THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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TERMS

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TO THE PUBLIC.

THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET will be issued daily from the office formerly occupied by the *Daily Exchange*, and will be, as its name implies, simply a "News Sheet." It will furnish the latest intelligence as derived from the despatches of the Associated Press, by which it will be supplied in common with the New York journals; from its exchanges, and from such reliable private sources of information as it may be able to command. Expressing itself no opinions, it will devote its editorial columns to such extracts from other journals as may be deemed of interest to the public.

BALTIMORE.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14 1862.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate a bill was reported in favor of the payment of claims for French spoliations prior to 1800, but with the recommendation that further action be postponed until next session. A bill was also reported appropriating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to complete the defences of Washington. After some discussion the bill was postponed until to-day. The favorable report of the Committee on the Judiciary, in the case of Senator Bright, of Indiana, was made the order of the day for Thursday next. A resolution was introduced instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of raising a revenue of two hundred millions of dollars by direct tax, and to authorize the issue of two hundred millions of Tressury notes having five years to run, and eight hundred millions for thirty years. It was laid over. A bill was ordered to be printed which authorizes the issue of one hundred millions of Treasury notes, to run for five years, and proposing a direct tax of ten millions. The sutlers' bill again came up for discussion, but was subsequently laid over informally. The report of the Committee on the Judiciary, on the contested seat of Mr. Lane, of Kansas, was debated at some length, but no decision was reached when the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Stevens reported an appropriation bill for the support of the army until the 30th of June, 1862. The civil appropriation bill being called, Mr. Dawes continued his speech upon the same, and drew a striking picture of the wasteful extravagance which had been displayed in the expenditures in every Department of the Government. He declared it to be impossible for the Treasury to sustain this exhausting process for sixty days longer, and that an ignominious peace must be submitted to unless the credit of the country is sustained by the popular conviction that the Government is ready to treat as traitors, not only the enemy in the field, but also the organized corps of plunderers who deliberately suck the life blood of the Treasury.

There was nothing of importance done in the State Legislature yesterday.

A correspondent, writing from St. Louis under date of January 9th, states that a fight had taken place near Springfield, Missouri, between four regiments of Federal troops, supposed to have been commanded by Colonel Carr, and a superior force of Confederates, forming part of the army of Price. From six to eight hundred of the Federal troops were either killed or wounded, and the remainder taken prisoners. From Frederick we have also a letter giving further particulars of the retreat of the Federal troops from Bath, in Hampshire county, and their flight across the Potomac, leaving behind them two guns, forming a section of Best's battery, and all their baggage, tents and stores. The letter confirms, in many particulars, the account we previously gave of the affair. It is currently rumored at Washington, and generally believed, that Mr. Cameron has resigned his portfolio as Secretary of War, and that Mr. Stanton, of Ohio, has been nominated as his successor.

The Burnside Expedition seems to have slipped away quietly from Norfolk and to have gone no one knows exactly whither. The Associated Press' despatch from Fortress Monroe states that Norfolk is now generally supposed to be the point of destination, and that it is understood that the troops will be landed at several places, all bearing upon one particular point. As the steamer Spaulding is to be the flag-ship of the expedition, and as she is now loading at Fortress Monroe for Hatteras, it would appear to be certain that a portion, if not all, of the troops engaged in the expedition are to be landed somewhere on the shores of Pamlico Sound, and perhaps may attempt to take also possession of Roanoke Island, as a base for operations upon lower Virginia and North Carolina.

There are many rumors afloat in regard to the recent doings of the Confederates under General Jackson on the upper Potomac. A telegram from Hancock, dated yesterday, has it that Jackson, after threatening Romney with eighteen thousand men, fell back in the direction of Winchester.—Later advices from the upper Potomac place it beyond a doubt, that General Lander, fearing an attack from the Confederates under Jackson, has evacuated Romney and re-crossed the Potomac to the Maryland shore.

The voters of Genoa county, Ohio, without reference to party, have held a public meeting, and adopted a petition to the Ohio Legislature praying the passage of a law prohibiting negroes from emigrating into, settling, or holding property in the State, and also asking, if the act be constitutional; that the negroes now in Ohio be removed beyond the limits of the State.

If General McClellan really desired to advance on the centre, the condition of the roads across the Potomac is said to be such as to preclude the possibility of doing so. They are pithily described as "mud every where, and deep mud too."

Doctor Cheever has been permitted to preach a rabid anti-slavery sermon in the House of Representatives, and to assail Mr. Lincoln as the modern Pharoah who kept God's people—in bondage and "brought plagues of frogs, lice and fire on the land."

There is trouble existing between the Government and the Associated Banks. The latter have proposed through a Special Committee, a scheme of finance which neither finds favor with Mr. Chase nor with the Congressional Committee. The probable consequence of this rupture will be the entire separation of the banks from the financial policy of the Government—and perhaps, a contest between the latter and the moneyed interest of the country.

General Butler's projected expedition has been abandoned. The regiments under his command that had already been embarked on board the Constitution were subsequently ordered to be sent to Fortress Monroe, to reinforce, in all probability, the Burnside expedition.

THE DEATH OF MR. FRANCIS TODD, of Newburyport, Mass., was announced, last month, at the age of 83. Mr. Todd was, we believe, a worthy man in the ordinary relations of life, beloved, do doubt, by his friends, and respected by his fellow-citizens. A singular act of his life, however, gives his name a place in history; but for which he would never have been heard of beyond his narrow world of Newburyport. Thirty years ago, while Mr. Todd was an influential citizen and a prosperous merchant of large means, another native of Newburyport, who had struggled along with little aid and against many obstacles, poor and unknown, was at work as a printer in Baltimore. His name was Garrison. In 1830, he became associated with Benjamin Lundy in conducting a little dingy sheet called *The Genius of Universal Emancipation*, a paper representing the anti-slavery party of that day. It happened that the ship Francis, of Newburyport, came to Baltimore, where she took on board a cargo of slaves for New Orleans and a market. Whether it was that Garrison was moved by the fact that the ship, engaged in such infamous business, came from his native town, or whether because for that reason it came specially to his knowledge, he denounced it as "domestic piracy," add declared that he would "cover with thick infamy" all concerned in it. But the great Newburyport merchant was not disposed to submit to such critieism upon his conduct, and thereupon he brought an action of libel against the young printer; and, although it was shown by the Custom-House returns that the Francis was engaged in the domestic slave trade, and carried more slaves than Garrison had asserted, yet a Baltimore jury found him guilty of libel in denouncing such business as infamous and piratical, and in default of payment of a fine of $50 and costs of Court, he was committed to jail. Here he remained 49 days, till Arthur Tappan, of New York, hearing of the case, paid fine and costs, and released him. But this did not satisfy Todd. He brought a civil suit against Garrison, and obtained a verdict of $1,000 against him. As he probably only wanted to establish the fact that to engage in the domestic slave trade was perfectly honorable, and that his own character was unsullied, the damages of $1,000 were never exacted. So Mr. Todd takes his niche in history.—*New York Tribune.*

THE SKIRMISH AT HANCOCK.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

FREDERICK CITY, Jan. 13th.

Allow me to add a few items to your account of the late demonstration of the Confederates upon Bath and Hancock—an account more truthful than any which I have yet seen published.

The statement which is here made was obtained from men and officers in Virginia, who were engaged in the enterprise, and is strictly correct, though received through a source which it is not necessary to name.

The Confederates were led by General Jackson, and numbered about 5,000 men. It was intended to surprise the Federal troops at Bath, and for this purpose General Jackson's forces approached the town in two divisions, in different directions, and would have been entirely successful had not two men of the neighborhood found out their coming, and given warning to the Federal troops. These two men were subsequently arrested, and are now in the Martinsburg jail, to be dealt with as may seem best, and as their crime, in the opinion of the Confederates, deserves. As it was, the Federal troops, an Illinois regiment, one company of artillerymen, in command of one section, two cannon, of Captain Best's battery, and Captain Russel's cavalry company, beat a hasty retreat and fled rapidly towards Hancock and the Potomac, hotly pursued by the Confederates. The result of it was that the Confederates took seventeen prisoners, all of Captain Russel's tents, equipage, sutler's stores, a large quantity of overcoats, blankets, the two pieces of brass cannon, and on the railroad two car loads of sugar, salt, and coffee.—Not a man was killed on the Confederate side, notwithstanding the report that a number of their saddles were emptied. What was the number of Federal troops killed and wounded my informant did not ascertain. But the flight of the Federal troops is said to have been precipitate and wild.—The capture of the two cannon is a fixed fact, the four remaining pieces being in General Banks' column, under Captain Best. The Confederates then destroyed the railroad for a number of miles, with bridges and the telegraph. The above is from high authority and may be relied upon. The person from whom these facts are obtained, and who speaks from his own observation, was astonished to see such unanimity prevailing in Jefferson and Berkeley counties. All of the necessities of life were abundant; the troops were armed well, clothed in warm dark home-spun, with excellent boots; salt was somewhat high but getting more plenty—the scarcity originating from their extreme distance from all means of transportation. The railroad between Winchester and Strausburg was being rapidly laid and would be done in a few weeks.—The spirit of the troops was indomitable; extermination and death being preferred to conquest, of which they had not the most remote idea. They look upon Maryland with kindly feelings. NEMO.

EVACUATION OF ROMNEY BY THE FEDERAL TROOPS.

They Retreat into Maryland—The Bath Affair.

NEAR HANCOCK, Jan. 12.—Advices have been received here of the evacuation of Romney, on Friday last, by the Federal troops under General Lander, and their retirement to the neighborhood of Patterson's Creek, on the Maryland side of the Potomac. Their retreat was occasioned by apprehensions of an attack by General Jackson, whose force was represented to be very large. It is said General Lander carried all his supplies and artillery with him.

The retreat of the Federal troops from Bath, on the 5th instant, was most precipitate and disorderly. They left, it is said, 83 wagons, some of them loaded with supplies, and quantities of blankets, knapsacks and military and sutlers' stores — Several of the soldiers were drowned in the Potomac.

FROM MISSOURI.

Four Regiments of Federal Troops Killed, Wounded and Taken Prisoners, near Springfield.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 9, 1862.

I have just learned, from a source that is strictly worthy of credence, that four regiments of Federal troops, which were sent out some days since, under Colonel Carr—I think—to co operate with another force, in capturing General Price and his men, have had the tables turned upon them, and have been themselves badly cut up and taken prisoners. When near Springfield, where General Price now is, they encountered a small force of Southern troops, which they engaged, with the full assurance of being able to whip them. Whilst engaged in this patriotic pastime they became suddenly aware of the fact that this force had been thrown forward as a decoy merely; and that they were being attacked on all sides by a superior force of the Confederates, who mowed them down with their murderous volleys. The contest lasted but a short time, though long enough for them to lose from six to eight hundred of their men in killed and wounded, when the rest surrendered. This news reached here to-day, the despatch from Rolla having been received at the *Republican* office, though no mention is made of it in the afternoon edition of that paper. You may rely upon the correctness of this intelligence, as the source from which it is obtained is perfectly trustworthy. X.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Resignation of Secretary Cameron---Mr. Stanton Nominated in his Place---Episcopal Service in Alexandria.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1862.

The city was somewhat taken by surprise this morning by the announcement that the Hon. Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, had resigned. At first many persons would not credit the rumor, but it turned out to be true. During the day, the President sent to the Senate for confirmation the name of Edward M. Stanton as his successor. Mr. S. was for a short time previous to the expiration of Mr. Buchanan's term of office, Attorney General.

The Episcopal Church at Alexandria, known as St. Paul's, was opened yesterday for the first time since May last. General Montgomery, the military governor of the place, attended by invitation of the Rev. G. A. Smith. The sermon was very eloquent, and was listened to by a large congregation. What is most remarkable, particularly within the lines of the Union army, is the fact that the prayer for the President of the United States was omitted from the service. The occurrence has occasioned considerable talk both in Alexandria and Washington.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT—THE BALTIMORE REMOVED CASES—DESTRUCTIVE FIRE—RETURN OF ABSCONDING SLAVES, ETC.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 13.

The adjourned term of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel county convened to-day for the purpose principally of disposing of the removed criminal cases from Baltimore city, some of which are for the highest crime known to the law, consequently a great number of passengers came down from the city in the steamer.

Among the passengers on the Champion were Lieutenants Wells and Renshaw, and Johnson, master of the English war steamer Immortalite, now anchored off this port. The Champion, before entering Severn river, signalled the Immortalite for her officers to send a boat alongside and take the above officers aboard; but at the time a stiff breeze prevailed, and the boat was not lowered from the English ship.

The attention of the Court to-day was engaged until one o'clock in transacting civil cases, originating in this county. Messrs. Brent, Whitney, Poe and Thomas, of the Baltimore city Bar, were present, but none of their cases were taken up, and the Court, after consenting to take up the removed cases on Wednesday or the day following, adjurned until to-morrow morning.

The barn, five mules, two horses, twenty-three barrels of corn, together with a large quantity of provender and farming implements, the property of Mr. Frederick Cowman, residing near this city, were consumed by fire some few nights since. The loss is estimated at $3,000. The fire was no doubt the work of an incendiary.

Mrs. Mayo, widow of Thomas Mayo, residing in this county, a few months since had two slave men to abscond; one went with the military to Washington, and the other to New York city. They have both since returned; the latter arriving at his old home on Saturday. They represent they were induced by the troops to follow them, with the promise of their freedom, and the one who went to Washington was to receive $15 per month and found. When there he was badly treated, and received no pay. Their clothing was almost entirely worn out, and they presented a destitute appearance.

The person of Alina Wineberg, a little child from six to seven years of age, was outraged a few evenings since by a private in the 51st New York regiment, named Rice. It is alleged that he caught her on her way to the Catholic Institute, in the rear of the city, and took her in his arms, placed her in a small battoaux, and crossed Spaw creek, where he detained her all night, endeavoring to accomplish his designs. She is now lying dangerously ill, and he is confined in jail.

"UNCLE TOM."—A correspondent of the Newburyport *Herald*, writing from Rockville, Md., says that "Uncle Tom," the hero of Mrs. Stowe's famous cabin romance, was owned in Rockville, and that a part of his family are still owned there, by one of the ladies, who acknowledges herself to be a Secessionist, and an admirer of Jeff. Davis.

The Naples correspondent of the London *Times* describes a visit he paid to Torre del Greco, on the 12th ult. "The place has," he says, "become what Pompeii was after the earthquake; two and twenty thousand persons had been driven from their dwellings in a night, while all the signs of recent life and of hurried escape met one at every glance."

The indisposition of Madame Goldschmidt (Jenny Lind) is said to be the chief reason for the discontinuance of a series of concerts in which she was the principal vocalist.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

A Confederate Agent to England.

TEMPTING FOOD FOR THE BRITISH LION.

The Mobile *Register* has received from London a copy of a letter addressed to Lord John Russell by the Hon. T. Butler King, a Confederate agent, who has been in Europe for several months. The *Register* says of the letter:—

It is an argument addressed to the commercial and manufacturing interests of the British nation, showing how the unparalleled industrial and financial prosperity of the North has been built up upon Southern agriculture, a Southern market monopolized, and favoring Federal legislation. All this prosperity, counted by millions, is, says Mr. King, speaking to the British Premier, at your command. You have only to hold out your hand and take it. It is certainly a tempting offer to the great commercial Power of the earth—that Power whose boast is that the *reveille* beat of her drum is heard around the earth, and whose war policy in colonizing all over the world, and planting her foot upon every isle of the sea where a sea bird can light, is but the exemplar of that farseeing commercial policy that seeks to open new markets for her trade, new commerce for her manufactures, new feeders to her vast and complicated mechanical industry. Mr. King is entitled to praise for sagacity in the choice of his theme. It is the weak spot of British policy that he has assailed with his tremendous enginery of fascinating figures.

The Officers of the Confederate Steamer Nashville.

From the Richmond Whig, Jan. 9.

The London *Illustrated News* of the 30th November last contains a spirited wood cut of the capture and burning of the Harvey Birch by the Confederate steamer Nashville, and thus speaks of the officers of the latter vessel:—Captain Pegram is an old officer of the United States Navy, and bore a conspicuous part in the Mexican war, in the Paraguay and Japan expeditions, and during the war waged by the English and French in China. For his distinguished services his native State, Virginia, voted him, by the unanimous voice of the General Assembly of the Legislature, a splendid sword; and Sir John Stirling, in his despatches to the Admiralty, makes the following mention of him:—"It is impossible to speak too highly of the American co-operating party engaged. They were with the Rattler, emulating each other in the thickest of the attack. But my warmest thanks, in particular, are due to Lieutenant Pegram, the American senior officer; his encouragement of the men, and coolness under a heavy fire, and determined bravery, when surrounded by a persevering and revengeful foe, were conspicuous to all." First Lieutenant Fauntleroy was aid-de-camp to General Johnston at the battle of Manassas. Second Lieutenant Bennett served there in the naval battery, while one youngster on board, named Cary, received his appointment as midshipman in the Confederate navy as a reward for distinguished gallantry in the same action.

The Confederates' Opinion of the Burnside Expedition.

Special Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.

NORFOLK, Jan. 7.—So much has been said and written about the Burnside expedition and its probable destination, that it is like an old worn-out song, sung until it has lost its music and ceases to charm the ear of the listener, or to excite emotion, or interest, or concern in his mind. And yet there may be some who would like to know the last news about the great Burnside fleet, that is to commit so great depredation somewhere on the Southern coast, fire off cannon, explode bombshells, batter down forts, fire upon dwelling houses, send conic rifle shells through the sick wards of hospitals, steal negroes to enslave them and compel them to work for $8 per month.—clothing deducted—and engaged in other dignified proceedings to be represented in Northern papers as brilliant victories.

There are now rumors about the grand armada of gunboats, rotten hulls, and dear-bought transport ships. Of course they are to come to Hampton Roads, take their position under the fort—scarcely eleven miles distant—have a drunken spree at Sugar's hotel, and then come in grand style up to Norfolk, levelling the Sewall's-Point batteries to the ground, knocking Craney Island clear from its foundation, and piling it up over the mainland; blowing up old Fort Norfolk and the magazine, demolishing the splendid stone structure and model hospital on the opposite shore, taking quiet possession of Norfolk and Portsmouth, helping themselves to the Navy Yard, and so forth and so on. But to be a little more serious—a gentleman recently from the North says the expedition is intended for Norfolk; and the correspondent of a Western paper says it is certainly designed for the waters of Eastern Virginia, including Elizabeth and its branches — Let them come, is the almost unanimous voice of the people hereabouts. We are tired waiting for them, and shall doubtless have to wait much longer before any serious attempt is made by the Yankee fleet to come up hither. *Quid timeo? Cæsarem vehis.*

I have reliable information direct from the Roads. There are about a dozen Federal war vessels lying near Old Point and Newport News, besides a large fleet of transport vessels. The large number of coasters reported in the Roads have come in on account of the easterly gales.

Wm. Hurlburt Again.

From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 9.

Wm. H. Hurlburt, who was arrested as a spy in Atlanta, Ga., some time last June, and who, since that time, has been confined in Henrico county jail, on Main street, was released yesterday by order of Governor Letcher. We understand that the suspicions entertained of him have not been verified by anything that has occurred since his incarceration. Hurlburt is a native of Charleston, South Carolina. It will be remembered that the chief thing that pointed towards him as a suspicious person was the fact that he was found traveling through the South after the inception of hostilities by the abolition Government at Washington, when it was well known that in former years, as chief writer for the New York *Times* and contributor to the *Edinburg Review*, he had advocated doctrines leading directly to the scene of things that ensued on the election of Abraham Lincoln. If we are correctly informed, Mr. Hurlburt claims to have recanted his former opinions prior to the breaking out of this war. Whether Governor Letcher did right in releasing him remains to be seen. The imprisonment suffered by the party should certainly be a lesson to him in future. Hurlburt is a person of extensive requirements and a writer of considerable ability.

Further Particulars of the Fight on New Year's Day.

From the Norfolk Day Book, January 9.

We have some further and very interesting accounts of the fight which took place in the neighborhood of Port Royal Ferry on Wednesday last, the 1st instant. Our forces consisted of Colonel Jones' regiment, South Carolina volunteers, a battalion of three companies from Colonel Dunovant's regiment, South Carolina volunteers, under Lieut.-Colonel Barnes, and a detachment of mounted men under Major Oswald, of Colonel Martin's regiment of Cavalry.

After it had been determined to attack the enemy, it became necessary to have their position, number and material carefully reconnoitered.—This duty was cheerfully undertaken by Orderly Sergeant Thomas B. Chaplin, of the St. Helena Mounted Rifles. On the night of the 31st, he mounted his horse and rode down to a point within sight of the Yankee camp, where he dismounted—hid his horse, and being familiar with every road and path approached to within forty yards of their bivouacs. He was so close as to discover that they had lanterns with blinds on their sides, so as not to be seen either in front or on the flanks.

Following the instructions of his General, he counted the bivouacs and sentinels, and ascertained that there were about five hundred men on the west side of the ferry. He then sought his horse (which he was for some time unable to find, owing to the care with which he had secreted him), and then rode over to the other side of the ferry, where, by similar means, he ascertained that the main body of the enemy, consisting of about three thousand five hundred men, were on the east side. After gaining every possible information he returned to headquarters at daybreak, having been in the saddle or on foot all night.

One of the principal features of the fight of Wednesday was the deployment of an entire regiment of the enemy as skirmishers, with the view of crossing Kean's Neck in order to turn our left.—They were met by our skirmishers, conspicuous among whom was Captain Tompkins' company, from Jones' regiment. These brave fellows left their mark upon the invaders, and many a Yankee fell before their unerring aim; but owing to the complete arrangements and forethought of the enemy in providing litters, their killed and wounded were all rapidly removed. During their retreat Major Oswald's cavalry, with double-barrel guns and revolvers, did good service.

It is due to truth to state that the Yankees did not, as at first stated, throw away their guns. In advancing they were never beyond the range of their gunboats, and were always covered by the forest or undergrowth. Just as the enemy had reached the shore, General A. J. Donelson, with Moore's first regiment Tennessee volunteers, came up—flushed with their quick march—a noble set of men. Great was their disappointment in finding the enemy gone.

Captain Croft, Jones' regiment, a graduate of the Citadel, occupied an advanced post on Chrisholm's Island and marched his company in retreat in complete order. He remained in the rear with five others, and tore up the bridge on the causeway, which effectually prevented the crossing of the enemy's artillery. So arduous was this task, that the delay occasioned painful suspense, and at one time it was feared that he was cut off.

Soon after the fight, Colonel W. E. Martin, and Lieutenant-Colonel S. McIlowan, of Jones' regiment, determined to reconnoitre the field. They galloped rapidly through an old field down the causeway, to the spot where the shells had burst among our troops, for the purpose of ascertaining the number of our wounded. This brought them within one hundred yards of the enemy's infantry, who were in Chaplain's house, and within range of their howitzers. They found five or six South Carolina soldiers helplessly wounded. As they could not be removed on horseback, both officers retired, and securing a wagon, with proper escort, reached and removed these brave men. Before moving off Dr. Turnipseed had to take up an artery, and during all this time, and until under cover, the enemy kept up a sharp fire of shells at the wagon and guard, fortunately without damage.

The enemy disappeared on the night of the 3d. Colonel Savage, with a battery of the Sixteenth Tennessee regiment, went down to the causeway and did not see them.

We learn that our men have always held Page's Point, and do so now.

Richmond Local Items.

From the Richmond Dispatch, Jan. 9.

SIGHT OF JANUARY.

The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans passed by without special observance. It was the custom, when all the soldier boys were at home, to have some kind of a frolic, but the war has put an end to all festivities of that sort. Let us hope that another twelvemonth will bring about a happy restoration of the fashions of "auld lang syne."

THE MILITIA.

We publish to-day the order from the Executive Department, countermanding the call upon the militia of Richmond and surrounding counties. It is nevertheless the duty of the citizens to organize thoroughly, for they know not the day nor the hour when the services of the militia will be required.

SKATING.

The boys were skating yesterday morning on the pond near Bellevue Hospital, the ice having become solid enough to bear their weight, though there was some risk of a ducking. We hope the opportunity for filling the ice-houses will not be neglected.

PRISONS EVACUATED.

Taylor's factory, on Carey street, between Twenty fourth and Twenty-fifth streets, lately used as a Government prison, has been given up, and is now undergoing the process of fumigation, preparatory to its occupation as a hospital by the Marylanders. Mayo's factory, adjoining Taylor's, is also relieved of its Yankee population, and has been given up by the Government.

INACTIVITY OF THE AMERICAN ARMY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE LONDON TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1861.—There is little probability of anything occurring to disturb the march of events, which are the only things that march at Washington, and which have got into a humdrum sort of parade and review order, making one day as like the other as can be. There is, to be sure, always the confidential assurance that "there will be a move soon," and, perhaps there may; but hitherto Gen. McClellan has succeeded in averting the danger which is presented to him of making an attack on a desperate and brave enemy with an ill-disciplined army. He may, however, at any moment be led to order an advance, and his army is certainly better prepared to make it now than it has been at any previous time. It would be amusing to look back to the Northern journals, and see how much of the pompous programme of "our Fall campaign" has been fulfilled. New Orleans was to have been seized, Charleston laid waste, Memphis, Savannah, Richmond, and Nashville occupied, and the seceding States held in subjection till the loyal men could be induced to come out and vote themselves back into the Union. The good public is presented with a strip of sand at Hatteras, and an inlet at Port Royal, and so far it is thankful for the results of these conquests The "Rat-hole Squadrons" are at their work, and the task of the blockading vessels will soon be light enough. In fact, the weather is such on the Southern coast during January, February and March, that it would not be possible to maintain a force of observation off the harbors; hence most of them will be blocked up, and the others can be watched from time to time by vessels running out of Port Royal. Another great expedition, the naval part to be commanded by a very dashing officer, Capt. David Porter, is to be prepared immediately, and Gen. Burnside's corps is now ready to start from Annapolis. The utmost exertions are made by the Government to procure mortars of the largest size, but these are not to be made in a day. Nothing indicates any expedition of the first class—one intended to operate against Charleston or New Orleans, which are the favorite objects of the Northerners.

To the earnest, self-sacrificing thousands who regard this war as the holiest and best in which man ever drew a sword, the conduct of affairs must be most discouraging and irritating. There are myriads of people who literally worship the Union, and who would gladly lay down their lives for that political idea." But they have no opportunity. They have left professions, trades and pleasant homes, to go out and fight, and, as they stand in front of the battle, they feel the ground for which they are striving crumbling under their feet. There are hundreds of men in the Northern armies, like James Wadsworth, General Sprague and General Butler, who have abandoned ease and comfort to set an example in person of devotion to—well not their country so much as to—the Union, or, as Earl Russell styled it, power. It was power for the slaveholder, power for slavery, power for democratic institutions to affront the world.

Without the Union, the Northern States would be cabined and confined within the Canadian lakes and Virginia, and no reasonable human being can object to their refusal to submit to such a fate. To be deprived of the Mississippi would be to have the main artery torn from the heart. Are they not justified in striking for life at the hand which is stretched out for the purpose? But it is beyond conception that, all this being so, the war is carried on as if it were intended to irritate to madness rather than induce "surrender to force of arms." God and nature may not, indeed, have put the Black into the hands of the Northerners any more than the Indian was placed at our disposal by the same Power in the American war. But here are all the horrors without any of the results of war.

Conquest over the South may mean great ruin to the North, but at least it would be a proof of strength given in the achieving of the result; now all the cost of armaments, prodigious and profuse, is endured without any actual operation in case to realize the Northern idea. That it may at last be attained I cannot hesitate to admit, but the realization will be terrible to victor and vanquished alike. The question of the fate of that which is not yet in the power of the North already distracts and convulses the country before the battle has been fought at all. It is not, indeed, unlikely that Gen. McClellan may be averse to a great battle, on the mere grounds of aversion to bloodshed, and the hope of success by milder means; and the smaller operations of war may encourage him to resist the suggestions which are to my knowledge made to him for an attack upon the enemy. Magnificent weather is lost, and no sign of an advance is visible. There are impatient Senators and angry Congressmen, but no one dares to open his lips who remembers the result of the "On to Richmond" cry of June and July last. The expeditions, and the news of others about to be, amuse the people for the time, but the pressure of taxation will soon render them irritable in their clamors for peace or victory.

As yet the war has not pressed hardly on the bulk of the people. Six hundred thousand of the people are amply paid and well fed, and so them are joined hundreds of thousands who are employed in civil work about the army. The noble army of contractors and sutlers is making a fortune, and the theory that the country cannot be losing anything because all the money is spent in it, finds universal acceptance. There are large frauds understood to have been detected in commissariat transactions recently. No doubt greater may be undiscovered. Many persons have already made large fortunes very honestly. Fraud seems somewhat superfluous where prices are so remunerative and examiners so lenient. "All is quiet along our lines." The river blockade still continues. No mere sewer except a tiny gunboat has passed up or down in front of the enemy for weeks. Mr. Sickles is still at work on board the Pensacola, which lies motionless off Alexandria. Reviews go on daily and for the most part satisfactorily in all that relates to the marching of the men, but I never chance to see a decent battalion drill, or any formations, except of the most rudimentary kind, and I much doubt if there are half a dozen regiments here which could form square with steadiness and rapidity against a charge of cavalry.

From the Columbus (Ohio) Crisis.

AN IMPORTANT MOVE IN OHIO.

The following proceedings of a meeting in Delaware county, held without distinction of party, may tend to open the eyes of those who talk about turning the negroes of the South free to overrun the Northern States. Let our Legislature, about to meet, take this subject under consideration with that deliberation, determination and broad statesmanship that the times demand. They need have no fears of not being sustained by public opinion.

The Abolitionists have persevered without faltering, for years, to bring about this issue upon the black, as well as the white man. They are responsible for whatever consequences may grow out of the discussion, and *action* based upon that discussion. We, who have as persistently opposed this abolition raid upon the politics of the country, are now called upon to save ourselves from its blasting effects. It can neither be postponed nor evaded. Turn it as you will, look at it as we may, the delay of a year might so complicate matters with the influx of freed and runaway negroes, that action would be more difficult, and in appearance more impossible.

PUBLIC MEETING.

In pursuance of a call made to the voters of Genoa Township, without reference to party, a meeting was held in the school-house in sub district No. 2, on the 17th of December, for the purpose of considering what should be the policy of our State Government with reference to the threatening influx of negroes from the South, consequent upon the present insurrection in our country.

The meeting was called to order by nominating George Glass for Chairman, and E. S. Shaw, Secretary. After a brief and pointed statement of the meeting, on motion the Chair appointed a committee, consisting of James Westervelt, A. J. Smith and John Wright, who submitted the following petition, which was unanimously adopted, and signed by every legal voter present:

To the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:—

We, the undersigned, being legal voters of Delaware county, Ohio, in view of the intimation made by the President of the United States, in his late message, that, by an act of Congress, and by laws of some of the States to be hereafter enacted, many of the negroes now held as slaves, may be set at liberty, and fearing that they may wander into Ohio, to the great damage of the white inhabitants of our State, and especially to those who have to depend upon their labor to support themselves and families—

We, therefore, respectfully ask your honorable body to enact a law, so stringent in its provisions as totally to prohibit any negroes from emigrating into, settling or holding property in Ohio; and, if not in conflict with the Constitution, that you also cause those now in Ohio to be removed in as seasonable a time as your judgment may suggest; and that you make it the duty of the Trustees in the several townships to see that said law be faithfully enforced.

After announcing meetings for the same purpose to other neighborhoods, it was,

Resolved, That all persons in Ohio, in favor of the measure, are requested to aid in circulating similar petitions; and that the proceedings of this meeting be published in *The Crisis*, and that all other Columbus papers be requested to copy.

GEO. GLASS, Chairman,
E. S. SHAW, Secretary.

Delaware County, Dec. 19, 1861.

EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION—*Loss About* $70,000.—Last night, about 11 o'clock, a fire broke out in the fourth floor of the seven-story building, Nos. 22 and 24 Frankfort street, occupied as a bookbindery and printing establishment. The firemen were promptly on the spot, but the flames spread so rapidly that it soon became evident that the whole building would yield to the destructive force of the fire. The flames communicated almost immediately with the floors above and below where they were first discovered, and shortly before 12 o'clock floor after floor began to yield beneath the ponderous weight of machinery and stock, and at 12 o'clock the outer or front wall fell out upon Frankfort street, but fortunately for bystanders and the tenement houses on the opposite side of the street, it fell in such a way as to obviate some of the dangers which were at first anticipated by the expected fall of the building. In its fall, portions of the wall came in contact with the Police telegraph wires and carried them away, thus destroying communication between headquarters and the second ward station house. At one time the tenement houses on the south side of the street were in great danger of taking fire from the intense heat, and for a while the walls held out such a prospect by the dense smoke rising from them. The Globe Hotel, which is eight stories high, was the next building adjoining that which was burning, but by the judicious and energetic conduct of the firemen all danger to it was avoided up to a late hour. There was a general scattering of the men and women and girls from the lager-bier saloons in the immediate vicinity of the fire, and many of the firemen rendered their services in helping the girls to evacuate.

The building was occupied by various parties as a printing establishment, bookbindery, and paper-staining factory. The building was owned by Chas. H. Jenkins, and the entire loss cannot fall far short of from $60,000 to $70,000.—*New York Tribune, Jan. 13.*

There were twenty-nine deaths of soldiers in Washington during the three days ending on Saturday.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

MADAME GRISI'S FINAL PERFORMANCE ON THE STAGE.—On Saturday evening, the 21st, Madame Grisi made "her last appearance on any stage in the United Kingdom," being the occasion of her farewell benefit at the Theatre Royal, Dublin.—The attendance was numerous. The Opera was "Norma," and the caste embraced Miss Ellen Corran (Adelgisa), Signor Ciampi (Oroveso), and Signor Galvani (Pollio), the prima donna herself being of course the Norma. As the performance proceeded the enthusiasm of the audience displayed itself with true Irish vigor when any opportunity called it forth, and Madame Grisi was repeatedly summoned before the curtain, receiving each time the customary floral tributes of admiration. When at the close of the performance Madame Grisi was led forward to receive the final ovation, a farewell address, framed as it were in flowers, was lowered to the feet of the great artist, by a cord attached to each side of the upper gallery. The address having been presented to Madame Grisi by Miss Conran, amid an outburst of the wildest enthusiasm, Mr. Russell, the representative of Mr. Beale, on this occasion, came forward and made a reply from the renowned prima donna, who was so overpowered by emotion that she felt herself unequal to the task of reading it. The reading of the address was frequently interrupted by vehement plaudits, in which the whole house joined, and Madame Grisi retired from the scene deeply affected by this popular manifestation. On her departure from the theatre a vast crowd assembled outside the building; and an open carriage, occupied by gentlemen bearing flambeaux in various colors, was drawn up in front of the stage door, followed by Madame Grisi's own carriage, to which four horses were attached, and on the top of which were mounted several persons, also bearing torches. The procession thus formed proceeded to Morrison's Hotel, were Madame Grisi alighted, amid the renewed demonstrations of her admirers, at whose request she appeared on the balcony, and expressed her graceful appreciation of the many proofs of kind esteem which she had so often received from the Irish public. The acclamations of the people were continued with such unabated fervor, that she sang a stanza from "The last rose of summer;" and when she had concluded, the tumult was so great, that, had it been continued, the interference of the police might have been necessary; but Madame Grisi, reiterating her thanks, gracefully withdrew.

THE LAST SERMON BEFORE THE COURT AT BALMORAL.—An incident which, now that the Prince Consort has been taken from us, possesses a special interest, occured some six or seven weeks ago. The Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Edinburgh, a young and exceedingly popular preacher, had engaged to officiate in the parish church close to Balmoral, and where the Court invariably attend divine service when at Balmoral. On this occasion the reverend gentleman discovered, to his great discomfort, just as he entered the pulpit, that he had left at home the manuscript of the sermon which he had to preach before the Queen and the Prince Consort. It happily occurred to him, in the embarrassing situation in which he found himself placed, that he had recently written a sermon from the text "Prepare to meet thy God," which he had closely committed to memory. He accordingly preached the sermon in question with great fluency and power. Her Majesty and the late Prince Consort were so much struck with the discourse that they sent a message to the preacher, expressing the pleasure with which they had listened to it, and requesting to be favored with a sight of the manuscript. The manuscript was of course at once forwarded to the Court, and immediately afterwards a second message was rent to the preacher by the Queen and the Prince, desiring that the sermon should be published It has been so, and is in extensive circulation in Scotland. What an awful appropriateness there was in the text!

DEATH OF A CONTEM