THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER KANGAROO.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The steamer Kangaroo from Liverpool has arrived, with additional intelligence from Europe.

The Confederate steamer Nashville, when last seen, on the evening of the 3d, was outside the Needles, steaming down the channel. The United States steamer Tuscarora still remained in Cowes Roads on the evening of the 4th. There is no confirmation of the report that another Federal vessel, supposed to be the Brooklyn, was cruising off the Isle of Wight. There were surmises of a three-masted paddle-steamer, supposed to be a privateer, having been seen off Cape Clear.

At the annual meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce the blockading of Charleston harbor was strongly denounced and the efficiency of the blockade questioned, but continued non-intervention was generally approved. A letter was read from Mr. Cobden, showing the permanent importance of settling the question of belligerent rights and the necessity for England agreeing to the American doctrine relative to private property at sea.

A Madrid correspondent, under date of 6th inst., says the Sumter is still lying at St. Roche, not having funds to pay the expenses incurred there.

The United States Consul had given a banquet at Cadiz to the former prisoners of the Sumter.—Toats were given for "America" and "Queen of Spain."

MR. BRIGHT THINKS AMERICA IS NOT TO BE TRAMPLED UPON.

Mr. Bright, in a speech recently delivered at Birmingham, denied that the American blockade was ineffectual, and ridiculed the idea that America was in a position to be trampled on. He pointed out the dangers of interference, and strongly urged the observance of strict neutrality. He stated the American Minister, Mr. Adams, does not conceal his indignation at Lord Russell's letter to the Admiralty relative to the use of British ports. There is also a considerable difference in political circles as to the policy and propriety of the act.

It is asserted that the allies are determined that their armies shall march on the capital of Mexico next month, and the report is revived and gains strength that the Archduke Maximilian will be tendered the throne of Mexico.

More French troops are under orders for Mexico, and it is asserted that the French Government is determined to revise and modify the navigation laws.

The Paris Bourse has been firm but closed dull at 71f. 40c.

Popular demonstrations have occurred at Florence and Parma against the Pope's temporal power, and in favor of Victor Emmanuel.

The official Austrian *Gazette* treats as absurd the idea that Venetia can be ceded by Austria.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen:—We are commanded by her Majesty to assure you that her Majesty is persuaded that you will deeply participate in the affliction by which her Majesty has been overwhelmed by the calamitous, untimely and irreparable loss of her beloved consort, who has been her comfort and support. It has been soothing to her Majesty while suffering most acutely under this awful dispensation of Providence, to receive from all classes of her subjects the most cordial assurances of their sympathy with her sorrow.

We are commanded to assure you that she looks with confidence to your assistance and advice.

Her Majesty's relations with all the European powers continue to be friendly and satisfactory, and her Majesty trusts there is no reason to apprehend any disturbance of the peace of Europe.

A question of great importance, which might have led to very serious consequences, arose between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, being the seizure and forcible removal of four passengers from on board a British mail packet by the commander of a ship of war of the United States. The question has been satisfactorily settled by the restoration of the passengers to British protection, and by a disavowal by the United States Government of the act of violence committed by their naval officer. The friendly relations between her Majesty and the President of the United States are therefore unimpaired.

Her Majesty willingly appreciates the loyalty and patriotism which have been manifested on this occasion by her Majesty's North American subjects.

The wrongs committed by various parties and by successive Governments in Mexico upon foreign residents within the Mexican territory, and for which no satisfactory redress could be obtained, have led to the conclusion of a convention between her Majesty, the Emperor of the French and the Queen of Spain, for the purpose of regulating a combined occupation of the coast of Mexico with a view to obtain that redress which has hitherto been withheld That convention and the papers relating to that subject will be laid before you.

After referring to Mexico and China the address concludes:

Her Majesty regrets that in some parts of the United Kingdom and in certain branches of industry temporary causes have produced considerable pressure and privation, but we have reason to believe that the general condition of the country is sound and satisfactory. Her Majesty confidently commends the general interests of the nation to your wisdom and your care. She fervently prays that the blessings of Almighty God may attend your deliberations, and may guide them to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of her people.

The *Independence Belge* says that England accepts the monarchial candidature of Mexico on condition of the Mexicans freely consenting.

SHIP NEWS.—Arrived from Baltimore 1st, Ernestina, at Bremen; 1. H. Mays, Bordeaux, and Isabella at Bremerhaven.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Nothing Further from Savannah—No News Received from Norfolk.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 18.—The steamer Stars and Stripes sailed for Hatteras this afternoon, having on board a full cargo of ammunition for Gen. Burnside's expedition. The schooner Exertion is also loading with ammunition and will probably get off in the morning.

The steamer Connecticut arrived from Port Royal this afternoon. She left on the 15th inst. No news is brought, but the operations towards Savannah were still going on.

A flag of truce carried several passengers to Norfolk this morning, but no news was brought back.

General Burnside's forces still occupy Edenton, and have thrown out pickets some six or eight miles, but no mention is made of any further advance.

The steamers Thomas Jefferson and Baltimore have sailed for Hatteras Inlet, the latter with a cargo of ammunition.

The steamer Jersey Blue sailed this afternoon with 280 troops from Annapolis, who were formerly detained there by sickness. They go to join their regiments.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OFFICIAL.

By the President of the United States—A Proclamation.

It is recommended to the people of the United States that they assemble in their customary places of meeting, for public solemnities, on the 22d day of February, instant, and celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY, by causing to be read to them his immortal FAREWELL ADDRESS.

{SEAL} Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, at Washington, the 19th day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-sixth.

By the President, ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

The United States Note Bill—Report of the House Committee on Ways and Means on the senate Amendments.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The Committee on Ways and Means recommend that the House agree to about two-thirds of the Senate amendments to the United States Note bill, and that they disagree to those reducing the number of the United States Notes authorized to be issued from $150,000,000 to $100,000,000, and to the striking out of the original proviso that fifty millions of the notes shall be in lieu of the demand Treasury notes authorized by the act of July last, &c.

The committee also recommend that the House disagree to the Senate amendment that the July notes shall be receivable in payment of taxes, duties, imports, excises, debts and demands of all kinds due to the United States, and of all claims and demands of every kind, except for interest upon bonds and notes, which shall be paid in coin. Also, to disagree to the amendment fixing the redemption of the bonds at the pleasure of the United States after five years, and payable in twenty years from date.

The committee recommend the retention of the proviso for the exchange of the bonds of the United States bearing interest at seven per centum, and a disagreement to the Senate amendment authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to dispose of the bonds at the market value. They recommend a disagreement to the Senate's new section, which pledges the customs duties and the proceeds of the sale of public lands and of property seized and sold under the laws of the United States as the property of Confederates as a special fund for the payment in coin of the interest on the bonds and notes, and for the purchase and payment of one per centum of the entire debt, to be set apart as a sinking fund, the interest on which, in like manner, to be applied to the purchase or payment of the public debt; the residue thereof to be paid into the Treasury.

The committee recommend the agreement of the House to another new section of the Senate, with an amendment which they propose, namely, authorizing the deposit of notes or coin in exchange for certificates, and instead of five per centum interest on such certificates, to substitute, "at such rates of interest which the Secretary of the Treasury may, from time to time, prescribe, not exceeding six per centum, and any amount of notes or coin so deposited may be withdrawn from deposit at any time after ten days' notice, on the return of the certificates."

Military Appointments Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The principal military confirmations to day by the Senate were those of the appointments of Brigadier-General Grant to be Major-General, and Messrs. Garfield and Shields to be Brigadier-Generals.

Garfield's promotion was for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Prestonburg, and that of Grant for the same qualities exhibited in the capture of Fort Donelson. A very large number of army and volunteer appointments were confirmed, including Captains, Lieutenants, Surgeons, Assistants, Adjutants, etc.

Medals for the Army and Navy.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The joint resolution introduced by Senator Wilson to-day for the presentation of Medals to the enlisted men and volunteers in the army and navy, and Marine corps, who have or may distinguish themselves in battle during the rebellion, provides that an amount of money be appropriated for the purpose of having prepared Medals of silver or other suitable metal, with appropriate emblems and devices for presentation by Congress to the non-commissioned officers and privates of the volunteer and marine corps and the warrant and petty officers, and seamen of the Navy of the United States, who have or may hereafter distinguish themselves by any act of gallantry or bravery, during the present war against the rebellion.

Our Foreign Relations.

WASHINGTON, February 19.—The last advices from Europe are of dates previous to the receipt there of the news of the first of our series of victories, but the Secretary of State says he sees indications of a satisfaciory reaction in favor of the United States in Great Britain, as well as throughout the continent; and especial satisfaction is experienced over the congratulations upon the settlement of the Trent affair received from Russia and Italy. It is said they are not only generous but touching appeals to the American people to restore, maintain and preserve the Federal Union. The settlement of the Trent affair is regarded as the bow of promise of peace and the freedom of commerce.

Celebration of the National Victories.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Arrangements are making for the illumination of all the public buildings on Saturday night. A number of citizens of Washington intend manifesting their joy over the recent victories by similar demonstrations. Gentlemen of high position have expressed the hope that this example will be followed throughout the country.

The promotion of General Grant to a Major Generalship gives him superior command to Brigadier-General Buel, in the same department.

Identification of Deceased Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, February 19.—In order to the identification of the bodies of deceased soldiers, Quartermaster Rusker has invited proposals for furnishing one thousand head-boards for their graves.

FROM FORT DONELSON.

The Confederates Estimate Their Loss at 400 Killed and 800 Wounded—A Forward Movement Ordered—The Confederates Expected to Make a Stand at Nashville—Further Particulars of the Taking of Fort Donelson.

ST. LOUIS, February 18.—The *Democrat's* latest advices from Fort Donelson, up to Monday, say:—It is impossible to state the precise extent of the captures, everything being in such confusion within the fortress. The Fifty-first and Fifty-seventh Virginia regiments, and several Arkansas, Alabama and Texas regiments, were among the forces which left with Pillow and Floyd in the night.

The Confederate and Federal officers fraternize since the fight, and the best feeling and even Union sentiments is prevailing among many of the prisoners, which has been much strengthened by subsequent intercourse with them. This remark holds specially true of the Tennessee regiments. The best officers among them, who yielded to the popular madness at the eleventh hour, say they are sick of the unnatural warfare. Misled by the politicians first, and betrayed by their Generals since, they have become most thoroughly disgusted with the bogus Confederacy, and desire to withdraw at once.

General Grant has energetically ordered a speedy forward movement to still greater victories.

The Confederate officers assert that Gen. Johnston will concentrate every available soldier at Nashville and make a desperate attempt to retrieve the misfortune of the fort.

The Confederate surgeons place their loss in killed and wounded at between three and four hundred killed and double the number wounded.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 18.—The following is an account of the fighting on Saturday, at Fort Donelson:

On Saturday morning the battle was resumed with unusual vigor and determination.

The First, Eighteenth, Twentieth and Thirty-first Illinois regiments occupied positions above the fort. They were about preparing a little food for the day's sustenance when the Confederates opened on them a fire of musketry.

A line of battle was at once formed, and the storm of leaden hail returned, perceptibly thinning the Confederate ranks.

The Confederates, from their advantageous positions, showered upon our ranks most murderous volleys of musketry grape and canister killing and wounding our men, almost by companies, at every round. Yet every man stood his ground bravely. These four regiments held their ground, dealing death, and dying and fighting against appalling odds, and in the face of every disadvantage. The Eighteenth Illinois regiment seems to have resisted the severest storm. Against their ranks the Confederates directed the heaviest fire, but instead of falling back they advanced to the face of the enemy, and there stood in the very jaws of death, with scarcely a prospect that a single one would escape.

For three hours these three regiments, numbering scarcely three thousand men, held their ground against the whole Confederate garrison.

At one time, the Eighteenth, being partially flanked, was exposed to a cross fire of both musketry and artillery, but our right wing soon relieved them. At this critical moment, Colonel Lawler fell. Captain Bush, acting Lieutenant-Colonel, then assumed the command, but was soon wounded; Captain Cruse was shot dead; Captain Lawler was mortally wounded; Lieutenants Munsford and Thompson were killed; Captains Dillon and Wilson, and Lieutenants Kelly and Scanlan, wounded; so that the darling "Egyptian Regiment" stood before the almost overwhelming force without officers.

They fell in heaps, dead and wounded. Companies were bereft of captains and lieutenants, and captains were almost bereft of companies; the other three regiments did their duty nobly. Colonels Oglesby, Marsh and Logan dashed along the ranks, waving their hats, and cheering their men on to the conflict. "Suffer death," cried Logan, "but disgrace never! Stand firm!" and well they heeded him. Many fell dead and wounded. Among the latter were Colonel Logan and Lieutenant Colonel White.

Colonels Oglesby and Marsh's regiments fought desperately, losing, like the other regiments, an undue proportion of officers.

Colonel Oglesby displayed a coolness and courage that has elicited the highest praise and served well in stimulating his men.

Never, perhaps, on the American continent, has a more bloody battle been fought.

An officer who participated, and was wounded in the fight, says the scene beggars description. So thickly was the battle-field strewn with the dead and wounded, that he could have traversed acres of it by taking almost every step upon a prostrate body.

The Confederates fought with desperation, their artillerists using their pieces with the most fearful effect.

On either side could be heard scores of those in command cheering on their men. The four Illinois regiments held their ground full three hours.—Nearly one third had been killed or wounded, and yet the balance stood firm. Finally reinforcements arrived, and for an hour the slaughter was continued.

About four o'clock our right wing turned the enemy's left, and the Confederates fell back into their fortifications, and our flag was planted upon the position occupied by their left wing—for a time the slaughter then ceased.

Dresser's and Schwartz's Batteries were captured during the action, but the Eighteenth Illinois, with clubbed muskets, recovered Dresser's Battery, while the Thirty-first recovered that of Captain Schwartz.

Still Another Account

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 18.—The Fort Donelson correspondent of the *Republican* gives the following account of the fighting on Saturday:

"Yesterday (Saturday) morning, just at daylight, a heavy sortie was made by the garrison from the left portion of their works. This attack was made upon the extreme right wing of the Union army, where it was strongest. A part of General McClernand's Division, under Colonel Oglesby, consisting of his brigade, was stationed there; also, Schwartz's and McAllister's Batteries. The point was upon a ridge leading into the right redoubt, and situated just above the main fort.—During the previous night the enemy could be heard busily at work, but it was impossible to tell at what, as the thicket and woods encompassed the Union troops on every side, obstructing the view in every direction.

At daylight a large body of the enemy suddenly appeared on the extreme right wing of Colonel Oglesby's command, and opened a terrible fire with cannon from their redoubt, playing at the same time upon our forces from the guns which had been placed in position on the night previous.

The camps of the Twenty-ninth and Thirty-first Illinois were most exposed. The whole brigade was at once formed into line as follows:

The Eighteenth Illinois regiment held the extreme right; the Eighth Illinois came next, then the Thirtieth Illinois, then the Twenty-ninth Illinois, supporting the right of Captain Schwartz's artillery, and the Thirty-first Illinois defending the artillery on the left.

From the firing of the first gun until nine o'clock, the battle raged unremittingly and with fearful loss on both sides. Again and again our troops drove the enemy back, but they were often reinforced, while our troops had, owing to the extended line of the army, and also their position on the extreme right, to fight unassisted.

More gallant fighting never took place than that of the Union troops. Exposed to the terrible firing of triple their number, they stood their ground until, in some regiments, every officer was killed or wounded.

In the first of the battle also, Colonel W. H. L. Wallace's brigade, comprising the 11th, 20th, 17th and 48th regiments, participated; also Colonel McArthur's brigade—all of which troops suffered severely. Opposed to these were twelve thousand Confederates, supported by guns that had been carefully placed in proper position.

General Grant having, in command of the division, driven the enemy back with reinforcements and gained the lost ground, at once ordered an advance by General Smith on the left.

Charging under a hot fire up the steep hill on which was located the outer redoubt, our troops gained the high breastworks, and with hardly a pause went over them, planting the stars and stripes over the walls under a most galling fire.

They then formed, charged and drove the enemy back until he fell into a new position behind some batteries.

When evening came, the Union troops had been victorious at every point, having gained back the ground lost in the morning, and got within one part of the enemy's works.

Our troops held their position during the night, repelling the repeated assaults of the enemy.

The scene within the captured fort after the surrender showed how terribly the rebel garrison had suffered. Everywhere were lying fragments of shells and round shot, half buried in the earth; tents were torn to pieces, gun-carriages broken, and blood scattered around.

In the left redoubt, where the assault had taken place, the dead bodies lay thickly, and abundant evidence of a stern resistance and gallant attack was visible. On the extreme right, where the desperate sortie was made by the garrison, similar scenes were visible.

The gallantry of the Union troops has been well and severely tested, and they have proved more than equal to the task before them.

As the fleet approached the fort this morning, a salute was fired, and three cheers went up when the American flag was displayed.

No officer in the army had an idea of the extent of the defences of Fort Donelson until they had been gained and examined.

Several of our men, when out of ammunition, rushed forward, and although exposed to the full fire of the Confederate artillery, gallantly drove their foes back with the bayonet and captured their guns.

The following are the names of some of the Confederate officers captured:

Colonel Gantt, Colonel Voorhees, Colonel Forrest, Colonel Brown and Colonel Abernethy.

THE LATEST FROM FORT DONELSON. Two More Confederate Regiments Captured —Fugitives Coming In—Immense Amount of Stores, Munitions of War, etc.—Burying the Dead.

FORT DONELSON, TENN., February 18.—Two more Confederate regiments were captured to-day to the east of the entrenchments, and a number of fugitive troops have come in and voluntarily delivered themselves up.

In addition to the other spoils mentioned, about 12,000 stand of small arms have been taken. Many of the Confederate troops destroyed their arms, and large numbers were thrown into the river.

There are two water batteries included in the fortifications here—the upper one mounted with one heavy rifled gun of 32-pound bore, and two 32-pound carronades. The lower water battery contains eight 32-pounders and one 10-inch columbiad mounted in embrasures.

Two thousand barrels of flour, 12,000 boxes of beef, and a large amount of other provisions, were found to-day.

All of to-day has been occupied in embarking the prisoners and gathering up the stores and munitions of war, and in burying the dead. There are a great number of dead Confederates still unburied.

Capt. Lagone, aid to Gen. Grant, goes to Clarksville to-morrow with a flag of truce, with the bodies of two colonels, and to effect an exchange of wounded prisoners who have been sent to Nashville.

It is currently reported that Governor Harris, of Tennessee, has ordered all Tennesseans to lay down their arms.

Burning of the Tennessee Iron Works by the Federal Gunboats.

FORT DONALDSON, Feb. 19.—The great fire seen up the river last night in the direction of Clarksville, was the burning of the Tennessee Rolling Mills, four miles from there, by our gunboats. The works had been used by the Confederates for the manufacture of shot and shell and other materials of war. It was an extensive concern.

General Grant has promulgated a most stringent order against plundering from the inhabitants.—Also against stealing property.

Before surrendering, the Confederates threw most of their late mails into the river. Colonel Markland, postal director, however, succeeded in seizing a number of mail bags and some outside letters, supposed to contain important information.

Floyd's First Brigade, leaving they might be taken, threw their arms, which were Minie rifles of the best kind, into the river, and the crews of our gunboats are now engaged in fishing them out.

Captain Dixon, the Confederate Chief of Artillery, and the engineer who constructed the fortification, was killed in the bombardment on Friday, in one of his own batteries.

IMPORTANT FROM CAIRO. Reconnoissance Toward Columbus—Indications of an Evacuation of that Stronghold by the Enemy—Arrival of Prisoners at Cairo.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—A special despatch to the *Times*, dated Cairo, Feb. 18, says:—Col. Buford with a small force went down the river on a reconnoissance to-day. When within four miles of Columbus heavy cannonading was heard, not however with any regularity. On moving across the river where they could obtain a view of the place, they discovered a heavy cloud of smoke covering a large space. Col. Buford believed the affair to be, that the Confederates were dismounting their guns and blowing up their magazines preparatory to an evacuation of the place.

A large number of Confederate prisoners were brought down yesterday from Fort Donelson, who lived on the Cumberland river, and as they passed their homes, looked wistfully for some familiar face or recognition. Many who were under the impression they would be paroled, when they found they were to be sent North, were ready to take any oath. Two-thirds manifested a desire to return to their allegiance. Some acknowledged they had been humbugged into their present unfortunate position. Six thousand prisoners have already arrived here, and the others will be brought down as soon as transportation can be procured.

The Federal Army on the March.

CAIRO, Feb. 19.—Troops are continually arriving and departing for the seat of war. It is believed that if they were permitted to do so many Confederate prisoners would gladly take up arms on the side of the Union. A number of the privates declare they have seen enough of secession. The officers, however, are generally very morose, and bitter in their expressions against the North.

The following additional names of the killed and wounded have been obtained: 45th Illinois, Commissary and Sergeant Travers, killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Maltby, wounded, ball in his leg; Lieut. Boyce, Cornelius Shay, and George Poppleton, wounded.

LATEST FROM MISSOURI. Price's Army Driven from Missouri—The State Wholly Delivered from the Confederates.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., February 18.—Gen. Curtis has driven the Confederate army, under General Price, out of Missouri and beyond the Arkansas line. At 10 o'clock on Sunday night our troops were sixty miles south of Springfield. The Federal flag now floats in triumph in Arkansas.

Several skirmishes had taken place in a defile of the mountains, in which we had six wounded. The enemy had sixteen killed and a large number wounded. We have captured a large number of prisoners. A messenger says we were at last accounts only a short distance behind Price's main body, and would chase him up next morning. When twenty miles out the messenger heard heavy firing. There is a great abundance of forage and provisions on the route except flour.

Price Driven from Missouri--General Curtis in Hot Pursuit--Official Despatch.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 18.—The following despatch was sent from headquarters to-night:

To Major General McClellan, Washington, D. C.:

The flag of the Union is floating in Arkansas.

General Curtis has driven Price from Missouri, and is several miles across the Arkansas line, cutting up Price's rear, and hourly capturing prisoners and stores.

The army of the Southwest is doing its duty nobly.

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

Capture of Gen. Price.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The following despatch has been received at the headquarters of General McClellan:

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 19—10.30, A. M.

To Major General McClellan:

General Curtis has captured Gen. Price, Col. Dorsey, Col. Cass and Captain Judge, of Price's staff. H. W. HALLECK, Maj. Gen.

The Reported Capture of General Price and Staff.

[The following despatch shows that the reported capture of General Sterling Price is not correct. It is his son, Brigadier-General Price, who was captured.]

SEDALIA, Mo., February 19.—Brigadier-General Price, (son of General Sterling Price) Colonel Phillip, Major Cross and Captain Crosby were captured near Warsaw on Sunday night and brought to this place. The prisoners were captured by Captain Stubbs, of the 8th Iowa regiment. They had some five hundred recruits for old Price in charge, but they had just crossed the Osage River, and as Captain Stubbs had but a small force, he did not follow them.

The Western Virginia Convention.

WHEELING, February 18.—The Constitutional Convention adjourned this evening, after fifty-nine days' session.

The Free State measure was defeated. Commissioners were, however, appointed, with powers to reassemble the Convention in case the new State was recognized by Congress. This provision is supposed to look to a Free State.

There was great rejoicing here over the Fort Donelson news.

General Rosecrans ordered a salute to be fired at an early hour this morning.

Rejoicing Over the Good News—Confederates Deserting.

FREDERICK, Feb. 19.—The good news received here to-day that General Price and his staff and whole army have been captured set the city and camps in a furore of joy.

Reports from usually reliable sources say that between three and four hundred Berkley county militia have deserted in a body, and are en route to cross the Potomac and join our ranks.

Important from the Southern Coast—The Capture of Savannah Soon to be Effected Fort Pulaski Cut Off—Capture of One of Tatnall's Gunboats.

NEW YORK, February 19.—The gunboat Connecticut, from Key West via Port Royal on the 16th inst., has arrived. Among her passengers is Commander French, late of the sloop-of-war Preble.

When the Connecticut left Port Royal there were rumors that Savannah would certainly be captured in two or three days.

The Federal forces had taken possession of the Island De Florian, in the Savannah river, upon which a battery was being erected.

Our gunboats had cut off communication between Savannah and Fort Pulaski, and captured a Confederate steamer belonging to Tatnall's fleet.

FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC. Hon. Charles J. Faulkner Denounces the Secession Policy—Military Movements.

FREDERICK, February 19.—A change is evidently coming over the secession dream in Upper Virginia. On Saturday night, at a complimentary dinner tendered to Hon. Chas. J. Falkner, at Martinsburg, that gentleman in a speech said, in effect, that the policy of secession, as it had been carried out, was a failure. It had been accompanied with unnecessary waste of life, the best blood of the South, and immense sacrifice of property. If this course was continued in, it would pile ruin upon ruin. The public sentiment of Western Virginia was opposed to it. He also intimated that he had no affiliation with those who wished the present contest to continue. It is stated that his remarks were acquiesced in by the large audience present, and that he but reflected the true sentiments of nine-tenths of the people of the upper counties of the Potomac.

The New York Nineteenth now at Hancock, having been recently transformed into the Third New York Artillery, has been ordered to report to Gen. Barry at Washington, where several additional companies are awaiting consolidation. These will raise the regiment to upwards of 1,000 men.

The sixty officers and men detailed from this division to reinforce the western gunboat corps have already left to assume their new duties. They were carefully selected according to their practical knowledge of marine service.

On receipt of the intelligence of the capture of Fort Donelson a salute of thirty-four guns was fired on the high ground adjacent to the artillery camp, and the intelligence was immediately communicated to all the camps, where great joy was manifested.

General Banks was called to Washington suddenly yesterday. He is expected to return to-night. This entire division is now in the most complete condition for immediate and effective service.

On the 17th, Colonel Ruger, Provost Marshal, was presented with an elegant sword, belt and double scabbard by the officers of his regiment—the Wisconsin Third. His accomplished lady was also the recipient from the same source of several articles of useful silver tableware.

Several hundred dollars worth of liquors have recently been seized by the Provost Guard, belonging to parties engaged in selling rum to soldiers. The largest amount was the property of a wholesale and retail merchant.

The General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant Atterbury (New York Ninth) was President, having finished its labors, has adjourned *sine die*, and the members have returned to their respective regiments. About 100 cases have been disposed of by this body.

First Lieutenant W. R. Hartshorne, (of the Kane Rifles,) who has been for some months past connected with the signal corps of this division, having been appointed Adjutant of his regiment, leaves for Drainesville in a day or two.

Deserters from the Confederate army under Jackson's command continue to arrive within our lines. They are generally privates.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS----FIRST SESSION,

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, February 19.—Among several petitions presented, was one by Mr. Sumner, of Massachusetts, from citizens of White Plains, New York, praying Congress to expunge from the list of States the name of South Carolina, reduce it to a territorial condition, and divide the territory between the States of North Carolina and Georgia. Mr. S. remarked that as this subject of territorial Government for the seceded States was now before the Judiciary Committee, he desired that the memorial be referred to that committee. It was so referred.

A petition from Illinois asked the passage of the legal tender treasury note clause, and remonstrated against the passage of a bankrupt act.

Mr. HALE, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported on the joint resolution from the House to examine into the condition of the navy, with a view to its reorganization; also, on the bill for the temporary increase of midshipmen in the naval academy; also, on the resolution to inquire into the expediency of dividing among the loyal officers of the navy the prize money which would have been distributed among the disloyal officers; also, on the joint resolution from the House tendering the thanks of Congress to Com. Wilkes, that they each be indefinitely postponed.

The several reports were agreed to.

Mr. HANNIS, of New York, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the bill for the maintenance and safe-keeping of United States prisoners, with amendments.

Mr. GRIMES, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported on a certain bill to incorporate a horse railway between Washington and Georgetown, and in different streets of the city, and on a bill to incorporate the Union Railway Company, with the recommendation that they be indefinitely postponed. Agreed to.

Mr. WILSON also gave notice of the introduction of a bill to repeal certain laws and ordinances of the District of Columbia.

Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, introduced a bill donating lands to Wisconsin and Michigan for a military road and telegraph line in that State. Referred.

Mr. RICE, of Minnesota, introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President to confer the title of Brevet Lieutenant-General for eminent services.

On motion of Mr. HALE, the bill for the reorganization of the Navy Department was taken up.—Some time was spent in the consideration of amendments, and the bill was then laid aside.

On motion of Mr. HARRIS, the bill for allowing the district judges of the United States Courts to hold courts in other districts, was taken up. Mr. Harris explained that under it not only could judges of one district act in an adjoining district in cases of vacancy or absence or inability of the judge of that district, but the President could send a judge to act at any other point—as Port Royal, for instance.

The bill was passed.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, introduced a joint resolution to provide for the presentation of medals to the enlisted men of the volunteers and army and navy of the United States who distinguish themselves during the present war. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, the bill for the better organization of the cavalry forces was taken up. The bill reduces the force to forty regiments, of 1,200 men each.

Mr. W. moved to amend by allowing all enlisted men, on their necessary discharge under this act, to receive three months' extra pay; which was adopted.

He also moved to amend by requiring that all officers for the said cavalry shall be examined by a board of competent officers of the United States army, appointed by the Secretary of War; which was adopted.

The bill was then passed.

The special order—the case of Mr. Starke, of Oregon—was postponed, and, on motion of Mr. SUMNER, the Senate went into Executive session and afterwards adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House communications from the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General, which were referred.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, offered a resolution providing for the arrangement of seats in the hall of the House on the 22d for the Senators and invited guests, and at the close of the exercises the Speaker shall declare the House adjourned.—Passed.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Pennsylvania, offered three resolutions, calling upon the Secretaries of War, Navy, and State Departments for information relative to the transportation of troops between the Mississippi river and the Pacific coast, and of the naval supplies upon the Eastern and Gulf coasts of the United States during the last five years.—Adopted.

Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, introduced a bill supplementary to an act granting the right of way through the State of Missouri. Referred.

Mr. ELLIOTT, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill to regulate duties on imports and for other purposes. Referred.

Mr. PENDLETON, of the Judiciary Committee, reported back the bill to amend the 30th section of the act to establish judicial courts of the United States. Re-committed to the same committee.

Mr. BENNETT, of Colorado Territory, offered a resolution relative to the establishment of a new Indian Agency in Colorado Territory. Adopted.

Also another legalizing certain litigations under the minor law of Colorado. Adopted.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill making appropriation of $1,988 for the relief of Z. B. Caverly, ex-Secretary of Legation to Lima. Referred.

Mr. TRAIN, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill making appropriation of five thousand dollars to defray the expenses of the illumination on the 22d, and asked its passage.

Mr. LOVEJOY, of Illinois, moved to amend the bill by striking out "five," and inserting "one," which was adopted, and the bill was passed.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, announced that he had just returned from the War Department, and saw a despatch there from Gen. Halleck, stating that Gen. Price and all his staff had been captured. [Loud applause, both in the galleries and on the floor, followed this announcement.]

Mr. HICKMAN, of Pennsylvania, rose to a privileged question, that in this morning's Baltimore *Clipper* was a paragraph stating that among the documents seized by the police of Baltimore at the newspaper office called the *South*, was a letter implicating Mr. Vallandigham, of Ohio, a member of this House. He offered a resolution authorizing the Committee on the Judiciary to send for persons and papers.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM said he was just waiting for an opportunity to call the attention of the House to the same statement, he having received it from some source a few moments ago. He did not know the motives of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, nor did he care. His position to-day is what it always has been. He never wrote a line or letter to the newspaper called *The South*, or to any other man south of Mason and Dixon's line since these troubles commenced. He condemned this manner of noticing the vile slanders which may appear in the local columns of these irresponsible newspapers. He denounced such charges as base, false and slanderous, and if any such letter was found it was a forgery.

Mr. HICKMAN—I wish to say——

Mr. RICHARDSON, of Illinois—Will the gentleman yield to me a moment?

Mr. HICKMAN—Certainly.

Mr. RICHARDSON then stated that there were members on this floor who had declared that they would not vote a dollar of appropriation, unless the war shall be prosecuted for the purpose of emancipation, and he desired here to denounce them as traitors to the Government. They ought to be put under arrest, and executed, as they deserved.

Mr. HICKMAN, of Pennsylvania, would say in reply to the gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. Vallandigham,) that this is a serious charge, which affects the standing of a member of this House. Even a mere suspicion would be a sufficient reason for this investigation. The gentleman knows that such suspicions against his loyalty existed before the appearance of this charge. It is the duty of this House to purge itself of unworthy members. The notorious paper alluded to was suppressed by order of the Government, and the documents were seized by officers of the Government, and it is fair to presume that these documents are now in the hands of the Government. He cited from the law to show that common fame was sufficient to warrant an investigation. This is more than common fame. It came from the editor of a newspaper, through the hands of the Government.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, desired to ask the gentleman from Pennsylvania whether he did not know that it is a mere local item, and that the author of it does not pretend to claim that he ever saw the letter? He (Vallandigham) knew he never did.

Mr. HICKMAN said he did not care whether it was a local item or not; it is an original article in a responsible newspaper, and as such deserves the attention of the House.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM—Specify some of those other suspicions to which you allude.

Mr. HICKMAN said he would give the gentleman a few of the charges which the loyal people of this country deemed sufficient grounds for suspicion. The Breckinridge meeting in Baltimore, in which the gentleman figured conspicuously—a certain dinner in Kentucky—and the speech of the gentleman in the July session. He would appeal to the members of this House, to gentlemen on his own side of the House, to be witness that it is a common rumor among all the loyal States of the Union suspicious of disloyalty.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM denied participating in the dinner in Kentucky. His feet had never pressed the soil of that State since he followed to their last resting-place the remains of that loyal Union man, Henry Clay. And he would defy him (Hickman)—he hurled defiance in the teeth of the gentleman from Pennsylvania—to find a disloyal sentiment in that speech of July last. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has been traduced, and his public career severely criticised by the press of the country.

Mr. HICKMAN replied that it it afforded the gentleman any satisfaction to allude to his (Hickman's) past career, it afforded him more satisfaction to say that he had borne these attacks with Christian fortitude, and he had never found it necessary to make it a subject of public complaint. He had never risen in his place, from time to time, in order to meet and deny the charges made against himself. If he had been vindicated at all, it was by silence.

The gentleman had not treated him graciously. He (Hickman) made no charges. When examined by the gentleman, he answered him. He had referred to nothing voluntarily. He made no statement except under the whip and spur of the gentleman from Ohio. If it goes to the country that suspicions are rife and numerous, and multiplied against him, he may put it all to the credit of his own imprudence. He had been cross-examined by the gentleman as to the grounds of suspicions against him, and he, in reply, had named a few of them. But the gentleman himself had added to these grounds of suspicions by his own confessions to-day. Does not the gentleman know that there is a camp in the State of Kentucky, for the disloyal forces of that State, called "Camp Vallandigham?"

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM.—And is there not a town in Kentucky called Hickman?

Mr. HICKMAN thought there was. He then alluded to reports in reference to the gentleman having been driven out of some Ohio camps because the soldiers of his own State considered him disloyal. The gentleman had declared that the independence of the South would be recognized in three months. There was a remarkable coincidence of opinion by the gentleman with the traitor Burnett, instanced by his voting. He said, after the declarations made by the gentleman, he would withdraw the resolution. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. STEVENS, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and took up the Treasury Note bill with Senate amendments.

Mr. SPAULDING, of New York, spoke against the Senate amendments.

Mr. POMEROY said, while we defend the Treasury, the soldiers have said they would defend the country's flag. He repudiated the idea that soldiers were a different class from other people. He repudiated the doctrine that there was a distinction between them and other classes of citizens; that while they were absent from their homesteads, they asked that they be taxed as little as the strictest economy allowed, and as much as all the necessities require.

Mr. CALVERT, of Maryland, favored the Senate amendments.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, in speaking to the Senate amendments said, while the child lived David mourned, but when it died he went forth into the temple.

The Senate amendment to pay the interest on the public deb