THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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SEE FOURTH PAGE.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

The operations of the Federal fleet against Savannah proceed but slowly. Some important reconnoisances have been made which have disclosed the fact that the Confederates have fortified every point of advance to the city. Two deserters from Fort Pulaski who were taken on Bird's Island, report that there are twenty thousand Confederate troops at Savannah; that an iron-clad steamer has been added to the fleet of Tatnall, that preparations were being made to attack the Federal batteries on the Islands and that—in the language of the correspondent of the New York *Commercial Advertiser*—"another Merrimac expedition, only on a larger scale and attended with greater results, will be enacted in the Savannah river." The prisoners also assert that Fort Pulaski has abundance of ammunition for a long seige and is provisioned for six months. The writer gives full credence to these statements—which, if true, afford a complete contradiction to the reports of the Associated Press to the effect that the garrison of Pulaski had offered to capitulate on certain terms, and that Gen. Sherman had demanded an unconditional surrender.

The New York *World* informs the public that it will be glad to learn that loyal journals will be permitted to publish the movements of the army of the Potomac within a few days—that is to say, as soon as Richmond is taken. When that event takes place, we are advised that "all restrictions as to the publication of army movements will be withdrawn." This is certainly consolatory, but rather indefinite as to time.

According to the correspondence of the New York *Post*, General Wool has expressed "his decided opinion" that the Confederates have organized so efficient a spy system that they are put in possession of everything that is going on at Fortress Monroe.

The news from Tenth Island simply announces that the fire of the gunboats and mortar boats had been concentrated upon the floating battery at the Island, which, according to Commodore Foote, was "cut loose from her moorings and drifted two or three miles down the river." On the other hand, the correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, writing from on board of the flotilla the same day, states that the Confederates simply towed the battery, in the first instance, to a new position in advance, "and, after two hours' manœuvring, she was towed back to her old position." The Confederates still continue to construct new batteries; and the opinion is expressed that, even if the Island were captured, which is doubtful, its defenders have an easy way of retreat open to them. All the signs, however, denote that they have no disposition to retreat. The latest advices from the flotilla state that the steamer Carondelet had run the gauntlet of the batteries, and joined General Pope at New Madrid.

Our advices from Fortress Monroe are to about 6 o'clock last night. We are informed that the advance upon Yorktown has commenced, and that all was "working smoothly." A second despatch states "that cannonading was heard all the morning in the direction of Yorktown," but that no official report of the results attained had been received. The Merrimac was coaling at the Norfolk Navy-Yard, and was expected out yesterday. There appears to be great difficulty—at Fortress Monroe, at least—in selecting a commander for her. Commodore Catesby Ap R. Jones, we were first informed, was to take command; next, it was to be Captain Tatnall, but he appears to be too much engaged at Savannah; now we are told that she is to make her next appearance under either Commodore Hollins, or Captain Pegram. As the first is in command of the Confederate flotilla on the Mississippi, and the second is at sea on board the Nashville, these statements do not appear to be worthy of credence. A nearer guess would probably be that Captain Buchanan will command her; but then the Associated Press despatches have repeatedly assured us that he is dead—and buried.

The latest despatches from Fortress Monroe are to three o'clock yesterday afternoon. They state that on the authority of the War Department, that a reconnisance had been made towards Yorktown, and that the headquarters of the army were about five miles from that place. There had been some cannonading, but no engagement.

A correspondent of the New York *World*, writing from Baltimore, informs that journal that the Administration party here are "trying very hard to get the State to accept Mr. Lincoln's proposition." We are further told that the Union party in this city will probably adopt the emancipation policy as their platform.

Colonel Geary has achieved another famous exploit. He has charged through the little town of Middleburgh, in Loudon county, in the midst of great excitement. Nobody was killed.

From the Southwest the intelligence is of a varied and important character. The Legislature of Tennessee, which closed its session at Memphis on the 23d of March, was stubborn and defiant to the last. "The speeches in both Houses," says the Memphis *Appeal*, "were pervaded by a hopeful, cheering spirit, and the speakers expressed themselves confident in the final success of Southern independence." The Provisional Governor of Tennessee—familiarly called Andy Johnson—has caused several prominent citizens of Nashville to be arrested on the charge of aiding and abetting the enemy.

The Nashville correspondence of the Chicago *Tribune* warns the Northern people that "it is not the part of wisdom to underrate Confederate resources, particularly at this time." He asserts, that the Confederates are stronger to-day than when Fort Henry was in their possession. The forces concentrated against General Smith, near Corinth, are said to be "most formidable and threatening." The finest troops in the Confederacy, it is alleged, are concentrating at Corinth; and the most urgent necessity existed for the advance upon that point of the remaining divisions of the Federal army. The correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, writing from Buell's division en route for Columbia, states that considerable dissatisfaction exists among the Federal troops, in consequence of the President's message on the slavery question, and it is further asserted that "as sure as Congress passes any law touching the abolition of slavery, the great army of the Union will change sides, or go to pieces."

CORRECTION.—In our issue of Saturday, we omitted to give the usual credit to the article entitled "The Confederate Gunboats." We should have stated that it was taken from the New York *Post*.

From the Associated Press Agent.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

A Flag of Truce from Norfolk—The Rebel Loss at Newbern—Arrival of Ex-Senator Gwin at Richmond.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 4.—A flag of truce sent out by the flag-ship to-day brought back two ladies, the first passengers to have been allowed to leave Norfolk for the North for some weeks. One of them was a French lady returning to France, and the other was proceeding to join her husband in Baltimore.

Copies of the Richmond *Enquirer* and *Dispatch* of this morning are received, the former printed on a half sheet, but they are entirely barren of news.

An official report of Governor Clark, of North Carolina, states the Confederate loss at Newbern as follows: 64 killed, 101 wounded, 413 missing and prisoners—total loss 578.

William M. Gwin, late Senator from California, arrived in Richmond yesterday from Washington. He is a native of Virginia.

Captain John H. Morgan, who is styled by the Rebels "the Marion of the War," also arrived in Richmond yesterday.

On board the Monitor to-day the vote of thanks passed by the New York Chamber of Commerce to Lieutenant Worden, officers and men of that vessel, was read to all hands. Great enthusiasm was exhibited on the occasion.

Lieutenant Worden will resume the command of the Monitor, as soon as he recovers from his injuries, which, according to latest accounts, he is expected to do very shortly.

MARYLAND POST OFFICES.—There are 373 offices in this State. The commissions of some of the postmasters bear date as follows:

At Bakersville, Washington county, Elias Baker, April 1, 1830.

At Sandy Spring, Montgomery county, Edward Stabler, 14th December, 1830.

At Blue Ball, Cecil county, 1836.

McKinstry's Mills, Carroll county, 1837.

Ladiesburg, Frederick county; Mount Pleasant, Frederick county; Matthews' Store, Howard county; Millersville, Anne Arundel county; all in 1841. Pikesville, Baltimore county, 1842; Union Meeting House, Baltimore county, 1842.

In the year 1796 the postmaster of Washington city was Thomas Johnson, Jr. In 1797 Mr. Lund Washington was appointed. On the 30th January, 1799, the appointment was conferred on Thomas Monroe, Esq., who retained the commission twenty-nine years—Mr. Monroe being superseded by Dr. William Jones.

The Baltimore, Md., post-office, in 1790, was in charge of Miss Mary B Goddard, a member of the Society of Friends. In 1792 the lady was removed, and John White appointed, at which considerable displeasure was manifested by the gallant Baltimoreans.—*Sunday Chronicle.*

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

A Battle in Progress—The Merrimac Expected Out—All Going on Smoothly on the Peninsula.

WASHINGTON, April 5, P. M.—The following message was received at the War Department this evening:

FORTRESS MONROE, April 5.

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

SIR—We have heard some firing in the direction of Yorktown. Two or three regiments have gone to Shipping Point.

From information received to-day it appears that the Merrimac is on the dry dock loaded with coal, and she is to come out of the dock to-day with two more guns, one of large calibre.

All goes on very smoothly. I do not believe the army of the Potomac will find many troops to contend with.

[Signed] J. E. WOOL, Major-General.

The boat which brought this message to Cherrystone left the fortress at 5 o'clock, P. M., up to which time there was no change in affairs in the immediate vicinity.

Release of Four U. S. Prisoners of War by the Rebels—Southern Telegraphic Items—The Merrimac—Affairs on the Peninsula—Firing Heard in the Direction of Yorktown—A Battle Supposed to be in Progress.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 5.—A flag of truce this afternoon brought down the following named prisoners of war from Richmond: Col. Bomford, Lieut. Van Horn and Capt. Bliss, U. S. A., taken prisoners in Texas last summer, and Col. Woodruff, of the First Kentucky regiment, taken in Kentucky.

Southern Mail Items.

The Richmond papers mention that two men named Bryce Lewis and John Scully, had been convicted as spies, and were to have been hung yesterday, but that a short respite had been granted. The men claim to be British subjects, and loyal.

The following telegraphic items are taken from the Richmond papers:

MOBILE, April 4.—The *Advertiser* has a special message from Memphis, stating that Buell's army had reached Savannah, on the Tennessee river, from Columbia. There had been brisk skirmishing and great activity on both sides for the great struggle.

MOBILE, April 4.—On Wednesday a Yankee force, 2,000 strong, landed at Biloxi from three vessels, and cut the telegraph wire between Mobile and New Orleans.

The Merrimac.

The latest intelligence that we have in relation to the Merrimac is dated at Norfolk last night. At that time she was coaling up at the navy yard, and was expected to come out to-day. She has two new guns on board, and it has been reported that Commodore Hollins would command her on her next trip, but the name of Captain Pegram is the latest mentioned in that connection. The Yorktown, Jamestown, Teaser, and four other small gunboats, are at Norfolk.

Affairs on the Peninsula.

A deserter, who came in this morning from the vicinity of Harrod's Mills, says the enemy's force upon the peninsula is not so large as has been supposed.

General Magruder's headquarters are at present at Lee's Mills, near Williamsburg.

Cannonading has been heard all this morning in the direction of Yorktown. No official reports have been received here, but it is rumored that the town has been burnt. This, however, is probably incorrect.

Another report says that a fight is taking place there this afternoon.

From Gen. Burnside.

The steam tugs Tempest, Haze and Ellen S. Terry, arrived this forenoon from Newbern, having left on Thursday. They bring a large mail from the army and despatches from the army and naval commanders.

There is very little news of interest from Gen. Burnside's department. A report was current that Gen. Burnside had been ordered to evacuate Newbern within six days, and that he has returned a reply that he would meet the Rebel commander at Goldsborough and at Raleigh.

Fort Macon to be Bombarded.

There is but little change to notice in the state of affairs at Beaufort. Fort Macon still holds out and is to be besieged. Extensive preparations are going on and operations will be commenced in a few days. A few shells have already been thrown into the fort.

The steamer Peabody arrived here from New York to-day and proceeded to Hatteras.

We were visited by a thunder storm last night. The weather is pleasant to-day.

THE LATEST FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The Merrimac Not Out Yet—Reconnoissance Cannonading, but no Engagement.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—A despatch via Cherrystone, brought by the boat which left Fortress Monroe at 10 o'clock this morning, brings word that at that hour all was quiet in the immediate vicinity and that there were no indications of any movement on the part of the Merrimac.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, April 6, P. M.—We are authorized by the War Department to say that despatches from Fortress Monroe, dated at 3 o'clock this Sunday afternoon, have been received by the Department.

A reconnoissance had been made towards Yorktown, and the headquarters of our army are about 5 miles from Yorktown. There had been some cannonading, but apparently without any injury on either side and no engagement had, up to that time taken place.

FROM ISLANLD NO. 10.

The Bombardment Progressing Successfully.

ST. LOUIS, April 5.—The correspondent of the *Republican*, writing from flag ship Benton on the evening of the 3d says: This morning an attempt was made to tow the Rebel floating battery to a point where it could command our mortar-boats. A brisk fire was opened by the mortars, and in the course of half an hour the battery was struck several times, splinters being thrown in all directions, and several beams were displaced. One shell exploded directly inside the battery, when it was immediately towed out of range.

The Rebel steamer Winchester, which was sunk some time since to obstruct the channel north of the island used by the Rebels as a point from which to watch our movements, was shelled to-day and burned to the water's edge. Our skilful firing to-day made the enemy very cautious, and all their tents have been moved far out of range.

Advices from New Madrid confirm the previous report of the erection of Rebel batteries opposite that point. All was quiet there, however.

The river is falling rapidly and troops can soon be landed at any point along the banks here.

Other Accounts—Later from New Madrid.

CHICAGO, April 5.—The special correspondent of the *Times*, dated Cairo, 4th, says: Firing at Island No. 10, up to last night, disabled the floating battery of the rebels, and one shell struck directly in it, killing—as is supposed—three men and disabling the battery. It floated down towards the foot of the Island.

Our firing to day has been more active, and has done good execution.

A messenger from New Madrid this morning reports that the rebels erected a battery last night opposite Point Pleasant, and this morning opened fiercely on our works, but, after firing some time, the rebels' battery was silenced by our guns, and a warehouse on the Kentucky shore was fired by our shells and its contents consumed. No casualties on our side are reported, and the rebel loss is not known; but from the fact that they had to cease firing, it is supposed some must have been killed.

CHICAGO, April 5.—A special despatch to the *Tribune*, dated New Madrid, April 3d, says the telegraph line having been discovered cut in a dozen places between here and Sikeston, General Pope immediately issued a special order directing that the residents along the route be held responsible for the safety of the telegraph; and that if any damage be done to it near farms or residences, that their houses shall be burned and themselves and families be arrested and brought to camp and visited with the severest punishment.

Later and Important From New Madrid—The U. S. Gunboat Carondelet Runs the Gauntlet of the Rebel Batteries at Island No. 10, and Reaches Gen. Pope Unharmed.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—A despatch to the Secretary of War, dated New Madrid, April 5, states that last night Capt. Waugh, with the gunboat Carondolet, ran the gauntlet at Island No. 10, and is now available to General Pope. She was fired upon from the enemy's batteries, but not struck once.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Conviction and Sentence of a Newspaper Publisher for Violating the Laws of War by Publishing Military News.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Edward Ellis, publisher of the Boone County *Standard*, was tried before a military commission at Columbia, Missouri, on two charges:—

First Charge.—The publication of information for the benefit of the enemy, and encouraging resistance to the Government and laws of the United States.

Second Charge.—Violation of the laws of war, by the publication, within the lines of the troops of the United States, in public newspapers, of articles and information intended and designed to benefit the enemy and incite persons to rebellion against the Government of the United States.

One of the criminal publications was styled "Letters from the Army;" another, "Root Ale or Die;" and a third, "News from General Price."

The commission found the prisoner guilty of the charges and specifications, and sentenced him to be placed and kept outside the lines of the State of Missouri during the war, and that the press, types, furniture and material of the printing office of the Boone County *Standard* be confiscated and sold for the use of the United States.

Gen Halleck approved the finding and sentence, and directed that printing office to remain in charge of the Quartermaster until further orders, and that the prisoner be placed outside of the State of Missouri, and that if he return during the war without permission, he be arrested and placed in close confinement in the Alton military prison.

The proceedings being returned to the War Department, they were approved by the Secretary and an order issued that the form of proceedure should be adopted in like cases by the commanders of all the Military Departments.

General Order Respecting Railroad and Telegraph Superintendence.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 5, 1862.
[GENERAL ORDER.]

D. C. McCallum, having been appointed Colonel in the volunteer service, he is assigned to special duty in the War Department, as Military Superintendent of Railroads.

Anson Stager, having been appointed Colonel in the volunteer service, he is assigned to special duty in the War Department, as Military Superintendent of all Telegraph Lines in the United States.

Edward S. Sanford, having been appointed Colonel in the volunteer service, he is assigned to special duty in the War Department, as Military Supervisor of Telegraphic Despatches and Army Intelligence throughout the United States.

They will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

By order of the Secretary of War.

(Signed) S. THOMAS, Adj. Gen.

Permanent Defences for the Country.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The House of Representatives, some time ago, instructed the Committee on Military Affairs to examine the whole system of permanent defences of the country, for the purpose of ascertaining what modifications of the old plans, if any, are required to repel the improved means of attack, and to report by bill or otherwise. Col. Blair, the chairman, has been bestowing much time and labor on this subject, and he will soon be ready, it is understood, to report. His examination into the condition of the maritime frontier defences especially, and of the various means and modes of effective defences, is said to be very thorough and searching. He will recommend that the more important harbors be made invulnerable to attack even by iron-clad vessels of the largest class.

In this connection it may be remarked that the State of Maine has memorialized the Government to have one of Timby's revolving forts erected at the entrance of Portland harbor.

A committee of the New York Congressional delegation, consisting of Representatives Olin, Frank, Pomeroy and Corning, yesterday called upon the President, and asked the appointment of Capt. Truman Seymour as a Brigadier-General of Volunteers, which request was granted. Captain Seymour was one of the gallant men at Fort Sumter.

Attempt to Arrest a Free Colored Man as a Slave.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—On Saturday, two persons attempted to arrest as a slave a servant of an officer in the Seventh New York cavalry, a free man from the West Indies, and being detected in the act they came near being lynched, but were rescued by the military guard and sent to the Provost Marshal, and afterward confined in jail.

The Fortress Monroe Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The telegraph cable to reconnect Fortress Monroe with Cape Charles will soon be in working order, as the material has already gone there to supply the portion cut up. Three hours of favorable weather, with smooth water, will be sufficient to made the necessary repair.

From the Tennessee River—Reconnoisance to Florence, Alabama.

CHICAGO, April 5.—The *Times'* correspondent, under date of Cairo 4th, says reliable information from the Tennessee River says that our gunboats, Lexington and Taylor, and transport Tigress, made a reconnoissance as far as Florence, Alabama, with no resistance on the way. They only discovered one deserted battery, where the enemy had nine guns planted.

Later from Savannah—The Attack on Fort Pulaski.

NEW YORK, April 5.—The steamship Supply, from Watsaw Sound on the 29th, reports that the batteries on shore were all ready to attack Fort Pulaski. Heavy firing was heard in that direction on the 30th, and no doubt the work had commenced.

THE DISTRICT BILL.

From the Boston Courier, April 5.

The bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, which has now passed the Senate, has yet to undergo the action of the House. Should it finally pass that body, we cannot doubt that Mr. Lincoln will exercise his constitutional authority to return it with those objections to the measure which he is known to entertain. In this case, it is improbable that it could obtain the necessary vote of two-thirds of the Senate. Mr. Pearce, of Maryland, may then be in his seat, from which he is detained by illness, and Mr. Cowan, of Pennsylvania, who, we presume, would vote in the negative; and we infer that under those circumstances Mr. Ten Eyck, of New Jersey, though now voting with the majority, would then act with the minority, since in his speech he expressed his preference for gradual emancipation, a just compensation, and the submission of the question to the people of the District, in correspondence with the views of Mr. Lincoln, to which he refers, as expressed in his discussion with Mr. Douglas in 1860.

He also refers to the pledges of the President to non-interference with slavery by the Republican party. Mr. McDougal, of California, took the same general view, and indeed spoke altogether against the measure for which his vote is recorded: yet he voted for its passage, in case the bill should be returned to Congress by the President. Nor should we be much surprised to see Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, back in his seat again to oppose the passage of the bill, upon its return, in case it is adopted by the House, and the signature of the President is refused. For we can conceive of nothing more certain to interpose an insuperable obstacle to all his present noble efforts in Tennessee, than such an ill-timed and improper measure.

We see that Mr. Sherman remarked in the debate, that "it may be the only opportunity we may have" to abolish slavery in the District—in which we fully concur with him; but is not that the best reason in the world for refraining from it? If there is likely to exist a sentiment, by-and-by, which would not permit of the measure, is it either fair or prudent to take advantage of a chance occasion to press it through? We cannot think so. We do not consider such a view worthy of a man of Mr. Sherman's reputation, who ought to legislate for the general condition of the country and for what may be desirable in the future, and not for the mere present moment, to which accident only gives the power.

We do not care to speculate, at large, upon the effect of such a measure, if persisted in as a party proceeding, contrary to the spirit of repeated resolutions of Congress and to the pledges of the President on the subject, as referred to by Mr. Ten Eyck. We will only say, that we believe, if the bill should pass and receive the sanction of the President—though doing no good whatever and inflicting real injury upon its objects;—it would prove a fatal check to any further efforts towards the restoration of the Union. We might gain many victories and find victory always attendant upon our arms; but we should maintain the ground gained only by means of strong garrisons, and at enormous expense. We should desolate the Southern country and exhaust this portion of the country, and so ruin both.

Mr. Wilson's supererogatory two hundred thousand men would then be all needed and more, and the "war" becoming one for subjugation alone, not for self-defence and the authority of the United States, might last for generations, or until he drew off from more worthy enemies of the contest, or until a total change might take place in our civil institutions. We could wish that such a reasonable glance at the future might occur to such as are willing to take rational views in the House. We are sorry indeed to feel compelled to express our opinions of the effect of this measure; but we can rest our only hopes of the restoration of this Union upon the final abandonment of the idea of carrying out this scheme, which is so chimerical in itself as to its objects within the District, and which will only give our enemies power for the destruction of the common welfare.

Special Despatch to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Colonel Geary at Middleburg, Va.—He Charges the Rebels through the Town.

MIDDLEBURG, VA., via BALTIMORE, April 4.—Col. Geary's advance encountered three hundred of Stewart's and White's cavalry, and a force of infantry at Middleburg, Virginia, last Saturday. He marched from Philomont in the morning, and drove in the Rebel pickets outside of Middleburg, when he entered the town, and discovered the infantry in retreat and the cavalry posted to make a stand.

A gun was placed to command the main street, and the Twenty-eighth, well deployed, advanced by all the approaches to the town, while the main body rushed through it with bayonets fixed, and on a "double-quick," driving the enemy before them. The enemy made a halt in a hollow beyond the town, evidently manœuvring to draw out the Michigan Cavalry in pursuit, so their infantry might flank them. Companies of the Twenty-eighth now opened on them from behind stone fences, with their rifles, when the cavalry dashed off precipitately. A gun of the Twenty-eighth, in the centre of the town, now opened upon them, and drove them from a thicket two miles distant, every shell exploding in the woods.

The charge through the town was fraught with great excitement. Knapsacks were thrown aside in the street as the men rushed forward. Overcoats and blankets lined the sides of the road.—Stores were speedily closed, women screamed, horses dashed forward. Everything was excitement, but in good order. Colonel Geary dashed on at the head, and at one time was within two hundred yards of the Rebel cavalry.

Colonel Geary's command has scoured the country as far down as Aldie, from which place it returned as far as Sinckersville to assist at Winchester, but the battle there was decided before it could get further.

[Middleburg is a handsome post-borough, of Loudoun county, Virginia, on a small affluent of the Potomac, one hundred and forty-three miles north from Richmond. It is one of the principal towns of the county, and before the present rebellion had an active trade. It has a population of about eight hundred, and contains three churches, an academy, seven stores, and one tobacco factory.]

THE GRAIN AND FRUIT CROP.—A correspondent of the Steubenville *Herald*, who has traveled much through the country lately, speaks glowingly of the beautiful prospects for a good wheat crop. It is pronounced to be uncommonly forward and flourishing in present appearance, the best that he had seen for thirty years. In regard to fruit, the same gentleman says it has received no damage as yet, but he cautiously advises inquirers to "wait till the frosts and freezing winds of May are past."

A NEW REVENUE CUTTER.—The British iron-screw steamer Le Marchant, formerly plying in the waters of Newfoundland, has been purchased by the Government, and converted into a revenue cutter. The sum paid for her was about $20,000, but some $10,000 additional was spent in fitting her out for her new vocation. She was christened the Miami, and sailed from this port yesterday, with Collector Barney on board.—*N. Y. Express.*

FROM THE SOUTH.

[AS TAKEN FROM THE NEW YORK AND WESTERN PAPERS.]

Last Hours of the Tennessee Legislature.

From the Memphis Appeal, March 21.

The Legislature adjourned *sine die* on yesterday afternoon, at 4 o'clock. The two last days have been occupied in closing up the business of the session; hence we have not published our regular reports of the proceedings, not deeming they would be interesting to our readers. The leading acts will appear in our columns from day to day, as we may be able to procure official copies of them.

The ceremonies of adjournment in the two Houses last evening were extremely interesting.

In the Senate, after the announcement by the Speaker that the business before that body had all been disposed of, Judge Dunlap, the Senator from Shelby and Fayette, arose and expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the harmonious feeling and kind and urbane deportment of the body of which he had the honor to be a member, and expressed his kind regards for each and every portion of the State, from east to west.

He was followed by Mr. Maxwell, the Senator from Washington, who said that he represented a constituency that drank out of the clear spring as that gurgled from the mountain side, and the Senator from Shelby, representing a people that lived by the rolling waters of the great Mississippi, we had a right to join hands, east and wes, and therefore he responded to the sentiments of the Senator from Shelby.

Mr. Jones, of Lincoln, followed in a most eloquent, feeling and appropriate address, and was followed in turn by Gen. Anderson, the dignified, able and model man and Senator, who said that though the section of the State he represented was in the lines of the enemy, he yet hoped to meet his fellow senators in days to come, when the bright sunshine of peace and prosperity should smile upon a free, happy, and independent Southern Confederacy.

Mr. McNeilly, the Senator from Dickson, like the Senator who had preceded him, said that he came, and all dear to him, were in possession of the enemy, but for all this he did not despair. He still hoped and believed that the struggle we are now engaged in would eventuate in a glorious victory. He believed our cause was right, and that the God of right was with and for us.

Mr. Havron, of Marion, followed in a stirring and moving appeal. He would attempt to reach his home and rally his neighbors to the cause; but if he could not reach his home, he could reach our army and take his place in its ranks. Since this revolution commenced his voice had been raised in its favor, and now his arm should be uplifted for the principles in defence of which it had been inaugurated.

Mr. Cardwell could see a silver lining to the dark cloud that now lowered around us. His remarks, in taking leave of his brother senators, were affecting and appropriate.

Mr. Speaker Cheatham, in adjourning the Senate, delivered a most chaste and eloquent address. He had heard the cry of "On to Richmond," "On to Memphis," and "On to New Orleans," but he expected in a short time to hear as rallying cry from the lips of true Tennesseans, the shibboleth of "On to Nashville," and then he expected to meet his fellow senators, even the Nestor of the Senate, the respected and aged member from White, Mr. Turney, in a grand army that will march to our capitol and drive the invaders from its consecrated halls. He closed by returning thanks to members for their courtesy and attention to business, and pronounced the Senate adjourned *sine die.*

In the House of Representatives the closing scenes were not less impressive and affecting than in the Senate.

Mr. Martin, of Wilson, upon whose head rest the snows of many winters, and who has acquired honors in the service of his State, made an address which did honor to his head and heart.

Mr. Senter spoke of the peculiar circumstances which had attended the meeting and adjournment of the Legislature; many members here were exiles, as it were, from their homes. The duties of members did not cease with this adjournment—they still had a duty to perform, in encouraging the hearts and nerving the arms of the people to drive back the invader from the soil of our loved Tennessee—and that so far as it was in his power, he pledged East Tennessee to do her part in this great work. He alluded to the kindly relations that had always existed between himself and other members from different portions of the State, and he hoped yet to meet them under different and more favorable circumstances.

It is due to Mr. Senter to say that this meagre notice of his remarks does not do justice to that bold, manly and eloquent address, that captivated and charmed all its hearers.

Messrs. House, Garner, Martin (of Shelby), and Eve, made brief and feeling speeches.

Mr. Speaker Keeble, in adjourning the House, in his speech in both Houses were pervaded by a hopeful, cheering spirit, and all expressed themselves confident in the final success of the cause of Southern independence.

From the Nashville Banner, April 1.

Arrests in Nashville.

Last Saturday the Messrs. Brennan, of this city, were arrested by Colonel Matthews, provost marshal, and paroled until ten o'clock yesterday morning, when they were again paroled until noon today.

Sunday R. B. Cheatham, Esq., Mayor of this city, was arrested and paroled till twelve M. yesterday. He appeared at that hour, and his parole was extended till twelve to-day.

Yesterday Messrs. Sharp & Hamilton, of the Nashville Plough Manufactory, were also arrested and put under bonds of $3,000 for their appearance. The charge against these gentlemen is treason.

The Messrs. Brennan, iron founders, are said to have manufactured cannon, shells, and balls for the Confederate States, and upon this, we believe, the charge against them is founded.

Aiding and abetting the enemy—that is, the Confederate States—is the basis of the charge against the Mayor. Messrs. Sharp and Hamilton, it is reported, instead of turning "swords into plough-shares," converted plough-shares into swords and knives for the Confederates, and thus made themselves amenable to the charge of treason against the United States. We presume these cases will be handed over to the civil authorities, as we learn a session of the Federal Court will soon be held in Nashville.

Shipments of Tennessee Cotton and Tobacco.

A Nashville correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* says:

"I have seen a Government agent from Clarksville, who visited that place in a spirit of unmixed kindness, to facilitate the shipment of cotton and tobacco. Of the latter staple there are on hand at Clarksville about three thousand hogsheads. All the agent desired was to encourage its shipment, not for self-defence and the authority of the United States, might last for generations, or until he drew off from more worthy enemies of the contest, or until a total change might take place in our civil institutions. We could wish that such a reasonable glance at the future might occur to such as are willing to take rational views in the House. We are sorry indeed to feel compelled to express our opinions of the effect of this measure; but we can rest our only hopes of the restoration of this Union upon the final abandonment of the idea of carrying out this scheme, which is so chimerical in itself as to its objects within the District, and which will only give our enemies power for the destruction of the common welfare.

Special Despatch to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Colonel Geary at Middleburg, Va.—He Charges the Rebels through the Town.

MIDDLEBURG, VA., via BALTIMORE, April 4.—Col. Geary's advance encountered three hundred of Stewart's and White's cavalry, and a force of infantry at Middleburg, Virginia, last Saturday. He marched from Philomont in the morning, and drove in the Rebel pickets outside of Middleburg, when he entered the town, and discovered the infantry in retreat and the cavalry posted to make a stand.

A gun was placed to command the main street, and the Twenty-eighth, well deployed, advanced by all the approaches to the town, while the main body rushed through it with bayonets fixed, and on a "double-quick," driving the enemy before them. The enemy made a halt in a hollow beyond the town, evidently manœuvring to draw out the Michigan Cavalry in pursuit, so their infantry might flank them. Companies of the Twenty-eighth now opened on them from behind stone fences, with their rifles, when the cavalry dashed off precipitately. A gun of the Twenty-eighth, in the centre of the town, now opened upon them, and drove them from a thicket two miles distant, every shell exploding in the woods.

The charge through the town was fraught with great excitement. Knapsacks were thrown aside in the street as the men rushed forward. Overcoats and blankets lined the sides of the road.—Stores were speedily closed, women screamed, horses dashed forward. Everything was excitement, but in good order. Colonel Geary dashed on at the head, and at one time was within two hundred yards of the Rebel cavalry.

Colonel Geary's command has scoured the country as far down as Aldie, from which place it returned as far as Sinckersville to assist at Winchester, but the battle there was decided before it could get further.

[Middleburg is a handsome post-borough, of Loudoun county, Virginia, on a small affluent of the Potomac, one hundred and forty-three miles north from Richmond. It is one of the principal towns of the county, and before the present rebellion had an active trade. It has a population of about eight hundred, and contains three churches, an academy, seven stores, and one tobacco factory.]

THE GRAIN AND FRUIT CROP.—A correspondent of the Steubenville *Herald*, who has traveled much through the country lately, speaks glowingly of the beautiful prospects for a good wheat crop. It is pronounced to be uncommonly forward and flourishing in present appearance, the best that he had seen for thirty years. In regard to fruit, the same gentleman says it has received no damage as yet, but he cautiously advises inquirers to "wait till the frosts and freezing winds of May are past."

A NEW REVENUE CUTTER.—The British iron-screw steamer Le Marchant, formerly plying in the waters of Newfoundland, has been purchased by the Government, and converted into a revenue cutter. The sum paid for her was about $20,000, but some $10,000 additional was spent in fitting her out for her new vocation. She was christened the Miami, and sailed from this port yesterday, with Collector Barney on board.—*N. Y. Express.*

a country peculiarly adapted to defensive operations and works, and we in the meantime are getting weaker in the proportion of the distance from home.

Concentration of the Confederate Forces.

The concentrations against General Smith are most formidable and threatening, and demand hasty movements on our part. General A. S. Johnston's whole force has been withdrawn from Decatur. There is hardly a corporal's guard at that point. The forces of Brigadier General Cheatham were removed from Jackson to Corinth. General Polk has passed a large portion of his army to the same point, leaving Brigadier General T. J. McCowan in command at Island No. 10. General Bragg holds Humboldt, with the majority of his splendidly drilled men from Pensacola. It is said that these are the finest troops in the Confederacy, and are 10,000 strong. The whole force thus concentrated against General Smith will aggregate not less than 50,000 men—probably double his force. Unless General Halleck pushes General Buell forward, General Smith may be overcome, and we may meet with a terrible reverse. At any rate, troops will have to be poured in upon General Smith. He has assumed the position which must be defended, and which must be held, and I have no doubt will be. But certain it is that he must have the men now or never. A reverse to the Confederates, with Beauregard in command, would be most terribly demoralizing. Major General Brooke, of the Tennessee militia, has ordered the brigade forming his division to hastily rendezvous at a point on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, conveniently connecting with Corinth. I have seen a special order from a Brigadier General Ruggles to the Tennessee regiments of Colonels Lee and Browder, to report at Corinth, and the Seventh Mississippi at the same point, designated for the division of General Brooke.

All the railroads in the western part of the Confederacy have been placed under military control. The cotton, sugar and molasses which has accumulated at Memphis has been ordered to be conveyed to some point outside the city where it can be conveniently burned. This is being done under the care of L. D. McKisick, Provost Marshal of Memphis, who will also attend to the burning.

All the Federal prisoners at Memphis have been sent to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, via Mobile.

Advance of Gen. Buell.

Gen. Buell took the field yesterday, March 28, leaving for Columbia, to place himself at the head of his six divisions.

Acting Brigadier-General Duffield, of the 23d brigade, consisting of the 9th Michigan, 3d Minnesota, and sixteen Kentucky and Pennsylvania regiments, took up his line of march yesterday for Murfreesboro.

Gen. Turchin has no longer the advance, his division, under Gen. Mitchell, having been placed in the rear of Gen. McCook.

General Buell's Division on the March.

Cor. of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

HOW THE TROOPS WERE NOT WELCOMED.

MURFREESBORO, March 23.—We entered the town at an early hour, marched through, and are now encamped a short distance outside on the direct Nashville road. The country from Nashville to this place is very fine, and often on the march called to mind the saying of Cromwell on the cupola of St Canice, "what it is a land worth fighting for." Tennessee is peculiar in many respects. The parts of it I have seen are very level and fertile, but only half cultivated. The farms seem abandoned by the white population, and only in isolated places will negroes even be found.

The same spirit of animosity exhibited by the population along the road from Bowling Green to Nashville has been manifested from Nashville here. Not a solitary welcome during the entire march greeted the army, except what came from the negroes.

WHAT THE TROOPS THINK OF MR. LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION MESSAGE.

The President's message on the slavery question, and its approval by the Ohio Legislature and the Abolition press, has created so much dissatisfaction in the army that men and officers swear that, if his recommendations become a law, they will throw down their arms, or turn them against the miserable Abolition faction that is daily entailing such miseries on the country. Such unanimity among the troops I never knew on any subject before. They justly say that they did not take up arms to carry out the behests of the demi-gods of Abolitionism, and sooner than be the anti-slavery propagandists of Abraham Lincoln, they will ask Jeff. Davis to hoist the American flag and receive them under his banners. Assume Congress passes any law touching the abolition of slavery, the great army of the Union will change sides or go to pieces, never to organize again.

MORGAN AND HIS RANGERS.

Morgan and his rangers hang on our advance, annoying our pickets and communicating intelligence of our movements to the enemy. Some days ago he was within with his troops near Sparta, at night, about 1,200 cavalry, infantry and artillery. The expedition reached a point a few miles from where Morgan was, when they met with a flag of truce, thus completely outwitting General Mitchell. The expedition returned with Morgan to the Lunatic Asylum, where Gen. Mitchell and the Confederates supped and drank each other's health in a horn of old cognac. This conduct scandalized the troops exceedingly, who could not understand the reason why so roughs some as we should be treated to the choicest viands by their commander, after taking them out of their beds and run fifteen miles to capture or kill him. To say the least, it has an ugly appearance, and gives much dissatisfaction. During their social chat the Confederate taunted the General with inactivity, and ignorance of the proper mode of procedure.

The General replied that he would soon find him at Murfreesboro, with a force that he could not escape; when Morgan offered to bet $100 that he would be there for twenty-four hours after his arrival—and, no doubt, he is now in town, though it is entirely surrounded by troops, for he seems to be ubiquitous and changeable as the camelion. He was away a few hours in advance of us from Camp Jackson, as we learned from the negroes along the route, and, if not yet in town, is in the neighborhood, watching us. The troops are likely to remain here for two weeks, until some bridges shall be built, and the teams return from Nashville with provisions. We have now reached that point in the enemy's country when it becomes of serious importance to keep our communication open in the rear, as our