THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

We publish this morning the Address of General McClellan to the Army of the Potomac. He tells his soldiers that he has held them back until now that they might give the death-blow to the rebellion, and that the patience they have shown and the confidence they have reposed in him are worth a dozen victories. He assures them that after many months of labor the Army of the Potomac has become a real army, and he can see in the faces of the men, as he rides through the ranks, the presage of victory. He promises to bring them face to face with the Rebels, and asks that, however strange his actions may appear, the troops will bear in mind that his fate is linked with theirs, and that his sole design is to bring on a decisive battle. He declares his love for them from the bottom of his heart, and that he will watch over them as a parent watches over his children. He reminds them that they have brave foes to encounter, that great and heroic exertions, rapid and long marches, desperate combats and privations will be demanded, but that he hopes when the war is over they will all of them return to their homes and feel proud that they belonged to the Army of the Potomac. The whole tone of the Address smacks singularly like that of the elder Napoleon to the army of Italy. It must be left for the future to decide whether the same grand results will follow.

Of course the correspondence of the Northern journals abounds in descriptions of the present condition of Manassas and Centreville, and of the doings of the Grand Army of the Potomac. The letter writer of the New York *Tribune* announces that General Sumner's division was at Union Mills, on the Bull Run, on the 12th inst., where it was delayed "by the provoking non-arrival of the provision train—the horses having eaten nothing since morning, and the men nothing save the little they brought with them." The brigade of General French, which was on its march towards Manassas, after advancing two miles was ordered back to await forage and provisions. The Confederates, it is believed, have retreated beyond the Rappahannock. General Jackson, it is stated on the authority of "a yellow contraband," after evacuating Winchester retreated through the Gap, from whence he proceeded to join the main army near Gordonsville, *via* Warrenton Springs. The writer laments the difficulty which he experienced in obtaining a single feed for his horse, but is constrained to acknowledge that "our army has a very limited supply; and provision for a single horse is a favor that no civilian has a right to ask." The conclusions reached by the correspondent of the *Tribune*, from his visit to the Confederate stronghold, is, that "their retreat is our defeat;" that after seven months of waiting and organizing, the movement has commenced; and "since we have moved, we see that our enemies, like the Chinese, have frightened us by the sound of gongs and the wearing of devils' masks."

If the stories that are told of the Confederates at Centreville be true they must have behaved with unparallelled coolness and with a self-confidence bordering upon contempt. Their fortifications were mounted with wooden guns which they asserted, "were just as good to scare with as any," and so late as Saturday night, twenty thousand of them, after proceeding southward for some distance, "marched back to Centreville, slept soundly, and the next day started anew for Gordonsville."

The Washington National *Republican* is of opinion that "human history contains no parallel to the military performances on the Potomac. Under the caption of "A Great Farce," it gives a description of the fortifications of Centreville. There were nine batteries we are told, the aggregate number of embrasures is set down at fifty-four, in which were mounted thirty-one wooden guns.—"The guns were pine logs, charred black, with muzzles delineated with chalk. No real guns had ever been mounted." "It was," says the *Republican* bitterly, "for the nineteenth century and for this new world that there performances on the Potomac."

The New York *Post* warns its readers and the public generally, that notwithstanding the Confederates have met with a series of overwhelming reverses the end is not yet, and calls attention to the Message of President Davis, in which he alludes to the near completion of a class of vessels on which the South may rely for contesting with the Federals the control of the Southern waters.

According to the correspondent of the New York *Times* the letters of Southern women, found at Fairfax Court House, by the advancing army, "enter with wonderful energy into the cause of the Confederate States." Not one appeal is there to son or brother to return home. It is "fight John, let me hear from you in the front rank."

Mr. Wendell Phillips, in a lecture delivered by invitation at the Smithsonian Institute, eulogized the labors of John Brown as having been of more value to the country than those of any other living man except William Lloyd Garrison. He construed the President's recent Message to mean:—"Border States, now is your time to sell." He regarded the proposal to purchase the slaves of loyal men, by and with the consent of the States, "as a small thin wedge—a small wedge, but still a wedge." "The President," he said, had opened the door of emancipation a foot, and he (Phillips) with a coach and six, and with William Lloyd Garrison for a driver, would drive right through. He would send a hundred thousand men to conquer South Carolina, and when the yellow fever drove them out he would garrison the forts with negroes, under white officers, and hold them against the world.

By the mails of the Africa we have many interesting particulars of the state of opinion in Europe in regard to American affairs. The London *Times* has an article which starts out with the proposition that "the war must be ended."—The *Times* professes to give expression to the commercial and financial feeling at the North "borne in confidential whispers across the Atlantic." This feeling, we are told, "has found birth in Wall street, it stirs gently in its cradle, and it is swathed" adds the *Times* sarcastically—"in unconvertible rags." The *Times* then goes on to describe the patient waiting for the rebellion to be crushed; the merchants, the bankers, and the trading classes witnessing from hour to hour the withering of the Atlantic cities—"the warehouses empty, the larger dwelling houses untenanted, property valueless, and trade dying. Still they are told to wait another ninety days and all will be well." The Federal successes on the Tennessee and the Cumberland are regarded as of comparatively little value. The descents upon the coast are slightingly spoken of as "annoyances rather than wounds," and the opinion is expressed that a year of successes would only give the Federal Government possession of two States,"—Kentucky and Tennessee—"which were never among the more zealous in the Southern cause," and it is confidently predicted that at the rate at which the war is now proceeding "it will take not only ninety days, but ninety years to crush the rebellion." * * * "In this state of things" says the *Times*, the commercial adage "the first loss is the best" comes into play, and the capitalists of New York are now watching for the first opportunity when it may be safe to say openly—"This war must be ended." The whole spirit of the article, from which we quote the above extracts, is trenchant in the extreme.

The Blue Book, containing official papers in regard the Southern blockade, has been laid before the British Parliament; the great mass of testimony, as published, is to the effect that the blockade is inefficient; but the British Government appears to be still disposed to act with great caution in declaring it to have failed in fulfilling the requisitions of international law. As respects the stone blockade, Mr. Seward has given assurance that no more attempts of a similar kind shall be made. The London correspondent of the New York *Times* states that the battle on American affairs is yet to come; that it will be fought on two questions:—the blockade and recognition; that the Government, whilst pretending not to wish to raise the blockade, nor to recognize the Confederacy, is only waiting to be compelled to do both; and that the people of America must not be too sure that the recent Federal victories will be a check upon this action. The battle thus referred to has in all probability already commenced in Perliament, Mr. Gregory having given notice that on the 7th of March he should call attention to the blockade of the Confederate ports of America, and move for papers on the subject.

The Submarine Telegraph, at Fortress Monroe, has ceased to operate. It has either been cut, or has broken from some unexplained cause.

Several suspicious craft have been seen recently in the vicinity of the Rip-Raps. There are operations going on at Sewall's Point, but of what kind is not known. There is nothing said of the movements of the Monitor and the Merrimac, we presume, is still in Norfolk harbor. We have no information whatever in regard to the whereabouts of Burnside.

From the Southwest we have the official report of the capture of New Madrid. Commodore Foote has gone down the Mississippi to attack Tenth Island, if it should not happen to be abandoned.

From General Banks' Division there is no news of importance.

COAST SURVEY MAP OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.—We are indebted to Mr. James S. Waters, for a valuable geographical chart of the coasts of South Carolina and Georgia, as prepared by the United States Coast Survey. This map is, of course, perfectly accurate in all of its details, and is published and offered for sale by Mr. Waters, by permission of Professor Bache.

THE HESSE SCANDAL.

From the London Spectator.

The electorate of Hesse Cassel is one of the worst governed countries of Europe; certainly the worst of the thirty-two German States. The evil is more than a century old. The custom of selling subjects like cattle was first invented in Hesse; and the fashion of building huge seraglios, stocked with court fools, chamberlains, and mistresses *a la Louis Quatorze*, was first of all introduced into Hesse, after the great French prototype. Elector Frederic II. sold 22,000 of his subjects to the British Government for hard cash, with which he built himself a little Versailles, still visible near Cassel, and greatly admired by travelling Cockneys. Frederic's successors took good care to keep up the very profitable sale of fighting Hessians, worth, on an average, a round million sterling per annum. Even Napoleon was disgusted with this shameless sale of human flesh and blood, and to show his utter contempt of the electoral rule, swept it from the map of Europe, instituting in its place the kingdom of Westphalia, with merry brother Jerome on the throne. For seven long years the Electors ate the bread of exile, coming back only with the Bourbons, and like them, having "learnt nothing and forgotten nothing." At the Congress of Vienna, the ruler of Hesse, untaught by adversity, argued openly in favor of serfdom; he alone, of all the German Princes, clung to the antiquated and unmeaning title of Elector, and he insisted that his troops should wear long-tailed wigs, and cocked-hats, and remain as of old under the rule of the stick.

The sultan element was great in this Elector William I.; but greater still is his son, William II., who ascended the throne in 1821. His notions of government were those of a cattle-driver, and his morals those of a lax French Abbe. His court was composed of the lowest characters; and he was shameless enough to force a vulgar mistress into the company of his Consort, a daughter of King Frederick William II. of Prussia. The latter, having suffered all sorts of brutalities, at last fled the court, and the mistress had it all her own way, ruling alike the Elector and the electorate. Madame Ortlep, promoted to be Countess Reichenbach, began governing Hesse-Cassel after the manner of a Turkish pashalik. Places, honors, and dignities were openly sold; justice publicly corrupted; and religion ostentatiously outraged. Whosoever displeased Madame Ortlep was thrown into prison, and had to thank his stars if he could save his head. So things went on till the year 1830, when the Paris insurrection set the continent in flames, producing small earthquakes and volcanic eruptions everywhere. Madame Ortlep and her friends quitted Cassel in hot haste, and the Elector on a sudden became quite liberal, and thoroughly imbued with constitutional feelings. A Diet was summoned, the pleasantest promises were made, and a new constitution, "on the English pattern," was framed and adopted. The Elector solemnly took his oath to obey the constitution, on January 5, 1831. It is this "Constitution of 1831" which forms so important a part in the great "Question of Hesse" now pending before the tribunal of Europe.

Not six months after the solemn oath-taking, Madame Ortlep returned to Cassel. Her arrival was signalized by the fresh activity of the police, the filling of all the prisons, and the suspension of the laws which protected the liberty of the press. The excitement thereupon rose to such a height that the Elector once more began to fear the loss of his crown, and, to secure it, admitted a co-regent in the person of his eldest son. Madame Ortlep also was induced to retire a little into the background; but only to make room for another lady of more ability, but nearly as questionable repute. Co-regent Frederic William I., like his sire, was under the influence of a fair one, Madame Gertrude, formerly the wife of a non-commissioned officer, a very expensive lady—scarcely less so than Madame Ortlep—though, according to the "Almanach de Gotha" a wife of a [illegible] was made Princess of Hanau and Countess of Schaumburg was nothing; nor that she made the fortune of a dozen Jews by purchasing their diamonds. But far more serious was it that she, too, interfered in the government of Hesse, and succeeded in upholding, by means of her creature, a thorough despotism. Possessed of a higher ability than Madame Ortlep, though also a shade more avaricious, Madame Gertrude contrived to establish her sovereignty on a firm basis, from which she has not yet been ousted.

The death of the old Elector, in 1847, left her mistress of the field, and absolute ruler of near a million of Hessians. Her chief object now became to make provision for herself, and the nine children she had brought her liege lord. Forms of Constitution being greatly in the way of such provision making, they were all swept away successively by the hands of Madame Gertrude. First, the much praised Constitution of 1831 was abrogated by a number of special decrees; and this not proving efficient enough, a new code of constitutional law promulgated by the government. The manner in which this was accomplished was sufficiently clever, and a proof that Madame Gertrude was not without diplomatic ability. In the time of the former Electors, Hesse had been unwaveringly the ally of Prussia, to which the country was drawn by geographical position, and the reigning family by blood alliances. To gain a firm support, Madame Gertrude now bethought herself of offering her influence to Austria. The bait was accepted at Vienna, and the Imperial Government openly declared itself the protector of Hesse. As a first move, the Diet of Frankfort, then and now the obedient tool of Austria, declared the Hessian Constitution of 1831 "contrary to the Federal laws," and called upon the Elector to frame a new "fundamental law of the State." No reasons were given for this absurd and unprecedented decree of the Diet, and, in fact, reasons were unnecessary, when every one was acquainted with the real origin of the enactment. The Elector, of course, at once obeyed the order of the Diet, but the whole of his subjects protested to a man against the arbitrary use of power. Even the men who were called upon to form a sort of mock representation under the new code, opposed the electoral despotism on every occasion, and Chamber after Chamber having been dissolved, the country at last got into a state of chronic insurrection, manifested, however, merely by passive resistance to the Government. It is only within the last few weeks that the opposition has passed the bounds of passiveness, and risen into the active state. The brave Hessians, acting once more "on the English pattern," resolved to pay no taxes which had not been voted by their legal representatives in parliament assembled.

The wretched electoral despotism, everybody feels, cannot endure much longer. This they know at Vienna as well as at Berlin. Morganatic Madame Gertrude is near upon seventy, and though her nine electoral bairns may get the scrip and the diamonds, they will not obtain any share of political rights. The heir to the throne is a certain Landgraf Frederic of Hesse, married, in first nuptials, to a sister of Czar Alexander, and in a second union, still existing, to a daughter of Prince Charles of Prussia. This Landgraf Frederic has likewise some claims upon the crown of Denmark, and his accession to the electorate is, therefore, rather doubtful. Moreover, Prussia possesses an ancient title to Hesse, in form of a family pact, called an *erberbruderung* or "heritage alliance," made in 1457, and renewed in 1614. Consequently, Prussia takes a great interest in Hesse, and for very good reasons. But Austria, too, has an interest. Madame Gertrude and the Elector, as already mentioned, have put themselves under the especial protection of the Cabinet of Vienna; and the *de facto* interest thus created has been evinced already once, in 1852, by the occupation of Hesse by Austrian troops. At present the Austrian troops are whispered of again, as having been solicited by his Electoral Highness to assist in breaking open the money chests of his loving subjects. The game, as will be seen, is getting desperate, and there will be no time to lose.

All signs of coming things tell that the hour for the battle is drawing nigh. The cry for unity is loud in Germany, even more vehement than the cry for liberty; and few doubt that to achieve the former either Austria or Prussia must be subdued, so as to leave the decided guidance of the nation to one state. Prussia is the Piedmont of Germany, and the votes of all the Liberals in the country are in her favor. The only doubt is whether King William I. can become a Victor Emmanuel, and Count Bernstorff a Cavour.

Capt. Ericsson has written the following letter to Mr. Epes Sargent, of Boston:

"NEW YORK, March 11.

"MY DEAR SARGENT: I accept with great pleasure your congratulations, and assure you that every exertion will be made on my part to furnish the nation with war vessels that will enable us to defy Europe. Give me only the requisite means, and, in a very short time we can say to those powers, now bent on destroying republican freedom, leave the Gulf with your fratricidal craft or perish! I have all my life asserted that mechanical science will put an end to the power of England over the seas. The ocean is nature's highway between the nations. It should be free; and surely nature's laws, when properly applied, will make it so.

"Yours, very truly,

"J. ERICSSON."

LETTERS OF SOUTHERN WOMEN FOUND AT FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE.—Many of the letters are from mothers and sisters. It is wonderful the energy with which these dear little rebels enter into the cause of the Confederate States. Not one appeal is there to son or brother to return home. It is "Fight, John; let me hear from you in the front ranks." A friend at my elbow here suggests that there are wives at the North who are never disposed to hasten their husbands' return.—*Cor. N. Y. Times.*

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

General McClellan's Address to the Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA, March 14, 1862.

Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:

For a long time I have kept you inactive, but not without a purpose. You were to be disciplined, armed and instructed. The formidable artillery you now have had to be created. Other armies were to move and accomplish certain results. I have held you back that you might give the death-blow to the rebellion that has distracted our once happy country. The patience you have shown and your confidence in your General are worth a dozen victories.

These preliminary results are now accomplished. I feel that the labors of many months have produced their fruit. The army of the Potomac is now a real army, magnificent in *materiel*, admirable in discipline and instruction, excellently equipped and armed; your commanders are all that I could wish. The moment for action has arrived, and I know that I can trust in you to save our country. As I ride through your ranks I see in your faces the sure presage of victory—I feel that you will do whatever I ask of you.

The period of inaction has passed. I will bring you now face to face with the Rebels, and only pray that God may defend the right.

In whatever direction you may move, however strange my actions may appear to you, ever bear in mind that my fate is linked with yours, and that all I do is to bring you where I know you wish to be—on the decisive battle-field. It is our business to place you there. I am to watch over you as a parent over his children; and you know that your General loves you from the depth of his heart. It shall be my care, as it has ever been, to gain success with the least possible loss; but I know that if it is necessary you will willingly follow me to our graves for our righteous cause.

God smiles upon us, victory attends us; yet I would not have you think that our aim is to be attained without a manly struggle. I will not disguise it from you that you have brave foes to encounter—foemen well worthy of the steel you will use so well.

I shall demand of you great and heroic exertions, rapid and long marches, desperate combats and privations. Perhaps we will share all these together; and when this sad war is over, we will all return to our homes and feel that we can ask no higher honor than the proud consciousness that we belonged to the Army of the Potomac.

GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

The Forced Evacuation of New Madrid—No Rebel Flag now Left in Missouri—The Enemy Abandon all their Artillery, Field Batteries, Tents, Wagons, &c., &c.

ST. LOUIS, March 15.—The following is a copy of an official despatch sent to the Secretary of War:

"After several days skirmishing and a number of attempts by the enemy's gunboats to dislodge Gen. Pope's battery at Point Pleasant the enemy has evacuated his forts and entrenchments at New Madrid, leaving all his artillery, field batteries, tents and wagons, mules, &c., and an immense quantity of military stores.

"Brig. Gen Hamilton has occupied the place. This was the last stronghold of the enemy in this State. There is no Rebel flag now flying in Missouri.

[Signed] "H. W. HALLECK,
"Major-General Commanding."

General Pope's Report of the Capture of New Madrid—The Panic Among the Enemy—Immense Quantity of Spoils Captured.

ST. LOUIS, March 14.—General Pope, in his despatch to General Halleck, says: Our success at New Madrid is even greater than first reported. Twenty five pieces of heavy artillery, 24-pounders, and rifled 32 pounders; batteries of field artillery; immense quantities of fixed ammunition; several thousand small arms; hundreds of boxes of musket cartridges; 300 mules and horses; tents sufficient for an army of 12,000 men, and an immense quantity of other property, of not less value than $1,000,000, have fallen into our hands. The men only escaped, and the enemy's whole force are demoralized and dispersed in the swamp on the opposite side of the river.

Many prisoners have been taken, and the colors of several Arkansas regiments. Our loss is about fifty killed and wounded.

Capt. Hollins was in command of the rebel fleet, and Generals McConn, Stewart and Gratt, of the land forces.

The gunboats retired down the river.

General Pope has now twenty five heavy guns with two defensive works of the enemy which cost them so much labor on the Tennessee. The enemy left in such haste as to leave all the baggage of the officers and knapsacks of the men, and their dead unburied. Their suppers were found on their tables, and candles burning in their tents. A furious thunder storm, which raged all night, enabled them to get across the river without being discovered.

Our heavy battery was established during the night of the 12th within 800 yards of the enemy's works, and opened at daylight on the 13th, just thirty-four hours after the guns were delivered to us at Cairo.

During the whole day of yesterday our lines were drawn closer around their works, under a furious fire of sixty pieces of artillery.

Fear of an assault on their works at daylight induced them to flee precipitately during the night.

Arrival of Parson Brownlow at Nashville.

NASHVILLE, March 15.—Parson Brownlow and his son, arrived here to day. He says he has been imprisoned in the common jail at Knoxville, since December 6th, in violation of the agreement with the Rebel Government and confined in a small damp room until he was attacked by the typhoid fever, when he was removed to his residence, and was there laid up eight weeks under a strict guard. Having partly recovered he got a pass from the Rebel Government, and left Knoxville two weeks ago. He was detained by order of General Hardee at Shelbyville for ten days, and finally reached the Federal lines this morning. He declines starting his paper here on account of ill health, and proceeds North to publish the story of his martyrdom. He has not been affected by consumption as reported.

Sailing of Com. Foote's Gunboat and Mortar Fleet down the Mississippi River.

HICKMAN, KY., March 15.—The principal naval expedition, composed of the gunboats Benton, Louisville, Cincinnati, Carondolet and Conestoga, under Commodore Foote, left Cairo at seven o'clock this morning. At Columbus they were joined by the gunboats Pittsburg, St. Louis and Mound City, (making a total of eight gunboats,) and overtaken by eight mortar boats, in tow of four steamers, with transports and ordnance boats. The fleet arrived here at half-past four o'clock this afternoon. Mounted pickets of the enemy were in sight on the bluff on our arrival, and two companies of the Twenty-seventh Illinois were sent after them, but they escaped.

There is a strong Union feeling manifested here.

An impression prevails that Island No. 10 will not offer much resistance to our progress. There is said to be 2,000 Rebel troops at Union, 7,000 at Humboldt, and 15,000 in the vicinity of Island No. 10; also, twelve heavy guns in the batteries on the Island.

FROM GEN. BANKS' DIVISION.

WINCHESTER, March 15.—Gen. Hamilton, yesterday afternoon was waited upon by nearly all the officers of the division to congratulate him on his advancement, and also to express profound regret at the necessity of his departure. A Pennsylvania regimental band gave him a serenade and his staff accompanied him as far as Berryville.

This morning Ashby's cavalry with two guns were driven three miles beyond Newtown, by a force of artillery, infantry and cavalry. Many shells were thrown from both sides, but as far as known none were killed.

Capt. E. T. Pendleton, Quartermaster's Assistant of —— cavalry, was captured yesterday morning.

The cars from this city reached a point about three miles this side of Harper's Ferry to-day. The road is at present in the worst possible condition, requiring extensive repairs in order to be available for heavy transportation. On several occasions obstructions have been placed on the track by secessionists.

Colonel Gordon of the 2d Massachusetts regiment has been appointed to the command of a Brigade, made vacant by the transfer of General Hamilton.

All is quiet here to-night.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Per Letter.

Damage to the Telegraph Cable—Communication Interrupted—Congressional Election in the First District of Virginia.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 15.—The telegraph line hence became inoperative to day owing to a break in the cable. This will explain the failure to transmit telegraphic intelligence to the press today from this point. It will be repaired the first fair day.

Governor Pierpont, of Virginia, having issued a writ for an election in the 1st Congressional district, the poll was opened in this precinct to-day. About 200 votes were thrown, all of which were for Joseph Segar.

In pursuance of orders from the War Department for a separation of the administration of the affairs of contrabands from military authority, a general order was issued to-day by General Wool, appointing Charles H. Wilder to the office of superintendent of vagrants, or contrabands, in this Department. Food, clothing and shelter will be furnished as heretofore until further orders.

Active operations of some sort have been going on at Sewall's Point for a day or two, whether for reinforcement or evacution is uncertain. A gun was fired from the Rip Raps last night at a suspicious-looking craft in that vicinity. A number of vessels have recently been seen off that point.

The United States frigate San Jacinto arrived here to-day.

The wind is S.S.E., and the weather strong.

Arrival of the California Steamer Ariel.

NEW YORK, March 16.—The steamer Ariel from Aspinwall with $677,000 in treasure from California has arrived. Captains Schenck and Smith, and Lieutenants Hall and Robje, of the navy, are passengers. The United States frigate Saranac remained at Panama.

Advices from Carthagena report that the conservatives have taken the town of Nare, on the river Magdalena, and seized a river steamer with 5,000 muskets, and all Mosquera's correspondence aboard.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Latest from Manassas—Evidences of the Hasty Flight of the Rebels.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The bodies of one rebel Captain, and also of six privates which the enemy in their flight from Manassas neglected to bury, were on Friday interred by a detachment of our troops.

The address of General McClellan to the army of the Potomac meets with an ardent response from the troops.

Bristow's station, five miles from Manassas on the road to Richmond, was burnt, together with the store house containing a large amount of flour, by the retreating rebels from Manassas.

At Thoroughfare station, twelve miles from Manassas on the road to Winchester, there were on Friday found 52 freight cars loaded with commissary stores, valued at $20,000. The fire which the enemy had kindled had failed to consume them.

Warrenton station, 14 miles from Manassas on the Richmond road was burnt, together with the hotel and the five or six dwellings there.

Cedar Run Bridge, 2 miles this side of the Warrenton station, was also burnt by the Rebels.

At Manassas the secret agents of this Government, succeeded in securing at the late headquarters of Beauregard and Johnson, a large number of documents in reference to the numerical force and condition of the Rebel army.

Body of Colonel Cameron Found.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The grave of Colonel Cameron having been found at Bull Run, the body has been brought to Georgetown, awaiting the orders of his brother, General Cameron.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Colonel Cameron's body left here this afternoon by the cars for Harrisburg.

Correction.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Instead of a number of dwelling having been burned by some of our soldiers on Thursday evening in the neighborhood of Centreville as reported, it now appears that the destruction by them was confined to a portion of the Rebel barracks. No one dwelling, it is ascertained, was injured by our troops.

Notice to Postmasters.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—A notice to Postmasters has just been issued by the First Assistant Postmaster General, as follows: The Postmaster General has ordered the blank agency at Cincinnati, Ohio, to be transferred to Buffalo, New York. On the 1st of April next, all Postmasters now supplied with blanks from Cincinnati, will after that date send their orders to the Blank Agent at Buffalo, New York, where the printing is executed under contract, and whence they will be supplied.

The Latest from Winchester.

WINCHESTER, March 16, P. M.—The members of the Indiana regiment here publish daily a news sheet called the *Army Bulletin*. We have received here a large and well edited paper published by a regiment at Leesburg, called the *Advance Guard*.

The churches here were open to-day, and were well attended by citizens, officers and soldiers. It is worthy of remark that your correspondent has not seen or heard of a single invasion of private rights or any intoxication since the arrival of the army in this town. This causes us to be highly appreciated here by secessionists, and tends greatly to disabuse the Southern mind of the impression that we are barbarians.

Joseph Seaton's theatrical corps, which for two weeks, has followed the division, opens here tomorrow night.

Our sutlers are freely dispensing groceries to the citizens here, taking in some instances corporation shinplasters in payment.

The Search for the United States Frigate Vermont.

NEW YORK, March 16.—The steamer Blackstone has returned from the search for the United States frigate Vermont, disabled at sea. She has one of her boilers damaged, and was obliged to discontinue the search.

THE WAR IN THE WEST.

From the Cairo Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.

THE WESTERN BATTLE TO BE FOUGHT AT RANDOLPH.

CAIRO, March 10.—But now, shifting the picture what of the war? There is a lull in the elements—the calm forerunning the storm. To-day the theeing intelligence comes from official sources that the Rebel batteries upon the Potomac have been evacuated. Couple with this the evacuation of their stronghold at Columbus, and the declaration of Jeff Davis, that hereafter their forces must be concentrated into one or more grand armies and strike decisive blows, is dimly shadowed forth.

This is necessarily the *dernier resort* of the Rebels. One decisive battle at the East and one at the West are the next movements upon the Rebel board. If they are victorious, the North must rise with renewed strength and determination. If defeated the rebellion is at an end, and the insurgents at the mercy of the Federal arms. The Western battle, it seems to me, will be fought at Randolph. The position offers for the Tennessee [illegible] decision of the conflict on the Tennessee. The junction of the Mobile and Ohio and Memphis and Charleston Railroads, undoubtedly a stand will be made, but the issue there cannot be doubtful. The descent down the Mississippi is, with most reason, feared by the Rebels; and to prevent this move by Commodore Foote's fleet, they will bend all their energies and concentrate all their resources at some commanding point. Island No. 10 is a bugbear, and is probably evacuated.

The Rebels cannot make any fight there. They will not make a stand at New Madrid or Hickman, as there are natural advantages for fortifications there. The highest point of land between New Madrid and Sikestown, by actual survey, is only twenty-six feet above the water mark. At Randolph there is a high bluff, and nature has in other respects admirably qualified the site for purposes of fortifications. It is well ascertained that the heavy siege guns at Columbus were removed there, and that the Rebels are rapidly fortifying. Hundreds of negroes are at work, night and day, casemating. If they succeed in their efforts, they will have rendered their works well-nigh impregnable, at least to an attack from the gunboats. It is doubtful, however, even with casemates, whether they could long stand the fire of the mortars, twenty of which, at least, could be made available there, raining a shower of bombs day and night at the rate of one a minute.

The taking of Forts Henry and Donelson, and the admirable results of the gunboats there, do not necessarily involve a similar result at Randolph.—In the former instances, our boats fought against open batteries. Neither should people imagine that because Columbus has been evacuated, the approach to Memphis will be undisputed. A desperate battle must occur necessarily, and the locality, combining all the information I receive, will be at Randolph. Its locality and its relation to Memphis any of your readers can trace upon the war maps.

That this fact is appreciated by Commodore Foote is evidenced by his refusal to go into action again until the boats are thoroughly repaired, the mortars mounted, and everything in complete readiness. This is now nearly accomplished. The pilot houses of all the boats have been strengthened by an additional eight inches of wood. All defects, as revealed by former actions, have been remedied as far as practicable, and a very few days will see the whole fleet as good as new, and ready for another encounter with the Rebel batteries.

WENDELL PHILLIPS AT THE SMITHSONIAN.

Last night Wendell Phillips lectured before the Washington Lecture Association at the Smithsonian, upon the text, "Seize your opportunity." As an abolitionist, he said he had no great interest in the war. The system of slavery had received its death-blow in the house of its friends, and he felt as much at ease in looking at the war, as an abolitionist, as the audience would experience in looking at Barey with Cruiser in his hands. The initiatory contest was commenced in Kansas, and the South was re-enacting Missouri, and the North is Kansas.

In noticing the beginning of John Brown's career in Kansas, the lecturer said he deemed Brown's labors of more value to the country than any other living man except Wm. Lloyd Garrison. Every cannon Halleck has ever fired, or McClellan ever heard, (for he has never fired one,) is a better anti-slavery lecturer than was ever heard in the Capitol or in Faneuil Hall.

The first line of the President's recent message went straight to his heart. Its purport is: Border States, now is your time to sell. He was not acquainted with rail-splitting, but understood that a small thin wedge was first applied. This was a wedge—a small wedge, but still a wedge. He looked upon it as the first voice of the Government, and he was here to persuade the people to help sustain the President. People had begun to think that President Lincoln thought of nothing but the State of Kentucky. The anti-slavery sentiment had at last conquered the Cabinet, and it was the duty of the North to stand up and assist the Administration in the new work. The President, in his message, had opened the door of emancipation a foot, and he (Mr. Phillips) with a coach and six, and Wm. Lloyd Garrison for a driver, would drive right through. The President goes on the thin ice as far as he dares; let us tell him the ice is thick and go on. The President could not be expected to do the work—he would say, "Go on, old man, I am with you." He (the lecturer) had labored for nineteen years to take nineteen States out of the Union; but if the Constitution would be interpreted to mean justice, he was willing to sustain and guard it. There were two paths out of the war—one, of peace, radical, permanent, and prosperous; the other, of seeming peace. With the latter path this difficulty, now an acute attack, would become chronic, and the nation would be incessantly racked with commotion and strife.

He cared very little about the technicalities of the Constitution. Last spring he was willing that South Carolina should go, and if in twelve or twenty four months Maryland, Delaware, and half of Virginia were not free, and the Capital be compelled to look a hundred miles to see a slave, it would be better if it (the Capital) had been shelled to ashes last July. He did not believe there was a secession. It was a conspiracy to get possession of Washington and rule the whole country; and it was a great mistake of Jeff Davis in being out of Washington last winter. The South came up to the Potomac without men, munitions, or money, but with an idea; and the North came down with men, munitions, and money, and without an idea. Slavery began the war, and the Government had the right out of rebellion to smite slavery to the dust. He thanked God for creating Beauregard, if he did, and every South Carolinian that came up to the Potomac, as they had given the Government the right to destroy slavery. He would send a hundred thousand men into South Carolina, and force the Government into a policy, and when the yellow fever of the South drove out among our men, he would garrison the forts with acclimated negroes, under white officers, and hold them against the world.—*Washington Star.*

FROM EUROPE.

ADDITIONAL BY THE STEAMER AFRICA.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY SEWARD.

THE TIMES' OPINION OF THE WAR.

By the arrival of the Africa we are placed in possession of our London files of the 1st inst. We make extracts of the most prominent topics presented.

TERRIFIC BLAST FROM THE LONDON TIMES—THE WAR MUST BE ENDED.

"This war must be settled somehow." The world has been waiting to hear these words. It has been only a question of time. The present moment is, perhaps, rather earlier than any one expected, but already we catch the expected phrase, borne in confidential whispers across the Atlantic. It has found birth in Wall street, it stirs gently in its cradle, and it is swathed in unconvertible rags. No one yet dares to own it openly. The thousands of vultures who are living upon their prey, would scream horribly, and attack with beaks and claws any one who should, without adequate power, interfere with their banquet; but still the phrase is heard, and it is growing into more potent voice—"In some way or other this war must be settled."

"Wait a while; just ninety days, and the rebellion will be crushed," is still the cry; as it has been for thrice ninety days, the cry of the contractors, the Government officials, the fanatics, and all who find power or profit or distinction in this civil war. The merchants and bankers and trading classes have waited, and what do they see? They see the Atlantic cities withering from hour to hour; they see the warehouses empty, the larger dwelling-houses untenated, property valueless, and trade dying.—They see a wasteful and costly expenditure of half a million sterling every day, and no results except an accelerated pace towards national insolvency and general ruin. Still they are told to wait another ninety days, and all will be well. It may be well for those smart individuals, who by that time will have gathered all they can hope to gain, have realized their plunder, and lodged it where waste paper is not a legal tender. But will it be well with the owners of house property in the East, who are now letting their stores rent-free to any one who will pay the rates? Will it be well with the poor and thrifty producers of the West, who are condemned by the terms of the Constitution to be taxed in a ratio proportioned to population, and not to property? Will it be well with the holders of State bonds, which were hitherto holding a respectable position as securities, but must now be overlaid by the mountain of National debt? Will it be well, either, with the holders of the Federal State securities and the possessors of paper money, who will look around in vain for some sources whence their claims may be met, and will awake to the reality that their property is but a delusion and a dream?

This is all that those who wait will ever see. The very joy and exultation which the "successes" of the last few weeks have caused in the North, show how little the promoters of this war really expect that absolute conquest which they promise. The capture of an earthwork on the Tennessee river, even if it be followed by the capture of the stronger neighboring fort upon the river Cumberland, is only one of the first of a series of military preparations for the campaign in Kentucky and Tennessee. If the invaders should obtain this success, its use will only be to enable them to feed the army which has advanced through Kentucky, and to keep it in working order for operating on a theatre 500 miles distant from the opposing armies on the Potomac. A year of successes would only give them military possession of two States which were never among the most zealous in the Southern cause. As to the descents upon the coast, they are annoyances rather than wounds. They are but like the burning darts which the Spaniard thrusts into the flanks of a English bull to sting him from his defensive posture. A hundred such victories and such inroads as these tell nothing towards the conquest of a country half as large as Europe, if that country be really earnest in its own defence. The Southern States before they enrolled must have expected all this, and much more. We have always in Europe given the North credit for first successes very greatly superior to these, and have reckoned that their real difficulties would only commence when they had mastered the great strategic points throughout the South. At the rate at which the war is now proceeding, it will take, not ninety days, but ninety years to "crush this rebellion;" and the respective grandsons of General McClellan and General Beauregard may at last fight out the battle for Manassas.

"Wall street begins to see all this more clearly. It was worth a costly experiment to retain that rich Southern business, and New York will be hard put to it either to win it back or do without it. But the capitalists have now come to the conclusion that the game is in their hands. The suggestion to raise $150,000,000 yearly, by direct taxation, does not deceive them. They know very well that, even if the sovereign people would submit to endure a taxation as heavy as that of England, America could not continuously raise more than £10,000,000 sterling annually. The rough calculation has always been that in capacity of taxation the proportion between the two countries is that American dollars are equal to English pounds sterling. If we raise £50,000,000, exclusive of our customs, America probably could, if she pleased, raise $50,000,000 or £10,000,000. Such a possible revenue, even if it were not based upon the wide probability that the Western States will consent to pay any such taxes, would be a very poor security for half the debt which has already accrued. In this state of things the commercial adage, "the first loss is the best," comes into play, and the capitalists of New York are now watching for the first opportunity when it may be safe to say openly, "This war must be settled somehow."

This "first loss" is indeed bad enough. There are all the profits of the Southern agencies gone. The coffers are all drained by a disastrous loan of many millions. Having suspended specie payments, of course they cannot borrow any money from abroad, and they have a Government so recklessly manufacturing paper money that there is no hope of keeping up for any length of time the delusion that it is of value. Still there would be some hope if they could stop where they now are. Peace might restore to them some trade relations with the South, and while the more indolent Southerners have wealth, the sharp Northerner may always hope that he will get some of it. But the frightful current expenditure can be stopped, or how the war can be settled, it is, perhaps, premature to speculate. Nor do we venture to calculate that the power of capital is immediately felt as decisive on such a question. America has such imperishable advantages in her great unbroken wastes of fertile soil that no mere financial difficulties can strangle her. She may borrow and repudiate over and over again, and ruin every creditor she has, and yet rise again and thrive. But at such a crisis as this the interests of moneyed men are likely to be of great influence upon events. We are much misinformed if the opinion of the commercial body in the great cities of Federal America has not recently veered round, and if there be not, all up and down Wall street, a general disg