THE BATTLE OF WINCHESTER—GENERAL SHIELDS' ACCOUNT OF IT.

The New York *Herald* publishes the following letter, written by General Shields to a friend in Washington, which gives in full that officer's informal account of the battle at Winchester:

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL SHIELDS' DIVISION,
WINCHESTER, VA., March 25, 1862.

I will give you a brief account of our late operations. My reconnoissance beyond Strasburg, on the 18th and 19th inst., discovered Jackson reinforced, in a strong position, near New Market, within supporting distance of the main body of the rebels under Johnston. It was necessary to decoy him from that position. Therefore I fell back rapidly to Winchester on the 20th, as if in retreat, marching my whole command nearly thirty miles in one day. My force was placed at night in a secluded position, two miles from Winchester, on the Martinsburg road. On the 21st the rebel cavalry, under Ashby, showed themselves to our pickets, within sight of Winchester. On the 22d all of General Banks' command, with the exception of my division, evacuated Winchester, en route for Centreville. This movement and the masked position of my division made an impression upon the inhabitants, some of whom were in secret communication with the enemy, that our army had left, and that nothing remained but a few regiments to garrison this place. Jackson was signalized to this effect. I saw their signals and divined their meaning. About five o'clock on the afternoon of the 22d, Ashby, believing that the town was almost evacuated, attacked our pickets and drove them in. This success increased his delusion.—It became necessary, however, to repulse them for the time being. I therefore ordered forward a brigade, and placed it in front, between Winchester and the enemy. I only let them see, however, two regiments of infantry, two batteries of artillery and a small force of cavalry, which he mistook as the whole force left to garrison and protect the place. In a little skirmish that evening, while placing the artillery in position, I was struck by a fragment of a shell, which broke my arm above the elbow, injured my shoulder, and damaged me otherwise to such an extent that I have lain prostrate ever since. I commenced making preparations for any emergency that might occur that night or the next morning. Under cover of the night I ordered an entire brigade (Kimball's) to take up a strong position in advance. I pushed forward four batteries, having them placed in a strong position to support the infantry. I placed Sullivan's brigade on both flanks, to prevent surprise and to keep my flanks from being turned, and held Tyler's brigade in reserve, to operate against any point that might be assailed in front. In this position I awaited and expected the enemy's attack next morning. My advance brigade was two miles from the town, its pickets extending perhaps a mile farther along the turnpike leading to Strasburg. About 8 o'clock in the morning I sent forward two experienced officers to reconnoitre the front and report indications of the enemy. They returned in an hour, reporting no enemy in sight except Ashby's force of cavalry, infantry and artillery, which by this time had become familiar and contemptible to us. Gen. Banks, who was at Winchester in person, upon hearing this report, concluded that Jackson could not be in front possibly, or be decoyed away so far from the main body of the rebel army. In this opinion I, too, began to concur, concluding that Jackson was too sagacious to be caught in such a trap. Gen. Banks therefore left for Washington. His staff officers were directed to follow the same day, by way of Centreville. Knowing the crafty enemy, however, I had to deal with, I omitted no precaution. My whole force was concentrated, and prepared to support Kimball's brigade, which was in advance.

About half-past ten o'clock it became evident we had a considerable force before us; but the enemy still concealed himself so adroitly in the woods that it was impossible to estimate it. I ordered a portion of the artillery forward, to open fire and unmask them. By degrees they began to show themselves. They planted battery after battery in strong position, on the centre and on both flanks. Our artillery responded, and this continued until about half past three o'clock in the afternoon, when I directed a column of infantry to carry a battery on their left flank and to assail that flank, which was done promptly and splendidly by Tyler's brigade, aided by some regiments from the other brigades. The tire of our infantry was so close and destructive that it made havoc in their ranks. The result was the capture of their guns on the left and the forcing back of their wing on the centre, thus placing them in a position to be routed by a general attack, which was made about five o'clock by all the infantry, and succeeded in driving them in flight from the field. Night fell upon us at this stage, leaving us in possession of the field of battle, two guns and four caissons, three hundred prisoners and about one thousand stand of small arms. Our killed in this engagement cannot exceed one hundred men, wounded two hundred and thirty-three. The enemy's killed and wounded exceed one thousand. The inhabitants of the adjacent villages carried them to their houses as they were removed from the field of battle. Houses between the battle field and Strasburg, and even far beyond, have since been found filled with the dead and dying of the enemy. Graves have been discovered far removed from the road, where the inhabitants of the country buried them as they died. Gen. Banks, in his pursuit of the enemy beyond Strasburg afterwards, found houses on the road twenty-two miles from the battle-field filled in this manner, and presenting the most ghastly spectacle.

The havoc made in the ranks of the rebels has struck this whole region of country with terror. Such a blow had never fallen on them before, and it is more crushing because wholly unexpected. Jackson and his stone wall brigade, and all the other brigades accompanying him, will never meet this division again in battle. During the night they managed to carry off their artillery in the darkness. We opened upon them by early light next morning, and they commenced to retreat. General Banks returned from Harper's Ferry between nine and ten o'clock A. M., and placed himself, at my request, at the head of the command, ten miles from the battle-field, pursuing the enemy. Reinforcements, which we had ordered back from Williams' division, and which I had ordered forward during the night, now came pouring in, and with all these we continued the pursuit, pressing them with vigor and with repeated and destructive attacks as far as Woodstock, where he halted from mere exhaustion. The enemy's sufferings have been terrible, and such as they have nowhere else endured since the commencement of this war; and yet such were their gallantry and high state of discipline, that at no time during the battle or pursuit did they give way to panic. They fled to Mount Jackson, and are by this time no doubt in communication with the main body of the rebel army. I hope to be able in a few days to ride in a buggy and place myself at the head of my command; but I have neither sufficient force nor sufficient rank to do that service to the country that I hope and feel I am capable of. No man could be better treated than I am by General Banks; and yet if he and his command had been here on the 23d, you would have heard nothing of a fight, because our wily enemy would not have been entrapped. I want an efficient cavalry regiment—the Third United States cavalry, for instance—and additional infantry. I wish you would see the Secretary of War, for instance, in relation to this matter. I can do the country service if they give me a chance.

JAMES SHIELDS.

THE CONFEDERATE ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE.

The Baltimore correspondent of the New York *Herald*, under date of 28th March, writes as follows. The main facts have been in our possession for some days, but for reasons of a prudential nature we have not given them publicity:

The following is the Rebel account of the engagement near Winchester on Sunday last, as related by the most intelligent of the prisoners now in this city. It is interesting, and in some degree important, as showing the objects of the movements of the left wing of the late Rebel Army of the Potomac.

From the time that he left Winchester and Strasburg, and moved with the main body of his force towards Staunton, General Jackson was kept accurately informed of all the movements of General Banks and General Shields. The great majority of the inhabitants of Frederick county, and all the people in Warren and Shenandoah counties, are secessionists, and they kept him well posted as to all that transpired. He did not, of course, depend upon these sources of information alone, but kept scouts and couriers in constant motion between himself and Winchester. His rear guard was at no time below Strasburg, and the pickets of this guard were thrown forward to a point quite near Winchester. It would seem that General Johnston expected nothing more from him than that he should cover the retreat of that part of the Army of the Potomac which, sent from Centreville to Strasburg and thence to Harrisonburg, was destined to operate finally near Staunton; but that, having done that by the 15th inst., he was left to the exercise of a large discretion as to his subsequent movements.

Learning on the 20th that General Banks was moving part of his forces along the Winchester and Battletown turnpike towards the latter place, General Jackson was led to suppose that General Banks was endeavoring to effect a junction of his whole force with that of General McClellan at Centreville, by way of Aldie, there being a good turnpike road the entire distance. But it seems that this was only General Williams' brigade, which afterwards retraced their steps and returned to Winchester after the action of Sunday. General Jackson, however, deeming it of vital importance to prevent a junction at Centreville of the forces of General Banks with those of General McClellan, determined to attack General Banks at Winchester, with such a show of force as would compel him to remain there at least. It seems that he had no idea that he would be able to compel General Banks to abandon Winchester and return to Harper's Ferry, but he was determined that he should not advance towards Centreville. Accordingly, he caused four regiments of infantry to make a forced march from Mount Jackson to Strasburg, and from the latter place to the scene of the engagement on Sunday.

The Confederate account of the battle itself does not materially differ from that published in the *Herald* of the 27th, except in the following particulars: First, as to the numbers engaged, it is stated that Jackson's whole force, after he was reinforced by General Garnett on Sunday, did not exceed 6,000 men, and of them not more than 3,000 were actually engaged. Second, that the reason that the Confederates were obliged to abandon the contest was that their ammunition became entirely exhausted. This appears to be true, from the fact that no cartridges were found in the cartridge-box of those taken prisoners, or of those found dead in the field, but why there was such a deficiency of ammunition among them is not explained. Third, they state that our loss in killed is much greater than theirs, and that they took more prisoners than we did. Time will settle this last point.

SEAM ADVICE.—The Buffalo *Courier*, speaking of the contemplated renomination of the Republican party, says:

"We do not sympathize with the committee who think they request early action for the organization of the Republican party. The better way, perhaps, is to wait for a failure, and ask that the Democratic party, and Democrats, may cover its sins."

THE CANAL.—The Albany *Evening Journal* says: "The Canal Commissioners have gone over the line of the Erie Canal, examining canal property, and have made a report to the Legislature."

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.....FIRST SESSION

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Among the petitions presented was one by Mr. Willey, of Virginia, from the workmen at Harper's Ferry, praying that as the rebels have now been driven out from that quarter, the government armory and works at that place be again put in operation, and retained there. Referred.

Mr. KING, of New York, presented three petitions in favor of general emancipation, and reducing the seceded States to the rule of territorial governments.

On motion of Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, the House resolution to appoint Theo. D. Woolsey, of Yale College, a regent of the Smithsonian Institution, vice Cornelius C. Felton, of Harvard College, deceased, was taken up and passed.

Mr. NESMITH, of Oregon, offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War to communicate the report of Captain Mansfield, the engineer of the Monitor, giving an account of the contest of that vessel with the rebel steamer Merrimac, which was passed.

Mr. LATHAM, of California, introduced a bill to create a bureau of transportation. Ordered to be printed and referred to the Military Committee.

On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, of Michigan, the House bill to change the name of the schooner Curtis Mann to that of Supply was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. TEN EYCK, of New Jersey, the bill to change the place of the port of entry for Pugit's sound collection district was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, the House bill to authorize the President to appoint light house inspectors was taken up.

The Committee on Commerce proposed to allow the duties in regard to light-houses to be performed by the revenue officers.

Messrs. Chandler and Ten Eyck urged this as necessary as the naval and military officers during the war could not conveniently attend to the duties as heretofore.

Messrs. Fessenden, Grimes, Clark and Collamer opposed the proposition as interfering with the duties of the light-house board, which had heretofore controlled this matter satisfactorily.

The subject was laid over.

Mr. WADE, of Ohio, introduced a bill to provide a temporary government for the territory of Arizona. Referred to the Committee on Territories.—[This bill proposes the usual organization for the territory, with the declaration that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist therein, or in any other of the organized territories of the United States.]

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, presented resolutions of the Legislature of that State cordially approving the President's suggestion for rendering pecuniary aid to States who adopt emancipation, declaring the people of Maine will bear their proportion of the burden, and also declaring in favor of the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, with reasonable and just compensation.

The bill "for the relief of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia," came up as the special order.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, had the floor, and made a lengthy speech of the ornamental abolition kind usual to that gentleman, though embracing some interesting historical facts and statistics therein.

Mr. S. said he regarded this measure with unspeakable delight, and liberal institutions would everywhere gain by it. In regard to the account between the owner and the slave, he asked, if we audit the account, what compensation is to be made to the latter for his sufferings by the lash, for the wife ravished from his side, and for children sold from his presence? He held that slavery had no constitutional existence in the national capital, and controverted the idea that it was rightfully there or anywhere else, by custom.

The idolator was insensible to the wickedness of idolatry, and the cannibal to the wickedness of cannibalism, and by this Mr. S. indicated that though the slaveholder was insensible to the sin of slavery, yet was it, nevertheless, a monstrous sin. In his own boyhood he heard Chief Justice Marshall say that Wm. Pinkney, of Maryland, was the head of the American bar, and that distinguished Marylander, as lawyer and statesman, had declared, in the Maryland House of Delegates, that "by the eternal principles of natural justice, no master had the right to hold his slaves for an hour."

Mr. S. quoted others in this regard, and also the words of Chief Justice Marshall in a decision in the Supreme Court, declaring that slavery derives its authority from force. Therefore, in this District, it was only by the power of Congress that this unnatural thing existed. If the Constitution was rightly interpreted slavery would cease here at once.

He traced the history of the proceedings relative to the location of the national capital, involving contentions for Philadelphia, Havre-de-Grace, Baltimore, and Georgetown, till finally the Potomac locality, as the first of those achievements by the South which had given it so long a controlling influence in the Government, was chosen as a compromise.

In this connection he referred to the act of Maryland of 1791 ceding the territory accordingly, and also the act of Congress of 1801 accepting the cession, which he held showed that Congress was to have "exclusive jurisdiction" over the territory and "persons residing thereto," as expressed in the Maryland act. From this he proceeded to show how slavery had become established in the national capital, as he held, in spite of law. The criminal act of Maryland of 1715 was, he said, the whole basis, and that declared the negroes then imported "and their children slaves during their natural lives." Thus, he held, the enslaving applied to only two generations, and this was the law which had been extended over the District. The Constitution was appealed to as showing that no man could be deprived of his liberty without due process of law. He remarked that it had been said "Congress could neither make a king nor a slave," and he thanked God for it.

Coming to the consideration of the question of compensation, he said that notwithstanding the position he had illustrated, Congress had all through its legislation in the past recognized slavery as existing in the District. Though the slave-master was here with his slave, his power would have been nothing without the acquiescence of Congress. Liberty was priceless, and therefore for its sake he was willing to adopt the measure of compensation to owners of slaves as the gentlest means for accomplishing the beneficent purpose contemplated. If Congress could not create slaves, it could create freemen. He saw no constitutional objection to the appropriation, and urged that it had always been creditable to ransom the captive. He traced the history and final extinction of slavery in England, when by a legal decision, four times as many slaves as there are now in this District were at once freed in that country.

He also traced the action of our Government under the administrations of Washington and Jefferson for the relief of American captives held as slaves in Algiers, the recommendations to Congress either to make appropriations for their redemption or for war, and the final negotiations by which the captives were released. The Government was active at home and abroad, and eventually, on the 20th March, 1794, one million of dollars were appropriated for concluding a peace and liberating our countrymen abroad. No constitutional objections were then made, and a treaty with Algiers was carried out, and all hailed with joy the humane result. Paul Jones had been appointed to carry out the mission, but having in the meantime died, Colonel Humphreys undertook and achieved it, and 119 citizens of the United States in Algiers were released at a cost of $3,000 each.

With Tripoli and Morocco similar treaties were made, and finally a sum total of $2,000,000 was thus appropriated, the last ransom being by an appropriation of $60,000 for 200 of our citizens in Tripoli. It was not till the naval power of England was brought to bear, subsequently, that white slavery was ended in the Barbary States. By the battle of August 27, 1816, England compelled the liberation of all the slaves at Tripoli and Tunis, those States consenting to the abolition of slavery.

If in looking back to this history we find, said Mr. S., much to humble our pride, there is still the consolation of the triumph of great principles and humane measures. What applied to slavery in Algiers applied to it in the District of Columbia. The slaves here were as much entitled to freedom as the white slaves who early enlisted our sympathies.

Having, as he held, established the unconstitutionality of slavery in the District, the only other question was this one of ransom. That he had shown had not been deemed unconstitutional by the fathers of the Government, in that they had adopted the policy. Washington did not hesitate to employ a golden key to open the house of bondage, and we should not hesitate to do the same in the national capital. Society here would be refitted thereby, the Courts be improved, and odious ordinances swept away. If not willing to pass this bill for the blacks, do it for the whites—for their sake—who, he held, always suffered by the presence of slavery. What were nobler than the ransom of slaves?

The bill then, on motion of Mr. WRIGHT, of Indiana, was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, gave notice that he should hereafter press the subject, so as to soon get a vote upon it.

Mr. POMEROY, of Kansas, moved, with a view to reconsideration, to request the House to return the bill passed by the Senate a few days since, prohibiting the payment of pensions to children of revolutionary soldiers. Adopted.

The Senate then went into Executive session, and after some time spent therein, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Elections, reported a resolution to the effect that S. F. Veitch is not entitled to a seat in this House, as a representative from the 7th Congressional District of the State of Virginia, in the 37th Congress. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. STEVENS, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and took under consideration the Tax bill.

Mr. HORTON, of Ohio, moved to reduce the tax on wine made of grapes from ten cents per gallon to five. Adopted.

Mr. HORTON moved to reduce the tax on varnish from twenty-five cents per gallon to five per cent. *ad valorem*. Adopted.

A new paragraph was added to the bill taxing all furs five per cent. *ad valorem*. Adopted.

Mr. STEVENS moved to strike out the tax on flour manufactured from wheat. Adopted.

Mr. KELLOGG, of Illinois, offered an amendment that there shall be levied one cent per pound on all cotton held or owned by any persons or corporations, and that said cotton shall be held as a lien for said tax, and every person or corporation removing the same, or destroying it, shall forfeit and pay double the amount of the tax. Adopted.

Mr. BLAKE, of Ohio, offered an amendment to lay a tax on all dogs of one dollar. Adopted.

Mr. HORTON, of Ohio, submitted an amendment, that all piano fortes, valued at from $50 to $100, be taxed 50 cents; and from $100 to $200, $1; and from $200 to $300, $2; from $400 to $500 to be taxed $5; and $500 and over, to be taxed $6.

Mr. ALDRICH, of Minnesota, offered as an amendment, that all harps containing a thousand strings be taxed $5.

The amendment, as amended, was passed.

The tax on billiard tables was reduced from $25 to $10.

The committee, on reaching the 78th section, relative to railroads, steamboats, ferry boats and omnibuses, rose and reported the same to the House.

On motion, the House adjourned.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SAD ACCIDENT AT THE HOUSE OF REFUGE—*Explosion of a Boiler—Two Boys Killed and Others Injured.*—One of the most melancholy accidents which has occurred during a great while took place at the House of Refuge yesterday. The boiler in the cooking department, located in the rear of the main building, and which at the time was in charge of the baker to the Institution, exploded about half-past two o'clock in the afternoon. The entire boiler, which is about 20 feet long and 6 or 7 feet in diameter, passed up through the roof of the house in which it was located to an altitude of about 100 feet, and in descending struck a chimney on the left wing of the main building, distant about 200 feet from the point at which it started, and passing through the roof lodged in a school room in the fourth story in which were seated about seventy boys, two of whom, Howard and Henry Myers, orphan brothers of Baltimore county, were instantly crushed to death. Another boy, named Thomas Harris, who was seated near them, had one of his legs broken and was injured about the head. The following are the names of seven other boys who were injured slightly, most of them about the head: Edward Shirley, George Wolff, John Shields, M. Riley, J. McCann, J. P. Addenbach and Peter Rothell. The injured boys were immediately removed to the hospital of the institution, when Dr. Murdoch, one of the physicians of the Institution attended them. The escape of the children was miraculous. The school was in charge of Miss Kate Mahon, of Baltimore county. This lady was very badly frightened and attempted to jump out of one of the windows, four stories from the ground, but was prevented from doing so by several of the little fellows, who, exhibiting presence of mind which would have been creditable in older persons, caught their teacher and held her until some person on the outside procured an axe and broke open the door of the school-room which was rendered necessary by the falling timbers being piled against it. The joists of the third-story room beneath were also badly cracked by the fall of the boiler. The opening in the roof is about ten feet square, and a great mass of dirt is piled up in the school-room. The exact cause of the explosion of the boiler is unexplained as yet, as the man in charge of it insists that not more than the ordinary quantity of steam had been generated, although he was absent at the time of the explosion. Mr. W R. Lincoln, the Superintendent of the Institution, was in the city at the time of the accident. The greatest confusion prevailed at first, and it was thought more lives had been lost than there really proved to be upon examination. One of the coroners of Baltimore county was summoned to hold an inquest upon the bodies of the deceased boys.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.—We have received from the committee appointed to superintend the contributions to the Confederate prisoners taken at Winchester, during their confinement in the Baltimore jail, a full and authentic statement of their labors. Messrs. Tilghman and MacKenzie, of the committee, report that they have now in their hands, for safe-keeping, $1,871 in Confederate money, which will be paid over to the prisoners on their final release from confinement. On Wednesday last, the committee handed to the prisoners $200 in Baltimore funds; and on Saturday, previous to their leaving the prison, $500 in one-dollar gold pieces was given them, besides $1,500 worth of clothing, &c., making the entire sum handed over to the prisoners by the committee $2,200. These sums were entirely independent of individual contributions of money, provisions and clothing. These independent contributions were quite large in the aggregate, one lady alone sending them a large box of clothing. The gentlemen of the committee speak in the highest terms of the urbane and gentlemanly conduct of Capt. Thomas C. James, the Warden of the jail, and state that to him and the deputy wardens they are under obligations for the assistance rendered them in their labors.

ROBBERY BY A RUNAWAY NEGRO.—One day last week two negroes applied at the ticket office of the Northern Central Railway for tickets for Harrisburg. The agent refused to sell them unless they would procure some citizen who would vouch for them as free men. On the refusal the negroes showed signs of fear, and the policemen became suspicious that they were runaways, and accordingly arrested one of them who gave the name of Wm. Jones. He was taken before Justice Nails, and could give no plausible account of himself, and he was therefore committed to jail. Yesterday morning a gentleman named H. W. Twindel recognized the negro, and testified that he was the slave of Mr. R. H. Jones, of Montgomery county, and had robbed his master of $200 and absconded. The negro denied the statement, but on being confronted with his master acknowledged the theft and the fact that he was a runaway. On his person were found $158.94. He states that the other negro, (a free man,) induced him to commit the robbery and their absconding. He took $40 of the money. The slave was handed over to his master.

A DISCOVERY.—Mr. John Wright, police officer of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company at Camden Station, yesterday found two wallets in a lumber yard on West Pratt avenue. In one of them was a check for $100 on the Manufacturers' Bank of Birmingham, Connecticut, signed by Geo. W. Shelton, President of the Bank; a paper signed Lieut. B. A. Jones, 24 regiment New York volunteer artillery, Fort Worth; a New Haven State Tax bill, with other miscellaneous papers. In the other wallet was a policy of insurance in the Home Insurance Company, New Haven, Connecticut, filled with the name of John Whitelock; a check for $400 on the Exchange Bank of Coldwater, Michigan and a number of other papers. The wallets and papers are in possession of Justice Showacre. It is supposed that the wallets were picked up from the pockets of the owners either at the President street depot or the Old Point boat, and after being rifled of all the money they contained were thrown into the lumber yard.

SALES OF PROPERTY.—Messrs. F. W. Bennett & Co., auctioneers, sold yesterday on the premises, east side of Charles street, commencing 34 feet south of Lee street, 22 feet 6 inches front by 26 feet deep, improved by a two-story brick building. Purchased by James Fry, Esq., for $505.

Also, about 18 feet front, depth 32 feet, with similar improvements, sold for $570. Purchased by James Fry, Esq.

Mr. S. A. Worcester also sold on the premises two lots of ground and improvements, on the west side of Bethel street, each having a front of 11 feet with a depth of 53 feet, improved by 2 tenement brick dwellings, and subject to a ground rent of $40 per front foot. One of them was purchased by Mr. Stigerwalt for $245, and the other by Mrs. Plummer at the same price.

THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.—Scarcely had the last rail, necessary for the repair of the entire route of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, been laid, when a train of through freight started from the West for Baltimore, and yesterday there were about two hundred cars loaded on the way. A great deal of freight is also leaving this city for the West and for points in Virginia within the lines of the Federal army. The first through passenger train for Wheeling will leave Camden station this morning at eight o'clock and forty minutes. The passenger and freight transportation over this great route will, no doubt, in a short time, be adequate to carry out the mission, but having in the meantime the superior management of this, and all other departments of this enterprise, is unimpaired.

ACCIDENTS.—Yesterday morning a small girl named Ciara Somers entered a ship-yard near the Canton bridge, and ascended a tressle work for the purpose of gathering shavings, when she lost her balance and fell to the ground, a distance of ten feet. In her great struck a heavy piece of timber which was lying on the ground, and a severe external bruise was inflicted. It is also thought that she sustained serious internal injuries. She was taken to her home on Fells street, where Dr. Evans rendered medical attention.

On last Saturday evening an elderly lady named Murdock, who lives on Central avenue, near Fayette street, was walking in front of her dwelling, when she suddenly sank down, and broke her right leg between the ankle and knee. She was taken into her dwelling, where Dr. Louis Monmonier set the bone.

FIRE IN THE COUNTY.—About three o'clock on Sunday morning a fire took place in the county, which destroyed the mansion house belonging to the heirs of the late Jeremiah Tittle, situated on Cold Spring lane, between Charles street avenue and the Falls road, two and a half miles from the city. The fire was accidental, and originated in the kitchen. The building was two-story, and was occupied by Mr. J. Townsend. There was an insurance in the Equitable Company for $3,000, which will cover the loss. There was no insurance on the furniture, and Mr. Townsend's loss will exceed $500.

DROWNING CASE.—The body of C. Gordon, a hand on board the schooner Israel H. Day, of Providence, Rhode Island, was yesterday found in the basin by a man named Abbott. It is supposed that the deceased fell overboard about four o'clock on Saturday afternoon. He was about twenty years of age and lived at Providence. While here he boarded at No. 98 Thames street, whither his body was taken. Coroner Batten held an inquest last evening, the jury rendering a verdict of "found drowned."

BALTIMORE MAKES A LOAN TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.—A resolution was last evening adopted by both Branches of the City Council authorizing the Fire Commissioners to loan to the United States Government the steam fire engine No. 6, for the purpose of pumping out the steamer Flushing, Captain Nimmo, which ran on Hampton bar on Friday evening last while conveying to Fortress Monroe a regiment of regular troops. The engine will leave here this afternoon in the regular boat for Fortress Monroe.

REPORT OF THE NORTHEASTERN DISPENSARY.—Mr. Young yesterday presented the report of the Northeastern Dispensary to the First Branch of the City Council. During the year there were 4,150 prescriptions compounded; 2,360 patients attended—2,092 of whom were white, and 268 negroes. Of the number treated 2,203 recovered, 47 were relieved, 5 died, 3 were sent to the Almshouse and 12 remain under treatment. The usual appropriation of $500 is asked.

PARADE OF CAVALRY.—The First regiment of Maryland cavalry, commanded by Colonel Miller, yesterday morning paraded at Camp Carroll, where they were presented with a regimental flag and guidons, after which they rode through several of the principal streets of the city.

Amusements.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATRE.—The highly accomplished actress, Miss Lucille Western, made her reappearance last evening before a crowded and fashionable audience, and her reception must have fully convinced her that she has not been forgotten by her Baltimore friends, who are ever ready to support and encourage sure genius. She will appear this evening in her great protean characters in the French sensation drama of *Satan in Paris*, also as the merry Gertrude in the musical farce of a *Loan of a Lover*, in which she will sing a number of charming songs. Miss Olivia will dance a favorite pas seul between the pieces, and we promise our readers a rare treat in the entertainments offered this evening, so secure your seats at once.

FRONT STREET THEATRE.—Miss Bateman appeared last evening, in her charming impersonation of Julia, in the *Hunchback*. She astonished all present, not only by her able delineation of the character, but by her beauty of features and gracefulness of carriage. She was excellently supported by the entire company. The Master Walter of Mr. Phillips we have never seen excelled, being both acted well and dressed naturally. The Sir Thomas Clifford of Mr. Meldrum won him considerable applause, and we are glad to see him again before the public, having noticed his disappearance for the past week. This evening the sterling comedy of *London Assurance* will be presented, in which the part of Lady Gay Spanker will be assumed by Miss Bateman, Sir Harcourt Courtley by Mr. Phillips, and Grace Harkaway by Mrs. Myron. Those who desire good seats this evening should secure them in advance.

GREAT ATTRACTION.—This evening Tom King's mammoth Circus Company gives its first performance on City Spring lot. The several artists engaged are the best to be found in the profession. The horses are all highly trained, and the manner in which they go through their different performances is said to be wonderful. Mr. King has gone to considerable expense to bring to this city this great exhibition, and we trust that he will be amply repaid. He is an old Baltimorean, and has therefore many claims upon the public. The prices of admission have been placed within the reach of all, and we hope to see a crowded house to-night.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

(Regular Session.)

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

Mr. YOUNG offered a resolution authorizing the Fire Commissioners to loan to the United States Government, No. 6 steam fire engine, to be used in pumping out a vessel lying in Hampton Roads.—Adopted.

Mr. EVANS called up the resolution authorizing the City Comptroller to contract to have an iron railing erected around the park on Broadway between Baltimore and Hampstead streets. Laid on the table.

Mr. SAUERWEIN presented a memorial from King, Armiger & Bro., relative to allowing the Public School Commissioners to take their printing done by others than the city printer. Referred.

The PRESIDENT laid before the Branch a communication from the City Comptroller stating that the wood which has been cut off lots Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of the Almshouse property was done by the order of the Board of Trustees, for the purpose of saving it. Laid on the table.

Also a communication from the City Commissioners stating that they have not entered into any contracts for paving the streets. Referred.

Mr. YOUNG presented the annual report of the Northeastern Dispensary. Referred.

Also a petition from Louis Rosenberg asking that his dwelling, No. 109 North Howard street, may be allowed to remain as constructed. Referred.

Mr. STREETER presented a report from the Committee on Education, with a resolution adverse to fostering lyceums. Adopted.

Mr. STREETER called up the resolution authorizing the Board of Public School Commissioners to have their own printing done on and after the termination of the present contract of the city printer.

Mr. YOUNG offered an amendment authorizing the heads of all the different city departments to do the same. Carried.

The resolution as amended was lost.

Adjourned.

SECOND BRANCH.—Branch met. CHAS. J. BAKER, Esq., President, in the Chair, and all the members present.

A resolution referring to the Board of School Commissioners the claims of R. B. Goodwin & Co., for compensation for the use of a wharf by the Floating School Ship, was received from the First Branch and concurred in.

Also a resolution adverse to the petition of the Adams Express Company, in relation to the erection of a frame shed.

Also a resolution authorizing the Register to pay E. H. Smith $550, the amount of a claim against the city, recovered in Baltimore County Court.

Also, a resolution appropriating $500 to the Aged Women's Home.

Also, a resolution to loan steam engine No. 6 to the United States Government.

Mr. DEAN called up the ordinance fixing the salary of the Mayor at $2,500 for the present year, and moved that $2,100 be substituted. The ayes and nays being called upon the amendment, it was adopted. The ordinance as amended was passed.

Adjourned.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

SUPERIOR COURT—JUDGE MARTIN.

C. D. Hinks, Samuel Hinks and Francis F. Montell *vs.* John Steltman, Christopher Hinrichs and Henry J. Faber. Ejectment. Before reported.—On trial.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—JUDGE KING.

John A. McGuire *vs.* Jane Von Speckelson, L. R. Woolen and J. J. Wilson. Action of trespass arising out of a distraint. Jury out.

CRIMINAL COURT—JUDGE BOND.

Archibald Stirling, Jr., State's Attorney, prosecuting.

This Court was yesterday engaged with the following business:

Henry Tyson, colored, convicted of an assault with intent to kill, was sentenced to be sold within the State for two years.

Richard Banks, colored, convicted of larceny, was sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

Elisha Williams, a private in the 6th Michigan regiment, convicted of larceny, was sentenced to the penitentiary for one year.

James Montgomery, indicted for an assault upon Luther M. Reynolds, was adjudged guilty and fined $5 and costs.

David Keenan, indicted for assaulting W. H. Daugherty. Not guilty.

Simon Welch, a Justice of the Peace, indicted for malfeasance in office in refusing to take bail in the case of Antoine Rolfe, charged with violating an act of Assembly. Under court.

J. S. Elliott, colored, indicted for stealing a watch valued at $38, the property of G. W. Tucker. Verdict of guilty.

In the cases of Fletcher Mann and George Kirby, indicted for conspiring to extort money, a plea of not guilty was confessed by the State.

The same disposition was made of the case of Joseph T. Logan, a Justice of the Peace, indicted for malfeasance in office.

A *nolle prosequi* was entered in two cases against J. W. Duncan, a Justice of the Peace, indicted for malfeasance in office.

Stephen H. Jury, indicted for keeping two bawdy houses, gave bail in the sum of $1,000.

The Court then adjourned until this morning at 10 o'clock.

THE FUTURE CAREER OF THE NASHVILLE.—The Nashville having run the blockade of Beaufort, the question arises, where will she go, and what will she do? She can go to no British port—the late order in Admiralty, which took effect more than a month ago, excluding the armed cruisers of both belligerents (that is, of both the United States and the "so-called Confederate Government") from entering any British harbor. We think we are able to divine the course she will take. She will abrogate her character as a public armed vessel of the Confederacy, and sail as a merchantman. Indeed, it is understood that the Nashville took out from Beaufort a heavy cargo of cotton; and, sailing in this character, she will of course be hospitably received at Liverpool, Southampton, or wherever she chooses to go. It must be confessed, the device is not wanting in shrewdness. In the first place, her arrival in an English port, after the notoriety she achieved at Southampton, will call attention to her, as giving a double and most flattering proof of the laxity of the blockade; and Mr. Welles may have the satisfaction to know that, in letting her first go into Beaufort, and then come out, he has done the Rebel cause in England more service than Gregory and all his lists. In the next place, having disposed of her cargo of cotton, she will proceed to resume her warlike character, and come home lighting her path way with a conflagration of other starvey Birches. We do not think it will stand much against the conscience of her commander, Pegram, that this course will make him in form, as he was before in fact, a pirate. If the Navy Department needed a lesson of how impolicy leads to countless confusions and disasters, we commend it to follow the career of the Nashville.—*New York Times.*

THE WAR ORDER RESTRICTING THE PRESS.—The Cincinnati *Commercial*, a Republican journal, thus speaks of the last war order:

The effort's of the present Secretary of War to suppress military intelligence, have been too comprehensive to be successful. His orders have been vague and susceptible of various interpretations, and in some respects cannot be complied with. Before he places an intolerable censorship on the press, he would do well to devote some part of his superabundant energies to the stoppage of the innumerable leaks about Washington, in which city spies are numerous as thieves.

Speaking less of pomp and arrogance of a "little brief authority," and something more of practical common sense in restricting the publication of military information, would conduce to the general welfare.

The captain of the ship Ashburton, at New York from Antwerp, reports that at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 17th ultimo a meteor, apparently as large as a sixty-four-pound ball, fell and exploded just below and abaft the maintop of his ship, illuminating the deck most brilliantly. The shock he describes as terrific.

ARRESTED.—Mr. J. H. Tarr, a member of the Bar at this place, was arrested at Camp Wallace, at Salisbury, Md., on Sunday morning last. The charge against him, we learn, is that of advising the soldiers not to go into Virginia.—*Denton (Md.) Union.*

The Leavenworth *Conservative*, of the 26th inst., states that a large portion of the troops now in Kansas are ordered to New Mexico, and that Major Price, of the regular army, will assume the command of the expedition.

The Nazareth Church at Bethlehem, in Pennsylvania, is lighted with gas made from coal oil, one gallon of oil making seventy cubic feet of gas. The works were put up by Stratton & Brothers, of Philadelphia.

The peach crop prospects are unusually fine in Delaware. In Western New York and Pennsylvania fruit of all kinds promises better than usual, and similar accounts reach us from New England.

CHINA AND GLASS WARE.

FOR CASH ONLY

The great difficulty of collections, with a heavy stock of RICH GOODS, induces us to sell

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And we have determined to put down everything to cost prices, to run out our stock to meet the present emergency

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BACON SIDES AND SHOULDERS for sale by SMITH & NICODEMUS, Baltimore street. apl5-tf

BARREL AND EGGLARD for sale by SMITH & NICODEMUS, Baltimore st.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Committee of Arbitration for the month of March

WM. J. ALBERT, SAM'L. BEVAN
CHAS. A. GAMBRILL, CHAS. J. BAKER,
C. OLIVER O'DONNELL.

Monetary and Commercial Review.

BALTIMORE, March 31, 1862.

There is not much of importance to notice in the Stock market to-day. At the Board of Brokers there was nothing done in Government or State securities; for Maryland 6's, coupons, 97¾ was bid, but without finding sellers; for Missouri 6's 51 was bid; in the stocks of the other seceded States there is nothing whatever doing. In City stocks we notice the sale of $200 6's 1890 at 97, and $100 do. 1875 at 97¾; at the close 97¾ was bid, 98¼ asked for the latter, while for the old issue of 1890 96¾ was bid, 97 asked. The only sale of Railroad bonds was $2,000 Northwestern Virginia 6's guaranteed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at 82; these figures were bid for more, but there were no sellers; for Baltimore and Ohio 6's 1862, inscribed, 66 was asked; do. do. 1867