THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

VOL. II---NO. 163. BALTIMORE, MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

Generals Price and Van Dorn, who were reported recently to have command of thirty-five thousand men, are now said to be in a very forlorn condition. The "reliable gentleman," upon whose auth rity so many stories were formerly circulated, has been superseded of late by "intelligent persons," and some of this class declare the forces of Van Dorn and Price have dwindled down to twenty-five hundred men, and that they do not expect to be reinforced within the next six weeks by more than five thousand men. Under such circumstances, one would have supposed that the way was perfectly clear for General Curtis to march his victorious troops southward. Singularly enough, however, we learn from the same source that, since the Confederates have "retreated entirely across the Boston mountain," the army of General Curtis "has fallen back to Keittsville, Missouri."

The Tennessee correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* chronicles the advance of General Sherman's entire division from Savannah, for the purpose of destroying an important bridge on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. The division reached the boundary line of the State of Mississippi, and crossed it a mile or two without encountering the enemy. From that point Wallace's command was detailed to carry out the object of the expedition. The cavalry and infantry found, however, the streams swollen and the roads impracticable, and returned the following day without being able to execute their mission. "The movement was a failure," says the writer; "but it was nobody's fault. The elements were against us, and so the Confederates still have uninterrupted communication with Memphis and Charleston." In a subsequent letter we are informed that General Sherman's flotilla returned down the river to Pittsburg, Tennessee, where his forces were united with those of General Hurlbut, for a more important movement.

From Southern sources we learn that the Federal troops occupied Shipping Point, on the lower Potomac, on Thursday last—the Confederates, with the exception of two or three companies of cavalry, having retired from that vicinity some time since.

The Memphis *Appeal* states that, on Wednesday last, a detachment of Federal cavalry succeeded in reaching the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; but whilst engaged in tearing up the track they were attacked by the Confederate pickets and driven off.

According to the Fredericksburg *Herald*, 10,000 Federal troops were in the vicinity of Dumfries on Tuesday last.

A telegram from Wilmington, North Carolina, gives what purports to be reliable information concerning the battle at Newbern. The Confederate forces engaged in that affair consisted, we are told, of five skeleton regiments of infantry, and a few companies of artillery, but that a battalion came upon the scene of action in time to cover the retreat. The entire force is estimated at not more than five thousand men. The troops under Burnside are represented to have numbered twenty-two thousand. The Confederate loss, in killed and wounded, is reported at from one hundred to one hundred and fifty. The Federal loss is "variously stated at from five hundred to one thousand."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* makes the remarkable statement that, on Thursday last, a party of fifty Confederate soldiers entered the village of Fairfax Court House—tore down the Union flags and destroyed all the sutlers' stores at that place.

From the Washington correspondence of the New York *Herald*, we learn that the Federal troops across the Potomac drove in the Confederate outposts beyond Warrenton Junction, on Thursday. The Confederates in that vicinity are estimated at ten thousand men.

Colonel Ebenezer Magoffin, a brother of Governor Magoffin, has been sentenced to be shot in Missouri, for violating his parole. General Halleck has approved the sentence, but it is doubtful whether it will be carried out.

We publish some further particulars concerning the operations before Tenth Island. The correspondent of the New York *Times*, writing from the flotilla, puts the following arithmetical question: "If we are detained a fortnight by Confederate batteries at Island No. 10, how long will the same force be detained by the defences of Fort Pillow, Fort Randolph, and such others as bar our progress to Memphis?" The nearest approach which he makes to a solution of his own problem is, that "what has been weeks here, will become months there; and, consequently, Memphis removes itself so far into the distance as to be almost invisible, whilst it would need a dozen eternities to reach New Orleans by such a boat as the Benton." The prospect ahead, therefore, is by no means consoling.

The official report of the battle of Winchester, which is furnished by Captain Schriber, of General Shields' staff, is by far the clearest account of the engagement which has yet been made public. It shows that the struggle was fierce and obstinate, and that the Confederates did not retire from the field until darkness had set in. They fell back fighting, according to Captain Schriber, at seven o'clock in the evening; but it was not until an hour later that the musketry entirely ceased. The Federal troops captured but one iron cannon and two caissons, instead of three cannon, as previously announced; and they lost, during a flank movement, one of their own brass pieces, but subsequently recovered it. There is no mention made by Captain Schriber of the disastrous rout of which we had previously heard so much; and, what is equally noticeable, we are left in entire ignorance of the number of troops engaged on each side, and of the losses incurred.

By a telegram from Fortress Monroe we are informed that General Burnside advanced on Beaufort, North Carolina, the Confederate troops retiring before him and seeking safety in Fort Macon, which is said to have only one week's provision. We have no account of the occupation of Beaufort by the Federal troops, and we presume that they did not enter the town, as they would be thus brought under the fire of Fort Macon. Washington, a town of about one thousand inhabitants, on the Tar river, North Carolina, was in possession of the Federal troops. There is nothing new from Fortress Monroe. The Merrimac has not made her appearance, and we have the usual stereotyped announcement that when she does come the Monitor is prepared for a fresh encounter. A propeller made her appearance in James river yesterday.

By a telegram received at a late hour last evening, it appears that the attack upon the fortifications of New Orleans has commenced. Heavy firing from the Mississippi Passes is reported. Great preparations were making at New Orleans to resist the attack of the Federal forces. All of Commodore Porter's mortar fleet had left Key West for the scene of action, together with several additional gunboats.

Nassau Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.

THE TRAFFIC BETWEEN NASSAU AND THE CONFEDERATE PORTS.

NASSAU, N. P., March 20.—The following memoranda were picked up in the street in Nassau, N. P., about the 12th instant, and from other papers found with them they undoubtedly had been lost by some party connected with the English steamer Gladiator, which had arrived from England some two or three months previous, with a full cargo of arms, ammunition, &c., which was being gradually re-shipped in smaller vessels, for our Southern coast:

Cargo per steamer Cecil, January 30, 1862:

500 kegs powder.	94 cases mess tins, pouches, bayonet scabbards.
200 cases rifles.	4 cases instruments.
603 boxes ammunition.	2 cases lint.
32 bales blankets.	1 barrel.
15 cases medicines.	

Total.....1,652 packages.

Cargo per steamer Kate, (no date given, probably sailed in January, 1862:)

1,100 kegs powder.	15 cases medicines.
400 cases rifles.	4 cases instruments.
1,405 boxes ammunition.	2 cases lint.
144 bales blankets, gray cloth, &c.	5 packages tarpaulins.
	4 cases tarpaulins.
218 cases mess tins, boots, pouches, knapsacks, horse gear, medicines, &c.	1 case.
	1 box samples.
	1 barrel.

Total.....3,506 packages.

Cargo per steamer Kate, February 21, 1862:

600 kegs powder	100 cases rifles
780 boxes cartridges.	112 bales blankets.
21 boxes caps.	5 packages tarpaulins.
121 casks containing messtins, boots, horse gear, medicines, knapsacks, &c.	4 cases tarpaulins.
	1 case luggage.
	1 box samples.

Total.....1,748 packages.

The Kate and Cecil are fast steamers, capable of making, in a smooth sea, 15 to 16 miles per hour. They draw very little water and are navigated by men perfectly familiar with the Southern coast and harbors. By taking advantage of a dark night they are able to run by our blockading vessels and get into shallow water, and then with returning daylight to make their harbor. In this manner a constant and almost certain communication is maintained for the benefit of the Confederates and their sympathizers. As these vessels are under English colors they can only be interfered with in the act of running the blockade.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Occupation of Shipping Point by the Union Troops.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Shipping Point was yesterday occupied by our troops. As the steamer Mount Washington passed that place they raised the flag of the Union and the band was playing the "Star Spangled Banner." All the Rebels who have been in that vicinity for some time past have left with the exception of two or three remaining companies of cavalry.

The steamer King Philip left here this morning on a trip to Old Point, having on board Vice President Hamlin with other gentlemen of prominence and several ladies.

Disloyal Ministers Refusing to Give Thanks for National Victories, Etc.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The majority of the vestry of Trinity Church having essayed to displace their pastor from his position as rector for non compliance with the order of Bishop Whittingham to read the prayer put forth by him in view of the recent national victories, and the delivery of Washington from blockade and siege, that minister denies their authority thus to act, and has given them formal notice that he will submit the question to the membership. He officiated in that church to-day.

The Church of the Ascension, the rector of which also omitted the same prayer, was closed today, not, however, primarily on that account, but as a measure of precaution against excitement, which might result in a disturbance of the peace. A guard is in attendance at the premises.

New Military Department.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—A new Military Department, to be called the "Middle Department," and to consist of the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, and the counties of Cecil, Harford and Baltimore, and Anne Arundel counties in Maryland, has been created. Major-General Dix, United States Volunteers, is assigned the command, with his headquarters at Baltimore.

No troops in the United States service will hereafter pass through the city of New York without reporting to the United States military authorities entrusted with the duty of providing subsistence and transportation in that city. Reports must be made and information obtained at the office, No. 79 White street.

LATER FROM THE GULF COAST.

Operations Against New Orleans—Heavy Firing Heard from the Head of the Passes of the Mississippi River.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The gunboat Huntsville arrived this evening from Key West, which place she left on the 23d inst.

The steamers Niagara, South Carolina, Mohawk, Water Witch, Marion and eight other vessels were at Key West.

The prize Magnolia would sail for New York on the 24th inst. The ship Nightingale sailed on the 21st for Tortugas and the Passes.

Advices from the Mississippi passes state that heavy firing was heard from the head of the passes where some of our vessels had gone.

The remainder of Commodore Porter's fleet had all left Key West, together with several of our gunboats.

Considerable cotton is stored at Apalachicola, and the place is defended by thirteen guns and a force of 3,000 rebels.

The steamer Cuyler, at Key West from Havana, reports quite a number of rebel vessels there.

A French man-of-war from Vera Cruz had 27 cases of yellow fever aboard.

The health of our troops at Key West was good.

The small pox had broken out in the New Hampshire regiment at Tortugas.

Two of the crew captured on the steamer Magnolia, report great preparation making at New Orleans to resist the attack of the Federal forces.—Several gunboats were building and martial law would soon be proclaimed.

The steamer South Carolina had been ordered to Boston.

The report of the capture of Yancey proves to have been incorrect. He had engaged passage in the schooner Mallory which was captured, but (fortunately for him) changed his mind, and was to sail from Havana in the schooner Break o' Day.

The Huntsville brings 200 bales of cotton, and 237 bales of tobacco, captured from the Rebels.

All her officers and crew are well.

FROM THE SOUTH ATLANTIC COAST.

Union Demonstrations in East Florida—Proclamation of General Sherman to the People of Florida.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The steamer Empire City, from Port Royal, has arrived. The following is from the *Free South* newspaper of the 22d instant:

General Sherman visited Jacksonville on the 19th, and was waited on by a Committee of citizens who represented the feelings of all in the town as strongly in favor of the Union. Many citizens are returning to Jacksonville, among whom are deserters from the rebel army anxious to take the oath of allegiance, and who state that desertions will be numerous.

The sentiment of Eastern Florida is declared to be loyal, and many are willing to take up arms to defend themselves against rebel tyranny. On one occasion, when the Redemptioners were reported as coming, even the women seized arms to defend themselves. The National troops are treated to every hospitality by the town officials, and the people state they will go away with the gunboats if they leave, but measures have been taken to fully protect them. Some eighty of the inhabitants of Fernandina have returned to their homes. The news of our victories has greatly rejoiced our troops, and inspired them with renewed energy.

The gunboat Ottawa had been 110 miles up the St. John's river, beyond Jacksonville, meeting with no opposition. White flags were displayed by the inhabitants, who claimed his protection.

The Rebel steamer St. Mary's and yacht America were also found sunk, but Captain Stevens, of the Ottawa, was raising them.

Pensacola has been evacuated, including also forts Barancas and McRae, and the Rebels announce the entire abandonment of Florida. The troops raised in Florida had been ordered off, but they refused to go.

General Sherman has issued a proclamation to the people of Florida, in which he stated that the troops of the United States had come to protect loyal citizens and their property, and enable them to resuscitate their Government. All loyal people who return or remain at their homes in the quiet pursuit of their lawful avocations, shall be protected in all their constitutional rights. The sole desire and intention of the Government was to maintain the integrity of the Constitution and laws, and reclaim the States revolted from the national allegiance to their former prosperous condition.

He expresses great satisfaction at the evidences of loyalty, and recommends the citizens to assemble in their cities and towns and precincts, and throw off the sham government forced upon them and swear true fidelity and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States, organize a State government and elect officers in the good old ways of past.

When this is done he predicts a return of prosperous and happy times, immunity from want and suffering, and the enjoyment of the fruits of honest labor and the sweets of happy homes, and the consolation of living under wise and salutary laws, due only to an industrious and law-abiding people.

At a meeting of the loyal citizens of Jacksonville, held on the 20th, a declaration of rights and a protest and resolutions, denouncing the rebel Government, were unanimously adopted.

The Latest from Island No 10—The Bombardment Renewed Vigorously.

CAIRO, March 29.—After a lull the bombardment of Island No. 10 was renewed vigorously yesterday. The rebels appear to have received and put in position new guns of longer range.

There is nothing important yet from Tennessee.

An arrival from Memphis to-day reports a feeling of general despondency there. But little confidence is felt even in the ability of the large rebel force concentrating at Corinth to stay the progress of the Federal arms.

Later.

ST. LOUIS, March 30.—The army correspondent of the *Republican*, writing under date of Cairo, March 29th, says the firing on Friday at Island No. 10 was quite heavy. The Rebels are opening from a new battery mounting, it is supposed, 128-pounders. They are cutting away trees and rapidly pushing forward their means of defence with apparently no idea of evacuating the place at present. They are daily getting more cannon in position.—Word reached the fleet last night that four Rebel gunboats partly clad with railroad iron had approached Island No. 10 from Point Pleasant, but as Gen. Pope's batteries extend in an almost continuous line for three miles, it is not believed they can force a passage.

FROM GEN. GRANT'S ARMY.

Operations of the Army in Southern Tennessee and Northern Alabama.

CHICAGO, March 28.—The *Tribune's* special despatch from Cairo says: A gentleman from Pittsburg and Savannah, on the Tennessee river, arrived here to-day and reports that on Monday last a reconnoissance in force by our troops was made at Pea Ridge, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, where the Rebels were said to be fortifying, but no enemy was found.

Our forces are continually augmented by arrivals of fresh troops.

The latest advices from the Rebel camp at Corinth give the strength of their force there at 70,000.

On Sunday last a Federal force was sent to Nicholas Landing, Alabama, six miles south of Savannah by the river, where was seized 15,000 pounds of fresh pork and 45,000 pounds cured hams and shoulders. For a long time this has been a mart for the pork business of the Rebels, and within the last two weeks large quantities have been sent Southward by teams from this point.

On Monday last an engagement occurred between the gunboats Tyler and Lexington and a masked battery in the vicinity of Eastport, Mississippi.—The gunboats fired fifty shots. No damage was sustained except that the Tyler's smoke stack was struck once. The effect on the enemy's battery was not ascertained.

Captains Berdayden and Carson returned to Savannah from Nashville, on Tuesday night, overland.

Near Approach of the Union Army in Southern Tennessee to that of the Rebels, under Beauregard—Capture of a Railroad Train with a Number of Federal Officers.

CINCINNATI, March 30.—A special despatch to the *Commercial*, from Indianapolis, says that General Buell has assumed command of our forces, and at the latest advices was within fifteen miles of Beauregard's army, at Corinth, Mississippi.

Morgan's Rebel guerrilla cavalry band captured another train on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, on Friday. Colonel Carrin Pope, of Kentucky, was taken prisoner, with a few other Federal officers. The locomotive of the train was run into a ditch, and the cars destroyed.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

HARPER'S FERRY, March 28.—We are at length able to make the following reliable announcement, which will be received with interest by mercantile classes East and West:

The engineers and track layers report that their forces engaged in restoring the track of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad have finished their work, with the exception of three miles only, about midway between Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry.

All the numerous bridges, large and small, are thoroughly completed, and the last rail necessary to reconnect Baltimore, Washington, Wheeling, Parkersburg, &c., will positively be laid on Sunday morning, the 30th instant.

Large quantities of freight for the Government and on private account, from East and West, are loaded, and have been pushed forward to Harper's Ferry on the one side and Martinsburg on the other, to go through on Sunday and Monday, as soon as the track is ready. The first through passenger trains will leave Baltimore, Wheeling and Parkersburg on Wednesday, April 2d, at the latest.

The restoration of this great line of communication will certainly be permanent and effectual, as the country south of it is fully occupied and possessed by Government troops in the departments of Generals McClellan, Dix, and Fremont, respectively.

Renewed life and energy is inspired in the business community of Baltimore by this happy result.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 29.—The steamer Suwanee arrived here this morning from Newbern, N. C., bringing intelligence of the advance of General Burnside on Beaufort. On reaching there he found that the rebel troops had all retired to Fort Macon, which they continued to hold, though it was said they had not more than one week's provisions. The inhabitants of Beaufort remained, and there was no attempt by the rebels to burn property, with the exception of a railroad bridge on the road to Newbern. All was quiet at Newbern. The town of Washington had been taken possession of without opposition.

Steamships were visible again to day towards Norfolk, but no signs of the Merrimac. The Monitor is fully prepared for a fresh encounter with her. A propeller also made her appearance in the James River to-day. The weather is stormy and disagreeable.

Defeat of a Rebel Band in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, March 30.—On the night of the 26th inst., a band of from 500 to 800 rebels attacked four companies of State militia at Hammarsville, Polk county, Mo. They were completely defeated, with a loss of fifteen killed and a large number wounded. Our loss was *none* killed, but a number wounded, among whom Capts. Stockton and Cosgrove were severely wounded.

Terrible Explosion at Jackson's Pyrotechnic Factory, Philadelphia—Four or Five Employees Killed and a Number Wounded.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—Jackson's Pyrotechnic factory, corner Tenth and Reed streets, exploded at an early hour this morning. Four or five persons were killed, including a son of Mr. Jackson. The head of one victim was blown nearly two squares, and the fragments of humanity are scattered about the ruins, presenting a most shocking sight. Ten or twelve other employees, boys and girls, were seriously injured by the explosion.

Arrival of the Steamer New York from Newbern.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The steamer New York, from Newbern on the 26th, arrived this evening. She brings home a number of officers as passengers.

FROM THE SOUTH.

[SELECTED FROM NEW YORK PAPERS.]

From the Norfolk Day Book, March 29.

More Yankee Villany.

The Lincolnites are again at work in East Tennessee. The Greenville *Banner* says that on Monday night the telegraph wire was cut a mile west of that place, about three spans carried off and one post pulled down. This, no doubt, was done by the same mob of Union men engaged in the bridge burning last summer. The *Banner* adds:

Last week a lot of tories from Laurel, N. C., came into our county (Greene) and robbed several houses, taking with them all the money they could find and also some powder, telling some of the good citizens at the same time, that the next time they came back they intended to burn their houses.—This marauding party is a set of renegade Union men from our own county, headed by Capt. David Frye, the ringleading bridge burner, who has always managed to commit his depredations and make his escape before being discovered.

The Memphis *Avalanche* says:

It is understood that the Federals are commiting gross excesses at Columbus, Ky., and that no great effort has been made to restrain them.

Their insolence is intolerable, and they pillage and pilfer everything they can lay their hands on. This is by way of retaliation for the great dread in which they were held for a long while from that point, and the scourging they received at Belmont.

In Earnest.

The Sumter (Ala.) *Republican*, in noticing the action of planters to substitute grain for the tobacco crop as the best war policy, states that Dr. Jarratt has instructed the overseer of his plantation in Sumter county not to plant any cotton whatever, but to plant one thousand two hundred acres in corn, potatoes, &c., to aid in supplying provisions for the South during the war. This is the spirit which will soon "conquer a peace," and lift the blockade. We commend the example to all our planting friends.

Baffled.

We learn from the Memphis *Appeal* that a detachment of Yankee cavalry from Savannah, Tenn., on Wednesday last succeeded in reaching the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, a few miles above Purdy, in McNairy county, and commenced destroying the track. They were discovered by our pickets before much damage was done, and driven off.

Patriotic.

The Charleston *Courier* has "good news from Mississippi." The planters are piling up their cotton and getting it ready for the faggot the moment the enemy advances. They are also sending their servants up the river to work on the fortifications; and they say they are ready to make any sacrifice the Government may require.

Hickman and New Madrid are almost equidistant from Island No. 10—the former above and the latter below, while Point Pleasant, although still lower down than New Madrid, nearly the same distance, is, by a bend in the river, brought quite parallel with the island.

Topography.

The Memphis *Appeal* of the 23d inst says:

The topography of the country of the Tennessee river is very little understood, especially as regards the valley of the river. The bluffs of the Tennessee river, above the mouth to Pittsburg, are peculiarly unfortunate for large settlements or towns on the banks. The great portion of banks to these points are low, marshy and subject to overflow. The high bluffs descending to the river merely furnish landings for freights, which are conveyed through high hills, ravines and different roads to the interior, where the plantations exist. Hence the want of great towns on this river, also the want of large settlements. From the unhealthy state of the climate in summer, after the large spring overflows, ague and fever are very prevalent along the shores. * * * Corinth is a very important strategical point. It is situated in a hilly, semi-mountainous country—a branch of the Apalachian range, which diverges from the Alleghany Mountains, and forms the mountains and gold-bearing regions of Georgia and Alabama.—Here, also, is the junction of the Memphis and Charleston and Mobile and Charleston Railroad Companies, and forms the intact communication of the Atlantic and Gulf seaboards, and which is very important to us, as it would be to the Yankees were they ever masters of this point.

Our cavalry skirmishers are harassing the Yankees all along the Tennessee river between Fort Henry and Savannah. The other day they fired on three of their steamers loaded with troops—the Iowa, War Eagle and Bay City—and killed three of their men. One was shot through the head while standing at the bar, the others through the spine.

No Communication.

The following is a copy of General Huger's official notice, prohibiting communication with Fort Monroe:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
NORFOLK, VA., March 18, 1862.

No person will be allowed to proceed from Norfolk to Fortress Monroe after this date.

By command of General Huger:
BENJ. HUGER, JR., A. Adj. General.

Suspended.

Rev. J. R. Graves, editor of the Tennessee *Baptist*, lately published at Nashville, has published a card, in which he informs his patrons that owing to the sudden and unexpected fall of Nashville, he was unable to move any of his presses, type or paper, and that the publication of the *Baptist* will be suspended for the present—probably till the termination of the war. Mr. Graves also announces his purpose of entering the military service, proposing to raise a legion, battalion or company of pikemen or lancers, as soon as President Davis announces that such will be received in the Confederate service.

Boys as Soldiers.

Among the New Orleans soldiery who who have responded to the call of General Beauregard, is a regiment made up mainly of youths, many of them coming from their schools to take their places in the ranks. It is said to be a splendidly equipped corps of the best blood in Louisiana, and numbers nine hundred muskets. The regiment arrived at Jackson, Tenn., on the 7th.

A call has been made in Norfolk for all the boys between sixteen and eighteen years to enrol themselves.

Negroes Wanted.

The Norfolk *Day Book* has the following:

WANTED.—Two hundred negro laborers to complete the defensive works in this division, under the Engineer Department. I hope this call for laborers will be immediately responded to, as it is of vital importance, to this community especially, to have the engineer works finished. Rations and sixty cents per day allowed. E. M. TOOP.

Here is another call:

All young men of this city, between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years, are hereby notified to meet on the Academy lot, on Monday afternoon next, at four o'clock, for the purpose of being enrolled. SERGEANT.

From the Potomac Above.

From the Fredericksburg Herald of March 21.

There were 10,000 of the enemy reported in the vicinity of Dumfries on Tuesday, mainly, if not altogether, it is supposed, of the force heretofore lying on the Maryland shore opposite our Evansport batteries.

As several of these regiments passed farm houses, they stopped and helped themselves.

THE DEFENCES OF NEW ORLEANS.

The Fortifications.

A recent number of the Richmond *Dispatch* says:

"The Mississippi is fortified so as to be impassable for any hostile fleet or flotilla. Forts Jackson and St. Philip are armed with one hundred and seventy guns, (68-pounders, rifled by Barkley Britten, and received from England.) The navigation of the river is stopped by a dam of about a quarter of a mile from the above forts.

"No flotilla on earth would force that dam in less than two hours, during which it would be within short and cross range of one hundred and seventy guns of the largest calibre, many of which would be served with red-hot shot, numerous furnaces for which have been erected in every fort and every battery.

"Between New Orleans and the forts there is a constant succession of earthworks. At the Plain of Chalmette, near Janin's Property, there are redoubts, armed with rifled cannon, which have been found to be effective at five miles range. A ditch thirty feet wide and twenty deep extends from the Mississippi to La Capriere.

"In the forts St. Philip and Jackson there are 3,000 men, of whom a goodly portion are experienced artillerymen and gunners who have served in the navy."

The same paper says:

"In a day or two we shall have ready two iron-cased floating batteries. The plates are 4½ inches thick, of the best hammered iron, received from England and France. Each iron-cased battery will mount twenty 68-pounders, placed so as to skim the water, and strike the enemy's hull between wind and water. We have an abundant supply of incendiary shells, cupola furnaces for molten iron, congreve rockets and fire-ships

"At New Orleans itself we have 32,000 infantry, and as many more quartered in the immediate neighborhood. In discipline and drill they are far superior to the Yankees. We have two very able and active generals, who possess our entire confidence—Gen. Mansfield Sorrel and Brig. Gen. Ruggles. For commodore we have old Hollins—a Nelson in his way.

"We are ready to give the Yankees a hot reception when they come. Around all are mad with excitement and rage. Our only fear is that the Northern invaders will not appear. We have made such extensive preparation to receive them, that it would be a calamity if their invisible armada escapes the fate we have in store for it."

There are also said to be other formidable obstructions of various kinds in the river, to prevent the passage upward of a fleet. A correspondent at Ship Island, writing recently, says:

"I have conversed with some prisoners recently taken, in reference to the obstructions placed across the Mississippi by the Confederates to prevent the passage of the Federal men-of-war. From them I learn there is an immense raft of logs, containing eighty thousand feet, stretched across the river at a point called the 'Jump.' This raft is secured to the banks of the river, on either side, by heavy chains, which are dropped when any of the Confederate steamers pass. This formidable obstruction is commanded by a strong battery."

The Battle of Newbern.

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 17.—Further details of the battle of Newbern have been received. The reports very very materially as to the particulars of the affair. Apparently those most reliable assert that our force engaged consisted of five skeleton regiments of infantry, a few companies of artillery, and a battalion which came upon the scene of action in time to help to cover our retreat. The enemy was 22,000 strong, provided with formidable gunboats on the flank, and formidable field batteries on the front, with a heavy reserve. Our entire force is probably over-estimated at 5,000, yet they held their ground in the face of the great odds for full five hours. The militia gave way first, and retreated. Our loss in killed and wounded is estimated to be between one hundred and one hundred and fifty.

The Union loss is variously stated at from five hundred to one thousand.

The only troops engaged on our side were North Carolinians. Colonel Avery and Major Coke were both killed. Colonel Hayward was not killed as at first reported.

From the Potomac below Aquia Creek.

A note from an entirely reliable source, dated the 19th, says: A fleet of ten large steamers and transports anchored off Matompkin Point last night, but at midnight got under way and were last seen off Mattox Creek. They were filled with troops, and, I think, contained at least 10,000 men. Of course their destination is a matter of conjecture.

From other sources we learn that this fleet is put at from twenty to twenty-six vessels.

We understand that a large number of negroes have been captured by our pickets and returned to their masters.

Unionists Captured.

A late Richmond *Examiner* contains the following telegrams:

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 17.—Lieut. Col. Bennett, of the 51st Pennsylvania regiment; Lieut. Riley, of the 47th New York, and S. H. Wills, Union Government agent and cotton broker, were captured by our pickets on Edisto Island on Sunday, and brought here to-day as prisoners of war. They were riding in a buggy when captured.

By Telegraph to the Norfolk Day Book.

The Fight at Island No. 10.

MEMPHIS, March 25.—The special correspondent of the New Orleans *Picayune*, at Memphis, says:—The enemy are moving cautiously towards Decatur, Ala. A column is moving south towards Columbia, and another is moving across Tennessee from the direction of Corinth, believed for the purpose of uniting their two main columns at some point on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, near Decatur.

The special correspondent of the *Advertiser* and *Register*, from Memphis, writes that the bombardment of Island No. 10 continued separately day and night. The main attack was directed to Rucker's battery.

The Confederates work knee deep in water, displaying great valor.

The loss on our side is slight. Two of the enemy's gunboats are certainly sunk.

The enemy is moving down on the west side through swamps and back water in dug-outs. They have four saw mills at work making lumber to build boats.

The island is amply provisioned for a siege, and the Confederates are in good spirits.

The Charleston *Courier* says that the planters in Mississippi are piling up their cotton, ready for the faggot.

Gov. Andy Johnson has suppressed the publication of the Nashville *Daily Times*.

The Greenville *Banner* says that the East Tennessee Unionists on Monday night last cut the telegraph wire a mile west of that place, carrying off three spans of the wire, &c.

Capt David Frye, a Laurel North Carolina loyalist—accused last summer of bridge burning—is accused of having headed a raid into Greene county and roughly treating the secessionists there, taking all the powder they could find, and other things.

Dr. Burrows, Superintendent of the Alabama Penitentiary, at Wetumpka, has been murdered by a convict.

Dr. W. S. Bell, chief of the medical department of the Confederate army of the Mississippi, died at Memphis on the 15th.

A trial trip of the gunboats Morgan and Gaines, just built at Mobile, is pronounced satisfactory.

Clarke county, Miss., with a population of 1,100, is alleged to have eleven full companies in the field, and a twelfth nearly organized.

Lieut. A. D. Butt is deputy Provost Marshal for the district of Norfolk, Va.

THE NEGROES IN WASHINGTON.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, in a recent letter, says:

Negro equality is making rapid advancement here; they are now privileged to attend the Abolition meetings—generally called lectures—which are delivered in the Smithsonian Institute. The oppressed race have also had the privilege lately of attending meetings, where they were regaled with an address from that paragon of emancipationists, Owen Lovejoy. On two occasions lately has he delivered addresses to a negro congregation in one of their churches situated on Capitol Hill. It was not a free lecture—one dime was charged for admission. Whether the Honorable Owen received a share of the proceeds I am not able to say. It is not, however, improbable. Abolitionism is sorely tried and painfully exercised.—Things do not move on to their liking. Their pent-up wrath has received no appeasement by the restoration of their pet "pathfinder" to a military command. It produced only a momentary armistice. The continued confidence of the President in General McClellan that served to give them the sleepy nightmare. Then the relentless of the Legislature of Ohio to return "Old Ben Wade" to the Senate has wrought perturbation in their wigwam. It would not be surprising if they were to resort to their usual bugbear, the stopping of supplies, if those things were not more satisfactorily arranged.

STEAMER ACORN IN THE SERVICE OF THE CONFEDERATES.—About three months ago, the well known steamer Acorn, of 175 tons burthen, which formerly plied between Boston and Provincetown, was sold by her owners, Franklin Snow and others, to a person in New York. She was taken to that city, repaired, and sailed for Havana. One of the persons retained on board after the sale, was the engineer, a Mr. Andrews of Provincetown. Upon the arrival of the vessel at Havana, the captain informed Mr. Andrews that it was his purpose to embark in the enterprise of running cargoes into the blockaded Confederate ports of the South, and offered Mr. Andrews $200 per month to retain his position. Mr. Andrews replied that he would not embark in such service for a thousand dollars a month, and left the vessel. He has since returned to Boston.

DEATH OF A VETERAN SHIPMASTER.—Captain Victor Constant, widely known to the mercantile community of this city, died suddenly of heart disease last evening, at his residence in Chelsea. He has long been known as a very intelligent shipmaster, whose mind was well stored by study and observation. Captain Constant was one of the seamen captured by the British during the war of 1812, and was confined in Dartmoor prison nearly two years. After peace he sailed from Newburyport, but during the last thirty years he has been a citizen of Boston, widely esteemed and respected. His age was 69 years.—*Boston Transcript, 28th.*

The barn and stabling of Mr. Enos Walraven, in Kent county, Md., together with several fine horses, grain, &c., was entirely destroyed by fire on Thursday morning last. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

The President, it is said, has tendered the position of Secretary of Legation to Prussia to Bayard Taylor, and rumor says he has accepted the appointment.

WHICH LIES?

THE BANK.

From the Baltimore American's Editorial of Saturday.

THE SECESSION PRISONERS IN BALTIMORE.

We regret to find that some mistake and misrepresentations have gotten afloat in this community with reference to the reception and treatment which the Rebel prisoners from Winchester have received at the jail. Unlike those who have occasionally figured here at the hotels as representatives of the "oldest families," the "F. F. V.'s," from the Old Dominion, these poor fellows have fared but badly, so far as any practical benevolence is concerned. When they arrived here—and in a most deplorable and destitute condition, too—they mustered amongst themselves some eighteen hundred dollars in Confederate funds, which, of course, was of no value as money here. An effort was made by some sympathetic friends to dispose of it in the character of souvenirs or remembrances of the war, but after beating up Secession quarters thoroughly, the whole amount realized was only two hundred dollars in good money, the remaining sixteen hundred of trash being returned to them. *Destitute of almost everything, but particularly of a change of linen, an effort was made by some of those more especially in sympathy with them to supply what was needed, but somehow the secessionists have not, in the case of these poor fellows, come to the rescue, not having furnished more than one garment in five of the many wanted.*

As to the charge that they are being feted and wined by Baltimore secessionists, and that Major Ludlow should treat them with more severity, the facts are that but one lady came with a couple of bottles of champagne, but this *was refused;* and only three passes have been furnished to those who applied to see them, whilst those who from curiosity or a worse motive have sought to visit them, have been denied entrance. The public may rely upon this statement as comprising the essential facts in the case.

THE ANTIDOTE.

From the Local column of the Baltimore American of Saturday.

The local reporter of the *American*, who had permission from the authorities to visit the Confederate prisoners, and who has therefore a personal knowledge of the manner in which they were treated, writes as follows:—

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS FROM WINCHESTER.—Since the confinement in the Baltimore jail of the Confederate prisoners from Winchester, great curiosity has been manifested to see them, but the prudence of the military authorities dictated a very limited admission, which has already been noticed. *Upon the day of their arrival in Baltimore a committee of gentlemen, consisting of Colin Mackenzie, Chairman, and F. L. Tilghman, William Krebs and A. F. Risch, obtained permission to send the prisoners articles of clothing and other things which their condition required. For this purpose a pass was issued to Mr. Mackenzie, who has spent much time at the jail in the delivery of articles sent him by the remainder of the committee.* This was deemed the best arrangement in order to systematic and concerted action, so as to give no trouble to the officers of the jail, and it falls to the Chairman to state that he has acted in good faith.

Mr. Mackenzie was present this morning, and reports the receipt of articles of clothing, such as pants, shirts, undershirts, drawers, socks, boots, combs, soap, tooth-brushes, handkerchiefs, and other articles, which he estimates to be worth about $1,500. All the commissioned officers received valises, and 115 pair of blankets, which they distributed to the men. This morning there were many bundles and baskets of provisions forwarded them, such as cooked meats, fresh biscuits, loaves of bread, fruits, such as apples, oranges and raisins, besides boxes of tobacco and cigars.

THE FIGHT AT PEA RIDGE.

Correspondence of the Evening Star.

PEA RIDGE BATTLE GROUND, March 10, 1862.

EDITOR STAR:—A line after a big fight, right from a spot where Iowa carried off all the honors, and got cut all to pieces, may not come amiss. Gen. Van Dorn, with 40,000 troops, attacked our little army on the morning of the 7th, having taken a position on our flank. We fought all day the 7th, and four hours the 8th, when they fled in confusion. The Fourth Division, composed of Iowa troops, mostly fought the battle the first day, and covered themselves all over with glory. Gen. Dodge's brigade (the first) gets the credit of holding in check, for ten hours, some 8,000 of the enemy, and eighteen pieces of artillery. Our loss was terrible—out of 548 men who went into the fight from the 4th Iowa, their loss was 185 killed and wounded. They run out of ammunition near dark, when they fixed bayonets and held the enemy at bay without a shot in their guns. The 9th Iowa lost 220 killed and wounded; they lost a large number, when they fell back and were more exposed. Gen. Dodge covered his men behind a ridge and fired over, and the enemy charged us eight times with fresh fires, but we never gave an inch. It is a great victory, and the enemy's loss is very severe.

Gen. Ben. McCulloch, Brig. Gen. Slack, and Brig.-Gen. McIntosh, were killed; Col. Reeves, mortally wounded; Cols. Burbage and Hebert, and Maj. Rucker, dangerously wounded, on the enemy's side.

On our side we lost Col. Hendricks, of Indiana, killed; Gen. Asbo