THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. I---NO. 74. BALTIMORE, MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1861. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Committee of Arbitration for month of December.

WM. H. GRAHAM.

CHAS. BULLING, | A. CLOSE,
G. T. HOPKINS, | J. CORTLAN, Jr.

Monetary and Commercial Rebiew.

BALTIMORE, December 14, 1861.

There was but little business done at the Stock Board to-day, but for most of the stocks on the list the market was steady. Sales were made of $6,000 Northern Central Railway 1885 bonds at 61, the market for them closing at 61 bid, 61¼ asked, these figures being an advance of ½ per cent. on the closing quotations of yesterday, but this was the entire amount of the operations at the Board. For Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, $50 was asked to-day, and $46 bid, and Northern Central closed at $17 bid. City 6's were firm, 1875's closing at 86 bid, dividend on, and 1890's at 85¾ bid ex dividend. Maryland 6's were also firm, 1870's closing at 91¾ bid for coupons dividend on, and 90 bid for inscribed ex dividend. Baltimore and Ohio bonds were stronger to-day, 1867's closing at 83 bid; 1875's at 75 bid; 1880's at 73 bid; and 1862's (the extra dividend bonds) at 47 bid, 49 asked. Western Maryland Railroad bonds, of which there are some offering, closed to-day at 78 bid, 80 asked for endorsed, and 40 bid, 50 asked for unendorsed. Canton Co. closed as on yesterday at $19 bid, $19½ asked, but Springfield Mining was lower the market for it closing at $1.80 bid, $1.90 asked regular way, there figures being a decline of 10 to 15 cts. on the closing quotations of yesterday.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.

SATURDAY, December 14, 1861.

$6,000 Northern Central Railroad bonds '85.....61

PRICES AND SALES OF STOCKS IN NEW YORK, BY TELEGRAPH.

Through WILLIAM FISHER & SON, Stock and Bill Brokers, No. 22 South street.

	1st Board	2d Board
Virginia 6's.....	47	60
Missouri 6's.....	40¾	41
Tennessee bonds.....	43¾	43½
North Carolina bonds.....	68½	70
Canton Company.....	19½	60
Erie Railroad.....	31¾	31¾
New York Central Railroad	78¾	78¾
Reading Railroad.....	34¾	34
Treasury notes 2 years 6 per cents..	99¾	60
	steady.	steady.

The New York *Herald* of Saturday says:

The stock market opened with some strength this morning, but showed a tendency to advance so rapidly that the bears, for the sake of their contracts, were forced to put out some options in order to keep prices down. Subsequently a dull feeling prevailed, and lower prices were accepted for many leading stocks, the market closing weak. Comparing the closing prices of the day with those of yesterday, we note an advance of 1 in Tennessees, ¼ in Missouris, ¼ in Pacific Mail. ½ in Panama, ¼ in guaranteed, and ¼ in Michigan Central, and a decline of 1¼ in Virginias, ¼ in New York Central, ¼ in Erie, ¼ in Erie preferred, ¼ in Illinois Central, ¼ in Galena ¼ in Toledo, and ¾ in Rock Island.

The New York *Post* of Saturday afternoon says:

The stock market continues to be influenced by the English news (expected) and our foreign exchanges. The high rate on London for this day's steamer, and the fact that the government and the associated banks must soon come to a new fiscal arrangement for the conduct of the war, has induced the belief on the street that a change may soon take place in the basis of currency. In other words, that a qualified suspension of payments in gold by the Treasury, and possibly by the associated banks at the same time, will be adopted by concert between the Secretary and a committee of bankers at Washington. We give the rumor for what it may be esteemed to be worth; remarking that the plan of the Secretary in his report of Monday last for placing the future loans of the government is not generally received as practicable. Hence the current suggestion of an entire change of financial programme.

The exports from Philadelphia for the week ending on the 12th instant, reached $348,263, while the imports reached $132,039. Among the exports we notice over seventy thousand bushels of wheat, over two hundred thousand pounds of tallow, and over three hundred barrels of flour.

BALTIMORE MARKETS.

SATURDAY, December 14.

COFFEE.—There has been no movement to-day in Coffee, but the market continues very firm in tone. We publish below the semi-monthly report of Messrs. White & Elder, Coffee brokers, and we refer to it for quotations, &c.:

COFFEE REPORT.

Stock of Rio Coffee on hand, Nov. 30th, 1861..17,567 bags.	
Received since, per bark "Lapwing".....	3,000 "
	20,567 "
Taken for Consumption.....	5,067 "
Stock of Rio on hand this day.....	15,300 "

REMARKS.

During the past week our market has been quite active, and the operations, at materially enhanced prices, indicate increasing confidence on the part of buyers, whilst holders become more reluctant from day to day to reduce their stocks. Of the sales above referred to, some 2,000 bags were sold in the early part of the month at 16½ cts. net cash, since which time prices have advanced to 18 cts for good to prime qualities, with sales of some 2,000 bags at that price since the 11th inst, the same figure being refused for several invoices within the last day or two, held at 18¾ cts. We advance our quotations Fair to prime 18@18¾ cts., which comprises the bulk of our stock; common grades 17@17¾ cts., of which there is a very meagre supply. No stock of Java or Laguayra—All operations in this staple are reduced to a net cash basis.

WHITE & ELDER,
Coffee Brokers.

Baltimore, December 14, 1861.

FLOUR—The market for Flour, although inactive, may be quoted to-day steady for all descriptions. There were sales yesterday, in addition to those noticed in our report, of 500 bbls. Ohio Extra at $6 per bbl, but so far as we have heard no sales have been made to day. We quote as follows, viz: Super at $5.62½ for Howard Street and Ohio, and $5.25@5.37½ for City Mills; Cut Extra at $5.75 for Howard Street and Ohio; and Extra at $6 for Ohio; $6@6.25 for Howard Street; and $6.25@6.50 per bbl. for shipping brands City Mills.

FAMILY FLOUR.—Family Flour is still selling by the dray load to the trade at $8.25 for the best brands Baltimore, $6.50@7 for Ohio and Howard Street, and Baltimore high grade Extra is bringing $7.75 per bbl.

RYE FLOUR AND CORN MEAL.—Rye Flour is firm at $4.37½@4.50, and we quote Corn Meal steady $3.20@3.25 per bbl. for both Baltimore and Brandywine.

GRAIN.—There was a good inquiry for Grain this morning, and the market was steady and firm for all descriptions. Wheat and Corn were both in quite light supply, only about 6,000 bushels of each being at market. Wheat sold at 120@127 cts. for fair to prime red, 125 cts. for ordinary white, 138@140 cts. for fair do., 145@155 cts. for good to strictly prime do., and Corn at 60@63 cts. for new white and yellow, 70@73 cts. for old white, and 65@68 cts. for old yellow. We quote Rye to-day at 70@71 cts. for Maryland, and 76@78 cts. for Pennsylvania. There were only 350 bushels at market. Oats were in very good supply, the receipts amounting to nearly 13,000 bushels. They were, however, in good demand and quite firm. Maryland sold at 42@43 cts., and Pennsylvania at 45 cts. A sale of 8,000 bushels Pennsylvania was made in one lot at the above figure.

MOLASSES.—There is more inquiry for molasses, but we hear of no sales being made to-day. The lots recently received are not fairly on the market not having been landed as yet. We quote to-day as follows, viz: Cuba at 23@25 cts. for tart clayed, 28@32 cts. for sweet do., and 23@25 cts. for Muscovado; English Island at 32@40 cts.; Porto Rico at 34@44 cts.; and New Orleans at 55@60 cts. per gallon.

PROVISIONS.—Provisions remain quiet, and quotations are in a great degree nominal. There is a limited inquiry for Bacon, and it is selling only in small lots. We quote as follows, viz: Shoulders at 4½@4¾ cts. Sides at 5¾@5¾ cts., and Hams at from 6 to 10 cts. per lb. There is no Bulk Meat selling and we can give no quotations for it. Lard may be quoted at 8¾@9 cts. for City and Western. We notice a sale to-day of 100 bbls. Western Leaf at 9 cts. Baltimore packed Beef is selling at $12@12.50 for No. 1, and $16 per bbl. for Mess, and we quote Western Mess at $12@13.50 per bbl. Mess Pork ranges in price at from $12 to $13.50 per bbl., as to quality, and we quote Prime do. at $10@11, and Rump do. at $8@9 per bbl.

RICE.—There is a little Rice here, and it is held firmly at 7¾ cts. net. There is however very little demand for it.

SALT.—Liverpool Salt is in fair demand, and steady at the following rates, viz: 105@110 cts. for Ground Alum, and 135@140 cts. per sack for Marshall's, Worthington's and Jeffrey & Darcy's fine. Turks Island do. is still selling from store at 25 cts. per bushel.

SEEDS.—Grass Seeds are quiet and the market for them is rather heavy. We quote Clover as ranging from $4.37½ to $4.75, the latter figure being however only obtainable for some lots, and Timothy at $2.62.25 per bushel. Flaxseed is still bringing $1.60@1.75 per bushel.

SUGARS.—There is but little doing in Sugars to day, the only sale we have heard of being one of 10 hhds. Porto Rico at $9 net. The market although quiet is very firm in tone, and holders are not disposed to press sales. We quote as follows, viz: Cuba at $8@8.25 for refining, and $8.50@9.25 for grocery grades; English Island at $8@8.50; Porto Rico and New Orleans at $8.50@9.75; and Manila and Pernambuco at $8@8.25.

REFINED SUGARS.—For Refined Sugars the rates are still as follows, viz: 11¼@11½ cts. for loaf, 11@11¼ cts. for crushed, powdered and granulated; 10¾@10¾ cts. for soft crushed white; and 9¾@10 cts. per lb. for C yellow.

WHISKEY.—There has been no movement to day in Whiskey so far as we have heard, but the market for it is very firm, and prices have evidently an upward tendency. City and Ohio were both held to-day pretty firmly at 22 cts., and some parties were asking 22½ cts. for Ohio.

THE CRUELTY OF KELLER.—Keller, who was for a while famous in this city for his tableaux, is likely to become infamous in Havana for his bad treatment of the children of his troupe—if the stories of his alleged cruelty are true. The United States Consul-General, R. W. Shufeldt, writes from Cuba to the Mayor of this city that he has compelled Keller to place under his charge the following children: Jane and Elizabeth Cooper, Lucille Babcock, Eliza and Elizabeth Brown, Julia and George Gallot, and several more of the children have been sent to the United States by Keller in a destitute condition. The mothers of some of these children say that Keller was in the habit of beating the little girls with a cowhide, and otherwise ill-treating them. Keller himself is represented to be very poor, with a small wardrobe and great liabilities. —*New York Post.*

A JOB FOR TEN THOUSAND MEN.—The Ogdensburg *Journal* having advised the State of New York to raise immediately ten thousand men "for the purpose of seizing and holding Canada, in case the British Government should elect war with our Government," the Montreal *Gazette* thinks the *Journal* has rather a higher opinion of American soldiers than the *Gazette* entertains. It was laying out a large job for so few men, certainly.—*Portland Argus.*

The officers of the British ship Henry, at this port to-day from Jamaica, report that in the Gulf of Florida they saw six Federal vessels, bound South. They were supposed to be a part of the "Rat-hole" expedition for Mobile or New Orleans. —*New York Post.*

Two fine horses—"Kentucky" and "Glancer"—arrived at Memphis recently from Louisiana, in care of Colonel Coleman—the former for General Breckinridge and the latter for Colonel Keene Richards. They are fine animals, and were forwarded by railroad to Bowling Green.

The Louisiana *Baptist* learns that a factory has just been established in Claiborne parish, in that State, for the manufacture of corn-shellers, wheat-fans, spinning-wheels, looms, and many other similar articles that are largely used in the Southern Confederacy.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Steamer Europa.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM ENGLAND.

THE MASON AND SLIDELL AFFAIR.

A Queen's Messenger sent with Despatches to Lord Lyons, at Washington.

A DEMAND TO BE MADE FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE SOUTHERN ENVOYS.

THE WARRIOR ORDERED TO ANNAPOLIS WITH THE ULTIMATUM OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

HALIFAX, D.c. 15.—The Europa arrived here today from Liverpool on the 30th ult., and Queenstown on the 2d instant, where she was detained until Monday by order of the British Government. She has the Queen's messenger on board, with despatches for Lord Lyons.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—The *Observer* states that the Government will demand from President Lincoln and his Cabinet the restoration of the persons of the Southern Envoys to the British Government.

Yesterday afternoon, after 5 o'clock, P. M., Her Majesty held a Privy Council at Windsor Castle. Three of Her Majesty's Ministers, including the First Lord of the Admiralty and Secretary of State for War, travelled from London to Windsor by special train, to be present. Previous to leaving town, the three Ministers had attended a Cabinet Council at Lord Palmerston's official residence.

The *Observer* says a special messenger of foreign affairs has been ordered to carry our demands to Lord Lyons, and will proceed by packet from Queenstown to-day. The public will be satisfied to know that these demands are for an apology, and to insist on a restitution to the protection of the British flag of those who were violently and illegally torn from that sacred asylum.

The *Observer* adds, there is no reason why they should not be restored to the quarter-deck of a British Admiral at New York or Washington itself, in the face of some ten or twelve men of war, whose presence in the Potomac would render the blustering Cabinet at Washington as helpless as the Trent was before the guns and cutlasses of the San Jacinto. It is no fault of ours if it should come even to this.

Arrangements for increasing the force in Canada are not yet complete, but in a very few hours everything will be settled. In the meantime a large ship, the Melbourne, has been taken up and is now being loaded with Armstrong guns, some eighty thousand Enfield rifles, ammunition and other stores at Woolwich. It is not impossible that this vessel will be escorted by one or two ships of-war. The rifles are intended for the Canadian militia, and strong reinforcements of field artillery will be despatched forthwith.

The *Times City Article* of the 30th, says: The position of the Federal States of America, is almost identical in every commercial point of view with that which was occupied towards us by Russia before the Crimean war. Russia had a hostile tariff while we looked to her for a large portion of our general supply of breadstuff, but there is this peculiarity in our present case that the commencement of the war would be by breaking up the blockade of the Southern ports at once, set free our industry from the anxiety of a cotton famine, and ensure prosperity to Lancashire through the winter. At the same time we shall open our trade to eight millions in the Confederate States, who desire nothing better than to be our customers.

At a Privy Council on Saturday, an order was issued prohibiting the export from the United Kingdom, or the carrying coastwise, gunpowder, saltpetre, nitrate of soda, and brimstone.

The *Times* has no hope that the Federal Government will comply with the demands of England.

The *Morning Star* declares that the statement of instructions having been sent to Lord Lyons to obtain the restitution of the Confederate Commissioners, or to take leave of Washington, was premature and so exaggerated as to be virtually untrue.

The Liverpool *Courier* believes that the Warrior has been ordered to Annapolis with the ultimatum of the Government.

SECOND DESPATCH.

It was regarded when the Europa left that there was a hopeful look, and consols and cotton had slightly improved, but after digesting the tone of the American press, a reaction set in, and fears were entertained that the Washington Government would justify the act.

The English journals were very bitter and hostile, continuing to treat the affair as an intolerable insult.

Lord Lyons' instructions, on which the Cabinet are said to be unanimous, are explicit and determined.

The *Post* says an acknowledgment of the error and a surrender of the prisoners will be received with great joy, but if the Federal Government fails to do so, no man in England will blind his eyes to the alternative, that England must do her duty.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Cotton was inactive and prices had declined ¼d. Sales of the week 290,000 bales. Breadstuffs were higher and flour was 6d. to 1s. higher. Wheat 2 to 4d. and Corn 1 to 2s. higher. Provisions were quiet but steady. Consols on Friday closed at 92¾@92¾.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER CITY OF WASHINGTON OFF CAPE RACE.

THE AUSTRALASIAN CHARTERED TO CONVEY TROOPS TO CANADA.

THE EXCITEMENT AGAINST THE UNITED STATES UNABATED.

NAPOLEON TENDERS HIS SERVICES AS MEDIATOR.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., December 15.—The news boat of the Associated Press has arrived from Cape Race with the advices of the steamer City of Washington from Liverpool via Queenstown on the 5th, intercepted off that point.

The ship Lady Franklin, from London for New York, put into Plymouth on the 3d inst, and took fire the same night and was scuttled. Some Southern sailors among her crew are suspected of firing the ship.

The Australasian has been chartered to carry troops and a battery of artillery to Canada. She was to sail on the 12th.

It was stated that the U. S. ship James Adger, had captured a privateer off Fayal, on the 17th ult., and was towing her into that port.

The *Times* continues to assert that it has been Mr. Seward's policy to force a quarrel with England, and calls for energetic military preparations in Canada.

There has been a serious decline daily taking place in Canadian securities, amounting to 12 per cent.

The *Times* predicts three things to immediately follow the outbreak, namely, the destruction of the Southern blockade, the complete blockade of the northern ports and the recognition of the Southern Confederacy by France and England.

The *Daily News* rejoices that Congress meets before the English demands can get out to America, and hopes that it will act with honor and dignity, and that the golden opportunity will not be lost.

A large number of naval vessels have been ordered to be ready for immediate commission.

THE LATEST.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 5.—The excitement in reference to the Slidell and Mason affair continues unabated.

The Paris *Temps* repeats the statements that Napoleon has tendered his services as a mediator.

It is rumored that the steamer Persia has been chartered to carry troops to Canada. This however is pronounced premature.

The Australasian was advertized to sail for New York on the 7th, but the America has been substituted.

At the banquet given at Rochdale, Mr. Bright made an elaborate speech on American affairs. He declined to give a decided opinion in the Trent affair. He said he believed that if the act be illegal, America will make a fitting reparation. He strongly condemned warlike feelings in reference to the matter, and acouted the idea that the American cabinet had resolved to pick a quarrel with England. He made an eloquent peroration in favor of the North.

A letter was read from Mr. Cobden, of the Pacific Line, urging a suspension of judgment.

A letter from General Scott, in favor of maintaining friendly relations between England and America, attracts much attention.

The exportation of arms, ammunition and lead are prohibited.

The Paris *Patrie* has an editorial foreshadowing the disposition of France to recognize the Southern Confederacy if England sets the example.

The transport Melbourne was to leave Woolwich on the 5th for Halifax with 30,000 stand of arms and large quantities of ammunition, and six Armstrong guns. She will be convoyed by the Orphens, of 21 guns.

The frigate Warrior will be ready for foreign service immediately. Her destination will depend on the answer from Washington.

The shipment of rifles from England for New York continues.

The funds fell ½ per cent. on the 3d.

Appearances indicate that the French papers have been instructed to write in an anti-American tone.

The *Patrie* argues pretty clearly that France will side with England and recognize the Southern Confederacy, and takes a decided attitude in the international question.

The Liverpool *Post* gives a rumor that Napoleon has been proposed as arbitrator of the question between England and the United States.

The Americans in Paris paid a complimentary visit to General Scott, Mr. Dayton acting as Chairman.

The *Journal des Debats* approved and reviewed the *Moniteur's* article, and adds that the French Government is in no hurry to recognize the Southern Confederacy. Other French papers express the same opinion.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL, December 5.—On the 3d flour advanced 6d., wheat 2d., corn 6d. Sales to-day were steady at the advance.

Provisions closed quiet.

Consols for money 92¾@92¾ ex dividend.

THE VERY LATEST.

LONDON, December 5th.—The tone of the French press is changing. The *Moniteur* considers that a peaceful solution of the question is not impossible. It says that public opinion in the United States is very powerful, but also very fickle; and says that it will be best to await a solution of the question.

THE ESCAPE OF THE SUMTER.

Commander Palmer's Despatch to the Navy Department Accounting for her Escape.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Navy Department has received dispatches from Capt. Palmer, commanding the steamer Iroquois, in which he minutely relates his movements in order to capture the privateer Sumter.

The Government at Martinique, he says, refused to give the Sumter coals, but allowed her to come to St. Pierre, where she obtained a supply from English merchants. The Sumter had been received with courtesy at the seat of government, and Captain Palmer discovered, to use his own language, that this farce of non-recognition of the Confederate flag by France and England is "played out." He had a correspondence with the Governor, the result of which was he was referred to a paragraph of Wheaton's International Law, to the effect that one belligerent could not depart from a port until twenty-four hours after another had left. The Sumter was at that time in the port, and the Iroquois was obliged to anchor one marine league from the shore.

The majority of the citizens of Port Royal were in favor of the Sumter, and therefore anxious for her escape. Being French, they sympathize with Louisiana, to which State they thought the Sumter belonged. Throughout his proceedings Captain Palmer was apprehensive and fearful that the Sumter would escape him and wished that she were any where else than under French protection, as the authorities were throwing every obstacle in his way.

The Governor, however, repudiating unlike friendliness in reply to Palmer's complaint, owing to the distance from shore which the Iroquois was obliged to anchor, and the fact that the bay is fifteen miles wide, and for the reasons above stated, the Sumter succeeded in escaping. The Iroquois followed, but found no vessel visible on the back ground of the sky.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Great Freshets—Immense Damage Done—General Shields Accepts the Appointment of Brigadier General.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 10.—During the past four days the heaviest rain experienced for years prevailed here, causing a severe freshet in the valley. The river broke through the levee and flooded Sacramento from one to four feet deep. This morning the people were driven to the second story of their houses, and all business is suspended. The freshet from the recent heavy rains extends throughout the valley portions of the State, doing immense damage to the property of farmers, drowning their stock, carrying off bridges, fences, etc. Part of Marysville and Stockton, as well as Sacramento have suffered severely from the flood. The entire number of lives lost is not known at present. Several brick buildings had fallen at Marysville. The loss of property at Sacramento is estimated at half a million dollars. Entire communication with many districts was entirely cut off and business suspended.

The weather for the past two days has been pleasant and apparently settled. The waters are consequently receding gradually.

The funeral of General Baker is engrossing general attention at San Francisco to-day. The volunteer force and State military and civic organizations, with the citizens generally, participated, making the largest procession ever witnessed here.

About $20,000 have been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the Sacramento flood. The water has been from two to twelve feet deep in almost every house in that city. Over one third of the city was overflowed. The water, however, at last accounts, was receding.

Gen. Shields has accepted the appointment of Brigadier-General, and is on his way to Washington in the steamer Golden Age. The steamer has $160,000 in treasure for New York.

FROM KENTUCKY.

Reinforcements for Kentucky.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—The Louisville *Journal*, of yesterday, says that all the regiments from Indiana who have now the minimum number of men have been ordered into Kentucky. This order will come from nine to ten thousand men into Kentucky during this and the coming week. A letter from Somerset, Ky., dated the 7th, confirms the capture, by the Confederates, of Major Helvetti and Capt. Prince. J. R. Richardson, Postmaster at Somerset, Ky., writes, under date of the 10th, that Zollicoffer has crossed the Cumberland river twenty miles below Wartsboro', on a bridge formed of coal barges, with from nine to fifteen thousand troops.—We expect a fight to-morrow. The Federal forces under Gen. Schoepiff are six regiments and two batteries. The *Democrat* gives the above, falling to get a confirmation from its correspondent.

The Skirmish at Jacksonville.

BAGDAD, KY., Dec. 13.—A party of Confederates have been endeavoring to make the Union men take the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy in this section, and Col. Whitaker, on learning of it, sent a squad of soldiers to arrest them, when the Confederates fired upon them, but the first fire of the enemy being somewhat slower, the guns of Fort McRae were all silenced but one, and three hours before sunset this fort and the adjoining battery ceased fire. I directed the guns of batteries Lincoln, Cameron and Totten principally on the batteries adjacent to the Navy Yard; those of Battery Scott to Fort McRae and the lighthouse batteries; and those of Fort Pickens to all. We reduced very perceptibly the fire of Barrancas, entirely silenced that in the Navy Yard, and in one or two of the other batteries—the efficiency of our fire, at the close of the day, not being the least impaired.

The next morning I again opened about the same hour, the navy unfortunately, owing to a reduction in the depth of water, caused by a change of wind, not being able to get so near as yesterday, consequently the distance was too great to be effectual. My fire this day was less rapid, and I think more efficient, than that of yesterday. Fort McRae, so effectually silenced yesterday, did not fire again to-day. We silenced entirely one or two guns, and had one of ours disabled by a shot coming through the embrasure.

About three o'clock fire was communicated to one of the houses in Warrington, and shortly afterwards to the church steeple, the church and the whole village being immediately in rear of some of the rebel batteries, they apparently having placed them purposely directly in front of the largest and most valuable buildings. The fire rapidly communicated to other buildings along the street, until probably two-thirds of it was consumed; and about the same time fire was discovered issuing from the back part of the Navy Yard, probably in Wolcott, a village to the north and immediately adjoining the yard, as Warrington does on the west. Finally it penetrated to the yard, and as it continued to burn brilliantly all night I concluded that either in it or in Wolcott entire buildings were destroyed. Very heavy damage was also done to the buildings of the yard by the avalanche of shot, shell and splinters showered unceasingly on them for two days; and being nearly fireproof, being built of brick and covered with slate, he will succeed in firing them, my hot shot nor shells not having any power of igniting them.

The steamer Time, which was at the wharf at the time, was abandoned on the first day and exposed to our fire, which probably entirely disabled her. The fire was again continued till dark, and with mortars occasionally until two o'clock the next morning, when the combat ceased.

This Fort, at its conclusion, though it has received a great many shot and shell, is, in every respect, save the disabling of one gun-carriage and the loss of service of six men, as efficient as it was at the commencement of the combat; but the ends I proposed in commencing having been attained, except one, which I find to be impracticable with my present means, I do not deem it advisable further to continue it unless the enemy think it proper to do so, when I shall meet him with alacrity.

The attack on Billy Wilson's camp, the attempted attack on my batteries, and the insult to our glorious flag have been fully and fearfully avenged. I have no means of knowing the loss of the enemy, and have no disposition to guess at it. The firing on his batteries was very heavy, well directed and continuous for two days, and could hardly fail of having important results.

Our loss would have been heavy but for the foresight which, with great labor, caused us to erect elaborate means of protection, and which saved many lives. I lost one private killed; one sergeant, one corporal, and four men (privates) wounded, only one severely.

My officers, non-commissioned officers and privates were everything I could desire. They one and all performed their duty with the greatest cheerfulness, and in the most able and efficient manner. I am much indebted to Major Arnold, my executive officer, for his valuable assistance—his whole conduct was admirable; and Captains Allen, Chalfin, Blunt, Robertson, Hildt and Duryea, and Lieutenants McFarland, Langdon, Closzin, Shipley, Jackson, Pennington, Seeley and Taylor, merit my warmest encomiums for the coolness and deliberation with which they performed, without one exception, their duty under a heavy and continuous shower of shot, shells and splinters for two successive days. Lieutenant Todd, ordnance officer, had full supplies of all required articles, which were on hand at the post, and his department was conducted with system and efficiency. Major Tower, Surgeon Campbell and Assistant Surgeon Sutherland, in their respective duties, sustained their high reputations. Captains Robertson, Duryea and Blunt, and Lieutenants Pennington and Seely respectively commanded batteries Lincoln, Scott, Totten and Cameron, and a small battery at Spanish Fort, and the other officers batteries in the fort with distinguished ability. Captains Dobles and Bailey's companies were with the batteries at Lincoln and Cameron, and did their duty faithfully and efficiently. The companies of Captains Herbeiner and Duffy, of the 6th regiment New York Volunteers, were successively on duty at the fort, and rendered cheerfully important assistance to me. The regular companies engaged at the batteries, all of whom performed their duty so efficiently as to preclude my making a distinction, are Companies A, F and L, First Artillery; C, H and K, Second Artillery; and C and E, Third Infantry, and Companies G and I, Sixth regiment New York Volunteers.

In closing, I tender to Flag-Officer McKean and Captain Ellison, of the Navy, and to their officers and crews, my best thanks for their able co-operation, which would have had the happiest results, but for the unfortunate fact that their great draft of water prevented their sufficiently near approach to the works of the rebels.

I am, General, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
HARVEY BROWN, Colonel Commanding.

Brig. Gen. L. Thomas, Adjutant-General United States Army, Washington, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, }
Fort Pickens, Nov. 25, 1861. }

GENERAL:—The bombardment of the 22d and 23d has elicited some facts that are of importance, and I notice them that we may in future benefit by them.

First—That with the most efficient guns of the largest calibre and served in the best manner, no serious injury can be done to stone or brick walls, or to guns in sand batteries, or to troops serving them, unless probably by rifled guns, if properly protected, at a distance of from two thousand to three thousand yards.

Second—That shells and hot shot are not to be depended on for firing even wooden buildings, unless having in them incendiary composition.

Third—That pieces of port fire are nearly useless as such incendiary composition.

Fourth—That brick buildings covered with slate cannot be fired by either hot shot or shells at the distance named, unless by accident, unless the shells have rock fires.

Fifth—That the trouble and expense incurred in protecting forts by sand-bag traverses, &c., is far more than repaid by the saving of the lives of the defenders.

Sixth—That no dependence is to be placed on James' rifle projectiles, either as it respects accuracy or range. If I had had guns to be depended on I could have silenced the most of the enemy's sand batteries and the guns in Barrancas.

Seventh—That ships with their present armament cannot for an hour contend against rifled guns, and that if our navy is not at once supplied liberally with good rifled guns it will be very likely to be disgraced.

Eighth—That on service here, and I believe the remark applies with equal force to every river and harbor in the Gulf, a gunboat drawing six feet water and well armed with good rifled guns will do more and better service than a forty-gun ship, or than such ships as the Niagara and Richmond.

Ninth—That sail vessels are utterly useless in enforcing a blockade.

Tenth—That Parrott's rifled guns are efficient, and that force should be immediately supplied with them and with a full supply of ammunition.

I would strongly urge that a dozen of Parrott's thirty-pounders, or, if to be had, of larger calibre, be sent to this post, with a good supply of ammunition, as early as possible. I had one which I found to be excellent, but when the navy met with such a mishap in the Mississippi I was compelled to let Flag Officer McKean have it and one of my twelve-pounder Parrott guns, to put on one of his ships to save them from being driven out of the waters by a little steamer having a rifled gun on board.

I am, General, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
HARVEY BROWN, Colonel Commanding.

Brigadier General L. Thomas, Assistant Adjutant General, United States Army, Washington, D.C.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Washington Despatches of the New York Post.

SENATOR POLK TO BE EXPELLED.

It is probable that Senator Polk, of Missouri, will be expelled from the Senate. The evidence of his complicity with the Confederates is reported to be conclusive, and the Senate is determined to purge itself of all traitorious members.

REPORTED TRAITORS IN ACCOMAC.

Although the majority of the citizens of the eastern shore of **Virginia have professed their** loyalty since the arrival of General Lockwood's troops, there are some rebellious spirits who will not learn prudence. The consequence is that several of these traitors, residing in Accomac, have been arrested and sent to Fort McHenry.

Washington Correspondence New York Tribune.

MILITARY EXECUTION.

William H. Johnson, private of company D, 1st regiment Volunteer Cavalry, court-martialed and sentenced to death for desertion, was shot at 3 o'clock this afternoon, in presence of the whole of Gen. Franklin's division. The ground chosen (on the Leesburg turnpike, near the Fairfax Theological Seminary) for the execution was such as to afford all in attendance a view of the solemn proceedings. The troops were marched to the spot to funeral music, and formed into a hollow square.—The display was unusually imposing, and the utmost decorum characterized the movements of the men. Everything being in order, a procession, headed by Capt. Boyd, Provost Marshal of the division, and consisting of a company of mounted cavalry from the regiment to which the prisoner was attached, followed by the twelve men on foot from the same regiment who had been designated as executioners, a wagon containing a plain coffin, and another in which Johnson rode, accompanied by a priest, chaplain of the 31st regiment New York Volunteers, moved slowly through the open columns of the troops, the bands of the several regiments playing the dead march.

All eyes were fixed upon the doomed man. His countenance indicated severe depression, but he sat steadily and composed, apparently intent upon the counsels of the priest. His features were not indicative of his great crime, and it is said that his character has not been stained by any marked misdeeds. During an interview last evening with several officers, he was in excellent spirits, and appeared to have no realization of his impending fate. Indeed, it was the general impression in the army that he would be reprieved, especially when it was rumored that he was innocent, Franklin having telegraphed the circumstance to the Commander-in-Chief, he immediately directed three of the best physicians in the army to make a medical examination. Their report is as follows.

GEN. FRANKLIN'S HEADQUARTERS, }
Dec. 13, 1861—12½ P. M. }

SIR: In pursuance of your order, we, the undersigned, have made a careful examination of the prisoner, William H. Johnson, under sentence of death for alleged attempt at desertion, and respectfully report that we find him of sound mind.

FRANK H. HAMILTON,
Brigade-Surgeon and President of Commission.
ALEX. N. DOUGHERTY,
Brigade Surgeon.
GEORGE BURR,
Brigade-Surgeon, Gen. Slocum's Brigade.

The procession having gone three rounds, it was drawn up in the centre of a hollow square which had been formed by the military. The coffin was removed from the wagon, and Johnson seated upon it, in full view of the whole assemblage.

The priests performed a last mass, and the death warrant was read to the prisoner by the Provost-Marshal, as it had been to the several regiments by the colonels. Johnson being told that he might speak if he had aught to say, exclaimed, in tremulous tones:

"Boys, I ask pardon of Almighty God and of all men for what I did. May Almighty God pardon me, and keep all of you from all such sin."

At a given signal from the Provost Marshal, the executioners, who had been drawn up at a distance of six paces from the condemned, made ready to fire, and at a similar indication eight of them discharged their carbines. Johnson clasped his hands over his breast, and hurriedly exclaimed several words, which were rendered indistinct by his groans. Some of the balls had taken effect, but none were likely to prove fatal, and after an examination of the prisoner the Provost-Marshal ordered a reserve of four men to fire. The result was fatal, a ball literally tearing one of Johnson's eyes from its socket and scattering his brains, and another shattering his jaw in a frightful manner. The body rolled from the coffin and fell heavily upon the sod.

THE CONFEDERATE POTOMAC ARMY.

Scouts have noticed recently a marked increase in the number of tents in the Confederate Potomac army, which confirms the intelligence that it has been largely reinforced. A prisoner taken yesterday says that the Confederate generals had determined to advance from Centreville in three columns, in all 75,000 men, to attack our advance, which they expected to find off guard, and adds that four days' rations had already been given out to the troops.

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST MEXICO.

It is not true that Government has declined the proposition of the three Powers that it should take part in the expedition against Mexico. But there is reason to believe that our share of a fleet to which England, France and Spain contribute 1,505 guns, will not be imposing. It is said, indeed, that only one United States vessel will join the allies off Vera Cruz.

THE CASE OF COMMANDER SCOTT.

Com. Scott, tried by court-martial for deserting his post without orders, was convicted and sentenced to be relieved from service for six months upon reduced pay. The finding and sentence have been approved by Secretary Welles.

THE QUAKERS HEARD FROM.

A Quaker, who had been asked by the Navy Department to investigate Secession charges against certain parties to whom work had been given, concludes his reply as follows:

"It gives me great pleasure to see thee manifest such an interest in this matter, I think I can say in truth that I know no man after the 'flesh.' Only as he shows himself loyal to our Government do I respect him at all. While my friend Cameron is moulding bullets and thee preparing bombs and shells for the enemy in the distance, I can assure thee that I will do my part in starving those found in our midst by withholding from them either food or raiment. Pretty hard Christian I have no doubt thee think I am."

UNFOUNDED.

The report of a considerable Confederate force between Vienna and Fairfax Court House is unfounded.

How the Privateer Sumter Escaped.

Captain Rowland, of the brig Thomas W. Rowland, from Rio de Janeiro, by way St. Thomas, gives an account of the escape of the privateer Sumter from the gunboat Iroquois, as follows:

The captain of the Iroquois sent a man on shore at Port Royal (Martinique) with signal lights, and gave him instructions to signalize the movements of the Sumter, and on the night of the 23d of November signals were made by the man on shore that she was leaving the harbor, but no notice was taken of it by the captain of the Iroquois. His first lieutenant tried to persuade him to give chase, which it is said could easily have been done, but he declined.

The movements of the Sumter were seen from the deck of the Iroquois. She took a southerly course, when the captain of the Iroquois gave orders to proceed to St. Thomas, making no effort to capture the privateer. These facts becoming known at St. Thomas, the greatest indignation prevailed among the Americans in port, and all others friendly to the United States.

The Bermuda *Royal Gazette*, of the 3d inst., has the following in relation to the escape of the Sumter:

On the morning of the 25th, the Iroquois astonished the St. Thomas folks by dropping into the harbor and reporting that, on a dark and a squally night, the Sumter had slipped through the fingers of the Dacotah and Iroquois, and had gone no one knew where. Her escape was variously accounted for. According to one account, the French war steamer came out of St. Pierre during the night, and the Iroquois gave chase, but when daylight came the latter discovered her mistake. Meanwhile the Sumter had stolen away, and neither the Dacotah or Iroquois could give any account of her.

The New York *Tribune*, speaking of the escape of the Sumter, says:

The mission of the pirate Sumter appears to be to expose the mingled imbecility and treachery of the men sent in pursuit of her. It would seem that whenever this pestilent craft glides into any waters a numbness, a stupor, or a stolid determination to do no duty, seizes upon all naval offic