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TERMS.

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BALTIMORE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 1862

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States, the Committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill for the collection of taxes in the seceded States, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, which was agreed to. At the close of the morning hour the Confiscation bill was taken up, and was discussed until the hour of adjournment.

In the house of Representatives but little was done yesterday, and that little embraced nothing worthy of notice. The House adjourned early for the purpose of attending the funeral of General Lander.

In the State Senate—evening session, Monday—there was no business of any importance transacted.

In the House of Delegates—evening session—the appropriation bill for 1863 was debated and read a second time.

In the State Senate yesterday resolutions looking to a more uniform system of education were read a second time. The debate on the Treason bill occupied the remainder of the session.

In the House of Delegates—yesterday—the bill previously reported to make vacant the seat of Mayor Brown was called up and debated. It was finally proposed to substitute the bill providing for a change of the time and manner of holding the elections in Baltimore for the bill to vacate the office of Mayor Brown, which was carried, and the bill was made the special order for to day.

By the arrival at Portland of the steamer Norwegian, we have Liverpool advices to the 20th ult. The news thus far received over the wires is of no special importance. The English Parliament continued to be occupied with American affairs. The O'Donoghue had called for information relative to British vessels running the blockade, but Mr. Bayard, who appears to have become the spokesman of the Ministry in the House of Commons, professed his inability to supply the return, and declared that even if he were able, it would be very injudicious to produce it.

The London correspondent of the New York *Times* professes to furnish that journal with an impartial account of the real state of English feeling in regard to the civil war and the policy of the Federal Government. He declares that the attitude of the English people is one of expectancy; that "wait, wait, wait," are now the most potent words in England, that the settlement of the Trent affair is not satisfactory, and that the blockade question, and the recognition of the Southern Confederacy will give occasion to many stirring debates during the Parliamentary session. Having been told by the American press, and by Congressional speakers, that the matter will be settled within sixty days, they are disposed to wait, as the sixty days are even now drawing to a close, until the appointed time shall have elapsed.—He further says that it is a mistake to suppose that the Southern Commissioners expended large sums of money in suborning the press, and in publishing pamphlets in London and Paris. According to his belief, they had no occasion to spend money in this manner. Most of the English journals have abused the North *con amore;* and the British Government, in giving to the public "The Defence of Secession," which was written by Messrs. Yancey, Rost and Mann, and was addressed to Earl Russell, have done more to aid the South than a million of dollars could have accomplished in subsidizing journals and distributing pamphlets—the publication of that document being regarded as a *quasi* recognition of the South. Other acts are cited as evidences of the sympathy of the Government for the South; and, finally, we are told that the abolition feeling in England is a sentiment which is much more [illegible] nature. It cannot be relied upon in favor of the North against the South, and it will not influence a vote in Parliament.

General Halleck telegraphs to Gen. McClellan that the Confederates, under Jeff. Thompson, had been driven into the swamps, losing six pieces of artillery, and some of his men taken prisoners.

An order has been issued by General Halleck granting permits to trade between Missouri and the countries bordering on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers.

Commodore Foote, in a despatch to the Navy Department, reports that as two gunboats were approaching Pittsburg, eight miles above Savannah on the Tennessee river, they were fired upon by a battery of six guns, mounted on a bluff. An engagement took place which resulted in silencing the battery. Ninety men were then landed who charged upon the Confederates and drove them some distance, but reinforcements coming up the Federal troops were obliged to retire to their boats with a loss of five killed and missing, and five wounded. A telegram from Cairo via Chicago, mentions the same facts; but does not confirm Commodore Foote's statement, that the Confederate reinforcements "were repulsed with great slaughter."

The New York *Times*, in an editorial, complains that one of the effects of the prohibition placed upon the Press, in regard to the publication of war news on the line of the Potomac, has been to fill the city with rumors of the most painful kind with reference to the military events of last week. The *Times* alleges that these rumors not only carried dismay to many hearts, but depressed the stock market. A doubt is expressed as to whether any of the plans of the military leaders have ever reached the enemy through the columns of the public journals, but instances are cited in which those plans were made known by other parties. The *Times* adds: "These facts show how entirely mis-directed is the Government censorship;" and concludes by charging that "the new regulation unmistakeably intended among other things to insure the public against fallacious reports, is the parent of a legion of rumors, monstrous in their proportions, which, in the present state of things, there is nothing to check or contradict."

Some daring persons made a breach in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, on Saturday night last, at a point about midway between Georgetown and the Chain Bridge. They dug away the embankment at a sharp turn in the canal until the water began to flow through the breach. The earth being soft at the time, the entire embankment for the space of one hundred feet was rapidly washed away, [illegible] completely drained that the transported in wagons a distance of ten miles [illegible] is not known by whom this bold act was perpetrated.

The Confederates have abandoned Columbus.—They succeeded in removing all their guns. Before retiring it is reported that they laid the town in ashes. The garrison which left Columbus now occupies, it is said, Fort Randolph.

The Princess Alice of England is soon to marry the Prince Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt, and the marriage treaty has been published in the London papers. It consists of nine articles, and was signed last August. It provides that the Prince shall receive a dowry of £30,000, to be put at interest for the joint use of the wife and husband, and this interest, with the Prince's income of forty thousand florins, will be their joint revenue. Queen Victoria also promises her daughter £6,000 a year, for her own personal use, which can never be alienated or mortgaged from her by her husband. If the Prince dies before the Princess the latter is to receive from the State of Hesse-Darmstadt a revenue of twenty thousand florins, "and a residence at Darmstadt suited to her exalted rank, and completely furnished, according to the usage prevailing in the Grand-Ducal house of Hesse, shall be assured to her as Dowager-residence." But if she marries again she forfeits these privileges.

BRITISH MARINE LOSSES.—During the last nine years preceding 1861, the number of vessels lost on the coasts and in the seas of the British Isles was 10,336, the lives lost by these were 7,201. The Royal National Life-Boat Institution, in the year 1861, incurred expenses amounting to upward of $29,575 in placing new life-boats, transporting carriages and building houses at life-boat stations. During the year, 283 lives were saved by life-boats, and the institution granted rewards amounting to about $1,560 for saving 128, shipwrecked persons by shore-boats and other means, making a total of 411. The number of lives saved by the life-boats of the society, and other means, since its formation is 12,293; for which services 82 gold medals, 704 silver medals, and $76,250 in cash, having been paid in rewards. The society has also expended $280,000 on life-boats, life-boat transporting carriages and boat-houses. The society has now 121 life-boats under its management.

The body guard of Gen. Buckner was composed largely of the sons of Union citizens of Louisville. Nearly all the prominent Union families of Kentucky are represented in the rebel army.

The Recent Arrests in Alexandria, Va.—A Reply to the Correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

To the Editors of the Maryland News-Sheet:

GENT:—You have published in your paper, from the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, the article to which the following is a reply, and which has been sent to that paper for publication. We respectfully request, in justice to the parties concerned, that you give this also a place in the *News-Sheet*. TRUTH.

Messrs. Editors of the Philadelphia Inquirer:

In your paper of ——date, I notice a communication from this city giving an account of the arrest and imprisonment of a number of the most respectable of our citizens, and professing to give the reasons for their arrest. I have no means of knowing what were the real grounds for the arrests, but I do know that the charges brought against these gentlemen by your correspondent are altogether without foundation. It is true that there has existed and does exist in this community an Association for the Relief of the Poor, to which the gentlemen named, in common with many others, were contributors, most of those arrested being officers of the society; but it is not true that the Society was formed exclusively "for the purpose of supporting the families of soldiers in the army of the Confederate States."

It is not true, as asserted by your correspondent, that the Society, or the members of the same, have "been engaged in the manufacture of Confederate uniforms, which were distributed among subordinate female associations." Not one dollar of the funds of the Association have ever been used for any such purpose, but have been entirely devoted to the supplying the necessities of the poor without any inquiry or consideration as to whether any member of the family thus supplied was in the service of the Federal or Confederate army. The only facts looked to were the character and necessities of the recipient. An effort was made the past winter to enlist a company of soldiers for a Virginia United States regiment in this city. One individual only, the writer is informed, enlisted; and the family of that individual, during the whole winter, has partaken of the charity of this Association, in common with the other poor of the city. Such an agent for distribution of food or clothing to the poor, is no new thing in this city. The writer has been a subscriber to this, or kindred associations, for several years. The chief director or agent, until a few months past, was Mr. Sylvester Scott, a Northern gentleman now with his friends in the North, but for many years a most esteemed citizen of this place, beloved by all Christian people for his earnest and self-denying labors among the poor. The funds of this, or previous associations, until he left here to visit his friends, were faithfully disbursed by him.

It is not true that the Association, or any members of the same, or the gentlemen arrested, furnished arms or munitions of war (as asserted by your correspondent) to the Confederate States—or had, directly or indirectly, anything to do with any purpose of the kind. It is not true, as asserted by your correspondent, that any considerable quantity, or any quantity, "have been discovered in this city packed for shipment, consisting of knapsacks and weapons." Your correspondent asserts "that letters were found acknowledging the receipt, through the agency of the Association, of rifles and pistols in Richmond." We deny that any such letters were found, or ever existed, and call upon him, if they exist, to produce them, and pub ish them in your paper. The only fact that approaches to any of the statements of your correspondent, that has come to the writer's knowledge, is this: that about this time last year, when this city was occupied by the Confederate troops, some ladies of the city did provide for them some articles of clothing. Mr. Henry Dangerfield, who, your correspondent says, was arrested, has not been in Alexandria since last May. His brother, Mr. John B. Dangerfield, was the person arrested. They have no brother living, and never have had one in the Confederate army, as asserted by your correspondent. TRUTH.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

LONDON, Feb. 13, 1862.—"Wait, wait, wait." These are now the potent words in England. Parliament has met. The American question is the only one of any interest. The manner in which the Trent business has been settled is not satisfactory. Mr. Seward not only made no apology, but declared that he would have kept the Confederate ambassadors, had the national interests required it. It will please Mr. Lovejoy to learn that members of the Lords and Commons are but little better satisfied than he is.

There is also some mild thunder coming on. The imprisonment of British subjects. The case of Mr. Shaver and others have already been called up in the House of Lords. And when Mr. Gregory, the member from Galway, spoke of the ineffectiveness of the blockade, he was greeted with "hears," instead of the derisive laughter of the last session. There is no doubt that the most stirring debates of the present session will be on the blockade and the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. But the answer of the Government will be, *wait*. We have been told by the American Press, and by speakers in Congress, that the matter must be settled in sixty days—that in that time, the South must be crushed, or the North must be ruined. The sixty days are drawing to a close. It will be useless to recognize a Power which is to be crushed so soon—useless to trouble ourselves, if the war is to end so suddenly. Why go to war, or even prepare for war, about a matter that will be settled in a few weeks? The hope of England now is that the North will soon be exhausted, and so overwhelmed with financial difficulties, that the Government will be compelled to make peace. And as it has been demonstrated in the Trent affair that the Government is not afraid of the mob, J. B. is looking forward to an early supply of cotton.

Mr. Yancey took his departure shortly after the passage in the West Indian steamer, which may be the case, or it may be only a blind to conceal his real destination. As he has been chosen Senator of Alabama in the Confederate Congress, I suppose he will make an effort to get to Richmond, which he may do either through Canada, from the West Indies to Florida, or from Texas. There are ways enough. It is generally supposed that the Southern Commissioners have expended large sums of money in suborning the press and publishing pamphlets in London and Paris. I believe that this is a mistake. In the first place they have had no money to spend, and in the second, no occasion to spend it in this manner. The Tory and Conservative press, and most of the Whig papers, have abused the North *con amore*. There was no need to bribe them.—They have been but too ready to publish everything that could damage the North and help the South, and now the Government has given official publication to the strongest document yet written in defence of secession—the despatch of Messrs. Yancey, Rost and Mann to Lord John Russell, last August. You will see, with astonishment, no doubt, that these Commissioners have been, in a certain sense, officially received, and that their despatches are published for Parliament and the whole country, with the same official formality as those of Mr. Adams, or any accredited Minister to the Court of St. James. The expenditure of a million dollars in suborning the press or distributing pamphlets, would not have done so much for them, as the official recognition and publication of this single document.

But the Government, to all appearance, means to preserve the attitude of neutrality until fairly forced out of it. They have stood with lighted matches and held Captain Craven of the Tuscarora still for twenty-four hours, while the Nashville was steaming away in triumph. By this time she may have burnt a dozen merchantmen. The Sumter, at last accounts, was making her lair under the guns of Gibraltar. She can stay only twenty-four hours at a time, under present arrangements, but should a United States man-of-war go there to find her, the Sumter would have plenty of time to run away and into another port of safety. And as to the actual neutality, there is precious little. The people of England, certainly four-fifths of all who have any influence, wished the Nashville to escape, rejoice in every feat of the Sumter, would rejoice with a great joy over Northern defeat, as they did over Bull Run, and say as little as possible of a Northern victory. The feeling of the Northern Country is reflected in the Colonies. You have denounced Mr. Lovejoy's speech. It was neither polite nor politic, but his sentiments are very heartily reciprocated on this side of the water. Where are these mutual antipathies to end? The Queen, it is said, is friendly to America. She has a mother's heart, and does not forget the kindly reception given to her eldest son. It is said that the last time her lamented husband took a pen into his hand, was to soften, at her Majesty's request, the despatch of the Foreign Secretary respecting the Trent. If a Queen of England had as much power as the President of the United States, the friendship of Queen Victoria would be of great value, and her feelings in this matter will doubtless be a restraint upon the Ministry, and tend to keep them to their present policy of waiting the progress of events.

That progress can scarcely be rapid, at the present season. It is hard to see how armies can move in Virginia or Kentucky before April. But this season which they might act to the best advantage, but no one expects Spaunah, or New Orleans, or Mobile, or Charleston, or any of those cities taken, but no one expects Spaunah, or New Orleans, or Mobile, or Charleston, or any of those cities taken, but no one expects Spaunah, or New tremities. It is necessary to strike to its heart. That heart beats now in Virginia. We must, therefore, await the season of military operations on the Potomac, and cannot look for decisive results in the field, until the army of Gen. McClellan can move, once more, onward, toward Richmond. I shall look for this movement not earlier than the anniversary of the attack upon Fort Sumter. If the back of the rebellion can be broken by a decisive victory in Virginia, followed up by vigorous operations on the Mississippi and the seaboard, another twelvemonth, or two years, at most, might see every Southern State held by Northern garrisons. There might not be peace for several years. There would be insurrections, perhaps, as happens elsewhere; but a strong Government, with a powerful army, a growing navy and abundant resources, ought certainly to be able to hold a country it was able to subdue.

In the discussion of American affairs in England, we generally hear something about Slavery. But the abolition feeling here is a sentiment, and a matter of course, and not very practical in its character. The manufacturers of England would not give one farthing more a pound for free cotton, to abolish all the Slavery in the world. They believe in "Uncle Tom's Cabin;" they rejoice in the emancipation of the negroes in the West Indies; they hold Slavery in abhorrence—many do, and the rest agree to it—but I cannot find that this sentiment is to be relied upon in favor of the North or against the South. It will not influence a vote in Parliament. Repeal the Morrill tariff, and you will do more to secure the favor of England than if you were to-morrow to proclaim the liberation of every slave in America. Besides, the British people paid the masters the value of their negroes. By doing this, they recognized the right of property in slaves. If you wish to please them, you must do the same. Why should you accomplish such a glorious thing as the freedom of your slaves more cheaply than they have done it?

Gen. Thomas' brilliant victory in Kentucky is scarcely noticed in the English papers, with the exception of the *News* and the *Star*. Had it been a defeat of the Confederate victory, the *Times* would have had three leaders on it, besides all the particulars. But the fighting is no longer looked upon here as the important matter. You may beat or be beaten over three hundred thousand square miles of territory; you may march armies from the Potomac to the Mississippi, and from the Ohio to the Gulf, but the real question here is, how long can you go on paying out $2,000,000 a day? If you do not tax and raise the money, how long can the credit of the Government paper be sustained? and if you do tax, how long will the people continue to pay? The people, here, study the maps in the shop windows or elsewhere, and wonder what will become of California and Oregon—Oregon, which they think ought to be a British province. They wonder whether States that have repudiated paltry amounts will pay all these millions.

They judge Americans, perhaps, by the people of their own colonies and provinces. England cannot tax Canada or Australia. Taxation in India is likely, before many months, to bring about another rebellion. It is only here that men can be ground to death with taxation, and here the people would resist, if they were not stupefied and powerless.—If the working millions of England had votes, or any real voice in the Government, or power in the State, how long would the present system last?—But when you have a hundred thousand votes in a population of six millions, what can you expect?—As a rule, the people who vote in this country are benefited by the taxes. The burden falls upon those who have no voice in the matter.

It is considered here that a National debt is a National blessing. It is one America is likely to enjoy for many years to come. Its effect here is unquestionably to strengthen the Government.—Every person who collects, or disburses, or receives the public revenue, is interested in the stability of the Government. These make a vast and powerful army. All power is in their hands. Church, army, navy, colonies, civil list, constabulary, officers of revenue and imposts, all support the Government. The Chartists, the Radicals, the Reformers, are scarcely heard of, and thoroughly despised. Now, if England is made so strong by her National debt, why may not America become so by the same means? Or will universal suffrage, perhaps, be an obstacle? The debt comes, day by day. We shall soon know what will be the result. There must be many people who would be better satisfied if they had the worth of their money.

FROM THE SOUTH.

Invasion of the North.

The Norfolk *Day Book* of Thursday concludes a very bitter article on the conduct of the war as follows:

"The struggle will be prolonged until the North feels the horrors of warfare. Teach them what the desolations of their firesides mean. Let the dread and danger of war excite their quiet homes, and let painful anxieties surround their habitations.—Then we will secure the peace that we await them to give us. Invade their country; subsist on the abundant fruits of their tillage and their manufactures; press in service their vehicles of transportation, and support our armies at their expense.

"Such a war would thrill the South from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. Every heart would swell with joy, every eye beam with delight. The military excitement, we know, would be intense, and the army ranks be increased ten-fold; popular enthusiasm would support this turn in affairs, and thus would we conquer an abiding peace.

"The soldier's cares would be forgotten, and a new scene dazzle his vision, and the banner of his pride, now drooping for active fields of glory, would be borne aloft to gain imperishable honors in its country's cause."

The Burning of Cotton and Tobacco.

Mr. Henry, of Tennessee, offered the following resolution in the Rebel Congress at Richmond on Wednesday last:

"WHEREAS, It is desirable to encourage the planters of tobacco and cotton in the Confederate States, and others who are *bona fide* owners thereof, to destroy, by burning or otherwise, those articles, rather than that they shall fall into the hands of the enemy; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That all such persons who shall burn their cotton or tobacco, or otherwise destroy the same, to prevent these articles from falling into the hands of the army or navy of the United States, shall be fully indemnified by the Government of the Confederate States, upon proof of the number of pounds of tobacco or cotton so destroyed, and proof of the necessity of such destruction to prevent the enemy from getting possession thereof."

From the New York Times, March 4.

THE SUPPRESSION OF WAR NEWS.

The first law of political economy is, that mischief always results from the intermeddling with the laws of trade. Interference with the currents of public intelligence and opinion is no less hazardous. Yesterday the city was agitated with the most painful rumors in regard to the military events of last week. It was freely asserted, on the voucher of private authority, that General Banks, after passing the Potomac, had met with a serious disaster; that General Lander had been killed in battle; that the reverse would cause a postponement of operations for a fortnight at least. It was equally current that the conduct of Gen. McClellan had incurred the severest censure of the Administration, insomuch that a substitute would have to be found for him before a general advance should be made in earnest.

Wild and improbable as these rumors were, they were in the mouths of everybody. They carried dismay to thousands of hearts; they depressed the stock market. In the ordinary course of things nothing of the sort could have happened. So long as the public had reason to confide in the press having full and authentic details of all that was occurring, it had only to inspect the bulletin board, or await the evening edition, to correct flying rumors. But the order of the War Department has changed this. The lies contrived by the malicious and mischievous, or by the speculator anxious to affect the movements of Wall street, have now free course, and truth is placed in the index. No obstruction stands in the way of the freest circulation of falsehood; the War Office censorship applies only to facts.

For the intense public agony of suspense, anxiety, dread, we demand in vain any adequate compensation. We are told that the necessity of withholding the plans of our military leaders from the enemy exacts the rule. There is no evidence that any plans of the military leaders have ever reached the enemy through the Press. It has only needed a request from the authorities for the suppression of such information to obtain from the newspapers a proper degree of reticence. The expeditions to Port Royal and to Roanoke Island attest this fact. And it is equally well attested that what was so scrupulously withheld from the people of the North, and what the loyal Press so religiously concealed, was commonly known in the South. The Confederate Government was enabled to make every preparation to meet the coming attacks. While Northern journals were silent, and loyal people were content to remain in patient ignorance, the Confederates exulted in the enjoyment of the amplest intelligence. It is now known that for days before the arrival of Commodore Dupont off Hilton Head, General Drayton, of the Confederate army, was engaged in herculean efforts to repel him. And among the papers left by the Confederates on Roanoke Island was one detailing the entire programme of the Burnside Expedition. These facts show how entirely mis-directed is the Government censorship. The system would prove at once just and efficient, if, instead of leaving the public mind a prey to the most aggravating and painful rumors, it expended its energies in purging the War Department and the quarters of the commanding General of spies and traitors.

It is true that the order of Secretary Stanton has been treated with contemptuous disregard by certain journals, and that information, more or less detailed as to recent movements, which the order was designed to conceal, has been published. A bulletin or two, authorized by the military censorship, has also been made public. But the mere fact of a censorship; the mere fact that penalties are impending over the promulgation of the truth, destroys public confidence in what the public is permitted to receive. What evidence is there, when we are told of General Banks crossing the Potomac and advancing to Charlestown, that the facts of the advance having been attended with a sharp action, and having been checked, and that an original plan of pushing directly on to Winchester had consequently been abandoned, were not suppressed by authority?

What is there in the authorized statement of Gen. Lander's death to confute a rumor that he died of a wound received the day before on a disastrous battle-field? All the blanks left by the military censorship in the information vouchsafed to the people, designing men or the popular imagination will crowd with the direst figures and frightful stories, which will survive and work wrong and sorrow, until accident or time shall show their falsity. *Omne ignotum pro magnifico:* the untold is always exaggerated. The new regulation, unmistakably intended, among other things, to insure the public against fallacious reports, is the parent of a legion of rumors, monstrous in proportions, which, in the present state of things, there is nothing to check or contradict. So profoundly has the Government erred in meddling with the Press.

From the National Intelligencer.

DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION.

We understand that yesterday Mr. Frederick L. Paniagua presented his credentials to the President, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Resident of the Republic of Peru. The following is a translation of his address:

"SIR—The President of Peru, desirous of reciprocating the sentiments of friendship and good-will which your Excellency entertains towards the Peruvian people, and has had the kindness to express through his worthy representative lately accredited, has pleased to appoint me his Minister resident near your Excellency's Government.

In presenting to your Excellency the autograph letter which announces that appointment, the President has ordered me to assure you that the Peruvian Government and people offer sincere vows for the prosperity of this fine country, to which they are united by so many ties of friendship and of political and commercial interests.

It will be very gratifying to me to merit the approval of your Excellency in the discharge of the mission which has been confided to me, and, apprised of the sentiments you foster in regard to the Spanish-American Republics, and the exalted principles of justice which direct the acts of your Administration in regard to them, I trust with confidence to obtain that approval which I long for.

To which the President replied as follows:

Mr. Barreda—The United States have no enmities, animosities, or rivalries, and no interests which conflict with the welfare, safety, rights, or interests of any other nation. Their own prosperity, happiness, and aggrandizement are sought most safely and advantageously through the preservation not only of peace on their own part, but peace among all other nations.

But while the United States are thus a friend to all other nations, they do not seek to conceal the fact that they cherish especial sentiments of friendship for and sympathies with those who, like themselves, have founded their institutions on the principle of the equal rights of men, and of such nations the United States, are co-operating with them in establishing civilization and culture on the American continent.

Such being the general principles which govern the United States in their foreign relations, you may be assured, sir, that in all things this Government will deal justly, frankly, and if possible, even liberally with Peru, whose liberal sentiments towards us have so kindly expressed. Your own character as well as the assurances of your Government, leave no room for doubt that you will meet us in the same spirit, and I think therefore, I can promise you an agreeable residence in this Capitol.

FROM WASHINGTON.

From the Washington Star of Yesterday.

MURFREESBORO NOT EVACUATED.

The New York *Times* is evidently in error in stating in its issue of yesterday that the Confederates have fallen back from Murfreesboro, upon alleged authority of a despatch from General Buell to the General-in-Chief here. No such despatch has reached the headquarters. On the contrary, a despatch from General B. to General McClellan, dated at Nashville this forenoon, mentions nothing of the sort. Had the Confederates moved from Murfreesboro in either direction, it is of course to be presumed that General Buell would by this time have announced the fact here.

SANTA ANNA HAS A FINGER IRIT.

It is understood here in well-informed circles, that Santa Anna and Almonte are among the main movers in the conspiracy to convert Mexico into a monarchy, with the Austrian Prince Maximilian, on the throne. Santa Anna's busy finger could not well keep out of the mischief.

NAVY YARD.

There have been no arrivals at the yard since those already reported. The King Philip expected to go down the river this afternoon. The Baltimore took on her new boilers this morning, and will soon be ready for service again. The Yankee, which came up from the flotilla on Sunday morning, returned again in the afternoon quite suddenly, leaving at the yard several of her officers, including her pilot, and a party of army officers from Hooker's division. It is reported that a new Confederate battery, mounting fourteen guns, has been discovered off Sandy Point, but no particulars are given.

Special Washington Despatches to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

DESTRUCTION OF THE OHIO AND CHESAPEAKE CANAL.

The Ohio and Chesapeake Canal, running up the Potomac on the Maryland side to Harper's Ferry, which has been used to transport provisions and munitions of war to our troops, was opened last night about half-way between Georgetown and Chain Bridge, and all the water was let out, washing away the embankment which was nearest to the river. For about one hundred feet here the canal makes a sharp turn on following the river.

No houses are near the place, and the traitors have dug down the bank, which was of mellow earth, and only ten feet wide at the top and thirty feet at the base, until the water started a passage through, when the whole bank was rapidly washed away. By wagoning ten miles, the canal can still be used from that point up; but few boats are up there, however. Who did it of course is a mystery; but watch will be kept on bridges and canals hereafter, which so far have been nearly entirely neglected.

A DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.

On Wednesday morning, as Captain Griffith, of the eighty-eighth Pennsylvania regiment, and who is Provost-Marshal of Alexandria, was sitting with his wife at the breakfast table, shrieks were heard from the upper chamber, where they had left their little daughter, six years old, lying in bed; and upon going thither, they found the little one rushing around the floor, enveloped in flames. The father threw himself upon the suffering child, and smothered the flames, severely burning himself in the operation. It was found that the child had been frightfully burned; and the little sufferer lingered along in the most excruciating agony until the afternoon, when she expired.

DIVORCE CASE.

The Circuit Court of this city has ordered the petition for divorce of General John M. Brannan, (Captain Fifth Artillery, United States Army,) now commanding at Key West, to be published. It sets forth that he was married in 1850, that in 1858 his wife mysteriously disappeared, (it will be remembered that it was thought she had been murdered on Staten Island,) and that in 1860 he learned that she was alive, living in Florence with Powell D. Wyman, as man and wife. Mr. Wyman was an officer in the same regiment with General Brannan, and is now Colonel of a Massachusetts regiment at Fortress Monroe. It will be remembered that when Gov. Andrew objected to an appointment recommended by General Butler, on the ground of the immoral conduct of the appointee, the General referred to this case. It is understood that Colonel Wyman has been married abroad to the lady from whom General Brannan now claims a divorce, and that he was recommended for his present position by Edward Everett and other prominent Bostonians.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate to-day confirmed Generals McClernand, Buell, Burnside, McDowell, C. F. Smith and Lew. Wallace Siegel as Major Generals; and the following as Brigadier Generals:—Speed, of Tennessee; Col. John Cochrane, of New York; Col. Logan, of Illinois; Col. McArthur, of Ohio; Col. Lawrence, of Iowa; Col. Wallace, of Indiana; Col. McCook, of Ohio; Col. Berry, of Maine, and Col. Ferry, of Connecticut.

SENATOR JOHNSON APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE.

Senator Andrew Johnson accepts his appointment as Military Governor of Tennessee, and will repair at once to his post, having been furnished by the Government with fifty thousand stand of arms for the loyal Tennesseeans, who are flocking to our camps.

From the Agent of the Associated Press.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 3.—The steamship Constitution, whilst going up to Newport-News last night, was fired at by the battery at Pig's Point, but she was not struck.

There was no flag of truce to-day, and nothing is yet known relative to the expected released prisoners.

This afternoon there was some heavy firing at Cranny Island. Whether [illegible]

There is no news.

Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

On a Flag of Truce.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 2.—Yesterday morning the steamer Express proceeded up the James river as far as Day's Point, to await the arrival of Col. Corcoran and our released prisoners from Richmond. The boat lay at anchor all day and during last night. About one o'clock yesterday afternoon a large war steamer was seen approaching, with a white flag at the stem, and the "Stars and Bars" to back it up.

Coming nearly alongside and laying to, a boat was lowered, in charge of two naval officers of doubtful rank. When the boat was close alongside, the rebel C. S. N. O. desired to know what she wanted. Captain Millward met him at the gangway, and, seeing his boat was not covered by a white flag, asked him if he had no flag of truce.

The Rebel officer replied—"No, sir; I belong to the sloop-of-war Jamestown."

"Use a white handkerchief, then," said Captain Millward, "as otherwise I cannot communicate with you."

It is needless to say the linen article was quickly produced, the rebel came on board the Express, learned our business, and returned under the protection of his pocket-handkerchief to report to his senior officer.

The Jamestown C. S. N.

As the Jamestown lay but a few yards from us I had an excellent view of her outside and upper deck. She is furnished with a heavy, clumsy and ridiculous-looking iron prow in front the point of which barely projects above the water, and a wag at hand said *he did not "see it."* To all appearance the ship is not razzed at all, iron plated, or pierced for broadside guns. Her battteries seemed to consist of a thirty two pounder rifled piva gun fore-and-aft. As they were similar to the Parrot gun, the question was asked of the Rebel officer, "Are those Parrot guns?" to which a negative answer was given.

The only remarkable alterations observable in the Jamestown were the removl of masts and rail and the increased deck room affrded.

The Patrick Henry, which was lying above us some five miles, has the appearance of being a better war vessel in many respects.

These steamers have each a crw of about seventy officers and men—some of the latter acting as marines. The seamen and officrs are uniformed similar to our own, and the latter wore badges of rank very much like those worn by the officers of the United States Navy.

No further communication was had with the Rebels, and at twelve o'clock tday the Express got up steam to return home, afr waiting for the Rebel steamer for more than twenty-four hours after the time appointed for the meetir.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

(Regular Session)

FIRST BRANCH.—The Branch m at 5 o'clock.—Present WM. S. CROWLEY, Esq., lesident *pro tem.*, and all the members.

Dr. SCHWARIZR presented a pition from Wm. Westerman asking permission t sink a well in front of his premises, corner Wooland Alice Anna streets.

Mr. KIMBERLY presented a repo from the Committee on Police and Jail referring petitions to have gas lamps placed on certn streets to the City Comptroller. Laid on the tab.

Also a report referring certain solutions asking to have gas mains placed on Mison and other streets to the City Comptroller Laid on the table.

Mr. YOUNG presented an ordince relative to the erection of awnings. Laid on e table.

Mr. [illegible] presented a reportom the Committee on the Harbor with a resolutn discharging the committes from the consideratiof the subject of wharf tariff on lumber. Adopted

Also a resolution referring the bject to the Comptroller. Adopted.

Mr. YOUNG presented a preamble ad resolution thanking John W. Garrett, Esq., Pridnt of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Comny, for his letter in response to the resolution cCongress of January 15th, 1862. Laid on the tab.

Mr. DUKEHART presented an ordince providing for the appointment of commissioes for deepening the harbor. Laid on the table.

Mr. HOOPES presented a resolutio authorizing the Union Mechanics' Relief Asociatsh to place a lamp in front of their house on Fayes street near Eutaw street. Adopted.

Mr. SAUERWEIN presented an ordinance prohibiting persons from holding more tn one office under the city government. Laid on bs table.

Mr. DUKEHART offered a resolutionrequiring of the City Commissioners the probabl cost of removing the pile of bricks on Fayett street near North. Adopted.

Mr. DUHR called up the ordinance fixing the rates of water tax. It was discussed and amended, and then laid on the table.

Adjourned.

SECOND BRANCH.—Branch met. CHA. J. BAKER, Esq., President in the chair, and all te members present.

A report from the Committee on Claims, adverse to the petitions of Raymond & Hartsonand others, was received from the First Branch and concurred in.

Also, a report from the Committee on Ways and Means, adverse to the establishment of an Insurance Company by the Mayor and City Council.

Mr. GHORON offered a resolution directing the City Commissioners to open a sewer into Canal street, from an alley running from Capa street to Lewis street. Referred.

Adjourned.

Carl Schurz, our late Minister to Spain, will be in New York to-morrow. He is announced to speak at the mass meeting at the Cooper Institute on Thursday evening.

The Washington *Star* states that the new Minister to Russia, Mr. Cameron, will leave this country about the first of the coming month.

A GRAND TRUNK RAILROAD FROM NEW YORK TO MEMPHIS.—We have been apprised, says the Philadelphia *Press*, of a scheme to "build a great railroad from New York to Memphis, Tennessee, by way of Trenton, Norristown, Downingtown, Hagerstown, and (via the valley of Western Virginia) Cumberland Gap. This immense work has been devised with the enterprise of New York capitalists, and is being accomplished with their customary insidiousness. If perfected, it will place Philadelphia seventeen miles from the main line, and thus make New York the direct eastern terminus."

The Rev. Henry Clay Dean collected an audience at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, one evening last week, to lecture on the "Character of the Rebels." Lieut. Col. Tom Drummond of the 4th Iowa Cavalry attended, with a squad of men, and compelled the Rev. Dean to preface his lecture with an oath of allegiance, duly signed, under fear of arrest and the guard-house. Then Dean abused Drummond, and Drummond concluded the performance by knocking Dean down. There was great excitement in the audience—ladies screamed—one fainted.

GUNBOATS IN THE RECENT GALE.—A letter received in New York from a person on board the gunboat Clifton, (formerly a Staten Island ferry-boat,) states that the Clifton and Westfield were caught in the heavy northwest gale of last week, and suffered severely. The Clifton was badly damaged, losing her upper works and springing a leak. It was with difficulty that she was taken into Baltimore on Friday last, all hands working at the pumps. The Westfield, which left Quarantine with the Clifton, had not been heard of.

MARRIED.

On Friday evening, February 28th, by Rev. David Wilson, GEORGE H. POLTON and Miss SARAH INGALS, all of Baltimore.

On the 27th ultimo, by Rev. Mr. Brandau, JNO. A. GIESLER to Miss DOROTHEA ACELER, both of this city.

DIED.

On the 1st instant, after a brief illness, WM. T. MOOR, in the 35th year of his age.

On Monday afternoon, 31 instant, Mrs. ELIZABETH SAUNDERS, in the 74th year of her age.

WILLIAM F. OWENS,
205 BALTIMORE STREET,
Has just received a NEW, CHOICE and COMPLETE assortment of
FALL AND WINTER
FURNISHING GOODS
FOR
GENTLEMEN.
Cartwright & Warner's celebrated English Merino
UNDER-SHIRTS AND DRAWERS.
Scotch Wool, Red and Shaker Flannel Goods of every size and quality.
SHIRTS MADE TO ORDER
by our improved pattern, and warranted to fit. o17-tfr

FISHER BROTHER & Co.,
FRENCH DYERS AND SCOURERS.
Office (old stand), No. 129 West Fayette street, between Sarah and Howard, and
No. 25 Baltimore street, south side, three doors east of Gay.
We take the liberty to inform our customers and public generally, that we have combined with our FRENCH SCOURING A FANCY DYEING ESTABLISHMENT, and will be able to execute any work entrusted to our care, in the new branch of our business, to the entire satisfaction of our patrons.
To our old customers we tender our thanks for their patronage so liberally bestowed upon us for many years, and respectfully solicit a continuance of the same. For our new establishment we request a trial. Having fitted up the same with the latest French Dyeing apparatus at a considerable expense, we have obtained the services of a gentleman, whom we have given an interest in the business, who has had considerable experience in the largest and most celebrated dyeing establishments in France and in this country. Possessing a thorough chemical knowledge in the art of fancy dye