THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

VOL. II---NO. 188. BALTIMORE, TUESDAY, APRIL 29 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

DIED.

Sunday, 27th instant, JOHN S., only son of John S. and Rosalie C. Barry, aged 16 months.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, this (Tuesday), at 4 P. M., from 193 St. Paul street.

On Sunday, the 27th instant, of scarlet fever, MARTHA ELIZABETH, only child of Alexander D. and Ann E. Michael, aged 3 years and 6 months.

On 26th April, 1862, SAMUEL S. PRICE, in the 57th year of his age.

On Saturday, 26th instant, ANN L. THOMPSEN, consort of the late Edward Thompsen, in the 57th year of her age.

On the 27th instant, JOHN DALY, aged 77 years.

On the 26th instant, SARAH, wife of Peter Hughes, in the 25th year of her age.

Departed this life on the 20th inst., MARY M. DEWINT, consort of the late James A. Lebrancht waite.

On the 26th instant, JOHN STAYLOR, in the 72d year of his age.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States no business of special importance was transacted.

In the House of Representatives, the consideration of the report of the Committee on Government Contracts occupied nearly the whole of the session.

A special telegram, of yesterday's date, to the New York *Times*, from Fortress Monroe, states, on the authority of certain contrabands, that intense excitement existed at Norfolk in consequence of apprehensions of an attack from Burnside. A number of troops had been sent to South Mills to contest his advance by way of the Dismal Swamp Canal.

Another account of the battle of South Mills—the sixth, and all different—is given by the Fortress Monroe correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*. From information obtained from the wounded soldiers sent from Norfolk under a flag of truce, he learns that the battle was really "an affair of some magnitude." That General Reno, "in accordance with orders from General Burnside, and in fulfillment of the grand plan of General McClellan" disembarked his whole Brigade at Elizabeth City and marched fifteen miles inland, for the purpose of destroying the locks on the Dismal Swamp Canal. In the afternoon of Friday he encountered the Confederates "in some force" at South Mills, and engaged them until sun-set when the latter retreated. Seven locks were destroyed, but as "all had not been attended to" General Reno determined to pass the night at South Mills and complete the work in the morning. During the night, however, he was informed that General Huger was advancing with ten thousand men, and the order was immediately given to retreat, which was successfully accomplished. Now follows the most curious part of the story. "It is quite possible" remarks the writer, hypothetically, "that in the hurry of the preparations for the retreat some few of the wounded might have been left." These were found by the Confederates the next day, "and have, with a rare generosity been sent North." Let us be content with the numerous explanations—no two agreeing—which have been given of this affair, and accept it—as in duty bound we ought to do—as a Federal victory which was followed up—by a masterly retreat.

The same writer complains that the correspondents of loyal Northern newspapers were not allowed to say anything about "a certain naval affair" which happened not many miles from Fortress Monroe, on Wednesday night last, notwithstanding it was talked about in Norfolk on Thursday afternoon, and was telegraphed thence all over the Southern Confederacy. If it were improper to make public this "certain naval affair," surely it is equally censurable to indulge in such mysterious hints.

From the same source we learn that a rumor was current in Norfolk of a great battle having been fought at Corinth, and that "the Confederates, as usual, claim the victory, and say they took nine thousand prisoners." Upon this, the writer remarks, with undeniable truth, that "up to the present time no such news has been received through Northern sources." On the contrary, a telegram from Cairo, dated the 27th inst, states that the Federal army is steadily advancing toward Corinth, and that passengers just arrived from the Tennessee are of opinion that Corinth has been evacuated, and that the Confederates will make their next stand at Columbus, Mississippi.

The New York *Herald*, of yesterday, publishes what purports to be a correct account of the Confederate defences below and around New Orleans, and if the statement even approximates to correctness, it would seem almost impossible for the Federal flotilla to have forced its way to that city in spite of fire so formidable and batteries so numerous which are said to extend along both sides of the river for a distance of eight miles, the *Herald* describes eight distinct forts and towers which defend the various approaches to the city. If these fortifications really exist, it is most remarkable that only Fort Jackson should have opposed the passage of the Federal gunboats up the river, especially in view of the fact that a telegram from New Orleans, on the 25th instant, as quoted from a Richmond paper, whilst announcing that a Federal gunboat had succeeded in passing Fort Jackson, should have stated that the Confederates "regard it of little importance, as they have other defences to be depended upon." It should, however, be mentioned in this connection, that the Captain of a vessel which reached Boston on Saturday evening last from Ship Island, reported that an expedition was about to sail from there for New Orleans by way of Lakes Borgne and Ponchartrain—the intention being to attack the city in the rear while the fleet reduced the forts on the river. A later despatch from General Wool to the War Department states that the news of the occupation of New Orleans by the Federal forces is confirmed, but in what manner or through what sources is not explained. Singularly enough the Associated Press telegram from Fortress Monroe of the same date says that there is no further news from New Orleans in consequence of the telegraphic operators having left that city.

The Port Royal correspondent of the New York *Tribune* writes that General Hunter has commenced to issue free papers to the negroes on the Islands; but that it is his purpose to retain for the present, so far as possible, in the service of the Quartermaster's Department, those whom he emancipates.

MONS. HERMANN.—The immense crowd that filled the Front Street Theatre last evening will, we feel confident, bear willing testimony to the wonderful powers of Mons. Hermann. His numerous tricks were performed with an ease and grace never before equalled in this city, and the feat of pulling two live rabbits from a gentleman's hat, and then quietly rolling the two into one, not only astonished but almost bewildered those who witnessed the trick. In fact, the entire performance was one that could only be duly appreciated by being seen, and it is more than likely that during his stay in Baltimore, M. Hermann will continue to draw full and fashionable houses to the Front Street Theatre. The music of Messrs. Schreiner (pianist), Dohler (violinist), and Wedemeyer (violincellist), is well worth hearing, and their performances last evening were loudly applauded. The sale of reserved seats will, we are requested to state, be continued at McCaffrey's music store this morning, and all those who desire to witness the unique performance of M. Hermann should avail themselves of the opportunity to procure choice places. It may not be out of place, however, to state that the entire performance can be seen from almost every part of the Theatre.

COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT TO MRS. MARY A. CURLEY.—The friends of this gifted lady will be glad to learn that there is in store for them a rich musical entertainment on this evening. We predict for the patrons of this deserving enterprise all that rare enjoyment which first-class talent, a carefully selected programme and thorough rehearsals can give. Signor Strini, having kindly volunteered his assistance, will sing the Aria from the Sicilian Vespers.

The people of Cape Island are sorely grieved that the steamers of the Philadelphia and New York line, which have been chartered by the Government, will not make their usual trips to Cape May the coming summer. They held a public meeting and adopted measures to procure proper boats to run to the Island during the next bathing season.

GOVERNOR SMITH'S SON EXCHANGED.—It is stated that an exchange has been agreed upon between Mr. Ayers, the returned Richmond prisoner, and the son of ex-governor Smith, of Virginia, who has been in Fort Warren several months.

DEATH OF AN EX-SENATOR.—Benjamin M. Bowdie, Esq., of Talbot county, Md., died on the 18th inst., after a short but severe attack of gout. Mr. Bowdie represented that county several years in the House of Delegates, and was a State Senator from 1855 to 1859.

HOCK WINE.—600 boxes and 50 casks Hock Wine, comprising Deidesheimer, Markgrafler, Wachenheimer, Forster Musling, Forster Trainer and other brands, imported and for sale by GEYER & WILKENS, 122 West Lombard street. mh8-tf

CHATEAU DE LA TOURETTE CHAMPAGNE.—100 baskets pints and quarts, in store and for sale by P. T. CHARKIN & CO., Sole Agents, 104 and 106 Commerce street Hanover and Lombard sts.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the North American.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., April 28.—The steamer North American passed Cape Race yesterday with Liverpool dates to the 18th inst.

The steamer Great Eastern had got safely off the gridiron at Milford and steamed to her old moorings.

The sales of cotton for the week at Liverpool amounted to eighty thousand bales. American Cotton had advanced ⅛@¼.

Breadstuffs were firmer and advancing. Provisions quiet and steady.

Consols closed at 93⅝@94 for money.

The Fall of New Orleans Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, April 28—P. M.—The following despatch from the Agent of the Associated Press at Fortress Monroe, reached here to-night:

FORTRESS MONROE, April 28.

A flag of truce, to-day, took despatches and letters to Federal prisoners at the South. No papers were received.

The telegraphic operators having left New Orleans, there is no further news from there.

The operators attempted to return, but found the city occupied by the Federal forces.

There is no other news.

From General Wool.

WASHINGTON, April 28—P. M.—The following has been received at the War Department:

FORTRESS MONROE, April 28.

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

The news of the occupation of New Orleans by our forces is confirmed to-day. No further news.

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

FROM SOUTHERN TENNESSEE.

The Reported Evacuation of Corinth.

CAIRO, April 27.—The steamer McClellan, from Pittsburg Landing, has arrived. The Rebels are inaugurating a guerilla warfare along the Tennessee river, and our boats were fired on yesterday above Fort Henry.

Our army is steadily advancing towards Corinth. General Pope's division is on the extreme left, four miles above Pittsburg Landing.

The reconnoissance in force on Thursday encountered a large force of Rebels—infantry and cavalry—eight miles from the landing. The Rebels formed in line of battle, fired one volley, and then retreated in great disorder, with considerable loss. Fifty-three prisoners were taken.

The rains on Friday have rendered the roads again impassable.

The General McClellan brought down the body of Gen. C. F. Smith.

The Memphis *Avalanche* of the 23d says that a raft with a large field piece and a 13-inch mortar and sixteen men was captured by the Rebels near Fort Wright and taken down the river.

Generals Buell and Beauregard had effected an arrangement for an exchange of wounded prisoners.

Passengers by the McClellan bring further accounts of Corinth being evacuated by the Rebels, who will make their next stand at Columbus, Mississippi.

Colonel Turchin's brigade had moved back from Tuscumbia to Huntsville, where General Buell is encamped.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SHENANDOAH.

Movements of General Banks.

HARRISONBURG, April 28.—Yesterday afternoon the pickets of Col. Donnelly's Brigade, stationed eight miles hence, on the Gordonsville road, were attacked by a large force of Ashby's near guard and driven back. One man, named Isaac Selby, of the 46th Pennsylvania, was killed, and three others wounded.

The reserve of the 46th and a section of Hampton's battery then advanced and repulsed the Rebels. They retreated to a wood, where several of our shells burst in their very midst. A wagon was seen gathering up and carrying off their dead and wounded.

Owing to the horrible state of the roads between the town and Donnelly's encampments, and the impossibility of forwarding him supplies, Colonel Donnelly was ordered to take up a new position near the town until the roads get in better condition.

General Jackson's main body is encamped near the east bank of the Shenandoah bridge over the river, strongly picketed by him and underlaid with inflammable material ready to ignite on our approach.

Captain Bowen, of the 28th New York regiment, is performing Provost duty in town.

The orderly department of our troops is a convincing proof to the population that our object is but a mission of peace, and that secession ladies have been guilty of gross misrepresentation and duplicity towards them.

All the churches here, whose pastors are not absent in the secession army, were open to-day.

Times says:—

The Memphis *Avalanche* of the 23d says that on the 11th eighty Federal cavalry took possession of Pocahontas, Arkansas. There are 10,000 Federal troops at Doniphan, Missouri, engaged in building flatboats on Current river, with which to descend Black and White rivers.

Martial law has been declared at Vicksburg and five miles around. A large body of Texans are in Memphis, *en route* for Corinth.

Mr. De Bow, the solicitor for the Confederate cotton loans, wants 20,000 bales for a specific purpose in exchange for eight per cent. Confederate bonds.

A mutiny has broken out in Nashville, in consequence of the late abolition message of President Lincoln. Eleven officers resigned. A Kentucky regiment mutinied, and had a pitched battle with two Indiana regiments.

The Federal steamer Montgomery burned the schooner Columbia, loaded with cotton, inside of St. Louis Pass, west of Galveston.

A despatch from Richmond, dated the 23d, says that General Fremont has left Eastern Kentucky with his whole force, numbering twenty thousand men, and had gone to Corinth.

THE MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT.

Successful Movements Against the Guerrillas—Their Organizations Broken up—A Skirmish East of the Shenandoah Mountains, &c.

WHEELING, Va., April 27.—The combined movements ordered by Gen. Fremont against the guerrillas in Webster county have proved eminently successful. Lieut. Lawson, with one detachment employed in this service, has returned, and others are returning. In a severe running fight of seven miles, Lawson killed 17 guerrillas and took 19 prisoners. The town of Addison, a small place, the only one in the new county, being deserted, was burned. It had been a guerrilla haunt. A formidable organization in Braxton, Webster and adjoining counties is entirely destroyed, the leaders proposing to surrender. It is understood the guerrillas taken will be promptly tried and shot.

Gen. Milroy's scouts on the 23d inst. attacked the rear guard of the enemy ten miles east of the Shenandoah Mountains, the boundary of this department. They killed one lieutenant and two men, and captured a lieutenant and one man. None of our men were hurt.

The Rebel conscripts are deserting in large numbers, swearing Unionism, and returning home.

Reports from Staunton say the enemy's sick and wounded and large trains of soldiers are passing eastward by rail.

Snow fell 18 inches deep at Monterey on the 24th inst.

Official Despatches From the Mississippi Flotilla.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—By the arrival of the steamship Connecticut at Hampton Roads on Saturday, the Navy Department has received dates from the Mississippi River to April 12, including despatches from Flag-officer Farragut and Captain Porter, of the bomb flotilla. At that time, the steamships Mississippi and Pensacola were over the bar, and the flotilla moving up to be in readiness to take their positions.

Flag-officer Farragut, under date of April 12, communicates reports made to him by Lieutenant Commanding Read, of the steamer New London, dated March 26 and April 5, of the engagements between his vessel and others, and some of the Rebel steamers. He says: On the afternoon of the 2d inst. we left Ship Island in company with the U. S. steamer J. P. Jackson and the transport steamer Henry Lewis, with the Connecticut 9th volunteer regiment on board, to co-operate with the army for the purpose of effecting a landing at Biloxi. The landing was made the evening of the same day, the New London and the J. P. Jackson anchoring off the town. The next day, about 4½ P. M., the troops embarked, when all got under way and embarked for Pass Christian, intending the following day to effect a landing at Pass Christian.

At 10 A. M., having taken a favorable position for the night, we came to anchor on the 4th of April at 40 minutes past 4 A. M. Three Rebel steamers were discovered standing down to make an attack, and the action was immediately begun by the New London, Jackson and Lewis, with the Rebel steamers Oregon, Pamlico and Carondolet, and after its continuation for some 30 minutes the Lewis was withdrawn, on account of the crowded state of her decks, and the New London and Jackson continued the fight for one hour and forty-five minutes, when the enemy withdrew, apparently much injured.

About 9 o'clock A. M. the United States steamer Hatteras joined us, and her commander, being the senior officer, took command.

While the landing was being effected at Pass Christian, a Rebel merchant steamer appeared to the eastward, and was immediately pursued by the New London and Jackson, and after a chase of one hour was captured. She proved to be the Rebel steamboat P. C. Wallis, loaded with turpentine, rosin and lime.

The second report is as follows:

On the afternoon of the 5th two Rebel steamers were discovered at Pass Christian. The New London got under way and stood for them, and approached as near as practicable on account of shoal water. The Rebel boats approached within two thousand yards, when the engagement began, the New London beginning the action, finding the enemy not disposed to come nearer. The fight lasted one hour and fifty minutes. During that time we fired 161 shots of all kinds. No one was injured on board of this vessel, nor was the vessel herself. The vessels of the enemy were the steamers Oregon and Pamlico, and from their movements each of them seemed to be struck two or three times. After the engagement the enemy left for the Lakes. We remained on the ground until they were out of sight, and then returned to Ship Island.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Military and Naval Appointments

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The Senate in Executive session to-day, confirmed a large number of military nominations, including the following named to be Brigadier Generals of Volunteers: Col. Max Weber, of New York, and George S. Green, the latter of the 60th New York regiment; Col. John C. Caldwell, of the 11th Maine regiment; Capt. Truman Seymour, of the 5th artillery; Col. Isaac P. Rodman, of the 4th Rhode Island regiment; Henry Bohlen, of Pennsylvania; Paymaster Henry Prince, of U. S. Army; Capt. Quincy A. Gillmore, of Corps of Engineers; Major Absalom Baird, Assistant Inspector General; George D. Bayard, 1st regiment Pennsylvania cavalry; Col. Thomas B. Crittenden, of regiment of Indiana volunteers; Col. Alvin P. Hovey, W. P. Benton, of Indiana; Jeremiah C. Sullivan, of Indiana; James C. Watch, of Indiana, and P. Cassault Hockleman, of Indiana; Daniel Holmes, of Pennsylvania, confirmed as Brigade Surgeon of Volunteers.

The following appointments were made to-day by the Navy Department: Henry C. Porter, of Washington, Acting Master, ordered to Port Royal, South Carolina; George A. Smith, Acting Paymaster at Brooklyn Navy Yard; Charles C. Bunker, of Nantucket; John S. Gordon, of Seaport, Maine; and James F. Alcorn, of Boston, Acting Paymasters, and ordered to Charlestown Navy Yard.

Arrival of Captured Prizes at Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The steamer Jacob Bell has arrived at the Navy Yard, towing up five of the schooners lately captured by our flotilla in the Rappahannock. They consist of the following vessels:

Lookout, of Baltimore, about 75 tons, with 3,600 bushels of corn, 3,000 of which is put up in bags, marked "Confederate States," and the remainder marked with the name of the Captain.

The Sarah Ann, of Newbern, N. C., with 1,600 bushels of corn.

The Sidney A. Jones, of Baltimore, unladen.

The Falcon, of Tappahannock, unladen.

The Monterey, of Tappahannock, with the cargo of a pungy which had been cut adrift, consisting of oil, saltpetre, bone dust, dry goods, &c.

Contracts for Carrying U. S. Mails.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The bill reported by Mr. Colfax, from the Post Office Committee, provides that all railroads carrying United States mails shall enter into contract with the Post Office Department, and if they disagree as to price, it shall be settled by the Court of Claims.

IMPORTANT FROM NEW MEXICO.

A Bloody Battle Impending at Santa Fe.

ST. LOUIS, April 24.—The correspondence of the Missouri *Republican*, dated Fort Union, New Mexico, April 13th, says:

Col. Slough, after the battle of Apache Canon, fell back and took position at Bernal Springs, forty-five miles south of Fort Union. This was deemed the strategical point, being within supporting distance of Fort Union, a position to harass the enemy, and to form a junction with Canby when he should leave Fort Craig, three hundred miles south.

We had been there one day when Col. Canby sent from Fort Craig his Assistant Adjutant-General with peremptory orders to Col. Slough to fall back with his column to Fort Union, which was immediately obeyed.

It would seem that we crippled the enemy in the Apache Canon more than was believed at first. We have reliable information that we killed over 100 men, including six officers, and wounded over 200. We have now as prisoners at Fort Union 21 officers and 82 privates. The enemy immediately fell back to Santa Fe, and are again, it is believed, concentrating in their old position at Albuquerque.

Yesterday an express arrived from Colonel Canby, stating that he would leave Fort Craig on the 31st of March. If the enemy is in the vicinity of Albuquerque, with artillery travelling, Colonel Canby is in their immediate vicinity, and our column 180 miles from Albuquerque will only leave this morning. He will be unsupported by this column, and with 900 regulars will have to encounter their forces, unless he can slip by and join the column which leaves here this morning. It is understood that Kit Carson, with a regiment of New Mexican Volunteers, 700 strong, will remain and garrison Fort Craig. It is rumored that Cols. Steele and Bailor, of the Rebel army, are advancing into New Mexico with 800 additional men.

Important events will probably occur before the next express leaves here for the States. A well authenticated report has just reached here that the Texan forces, 2,000 strong, are encroaching themselves at Santa Fe, and that Colonel Canby, having strengthened his command up to 1,200, is fifty miles south of Santa Fe. This may enable our two columns to act together and make us 2,400 strong. If this is the case we will have a battle, and one of the bloodiest battles on record. The enemy's artillery numbers about eighteen pieces, and ours twelve pieces.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT NORFOLK.

Apprehensions of an Attack from General Burnside.

NEW YORK, April 27.—A special despatch to the Herald and Tribune, says:

[illegible] this morning, from Ship Island [illegible] Havana Cuba, where she [illegible] ernment despatches to the United [illegible] that port. She also brings a [illegible] port.

Several transports have recently arrived at Ship Island. The ship Parliament, from Boston, reached there on the 4th inst., and landed all her horses in good order. The ship Western Empire, from Boston, was also as fortunate in carrying her freight of horses. The ships Great Republic, from Portland, and the Eliza and Ella, and bark Willi Zazelle, from Boston, had arrived out with stores, forage, &c. A large number of transports were left in port when the Black Prince sailed, and among them the steamer Mississippi.

Letters received by this arrival state that the health of the troops at the island was very good. Capt. John A. Nelson, of the 30th Massachusetts regiment, has been appointed Provost-Marshal by General Butler.

At the time the Black Prince sailed, preparations were making for the attack on New Orleans, and it was then expected that the attack would be made about the 14th inst. Nearly all the troops at Ship Island would participate. The steamers Mississippi and Matanzas were at the island, and might join in the expedition. The expedition to Pass Christian, which has been mentioned in the Southern papers, was undertaken by the 9th Connecticut regiment, Col. Cahill. A small battery was captured and a Mississippi regiment driven out. A few of our men were wounded, but none killed. Nothing was known of the Confederate loss.

A letter from Ship Island of the 3d of April mentions that the brigade of General Williams had sailed for New Orleans, and that the other brigades were expected to follow immediately. The rumor which we had several days ago of the capture of Fort Pike, between Lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain, is probably well founded. It was by this route that General Butler expected to penetrate to New Orleans, while the fleet reduced the forts on the river.

FROM PORT ROYAL.

GENERAL HUNTER FREES THE NEGROES.

Correspondence of the New York Tribune.

General Hunter has begun to issue free papers to the negroes entitled under the act of Congress to their freedom by virtue of services compulsorily rendered to the Confederates. Printed forms are prepared requiring only to be filled with the name of the former slave and the signature of the General commanding who emancipates him. The following is a copy of the first:

It having been proven, to the entire satisfaction of the General commanding the Department of the South, that the bearer, William Jenkins, heretofore held in involuntary servitude, has been directly employed to aid and assist those in rebellion against the United States of America:

Now, be it known to all that, agreeably to the laws, I declare the said person free, and forever absolved from all claims to his services. Both he and his wife, and his children, have full right to go north, south, east or west, as they may decide.

Given under my hand, at the Headquarters of the Department of the South, this nineteenth day of April, A. D. 1862.

D. HUNTER, Major-General Commanding.

That document passes into history as the first act of emancipation on the soil of South Carolina by the General Government of the United States. Its practical lawfulness and comprehensive effect are beyond question; for it is based on a law of Congress, put in operation by the Major-General commanding the department, and the bearer of it is on board the steamer Atlantic, on his way to the North. He is a negro of intelligence and excellent character. His name is rightly given as William Jenkins, but those who have known him for the last month as a servant in the Chief Quartermaster's office will more readily recognize him as "Major."

It is General Hunter's purpose to retain for the present, so far as possible, those emancipated under this law in the service of the Quartermaster's Department as heretofore. When I left Port Royal—for I finish this letter on the Atlantic—nearly a hundred cases had been examined and passed, and the papers were to be issued immediately. General Hunter was engaged in signing them the evening before the steamer sailed. It is a long step from General Sherman's first manifesto to this deed of emancipation, but General Hunter's readiness to put himself decisively on the side of freedom is at once an evidence of the growth and the reflection of the strength of the popular conviction that all means are necessary to finish this war. He wins for himself an enduring reputation, and strikes a blow both at the rebellion and its cause.

The papers of Southern Indiana and Central Tennessee report that the wheat, grain and fruit crops give promise of a more abundant and healthy yield than for many years past. The late rains, it appears, have been wide spread, visiting all the surrounding country, refreshing the earth.

The business of the Washington Postoffice has grown enormously. During the quarter ending March 31, 792,284 franked letters were forwarded, stamps were sold to the value of $68,000, and the carriers delivered 162,433 letters and 23,323 papers.

The Boston *Herald* says that Buckner and Tilghman, who have been in close confinement for some weeks, have been allowed, since last Sunday, an hour each day to walk by themselves on the parapet over the sallyport. Mayor Brown, late of Baltimore, was visited one day this week by his brother.

Thomas B. Monroe, Jr., formerly editor of the Lexington *Statesman*, and late Private Secretary of Governor McGoffin, of Kentucky, was killed at the battle of Pittsburg Landing. He fell on the Confederate side.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

[COPIED FROM THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE.]

The Battle of Shiloh--Defence of General Floyd.

The Richmond *Whig* of the 18th instant has an article on the dead Confederate General, A. S. Johnston, apologizing for a fierce attack, in which Jeff. Davis is bitterly assailed for keeping the facts of the war away from the Southern people. It speaks contemptuously of the folly of the Administration, and says it is responsible for the death of Johnston.

Who planned and built the Merrimac? is a question now much discussed in the South. A report was made on the subject to the Confederate Congress, by S. R. Mallory, who states it is the joint work of three persons, viz: John L. Porter, Naval Constructor; Levi Brook, of the Confederate Navy; and W. P. Williamson, Chief Engineer of the Confederate Navy. Porter, however, was the chief man.

Interview Between Gens. Beauregard and Prentiss.

The Savannah *Republican*, of April 14, publishes a letter from its army correspondent, giving a description of the battle of Shiloh. We make the following extracts:

We commenced the attack at sunrise this morning. Our order of battle is said to be the strongest known to military science. We advanced in three parallel lines or corps, each one in line of battle.—The first or front corps was led by Major-Gen. Hardee. Immediately behind him came a full complement of artillery. A thousand yards in the rear followed the second corps or line, led by Major-Gen. Bragg. Immediately in his rear came more artillery, and behind them came the third corps, being our reserve, commanded by Major-General Polk. Gen. Johnston was in supreme command, nobly assisted by Gen. Beauregard.

The enemy was not expecting an attack, as was evident from the condition in which he received us. He was driven from the first line of encampment. Meanwhile he recovered from his surprise, and met our onset with firmness and resolution.—The fighting now became hot and close, and raged with great violence and fury along our entire front.

At length we reached the enemy's encampment, who yielded his home in the woods with much reluctance, and disputed every foot of ground with courage and resolution. Thus far we have advanced through the woods, which was almost destitute of undergrowth. Everywhere the trees bear the marks of the terrible conflict.

At two o'clock the resistance had increased, and became more obstinate than at any time during the day. Gen. Johnston, in order to make a new rallying point, placed himself at the head of our attacking force, and led the charge in person. How unfortunate he should have done so, for at half-past two he received a Minie ball in his breast, and had his leg badly torn by a shell. He fell, and died soon afterward, but not until the enemy had again given way all along the lines.

The fall of Gen. Johnson did not in the least discourage the men; for they knew the gallant Beauregard was still left to them, with many other officers of skill and courage. On they press, therefore. Bragg has long since brought up his corps, composed of the most part of his seasoned Pensacola troops, and most admirably has he handled them throughout the entire day. Gallant and chivalric, yet cool and sagacious, he knows when and where to plant his terrible blows. Gen. Polk also was many times in the thickest of the fight, and bore himself throughout the battle, whether in the immediate front of the enemy, or in bringing up his reserves, with the calm courage and serene spirit of a Christian warrior. Only a portion of our reserves were ever brought into action, there being no necessity for it.

At 6½ o'clock the enemy was in full retreat, and hotly pursued by the victorious Confederates. He fled back to the Tennessee, and took shelter under its gunboats and river works, the fire from which was too heavy for our light field batteries. Night, too, had come on, and our army returned to the enemy's camp, and are now occupying it. The amount of property taken is immense—the men are now regaling themselves upon the ample supplies of excellent food everywhere to be found.

Among the prisoners are many officers, and the greater part of the 7th Iowa regiment, who lately petitioned the Federal Congress for permission to inscribe upon their banners the victories of Belmont and Donelson.

Several stands of colors were also captured—three by the 21st Louisiana regiment alone. I have seen two of them myself and was present when they were brought and delivered to Gen. Beauregard. I witnessed also the arrival and presentation of Gen. Prentiss, who was taken by a staff of Confederate officers of Gen. Pope, and conducted to the latter, who sent him, with his compliments, immediately to Gen. Beauregard. The following is the substance of the conversation that ensued after they had shaken hands:

Prentiss—Well, sir, we have felt your power to-day, and have had to yield.

Beauregard—That is natural, sir. You could not expect it to be otherwise. We are fighting for our homes, for our wives and children, for generations to come after us, and for liberty itself. Why does your Government thus war upon us, and seek to bring themselves to consent to see the Union broken up. Such a thing has not entered into our force [illegible] and cannot.

Prentiss—Six divisions, 7,000 each—the whole not [illegible] 40,000. Gen. Grant commands, assisted by Gen. Sherman, McClernand, Hurlbut, Wallace and myself. Gen. Smith is sick, and has not been upon the field. My division was the first to receive your attack, and we were not properly supported; if we had been, the day might have been otherwise. There has been mismanagement somewhere. Had I been supported in time, we should have broken your centre at the time we stopped your advance.

Beauregard—You are mistaken, General; my order of battle was such that if you had even penetrated the centre of our front line, it would only have been to encounter certain destruction; we would have cut you to pieces. Has General Buell arrived, and what of his forces?

Prentiss (hesitating)—I do not know where Gen Buell is, nor the number of his forces. I have heard that he was at Nashville, and then at Columbus, and also that he was on the road. We do not look for him under forty-eight hours. I fear you will capture the greater part of our army on this side of the river. You have met and overcome to-day the best troops we have.

Beauregard—I am glad to hear it, and trust that the result of the day's work may bring your Government to a frame of mind more favorable to peace.

Prentiss—That can can hardly be sir. If your army had pushed on after the battle of Manassas, it might have taken Washington, and overrun the North, and brought us to peace. We had an insufficient supply of arms then, and were not prepared. The muskets purchased in Belgium by Fremont were of but little account, you could turn your thumb in the muzzle, the bore was so large. We also procured from England the old arms that have been stored away in London Tower ever since the war with Napoleon in 1815. They are of no value whatever. Only within the last sixty days that we have become thoroughly and sufficiently armed. Our supply is now ample, and we cannot be overcome. Your Government has made two mistakes—first, in not availing itself of the fruits of the battle of Manassas; and secondly, for waiting until we had become well-armed and organized. We have now 250,000 men in camps of instruction, who will be brought upon the field as they may be needed. We do not doubt the final result.

Beauregard—Nor do we. Our cause is just, and God will yet give us the victory.

Prentiss—We know you have able officers and a spirited army to back them, but our confidence is firm, and permit me to add, General, that among all the Confederate officers no one is so great a favorite with us as yourself. Such is my own feeling, and that of our army and people.

Beauregard—You are very kind, sir; but we have much better officers than I am. Gen. Sidney Johnston and Gen. Joseph Johnson are both my superiors in ability as well as in rank. I have served under both of them most cheerfully, and I know them well. I care nothing for rank; the good of my country is what I look to.

Other observations were made, but the foregoing embraces the chief points of the interview. Gen. Prentiss was easy and pleasant, and not at all depressed. Apparently, too, he was quite candid; and yet I thought I detected a disposition to evade, if not to deceive, in his reply as to the forces of Buell. I believe that Buell is near at hand. It is to be hoped that I am mistaken, and that our men, who have already fought long hours, may not have to encounter a fresh force to-morrow.

The Alabama *Commonwealth* says:

The death-wound of General Johnston was inflicted on the calf of his right leg, and was considered by him as only a flesh-wound. Soon after receiving it, he gave an order to Governor Harris, who was acting as a volunteer aid to him, who, on his return to General Johnston, in a different part of the field, found him exhausted from loss of blood and reeling in his saddle. Riding up to him, Governor Harris asked: "Are you hurt?" To which the now dying hero answered: "Yes, and, I fear, mortally;" and then, stretching out both arms toward his companion, fell from his horse, and soon after expired. No other wounds were discovered upon his person.

General Floyd's Defence.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., March 20, 1862.

H. P. Brewster, Assistant Adjutant General:

SIR—Your communication of the 16th instant, from Decatur, reached me here to-day, where I came in compliance with an order from Maj.-Gen. Smith, who felt his position endangered from the advance of the enemy.

In that communication you say:

Under date of March the 11th, the Secretary of War says: "The reports of Gens. Floyd and Pillow are unsatisfactory, and the President directs that both these Generals be relieved from command until further orders." He further directs that General Johnston "in the mean time" request them to add to their reports such statements as they may deem proper on the following points: * * *

I give at once the additional information which seems to be asked for in the communication of the Secretary of War to which you refer.

The first charge is as follows:

"The failure to give timely notice of the insufficiency of the garrison at Fort Donelson to repel attack."

I presume the General knew, before I was ordered to Fort Donelson, that neither the works nor the troops sent there could withstand the force which he knew the enemy had in hand, and which could be brought speedily to that point. I knew perfectly well that if the whole force under General Johnston's command at Bowling Green had been sent to Fort Donelson it would prove utterly insufficient to repel the advance of the enemy up the Cumberland river. General Johnston's entire force, including the troops at Donelson, as I understood it, did not exceed thirty thousand (30,000) men. I know what I believe everybody else did—that the enemy had in Kentucky alone one hundred and nineteen (119) regiments; and that he had nearly, if not quite, as many at Cairo, St. Louis, and the towns near the mouth of the Cumberland. It was also known that the enemy had unlimited means of transportation for concentrating troops. How, then, was it possible for General Johnston's whole army to meet that force which was known to be moving toward the mouths of the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers? The sequel proves that this information was correct, for not only were the troops occupying Kentucky sent up the Cumberland, but large additions were made to them from Missouri and Illinois, as stated by prisoners and by the official reports of their own commanders. I could not, under a sense of duty, call for reinforcements, because the force under General Johnston was not strong enough to afford a sufficient number to hold the place.

I considered the place ill-chosen, out of position, and entirely indefensible by any reinforcements which could be brought there to its support. It had but thirteen guns, and it turned out that three of these were effective against iron-clad steamers. I thought the force already there sufficient for sacrifice, as well as enough to hold the place until Bowling Green could be evacuated with its supplies and munitions of war. This I supposed to be the main object of the movement to Donelson, and the one good that could be effected by desperately holding that post with the entirely inadequate means in hand for the [illegible] the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers. With a less force than 50,000 men, the position at Fort Donelson was, in my judgment, quite untenable, and even with that force it could have been held for only a short time, unless a force of 20,000 men were supporting it at Clarksville, and 25,000 more at least had been stationed at Nashville. While these were my own views and opinions, I nevertheless transmitted to Gen. Johnston the exact state of affairs at the fort at every stage of the conflict.

My views and opinions upon the defence of Fort Donelson, and the means of extricating the army from the trap in which necessity had thrown them there, had been set forth in a letter addressed to the General, from Clarksville, before I received orders to go to Fort Donelson, bearing date 12th of February. I annex a copy of that letter: * * *

Charge second: "The failure of any attempt to save the army by evacuating the post when found to be untenable."

I have been unfortunate if I have failed to show in my report of the battle at Fort Donelson that the fight on the 15th, outside of our entrenchments, was nothing but an "attempt to save the army by evacuating the fort," which the position and numbers of the enemy had already rendered untenable. In my report of the 27th of February, I attempted to explain why we left our entrenchments on the 15th to give battle, and the object I had in view in doing so. I said: "I had already seen the impossibility of holding out for any length of time with our inadequate numbers and indefensible position. There was no place within our intrenchments but could be reached by the enemy's artillery from their boats or batteries. It was but fair to infer that, while they kept up a sufficient fire upon our intrenchments to keep our men from sleep and prevent repose, their object was merely to give time to pass a column above us on the river, both on the right and the left banks, and thus to cut off all our communications and prevent the possibility of egress. I then saw clearly that but one course was left by which a rational hope could be entertained of saving the garrison or a part of it. That was, to dislodge the enemy from his position on our left and thus to pass our people into the open country lying southward toward Nashville."

Upon the failure of this enterprise, the causes of which are fully set forth in my report, it obviously became impossible to "save the army by evacuating the fort." The "attempt" to save the army had been made. I thought then, and still think, that a more earnest "attempt" could not be made by an equal number of men to accomplish any enterprise by force of arms. To extricate the army then involved the necessity of another battle that night, more desperate than that of the morning, because the enemy had been greatly reinforced, and held their former position with fresh troops. There is such a thing as human exhaustion—an end of physical ability in men to march and fight; however little such a contingency may seem possible to those who sleep quietly upon soft beds, who fare sumptuously every day, and have never tried the exposure of protracted battles and hard campaigns. This point had been reached by our men; the conflict, toil, and excitement of unsuspended battle, running through eighty-four hours, was enough to wear out the physical strength of any man, especially so when the greater part of the time they were exposed to a storm of sleet, snow and continual frost, and opposed to a force five or six times greater than their own, without shelter or fire.

Many of the men had been frost bitten, and a great many were so overcome by fatigue and want of sleep as to be unable to keep open their eyes, standing on their feet in the face and under the fire of the enemy. In fact, the men were totally out of condition to fight. There were but two roads by which they could be dealt to more advantageously by the command, on account of the severity of the weather and their physical prostration. It was believed in council that the army could not retire without sacrificing three-fourths of it.

The consultation which took place among the officers on the night of the 15th, was to ascertain whether a further struggle could be maintained; and it was resolved in the