THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The only notice the undersigned desires to take of the labored apology which S. Broadbent, Sr., published in yesterday's papers for the frauds he has committed against me is to say, that according to said Broadbent's own suggestion "the books, vouchers and accounts have been placed in the hands of competent parties for strict investigation," and those parties compose the present *Grand Jury*, which body, I have no doubt, *will* "strictly investigate the whole matter and thus subserve the ends of justice."

It is due to myself, however, to state further, that the prosecution of Broadbent is a *criminal* one *merely*, I not expecting thereby to recover *one dollar's* worth of the *extensive and valuable* property of which, it will be duly shown, I have been defrauded. I am willing to let *it* go; the only indemnification I ask or desire being, that the law and the courts *will mete out to the perpetrators of the crime due punishment for their guilt*.

B. FRANCK.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATRE.

NOTICE.

The Manager regrets to state that the protracted illness of

MR. FORREST

will preclude the possibility of his appearing to-night as advertised; he therefore respectfully announces the

GREAT AMERICAN DRAMA

of the

OCTOROON,

Received with such favor on Tuesday evening.

Dance.....Miss Olivia.

To conclude with the laughable farce of

BROTHER BILL AND ME.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States, resolutions were adopted tendering the thanks of Congress to Commodore Foote, and the officers and men under his command, and also to Lieut. Worden and the officers and men on board the Monitor. A debate then ensued on the resolution to expel Senator Powell, of Kentucky, and was continued until the Senate went into Executive session.

In the House of Representatives the consideration of the Tax bill occupied nearly the whole of the session.

From the Upper Potomac we have a telegram stating that the Federal advance of the column of Gen. Banks entered Winchester early on Wednesday morning. The Confederate forces under Jackson retired from the city the evening previous. The garrison consisted only of Loring's brigade and three hundred cavalry, strengthened with field batteries. It is supposed that the Confederates are posted in force at Strasburg, and will accept battle at that point if attacked, but the generally received opinion is, that Jackson will soon move towards the Virginia Central Railway, by the route of the Shenandoah valley. The New York *Herald* has an account of a skirmish near Bunker Hill, between Hamilton's brigade and twelve hundred Confederates, in which the latter lost thirty men in killed and wounded and two guns captured, whilst the Federal loss was nineteen killed and wounded, all of which were of the 1st Maryland regiment. The story is not, however, credited, as later despatches are entirely silent in regard to it.

A very good description of Centreville and Manassas, as these now historically places appeared three days ago when the Federal troops took possession of the empty huts and deserted earthworks, is furnished by the correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*. The Confederates do not appear to have left anything of consequence behind them, except some flour and a few kegs of powder. The wagons reported to have been captured turn out to have been country wagons, which were, for the most part, found useless for transportation purposes; and these numbered but thirty, instead of eighty, as at first reported. The fortifications at Centreville, of which much has been said, were found to be structures hastily thrown up, and evidently designed, like the earthworks at Munson's Hill, to create a false impression in respect to the intention of the Confederates. Not a single heavy gun had ever been mounted on them; but what are sometimes called quaker guns—that is to say, rude wooden imitations of the real article, were [illegible] occupied all the embrasures. In the camps west of Centreville the log huts which constituted the winter quarters of the Confederates had been burned to the ground, "not an article worth anything being left." In another place, however, a number of fine log cabins, plastered, and roofed with shingles, had been spared. At Manassas a similar scene presented itself. The machine shops, station-houses and store-houses were all laid in ashes. Several hundred barrels of flour, which the rear guard had no means of taking away, had been store in, and barrels of molasses and of vinegar mingled their contents upon the ground. Of all else—with the exception of some tents and uniforms, the latter quite new, some shoes and stores, perhaps of little value—a clean sweep had been made.

Apropos to the falling back of the Confederates from Manassas and Winchester, the New York *Post* has an editorial article on "masterly retreats." The *Post* thinks that in praising the generalship and genius of the Federal military and naval commanders the Northern journalists have been a little apt to forget or even to disparage the ability displayed by the Confederate generals. "Jomini, the great writer on the art of war," says the *Post*, declares that "retreats are certainly the most difficult operations of war;" and the Prince de Ligne is quoted as not being "able to conceive how any army ever succeeded in retreating." "Let us then" adds the *Post*, "be just to the enemy who has, at three different times, effected his retreat from untenable positions without the loss of a man or a gun." The three instances alluded to are those of Bowling Green, Columbus and Manassas, the latter, in the opinion of an officer who has seen service in Europe, being "an unheard of event in the whole history of warfare that an army of two hundred thousand men should suffer an enemy, comparatively small in numbers, to slip through its fingers." The *Post* is of the opinion that the retreat from Manassas prolongs the struggle perhaps for months, and "changes the character of the campaign very seriously." Fears are also now "oppressively felt" for the safety of Burnside.

The damage done to the Monitor in her engagement with the Merrimac, is said, on the authority of a letter to the New York *Tribune* from Fortress Monroe, to have been quite small. The deck plating was torn up for a few inches by a ball which penetrated the sheathing about half its diameter. Indentations of some three or four inches were made in the iron work of the tower, and on the wheel house. With the exception of these superficial injuries the Monitor is said to have come out of the battle unscathed. In regard to the Merrimac, intelligence is said to have been received at Fortress Monroe that she went on Wednesday into the dry dock for repairs. From the fact that she was moored in the harbor from Monday until Wednesday, the impression very generally prevails that no serious injury was inflicted on her. Capt. Buchanan, who is reported, on the authority of a despatch from Baltimore to the New York journals, to have died of his wounds, is now quite as confidently pronounced not dead at all, but badly injured in the knee.

The New York *Tribune* comforts the people of that city with the assurance that, warned by the recent occurrences, measures have been taken to garrison the forts with volunteers. Other journals, however, complain of the want of guns of proper calibre.

Major General McClellan has written to the officer in command of Fort Trumbull, New London, Connecticut, calling his attention to the fact that the Merrimac has been doing serious damage in Hampton Roads, and directing that Fort Trumbull should be at once placed in the best possible state of defence. Similar letters have doubtless been sent to all the other commanders of forts on the seaboard.

A telegram from Cairo, yesterday, reports that there were no Confederate troops at Memphis; that General Bragg with ten thousand men had reinforced New Madrid and Island No. 10; that a flotilla of Confederate gunboats had anchored at the latter Island, under command of Captain Hollins, and that the position at Fort Pillow is very strong, but less formidable than Columbus.

The St. Louis *Republican* publishes an account of a bloody battle which occurred near Fort Craig, New Mexico, between the Texans and the Federal forces. The latter, being deserted by the New Mexican levies, were defeated after a long and desperate struggle, with the loss of all their artillery and about two hundred men in killed and wounded.

The Stockton (Cal.) *Argus* states that Mr. McKean Buchanan, the tragedian, was "treed" twenty-three hours during the recent flood near that place. He was finally rescued by some friends, but the party had not proceeded very far till they were forced to take refuge, for the second time, on a tree. They were in this position for twelve hours, when they were rescued and carried safely to Stockton.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM FORT CRAIG.

A BLOODY FIGHT BETWEEN TEXAN AND FEDERAL TROOPS.

A PANIC AMONG THE MEXICAN VOLUNTEERS

THE TEXANS GAIN THE DAY.

ST. LOUIS, March 13.—The *Republican* has advices from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to February 23d, giving details of a recent battle at Fort Craig. The fight commenced on the morning of the 21st, between a portion of our troops, under Colonel Roberts, and the enemy across the Rio Grande, with varied success, until two o'clock. Colonel Canby then crossed the river in force with cavalry, but detailed in command of the battery. He had also a small battery of two howitzers. The enemy are supposed to have had eight pieces. The battle was commenced by the artillery and skirmishers, and soon became general. Towards evening most of the enemy's guns were silenced. They, however, made a desperate charge on the howitzer battery, but were repulsed with great loss.

Captain McCray's battery was defended by Captain Plumton's company of United States infantry and a portion of Colonel Pinos' regiment of Mexican volunteers. The Texan Rebels charged furiously and desperately with their picked men, about six hundred strong. They were armed with carbines, revolvers and long seven-pound bowie knives. After discharging their carbines at close distance, they drew their revolvers and reached the battery, amid a storm of grape and canister. The Mexicans of Pinos' regiment now became panic-stricken and ingloriously fled. Captain Plumton and his infantry bravely stood their ground and fought nobly till more than one half of the company were numbered with the dead. With his artillerymen cut down, and his supports routed killed, wounded, or flying from the field, Captain McCray sat down calmly and quietly on one of his guns, and with revolver in hand refused to fly or desert his flag. He thus fought to the last, and gloriously died like a hero, the last man by his guns. The Texans suffered terribly in this charge. Many of our officers distinguished themselves.—Major Donaldson, who was the chief aid of Colonel Canby acted bravely, and was conspicuous in every part of the field. His horse was wounded, but the Major was not injured. Kit Carson, in command of a regiment of volunteers, deployed as skirmishers, did good service during the action, and behaved well. We have to name the loss of Lieutenants Michler and Stone, who, like Captain McCray, nobly and bravely maintained the honor of our flag to the last. Many other officers were wounded. Our loss is about two hundred killed and wounded; that of the enemy is believed to be much greater. The greatest confidence is reposed in Col. Canby, and if the volunteers will do their duty, the Texans will yet be ignominously driven from New Mexico.

FROM GEN. HALLECK'S DEPARTMENT.

Victorious Attack Upon Rebel Fortifications at Paris, Tenn.—A Brigadier-General Captured in Missouri.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Gen. Halleck has telegraphed the following to the War Department:

ST. LOUIS, March 13.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Our artillery and cavalry yesterday attacked the enemy's works one-half mile west of Paris, Tennessee. The enemy was driven out, with a loss of one hundred killed, wounded and in prisoners. Our loss is Capt. Bull of the artillery and four men killed, and four wounded.

A cavalry force sent out from Lebanon, Missouri, attacked one of Price's guerrilla parties, killing 13, wounding 5, and capturing over 20 prisoners, among whom is Brigadier-General Campbell, the commander.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Occupation of Winchester by Gen. Banks—Retreat of Jackson's Rebel Army—Enthusiastic Greeting of the Union Troops—A large Rebel Force Reported at Strasburg

[The following despatch should have reached Baltimore on Wednesday night, but was detained:]

WINCHESTER, VA., March 12th, 9 P. M.—Jackson's Rebel forces left here last night by the Strasburg road, and the Union forces of Gens. Hamilton and Williams are just entering this town. Company A, of the Wisconsin 3d, Capt. Bertrain, and a company of the Connecticut, followed by Capt. Coles' company of Maryland, and a squadron of Michigan cavalry, were the first to enter the town. Jackson's army was evacuated by Jackson last night.—The people generally here are intensely delighted at our presence, and hail the coming of the Union army as a harbinger of peace and future prosperity. The regiments as they pass are cheered and greeted from the houses with various tokens of welcome, which are responded to warmly by officers and men.

The other column of Gen. Banks' Division which approached by the Berryville route have not yet arrived. Not a shot has been fired thus far.

Yesterday the Rebels arrested eighty of the most prominent Unionists and sent them to Richmond.

It is represented by residents and friends of the Union that at least two-thirds of the population of this town and county are loyal to our Government, but have been compelled to succumb to the Secession pressure, so far at least as an expression of opinion was concerned.

There have been no Richmond papers received here for a week, and the citizens are entirely ignorant of the thrilling events that have transpired within that period.

As an evidence of the privations which the people had to endure under Secession rule, the following prices are quoted: Coffee 75 cents and $1 per pound; sugar 25@37 cents; calico 50 cents; whiskey $2 a pint, and other liquors in the same proportion.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

WINCHESTER, March 12, P. M.—Jackson's force, which retreated from here yesterday, consisted of Loring's Brigade, several field batteries, and three hundred of Ashby's Cavalry, about four thousand men in all. They commenced evacuating the town about sunset. The cavalry were the last to leave, and departed just before we entered the town.

It is represented that there is a large Secession force at Strasburg, and that they intend to make a stand there, but, owing to the state of affairs at Manassas, it is believed that Jackson will make his way up the Shenandoah Valley to the Virginia Central Railroad, and thence proceed to Richmond.

Prominent Secessionists say the Rebel forces will make a stand at Gordonsville, and that they have fortified it to a great extent.

Several prisoners and a small amount of ammunition are all the seizures made here.

Another Account—A Reported Battle.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The *Herald* has a despatch relative to the occupation of Winchester, which says that General Hamilton's Brigade, in their advance from Bunker Hill, encountered a force of 1,200 Rebels, with a battery of artillery, who made battle at five o'clock on the afternoon of Tuesday.

The enemy fled, leaving behind two guns and about thirty men killed and wounded. Our loss was four killed and fifteen wounded of the First Maryland regiment. Skirmishing continued all night, and a few were wounded on both sides. At daybreak our forces advanced in the town raising the flag, the rear guard of the Rebels retiring as we advanced. Large quantities of stores were captured. The people received the troops enthusiastically.

From the Virginia Side.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Accounts received tonight from the Virginia side represent nothing of especial interest as transpiring among our troops. According to the statement of one of our officers, a masked battery of three guns was discovered yesterday on the Warrenton Turnpike between Centreville and Bull Run.

The Latest from Winchester.

WINCHESTER, March 12, 12 o'clock—noon.—Heavy explosions were heard here at 10 o'clock last night in the direction of Strasburg, which it is believed, was caused by the enemy blowing up the stone arched bridge over Cedar Creek, to prevent pursuit. There was a skirmish last night on the Strasburg road, led by Major Max Van Allen's cavalry. He pursued Col. Ashby's flying scouts until he came upon the main body of the latter, taking several prisoners.

Last night was acknowledged, even by Secession ladies, it have been the most quiet for six months. Several thousand soldiers were in town and the remark was added: "It was no wonder our arms are victorious from the excellent discipline of our troops."

Col. Seward has been detailed for Provost by order of Gen. Hamilton, military commander:

Among the distinguished persons here is. Mrs. Dandridge, formerly Mrs. Bliss, daughter of President Taylor. Her husband is an officer in the Rebel army.

Col. Fauntleroy, late of the Federal army, but now a Brig. Gen. of Virginia troops, effected his escape hence on Tuesday on our approval.

WINCHESTER, March 13, P. M.—Two locomotives surmounted with the stars and stripes with a long train of cars, started hence for Harper's Ferry at 9 o'clock this morning. It conveyed a large military mail.

A strong cavalry scout last night failed to overtake Col. Ashby's regiment on the Strasburg road. It is believed he has reached Jackson at Strasburg. A few of his scouts may remain this side of Cedar Creek.

WINCHESTER, March 13, 8 P. M.—Yesterday a squadron of Michigan cavalry pursued Colonel Ashby's Rebel cavalry several miles. A skirmish ensued nine miles hence on the Strasburg road. The Michigan men took six prisoners, including Second Lieutenant Murray, of Ashby's corps.

When General Jackson evacuated the town he left unmolested the railroad and rolling stock, consisting of five locomotives, four passenger and fourteen freight cars.

A train hence for Harper's Ferry will start early this morning for commissary supplies. The telegraph line has been completed to this place, making a complete connection with all points.

A number of Rebel deserters have given themselves up.

The advance to this place was planned and led by Brig. Gen. Hamilton, with the impression that our approach would be strongly resisted, and it would doubtless have proved eminently successful against Jackson's resistance.

Yesterday Col. Mix Van Allen, with a squadron of his cavalry, pounced upon a party of Rebel cavalry, four miles west of Berryville, while they were breakfasting. He wounded three and took three prisoners.

THE BATTLE OF PEA RIDGE, ARKANSAS.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

BRIG. McCULLOCH KILLED.

THIRTEEN PIECES OF ARTILLERY CAPTURED.

FEDERAL LOSS EIGHT HUNDRED TO ONE THOUSAND.

HEAVY LOSS OF THE REBELS.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN.

ST. LOUIS, March 13.—Further particulars of the great battle at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, have been received.

The rebel officers killed and wounded were:—Gen. Ben. McCulloch, killed; Brig. Gen. Slack, dangerously wounded; Col. Herbert, of Louisiana, killed; and Gen. Sterling Price, slightly wounded.

Thirteen pieces of artillery were captured from the enemy. Our loss is estimated at from 800 to 1,000 killed and wounded. The loss of the rebels in killed and wounded is estimated at from 2,000 to 3,000.

About 1,500 prisoners were taken.

Two thousand Indians were engaged by the rebels. They scalped eighteen of our killed.

Price retreated northward, followed by General Jeff. C. Davis in pursuit.

While General Siegel, on the first day, was engaged in protecting the army trains, he was three times surrounded by the enemy, but cut his way through each time.

The principal fighting on Thursday was done by Gen. Sigel's command. On Friday the latter became General. The most exposed position was occupied by Col. Carr's Division. The greatest loss was suffered by them. The losses of the 4th and 9th Iowa, 35th Illinois and 25th Missouri were from 150 to 200 in each regiment, killed and wounded. Only 300 of the 24th Missouri regiment were present, but they lost 29 killed and a large number wounded. The 12th and 17th Missouri, 3d Iowa cavalry and 8th Indiana lost about 40 men each.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Order Respecting Contracts for Armies.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., March 13, 1862.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Ordered, That the Hon. Joseph Holt and the Hon. Robert Dale Owen be, and they are hereby appointed a special commission, to audit and adjust all contracts, orders and claims on the War Department, in respect to ordnance, arms and ammunition, their determination to be final and conclusive as respects this Department on all questions touching the validity, execution and sum due or to become due upon such contract, and upon all other questions arising between contractors and the Government upon the said contracts.

Second—the said commission will proceed forthwith to investigate all claims and contracts in respect to ordnance arms and ammunition in the War Department, or pending settlement and final payment, and adjudicate the same. All persons interested in such contracts may appear in person, but not by attorney, before said commissioners and be heard respecting their claims, at such time and place as the commissioners shall appoint.

The Chief of Ordnance and all other officers in the department will furnish such books and papers as the commission may require.

Major Hagner of the Ordnance Department is specially assigned to aid and assist the commissioners in their investigations. All claims that they may award in favor of shall be promptly paid.

No application will be entertained by the department respecting any claims or contract which they shall adjudge to be invalid.

Third—If in their investigation they shall find reason to believe that any agent or employee of the War Department was directly or indirectly interested in any contract for ordnance, arms or ammunition, or received any consideration for its procurement, they shall give notice thereof to the claimant and proceed to investigate and determine the fact taking such testimony as they may deem proper; and if the fact of such interest be established it shall be good cause for adjudging the claim to be fraudulent.

[Signed.] EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

The Government Contract Investigating Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The Government Contract Investigating Committee are scattered—Mr. Dawes at Boston, Colonel Van Wyck and Mr. Fenton at New York, probably examining into the [illegible] Several other members of the committee are in the West.

Increase of Railroad Facilities.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The report made from the Committee on Roads and Canals, to-day, accompanying the bill for the increase of railroad facilities between New York and Washington, sets forth that the exigencies of the Government require additional and more speedy communication. That the line should be inland and safe from dangers of foreign invasion, to which the existing shore line is everywhere exposed. This want, they say, can be supplied by completing the Reading and Columbia Railroad, and the committee accordingly recommend that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to endorse on the 1st mortgage bonds, the guarantee of payment of principal and interest to the extent of $450,000,—$225,000 to be paid on the completion of half of the road, and the remainder on its completion.

Communication by the Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The only confirmation by the Senate to-day was that of Daniel Tyler, of Connecticut, as Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Colonel Kerrigan.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Colonel Kerrigan, who was recently voluntarily relieved from his military command, took his seat in the House to-day for the first time this session.

Mail Steamers to Southampton and Havre.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The steamers Arago and Fulton, which for some months past have been used as Government transports, will soon resume their trips, carrying the mails between New York and Southampton and Havre. The resumption of this service will begin on the 29th inst.

FROM MEMPHIS.

The People Fleeing from the City—General Bragg's Forces Coming to Reinforce New Madrid and Island No. 10—Generals Beauregard and Bragg at Jackson.

CAIRO, March 12.—A gentleman who left Memphis on Saturday reports that there were no troops at Memphis, and that many persons were leaving the city.

Cotton, molasses, sugar and other articles of merchandise were being shipped down the river. The policy of burning the city was still being discussed. Speeches were made every night, and all possible means were being used to check the increasing panic and demoralization, and to excite the war spirit.

General Bragg had come up with 10,000 men, and these were sent to reinforce New Madrid and Island No. 10. General Bragg and General Beauregard were at Jackson, Tennessee, constructing fortifications. All the negroes in the country had been called in to work on them. Martial law had been proclaimed at Memphis for the purpose of checking insubordination and compelling citizens to turn out and fight.

No defensive preparations were being made at Randolph, or between there and New Orleans.—The enemy's position is strong at Fort Pillow, but less formidable than Columbus, and the Rebels confess that the reduction of that place will give us all the important points on the Mississippi river.

Their gunboats at Island No. 10 carry rifled 26 and 32-pounders. This fleet is under the command of the famous Hollins.

The Latest from New Madrid.

CAIRO, March 12.—A messenger from New Madrid reports all quiet there this morning.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Later from Norfolk—The Merrimac Afloat, but Seriously Damaged—A Large Force Engaged in Making Repairs.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 13, A. M.—Intelligence received from Norfolk is to the effect that the Merrimac is afloat at the Navy-Yard, but in a seriously damaged condition.

A large force is engaged upon the Merrimac, making repairs. Serious damage was received to one of the prongs on her bow, and the forward part of the vessel was stove in. That part is now being strengthened.

The people of Norfolk are said to be in a state of mingled rejoicing and fear.

Lieutenant Wm. N. Jeffers is now in command of the Monitor.

The Latest from Fortress Monroe.

[APPROVED BY MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN E. WOOL.]

FORTRESS MONROE, March 13, P. M.—The Rebels commenced yesterday a small work of logs and sand at Sewall's Point, apparently for protection. A single gun was first discovered there on Saturday last.

The 7th New York regiment went out on a scout from Newport News this morning, and drove in the enemy's pickets up James River.

The new gunboat Decotah arrived to day from Boston.

All is quiet to-night at Fortress Monroe and Newport News.

Department of the Mississippi.

ST. LOUIS, March 12.—The following general order will be issued to-morrow morning:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

In compliance with orders of the President of the United States, the undersigned assumes the command of the Department of the Mississippi, which includes the present departments of Kansas and Missouri, and the Department of Ohio and the country west of a north and south line drawn through Knoxville, Tennessee, and east of the western boundaries of the States of Missouri and Arkansas. The headquarters of the Department of the Mississippi will remain until further orders at St. Louis. Commanding officers not in the Department of Missouri will report to those headquarters the strength and position of their several commands.

H. W. HALLECK,

Major-General Commanding.

General Burnside Aware of the Evacuation of Manassas.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 13.—A letter received here from Burnside's expedition, dated Roanoke Island, March 3d, announces that the report of the Rebels evacuating Manassas had reached there.—General Burnside will therefore doubtless be on his guard.

From California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4.—The wreck of the ship Polynesia, from Boston, (before reported to have been burnt,) has been sold for $23,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—The steamers Cortes, Martin White, Columbia, and Union Star have been purchased or chartered to engage in the mercantile service in the China Seas, and all four will sail for their destination within sixty days.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Arrived, ship Black Hawk, from New York; brig Theresa, from Hong Kong. Sailed, brig Memphis, for Hong Kong.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8.—Arrived, steamer Golden Gate, from Panama; ship Flying Childers, from New York. Sailed, U. S. steamer Lancaster; ships Gladiator, for New York, and Florence, for Hong Kong.

From San Francisco—Treasure Sent Forward.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—The steamer hence for Panama to-day, took $580,000 in treasure for New York.

FROM THE SOUTH.

Captain Phelps' Expedition.

The Memphis papers state that the steamer Dunbar, instead of escaping from our gunboats, as was supposed, was really sunk in Cypress Creek, to prevent her capture. The same paper states the Sam Orr had on board, at the time she was destroyed, four thousand seven hundred pounds of powder and twenty-seven submarine batteries. The steamer Time had on board one hundred thousand dollars' worth of Government stores. Taking it all in all, Captain Phelps' trip up the Tennessee was anything else but profitable to the Confederates.

The Arrest of the Rev. Mr. Bosserman.

The Richmond *Examiner* has a long statement in relation to the arrest of the Rev. Alden Bosserman, Pastor of the Universalist Church in that city. It says:

Mr. Bosserman is a native of Maine, but for several years previous to 1861 he had been living in Baltimore, and officiating as a Universalist preacher in that city. In the month of January, 1861, he was called by the Universalist congregation of Richmond to shipply the place in the church here made vacant by the resignation, on account of ill-health, of the Rev. Mr. James S. Shrigley, an eloquent preacher, and a good and true Southerner. Mr. Bosserman took charge of the church, and his conduct excited no public notice or comment during the remainder of the winter. * * *

After our signal victory of the 21st of July over the foe at Manassas, the President signified, by proclamation, his desire that the whole nation should devote and set aside the fifth day of August as a day of prayer and thanksgiving. Though importuned by his congregation, Mr. Bosserman refused to open his church on this occasion, and, in consequence, a great majority of the members have, since that time, refused to attend the church. Latterly, we learn, he has discoursed on Sunday to only forty attendants.

At the Planters' Meeting held at the City Hall on the 20th of February, Bosserman, accompanied by B. W. Wardwell, the ice-man, was present, and was noticed to take full notes of the proceedings. The same two men attended together the adjourned meetings of the Planters at the African Church. On this occasion they took no pains to conceal the contempt and derision in which they held the meeting and its proposed object. On the general fast day Mr. Bosserman again refused to open his church, and gave as his reason that Mr. Franklin Stearns had requested him not to open, and as Mr. Stearns paid him more money than all his congregation put together, whatever he said should be done. On last Sunday he braved from his desk in church that "this unholy rebellion should be crushed out."

In view of the course of conduct pursued by this man since the beginning of the war, it did not excite surprise that an order was issued for his arrest. He was confined in McDanid's jail.

No Hope for Recognition.

The Richmond *Examiner* says:—The Confederate States have been humiliated. The disasters at Roanoke Island and Fort Donelson were not the sources of the humiliation; for that of the former, all the circumstances considered, was, perhaps, inevitable, and the latter compensated by the vigor of the resistance and the loss of the enemy—both were among the natural and ordinary consequences of any great war. But we have been degraded by sitting, through our representatives, upon the steps of English royalty and soliciting the English Government to recognize us. Herein we forgot our own dignity as a powerful and wealthy nation; for had we been true to ourselves—had we fallen back originally upon the weapons we could have effectually wielded, and should wield now—we could have *compelled* that haughty nation to accede to every reasonable wish.

The Whereabouts of John Bell.

The Atlanta *Commonwealth* says that John Bell, of Tennessee, would not remain in Nashville to be insulted or imprisoned by the invaders of his State, but is safe along with the rear of the retreating army. It is reported that all he possessed about Nashville was burned.

Arrests for Disloyalty.

The Richmond *Dispatch* contains the annexed:—The following parties were arrested yesterday:—William Williams, for disoyalty; J. Brodsley and Heinrich Frischcorn, for selling liquor: and Daniel Ritter, Superintendent of the Monticello House, by order of Captain Samuel Maccubbin, chief of the Provost-Marshal's police, by detectives Shaw, Hicks, Carter, Hammond, O'Brien and Roach.

Federal Troops at Salisbury, N. C.

A correspondent writing from Salisbury, N. C., to the Raleigh *Standard*, says:

I understand that one of the Federal prisoners confined in this place was hung by his comrades, night before last, for using strong anti-Lincoln doctrine—that he intended to remain in the South when released, and battle for its institutions, instead of being under the dominion of Lincoln & Co. He was rescued from death by the timely interference of some of the guard, who heard his supplications, &c.

Gen. Sidney Johnston's Movements.

The Atlanta (Ga.) *Confederacy*, in making the announcement that the army under General A. Sidney Johnston had fallen back from Murfreesboro' and Columbus, Tenn., to Decatur, Ala., says:

We do not look upon this with any degree of alarm or special concern whatever. It is not because we are unable to hold Murfreesboro' or many other places between there and Decatur, but of choice; and we predict the fruits of this judicious movement will be manifest to every one in due season, when all will acknowledge and approve it. If the enemy will only attempt to follow, it is all we ask. We have assurances from other sources that Gen. Johnston is making the very best disposition possible of the forces under his command.

Distilleries in Georgia.

Governor Brown, of Georgia, has issued a proclamation ordering each distiller in that State to desist absolutely from the manufacture of ardent spirits after the 15th day of March, 1862. The Superintendent of the State Road is forbidden to transport any whiskey over that road, and other railroad superintendents are requested to do likewise, in case of distillers refusing to obey this order, their stills are to be seized and sent to Rome, Georgia, to be manufactured into cannon, and all liquor brought near military encampments if to be emptied upon the ground.

The Proposed Commander-in-Chief of the Confederate Army.

The Richmond *Examiner* says:—We learn that there has been some hesitation in Congress to pass the bill creating the office of Commanding-General to direct the movements of the war before the President decides on the reorganization of his Cabinet. The bill, in its present shape, gives the appointment of the Commanding General to the Executive; and in that quarter it is said to be already a foregone conclusion that Gen. Lee is to have this important post in the Government.

With reference to the delay in the reconstruction of the Cabinet, we may say that it is reported in well-informed quarters that nominations have already been sent into the Senate, and that that of Mr. Mallory, as Secretary of the Navy, has by a large vote been rejected.

TWO WAYS OF PUTTING A QUESTION.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Shall the laboring millions of the North be burdened with taxes in order to keep the laboring millions of the South in perpetual bondage?—*New York Tribune.*

Our cotemporary has just exactly reversed the question, which is, "Shall the laboring people of the North be burdened with taxes in order to give the negro of the South his freedom, and to support him after he is emancipated?" That is what President Lincoln proposes, and his proposition is endorsed by the *Tribune*. The President and the *Tribune* are in favor of spending, we suppose, a thousand million of dollars to buy the liberty of the blacks in the South. Of course, the laboring millions of the North would have to sustain a crushing tax in order to carry out this beautiful scheme—a tax which would be an incubus upon them for years, and which would finally paralyze their industry. A large portion of the freed negroes would come North, and either have to be supported as paupers at the public expense, or, if they labored, would come in contact with the white laboring millions, and turn them out of employment, taking the bread out of their children's mouths, besides degrading the white man by compelling him to labor alongside the African. In view of these facts, the *Tribune's* article is certainly a fine specimen of audacity.

STEAM AIR-CANNON.

The Baton Rouge (Louisiana) *Advocate* gives the following description of a steam air-cannon invented by a Louisianian, with a favorable recommendation of it to the Legislature of that State:

This invention consists of a locomotive capable of running on common roads, which supersedes horse-power in all draft operations, and is adapted to either land or water. To this is attached one or more air-cannon, which, in view of the present scarcity of powder, is a great desideratum, as air can be made more effective than powder, being liable to compression many thousand times less than its bulk. These cannon will also have the following qualities to recommend them, viz:

No report, little if any concussion, no heating and no smoke—which prove their availability, whether placed upon gunboats or war-ships, or used on land for river protection, where it would be most serviceable. Along the banks of the Mississippi levees would protect the lower part of the machine, while the upper is secured by its own inclined plane. The cannon, being breech-loading, is loaded with great ease and speed, and, by being removed from the machine, the latter can be applied to making ditches, throwing up embankments, and can also be used as a fire-engine. In the open field it may well be called a flying artillery, as it could run through any ranks, either infantry or cavalry, and open a lane fourteen feet wide.

EVACUATION OF CENTREVILLE AND MANASSAS.

THE FORTS AND TRENCHES.

Special Correspondence of the Inquirer.

WINTER HEADQUARTERS, REBEL ARMY,
GRIGSBY'S HOUSE, OCCUPIED BY GENERALS SMITH,
JOHNSTON AND BEAUREGARD,
Centreville, March 11.

To-day we have rode with General McClellan and his staff to Manassas Junction and over the memorable battle-fields of July.

Evacuation of Centreville and Manassas.

Last evening, while in camp at Fairfax Court House, we learned that the Confederates were leaving Manassas, as well as Centreville, which we knew on last Sunday evening, but which the Government censor refused to allow us to transmit to you. Early this morning we started for this point, and found that a regiment of infantry were occupying it, having entered on Monday night, and a regiment of cavalry on Monday morning. No signs of any enemy were seen, the last having gone on Sunday night out on the road to Warrenton, via the Stone Bridge, and a few down towards Manassas. On Friday morning last there were here, General Longstreth's division and a few scattering regiments, among whom were the 2d, 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th Georgia; 1st Kentucky; 28th Virginia; 10th Alabama; 19th, 17th and 11th Virginia regiments.

Generals Johnston, Smith and Stewart occupied one house in the village here, and which we (the correspondents of the press) used as a rendezvous last July. On Thursday morning General Johnston left, on Saturday General Smith followed, and General Stewart brought up the rear with his cavalry on Sunday night. The infantry commenced marching away on Saturday morning, before daylight, and the artillery about noon, taking the road to Warrenton. The camps (log huts) west of Centreville, on the right of the road, were burned up clean, not an article worth anything being left. In the village were a large number of huts, which were not disturbed. A few camps and tents, however, near the church, were fired on Sunday night. The town and deserted camps, on our entering, made the most perfect picture of desolation we have ever witnessed—the smoking ruins of the burnt camps, the fences gone, houses riddled, windows out, doors wanting, filth and disorder upon all sides. A few blacks and squalid whites ran to the doors to find out who were coming.

The grave-yard near the church was full, and its area had been extended indefinitely by the removal of the fence which surrounded it, and the newly made graves numbered over sixty. In a tent close by was the body of a Georgia soldier in a rude box, ready to deposit, which our men quietly interred in one of four newly-dug graves—whom they had been dug for is of course unknown, and we can only surmise that they did not take time to bury their dead, and hastily loaded them into the wagons.—The grave-yard is on the highest peak of the Centreville range of hills, and directly in the rear of the forts which defend the turnpike-road to the town. A more romantic place for a soldier's grave could not have been found. The church, which has been used for a hospital, is not materially injured, and the only buildings of which anything remains were those in which the officers were quartered or were in use by them. Everybody who could get away around the whole country has gone; a few contrabands remain, who seem to have "charge of the things," but there is but little to care for. All the cattle and live stock, with a few exceptions, have been confiscated within a circuit of several miles around the camps, and not a fence-rail or post is left to mark the lines of former farms.

The heavy woods to the left and down towards Manassas have all been cut down, thus presenting just such an appearance as we have upon the Virginia side of the Potomac, near Washington. The fortifications look, *at a distance*, formidable, extending from a point half a mile north of Centreville away off to the south as far as the eye can reach. We rode up to them, and found them *merely* dirt trenches and sand forts. They have been evidently laid out by an engineer who understood his business, but have been constructed by men who merely wanted to put in the time. *There have never been a single heavy gun mounted in them.* Embrasures have been made and *logs of wood run out* in all of them. All were so arranged, however, that field artillery could be used in them. The floors on which they could have stood were hemlock boards, one inch thick, and would not have lasted through a single discharge, but would have let the guns down into the sand.

Some of those on the left have wicker-work around the embrasures, which has apparently been done by some old negro basket-maker. In two of them there are raw hides staked down and sand bags around the embrasures, but these were intended to make a storming party should we have marched up in front. The ditches around them are nicely arranged, so that our troops could have marched down and up the sides readily to make a bayonet charge on the Rebels should they have attacked Centreville, by which McDowell came in July. They extend over a line of a mile and a half, and are all connected by rifle-pits dug deep enough to allow artillery to move along behind them without being seen in front, under the protection of sand banks from four to twelve feet thick. No precaution appears to have been taken to prevent a flank movement in the rear of Centreville in anything like such a formidable manner as the front. The ground to the north is covered with a dense woods and stunted pines. A few dirt-banks near Centreville, behind which artillery could have been sheltered, were the only guards on their left.

A line of dense woods, about a mile and a half from Centreville, would have afforded us protection from which, with siege guns, we could have shelled them out in a few hours. There were a few places where they had masked batteries in this piece of woods, and they have had a regiment in winter quarters here; but they were only on picket, and could have been easily driven in to the Centreville forts.

In the rear of Centreville was a cavalry camp, and the only shelter for the horses was some cedar trees, which had been planted so as to protect them from the cold bleak winds that come whistling down from the Bull Run mountains. How effective it was, can be judged from the fact that in a field, but half-a-mile to the rear, lie the carcases of over a hundred horses, some of them very fine ones, while further down were innumerable horse grave-yards, but none of them have been buried. Over head an immense drove of vultures was hovering, and the buzzards were evidently anticipating a rich feast, and appeared to be angry at the delay.

To the left of Centreville was a large number of fine cabins, made of logs, plastered with mud and roofed roughly with shingles; they were in regular rows, and none had been fired. The grounds around them were quite clean, and we should judge that these had been evacuated by the troops who went home on furloughs—to re-enlist—none of