THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. II---NO. 210. BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, MAY 24 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

EXTRA.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS

The Very Latest Intelligence.

FROM GEN. BANKS' ARMY.

COL. KENLEY'S COMMAND DRIVEN FROM FRONT ROYAL BY THE REBELS WITH CONSIDERABLE LOSS

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The following dispatch was this morning received from Gen. Banks, at the War Department:

STRASBURG, May 24.

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

Colonel Kenley's command of infantry (First Maryland Regiment,) and cavalry has been driven from Front Royal, with considerable loss in killed, wound and prisoners. The enemy's force is estimated at five or six thousand. It is reported to have fallen back on Front Royal and probably occupies that place this morning.

[Signed] N. P. BANKS,

Major-General Commanding.

FROM THE MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT.

A SEVERE FIGHT.

THE ENEMY ROUTED WITH CONSIDERABLE LOSS.

Four Cannon, Two Hundred Stand of Arms and One Hundred Prisoners Taken.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The following despatch, from the Mountain Department, has been received via Cincinnati to-day:

Col. Heth with 3,000 Rebels, attacked our force under Crook, yesterday morning, at Lewisburg, (Greenbrier Co., Va.) and after a severe fight, the enemy were driven back and completely routed.—Gen. Crook's force numbered 1 300 men. Our loss is ten killed and fifty wounded and eight missing. The enemy's loss was much greater.

We captured four cannon, two of them rifled, 200 stand of arms and about 100 prisoners, including one Lieut. Col., one Major and several captains and Lieutenants.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The steamer Adelaide arrived from Fortress Monroe this morning, but brought no news.—Persons at Old Point, except the officials, are as ignorant of the operations of the army as the people of Baltimore. It is not supposed that the battle has yet commenced. It may, however, take place at any moment, as the forces are within sight of each other. It is reported that the Confederates are over one hundred and seventy thousand strong.

A THIEF.—This morning a man named A. H. Jarvis was before Justice Hiss on the charge of robbing Lieutenant Wm. H. Whiting of $225. The circumstances of the theft were as follows: Jarvis, up to recently, was a Captain in the New York 10th, and Whiting was a Lieutenant in the same regiment. Jarvis resigned, and for a few days has been stopping at the hotel of Col. Manu. On Friday night, at a late hour, he came to the hotel, accompanied by the Lieutenant, and took a room, and both retired. In the morning two other officers of the same regiment entered the room and woke the parties, who immediately dressed. On feeling his pockets the Lieutenant found that his money was gone, and assisted Jarvis became very solicitous in regard to the loss, and his extreme anxiety excited suspicion. All four of the parties left the room; but one of the officers, in his convinced that Jarvis was the thief, kept close watch on him, and finally discovered him attempting to hide the money, which was all in bank notes. He informed Lieut-nent Whiting of the affair and search was made and the money found. The Lieutenant insisted that he should be arrested and tried by a court martial, and accordingly the police took Jarvis in charge and conducted him before Justice Hiss. Whiting refused to prosecute, and the Justice was compelled to discharge the guilty party.

ANOTHER STEP IN THE ABOLITION PLATFORM.

In a recent number of the Ashtabula (Ohio) *Sentinel*, Joshua R. Giddings has a letter over his own signature, addressed to J. J. Elwell, Assistant Quartermaster General, U. S. A., now on duty at Beaufort, South Carolina. In offering in this letter to the Carolina negroes, Mr. Giddings says:

"I would call your attention to the fact that the Government, which has so long oppressed them, has abandoned them as soon as her Congress can agree upon a legislative action in their favor, and that are now placed precisely in the same condition in which the people of Canada found themselves A. D. 1812. *They are with strong Governments.*

Nothing, sir, can be clearer to my mind than that it is the duty of these people, at once to form a government for themselves. Indeed, they have ever had the right to assume the Government of South Carolina according to the Declaration of Independence, but that government having abdicated itself and if the loyal people without a government, there can be no doubt as to the right and duty of these loyal people to reorganize the governmental powers of that State in such form as to them shall appear the most likely to secure their interests and happiness. Do not, however, understand me as adopting the doctrine of the Democratic party, by declaring that they may form their own domestic institutions in their own way, by enslaving other persons. They may consult their own interest and happiness, but they must not invade the rights of others. They must not enslave their former masters, but they may govern themselves.

Now, sir, I suggest that the greatest service which you and other philanthropists, public officers and teachers can do your country, or mankind, is at once to rally these people to the formation of a State Government, or, if you please, to reorganize the old State Government of South Carolina. Let a day be agreed upon at once; let these people elect good and loyal men to their Legislature. When elected, let them convene, authorize a Convention to amend the Constitution. Let a free Constitution be adopted, and in ninety days or before Congress will again convene, let us have a free and loyal state Government in full operation, just as we had in California.

This will inspire the emancipated people to obey their own laws, to educate their children, to acquire knowledge and become useful. It will silence that constant inquiry of the conservatives, "What will you do with them when free?" These people must remain where they are to supply us with cotton. Every European nation now demands that they shall exercise their rights as men, shall cultivate the soil, and supply the people of other countries with its products, thus contributing to the wealth, the comfort and the elevation of the human family, while all Christian nations will protest against the removal of these from their homes, from the land of their birth, their childhood and youth, from the place where they will be most useful to themselves and to mankind.

In referring to the above wonderful production, the Dayton (Ohio) *Daily Empire*, of May 19, has the following remarks, head-d "Marching On!"

In another column we publish an extract from a recent letter written by Joshua R. Giddings, now holding the lucrative position of Consul General to Canada, to "J. J. Elwell, Assistant Quartermaster General, U. S. A.," on duty at Beaufort, S. C.—The letter gives Mr. G.'s views as to what should be done with the negroes—the freed slaves—of South Carolina. The proposition will startle the people, but it is not more startling than some of Mr. G's views on other questions heretofore, which have since been adopted by the Opposition. It is nothing more nor less than for Mr. Elwell "and other philanthropists, public officers and teachers" "at once to rally these people (negroes) to the formation of a State Government," or "to reorganize the old State Government of South Carolina," agree upon a day "at once" to "let those people (negroes) elect good and loyal men to their Legislature." Mr G. further says that "these people (negroes) must remain where they are, to supply us with cotton."

Here we have the cool proposition, made by one Federal officer to another, to reorganize a negro State Government within the Union. To accomplish this at one jump, on a perfect social and political equality with the white people. Giddings, it is true, says that "they must not enslave their former masters." He would not have them "enslave their former master," but he would make the negro race subservient to them. He would place the slaves of the South Carolinas and other States, over and above the white men—he would give the negroes the complete control of the State Government, the right to elect negro State officers, Congressmen and Senators, and thus place them on an equal footing with the white men in the other States.

We commend his programme to the attention of our readers. Let them not delude themselves with the belief that it is but the raving of a crazy fanatic. He has power and influence in the party he represents. Doctrines which he has heretofore advocated, have been engrafted in the legislation of the country, and by the acts of the Executive have become measures of the Administration. Giddings is bolder, and perhaps in advance of the members of his party but he may again, as he has in the past, force the "doughfaces" to follow in his lead. The Conservatives in his own party can not adopt his doctrines. Steadily and surely Abolitionism is "marching on."

The New York *Post* states that seven hundred and fifty sick and wounded soldiers from General McClellan's army reached that city on Friday, and were properly cared for.

THREATENED INDIAN TROUBLES ALONG THE MAIL AND TELEGRAPH ROUTE.—Dispatches from Salt Lake give an alarming aspect to affairs on the plains east of there. The Indians have been committing depredations on the Overland Mail Company's property during the past two months, stealing stock, burning one station at least, killing the employees. Rumors come in of a battle now raging on east of Fort Bridger. The company has sent pony running the mails for the present, as they cannot control the route, and there is constant fear that at any moment the telegraph line may be destroyed.

It seems not improbable that we are on the eve of a general uprising of the redskins. Roaming freely over tracks of country that contain a thousand miles in extent, they make common property of the grievances of each tribe. The Secessionists have not failed to poison their minds with lies and by all available processes to turn them against the Government at a moment when, if utilized, they are infuriated that its hands are full, and that their demoralization cannot be repaired.

The despatches from Salt Lake say these depredations have now been going on for two months past. It has been announced that Col. Connor, with the 24 regiment of California volunteers, would leave Ruby for Salt Lake about the 10th of May. This news will tend to hasten his departure, as it may be alone with the absence of Gen. Nye from his territory, where the Pi-Utes threaten from having to the general Indian uneasiness.—*San Francisco Bell'tin.*

A PHILANTHROPIC PLAN.—Some gentlemen of wealth and influence are discussing plans for the relief of the freed people who are thrown on the country for support by the chance of war—The proposed plan is, some extensive tract of land in the neighborhood of Worcester, Mass., and in New Hampshire, where large houses can be erected at small cost, and where the industrious habits of the people will afford an excellent example to the poor negro. It is supposed that factories will furnish ample work for the male and female laborers, while the farming knowledge of the fathers can be put to good account on the lands.—It is hoped that the prejudice against color will not be found to prevail in those parts of the country as it does in other portions, and that the children of the blacks will be allowed to mingle freely with those of the white inhabitants in schools and out of them, and that the principle of equality in churches, hotels, railway cars, theatres and public places in general, will be readily extended them by the enlightened people of Massachusetts. It is estimated that the expense of colonizing twenty thousand blacks in Massachusetts will only be about one-tenth part of the expense of sending them to Liberia or Central America. We have nothing to say in favor of the plan.—*Journal of Commerce.*

AN ORDNANCE EXPERIMENTAL PARTY.—There is at present organizing an experimental party to test the power of the different kinds of shot on iron plates. The experiments, which will be similar to those lately made in England, will take place in a few days, and, on being made known to the authorities, will probably be given to the reading public. A target, at which the ordnance will be tried, is now in process of construction, and guns of proper calibre are being selected for the work.

GERMAN EMIGRATION TO THE WEST.—A large number of Germans are about to emigrate to this country, and will settle in Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. This immigrating party contains principally of wealthy land owners, and among them are several barons. About twenty thousand acres of land have already been purchased for them in the three States named, and it is expected they will arrive by the middle of July.

VESSELS BURNED BY THE CONFEDERATES AT NEW ORLEANS.—Previous to May 8th, the following named Northern vessels were burned by the Confederates at New Orleans: Ships Ameriscus, Union, Ariel, Meridel, L Dyer, J. H. Jarvis, Abolina, S. E. Pettigrew and State of Maine. Vessels saved: Ships C. A. Farwell, Milan, Metropolis, and bark Ocean Eagle.

The greatest catch of shad within the memory of old fishermen—25 000 in one night—was made at Saybrook, Conn., on the 14th. The men were obliged to stop fishing and go on shore to assist in dressing the shad caught, to save them from spoiling.

The election for a member of Congress from the Ninth District of Illinois, in place of General J. Jno A. Logan, has resulted in the election of W. J. Allen, Speaker Democrat, and not Isham N. Haynie, "Union" Democrat, as stated some days since.

The French war steamer Lavoisier, Commander Robert, arrived at New York on Friday from Havana. She mounts six guns and has a crew of one hundred and thirty-two men. A considerable force of French war vessels is now at anchor in the harbor of New York.

Three incendiary gunpowder mills in course of construction at St. Louis, by Messrs. Brown, McCord, and Singer, they are to cost together $450,000, and two of the mills are known to be stocks at Cairo are nearly completed.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Committee of Arbitration for the month of May

THOS CORNER, GEORGE J. APPOLD,
SAMUEL ELDER, JAS. GETTY,
H. D. ARMSTRONG.

Monetary and Commercial Review,

BALTIMORE, May 24 18—.

Business was very dull at the Baltimore Stock Board today. For Maryland 6s 1890 but was bid. In City 6s there were no transactions, the price of issues was bid, 93; asked, and for the old and new issues 90 bid, 90½ asked. For Bonds of Baltimore and Ohio Road: 6s due 1885 sold 84¾, asked; 6s 1890 bid, 90; asked; do 1885 sold 84¾, asked; for Northwestern Virginia's 1875, first mortgage, guaranteed by the city, 93 was bid, 95 asked; do do second mortgage, guaranteed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 77 was bid, 80 asked; Central Ohio 7s 1891, first mortgage, on the ten miles division, 70 was bid, for Western Maryland 6s 1890 91¾ was sold. There was a sale of 25 shares Baltimore and Ohio Railroad stock at 46½, also 10 shares Gardner Mining stock at $1.00. For Canton Company 41¾ was bid, $15 asked. In other stocks we have no change to notice.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.

SATURDAY, May 24 1862

25 shares Balt. & Ohio Railroad stock.....46¾
500 shares Gardner Hill Mining Co.....1.05

PORT OF BALTIMORE, MAY 23.

Arrived.

Steamer Georgeanna, Pearson, Old Point Comfort Va—M N Falls.
Steamer Josephine Thomson, Cundiff, New York—J A Shriver
Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, Philadelphia—Jas A Shriver
Brig Roamer, Thompson, from York River—to Kelsey & Gray
Schr Yorktown, Wogham, fm New York—mdse to Rose & Lyon
Schr Free Wind, Jones, from York River—to Rose & Lyon
Schr Henrietta, Jones, from York River—to Kelsey & Gray
Schr Rosanna Rose, Burgess, from York River—to master
Barge Pennsylvania, Sturtevant, from the Susquehanna—grain to W S Cross

Cleared

Steamer Georgeanna, Pearson, Old Point Comfort, Va—M N Falls.
Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, Philadelphia—Jas A Shriver.
Steamer Mary Washington, Weems, Patuxent river—master.
Ship Energie, (Brem) Schmidt, for Liverpool—C A Berry
Bark Laconia, Bearse, for Boston—R M Heslen
Schr Henry Payson, Crowell, do do
Schr Daniel Brown, Heald, for Fall River—E Pratt & Hon
Schr S N Smith, Liscum, for New York—Rose & Lyon
Schr John I. Darling, Howes, for New York—T Whitridge & Co
Schr S & E Harrington, Sanders, for Georgetown, D C—W Applegarth & Son
Schr Keno, Galloway, for Fortress Monroe via Magothy River—Jas Sullivan
Schr Golden Rod, Bishop, for York River—Kelsey & Gray
Schr Robert Healey, Mitchell, for York River—W Applegarth & Son
Schr Artist, Bacon, do—master
Schr True American, Cook, do do

Sailed

Bark Laconia, Bearse, for Boston
Brig Abbot Lawrence, Fuller, for Boston

Memoranda.

Bark Moonlight, Walter, Matanzas 13th inst
Schr Annie Belle, Howdon, Cardenas 7th inst
Schr J F Durfee, Davis St Jago de Cuba 1st inst
Schr Ann, Col, New York 21st inst

Cleared for Havana.

Ship Caroline, —, Liverpool 10th inst
Schr Susan, Rogers, Boston 21st inst

Memoranda.

Ship Arnold Boninger, (Prus) Hashagen, from London, arrived at Liverpool 5th inst, and entered outward for Hampton Roads 6th
Ship H Vontosagern, (Brem) Maertens, for Baltimore, sailed from Liverpool 4th inst
Bark Flying Cloud, Kirwan, for Rio de Janeiro, sailed from Cardiff 6th inst
Bark Indus, (Br) Smith, from Cardiff, arrived at Rio de Janeiro April 4th
Brig Isaiine Eldridge, was at Cardenas 12th inst, to sail next day for New York
Brig Palmas Hall, from Liverpool, was at Monrovia, N C A, April 12th
Brig Prestissimo, James, for Falmouth, Eng, sailed fm Rio de Janeiro March 29th
Brig Palmetto, Jones, for England, cleared at Gottenberg prior to 1st inst
Brig Alfred, Bunick, fm Portland, arrived at Havana 13th inst, and sailed for Matanzas 15th
Schr Silver Star, Holt, hence for St Jago, was at Curacoa 3d inst

Eastern Ports.

NEW YORK, May 22—Arr steamship Roanoke, fm Havana—C'd ship Arracan, for Shanghai; Arnon, for Georgetown; Dreadnought, for Liverpool; Guy Mannering, do; brigs Harvest Queen, for Mayaguez; A P Fenno, for Manzanilla; schrs Empire, for Bermuda; Levi Rowe, for Nassau

PHILADELPHIA, May 21—Arr barks Union, from Rio de Janeiro, Cordelia, from Pernambuco; Gem Berry, from Remedios; Fanny, from Trinidad; Companero, fm Palermo; brig Thistle, from Cardenas—C'd bark S Stampede, for Matanzas; brig Nathan, for Port Spain; schr C V Wellington, for Rio Island

BOSTON, May 21—Arr brigs Candace, from Mayaguez; Canima, from Cardenas—C'd bark Rocket, for Batavia; schr Vienna for Labrador

PORTLAND, May 20—Arr brig Proteus, fm Sagua—C'd brigs Young Republic, for Cardenas; W Kelly, for Matanzas

REDUCTION IN PRICES.

THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE

Of which a fresh lot in small packages, has come to hand, will be sold hereafter considerably lower than heretofore. Apply to C. G. DEARBORN, Agent,
ma5-tf 18 Commerce street.

FROM WASHINGTON.

THE LATEST ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

Gen. McClellan Beyond the Chickahominy—Preparations for an Attack.

WASHINGTON, May 23, P. M.—The latest advices from the army of the Potomac state that Gen. McClellan had crossed the Chickahominy river, at Bottom's Bridge, and that his headquarters are near New Bridge.

Preparations for an attack are being made.

FROM GEN. BANKS' CORPS.

The Rebels made a dash at General Banks' Line, near Front Royal, this afternoon, and an attempt to burn the railroad bridge recently rebuilt by the Federal force over the Shenandoah. The particulars of this movement have not yet been ascertained.

Nothing of interest had been received from the other military departments up to 10 o'clock this evening.

A steamer arrived at Cairo to-day from the Bluffs, and an officer on board reports that the Rebels gave striking proof on Wednesday of their presence, by firing into a steamboat sent down on a reconnoitering expedition, but it is supposed they are in small force. The Rebel fleet had dispersed.

There is nothing from Pittsburg Landing.

Instructions to Collectors of Customs Relative to the Modification of the Blockade.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The following is a copy of the instructions just transmitted to various collectors of customs:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 23.

SIR: In pursuance of the provisions of the proclamation of the President modifying the blockade of the ports of Beaufort, Port Royal and New Orleans, and of the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury relating to trade with those ports, notice is hereby hereby given that war will be permitted to enter at either of said ports, and you will accordingly refuse clearances to vessels bound for these ports, or either of them, with any such articles on board. You will further instructed, you will regard a contraband of war the following articles, viz: Cannon, mortars, firearms, pistols, bombs, grenades, firelocks, flints, matches, powder, saltpetre, balls, bullets, pikes, swords, sulphur, helmets or cavalry caps, sword-belts, saddles and bridles, (always excepting the quantity of the said articles which may be necessary for the defence of the ship and of those who compose the crew;) cartridge bag material, percussion and other caps, clothing adapted for soldiers, of all kinds, hemp and cordage, masts, ship timber, tar and pitch, ardent spirits, military persons in the service of the enemy, dispatches of the enemy, and articles of like character with those specially enumerated. You will also refuse clearances to all vessels which, whatever the ostensible destination, are believed by you, on satisfactory grounds, to be intended for posts or places in possession or under control of insurgents against the United States, or that there is imminent danger that the goods, wares or merchandize, of whatever description laden on such vessels, will fall into the possession or under the control of such insurgents, and in all cases where in your judgment there is ground for apprehension that any goods, wares or merchandize shipped at your port will be used in any way for the aid of the insurgents or the insurrection, you will require substantial security to be given that such goods, wares or merchandize shall not be transported to any place under insurrectionary control, and that not in any way be used to give aid or comfort to such insurgents. You will be especially careful upon applications for clearance, to require bonds with sufficient securities conditioned for its filling faithfully all the conditions imposed by law or departmental regulations from shippers of the following articles to the ports opened, or to any other ports from which they may easily be, and are probably intended to be, re-shipped, in aid of the existing insurrection, viz:—Liquors of all kinds, coals, iron, lead, copper, tin, brass, telegraphic instruments, wire, percussion caps, saltpetre, sulphuric acid, zinc, and all other chemicals, graphic material, marine engines, screw propellers, paddle wheels, cylinders, cranks, shafts, boilers, tubes for boilers, fire bars, and every article or any article whatever, which is, can, or may become applicable to the manufacture of marine machinery or for the armor of vessels.

I am, very respectfully, S. P. CHASE,

[Signed] Secretary of the Treasury.

Conflict between the Civil and Military Authorities of Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—For conflict between the military and civil authorities here last night, grew out of the fact, as is generally expected, that a squad of soldiers went to the jail for the purpose of effecting the release of the detained woman, a alleged to be under military protection, and who had been sent thither by virtue of the decision of the Commissioners under the fugitive slave law. The jailor, Mr. Wilkins, and Deputy Marshal Phillips refused to deliver them the woman without an order from Marshal Lamon. The consequence was the military made them prisoners together with the counsel for the claimant of the woman, and led them to the central guard-house, and ordered the woman to another place of confinement. While in this period the Marshal himself, accompanied by Superintendent of Police Webb and one of his officers, repaired to the jail and in turn captured and made the two military guards prisoners.

Things thus rested until about 1 hour this morning, when all the parties were released, excepting Deputy Marshal Phillips and Jailor Mitchell, they too will, doubtless, in the course of the day be set at liberty.

EVENING.—All who were arrested by either side are now released. Marshal Lamon and Military Governor Wadsworth had a long interview today. The conflict of jurisdiction between the civil and military authorities here last night, grew out of the fact, as is generally expected, that a squad of soldiers went to the jail for the purpose of effecting the release of the detained woman, a alleged to be under military protection, and who had been sent thither by virtue of the decision of the Commissioners under the fugitive slave law. The jailor, Mr. Wilkins, and Deputy Marshal Phillips refused to deliver them the woman without an order from Marshal Lamon. The consequence was the military made them prisoners together with the counsel for the claimant of the woman, and led them to the central guard-house, and ordered the woman to another place of confinement. While in this period the Marshal himself, accompanied by Superintendent of Police Webb and one of his officers, repaired to the jail and in turn captured and made the two military guards prisoners.

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Departure of Governor Stanley for North Carolina.

NEW YORK, May 23.—The steamer Gen. Burnside sails this afternoon for Beaufort, N. C. Gov. Stanley, Rev Mr. Clark, of Massachusetts, and others are passengers by this steamer.

Fort Pillow Not Evacuated.

CAIRO, May 23.—A tug sent down from the fleet Wednesday evening and subsequent demonstrations by the Rebels prove that they still occupy the place.

United States Senator Re-elected.

NEW HAVEN, May 23.—Hon. James Dixon has been re-elected United States Senator for this State.

Treasure from California.

NEW YORK, May 23.—The steamer North Star has arrived, with half a million of treasure, from California.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, May 23.—Cotton is firm—sales of 2,000 bales at 28⅝@28¾ cts. Flour is firm—sales 21,000 bbls; State $4.35@4.35; Ohio $4.95@5.05. Southern $4.70@5.20. Wheat has advanced 1 ct.—sales of 290,000 bushels; Chicago spring 85 cts@81 04; Milwaukie club 92 cts.@$1.05; red Western $1.09@1.13; Canadian 91 cts. @$1.01. Corn firm—sales of 64,000 bushels; mixed 50 cts. at 7½@7½ cts. Whiskey closed dull at 23½@24 cts. Rice is firm—Carolina 7 cts. Sugar is firm—sales of 1,000 hhds Muscovado 6¾@8 cts. Coffee is firm—sales of 3,000 bags at 21 cts. Rosin firm at $7.50. Freights are declining.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

THE STORY MR. GEOFFROY, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE FRENCH LEGATION, HAS TAKEN TO PARIS—VIEWS OF M. MERCIER—REPORTS FROM NEW ORLEANS, ETC.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1862.

Mr. Geoffroy, First Secretary of Legation, (French,) communicated to some of his friends in Washington the result of his observations in Richmond, where he had been in company of Count Mercier. Mr. Geffroy was of opinion that the Confederates make conquered, may suffer defeat upon defeat, but that they will never submit to be subdued. He is particularly struck with the unanimity of feeling there respecting the conduct of the war. Should not find a single man who was not for fight to the last, rather than surrender. The, wholpopulation suffers the greatest privations without complaint; every necessary of life is heavily taxed—bread, meat, salt, vegetables. Still, the peoplestruck him as if unaware of this state of things, it seem to conform cheerfully to their new positi.

The repeated representations made to Louis Napoleon by Mr. Dton, that the inland trade would be open as soon the harbors would be in possession of the Naval Government, had induced the French Emperor verify the truth of his statements, through private reports of the French Consuls in the Sithern ports flatly contradict. In consequence, I sent M. Mercier to ascertain which—of the African or French representative's report—was thatrrect one.

M. Mercier has several conversations with the representatives the Confederate States in Richmond, particular with Mr. Benjamin, whom he knew before, as there appeared to be certainty, which he now thrwhat since the beginning of the war, of the unwingness of the Southern people to compromise, or t go back to the old Union. His observations, although different in form from that of Mr. Geoffroy, are substantially the same.

In a recent rept to the Emperor, Mr. Mejean, the French Consl at New Orleans, says that although no trace union feeling is visible in New Orleans, he does not that if the Confederate Government doesnot act with vigor and energy, the consequence its inaction or slowness will be to tire and disgt a portion of the population, which would, in such case, willingly return to the Union. Among 4 the reports emanating from the French Consulatein America, this is the only one which expresses he hope of a partial return of Union sentiment. All others positively deny the existence of suc sentiment in their respective localities.

The cause of se anxiety, which certainly did exist se days so in official circles, had no real ground, and is rther prospective than positive. It rested upon th uncertainty of the Emperor's resolution, after h will have heard of Mr. Mercier's report, and after hiconversat on with Mr. Geoffroy, who has already reched Paris.

The official agents of France in Washington have, of course, their own opinions as regard the decision of Louis Napoleon in the matter. But as the object of this note is to mention facts, and not opinions, I will close my communications here.

THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

Washington Cor. of the N. Y. Evening Post, May 21

The news must be published to day of the sharp fight at McDowell, Virginia, and the advance of the Confederates up the valley towards Winchester, 35 miles upon Strasburg. Tobacco ensured longer at Gettysburg would have ensured his capture. We have had victory—the Confed-rates outnumber our forces here as well as at every other important point. There is some disatisfaction, I hear, in official quarters at the apparent lack of fit civ troops when such an enormous army is on the pay rolls. Six hundred thousand men are paid for every month, and if less by one hundred thousand can be found it follows that somebody pockets the money. It is said to be impossible to ascertain the number of troops actually in the service. This is the reply of the War Department to Congress when information upon the subject is asked for.—The size of the army on paper, according to the pay-rolls, is easily ascertained, but the actual number in the field it is vi difficult to learn.

Special Despatches to the New York Herald.

The schemes of certain parties to make this city a black hole is working to some extent in indo tinal interests. Many small plantations are already abandoned, and, if the flagira goes on, the crops will be slim in all this region. Meantime, the Government must support, at a heavy expense, women and children, and old people who can do nothing, while for the working hands all sorts of schemes are devised to keep them doing something upon wages. This sort of work is not much needed, but yet it is a kind that thousands of white men in the North would like to do, if the privilege were accorded to them.

THE TARIFF OF BUENOS AYRES.

Information has been received at the State Department from the United States Consul at Buenos Ayres, that the increased duty of two and a half per cent. on all imports levied upon an increased valuation of ten per cent., to be paid in cash, went into effect on the 1st of January last. Also that the increased duty of two and a half per cent., making ten per cent., in all, upon all exports, went into effect on the 1st of March last.

From the Washington Star of yesterday.

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THE FIGHT AT WILLIAMSBURG.

EXTRACT FROM A PRIVATE LETTER FROM AN OFFICER WHO WAS ENGAGED.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., May 8.—We have had rather a severe affair. It was only by good fortune that Hooker's division was saved from a Bull Run panic. They had stood, after a fashion, from after 9 until near 3 o'clock, when Gen. Kearney came up. It was by accident that he did so, for all in this army is favoritism, intrigue and confusion. Gen. Heintzleman, as stupid as an antediluvian, although perhaps not a coward, keeps awfully at a distance from balls. He had given Gen. Kearney, on the 4th inst., such confused and half-way orders, that having gone off and left him in doubt, Gen. Kearney broke up camp at 4 P. M., and marched through Yorktown, and encamped three and a half miles beyond, only to get a sure command to halt.

In like manner the next day he was left without orders, when, for the security of Gen. McClellan's plans, he sent back to let him know where he was, and the reply came "to go on." Heintzelman forgot him *is toto*. General Kearney moved about 9 A. M., but soon came on masses of troops and endless baggage, that had gone ahead the preceding day, intercepting his division from Hooker's.—almost an impossibility—still, it was accomplished at last. His command got into action near 3 P. M. All was craven fear around. Hooker had lost all but seven cannon, several companies had been taken prisoners, bodily, and he himself was driven back.

Cartridges had given out, and all but a few staunch fellows refused to fight, while the enemy was encouraged, and rained fire from their rifle-pits, abattis and forts. Kearney's division entered the fight awfully fat gued, and from the first made the enemy see that they would take no denial to advance; but it was slow and desperate work forcing the abattis—the easy ones skulking, and the fewer bold ones having been fearfully cut up. Gen. Kearney, the only officer mounted, (except those of his staff, whom he did not expose any more than he could help,) was a sure mark, as he cheered the men, springing his bay charger over the timber, or worrying him through it.

The night saw us victorious, and in as calm possession of the field as a cold, drizzly rain would allow suppleness, blanketless men to be. We bivouacked on the field. General Kearney, on going into the fight, had taken off his India-rubber caps that he might be the more easily recognized by those he had to order, and in the confusion he was unable to find it again, so he camped with the rest of us by a splendid fire made from the logs which had protected the enemy during the fight. The General made five charges on that day, and more than all, had to do it, for the enemy were as arrogant as our friends of Hooker's division were chopfallen, and, in fact, they had a long fight of it, although they blundered in most stupidly.

Gen. Hooker lost two of his aids—one a charming youth of 19, a marked character, who left West Point expressly to join him in the field, and who has acted ever since as his private aid. He lies buried in a lovely spot, an old Virginia churchyard.

STRENGTH OF HALLECK'S ARMY.—Colonel Coler, of the 25th Illinois regiment, on a visit home, says that Halleck's army numbers 185,000 men, and that it is believed the Confederates do not number more than 100,000.

IMPORTANT SOUTHERN NEWS.

FROM BEAUREGARD'S ARMY.

Confederate Account of Affairs at Corinth.

A correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch*, writing from Corinth, Miss., May 4th, gives the following account of affairs in Beauregard's army. The letter is so interesting that we give it nearly in full:

CORINTH, Miss., Sunday, May 4, 1862.

From every appearance the eventful hour, so long anticipated, is at last upon us. The enemy are advancing by five different roads, converging in Corinth, and are probably now within five miles of our entrenchments. Our pickets have been drawn in; the entire army is under marching orders; a work of preparation is silently progressing. The first act in the approaching drama was performed yesterday.

The Federals, several thousand strong, supported by a heavy body of cavalry and two batteries of artillery, made a demonstration upon one of our brigades, under the command of General Marmaduke, stationed on the front, about three fourths of a mile beyond Farmington. The latter is a small place, northeast of Corinth, distant about four miles. Firing between the pickets commenced at half-past one and two o'clock. Our skirmishers were then ordered out, and we drove them back.—Meanwhile the brigade, in pursuance of a preconcerted plan, retired a short distance to a better position, where the entire force of twenty five hundred engaged the enemy, and maintained a desperate resistance in the face of overwhelming odds. Between five and six o'clock the Federals brought up their batteries, and then commenced a duel between the rival batteries, which lasted for nearly an hour. Cover of night and left, and the result was a further retreat of our forces through Farmington and towards Corinth. In truth, such was the damaging effect of the shells—and they were thrown with great precision—that our men could not withstand the storm, and the greater portion of two regiments scattered in every direction. The remainder of the brigade came in in good order, without any attempt by the enemy at pursuit. Our artillery, which numbered only four pieces, is known as the Swett Battery, of Vicksburg, Mississippi, and gallantly did it maintain its position and return the heavy thunder of the Federal guns.

Our loss cannot be less than twenty killed, and about one hundred wounded. That of the enemy was doubtless greater; in addition to which we captured sixty prisoners, including a Major of Engineers, a Missourian from St. Louis. They left for Mobile this morning.

* * * * From the Federal Major I could glean not a word, except that the fight was a "reconnoissance in force." Upon all other topics he was dead, dumb, irresistible and impregnable.

There is little doubt, however, that the demonstration was part of the general design to occupy our front lines as a basis of operations, and to enable the enemy to make a flank movement, which, from their actions, is evidently in contemplation. Their present success has necessitated the contraction of our outposts nearer the centre, and the focus from which we direct our operations to fire and disgust a portion of the population, which would, in such case, willingly return to the Union. Among 4 the reports emanating from the French Consulatein America, this is the only one which expresses he hope of a partial return of Union sentiment. All others positively deny the existence of suc sentiment in their respective localities.

The cause of se anxiety, which certainly did exist se days so in official circles, had no real ground, and is rther prospective than positive. It rested upon th uncertainty of the Emperor's resolution, after h will have heard of Mr. Mercier's report, and after hiconversat on with Mr. Geoffroy, who has already reched Paris.

The official agents of France in Washington have, of course, their own opinions as regard the decision of Louis Napoleon in the matter. But as the object of this note is to mention facts, and not opinions, I will close my communications here.

THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

Washington Cor. of the N. Y. Evening Post, May 21

The news must be published to day of the sharp fight at McDowell, Virginia, and the advance of the Confederates up the valley towards Winchester, 35 miles upon Strasburg. Tobacco ensured longer at Gettysburg would have ensured his capture. We have had victory—the Confed-rates outnumber our forces here as well as at every other important point. There is some disatisfaction, I hear, in official quarters at the apparent lack of fit civ troops when such an enormous army is on the pay rolls. Six hundred thousand men are paid for every month, and if less by one hundred thousand can be found it follows that somebody pockets the money. It is said to be impossible to ascertain the number of troops actually in the service. This is the reply of the War Department to Congress when information upon the subject is asked for.—The size of the army on paper, according to the pay-rolls, is easily ascertained, but the actual number in the field it is vi difficult to learn.

Special Despatches to the New York Herald.

The schemes of certain parties to make this city a black hole is working to some extent in indo tinal interests. Many small plantations are already abandoned, and, if the flagira goes on, the crops will be slim in all this region. Meantime, the Government must support, at a heavy expense, women and children, and old people who can do nothing, while for the working hands all sorts of schemes are devised to keep them doing something upon wages. This sort of work is not much needed, but yet it is a kind that thousands of white men in the North would like to do, if the privilege were accorded to them.

THE TARIFF OF BUENOS AYRES.

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