THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

From Yorktown we have nothing of importance. "The enemy's position, by nature and art, are very strong," we are told, and secession residents intimate that if the first line of defences is taken, the army "will have to deal with a second line still more formidable beyond." Notwithstanding the silence in respect to operations on the peninsula, it is hinted that "there are important military movements going on," which cannot be divulged at present. It is, moreover, predicted that the fight, when it does come off, "will be desperate and bloody." The second and stronger line of defences is now fixed, by report, "at Williamsburg, about fifteen miles beyond Yorktown." The New York *Express*, in speculating upon the manner in which the fortifications at Yorktown and Williamsburg may be turned, says, that the Confederates hold Gen. McClellan in check "until he can command either the York or the James river," and adds: "The moment we can enter the James river with our gunboats, we flank Yorktown and Williamsburg, and the whole peninsula." The same result, we are told, would be attained by "silencing the batteries at Yorktown and on Gloucester Point." The comments of the New York *Post* are to the same effect. That journal admits, however, that "the mouth of the James river is closed against us by the presence of the Merrimac at Craney Island." The bold announcement is then made that "McClellan has men enough on the Peninsula to keep the enemy in check at Yorktown, and, at the same time, attack and capture Norfolk." These newspaper critics really know too much.

The latest telegram from the "Camp before Yorktown" states that various skirmishes took place on Friday last—that the 12th New York volunteers whilst on picket duty, were attacked by a regiment of Confederates, Major Barnum rallied about three hundred of his men and fired into the advancing enemy, when they retired, leaving their dead and wounded behind them. Then comes the following inexplicable admission—"which they afterwards removed in ambulances." Other skirmishes are reported to have occurred at different points along the lines, but they are said to have resulted in but little loss to the Federal troops.

On the 9th inst. the correspondent of the Baltimore *American*, writing from Fortress Monroe concerning the Merrimac, gave it, as the general belief at that post, that "she will be captured or sunk if she comes out," and furthermore, that "the combat will undoubtedly be one of the most remarkable in the history of the world." The following day, he writes:—"It is doubtful whether they"—the Confederates—"will have the courage to attempt offensive operations, even with their iron-plated monster," and adds, "we are looking for her, and are ready to meet her whenever she may venture from under the guns of Craney Island." On Friday we learn that the Merrimac did actually come out; that "on our part no movement was made," that "the Rebels have accomplished the capture of three vessels, and the Rebel fleet lies in line of battle, stretching from Sewell's Point up toward Pig Point." * * "It cannot be concealed," adds our special correspondent finally, "that the Rebels have had the best of the affair."

The occupation of Huntsville, Alabama, is confirmed. General Mitchell, by forced marches, surprised the place, captured two hundred prisoners, fifteen locomotives, and a quantity of rolling stock, and cut off the railway communication at that point.

We take from the columns of the Baltimore *American*—and our readers will note that we give due credit to that journal—what purports to be the Southern account of the battle of Corinth up to the close of Monday last. The statements thus given may or may not be entirely authentic—we express no opinion upon that point—but we note a couple of inaccuracies. In the first place, the *American* acknowledges having received from Capt. McGowan the Richmond *Whig* of the 8th instant, which would be *Tuesday;* but immediately afterwards credits the articles extracted to the Richmond *Whig of Friday*. Again, the despatch from Beauregard is signed G. T. Beauregard—whereas that General usually gives either his surname only, or his full signature, "P. G. T. Beauregard." These, however, may possibly be errors of the Press. Some doubt evidently still exists at Richmond in regard to the death of General Albert Sidney Johnston, as the Confederate Senate refused to act on the resolution paying a tribute to his memory, on the ground that "there might be some error in the announcement." It is almost certain, nevertheless, that he has fallen in battle.

From Washington there comes a rumor that William H. Polk, of Tennessee, is urging the Secretary of War to release all the Confederate prisoners on parole, on condition that the Confederates shall do the same with their prisoners. Some misunderstanding has heretofore existed between the two parties in regard to this matter; but, if it be true, as currently reported; that, in the recent battle at Pittsburg landing, an demense number of prisoners was taken by Beauregard, an exchange of man for man might readily be effected, and without disadvantage to either side.

The Western men are beginning to complain that their troops "are doing nearly all the terrible fighting." One of them, however, "a distinguished Kentuckian," has been assured that "if he would wait a week longer, he would hear of fighting enough to satisfy him on this end of the grand line." After such significant utterances, Expectation stands on tip-toe.

The bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia is denounced by the Boston *Courier* as "only a provocation to wrath and bitterness." That journal further asserts the bill to be "unfriendly to the professed policy of the Administration, and to the declared views of Congress."

There is evidently a growing restiveness on the part of the Northern and Western journals in regard to the Censorship of the Press. The New York World states that "the public are becoming even more impatient of the Censorship of the Press than the managers themselves," and Secretary Stanton is pointedly admonished that when he retires to private life he "will find his relations with, and actions towards the press the least credible part of his career." The Washington correspondent of the New York *Express* writes in the same strain. The present Censorship is characterized as "worse than a nuisance, unjust, oppressive, and absolutely afflictive to thousands upon thousands—yes, millions upon millions of loyal citizens."

From Port Royal we learn that the Federal pickets have advanced to within eight miles of Savannah, and that the assault on the town was to have been made on Tuesday last.

The Confederates are withdrawing their forces from northwestern Arkansas, and are concentrating them at Pocahontas, in the northeastern part of that State. They are represented to be but about ten thousand strong. The Federal forces remain stationary between Greenville, Missouri, and the Arkansas line. General Sigel has reached St. Louis in ill-health.

The most remarkable of all the telegrams which this war has furnished in such abundance as to quantity, but of so low an average as to quality, is one which is sent by Gen. Banks to Secretary Stanton. It comes from Woodstock, Virginia, and gravely announces that information has been received "from Rebel sources" near Mount Jackson that "General Beauregard is dead." Coming in so indirect a way, who can possibly doubt the immaculate truth of—the story.

"An intelligent negro" has reached the Federal lines at Catlett's Station, fifteen miles south of Manassas Junction, and reports that all the Confederate troops have left Fredericksburg for Richmond and Yorktown, which news another negro confirms—so telegraphs Major-General McDowell to Secretary Stanton.

We have another unofficial despatch which professes to give further particulars in regard to the battle at Pittsburg Landing. In this, the latest news from that quarter, fact and fiction appear to be so inexplicably blended together that it is utterly useless to attempt to separate the one from the other. All the previous accounts concur in stating that there was comparatively little fighting on the second day—Monday. We are now, however, told that the retreat of the enemy did not commence until dark of that day. We are assured, moreover, that "our cavalry followed until the horses were tired out, and that, but for the impassable condition of the roads, "we could have taken their entrenched camp at Corinth." In the telegrams previously received, it was admitted that there was no pursuit beyond the limits of the original lines held by Grant. This last correspondent, by a singular lapse of memory, acknowledges that as late as Wednesday "morning" our advance only occupied the ground formerly held by the enemy, half way between Pittsburg and Corinth." He places the Confederate loss in killed and wounded at 15,000, and the Federal loss in killed and wounded at 10,000, but admits that the enemy "took many prisoners." How many is not stated. Another correspondent states that four regiments of Ohio troops [illegible] "which [illegible]."

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

THE RECENT BATTLE IN SOUTHERN TENNESSEE.

Further Particulars—Another Battle Expected.

CHICAGO, April 12.—The correspondent of the *Tribune* charges that the Ohio 77th and 53d regiments ran on the first day, leaving the Waterhouse battery to the enemy. In the contest for a Michigan battery, on Monday, Beauregard conducted the Rebels in person, and during his efforts to obtain it he was wounded in the arm. The general retreat of the enemy commenced at dark on Monday; our cavalry following until the horses were tired out, and but for the almost impassible condition of the roads the route of the enemy would have been made complete, and we could have carried their entrenched camp at Corinth. It will be impossible, on account of the condition of the roads, to do it for some days.

The Rebel artillery was superior to ours, and their small arms almost equal. The Rebel loss is estimated at 15,000 killed and wounded, and ours at 10,000. These are moderate estimates.

The enemy took many prisoners. The 18th Iowa were captured en masse.

On Wednesday morning our advance only occupied the ground formerly held by the enemy, half way between Pittsburg and Corinth. The enemy are straining every nerve to get reinforcements, and bloody work must yet occur before we drive them from their position.

The *Times'* special says that the responsibility of the surprise on Sunday rests with the commanding officer. On Friday a large force of Rebel cavalry appeared in sight of our lines and remained there, as General Sherman, who occupied the advance, had been ordered not to bring on the engagement. They remained in position till Sunday morning, serving as a screen, behind which Beauregard formed his troops in line of battle undiscovered.—When the attack was first made the 53d, 57th, 71st 77th Ohio displayed inexcusable inefficiency. The latter fled without firing a gun, and the others only fired one or two rounds and then fled. The cowardice of these regiments left that point undefended. The enemy immediately closed and surrounded the more advanced regiments.

The Louisiana Tigers were almost entirely left on the battle field killed, or wounded.

General Prentiss escaped on Tuesday and came into camp alone, having got off in the confusion of the enemy's retreat.

Gen. Beauregard intended to make an attack two days previously, but the extraordinary rains delayed his arrival. Had his attack been made at the time intended Gen. Buell could not possibly have reached us in time to have saved us from defeat.

The Battle at Pittsburg Landing—The Delay in the Receipt of the Official Accounts.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The telegraph line to Savannah, Tennessee, was completed last Tuesday, but it has been broken, and the wire carried away, so that the communication is not now perfect. The War Department up to ten o'clock to night had received no further information from Pittsburg Landing than has already appeared in the newspapers. As General Halleck is now near the scene of the late battle, an official account is very soon expected.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

[From the Agent of the Associated Press.]

Particulars of the Movements of the Steamer Merrimac in Hampton Roads—Warm Work Anticipated.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 11—2 P. M.—The return of pleasant weather to-day brought out the Rebel steamer Merrimac, as was generally expected.—She had been seen three days ago under steam at Craney Island, and as the evening of yesterday promised that the storm had exhausted itself, few were surprised this morning at the announcement that she was in sight and coming.

The alarm gun was fired at twenty minutes past 7 o'clock, and as soon as the appearance of the Merrimac was generally known the docks, beech, and parts of the Fortress and other points, were crowded with spectators.

The Merrimac, after showing herself beyond Sewell's Point, appeared to be heading this way; she did not long continue on this course, however, but turned towards James river, followed by six other boats, which had come around the point in her company. Of the latter, the Jamestown and Yorktown were recognized. Among the others were supposed to be the Raleigh and Teazer.—Arriving at a point about half-way between Sewall's Point and Newport News, and near the place where the French war vessels Gassandri and Catinet, and English steamer Rinaldo, had placed themselves early in the morning, the whole fleet came to a stop, while the Jamestown, followed at some distance by the Yorktown and a small tug, continued on her course.

The intention of the Jamestown was not at first perceived, but as she came around leaving Newport News on her left, it was seen that her object was to capture two brigs and a schooner which were anchored near the shore, about two miles from the Point. This was done without the slightest difficulty, and the assistance of the small tugs being rendered, the three prizes were taken off under the Rebel flag. The whole affair was concluded in less than half an hour, and the Jamestown having rejoined the fleet towed the prizes to Craney Island. Taking one brig in tow and the others along side, she moved slowly away.

Alarmed at this bold dash, quite a number of schooners in the upper harbor availed themselves of favorable wind and sailed out of harm's way.

Up to this time, noon, the Rebel fleet has remained in the position which they first took, and nothing more has been done. The tide is now out, and probably no new movement will be made for some hours. If the Merrimac should then see fit to pay us a visit, she will be appropriately welcomed.

The names of the brigs captured are the Sabbao, of Providence, Rhode Island, and the Marcus, of Stockton, Maine. The former was loaded with hay, on private account, and the latter was chartered by the Government, but had been unloaded. The name of the schooner has not been ascertained.

The captains of the brigs escaped to the shore in a small boat with four of the crew of the Marcus. Two men were left on board the latter and six on board the Sabbao, who made no efforts to lower a boat to escape, and were taken prisoners together with the crew of the schooner.

It is said that the captured vessels were ordered last night to move down the harbor for safety.

The schooner Harmony, used as a water boat by Mr. Noyes, the Government contractor for supplying water to the fleet, happened to be alongside one of the French men-of-war at the time the Merrimac made her appearance, and was taken under the protection of the French flag, thus escaping capture.

Later.

Five o'clock, P. M.—The Rebel steamer Jamestown returned from Craney Island at 3 o'clock. Not a shot was fired until 4 o'clock, when the Merrimac fired three shots in the direction of Hampton creek.

The Naugatuck and Octarora, which had been stationed in that vicinity, replied with a number of shots, all of which fell near the Rebel fleet. The Naugatuck's shots were splendid, and evidenced a remarkable long range.

The whole Rebel fleet immediately retired, and led by the Merrimac, returned to Elizabeth river.

The name of the schooner captured was the Emily, from Washington, with sutler's stores.

A passenger steamboat, filled with spectators, came down Elizabeth river this afternoon, to view the sight, and a number of small sailboats could be seen throughout the day off Sewall's Point.

The Merrimac Stationary—No Engagement Yet.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—A despatch to the Secretary of War from General Wool, dated Fortress Monroe, April 12, 5 o'clock P. M., says:

The Merrimac has been stationary near Sewall's Point all day, but in plain sight.

The Latest from Fortress Monroe—All Quiet—The Merrimac Still in the Background.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—A report from General Wool to the Secretary of War at 5 o'clock P. M. states that all is quiet and the weather fine.

The last despatch received at 8.30 P. M. is to the following effect:

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

The Merrimac has not made her appearance to-day. Her object, I think, is to simply prevent any interference with reinforcements being made from Norfolk to Yorktown.

Two deserters came in last evening from the Rebel camp who report constant reinforcements to the Rebels from the direction of Richmond and the Rappahannock.

(Signed) JNO. E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FROM CAIRO.

The Confederates Not Pursued to Corinth—Prisoners from Island No. 10.

CAIRO, April 11.—The only additional information received to-day from Pittsburg Landing, is that the pursuit of the retreating Rebels was kept up but a little distance beyond the position of our advance previous to the battle.

Several boat loads of prisoners arrived here today from Island No. 10. The generals and field officers will be sent to Fort Warren, the company officers to Columbus, Ohio, and the privates to Chicago and Springfield.

Generals Makall, Gaull, and several subordinate officers, are here on parole. The latter are very communicative. They say that our four weeks' bombardment killed only one man.

FROM GEN. BANKS' CORPS.

EDINBURG, VA., April 11.—The bridge across Cedar creek at this place has been completed. A private of the Twenty-seventh Indiana regiment was shot whilst on picket duty to-day. One of our foraging parties was attacked by forty of Ashby's cavalry, who were repulsed.

Arrival of the Steamer Locust Point from Port Royal—Important Army Operations in Progress—Our Pickets Within Eight Miles of Savannah—The Assault to be Made Immediately.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The steamer Locust Point from Port Royal on the 7th inst, arrived here this morning.

A special despatch to the Charleston *Mercury* received through this arrival, says there was not 5,000 Rebel troops between Gordonsville and Richmond, and that the Rappahannock river was very high.

The advices from Port Royal relative to army operations, dated 7th inst., states that the assault would be made on Savannah to-morrow (Tuesday last.) Our pickets were within eight miles of Savannah then. Other important movements were about transpiring there.

Arrival of a French Frigate.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The French frigate Bellona has arrived here.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Passes to Army Correspondents.

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 12, 1862.

Colonel Anson Stager is hereby authorized to grant passes to the editors, correspondents and reporters of newspapers to enter the lines of the United States army, upon receiving satisfactory proof that the person applying for such pass is loyal, and his written parole not to publish any information in regard to military operations that would give aid or comfort to the enemy. Persons holding such passes to be subject to such rules and regulations as the General commanding may prescribe.

(Signed) E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Public Sentiment in Europe Toward the United States.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Mr. Cyrus W. Field arrived here this morning direct from London, and reports the feeling in England and France in favor of this country as daily increasing. It is said that Mr. Field brought with him from Europe proposals from influential capitalists to supply a very large amount of war materials to the United States, to be delivered in New York, and payable entirely in bonds of our Government.

Voluntary Aid Offered for the Care of Wounded Soldiers.

BRATTLEBORO, Vermont, April 12.

To Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Heavy fights happen at Yorktown, calling for more Surgical aid than our troops have at command, I will send several of our most eminent Surgeons for temporary service, at no expense to Government save their transportation to and from. Brigade-Surgeon Phelps, of the Vermont Brigade, will inform you if he needs aid, and how much.

(Signed.) FRANCIS HOLBROOK,
Governor of Vermont.

CINCINNATI, April 13.

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

I dispatched the steamer Lancaster, No. 4, in command of the Chief of Police, with nurses, stores, &c. They will reach Pittsburg Landing this day. Also the steamboat Superior, as you authorized, ordered to report to General Halleck. She will reach Pittsburg Landing on Tuesday, with large supplies of hospital stores, surgeons and nurses, mostly gratuitous. G. R. HATCH, Mayor.

Bogus Army Officers.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—This city is being fast cleaned of the bogus army officers who have infested the hotels and promenades of Washington for some time past. Counterfeit Colonels, Majors and line officers by scores have been arrested and confined in the central guard house, and then released shorn of their feathers. The uniform of these men is generally a cloak for rascality.

Charles Griffin, an express driver, has been arrested and confined in the Central guard-house, charged with forging a check for twenty-five dollars, in the name of Captain Steele, affixed to a false account for services. The check was passed on Captain Dana. Griffin has been turned over to the civil authorities. The Provost Marshal has adopted a new method of patrolling the streets of the city. It consists in having the guard of cavalry and infantry accompany each other on their tour, and thus enable them to render aid, one to another, in case any difficulty occurs in making arrests.

The Occupation of Huntsville, Alabama—Official Despatch from Gen. Mitchell.

WASHINGTON, April 12—P. M.—The following despatch has been received by the Secretary of War, dated

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, April 11.

After a forced march of incredible difficulties, leaving Fayetteville yesterday at 12 o'clock M., my advance guard, consisting of Turchin's brigade, Kennett's cavalry, and Simonson's battery, entered Huntsville this morning at 6 o'clock. The city was taken com letely by surprise, no one having considered the march practicable at this time. We have captured about 200 prisoners, fifteen locomotives, and a large amount of passenger and box and platform cars; also the telegraph apparatus and office, and two Southern mails. We have at last succeeded in cutting the great artery of railway communication between the Southern States.

[Signed] O. M. MITCHELL,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

The President's Proclamation for Thanksgiving for Recent Victories.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The recommendation of the President, in his proclamation, for thanksgiving for recent victories, was generally observed in the churches to-day.

Postoffice Order.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT, April 12, 1862.

Ordered, That the certificate "Soldier's Letter," when the letters are written by soldiers at detached posts or in hospital, may be signed by the chaplain or surgeon at such post or hospital, as well as by any field-officer, and shall be equally recognized by postmasters; postage to be collected on delivery. (Signed) JNO. A. KASSON,
First Asst. Postmaster-General.

The President's Emancipation Resolution.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The President has approved the joint resolution suggested by him, declaring that the United States ought to cooperate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolishment of slavery.

The District of Columbia abolition bill will probably be laid before the President for his action on Monday.

The Latest from Yorktown.

[From the Agent of the Associated Press per Telegraph to Fortress Monroe and thence via Cherrystone to Washington.]

NEAR YORKTOWN, April 12.—The sun shone brightly yesterday, and to-day, much to the relief of the thousands of soldiers who are compelled to sleep in the open air. The roads are still in a very bad condition.

The Rebels still continue to open with their artillery whenever they discover a picket post, to which our guns never reply.

The Rebel forces have been greatly increased within the last two days. On Thursday several vessels were seen to land troops at Yorktown and also at Gloucester, opposite which place has not been occupied up to this time. Reinforcements have also been received from Norfolk by way of the James river.

The balloon reconnoissance made yesterday by Gen. Fitz John Porter shows that the rebels had materially strengthened their works since the advance of the Federal troops, and that many additional guns had been placed in position. He reached an altitude of 5,000 feet, affording an unobstructed view as far as Williamsburg on one hand and Norfolk on the other.

Gen. McClellan has written a letter highly complimenting the 6th Maine regiment for their gallant behaviour while making a reconnoissance on Warwick river. Similar honors have also been bestowed on the Berdan Sharpshooters by General Porter for their conduct while acting as skirmishers during the advances. They now do picket duty in front of the enemy's works, and many a rebel has fallen from the bullets of their unerring rifles. Among the wounded in Fairfaxian Hospital is private Frederick Revoolski, of the Mississippi regiment, who was shot through the lungs while deserting from the enemy.

Capt. Spaulding, of the 4th Michigan regiment, was severely wounded on Thursday in the left shoulder.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

CAMP BEFORE YORKTOWN, April 13.—On Friday while the 12th New York volunteers in command of Major Barnum, was on picket duty in front of the enemy's works near York river, a regiment of Rebels came out from under cover and advanced in line of battle. The Major rallied about three hundred of his men to receive them at musket range pouring in a deadly fire of Minnie balls, when the enemy retired, leaving their dead and wounded which they afterwards removed in ambulances.

Later in the day the Rebels advanced in considerable force from another point, driving in our pickets and burnt a dwelling used by the Federal troops. During both these skirmishes we had three men slightly wounded.

The 57th and 63d Pennsylvania regiments had also a brisk skirmish with the enemy on Friday, in which we had two men killed and few wounded. The killed were E. Cross and Jas. Thompson, company A, 63d Pennsylvania regiment. The wounded Thos. Brooks, company C, 63d regiment; D. R. Lynch, company E, 63d regiment; Sergeant Samuel Merwine, company E, 57th regiment; and John Cochrane, company F, same regiment.

A balloon was sent up from the rebel lines this morning for the first time.

The weather still continues pleasant, much improving the condition of the roads.

The stern-wheel steamboat Wissahickon, of Philadelphia, while entering a creek yesterday, was fired upon by the rebels' water battery, one shot passing very close to her cabin.

There was no firing of artillery yesterday by either party of any moment. The army is busily occupied in pushing forward the necessary preparations for an advance.

There are no authorities here, but the Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments are rapidly perfecting their arrangements to keep the army supplied with everything needed for the comfort of the troops.

[The foregoing despatches were sent over the Military Telegraph Line by permission of General McClellan.]

The Rebels Leaving Fredericksburg For Richmond and Yorktown.

CATTLETT'S STATION, VA.,
15 Miles South of Manassas Junction, April 13.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

An intelligent negro has just come in from Stafford county, and says his master returned this morning from Fredericksburg to his home, and told his wife in this negroes' presence that all the enemy's troops had left Fredericksburg for Richmond and Yorktown, the last of them leaving on Saturday morning. This has just been confirmed by another negro.

(Signed) IRVIN MCDOWELL,
Major General.

More Spoils Taken from the Rebels at Island No. 10.

CAIRO, April 11.—Yesterday two sprendid batteries of rifled guns were found in the woods below Island No. 10, left there by the Rebels. Large amounts of property, consisting of horses, mules, wagons, arms, &c., are daily being brought in by our men.

Reported Death of General Beauregard.

WOODSTOCK, VA., April 15, 1862.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

We learn from Jackson's camp this morning that General Beauregard is dead. The report comes direct from Rebel sources near Mount Jackson.—Impressive services were held to-day in all the Brigades. There is nothing new to report in regard to the enemy.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General.

From the Mountain Department.

WHEELING, VA., April 13.

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

A despatch just received from General Milroy, at Monterey, under date of yesterday, states as follows:

The Rebels, about 1,000 strong, with two cavalry companies and two pieces of artillery, attacked my pickets this morning about 10 o'clock, and drove them some two miles. I sent out reinforcements, consisting of two companies of the 75th Ohio, two companies of the 2d Virginia, two companies of the 32d Ohio, and one gun of Capt. Hyman's battery and one company of cavalry, all under Major Webster. The skirmishing was brisk for a short time, but the rebels were soon put to flight with considerable loss. The casualties on our side were three men of the 75th badly wounded. The men behaved nobly.

J. C. FREMONT,
Major General Commanding.

THE LATEST FROM ARKANSAS.

The Movements of the Rebels—The Health of General Siegel.

ST. LOUIS, April 12.—It is reported that the Rebels are withdrawing their forces from Northwestern Arkansas and concentrating at Pocahontas, in the northeastern part of that State. Their present forces at that point are represented to be ten thousand strong.

The Federal forces under General Steele are between Greenville, Missouri, and the Arkansas line, prepared to meet any movements the Rebels may make.

General Siegel has arrived from the Southwest; having been compelled to leave on account of ill health.

The Search for the Vermont—Steamers Loading at Bermuda—The Run of the Blockade.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The steamer Baltic arrived here to-day from her cruise in search of the Vermont. She touched at Bermuda, and left on the 8th, having been ordered to leave in [illegible] four hours. The steamers Bermuda and Herald were loading with Rebel cotton goods, undoubtedly intending to run the blockade.

The Baltic has twelve seamen of the lost ship Ocean Monarch. It was reported at Bermuda that the Vermont was in good condition, and was on her way to Port Royal.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TENNESSEE.

The Works at Fort Donelson—The Absence of Union Sentiment in Tennessee—Opinions of a Federal Officer.

[We are kindly permitted to publish the following letter from a Federal officer in the engineer service now with his Division in the West.—EDS. M. N. S.]

COLUMBIA, Tenn., April 1st, 1862.

The most interesting part of my journey was my trip up the Cumberland river, which gave me an opportunity to inspect Fort Donelson, the celebrated "Gibraltar" of the West. If the Confederates can find no better engineers to build fortifications, then indeed are they poorly off. A more pitiful concern, a greater farce on fortifications than Donelson, I can hardly conceive. It is the successful result of brilliant incapacity, of entire ignorance of even the most simple rudimentary principles of fortifying a place. The man who planned the works must have either been continually drunk, or must never have read even an elementary treatise on fortifications. It is a perfect mousetrap, and I am not so much astonished that 10,000 men shut up in such a pen should be forced to surrender at the first summons, than that 10,000 men could be found who consented to be imprisoned in such a hole; that amongst 10,000 there are not at least a few officers who are able to distinguish miserably laid out rifle-pits and a few ill constructed earth walls, from a Fort, which would be able to give shelter to assailed troops. I do not consider the taking of Donelson a great act. Certainly, it was more dangerous to be inside than outside.

The feeling here is bad—very bad, indeed. We shall be able—perhaps—to disperse the Confederate army; but how shall we be able to overcome the feelings, the prejudices of the people? Nashville is pretty much deserted; that is to say, the greater part of the young men have left the city and gone with the Southern army. Nearly all places of business are closed, and the city, which in other times I am told was very lively, bears a dead and desolate appearance. The men who remain look dogged, discontented, and are hardly able to conceal their bad feelings against us. The ladies, protected by their sex and the gallantry of the officers, take little trouble to disguise their feelings at all. They express openly their sympathies with the South, treat us with the greatest contempt, and go so far as to insult openly officers and soldiers.

I have seen no Union flag except that in the army, since I left Louisville. I have heard no expression which could give me reason to believe that a speedy reconciliation between the so unhappily divide sections of the country, is possible. Deprived of their army, they put against us a kind of passive resistance, so much harder to overcome, as it is not tangible, as its foundation lies not in reasoning, but in fanaticism and prejudice. But whatever may be the issue of this dreadful war, and again, even if we destroy and annihilate their armies, where shall we begin with a people which is animated by such feelings? What will be the end?

The behavior of our army is exemplary. Perhaps never before has an army marched through an enemy's country in such orders as during so little harm. As a rule, the most perfect discipline prevails, and the soldiers are not allowed to take even a fence-rail. That there are exceptions is a matter of course; it is easily to be conceived that amongst a crowd of 60,000 men there must be some bad characters, but as a whole the behavior of the men is excellent. That the policy of the Government is reconciliation is clear enough, but will it be appreciated? that remains to be seen.—How mistaken are those persons in the North who are living under the impression that this war will be over in sixty days, and the old order of things re-established!

I am afraid we have yet a hard and long struggle before us—first, to annihilate the Southern army, and if we succeed in that, then to keep down the people of eleven States, covering a surface equal to the whole of Europe, and if we succeed in that—what then? It makes me sad to see this glorious country go to pieces—but I cannot help believing that the golden age of these United States is gone forever—and why? Because a few fanatics, fit only for the lunatic asylum, think it their duty to elevate the negro up to their own station, or rather to lower themselves to the same level.

THE POLICE COMMISSIONERS' FUND.

In the City Circuit Court, on Saturday last, Judge Krebs delivered the following opinion in the case of the Board of Police of the city of Baltimore and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore *vs.* Charles Howard and others, and the Farmers and Planters' Bank of Baltimore—an application for an injunction to restrain the Bank from paying over to the order of any of the former Police Commissioners a balance of $2,800 remaining on deposit in that Institution, and which was deposited by the Metropolitan Police Commissioners. The Judge says:

The object of the bill filed in this case, as shown by the prayer for relief which it contains, is to obtain an injunction to restrain the defendants, Charles Howard and others, "from making any drafts, or checks upon, or in anywise changing, diminishing, or interfering with the sum of two thousand eight hundred dollars," a balance still remaining undrawn" of the sum of eight thousand seven hundred dollars which was on deposit in the Farmers' and Planters' Bank of Baltimore in the name of the "Police Commissioners," Charles Howard and others, at the time when they, as the said bill alleges, "ceased to discharge the duties imposed upon them." This money "had been received by the said Board upon the requisitions which they were authorized to make upon the Register for Police purposes," and was so deposited in the said Bank. The bill further prays this Court "to direct, and enjoin the said Bank to pay over the said fund to the complainants, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore." The complainants, for the purpose of showing in what manner the said Police Commissioners were appointed, and whence they derived the power to make requisitions for the money of which the said balance is part, refer to the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland by which the said Charles Howard and three others, together with the Mayor of the city of Baltimore, for the time being, were constituted the "Board of Police for the City of Baltimore," and allege that they accepted the appointment conferred upon them by the said Act of Assembly.

The complainants further allege that on or about the 27th day of June, 1861, the exercise of the functions of the said Police Commissioners was suspended by the Government of the United States, and they were put off duty and practically discharged, and the Police force which they had established was disparaged, and an entirely new and distinct Police force established by the authority of the Government of the United States.

The bill then refers to and exhibits an Act of Assembly passed on the 19th day of February last, which is entitled "An Act to repeal sections 806, 807, 809, 810, 811, 815 and 821 of article 4th of the Code of Public Local Laws relating to Baltimore, and the organization of a Board of Police therefor, and to re-enact the same with amendments thereto." It alleges that the complainants, Hindes and Woods, are Police Commissioners under the provisions of the said Act of Assembly, and compose, with the other complainants, the Acting Mayor of the city, the "Police Board."

It then alleges that the Government of the United States, on the twentieth day of March last withdrew its Police force from the city of Baltimore, and that the complainants, the said "Board of Police," have already appointed, enrolled and organized, a permanent Police force for the said city. Though the bill states other facts which I shall hereafter consider, yet it insists "that by *reason of the premises the complainants are now entitled to the possession and disposal of the money remaining on deposit* in Bank." Upon the foregoing facts, then, the complainants claim the possession and disposal of this balance on deposit, as above stated. They assume "that the funds deposited by the said Commissioners were the funds of the public placed in their hands to enable them to discharge their public duties, and did not belong in any wise to the Commissioners in their individual right."

With the exception of the Act of Assembly passed in February last, the facts and views above stated, and on which the complainants base the claim to this fund, are substantially the same as those relied upon by the Mayor and City Council in their late application to this Court for an injunction such as is now prayed for. This Court declined granting an injunction upon that application, and unless there is something in the provisions of the late Act of Assembly which would give to the Mayor and City Council a stronger claim to the interference of this Court, by way of injunction, with the said fund, it would feel constrained, upon that part of the bill now under consideration, which, as is seen above, is deemed by the complainants sufficient to entitle it to such interference, to decline it now. Amongst the various reasons which satisfied the Court then that it ought not to interfere with this fund, in the manner prayed by the Mayor and City Council, were these: That the Police Commissioners were appointed by an Act of the General Assembly of the State; were entirely independent of and irresponsible to the City authorities, and altogether exempt from any interference from them; that the special mode of taxation by which the fund was raised showed that when it came into the hands of the officers of the Corporation it was in no wise to be regarded as any part of its funds, and that the Corporation had no interest in it, or title or claim to it, before it was drawn by the requisition of the Commissioners; and as a necessary consequence, none afterwards. Has it acquired any title to it, or control over it, by virtue of this Act of Assembly?

It certainly does not in express terms give to the Corporation any such title or control, because this fund in controversy is not mentioned, or expressly referred to, in any one of the new sections made part of the original Police bill, which is re-enacted by this Act of Assembly; and we have sought in vain for some language or provisions in these sections, from which such title or control could, by inference or any fair implication, be derived.

The complainants refer to certain charges in the original Police Law, made by this Act of Assembly, which they seem they regard as giving force to their claims, but I cannot discover that they have any such effect. They say that this Police Act has been materially charged in its most important features; and among others that the number of the Police Commissioners has been reduced from four to two; and that two of the complainants have been appointed by the Legislature in the place of "the former Commissioners" who have been removed and superseded in their office and all authority and duties to them appertaining; that by the terms of these complainants, constituting the Police Board, are charged with the duty of organizing the Police force of the city; that upon the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore is imposed the obligation of providing the means of paying the said Police force; that different obligations are imposed on the Police Board; that among other things the Police Board are relieved of the custody and disbursement of the Police fund, and the Register of the city is charged with the duty of such custody and disbursements and entitled at all times in his official capacity to have the control thereof, and that his official bond is responsible with reference to the same.

A reference, however, to the obligations of the bond will show that this Police Board is not relieved from the disbursement of the Police fund, and that the Register of the city is not charged with such disbursement and the control thereof. The above are the only provisions in the said sections to which the complainants have deemed it proper to refer, and which, in connection with the other matter in the bill, above stated, they suppose sustain their claim to have this fund paid to them; but I am of opinion that there is nothing in these provisions so referred to, or in any other part of these sections, upon which any such claim can be founded. The only moneys or funds to which they in any manner refer, are "moneys which may come to the hands" of the Treasurer; and "which may be appropriated and paid over to him as Treasurer of the said Board," which, of course, cannot embrace or apply to this money on deposit in this Bank, unless the law intends that it shall come into his hands.

There is nothing, however, in these sections that shows any such intention. They do not refer to, or mention in any manner, the Police Commissioners, upon whose requisition this money was paid to them, and who deposited it in bank; nor is there in any part of these sections any reference to, or mention of this money so deposited, or any provision that these new Police Commissioners shall succeed to all the rights and powers of the former, or that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall be entitled to receive this money. Unless, therefore, there is something in the other allegations or matters set forth in this bill upon which such right or claim in the Corporation or the said Police Commissioners can be sustained, they must respectively fail in their efforts to maintain it.

The only other matter to which the complainants refer to show that they are entitled to the relief they pray, is an act passed at the session of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to repeal so much of article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws as authorizes the persons named in section 807 to disburse the funds therein provided, and to provide for the payment of the Police force now in the service of the United States in the city of Baltimore." This act provides that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore be authorized to pay to the Provost Marshal of the United States in the city of Baltimore a sum of money, &c., the said payment to be made out of moneys in the hands of the said Mayor and City Council, or other officers of the city of Baltimore, and the said fund to which by article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws are now subject to the order or appropriation of the Board of Police created in said article.

It also provides that the power and authority of the Commissioners of Police named in the above article, to appropriate or to apply any moneys raised, or which shall be raised under the provisions of the aforesaid article, and which by virtue thereof be subject to the control of the said Commissioners, be revoked and annulled; and it repeals so much of Article 4 as authorized them to use, draw for or disburse, any of the funds provided under said Article by the Mayor and City Council, for that purpose. Now, the complainants insist that "since the acts of the late Legislature above referred to, the said funds now remaining in Bank cannot be withdrawn by the said original Board of Police," but must pass as of right into the hands "of the complainants"—the Mayor and City Council—to be applied under the said recent act of the Legislature towards the payment and support of the Police. Conceding that these acts of the Legislature lawfully revoked the powers of the former Police Commissioners, deprived them of all power to apply or dispose of any funds that came into their hands under requisitions that they were authorized to make, and substituted others in their place, and that they have no right to draw and appropriate this money in Bank, yet it by no means follows that the Mayor and City Council, or the Commissioners appointed under the late law, are entitled to receive and appropriate it.

This Act of Assembly assumes that the mere revoking of the powers of the Commissioners and declaring that they should no longer draw or appropriate any funds previously under their control, did not necessarily give to the Mayor and City Council the right to receive and appropriate the moneys that had been raised by special taxation to enable these Commissioners to discharge the duties imposed upon them by law. It deemed something further necessary, and therefore expressly authorized the Mayor and City Council to appropriate