THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. I---NO. 82. BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1861. PRICE TWO CENTS.

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 Review.

BALTIMORE, December 24, 1861.

The Stock market here continues very quiet. There are however but few stocks offering, and the market although quiet was quite strong to-day. Sales were made at the Board of 50 shares Northern Central Railway at $17, but nothing was done in any of the other stocks on the list. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad closed at $16 bid, $50 asked, and Northern Central left off at $16¾ bid, $17¼ asked. Northern Central 1885 bonds were better again to-day, 62 being bid, and 65 asked for them, and Baltimore and Ohio bonds left off at 47¼ bid, 48 asked for 1862's, and 75 bid for 1875's. Northwestern Virginia first mortgage bonds closed as on yesterday at 75 bid. Baltimore City 6's closed steady at 86 bid for both 1875's and 1890's. Bank stocks were generally firm. There were however but few offering and none were sold. Baltimore Gas Co. left off at $101 bid, an advance of $1; Baltimore Coal Co. at $49 bid; Baltimore and Cuba Smelting and Mining Co. at $50 bid, $75 asked; Canton Co. at 39¾ bid, $10¼ asked; and Springfield Mining at $1.55 bid, $1.70 asked regular way.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD
TUESDAY, December 24, 1861.
50 shares Northern Central Railroad.....17

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.....	46¾	00
Missouri 6's.....	38¾	38¾
Tennessee bonds.....	41	00
North Carolina bonds.....	58	00
Canton Company.....	9¾	00
Erie Railroad.....	26¾	26¾
New York Central Railroad	76¾	77
Reading Railroad.....	32¾	33
Treasury notes 2 years 0 per cents..	99¾	00
	steady.	firm.

The following is the statement of the New York banks as compared with those of the previous week:

	Dec. 14	Dec. 21.	
Loans.....	$157,647,702	$155,784,220	Dec. 1,863,472
Specie.....	39,435,478	36,831,269	Dec. 2,622,609
Circulation.....	8,590,764	8,589,361	Inc. 8,597
Deposits.....	129,379,545	124,897,534	Dec. 4,482,011
			Dec. 4,182,011

The New York *Herald* of yesterday says:

The decrease of deposits and of specie is greater than was expected. The banks have lost five millions of coin in a fortnight, and the Sub-Treasurer's balance on Saturday evening showed that that institution had lost during the same period something like four millions of dollars Happily for the country, this large amount of coin has not gone abroad. Of the whole nine millions which seem to have disappeared between December 7 and December 21, less than half a million was exported. To-day the banks paid into the Sub-Treasury $3,500,000, over $9,200,000 of which was in gold, and the balance in overdue Treasury notes and United States demand notes. The actual amount of coin in the banks this evening is therefore considerably less than is shown above. Several of the banks are curtailing their loans in order to protect their specie. Whether this is the way to meet the danger opinions are not agreed in Wall street.

In reference to the New York stock market, the *Herald* says:

The weather and the uncertainty overhanging the financial future checked business on the stock exchange to-day. The transactions at the morning board were fewer than for some time past. There were but few changes in prices. Missouris declined ¼, and Erie, old, ¼; Michigan Central advanced ¼. Toledo was wanted at Saturday's closing price. After the board the market was very dull, and Central was sold at a decline of ¼ per cent. At the second board the decline was recovered, and the market closed very firm, with an upward tendency.

The following is the weekly statement of the Philadelphia banks, as compared with the previous week:

	Dec. 16.	Dec. 23.	
Capital stock.....	$11,970,150	$11,970,150	
Loans.....	31,140,252	31,061,001	Dec. $80,281
Specie.....	7,354,112	7,167,206	Dec. 186,876
Due from other bks.	1,382,567	1,274,782	Dec. 107,785
Due to other banks..	3,677,909	3,649,645	Dec. 28,264
Deposits.....	22,926,402	22,548,463	Dec. 377,939
Circulation.....	2,187,424	2,113,653	Dec. 73,774

BALTIMORE MARKETS.

TUESDAY, December 24

COFFEE.—We have no transactions to note to day in Coffee, but the market for it continues very buoyant and firm. There is no Rio to be had under 19 cts. net, and 20 cts. net is generally asked for such lots as are offering. There is a stock of some 15,000 bags Rio here but there is very little offering, the greater part of it being held out of the market for the present. We quote Laguayra Coffee at 22 cts. net, and Java at 25 cts. per lb. net, but there is very little of either description here.

FLOUR.—Flour is quiet, but the market for it in other respects unchanged. The only sale reported on 'Change was one of 200 bbls. Ohio Extra at $6 per bbl. There has been no movement in Super for a day or two past, but it is held pretty firmly at $5.62½ for Howard Street; $5.50 for Ellicott's City Mills, and we quote Extra do. steady at $5.25@5.50 per bbl. for Ohio and Howard Street, and 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 now selling at $4 25 and we quote Corn Meal steady $3.20@3.25 per bbl. for both Baltimore and Brandywine.

GRAIN.—The receipts of Corn this morning were light as compared with those of yesterday, only about 20,000 bushels being at market. There was however a good demand for it, and it was nearly all sold at 60@62 cts. for new white, 68@70 cts. for old do, 61@63 cts. for new yellow, the bulk of the sales being at 62 cts., and 64@66 cts. for old do. Wheat was quiet but steady at about yesterday's figures, ranging at from 125 to 135 cts. for fair to prime, and white selling at 130@135 cts for fair, 138@142 cts. for good, and 145@148 cts. for prime lots There were only about 7,000 bushels at the market to-day. Of Rye there were some 700 bushels offered, and a lot of 400 bushels Pennsylvania was sold at 75 cts. Oats were a fraction lower to day. Sales were made of 3,000 bushels Maryland at 39 cts., and of 1,000 bushels Pennsylvania at 42 cts.

MOLASSES.—There is a fair inquiry for Molasses, but we hear of no sales to-day. We quote as follows, viz: Cuba at 23@25 cts. for tart clayed, 28@32 cts. for sweet do., and 33@35 cts. for Muscovado; English Island at 32@40 cts; Porto Rico at 34@44 cts; and New Orleans at 55@56 cts. per gallon four months.

PROVISIONS.—Provisions continue very quiet, and for all descriptions the market is heavy as well as dull. We quote Mess Pork at $12@12.50 for Western, Prime do. at $10, and Rump do. at $8@10 per bbl. There is a little inquiry for Bacon, but it is selling only in small lots. We quote as follows, viz: Shoulders at 4¼@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, but there has been no movement in it for a day or two past. 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.

RICE.—We quote Rice at 7@7¾ cts., but there is none selling. There is however hardly any here.

SALT.—Liverpool Salt is now selling in lots at 115 cts. for Ground Alum, and 175 cts. per sack for Marshall's, Worthington's and Jeffrey & Darcy's fine. Turks Island Salt is selling at 25@30 cts. per bushel from store.

SEEDS.—Grass Seeds are dull and heavy. We quote Clover as ranging from $4.37½ to $4.75, the latter figure being however only obtainable for small lots, and Timothy at $2@2.25 per bushel. Flaxseed is still bringing $1.60@1.75 per bushel.

SUGARS.—Sugars are quiet, but the market for them continues very buoyant and firm. We are not advised of any sales to-day but we still quote as follows, viz: Cuba at 5¼@5.25 for refining, and $5.50@9.25 for grocery grades; English Island at $5@5.50; Porto Rico and New Orleans at $5.50@9.75; and Manilla and Pernambuco at $5@4.25.

REFINED SUGARS.—The rates for refined Sugars are now as follows, viz: 11¾@11¾ cts. for loaf; 11¼@11¾ cts. for crushed, powdered and granulated; 10¾@10¾ cts. for soft crushed white; and 10¼@10¾ cts. for C yellow.

WHISKEY.—We note sales to-day of 50 bbls. Ohio Whiskey at 22 cts., and we quote it as closing at this figure. There is no City Whiskey selling. We quote it however at 21¾@22 cts.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—The market for Flour remains without change. The sales have been moderate at $5 25 for common brands Western; fancy brands at $5 50@5.62½; extra at $5.75; and $6.00@7.25 for superior, including choice St Louis. Southern Flour is dull at $7.00@8 75 per bbl. for superior brands Baltimore. Corn is quiet, and the sales have been small at 72 cts. for Southern yellow; 70@71 cts. for Western yellow; and 66@68 cts. per bushel for Western mixed. Oats have been selling at 43@44 cts. per bushel for Western and Canada; and Prince Edward Island at 40 cts. In Rye the sales have been at 83 cts. per bushel. Shorts are selling at $16 50@17.00 per ton; and Fine Feed and Middlings at $18.00@24.00 per ton, as to quality.

PHILADELPHIA CATTLE MARKET, Dec. 23.—The demand for Beef Cattle continues fair, and with light offerings prices are well maintained. At the Avenue Yard, to-day, there were 1,163 head at market, which sold at prices varying from $7 to $8 50 per 100 lbs.

The Beeves were from Ohio and Chester county, and of rather good quality. Cows—50 head sold at from $25 to $40, according to condition. Pigs—at the Avenue Yard 1,850 Hogs, and at Imhoff's 5,779 Hogs, brought prices ranging from $4 50 to $5 per 100 lbs. Sheep—1,600 head at market, and selling at 3½@4½ cts. per lb.

NEW BEDFORD OIL MARKET, Dec 20.—Market remains as noticed last week, with few sales. Sperm, sales 400 bbls. ordinary at $1.25 per gallon; 125 do. sent home from schr. Palmyra, $1.26; 60 do., imported by ship Oneida, $1.26; and 280 do., half head matter, imported by same ship, at a price equal to $1 26—all for manufacturing. In Whale Oil, no inquiry, holders being above the views of buyers; sales 100 bbls., in parcels, at 45 cts. per gallon, for manufacture. In Newport 800 bbls. have been sold for 44 cts. The exports from New York for the week ending 18th inst. included 6,170 gallons Whale Oil and 63,175 lbs. Bone.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Breadstuffs generally dull. Flour dull at $5 37½. Wheat declined 3 cts —white $1.43@1.45; red $1.32@1.35. Corn quiet—old yellow 64 cts.; new 65 cts. Oats dull at 39@40 cts. Provisions quiet—Mess Pork $12.50@13. Coffee advancing. Whiskey dull at 22 cts.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Flour dull, owing to an advance in freights. Wheat ¼ct.@1ct. lower—68¾@69 cts. for No. 1; 63@63½ cts. for No. 2, in store. Corn quiet and easier—mixed, in store, 23 cts. Oats active. Mess Pork in good demand for shipment at $9 37½ for Hogs dressed. Beef Cattle active at $2 30@2 75 for medium prime.

CINCINNATI HOG MARKET, Dec. 21.—Hogs were taken rather more readily, as the packers can now handle them safely if killed since the last change in the weather. The drovers also were rather more easily negotiated with, probably under the influence of pretty full stocks in the pens. The quotations may be given at $3 to $3 20. The outside rate is not considered an evidence of the market, but the true mean for desirable hogs would probably be $3.10. A lot of light weights—150 lbs. average—comprising about 200 head, were sold at $2.75.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Cotton is dull, with sales of 400 bales at 36@38 cts. Wheat—sales of 32,000 bushels at $1.36@1.40 for red. Flour—sales of 13,500 bbls., at $5.25@5.40 for State; $5.80@5.90 for Ohio, and $5.50@5 90 for Southern. Corn is dull, with sales of 55,000 bushels, at 63@64 cts. Beef is steady; the Government contract was awarded at $13.75 for prime, and $14.75 for mess. Whiskey is dull at 19@19¾ cts. Rice is firm. Sugar is firm at 6¾@8¾ cts. Coffee closed buoyant, with sales of 16,000 bags to Government at 20 cts. for Rio. Rosin is buoyant at $5.44@5.62½. Freights are quiet.

CHEESE.
500 boxes prime W. R. CHEESE.
500 do. do. East m cutting do.
1,000 do. do. Western E. D. do.
200 do. do. Eastern " do.
100 cases do. Fine Apple do.
For sale by
J. G. HARVEY & CO.,
p13 tf 75 Exchange Place.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF BALTIMORE, Dec 24.

Arrived.

Steamer Adelaide, Cannon, from Old Point Comfort Va—to M N Falls.

Steamer Henry L Gaw, Iler, Philadelphia—James A Shriver.

Schr A Tirrell, Higgins, from Boston, to Heslen & Rogers—sugar to Dougherty, Woods & Co

Schr Sunny South, Weeks, from New York—mdse to Rose & Lyon

Schr Sarah A Falconer, Tirrell, from New York—mdse to Rose & Lyon

Schr G B Smith, Soper, from New York, to W Rhoads & Son—hay to Jas A Hooper

Schr Jane F Durfee, Davis, from New York—stores for Government

Schr Sarah Fisher, Edwards, from Philadelphia—coal to W Rhoads & Son

Schr Geo Twiffe, Miller, from Philadelphia—coal to W Rhoads & Son

Schr Ida V McCabe, Pickup, from Philadelphia—coal to W Rhoads & Son

Schr E J Pickup, Pickup, from Philadelphia—coal to W Rhoads & Son.

Cleared.

Steamer Adelaide, Edgar, Old Point Comfort, Va—M N Falls

Steamer Henry L Gaw, Iler, Philadelphia—James A Shriver.

Steamer Mary Washington, Weems, Patuxent river

Brig Virginia, Card, Boston, via Choptank river—master

Schr Alma Olden, Conery, Bluehill, Me—C M Jackson & Co

Schr C M Nelvins, Hawkins, New York—Rose & Lyon

Schr Havalil, Bogert, do

Schr Marmaduke, Cathcart, do—Kelsey & Gray

Schr L Lank, Boyce, Concord, Del

Schr Cuba, Barnes, Accomac, Va

Schr George L Gladson, Cherrystone, do

Schr Mary Eliza, Brooks, Somerset Co, Md

Schr Native American, Day, do

Schr Pampero, Thomas, do

Schr W F Washington, Gosley, do

Schr Iowa, Sims, Potomac river

Schr Monokin, Hooper, Herring Bay

Schr J M and A J Foxwell, St Mary's

Schr Majestic, Pickering, Vienna

Schr Alfd, Russell, do

Schr J K Lewis, Murphy, do

Schr James Buchanan, Cullen, Deals Island

Schr Fashion, Hoffman, Pongoteague

Arrivals from Baltimore.

Ship John Clark, Ictournan, Liverpool, — inst.

"James & Ellen," Cork, — inst.

Schr Petrel, Robinson, New Bedford, 20th inst.

Clearances for Baltimore

Schr S B Wheeler, McLaughlin, Boston, 21st inst.

Schr Juniatta Patten, Parker, Belfast, 12th.

Schr Josephus & Edwin, Collin, Philadelphia, 21st.

Schr Melinda, Tolley, Philadelphia, 21st.

Memoranda.

Capt Albert League, of steamtug Lioness, at Annapolis, came up on Monday evening and reports off Sandy Point Shooting Star, from Liverpool via Sandy Hook.

Ship Castilla, Stafford, for Liverpool, sailed from New York, 21st inst.

Schr Henry May, Hoover, for Fortress Monroe, cleared at Boston, 21st inst.

Brig Alice Gray, (Br) King, hence for Kingston, Jam, went to sea 22d inst.

Same day there were three ships and two barks beating through the channel into the bay from the capes, bound to this port—Per pilot boat Invincible.

Ship Ellen Stewart, Coffin, for London, sailed fm Philadelphia, 21st inst.

Eastern Ports.

NEW YORK, December 23—Arr bark Xanthe, Aspinwall; Eliza Barss, Bermuda; brigs Miladi, Havana; Nellie Moore, St Thomas; Conflict, St Kitts; schrs A E Barnes, St Johns, P R; Brigand, Malaga.——Cld ships F B Cutting, Liverpool; Salem, Bristol, Eng; brigs Leonora; Trinidad; Josiah Jex, Sagua; schr Karbec, Nuevitas.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—Arr ship Tonawanda, Liverpool; schr D M Richards, Fortress Monroe.——Cld ships Crimea, London; Holyhead, Liverpool; brig Nathan, Trinidad; schrs Lucy I. Sharp, Key West; H R Coggshel, Fortress Monroe; Eagle, do; R G Whilden, do.

BOSTON, December 21.—Noon—Cld barks Armenia, Constantinople; Arctic, Valparaiso; schrs Helen F, St Thomas; L G Curtis, Deals Island, Md.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS

FROM THE UNITED STATES

Names	Leave	Date	For
Congress.....	New York.....	Dec 18	Havre & Ant
St Andrew.....	New York.....	Dec 21	Glasgow

FROM EUROPE.

Names	Leaves	Date	For
Congress.....	Havre.....	Nov 29	New York
St Andrew.....	Glasgow.....	Nov 23	New York
Kangaroo.....	Liverpool.....	Nov 27	New York
Borussia.....	Southampton.	Nov 27	New York
Anglo Saxon.....	Liverpool.....	Nov 28	Portland
City of New York..	Liverpool.....	Dec 4	New York
Australasian.....	Liverpool.....	Dec 7	New York

FOR CALIFORNIA

Names	Leave	Date	For
Champion.....	New York.....	Dec 21	Aspinwa
North Star.....	New York.....	Jan 1	Aspinwa

THE LOUISVILLE JOURNAL ON THE ABOLITION MEASURES BEFORE CONGRESS.

The Louisville *Journal* of the 19th inst. has a just and forcible article upon Senator Wilson's bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, and upon the other Abolition schemes pending in that body. It says:

"The whole brood of Abolition measures brought out before Congress should be 'scotched' and 'killed' on the spot. As sure as they are, they will live, so surely will they fasten their fangs to the country's heart. The pretext that any one of these measures is calculated to promote the object of the war in either of the two great stages of that object is nothing short of absurd. Every action or word of the authorities, military or civil, even smacking of Abolitionism, makes the rebellion more hard to deal with and the re-establishment of the Government more embarrassing, because, as we have already noticed, it tends to strengthen the belief which gave rise immediately to the rebellion, and that alone supports it. This view commends assent without proof. It is axiomatic. Whence it follows that the avowed ground on which these measures are urged is a sheer pretexts; the real ground is a desire to destroy slavery without regard to the preservation of the country. Let the real ground be stripped of its disguise and be made to stand forth in its own colors. When this shall be done we have the most unwavering confidence that the measures based thereon will be nobly spurned by the representatives of the people.

"And it will be done. We see with satisfaction that one of the Kentucky delegation has already performed the needful task in the House. He will be followed by others, not only from the loyal South, but from the loyal North as well, until the atrocious and destructive character of the measures in question shall be exhibited so nakedly as to cause even their fanatical authors to recoil from the exhibition. Abolitionism can not successfully rear its head in any guise in the American Congress at such an awful crises as this. It is impossible.—The very attempt is sacrilege. The Abolitionists have no claim to dictate measures for the healing of the enormous gash on the fair body of our country. They are parties to the murderous blow. They are the Confederates of the North. What right have they to lay their parricidal hands upon the bleeding country? As well might an assassin be suffered to probe with his reeking dagger the wound he had inflicted. Let Abolitionists stand aside. Let them retire into the background. Those of them who honestly love their country will retire of their own accord. The traitors should be made to retire. The retirement of Warren or of Lafayette is not too deep for them."

LETTER FROM THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE.—Thomas D'Arcy McGee declined to speak at a festival of the New England Society at Montreal a few weeks ago, and in a letter just published, he states his reasons therefor, from which we extract such portions as are of general interest at the present time. He writes:

"I declare most absolutely, and it is well the opponents of Canada should know the fact in time, that the Irish inhabitants of this province will be found embattled as one man in defence of the Canadian constitution and the imperial connection. To those who do not know Canada—who do not know the ample freedom we enjoy, social, civil and religious; who do not know how many institutions sacred to an Irishman's worship, and dear to an Irishman's sense of equality, are found flourishing on this soil, the declaration I have made may seem doubtful or exaggerated. But I repeat, solemnly and most absolutely, that I know what I say to be the literal and exact truth. There is hardly a group of Irish settlers in Upper or Lower Canada that I have not personally visited during the last four or five years. There is not a man of note amongst them, layman or cleric, that I have not met, and I declare that I have yet to meet the first man of all those bodies and orders of men, who does not frankly and loyally prefer our Canadian institutions to those of the United States. Formerly, I believe, it was different with many among them, (as I own it was some years ago with myself); but since the era of 'the Know-Nothing' movement, the last vestige of political preference for the United States has disappeared among the Irish here. There is, and I think there ought to be, a warm good will toward the Federal cause in its integrity; there is a natural interest felt in the Irish contingent in the Federal army; there is a keen and exquisitely painful sense that a war on our frontier with the Northern States would be for the Irish, in truth, a fratricidal war; but for all this no Irishman in Canada will hold back from the defence of his own soil; and if other Irishmen—misled by false reports of our discontent—should come here as invaders, their blood be upon their own heads, not on ours!"

THE ENGLISH IRON-CLAD FRIGATES.—Four new iron-clad ships are building in England for the British Navy—the Minotaur, Achilles, Captain and Northumberland. With the greatest possible haste it will be at least twenty months before they can be put afloat, and at least six months longer before they can be put in commission. They are each 400 feet long, fifty-nine and a half feet broad, and with tonnage of 6,815. The iron coating is to be six and a half inches thick, backed up with ten inches teak, and half an inch of iron inside all. These outer plates will weigh 2,000 tons for each vessel—an enormous mass for a ship to carry in addition to her ponderous engines, stores, guns, shot and shell. Each vessel is estimated to cost £600,000, or $3,000,000. They are not only to be steam frigates but steam rams also, for their bows project beneath the water twenty feet in advance of the apparent bows above. The sides slope inwards from the water's edge at an incline of one foot in eight and a half. The advantage is that shot will easily glance off, and the cargo will necessarily be nearer the centre of the hold, and diminish the tendency of the vessel to roll. The armament for each is to be 36 100-pounder Armstrong guns on the main-deck, and 21 of the same on the spar-deck, with two 200-pounders in the bows and a pivot gun of the same size in the stern. They will thus be enabled at a single broadside to throw a ton and a half of shot and shell to a distance of nearly five miles if necessary. The Warrior is 380 feet long, 58 feet broad, and 6,170 tonnage. Her plates are four and a half inches thick, and weigh 950 tons. The inclination of her sides inward is one foot in thirteen. Two old English wooden ships are also being plated with iron, but all authorities agree that they cannot last over ten years.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM GEN. BANKS' COMMAND.

Execution of Lanaghan for the Murder of Major Lewis

FREDERICK, Dec. 23.—The approval of the sentence of court-martial in the case of Lanaghan for murder, the order for his execution, and the date thereof, was forwarded by General McClellan on Thursday last, requiring from General Banks only to name the place and the hour. The gallows was planned and erected by a carpenter from Baltimore, who has had experience in such matters.

The circumstances of the murder were as follows: The Forty sixth Pennsylvania was on it way from Washington to Pleasant Hill. At Rockville several of the soldiers procured liquor and became intoxicated. At Muddy Branch, Lanaghan, being under the influence of liquor, had a quarrel, and Major Lewis ordered him to be tied to the rear of a wagon. During the progress of march Lanaghan got untied, and, taking a loaded musket from one of his comrades, swore he would shoot the Major. The latter, being in advance, heard of his release and rode to the rear, where he met Lanaghan and ordered him to give up the gun. Lanaghan took aim and shot Major Lewis through the heart as he was in the act of dismounting.

During his confinement, before and after the trial, your correspondent had free access to the prisoner, and paid him frequent visits. From the first he was calm and resigned to his fate, being fully sensible of the enormity of his crime, and equally willing to expiate it by his death. By the kind ministrations of Father Dougherty, of Rockville, he embraced the promises of the Saviour and professed assurances that he would be forgiven in Heaven.

I visited him an hour before his execution. His confessor was with him. On my entering he advanced, with cheerful smile upon his face, and reached out his manacled right hand.

Lanaghan—Good morning, Mr. ——; I am glad to see you. You have not been here for a long time.

Correspondent—I have been absent on the Upper Potomac for several days.

Lanaghan—I thought you were away. [Smilingly.] My hour has come.

Correspondent—So I am sorry to hear, John. I wish it could have been otherwise. Are you all right here? (placing my hand on his heart.)

Lanaghan—By the love of God I am. I am not sorry to die now. I owe it to God and man, and cannot be better prepared. Death is only a change from one state to another, and takes but a moment.

Correspondent—Is there anything you wish to say to the world through the press?

Lanaghan—But very little. I committed the murder and am willing to die for it. Say to the people I pray for peace. Tell the soldiers to abstain from liquor. I pray for them as I hope they do for me. I die in peace.

After requesting me to be present at the execution, I bade him a final adieu. During the whole interview he spoke in a firm but subdued tone. Not a muscle or nerve quivered, but a cheerful smile at times lit up his countenance. The beauties of religion and repentance never were more beautifully developed than on this occasion.

At noon Lanaghan was placed in a covered wagon, with his spiritual adviser and his coffin. He walked out with a firm step, and took his seat with but slight assistance. The procession was formed as follows:

The Provost Marshal and Ass't Provost Marshal.
Band of the Wisconsin Third.
A Platoon of the Provost Guard.
Wagon with the Prisoner and Priest.
Platoon of the Provost Guard.
Hack with the Executioner in Disguise.
The Wisconsin Third.

The Third Brigade, General Williams, to which Lanaghan's regiment is attached, was upon the ground. Lanaghan viewed the preparations with not the slightest apparent emotion, and ascended the scaffold with an unfaltering step.

The Adjutant of the Provost Marshal read aloud the charges and specifications on which he was tried; the finding and sentence of the Court-Martial; the approval and the order for his execution by the Commander-in Chief. The priest then repeated a brief prayer. The Assistant Provost Marshal inquired if he had anything to say. He replied: "No; I have nothing to say. I am ready to die."

The cap was drawn over his face and the rope adjusted on his neck by the executioner. Those on the platform then descended, and on the signal by the Provost Marshal, the executioner pulled the spring and the drop fell. A slight contraction of the muscles of the arms and legs was the only motion that indicated the departure of life. His neck was broken. A calm was his death, and so systematically had all the arrangements been perfected and executed, that the solemn scene was divested of all unnecessary horror. One moment after the execution, and particularly at the solemn moment, the heavens seemed waging war upon the earth. A freezing wind, with snow and hail, chilled the bodies and almost blinded the eyes of all present.

Lanaghan's body was taken charge of by his Catholic friends, to await the arrival of his relatives.

FREDERICK, Dec. 22.—Captain Howe's battery, Company G, Fourth Artillery, leave here this morning for Washington.

Captain Best's battery, Company F, Fourth Artillery, have returned from Williamsport.

At last report from Williamsport everything was quiet in that region. The weight of ice upon the wires has broken them, and just at this moment we are without telegraphic communication.

Two 10-pounder Parrott guns have been added to Gen. Banks' artillery force.

Another company has just been added to the Nineteenth New York, recently transformed from Infantry into an Artillery regiment. There are now eight companies of this regiment in camp here, and 150 men under Captain Kennedy at Washington, awaiting their equipment.

The Catoctin and Blue Ridge are covered with a slight coat of snow this morning.

Confirmation of Appointments by the President.

WASHINGTON, December 24.—The Senate has confirmed the following appointments of the President:

Consul at Port Louis, Isle of France—Thomas Sparkland, New York.

Consul at Toronto—Albert J. Dezeyk, Iowa.

Consul at Martinique—Andrew J. Caruthers, D. C.

Consul at Manzanilla—Robert Haley, California.

Governor of Washington Territory—William Pickering, of Illinois.

Register of Public Lands at Neosho—Francis A. Bryan, of Wisconsin.

Receiver of Public Moneys at Springfield, Illinois—George N. Black.

Receiver at Otter Trail City, Minnesota—James B. Mills.

Receiver at Bayfield, Wisconsin—Asaph Whitlesey.

Register at Chillicothe, Ohio—Robert B. McDougal.

Register at Springfield, Illinois—Wm. F. Elkin.

Brigadier-General of Volunteers—James H. Lane, of Kansas.

Postmasters—Joseph E. Wilbur at Taunton, and Edwin Shaw at Fall River, Massachusetts.

Military Confirmations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The Senate, in Executive session to day, confirmed a large number of Surgeons in the Army—and many appointments in that branch of the service were received and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The Recent Skirmish at New Market Bridge—Ten Confederates Killed.

FORTRESS MONROE, December 23.—The skirmish of yesterday was only a slight affair. Two companies of the 20th New York regiment started for Newport News at 9 A. M., and proceeded to New Market Bridge to look for a man who had been lost on the road on the day previous, as we hear.—While near the bridge they found themselves surrounded by Confederate cavalry and infantry numbering seven hundred men, but succeeded in cutting their way out without loss. Reinforcements were sent for to Camp Hamilton and the remainder of the regiment was sent forward. The Naval Brigade under command of Colonel Wardrop was also under arms and proceeded as far as Hampton Bridge. Four companies of the cavalry were also ordered out but their services were not required.

Six of the 20th regiment were slightly wounded. Ten of the enemy are known to have been killed and a number wounded. Seven dead bodies were found this morning. One was that of an officer, and was taken to Newport News. He wore buttons lettered "A. M. M." (signifying, probably, "Alabama Minute Men"), and his name is supposed to have been John Hawkins.

It is reported that a whole company of negroes were engaged in the skirmish on the Confederate side, and two of our men are known to have been shot by them.

Gen. Mansfield and Acting Brigadier-General Weber highly complimented the troops engaged, for their coolness and bravery.

The bark Island City arrived here last night from Boston, with two hundred and forty-nine prisoners of war released from Fort Warren, who they can be put in commission. They are each 400 feet long, fifty-nine and a half feet broad, and with tonnage of 6,815. The iron coating is to be six and a half inches thick, backed up with ten inches teak, and half an inch of iron inside all. These outer plates will weigh 2,000 tons for each vessel—an enormous mass for a ship to carry in addition to her ponderous engines, stores, guns, shot and shell. Each vessel is estimated to cost £600,000, or $3,000,000. They are not only to be steam frigates but steam rams also, for their bows project beneath the water twenty feet in advance of the apparent bows above. The sides slope inwards from the water's edge at an incline of one foot in eight and a half. The advantage is that shot will easily glance off, and the cargo will necessarily be nearer the centre of the hold, and diminish the tendency of the vessel to roll. The armament for each is to be 36 100-pounder Armstrong guns on the main-deck, and 21 of the same on the spar-deck, with two 200-pounders in the bows and a pivot gun of the same size in the stern. They will thus be enabled at a single broadside to throw a ton and a half of shot and shell to a distance of nearly five miles if necessary. The Warrior is 380 feet long, 58 feet broad, and 6,170 tonnage. Her plates are four and a half inches thick, and weigh 950 tons. The inclination of her sides inward is one foot in thirteen. Two old English wooden ships are also being plated with iron, but all authorities agree that they cannot last over ten years.

FROM MISSOURI.

WARRENTOWN, Mo., Dec. 23.—The destruction of the North Missouri Railroad is complete, as was at first stated. At short distances all the way from here to Hudson the track is torn up, the ties burned and the rails broken or bent so as to be useless. Wellsburg Station was burned, with all its contents. The large bridge over Davis' Fork, on Salt river, west of the town of Mexico, and the bridge crossing Quiver river, were burned, and all the culverts either burned or torn down, and cars of all kinds destroyed.

Who the parties were that engaged in this work of wholesale destruction is not known, but it is stated that the inhabitants along the line say no repairs can be made except where the road is guarded by Federal troops. An extra from the *Army Argus* office has been in circulation for two days, which says "the day of retribution is at hand," and that nine thousand men who have been under Price's command are now north of the Missouri river, and more are coming.

General Pope's Operations at Lexington—Destruction of Confederate Boats and Foundry.

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—Despatches received at headquarters this morning say that the command sent to Lexington by General Pope has succeeded in burning two ferry-boats and the cannon foundry, and captured two Captains, one Lieutenant, four men and several horses.

Important Personages among the Big Haul of Confederates.

OTTERVILLE, Mo., December 23.—Part of the prisoners captured by General Pope at Black Water last Thursday, passed down last night on a special train. Among those sent down are Colonel Magoffin, brother of Governor Magoffin of Kentucky; Colonel Robinson, who had command of the Confederate force at Black Water, and who was in the battles of Dug Springs, Wilson's Creek and Lexington; Col. Alexander, who says he fought in all the battles; Lieut. Col. Robinson, Major Harris, Dr. Smith, one of the wealthiest men and largest slaveholders in Missouri, who has done everything in his power to aid and comfort the enemy; McKeen, sheriff of Benton county, who, it is said, by misrepresentation, gained admittance into one of our camps, made a diagram of it, and left that night—(the Confederates made an attack and killed sixteen or seventeen of our men); Dr. Moore, of Syracuse, and many others, who have gained notoriety by their zeal and labors in the Secession army.

Many of the prisoners wore a kind of uniform, and have served with Gen. Price for several months. They all say they have been well treated by the Unionists, and seem to think they will soon be released by Gen. Price. The wagons, horses, and mules, were turned over to the Quartermaster at Sedalia.

The troops are again in position at Lawrence. We were absent on this expedition just five days. In this time we marched about two days in a direct line from this place, and scoured the country through which we passed for a distance of 40 or 50 miles on each side of the route, taking about 1,500 prisoners, 1,000 horses and mules, 1,000 stand of arms, 100 wagons, and a quantity of stores, supplies and clothing.

Gen. Pope has received the following despatch from Gen. Halleck:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, } December 20, 1861.

To Gen. John Pope:—I congratulate your command on the brilliant success of your expedition. I hope it will be the forerunner of still greater successes.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General Commanding.

This prompt appreciation of their labors and frank acknowledgment of their services by Gen. Halleck, has completed the happiness of the officers and men of this command, and they will move off with alacrity whenever they are ordered out on another expedition, and will do everything in their power to deserve the commendation of the General commanding.

FROM KENTUCKY.

FRANKFORT, Dec. 23.—We have no tidings from Somerset of the expected army movements. Wm. C. Anderson, ex-member of Congress, died yesterday at Frankfort. Governor Magoffin has signed all the bills passed by the Legislature.

Movements of Troops—Eight Traitors Expelled from the Kentucky Legislature.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec 22.—Passengers from below report that everything is quiet there. They confirm the recent rumor of the Confederates tearing up the railway tracks between Green River and Bowling Green.

The Confederates engaged at the late Mumfordsville fight were three skeleton regiments, numbering in the aggregate fourteen hundred men. The Federal forces was three hundred and seventy, and was led by Lieutenant-Colonel Von Trebra, and not by Colonel Poe, as reported. The forces of General Schoepff still remain in their former position, and no immediate engagement is expected.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—A despatch to the *Commercial* from Frankfort, Ky., says that the Kentucky House of Representatives have expelled eight members, viz: Daniel Matthewson, A. R. Boone, G. H. Silvertooth, G. R. Morrill, G. W. Ewing, J. C. Gilbert and J. A. King. In the Kentucky Senate a committee had recommended the expulsion of J. M. Johnson for the same cause.

The Federal Prisoners at the Charleston Fire Escape from the Jail.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—Lieutenant Hurd, of the Second Maine Cavalry, arrived at New York yesterday, having escaped from the Charleston jail during the recent conflagration. He says that four hundred prisoners were confined in the jail when the fire spread to that building. Colonel Corcoran was the first to leap from the window, followed by all the prisoners. Many were re-taken, whilst others made good off in the direction of Beaufort.

Lieutenant Hurd was recaptured and confined in Castle Pinckney, but subsequently sent to Richmond and released, and then taken to Fortress Monroe under a flag of truce.

[*Note.*—The jail is in the northern section of the city, and was supposed to have been entirely out of the range of the conflagration. Its locality is fully three-quarters of a mile from the point where the fire commenced, and nearly a mile, in a southerly direction, from the point on New street where the fire ended.—*Rep.*]

Interesting from Oregon—Destructive Freshets.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec.