Valuable Prize Steamer Captured—Affairs at New Orleans.

NEW YORK, June 1.—The steamer Baltic arrived yesterday evening from Port Royal. She had on board, according to the Key West correspondent of the *Herald*, some half dozen persons, furnished with free passage, who are known to have been aiding and abetting the rebellion for a year past, while good Union men were refused and unable to obtain transportation.

The steamer Swan, with 1,000 bales of cotton and 800 bbls. of rosin, had arrived at Key West, a prize of the United States brig Bainbridge. She was captured on the 24th.

The evidence against the British steamer Circassian is conclusive, and she will be condemned as a prize.

The Pensacola *Advertiser* states that the residents there welcomed our troops with joy. Gen. Arnold occupied the house of Major Chase, and Col. Billy Wilson occupied the residence of S. R. Mallory.

The dates of this arrival from New Orleans are to the 22d ult. Gen. Shipley has assumed the duties of Mayor, and Major Bell that of Recorder of the city, and Captain Jonas French has been appointed Chief of Police. These function aries will take charge of the city until some loyal citizen shall be elected to fill those offices.

The Bank of Commerce had reopened and commenced business by refusing Rebel shinplasters.

Guerillas and Marauders to be Shot.

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—Brigadier General Schofield has issued a General Order that all guerillas and marauders when caught in arms will be shot, and that all citizens who give shelter and protection to these outlaws, will be regarded and treated as aiders of the rebellion.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFF CAPE RACE.

HESSE CASSEL REFUSES THE PRUSSIAN ULTIMATUM.

Talk in Parliament about Lord Lyons and M. Mercier.

HEAVY DECLINE IN COTTON—BREADSTUFFS LOWER—CONSOLS 93¾@93⅞.

CAPE RACE, May 31.—The steamship City of New York, from Liverpool 21st, via Queenstown 22d, passed Cape Race at 1 P. M., to-day, 31st.

The North America from Quebec arrived out on the 20th.

The City of Washington from New York arrived out on the 21st.

The news is not important.

Hesse Cassel has rejected Prussia's ultimatum, and diplomatic relations have been suspended.

Mr. Disraeli had re-asserted in the House of Commons that a rivalry existed at Washington between Lord Lyons and M. Mercier. Lord Palmerston emphatically contradicted it.

Cotton had declined ⅛@¼d. since Friday. Sales Monday and Tuesday 7,000 bales.

Breadstuffs of all kinds slightly lower.

Provisions very dull.

Consols for money 93¾@93⅞.

The Commission on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—The Commission on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores have nearly closed their investigations. It appears from their report that the existing contracts and orders for Springfield muskets amount to 1,164,000, while in the opinion of the Ordnance Department there will be required, for a year to come, to meet the probable wants of the country, not exceeding half a million guns of this model. Some of these contracts have already failed from non-compliance, and from the present aspect of things it seems likely that others well be added in part or in whole to the list of failures.

The commission deem it expedient and important to bring down the total number of Springfield muskets, which Government shall be bound to accept, to about 600,000.

In four cases only, so far, the commission have confirmed contracts without reduction. These four cases are the only ones out of thirty-six in all, in which it was found that a formal contract had been signed and sealed by the contracting parties, and the only ones containing the provision imperatively demanded by law, that no member of Congress should be admitted to any share therein, or to any benefit therefrom.

The commission show that the habitual disregard of the law heretofore, in contracts for arms, has been attended by the evil of exorbitant prices, which the statute intended to prohibit; but under the present conduct of the War Department, this further waste of money is prevented.

From Harper's Ferry.

NEW YORK, June 1.—A special despatch to the *Times* from Harper's Ferry, on Saturday, states there were no signs of the enemy there. The 11th New York militia, a German regiment, which had arrived there, refused to be sworn in, much to the disgust of their commander, Colonel Maidhoff—the men saying they wanted to go Washington. Maj. Bowen, of General Saxton's staff, addressed them as follows:

"Those of you willing to acknowledge yourselves cowards here in the face of the enemy step out of the ranks."

They did so, and were ordered to leave and pay their own way back to New York. But few of them remained at Harper's Ferry. General Saxton rejected the whole regiment, saying that he did not want cowards in his command.

Another Prize Steamer.

NEW YORK, June 1.—The prize steamer Patros, of London, arrived here this morning. She was captured on the 26th, off Charleston bar by the steamer Bienville, while attempting to run the blockade. She is an iron steamer, and has 1,100 kegs of powder, 50 cases of rifles, 800 bags of Coffee and a quantity of quinine. The vessel and cargo are valued at $300,000. She had no papers on board.

Yet Another Prize—Capture of the English Steamer Cambria, with a Valuable Cargo.

PHILADELPHIA, June 1.—The English iron steamer Cambria arrived here this afternoon, having been captured by the United States gunboat Huron, after a chase of five hours, off Charleston. She hails from Carlisle, and sailed from Liverpool for Nassau, and thence for Charleston. She was captured while attempting to run the blockade, and this is the fact that he cannot think of allowing Lady Franklin and her niece to go on to Shanghai in the American ship Carrington, in which they arrived from San Francisco on the 22d instant, after a ninety-one days' passage, because he is quite sure that the ship will be seized by some British cruiser before she reaches Shanghai.

The Golden State is awaiting the arrival of the next news from home before she offers to leave this port. The Carrington, having a cargo of spars for Shaghai and her charterer on board, is to sail to-day for that port, in hopes to reach it before the news of war, if there be war, reaches Shanghai. She runs a narrow risk, so far as we can judge.

There has been a good deal of excitement here during the last week on account of the arrest and imprisonment of a large number of Japanese for having attended, on the preaching of the Abbe Girard, at the Roman Catholic Church in Yokohama. Report says more than a hundred have been arrested. They went into the church from curiosity. But the old law, extant since 250 years ago, has been put in force against them—a law against "Padres" and their "converts." The result it will be interesting to watch. It may be to bring out the distinction, now known to some extent, between Protestants and Romanists more clearly. It may be to effect all Christian missions, for the time, unfavorably.

What strikes one most in Yedo at this season is the massive walls and broad moats around the citadel, kept in admirable preservation, and to see here, in the heart of a city of 2,000,000 of inhabitants, the wild geese that have bred their young in the sea of Ochotak, with cormorants, teal, canvas-back ducks, and the gay-coated mandarin ducks, as quietly feeding in these moats by thousands as if Yedo were an uninhabited solitude. Boys do not shoot birds in Japan for sport. Now and then we meet a brace of hawkers with their falcons in hand, returning from the pursuit of feathered game in the country. The birds, however, are little disturbed in any way here. Could ring man's murderous propensity in other lands, it is no marvel that birds of every feather that can bear the winters of this latitude make it their resort.

Mr. Harris has just received from the Department at Washington the acceptance of his resignation, and a very flattering expression of the President's and Secretary of State's approval of the manner in which he has discharged the responsible duties of his office. They both regret his withdrawal from Yedo. There is reason to believe that Mr. Harris has saved the country from a war with England and France.

ARREST OF A FEMALE.—We understand that Mrs. Susan Leonard, the wife of Col. J. A. B. Leonard, of this county, was arrested in Washington, by the Provost Guard, on Wednesday of last week, and kept until Friday, when she had a hearing and was released, nothing being disclosed to require her further detention. Mrs. L. is the sister of Mrs. Greenhow, who, it will be recollected, was imprisoned for several months for holding correspondence, as was alleged, with persons in the Southern Confederacy, but has since been sent South.—*Rockville (Md.) Sentinel.*

FROM THE SOUTH

[COPIED FROM NEW YORK AND OTHER PAPERS.]

From the Petersburg Express, May 27.

Yesterday morning early the telegraph caused all hearts to rejoice with the glorious news that Generals Jackson and Ewell had entered Winchester, taking 2,000 prisoners and capturing all the enemy's vast ordnance and commissary stores. When Jackson was last heard from he had captured 4,000 prisoners, secured small arms, artillery, ordnance and commissary stores of great value, and was still in hot pursuit of the retreating enemy. What Jackson's plans are we have not been informed. We think it more than probable, however, that he will drive the fleeing column of Banks into the Potomac, at or near Harper's Ferry, and then destroy the bridge of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at that point. For miles and miles he can then tear up the railroad track, burn bridges and blow up culverts. In the meantime, as it is in his exact route for the destruction of the bridges, he may probably encounter Milroy and Schenck's force at or near Romney, serve them in the same way he has Banks, and then the Valley will be clear. Or he may come on down to Stafford, and attack McDowell in his rear, while Anderson, who, at the head of an army of Confederates, now confronts McDowell, will be prepared to strike a telling blow at the proper time. A despatch from Richmond the 26th says Jackson took prisoners the 1st Maryland regiment of infantry and the 1st Vermont cavalry at Front Royal, and 2,000 more at Winchester, and that his own loss was 200 killed and wounded.

The feeling at Richmond is represented as one of confidence of success in the battle about taking place, the success of Jackson having had an electric influence on the spirits of the troops.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 27th has an article on "The Struggle over the Metropolis." It says:—

"There is yet no bat le, and the enemy is known to be fortifying his whole line on the north bank of the Chickahominy. He has been seen engaged in this labor most conspicuously for several days. He will next commence the shelling of our army.—Some people say from one of his earthworks he can pitch a shell into this city. This we doubt, though it must be confessed that the line of works now in progress by one of the great dirt-diggers of the age, is rather nearer than the citizens like. We know very little of war, and do not presume that our own opinions will carry any more weight than they are entitled to. It seems to us, however, that as no attack has been made on our side until it may be presumed the enemy is pretty well fortified, there will not be any at all on his present position. What our Generals intend to do, of course they alone know. They have learning, large capacity, and experience. The country has relied, and is relying on them; and if there is occasionally some misgiving, let us hope that the result will prove that there is no good reason for it. But it is a fact that the commonest observer must know that there is not the thing for us. The enemy has great facilities of water transportation, and has even made the York River Railroad from the White House to near the Dispatch Station on the Chickahominy useful to him by putting upon it locomotive and trains of cars. * * * * The surest way to defeat his plans and movements is promptness and energy, directed by sagacity."

The *Dispatch* is jolly over the success of Jackson, and claims "4,000 prisoners, to say nothing of the killed and wounded."

Relative to the "skirmishes of Saturday," in the neighborhood of Richmond, the *Dispatch* says:

"Semmes' brigade, stationed on the Nine Mile Road, were in hourly expectation of the enemy's appearance (Saturday morning), and to repel their advance the 5th Louisiana were thrown to the front, but whether with proper available support remains unexplained. Somewhat indifferent, perhaps, the companies of this regiment were ordered to guard the bridge, situated (we believe) on Garnett's farm, with the remainder of the regiment in support, with stacked arms. As anticipated, the foe made his appearance at the bridge, and a lively fire was opened, much to our apparent advantage; but, unconscious of trickery, the enemy suddenly appeared on our flank, and with great impetuosity opened a heavy musketry fire of great destructiveness and precision. Staggered at this unexpected and sudden manœuvre, the 5th fell back in good order, but with much rapidity, successfully caring for their killed and wounded. That such a gallant and fine regiment as the 5th should have been so roughly handled remains unexplained, though upon all hands it is universally conceded that it followed from a disgrace-ful 'surprise.' The loss from this affair was extremely severe—not less than 50 or 60 of the 5th being put *hors du combat.*"

News from Charleston.

OPERATIONS OF THE BLOCKADING FLEET.

The Charleston *Courier* of the 28 h ult. notices the arrival in that city of Mr. M. B. Hoolsop, a passenger on board the schooner Mary Theresa, from Charleston harbor. He was sent ashore under a flag of truce. He reports that the schooner Mary Theresa left Nassau with a valuable assorted cargo about the 24 ult., and was captured off Nassau, by the Rebel steamer Gladiator, and the prize crew put on board of her. The Gladiator captured two other vessels, the schooner C. C. Pinckney, Captain Dupont, and the pilot boat W. Y. Leitch. He was shown the Charleston papers regularly while on board. The officers seemed to be aware of the minutest details of every movement made in the city and on the coast. They were perfectly astounded, however, at the arrival of the Planter, the steamer brought out by the contrabands.

THE MILITARY AND WANT OF ICE.

The military, being very properly, stopped the further sale of the Navy stock of ice still remaining in the city, deeming it right to reserve it for the sick and wounded soldiers.

Seizure of Specie at the Netherlands Consulate.

On the 10th instant, M. Conturie, Consul of the Netherlands at New Orleans, laid before Gen. Butler a statement of facts concerning the seizure of $800,000 in specie at the office of the Hope Insurance Company in that city. The seizure was reported some days since. Gen. Butler, having learned that a large amount of specie was secreted at the office of the Consul of the Netherlands, ordered Capt. Shipley, of the Thirtieth Massachusetts Regiment, with a proper guard, to take possession of the office. M. Conturie claimed that the specie was under his charge as consul, and his statement given below sets forth his version of the affair:

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

On this day, May 10, 1862, and at the hour of five minutes to 2 o'clock in the afternoon, I being in my consular office, 109 Canal street, was called upon by an officer wearing the uniform and arms of a captain of the United States army, accompanied by a squad of six or eight men under his command.

The captain informed me that he came to prevent the exit of any person or property from the premises.

I said I was Consul of the Netherlands, that this was the office of my consulate, and that I protested against any such violation of the same. I then wrote a note to Comte Mejan, Consul of France in this city, requesting him to come to me for consultation. This note was handed to the officer, whose name I then learned to be Captain Shipley, who promised to send it, after taking it to headquarters.

Captain Shipley returned and stated to me that, by order of Major-General Butler, my note would not be sent to Consul Mejan, and that he (the captain) would proceed forthwith to search the premises. Captain Shipley demanded of me the keys of my vault; these I refused to deliver. He remarked that he would have to force open the doors, and I told him that in regard to that he could do what he pleased. For the second time I again protested against the violation of the consular office to Captain Shipley, who then went out. Before he left, I distinctly put the question to him, "Sir, am I to understand that my consular office is taken possession of and myself am arrested by you, and that, too, by order of Major-General Butler?" He replied, "Yes, sir." During Captain Shipley's absence another officer remained in the office, and a special sentinel was put on guard in the room where I then kept myself. The name of this second officer is Lieutenant Whitcomb, as he informed me. Captain Shipley returned, and was followed by another officer, whose name I could not ascertain. This officer then approached me, and in a passionate, insulting tone, contrasting singularly with the gentlemanly deportment of both Captain Shipley and Lieutenant Whitcomb, made the same demand for the keys as had been made by Captain Shipley; and I made the same refusal, protesting against the act, as I had done before. He then gave orders to search the office, and break open, if need be, the doors of the vault.

I then arose, and said: "I, Amedie Conturie, consul of the Netherlands, protest against any occupation or search of my office, and this I do in the name of my government. The name of my consulate is over the door, and my flag floats over my head. If I cede, it is to force alone."

Search being begun in the office by the officer, I told him that the keys were on my person. He then, in a more than rough tone, ordered two of the soldiers to search my person, using the following among other expressions: "Search the fellow;" "Strip him;" "take off his coat," "stockings;" "search even the soles of his shoes." I remarked to the officer that the appellation "fellow" that he gave me was never applied to a gent