The South:

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1 DOOR FROM NORTH STREET, UP STAIRS.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 2.

THE NEWS.

The report of the arrival of the Confederate steamer *Nashville* at Southampton had a marked effect on the New York Stock Exchange on Saturday, and there was a heavy fall in prices, from which there was no rally at the Second Board.—The Board of Underwriters have advanced their rates of insurance upon American bottoms to 5 per cent. It is apprehended that the *Nashville* will lie in wait for some of the American steamers, and great apprehensions are felt for the safety of the *Arago*, which is now at sea. Government vessels will doubtless be immediately dispatched to look after the *Nashville*, particularly as the *James Adger*, the only American vessel of war in England, had left Southampton on some unknown expedition—probably to protect United States vessels in the Mediterranean. It is a noticeable fact that the *Nashville* and *Adger* were both steamers of the same line running between Charleston and New York, and from being colleagues in a peaceful merchant service, may become foes in a deadly naval contest. The foreign news from this time forth will be of absorbing interest, and at any moment we may expect to hear of the effect of the overhauling of the *Trent* upon the public mind of England. The fact that the *Nashville*, with the Confederate flag flying, was permitted to refit at the port of Southampton, will hardly improve the amiable temper of Mr. Seward, or re-assure him as to the friendly intentions of the British Government towards the United States.

The telegraphic accounts of the movements of the Grand Army are exceedingly brief and meagre. A Federal reconnoissance was made on Thursday last from Alexandria towards Springfield, when meeting a large Confederate force they retreated precipitately. The Alexandria *Local News*, a loyal sheet, says the troops returned in as great confusion as after the memorable battle of Manassas, and rumor said they had been severely handled. On the Leesburg road, a short distance from Lewinsville, a Federal force was surprised and narrowly escaped capture on Saturday, while other reports represent the Confederates as swarming about Vienna and Flint Hill, the latter a point on the road from Vienna to Fairfax Court House.—These statements suffice to assure us that the Confederates are in full force along their whole line from Occoquan to Leesburg, and that all attempts of the various divisions of the Federal army to effect an opening wedge have been met with repulses wherever essayed. Whether there have been any serious engagements and heavy losses as Madame Rumor has it, we are unable to say.

From the West we have nothing except a spirited proclamation of the Confederate General Sterling Price calling for 50,000 men—which looks as though it formed no part of the programme to allow secession of strife in M[illegible] after the repulse of the Federals near the conflict ceased, and that General Bragg had not undertaken the capture of the fort.

Congress re-assembled at Washington at noon to-day, and we hope to receive a synopsis of Mr. Lincoln's message in time for our latest edition.—This document will be looked for with unusual interest, and the proceedings of Congress will be watched with deep attention. Among other incidents of the session we anticipate a severe conflict between the Radicals and Conservatives upon the slavery question and other matters of general policy. Although the slave States have pretty nearly cleared out of the Union, the effort so often made to drive the negro question out of the Halls of Congress seems as far off from accomplishment as ever.

P. S.—The Message will not be sent in by Mr. Lincoln until to-morrow. We give the usual Congressional Summary by which it will be seen there is a contest going on as to the admission of the bogus Southern Congressmen.

THE NEW DOCTRINE.

The Washington Sunday *Chronicle*, which has heretofore opposed the views of conducting the war as announced by Secretary Cameron, and John Cochrane, has received new light recently, and after citing Croswell's and Dickinson's approval of Col. Cochrane's and Secretary Cameron's views, says:

"So much for the especial friends of Breckinridge. We have now before us a letter, written by one of the most eminent advocates of Douglas, a gentleman who has occupied one of the highest judicial positions in the free States, and who broke loose from the Democratic organization, and rejected all the offers of the Administration four years ago. He says 'I am a convert to the doctrines of John Cochrane's speech, endorsed by General Cameron, and you may be sure the *whole North is now ready for this, and will approve it*.'"

The Washington *Republican* cordially endorses these sentiments.

THE NEW YORK MONEY MARKET.—The New York *Journal of Commerce*, of Saturday evening, says:

The foreign news published this morning was regarded as less cheering, but this being felt to be positive change in rates of interest, altogether it checked the disposition to operate.

The Bank was detained until three o'clock to await despatches from Lord Lyons.

Foreign Exchange is inactive, and but for the indisposition to transact business either way until something now definite is learned from the other side, lower rates would have prevailed.

The Stock market was very heavy, and nearly every thing on the list declined, with a moderate business.

CAPTURE OF A CANADIAN SKIMMER.—Authentic information has been received here that a small light-draft Canadian steamer has been seized off the coast of Maine by a U. S. revenue cutter. The steamer had on board about ten thousand Springfield muskets, clothing, boots, bank note paper, caps and munitions of war. She was cleared from Canada, and the cargo was consigned to parties in the Southern States.

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE.—The English schooner W. H. Northrop, Capt. Silliman, arrived at Havana, on the 20th inst., from Wilmington, N. C., and the American schooner Eclipse, Captain Cook, sailed from Matanzas on the 18th.

THE APPROACHING SESSION OF CONGRESS AND THE FUTURE ADMINISTRATION POLICY.

There is a general complaint, on the part of the Northern Administration journals, that the Government has laid down no definite policy with regard to the treatment and position of slaves captured during the war. The nine conservative journals of the North are advocating a conciliatory policy towards the South in this particular matter, while the Abolitionists, headed by Greeley *et al*, are endeavoring to bring about a war for emancipation, and consequently, one of extermination. We annex some articles from the Northern Press which will be read with interest:

From the Ohio Statesman.

The Abolition faction which assumed a threatening attitude at the time of the President's modification of Fremont's proclamation, and became more violent on his removal, is now bringing its full force and all its energies to bear upon the Administration to make the war, under cover of a "War for the Union," in reality and substantially a war for the emancipation of the Southern slaves. The question which these factionists are strenuously laboring to have settled, is not whether the Union shall be restored or preserved as it was formed in 1789; but whether slavery shall be exterminated in the Southern States, or what would probably suit them equally well, if not better, whether all governmental connection between the free and the slave States shall not be dissolved.

* * * * * * *

We allude to these things now to warn loyal Union men of the approaching storm which the Abolition disorganizers are determined to raise. The session of Congress which commences in a few days, will probably settle the fate of the Union. If a wise, prudent, conservative and yet decided course shall be pursued on the part of the National Legislature and the Administration, we look for a speedy restoration of the old harmony between the States and the Federal Government, and the return of the halcyon days of peace and prosperity; otherwise, we may well fear the worst.

From the Boston Journal.

THE GOVERNMENT POLICY.

A few journals are advertising for a policy for the Government in reference to the treatment of fugitive slaves. Gen. Butler's plan evidently worked well on the Western Shore of the Chesapeake—and the good result of Gen. Dix's plan on the Eastern Shore is equally evident. The two fields were quite different, and perhaps required different policies. Fremont did not have a chance to test his plan, and it will be impossible to say what will be the fate of Halleck's. It is very likely that what would work well there, would not answer at all in South Carolina. Perhaps, therefore, the best that can be done by the Government in the present stage of the crisis is to fix on certain broad general principles—such as are indicated in the Secretary of War's official orders—and, then to allow the commanders of departments to give them a local application, subject, of course, to the approval of the President. The Government in that way will be experimenting toward a just solution of this most difficult problem. We have no doubt that in a few months the present practical discrepancies will all be reconciled, and one fair, humane and effective policy will prevail.

From the Boston Courier.

We know that every step taken in the direction of emancipation; that every inflammatory address uttered to encourage [illegible] an idea, is an absolute obstacle to the [illegible] which the Government [illegible] of the country [illegible] al people of the [illegible] are so de[illegible] know that [illegible] nitely protracted, hundreds of thousands of [illegible] valuable and dear to us, may be sacrificed, hundreds of millions of treasure may be poured out in vain; for a war so pursued cannot give us victory, peace, or a country.

From the Harrisburg Patriot and Union.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND THE ABOLITION AGITATION.

The fact that the war is for the establishment of law and order, and for the putting down of lawlessness and revolution, has been the main strength of the Government, enabling it to obtain men and money to an unlimited extent. But let all this be changed by one word from the President of the United States—let it be proclaimed that the war is no longer to be prosecuted to preserve, but to destroy—that the Government is resolved to revolutionize the domestic institutions of the Southern States, and thereby introduce radical alterations into our form of Government, by the power of the sword, and it needs not the gift of prophecy to foresee that the Union men of the Border States will be converted into the most implacable enemies of the Government. How can they trust a Government that deliberately violates its solemn pledges? The cause of rebellion would be immeasurably strengthened by such an act of perfidy. The last spark of Unionism would be extinguished at the South. The people of that section would become a unit in favor of separation, and resist our armies to the last extremity. Rebellion would become a just and holy cause in the eyes of its upholders—and the conviction universally entertained that the Southern States did not rebel a moment too soon to protect themselves from the destruction in which the dominant party at the North had pre-resolved to involve them.

From the Louisville Democrat.

The arming of the negro we do not apprehend. Congress will never sanction that. The law, as it now stands, invalidates the title of the master, if it be made appear to a court that he was used for purposes of the rebellion with the master's consent. Still, when this matter is settled, State laws are supreme on this subject, and will determine the status of the negro, the Federal Government having no constitutional power on the subject. Military necessity may relieve the negro temporarily from the possession of the master; but that is mere power which will not last longer than the necessity lasts.

From the Portland Argus.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? IS THIS WAR TO BE CONVERTED INTO A SAVAGE CRUSADE?

These are questions frequently asked at this time, and we copy them to give answer. Many have had misgivings from the first that the policy of the administration would be to make this war for the extinction of slavery—would not make it a war simply for the preservation of the constitution and the restoration of the Union; but the instructions given to commanders, the mortification of Fremont's proclamation and the general conciliatory, conservative course pursued by the administration, had well nigh put to flight all such misgivings, when the endorsement of Col. Cochrane's speech by the Secretary of War (Cameron) again aroused serious apprehensions on the subject. We are confident that these apprehensions are not well founded.

President Lincoln has deliberately marked out and published his policy on the subject. It is conservative, wise, humane, worthy of a civilized people. It affords the only hope of a restoration of the Union. It has proved efficacious in actual trial. He has, we believe, "put his foot down" on it and he will stand to it. He is not going to disgrace the American name by putting fire and sword into the hands of the blacks and in the language of Cochrane tell them to "Plunge this whole people, black and white, into one indiscriminate sea of carnage and slaughter!!" No! No! We feel the most confident assurance that Abraham Lincoln will do no such thing. He will never disgrace American civilization (we do not say American Christianity, because so many of those who claim to be its apostles insist that Christianity and humanity, would be honored by such a course!) by the adoption of a policy, the very thought of which is enough to make any rational man shudder, and the proclamation of which would instantly put an end to all hopes of restoring the Union!

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE.

Gov. Burton, in his message to the Legislature of Delaware, delivered at Dover on the 25th inst., starts out by expressing his regret that the lamentable condition of the country does not permit him to indulge in the usual congratulations upon the prosperity and happiness of the country. He declines advising the Legislature as to the steps to be taken to furnish Delaware's quota of the direct tax, and encloses his reply to Gen. Ripley, of the U. S. Army, who made a demand upon him, in the name of the Government, for certain ordnance, ordnance stores, &c., belonging to the State.—Gov. Burton declined to give the articles up, and states his reasons as follows, in his note to Gen. Ripley:

By the act of Congress of the 23d April, 1808, for the distribution of arms and military equipments among the militia of the United States, these arms are in express terms made distributable, in a certain proportion, "to the militia in each State and Territory," under such rules and regulations as shall be by law "prescribed by the Legislature of each State and Territory." In fact, the Legislature is made the agent of the Federal Government for the distribution and safe-keeping of the public arms.

Exercising the authority conferred by this act of Congress, the Legislature of Delaware have, by statute, placed the public arms in the custody of the commissaries of the several counties, subject to distribution to companies or troops organized pursuant to the statute under the order of the Governor, the Major General, and the Brigadier General of the county, and being so given out to any organized company or troop, the statute expressly provides that they shall not be demanded of the company or troop, unless it shall become disbanded by the reduction of its private below twenty in number.

The act of Congress and the action of the Legislature of Delaware under it, manifestly gives to the Governor no such general control of the public arms within this State as would enable him to direct their delivery to the order of the War Department. I may add, however, that a special session of the Legislature of this State has been convened to meet on the 25th instant, which body will possess full control of the subject.

The Governor in his Message adds:

In a few days after I received the communications referred to, persons believed to be in the U. S. service, and, I presume, acting under its authority, took from the arsenal in Sussex county, all the public arms and accoutrements. And two volunteer companies in Sussex county, and one in Kent county, which had been supplied with arms and accoutrements in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Assembly, were in like manner, disarmed; and recently two 6-pound brass pieces were taken from the artillery company of Captain [illegible]le, in the city of Wilmington, by a similar description from the [illegible]as M. Ogle, in the town [illegible] to these companies in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Assembly. For what reasons these arms were taken, I am not officially informed. I call your attention to the subject in order that you may relieve the commissary, who had charge of the arms and accoutrements in the arsenal, and the several officers of the volunteer companies to which I have referred, from their respective obligations.

Attorney General Bat[illegible] and Hon. James A. Bayard, have given [illegible] opinions as to the Lottery Grants. It appears that Messrs. France & Co., by failing to pay up the amount of $18,000 due the State on the 1st July 1361, have, according to the terms of their grant, forfeited their charter, but it is still within the power of the Legislature to determine whether the forfeiture shall be completed. Mr. Bayard says:

I am of opinion, that by default of payment of the instalment due July 1st, 1861, for thirty days, the Lottery Grant to Richard France became subject to forfeiture, at the option of the State, under the provisions of the fifth section—and that the exercise of that option not being delegated in the statute to any officer, and being an act of his discretion, it rests with the Legislature to determine whether the forfeiture shall be enforced, and the privilege of drawing Lotteries cease, or whether forfeiture shall be waived, and the subsequent instalments collected from France, his surety or his assignee.

I am also of opinion that the privilege granted, though subject to forfeiture, may be lawfully exercised by the assignee of France since the payment of the instalment due July 1st, 1861, though undoubtedly a Court of Equity would have granted a temporary injunction against the enjoyment of the privilege whilst the over-due instalments remained unpaid until the Legislature had again assembled and determined either to enforce or waive the forfeiture incurred by non-payment.

THE AFFAIR OF THE NASHVILLE.

The arrival of the C. S. A. steamer Nashville at Southampton and the burning of the Harvey Birch is not relished by the New York papers—The *Express* says:—

The arrival of the C. S. steamer Nashville at Southampton, after destroying a New York packet ship at sea, is an exploit which should at once impress upon the government the necessity of a keen look out for the Confederates on the high seas. It will never do to permit them to infest the great highway of our European commerce, and thus pounce upon, in order to plunder and destroy, our packet ships. We have the power to sweep these marauders from the seas, and the power must be exercised,—or anon, it will be next to impossible for a ship carrying the American flag to obtain a cargo to any point in Europe.

It appears, by a statement in one of the English journals, founded upon a paragraph copied from the New Orleans *Bee*, that postal communication has been established between Europe and the Southern States via Mexico. Our Paris correspondent writes that he has seen a private letter from New Orleans, written in September last, though how it managed to make its way to Paris remains a mystery to even the recipient. Possibly we may soon receive Southern journals by way of Liverpool!

The New York *Post* of Saturday evening last says:

One of the most beautiful of the packet ships that sail from this port—a pride and boast of our commercial marine—the Harvey Birch, belonging to Mr. J. H. Brower of South street, has fallen a victim to the piratical lust of the Confederates.—Returning to this point from Havre, in ballast, after a prosperous outward voyage, she was seized by the steamship Nashville and burned to the water's edge. There are reasons, it is said, why we should not particularly commiserate the owner on his loss; but be that as it may, the circumstances of the case excite many reflections. Her crew, a body of innocent sailors, prosecuting an honest and honorable vocation, were seized by the lawless rovers, put in irons as if they had been criminals, and in that ignominious condition carried off to a foreign port.

Whether the Nashville professes to be a regularly commissioned vessel of war, or a privateer, does not appear. The probability is that she is neither, and that she is cruising, like a pirate, on her own responsibility. But whatever she be nominally, the outrage is the same: one of the grossest that has yet been inflicted upon the flag of our country, and the honor as well as property of our citizens. New York must feel the insult and the wrong to her very heart. Seldom before, in her history as a commercial metropolis, has any one dared to question her right to navigate the great ocean which is the source of her wealth and supremacy. In all the seas of the world foreign powers are glad to acknowledge the emblems of her enterprise, are glad to cultivate the most friendly relations with her representatives, and glad to do all in their power to foster and extend her commerce. But these Confederates do not scruple to arrest their crews to the indignities which civilized nations reserve for felons.

The *Express* adds:

The Board of Underwriters held a long session this morning upon this matter, and finally concluded to advance the war risk to 5 per cent.

They will insure to a moderate extent at this rate, although many vessels now due in the British channel will be unable to get insured, unless at a still higher rate.

There is considerable anxiety felt here in regard to the steamer Arago, which was due at Southampton two days after the Nashville arrived there.

The steamer *Nashville*, which is the cause of all this panic is a fine ocean steamer, of about 1,800 tons, which formerly ran between New York and Charleston, and after the breaking out of the war was changed into a war steamer. She has a heavy armament, is very swift, and is altogether a most formidable customer. The Government will doubtless despatch a vessel to look after her, or there will be a terrible smashing of the crockery.

The Expedition Down the Mississippi.

Vast numbers of troops and munitions of war, gun boats and floating batteries, are assembled at Cairo, for the intended expedition down the Mississippi.

The gunboats, fifteen in number, are most formidable-looking instruments of war. The seven that have been built under contract by Captain Eads look as if they could safely venture upon a tilt or a butt with Hollins' famous steam ram. The bows and bow bulwarks consist of about three feet of oak timber, bolted together and sheathed with the best quality of wrought iron plates, 2½ inches thick. The sides have the same sheathing, with less bulk of timber. Each boat is pierced for thirteen guns, four on each side, three in the stern, and two at the bows. The bow guns are 84-pounder rifled cannon; the others are 8 inch columbiads. The sides of the boats, both above and below the knee, incline at an angle of 45 degrees, and nothing but a plunging shot from a high bluff could strike the surface at right angles. The boilers and machinery are so situated as to be perfectly protected, and may be considered quite [illegible] The iron plating has been se[illegible] rifled cannon at dif[illegible] [illegible] to be utterly [illegible] been sent [illegible] them alt[illegible] boats are about as formidable-lookin[illegible] [illegible]nts of destruction as ever navigated [illegible] waters, and if such a wise combination of oak, iron and saltpetre will not bring the persimmons, we will call them sour, and let Commodore Hollins pull them down and eat them at his leisure. These fifteen gunboats, with their 200 columbiads and rifled cannon, are but a fraction of the warlike fleet destined to swarm down the Mississippi. There are thirty-eight floating batteries of a 64 columbiad each, and twenty-eight river steamboats.

The military part of the movement, it is supposed, will be under the command of Major Gen. Halleck, who is now organizing his forces in St. Louis, and he will be joined by Gen. Grant's column at Cairo, and the column of Gen. Smith, from Paducah. The expedition will probably be from 80,000 to 100,000 strong.

A Terrible Regiment.

The New Orleans *Delta* of the 2d inst., says:

A few days ago we had the pleasure of a visit from three distinguished and learned divines of the Methodist denomination, two of whom wore uniforms, and the third still retained his clerical habit. These gentlemen were the Rev. Dr. Carter, President of the Methodist Soule University of Texas; the Rev. Mr. Boggs, recently a Captain in one of the regiments at Manassas, and the Rev. Mr. Gillespie, our cotemporary of the *Christian Advocate*, and an eloquent and able preacher.—Associated with these gentlemen in this enterprise is the learned and able Dr. Wilkes, of Texas, and several other prominent divines of the same patriotic persuasion. These gentlemen are commissioned to raise a mounted regiment in Texas; and as Methodist preachers in the South are all good horsemen, and are accustomed to field exercise, to the exposure and danger of camp life, this regiment promises to be one of the most formidable and efficient in the Confederate army.

The field and most of the commissioned officers will be composed of the same class of zealous defenders of the cause of the South and of Christianity. Dr. Carter is an experienced and scientific soldier, thoroughly versed in the art of war, and skilled in the use of all its appliances. Dr. Boggs has already seen much active service, and doubtless many of the one hundred and twenty Methodist preachers who were included in the rolls of the army of the Potomac will be assigned to commands in this regiment. The equipment of the regiment is to be a very complete one. The men are to be armed with lances, like those of the celebrated Polish lancers, with revolvers and double-barrelled shot-guns. As the regiment will be officered by gentlemen of great sobriety, piety, and propriety of conduct, and will naturally excite a peculiar interest and elicit the active and earnest aid of the large body of Christians whose zealous patriotism and devotion it will represent in this noble struggle for liberty and right, we recommend the young men of the country, who are desirous of participating in the exciting drama, to join the ranks.

WINTER QUARTERS.—The Washington *Chronicle* of yesterday says, that "it is generally understood that General McClellan has issued orders for the establishment of winter quarters among a large portion of the army," but that it must not be understood that it in any way interferes with the advance of the army, or its progress to Richmond.

☞ Charles Matthews announces his retirement from the stage.

☞ Mr. Sheridan Knowles is suffering from severe illness.

A Severe Hit at Sumner.

In his recent lecture in New York, Mr. Sumner used the following language:

There is not a community—not a family—not an individual, man, woman or child—who does not feel its heavy, bloody hand. Why these mustering armies? Why this drum-beat in your peaceful streets? Why these gathering means of war? Why these swelling taxes? Why these unprecedented loans? Why this derangement of business? Why among us the suspension of the Habeas Corpus and the prostration of all safeguards of Freedom? Why this constant solicitude visible in all your faces? The answer is clear. Slavery is the author—the agent—the cause. The anxious hours that you pass are darkened by slavery. The Habeas Corpus and all those safe-guards of Freedom which you deplore have been prostrated by slavery. The business which you have lost has been filched by slavery. The millions of money now amassed by patriotic offerings, are all stolen by slavery.—The taxes now wrung out of your diminished means are all consumed by slavery.

The *Journal of Commerce* comments upon these sentiments as follows:

But what proof is here? It is Mr. Sumner's assertion. He knows no more of the logical sequence of cause and effect than a baby, if he is serious in his views. Substitute in the following quotation the word anti-slavery wherever the word slavery occurs and you convert its falsehood and truth. But it proves nothing to assert either view. No one needs to think twice in deciding that the solar system was not the *cause* of Galileo's punishment; for the sun might remain motionless, and Galileo not be condemned. Yet Mr. Sumner has the audacity to charge that *slavery* is the *cause* of the suspension of the writ of the habeas corpus! And he might have gone further and argued that slavery was the cause of Charles Sumner inflicting such trash for reason, on a New York audience!

We say that these remarks will be converted into truth by substituting anti-slavery for slavery. We repeat that the direct active cause, to which the war can be traced, is abolitionism. The effect is as plainly connected with that cause, as any conflagration with the man who touched the match. We appeal to Washington and the dead fathers to justify the assertion. Did you, oh! ye and mighty men! did you create this glorious constitution with an element of rebellion and conspiracy in its very texture, as this modern Solon from Boston tells us, or is the rebellion the effect of reformers and disorganizers like him who have gone up and down our streets and have even stood in our halls of public debate, teaching that your constitution, sealed with your blood, and sanctioned by your prayers, is a covenant with hell, which you made by permitting slavery to exist?

Let the record of Washington and his great companions answer, let the history of their country answer; while Charles Sumner, puny and abashed, with all this rabble of the 19th century abolition reformers, shrink into obscurity.

THE REPORTED FIGHT NEAR ALEXANDRIA.—The Alexandria *Local News* has the following paragraph in reference to the above affair:

There was considerable interest created in this city yesterday afternoon by the knowledge that an advance movement had been made by a portion of the United States forces—hitherto encamped in this neighborhood—in the direction of Springfield station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The forces moved up by rail on the Orange road, and returned during the night. This morning the upper portion of the town exhibited many indications that the return had been hurried, and the town was filled with varied reports of an action in the neighborhood of Springfield so conflicting that the most anxious inquires of the exact particulars were baffled. It appears, from the reports, that [illegible] when near Springfield st[illegible] were attacked [illegible] ward movement would lead them into an ambuscade, and returned immediately with the loss of some baggage. Other reports make the action more severe, and represent a considerable loss by the federal forces in killed and wounded.

The Campaign in Kentucky and Missouri.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *News* writes as follows:

It is understood in military circles here that the winter campaign in Kentucky will be prosecuted on a scale of very large proportion, and with a vigor that will very soon drive the Confederates out of that State. Gen. Buell possesses the entire confidence of the Commander-in-Chief, understands the plans of the latter in relation to Kentucky, and will endeavor faithfully to accomplish them. He will, in a very short time, be furnished with a sufficient number of troops to enable him to advance on Bowling Green (where it is understood that the forces of both General Albert S. Johnson and General Buckner are concentrated, amounting to fifty thousand troops), with a reasonable hope of defeating them and driving them out of the State. It is also understood here that, after General Halleck gets matters to work smoothly in Missouri, General Hunter, with 15,000 of the troops now in that State, will be detached for service in Kentucky, and will either co-operate with Gen. Buell, or operate from Cairo as a base, as circumstances may require.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.—The movement of troops in this section of the Northwest is in excess of anything yet seen since the war commenced. The Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad Company for instance, are to move to-day from this city to St. Louis the Lincoln regiment of Col. Wilson.—On the next day, Friday, Col. Kellogg's Michigan Cavalry from Grand Rapids, are to pass over the same line. On Saturday they transport a large portion of the 9th Iowa regiment, who leave Iowa City and connect at Joliet. On Sunday the Wisconsin 9th; on Tuesday the Wisconsin 11th; and on the same day 2d regiment of the Douglas brigade, Col. David Stuart, are to passover the route; in all upwards of ten thousand men to go forward within a week.

☞ Within a week past the Confederate pickets have made their appearance at Vienna, which is five miles beyond Lewinsville, and also at Flint Hill which overlooks Fairfax Court House. They show no disposition to attack our men. They appear at these points during the day and retire at night.

Captain Mott, of General Hancock's Division, had his pickets surprised by the appearance of a party of Confederate cavalry, while he was engaged on Saturday afternoon at a house a mile and a half beyond Lewinsville, near the Leesburg turnpike. Capt. Mott, however, escaped without losing any of his men.

☞ The great pontoon bridge at Paducah across the Ohio is being removed. After breaking with every rise and fall of the river, and seriously obstructing navigation, it was concluded to separate the boats, and they now lie at the bank.

☞ The French journals inform us that M. Victor Hugo has sold the MS. of a new work, "Les Miserables," for the sum of 400,000 f.

☞ A Christmas book, by Mrs. Matthews, mother of Charles Matthews, entitled "Wit and Wisdom," is announced.

☞ Mr. Howard Glover gets £500 for the copy right of the music of the new opera, Ruy Blas.