THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. II---NO. 225. BALTIMORE, THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

MARRIED.

At the Universalist Church, on Tuesday, June 10th, by the Rev. J. Riley Johnson, JOHN HENDERSON to Miss EMELINE C. MASON, fifth daughter of the late Richard Mason, all of this city.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States a resolution was introduced declaring all acts or ordinances of secession, alleged to have been adopted by any Legislature or people of any States, to be null and void, and that such States are still members of the Federal Union. In the debate on the bill to provide additional surgeons and assistant-surgeons for the volunteer service, it was stated that there were now fifteen thousand convalescing soldiers who should be discharged as not being likely to be again fit for service.

In the House of Representatives a resolution was adopted, which charges that the Hon. Benjamin Wood, of New York, has been engaged in communicating, or attempting to communicate, important intelligence to the Confederates in arms against the Government, and instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the alleged conduct of the said Benjamin Wood in the premises. A resolution was adopted, setting apart the 14th of June and the 17th of September as national holidays, and to be observed as flag days.

The irrepressible Jackson has escaped Fremont, and fallen suddenly upon the advance of Shields' Division, which was hastening up to reinforce the adventurous but rash "Pathfinder." The unofficial narrative of the battle near Port Republic informed us that Jackson was driven from his chosen position by the advance of the Federal troops, and after falling back some distance had reformed in line of battle to cover the retreat of his wagon-train which was said to be in confusion on the road. General Fremont's official report to-day, however, in quieter language the story of the battle, whilst it left the impression that Jackson was not defeated-but was preparing to resume the offensive, inasmuch as the despatch closed with the following somewhat ominous words: "We are encamped on the battle-field, but the conflict may be renewed at any moment." We now learn that the battle was not renewed against Fremont; but that Jackson, leaving his former adversary in expectation of being momentarily attacked, "made a sudden dash at Shields' advance, which was hurrying up to Fremont's assistance." The Washington *Star*, from which this information is derived, exit proceeds to state, in the mildest possible terms, that "Shields' advance was somewhat worsted in the affair;" and that Jackson, having thus effectually crippled his pursuers, quitted the road to Staunton, burned the Port Republic bridge in his rear, and marched in the direction of Charlotteville. "What his next move will be," adds the *Star*, in mingled bewilderment and admiration, "it is hard indeed to tell."

We have no tidings from Fortress Monroe of any special significance, beyond the announcement that General Burnside left that post on Monday afternoon for the White House on the Pamunkey river, from whence it was expected that he would proceed to headquarters, to hold a conference with General McClellan.

A later telegram confirms the statement in the *Star*, on the authority of advices from the War Department. The battle is said to have been maintained for four hours by "about two thousand" of the troops belonging to Shields' division, against the main body of Jackson's army. The superior force of the enemy finally compelled the Federal forces to fall back upon the main body, near Conrad's store. Jackson then retired. The fighting is reported to have been "very severe," and the loss "heavy on both sides." No particulars have been received. The recent rains and the destruction of the bridges in the valley have materially interfered with the movements of troops, and also with the commissariat arrangements.

A still later despatch, from the agent of the Associated Press, furnishes some few particulars in regard to the battle of Port Republic. Shields' advance, at the commencement of the fight, numbered four regiments, whose aggregate strength is set down at but sixteen hundred men. These were subsequently reinforced by Tyler's brigade; but the force of the enemy was still, we are told, "at least five to our one." The Federal troops, after five hours' fighting, found their position untenable, and accordingly "fell back some three or four miles," fighting every foot of the way. "Our loss," says the correspondent, "is not known, but it is large, as is also that of the enemy. We lost," he adds, briefly but indefinitely, "a considerable number of prisoners."

A telegram from the army correspondent of the Associated Press at General McClellan's headquarters, states that the Richmond papers of Monday confirm the report of the death of General Ashby in the skirmish near Harrisonburg. The weather is said to continue unfavorable for military operations, the water in the Chickahominy being still high and the roads in a terrible condition.

Commodore Farragut is reported to have passed Vicksburg with his fleet, but was subsequently compelled to return below the city in consequence of the low stage of water.

A curious story is told by the army correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*. Two or three days ago a balloonist, we are assured, whilst taking observations, "observed quite a commotion in the enemy's camp," which commotion turned out to be a mutiny among the troops. Field glasses were brought to bear, and to extraordinary was their power that the balloonist, from his airy height, was able to certify that the mutineers were N. Carolinians, and that they were resisting by force of arms the attempt to restrain them. "Volley after volley," says the writer, "was poured into each other's ranks, and the battle swayed to and fro, for a long time undecided." The North Carolinians were, however, finally worsted, and "broke and fled." The correspondent here puts in a saving clause by cautiously remarking, "I send you this story as I heard it." Subsequently, carried away by a fervid imagination, he draws his very long bow right up to the head of the arrow. He converts himself into a spectator of the scene; observes the Confederate guns "turned towards their own works on the afternoon in question;" sees the smoke and hears the vollies of musketry. Finally, however, he fails to doubting the evidence of his own senses, and exclaims—"If there was a fight, or is to be another, I say with all my heart and soul, God help the North Carolinians." Equally pious persons might safely breathe a similar prayer for the moral health of the veracious correspondent.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* writes that intelligence has been received at the Navy Department which settles, adversely, the question of the Federal gunboats having passed the obstructions of the James River. The removal of those obstructions is declared to be an impossibility, unless Fort Darling is first captured by the land forces under McClellan. The Navy Department has also learned that the Confederates have lately purchased two of the fastest steamers built in England, and have commissioned them as privateers, with a view to intercept and capture the Panama steamers, whilst on their way North, freighted with California treasure.

The Charleston *Courier*, of June 2d, publishes additional particulars of the fight on Stono river. That journal states that one of the gunboats entered the river and opened fire on Fort Pemberton. "A brisk engagement of hal an hour took place, after which the enemy retired."

THE CONCERT AT THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.—The concert to be given at the Maryland Institute by the pupils of the Eastern Female High School, under the direction of Prof. Root, should not be forgotton. The entertainment will doubtless be of a high order, and the simple announcement of the fact that the performance will be given ought, of itself, be sufficient to attract a highly respectable audience.

THE FATE OF CHARLESTON.

From the New York Tribune, June 9th.

[Those who remember the infamous suggestion of the *Tribune* in regard to Baltimore, after the outbreak of the 19th of April, 1861, that the city should be "ploughed with cannon balls and sowed with gunpowder," will not be at all surprised at the fiendish malignity of the following passage in which the city of Charleston is devoted to a similar fate:

"Doom," says the *Tribune*, "hovers over wicked Charleston. That viper's nest and breeding-place of rebellion is, ere this time, invested by Union arms—perhaps already in our hands. If there is any city deserving of holocaustic infamy, it is Charleston. Should its inhabitants choose to make its site a desert, blasted by fire, we do not think many tears would be shed. Travelers of to-day are quite undecided as to the location of ancient Carthage; travelers of 2862 may be in the same doubt about Charleston."

The pistols of Daniel O'Connell were recently sold at auction in London. With one of these, in 1855, O'Connell shot Colonel D'Estere. An inscription inside the pistol-case, stated that D'Estere was promised £1,000 down, and £1,000 for life, by the Dublin Orangemen, if he killed O'Connell. The pistols brought only £1 18s.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

The Weather Still Unfavorable for Military Operations—Rebel Accounts of Jackson's Movements—The Death of Col. Ashby Confirmed.

Army Correspondence of the Associated Press.

HEADQUARTERS GEN. MCCLELLAN, June 11th.

The Richmond papers of Monday have an account of a skirmish near Harrisonburg, in which Colonel Ashby, of the Rebel cavalry, was killed, and Col. Wyndham, of the 1st New Jersey cavalry, was taken prisoner.

On Saturday Jackson was at Port Republic, in Rockingham county, from which he would retreat when pursued by the Federal troops.

The same papers publish the names of the killed and wounded in seven Rebel regiments, making a total of 558.

The weather still continues unfavorable for military operations. It has rained every other day for the past two weeks.

The water in the Chickahominy has not receded, and the roads are in a terrible condition.

FROM GEN. SHIELDS' DIVISION.

Engagement of his Advance Guard with Jackson's Main Body, near Port Republic—Shields' Advance Compelled to Fall Back, after a Fierce Fight—Heavy Loss on Both Sides.

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Advices received at the War Department state that Jackson's army attacked Gen. Shields' advance on Monday morning, near Port Republic. The conflict is said to have been maintained for four hours by about 2,000 of our men against the main body of Jackson's army. The enemy's force became so overwhelming in number that our advance was compelled to fall back, which it did in good order, until it met the main body of Gen. Shields' command, near Conrad's Store. As soon as this was effected, the enemy in turn retired.

The fighting is said to have been very severe, and the loss heavy on both sides. No particulars have reached the Department.

A private letter states that Gen. Shields had previously succeeded in destroying a large quantity of supplies belonging to the Rebels, found at Milford and at Conrad's store.

The damage by the recent rains, including the carrying away of bridges over the South Branch of the Shenandoah river, materially interfered with the commissariat arrangements and the movements of troops.

FROM BANKS' COLUMN.

Military and Civil Affairs at Winchester.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

WINCHESTER, June 7.—The Potomac and Shenandoah rivers are higher than for ten years before, retarding the movements of the army corps under General Banks. The loss of the bridge at Harper's Ferry, and impossibility of crossing with safety, cut off our supply trains as well as a portion of our troops, and compelled Quartermasters to supply the troops by way of Cumberland. Yesterday, however, the supply trains of General Williams' division succeeded in getting over at Williamsport, and General Greene's brigade will cross to-day.

There is no rail transportation between here and Harper's Ferry, the bridge over the Opequan having been destroyed, and the embankment at Shenandoah City washed away. The telegraph along the same route has been partially destroyed; thus we are just at present cut off from any regular communication with the East.

General Fremont, at last accounts, was at Mount Jackson, pursuing the Rebel force up the Valley.—General Shields, after leaving Middletown, went up the Luray Valley as far as Elk Run, or Swift Run Gap, but failing to overtake or cut off the enemy, in consequence of the bridges having been destroyed, returned towards Front Royal. Beyond doubt Jackson has escaped with but little loss. Returned prisoners say his force is reduced almost to the starving point for want of food, subsisting on two crackers per day.

A considerable number of paroled convalescent prisoners, left here by Jackson on his retreat, go to Washington to-day. Thence they will be sent home to await an exchange. Most of those remaining in hospital are doing well, and but very few deaths have occurred among them. Dr. Antisell, Acting Medical Director of the Corps, is indefatigable in his attention to them. Many ladies of the town are unremitting in their attention to the wants of the sick and wounded.

There are now in confinement here sixty Rebel prisoners of war, under charge of Captain Cogswell, of the Second Massachusetts, and between three and four hundred are now en route hither from Strasburg. These will be sent to Baltimore to-morrow. In order to prevent any insult to the prisoners, as well as any demonstration on the part of secession sympathizers, a strong patrol will escort them through the town, who will promptly suppress and punish any attempt of the kind.

General Banks has his headquarters here at present. Captain Bertram, 3d Wisconsin, Deputy Provost Marshal, maintains excellent order, and is quietly searching the houses of noted secessionists for arms, articles contraband of war, and army and sutlers' supplies, which were appropriated to private use. The usual Provost Guard has been augmented by the 60th New York.

The regulations concerning passes to citizens is much more stringent than ever before. Unless applications are endorsed by some of the best Union citizens in town they are refused by Capt. Bertram, and a strict watch is kept on all the roads leading from the town.

It has recently come to light, that on Friday morning previous to the attack on Colonel Kenly at Front Royal, a large mail was robbed from Jackson's army, conveying intelligence that he was approaching with an overpowering force. The female Secession circles were jubilant as well as defiant. It is also known that other mails had been previously received from the same point, but all attempts to ferret out the parties engaged have thus far failed.

A gentleman well known to many of our officers, who was concealed several days in town, overheard conversation participated in by Confederate officers. One who appears to be well informed in regard to Rebel movements said, if Richmond was evacuated, the whole force would be thrown into the Valley, and would maintain a guerilla warfare to the last.

General Cooper's brigade passed through town yesterday in excellent spirits and health.

To surprises observers of the fidelity exhibited towards our army on its retreat, to meet now with such numbers of "good Union men" here. The female secessionists alone take pride in having their real sentiments known to us by words, gestures and deeds. Hereafter outward demonstrations of their recession proclivities will be promptly suppressed by the military authorities.

Jackson did not hesitate to declare that the main object of his expedition had failed, and he attributed the failure to the non-arrival of his rear supports, under Longstreet and Smith. He said his whole force reached nearly sixty thousand men.

General Sigel was serenaded last night at the Taylor House. He made a few remarks in response.

It is stated that General Hamilton, formerly of this army, but afterwards transferred to the command of General Heintzelman's division, has been ordered to a command under General Halleck.

Captain Cochran, of the 1st New York Battery, has resumed his command here. The President reversed the finding of the court-martial dismissing him from the service, and restored him to the battery. His return was gladly greeted by his officers and men.

WINCHESTER, June 8.—Four hundred and five Rebel prisoners arrived here to-day from Strasburg and have been quartered temporarily in the basements of the churches. Most of them are stated to have been stragglers overtaken by General Fremont's army during his pursuit of Jackson up the valley.

The army correspondent of the New York *Herald*, captured at Front Royal, was released on his parole by Jackson at New Market, and arrived here yesterday.

Mr. Clark states the report that he endeavored to obtain his release by stating that "the *Herald* has said as much for the South as for the Union" is false in every particular. He adds that he acted as aid for Colonel Kenly, and his active services at the time of his capture precluded the possibility of any such subterfuge being available.

At latest accounts Jackson was at Harrisonburg.

Among the prisoners now here is Captain Wm. Monaghan, of the 6th Louisiana volunteers, acting Major of that regiment. He was captured near Strasburg by the Delaware cavalry. The captain was an officer in the Mexican war, and distinguished himself in more than one battle.

Gen. Cooper's brigade was reviewed and inspected yesterday by Gen. Sigel. This is a large brigade, recently formed at Harper's Ferry, and includes the 1st District of Columbia regiment. The review was a very creditable one.

The men now in hospital here are as follows: At the Union Hospital, 163 Federals; at the York House Hospital, 17 Federals and 67 Confederates; at the Academy Hospital, 30 Federals and 60 Confederates; at Strasburg, 65.

Not the slightest demonstration was made on the part of the citizens when the prisoners entered the town to-day.

A proclamation has been issued, a copy of which will be placed in every house in town, ordering the inhabitants to return every article in their possession belonging to the Government. It is known that a large amount of arms, clothing and provisions have been taken and concealed by them. If this order is not obeyed, a strict search of every suspected house and severe examples of delinquents will follow.

FROM MEMPHIS.

Commodore Farragut's Fleet Reported to have Passed Vicksburg.

MEMPHIS, June 9.—Matters continue quiet here. It is reported that the Rebels have destroyed a quantity of cotton at Madison and Wilsburg, on St. Francis river.

CAIRO, June 11.—The steamer De Soto has arrived from Memphis, having left last night. It was reported there that Commodore Farragut's fleet had passed Vicksburg, but was compelled to return below that city on account of low water.

General Mitchell Reported to have Won Another Victory Over the Rebels.

CHICAGO, June 11.—A private despatch from Cairo to the President of the Chicago Sanitary Commission, says that General Mitchell has won another brilliant victory at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in which the enemy were completely routed, after two days hard fighting. No particulars are given.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER AFRICA.

HALIFAX, June 11.—The steamer Africa has arrived here with Liverpool advices to the 31st ult. She has damaged her rudder in the ice off Cape Race.

The French army in Rome is about to be reduced to a single division.

The English Conservatives in Parliament have collected all their force for the purpose of upsetting Palmerston on the retrenchment question.

The ship Sue had arrived off Queenstown, bound to Glasgow, with a cargo of turpentine, having run the blockade of the Georgia coast.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Lindsay gave notice that he should call attention to the relations of England with the Federal and Confederate States of America on the 27th of June.

Reports from France say that Captain Bonaparte Patterson is serving in the Mexican expedition. He is in high favor with the Emperor, and it is conjectured that he may prove a more acceptable candidate as King or President of the Mexicans than an Austrian Prince.

Breadstuffs were 6d. higher since Tuesday. Wheat has advanced 2d. Corn 6d. to 7½d.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Visit of General Burnside to General McClellan's Camp.

FORTRESS MONROE, June 10.—Heavy weather, unusually severe for this season, again prevails.

The steamship Belvidere ran foul of the British steamer Jason in the Roads this morning, and had one of her wheel houses and part of her after upper works carried away. The Jason was not much damaged.

The steamer Louisiana, with wounded soldiers, will sail for New York as soon as the weather is favorable.

The pirateers who have been on board the Massachusetts since her unsuccessful trip up James river, were this morning transferred to the steamship Fulton, which will take a number of wounded soldiers to New York as soon as the weather permits.

General Burnside left here yesterday afternoon on board the Metamora for White House, where he was this morning when the mail-boat left. He would proceed to headquarters to hold a conference with General McClellan.

The Port Royal returned to Roanoke Island last night.

A grand Union demonstration by the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth will take place to-morrow, at which Governor Pierpont and other distinguished speakers are expected to be present.

DETAILS OF THE BATTLE OF PORT REPUBLIC.

[Despatch from the Agent of the Associated Press.]

LURAY, Va., via Washington, June 10.—Colonel Carroll, commanding the Fourth Brigade, consisting of the 84th Pennsylvania, 11th Pennsylvania, 10th Indiana and 1st Virginia regiments, altogether about 1,600 strong, reached Port Republic on Sunday. He immediately reconnitered, and found the enemy in the place in force, and a skirmish ensued.

Colonel Carroll concluded to hold the bridge, and ordered it not to be burned, putting guns in position commanding it. The night was passed quietly, but at 6 o'clock on Monday morning fire was opened upon by some twenty heavy guns, which the enemy had put in position during the night.

Our forces then tried to reach the bridge repeatedly to destroy it, but were met by storms of bullets and had to retire. A large cavalry force then crossed and attacked our troops, while their infantry followed, our men opposing them at every step, often driving them back with heavy loss. Their numbers, however, even after General Tyler's third brigade arrived, were much superior to the enemy, his force being at least five to one, and our position became untenable.

Colonel Carroll, discovering the force of the enemy to be so overwhelming, ordered his command to fall back, our men fighting every foot of the way. After falling back some three or four miles, a body of cavalry were sent to attack us, but was received in such manner as to compel them to retire, when the engagement ended, having lasted about five hours.

Our loss is killed and wounded is not known, but it is large, as is also that of the enemy. We lost a considerable number of prisoners. Col. Carroll's horse fell during the fight, injuring him badly. Capt. Reily, of Gen. Shields' staff, was badly injured in the head. He received praise from all for his gallant bearing during the fight. Col. Buckley, of the 29th Ohio, was badly wounded. His men charged six times to get possession of him, but he was carried off by the enemy.

General Ashby, of cavalry, was positively killed during the fight at the bridge over Middle River, as we learn from prisoners taken. This was one of the most hotly contested fights of the whole war, as indicated by the loss compared with the numbers engaged. The men on both sides fought like demons. Capt. Keogh charged with a body of cavalry and held the bridge for a considerable time, under a terrible storm of grape.

[LATER.

Further Particulars.

LURAY, June 10.—Two regiments from the first brigade arrived in time to assist in covering the retreat. The Pioneer Corps also sided greatly.

Col. Buckley, who was left on the field wounded, and in the hands of the enemy, has made his escaped and arrived in camp.

Government Finances.

WASHINGTON, June 11.—It is stated that the Secretary Treasury is or has been engaged in private negotiations with New York parties for the exchange of 7 3 10 for demand notes, or that these negotiations were brought to an abrupt close by reports in Washington of dissatisfaction in Wall street. The whole truth is simply this: The Treasury last week received more money than could be readily obtained from the ordinary sources of supply, and the Secretary therefore accepted several offers of 3 per cent. premium in demand notes for 7 3 10 bonds, amounting altogether to about two and a quarter millions, and having obtained all the money required before the close of the week, he declined accepting any offers after Saturday. No partiality was shown to anybody. No offers made during the week were declined, and none made since have been accepted. The Secretary looked simply to the public interests, and was satisfied with getting what money he wanted with a premium of 3 per cent. on his bonds, after having been informed by some of the most intelligent of the Wall street financiers that he could not reasonably expect more than two.

Confirmation of Appointments.

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 11.—The Senate to day confirmed the following Presidential appointments:—Christopher P. Walcott, of Ohio, Assistant Secretary of War, in the place of Thomas A. Scott, resigned; Henry H. Lockwood, and Green Clay Smith, of Kentucky, Major Z. B. Tower, of the Corps of Engineers, and Major Washington Elliott, of 1st cavalry, for gallant service at Boonville, to be Brigadier-General into the volunteers.

Among the minor military confirmations is that of Lewis Cass Forsyth, Assistant-Quartermaster, with rank of Captain; George W. Beaman, of Missouri, Joseph T. Lisle, of Pennsylvania, H. Melville Hanna, of Ohio, George A. Lyon, of Pennsylvania, Edward Bellows, of New Hampshire, Geo. T. Hale, of New York, and Wm. T. Meredith, to be Assistant Paymasters in the Navy; Edward D. Payne, of Pennsylvania, Assistant Surgeon in the Navy; Surgeons John M. Cuyler, Richard H. Corbidge, Chas. E. Keeney, Edward P. Volium and George H. Lyman, to be Medical Inspectors under the recent act of Congress; J. C. Dorr, of Massachusetts, to be Brigade Surgeon; Julius W. Eggleston, to be Postmaster at New London, Connecticut.

The Captured Gunboat General Bragg.

CAIRO, June 10.—The Rebel gunboat General Bragg, captured in the recent fight near Memphis, has arrived here, and will be repaired immediately. There are no arrivals from Memphis to-day.

Another Conflagration at Quebec.

QUEBEC, June 10.—Our city was visited with another large fire this morning. A hundred houses, principally of wood, and the property of workmen in the shipyards, were burnt.

Missouri Convention.

ST. LOUIS, June 11.—The Missouri State Convention has adopted the bill defining the qualifications of voters.

From the Washington Republican, June 11.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSITION REJECTED.

The Missouri State Convention, now in session, refuses to entertain any suggestion looking to an acceptance of the President's proposition to compensate States for the "public and private inconvenience" of emancipation. Of course, if Missouri, in which slavery is weaker than in any of the slave States, (not reckoning Delaware,) rejects the President's offer, it will be accepted by none of them. And as the offer itself will expire soon by its own limitation, viz: the closing of the war, it may now be regarded as definitely settled that nothing will come of it. This result, we presume, disappoints very few persons. The offer of the President, ratified as it promptly was by Congress, has, however, accomplished certainly two good objects, both of them of great importance.

In the first place, it was a national repudiation and condemnation of slavery, by the solemn declaration, initiated by the chief executive Magistrate and concurred in by Congress, that it was an institution to be got rid of, if possible, even at the cost of large outlays from the national treasury. This declaration, important always, became especially so when it was made, from its effect upon the deliberations of foreign Powers. It placed the national Government right before the world, rallied to it the sympathies of the friends of freedom everywhere, and powerfully tended to ward off that European intervention in American affairs, which was the only thing we had to fear, or which the Confederates had to hope.

In the next place, the offer made to the border slave States was so liberal, and their rejection of it betrays an inveteracy in wrong doing so obstinate, that their mouths are forever closed, whatever may now happen. As they refuse to give slavery up, even when it is proposed that the expenses of doing so shall be borne by others, they will have no pretence of a ground for complaint, if the course of events is such as to make their slaves worthless and to leave them no indemnity whatever.

Three hundred and fifteen persons died in New York last week, a decrease of twenty five from the mortality of the previous week. One hundred and thirty-nine of the deceased were children under five years of age.

FROM THE SOUTH.

From the Richmond Whig, June 3.

General Early.

It will be extremely gratifying to the friends of Gen. Jubal A. Early, says the Lynchburg *Republican* of yesterday, to learn that he is rapidly recovering from the wound received at the battle of Williamsburg. We were pleased to see him on the streets yesterday, and though yet weak, he bids fair to be able in a short time to resume his post in the field, where his gallantry, courage and splendid military talents have already rendered him distinguished. We are gratified to hear that he has been promoted to a Major General, and in this extension of the field of his labors, we anticipate for him a brilliant career of usefulness to our cause. No man in the army has more worthily won promotion than General Early, nor is there one whose military capacity will enable him to render more valuable service to his country.

General McClellan and the Battle of Williamsburg.

LYNCHBURG, May 25, 1862.

To the Editor of the Whig:

I have just seen a despatch from General McClellan to Lincoln's Secretary of War, stating that, at the fight at Williamsburg, General Hancock had taken two redoubts and repulsed my (Early's) brigade by "a *real* charge with the bayonet."

I wish to state, through your paper, that this assertion of Lincoln's Commander-in-Chief is utterly without foundation. When my brigade, or rather two regiments of it, attacked Wheeler's battery of six pieces and some other pieces from another battery, which were supported by Hancock's brigade, one or two redoubts, unoccupied by our troops, had been taken possession of by Hancock's brigade, and his artillery, supported by infantry, had been advanced from one of the redoubts to a position near some farm-houses. My brigade, which had been ordered up from the rear, advanced through a thick wood to the attack of this position; and the 24th Virginia regiment, single-handed, assailed and drove back the battery and the infantry to the cover of the redoubt and the woods near by, and a fence. The 5th North Carolina regiment came down from the extreme right to the support of the 24th, and gallantly attacked the battery in their new position; and had these two regiments been sustained, they would have captured the battery and driven Hancock's brigade from the field. As it was, they only retired from the field, under orders from Major General Hill, having been previously disabled and compelled to retire. In falling back, about 140 men from these two regiments got, by mistake, too far to the left in re-passing through the woods, and were taken prisoners by a regiment of the enemy stationed there. Hancock's brigade did not charge bayonets, or make any pretence of doing so. It did not even attempt to pursue my two regiments as they fell back, and the prisoners taken were taken by the mistake above mentioned. The 24th Virginia regiment carried from the field some 25 or 30 prisoners taken by it.

Respectfully, J. A. EARLY,
Brigadier General.

Gen. Jackson's Operations in the Lower Valley.

A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE IRISH BATTALION TO A STAFF OFFICER IN RICHMOND.

CAMP WINCHESTER, May 26, 1862.

Dear Uncle:—A series of successes have crowned our efforts. We first drove the enemy from Front Royal, defeating and capturing about 600 prisoners—besides a very large quantity of stores of all kinds. Immediately after we got possession of the place a train loaded with coffee came in, which is a perfect God-send to us, as ration of that article have been stopped for some days. We then drove the remaining portion of the enemy towards Middletown, where we captured a large portion of their wagons containing a little of almost everything. From thence we wended our way towards Strasburg, where all of their wagons fell into our hands. We left our camp, which was about 2 miles beyond Luray, and marched 27 miles to reach Front Royal—this was on Friday—we marched all day and night Saturday and reached Winchester yesterday (Sunday) about 5 o'clock, or about daybreak.—The engagement lasted one hour and a half, but it was a terrible one, short as it was. We were stationed just under the brow of a hill to support the Rockbridge artillery, which was on the left. We were not in the engagement, but were exposed to the enemy's fire the whole time. I have the mark on my pants where a piece of shell passed me and struck one of the men on my left on the arm, which was taken off.

Gen. Sewell commanded the right wing, Gen. Winder the left, and Gen. Jackson the whole. The force of the enemy was about 7,000, but there were not more than 5,000 in the fight. Our entire force was reputed and scattered, and, after once getting on their scent, we did not let them rest. In the three days we have captured about 1,500 prisoners. This I can safely say, but I think it will exceed that number, as they are still coming in. A squad of 53 has just come into camp. This does not include the negro women we have brought with them. Sometimes we see a group of a dozen or more prisoners with three or four negro women. By the way, while here, three of the Yankees *married* negro wenches. We are still pursuing the enemy, but it is the general impression that they will not stop this side of the Potomac. Gen. Shields left Winchester on Wednesday, crossing the mountains, but what course he took I have not learned. The rascals fired all the houses here filled with medical and quartermaster's stores, but the citizens put the fire out, so we save enormous quantities of everything—stores enough for our army for twelve months. Our men supplied themselves with clothes, shoes, blankets, and even shirts, socks, drawers, gloves, and everything a man could want.

I am highly pleased with the service, though marching nearly kills me. Our loss in the last three days, killed wounded and missing, will not exceed 200. Colonel Campbell, who commands our Brigade, was wounded—so also was Adjutant-General Hale and several other officers whom I do not know. General Jackson had his war-look on yesterday.—He was so fatigued that, after the fight, he actually went to sleep on his charger. He rode about the battlefield regardless of shot and shell, and looked as if nothing was going on. I was not half so much alarmed as I thought I would be, it being my first appearance on a battle-field. I met with many narrow escapes, as did all of us, for which I am truly thankful. I never felt so proud as when we marched victorious through the town of Winchester in pursuit of a fleet-footed enemy. Thanks to the Most High for His protection to our brave and gallant army. Just think of marching 27 miles and fighting two hours. The men all call themselves Jackson's foot cavalry.

Your attached nephew,

From General Jackson's Command.

The Lynchburg *Republican*, of Saturday, says:

We have certain intelligence from passengers from Staunton, yesterday, that General Jackson's army, with the exception of those left to guard the prisoners captured, and the sick and wounded, on Sunday morning at Williamsport, in Maryland, without the least show of any force in the vicinity to oppose them.

Williamsport is about twenty miles above Harper's Ferry, and we suppose about ninety from Baltimore, and seventy five or eighty from Washington. Whether the army would advance further was not known.

The number of prisoners taken up to Thursday morning, when the courier left, including those sent off, was estimated at 4,300.

It is said that the wildest enthusiasm exists among the people of the Valley at the presence of our armies, and they were flocking to the standard of "Old Stonewall" in large numbers. The same may be said of the people of Maryland, near the Potomac, who welcomed with delirious joy the stars and bars of the Confederacy.

The *Republican* has two interesting letters from Winchester, from which we condense the following:

The enemy made but a short stand at Front Royal. The 1st Maryland Volunteers, on the Yankee side, was charged by the 1st regiment of Maryland rebels, who put their old acquaintances to flight in a short time, capturing a stand of colors, killing several, and taking a number of prisoners.

We took the enemy by surprise, and put them to flight before one-fourth of our force had entered the town. The cavalry, among which were the Wise Troop and Jack Alexander's company, charged upon the Yankees in the retreat, killing many and capturing a large number of prisoners.

Among the arms captured are about five hundred improved cavalry six-shooters, an article very much needed.

When we entered Front Royal, the women and children met us with shouts of the liveliest joy. As we passed through the place in double-quick, we could not stop to partake of the hospitality so generously and profusely tendered on all hands.

Among one of the squads of prisoners, about twenty in number, was a woman, mounted. When we came to the Valley turnpike, we found hosts of prisoners, and the road blockaded with dead and live horses, and wagons heavy laden with subsistence, &c., together with dead and wounded Yankees.

At early dawn this (Sunday) morning, we advanced and attacked the mighty Banks in front of Winchester. After fighting about one hour, distributing shell and minie balls profusely, our boys made a charge, when the Yankees left at double-quick, after setting fire to the town and burning their commissary stores.

The Lee battery, of Lynchburg, and two others, were ordered to pursue in a gallop, and the command was obeyed, they shelling the enemy for five miles.

When the army passed through the town, men, women and children were shouting, "thank God, we are free—thank God, we are free once more!" Confederate flags and white handkerchiefs were waved from every window, and the happy smiles of lovely women on all sides met the wearied soldier and cheered him as he hurriedly passed through the place in pursuit of the flying foe.

After pursuing the enemy for six miles we were brought to a halt, and left the finishing-stroke to the cavalry, who have captured a large number of prisoners, who have been sent in through the day.

Prisoners tell me that Gen. Banks has said that he was afraid that he would have to surrender his whole command; and to be relieved of the painful necessity and to save his own bacon, left before day on an extra car.

Theftre in the town was extinguished by our boys after the commissary stores were destroyed; but we succeeded in saving all of the medical stores and ammunition, both of which were very large.

The Yankees left behind all their knapsacks, a large quantity of arms which they threw away, and lots of trinkets, which the boys have been examining all day.

In neither of the engagements have we had one-fourth, no not one-sixth of our forces engaged, and I cannot see why the enemy have fled in such confusion after so short a stand.

I am happy to state that no Lynchburger was hurt in either engagement, and but very few of any other command.

We recaptured a large number of stolen negroes. The Yankees had married a number of the women and were taking them home with them.

The medical stores captured are estimated by the druggists of this place to be worth $200,000.—Among them are articles very scarce in the Confederacy and much needed by the Government. We captured five hundred pounds opium and two hundred gallons castor oil, both of which are greatly needed, and have been shipped to the hospitals in Lynchburg.

To-day news was received that the Yankees had burnt the depot at Charlestown, together with all the stores.

During the sojourn of the Yankees in this place the people were not allowed to communicate with any one, either North or South, without the letters being first scrutinized by the Provost Marshal, and no Virginian who would not take the oath of allegiance was allowed to purchase goods from the North or elsewhere; but Yankee importers did all the business, and upon our approach on Sunday morning, left at double-quick, leaving behind all the stock of goods. Some few Jews were permitted to traffic who had the audacity to refuse our money for merchandise, but old Stonewall has had them all arrested, and their goods, like those of their Northern friends, have been confiscated, and their dens closed.

Death of Richard Yeadon, Jr.

We much lament the sad intelligence conveyed in the following note, and tender our sincere sympathies to its bereaved author:

"I came to Richmond at the earnest request of my gallant nephew and adopted son, Richard Yeadon, Jr., to be witness and chronicle the battle of the Chickahominy, 'the greatest battle of the war;' but, alas! he has been slain by the accursed Yankees, and I have to chronicle his death. He was killed, between 5 and 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon, (about an hour and a half after I had parted from him and bidden him farewell, near the scene of his death,) while he was gallantly charging a battery of the enemy, concealed in a thicket—having been shot through the head and killing immediately.—The enemy repulsed the attacking party, with overwhelming numbers, killing my son and three others of his company (the Washington Light Infantry, Hampton Legion) and wounding a great many more.

"RICHARD YEADON."

The Western Excursionists.

Correspondence of the Maryland News-Sheet.

PITTSBURG, June 10, 1862.

A full representation of the First Branch and two or three members of the Second Branch of the City Council, accompanied by a number of their friends and a few representatives of the press and city officials, left Baltimore on Monday morning last, in the 8.20 train, over the Northern Central Road, en route for this city and Chicago, in response to an invitation extended to them by the Directory of the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad and the Boards of Trade of Pittsburg and Chicago. The day was a delightful one, and everything bid fair for a pleasant trip, and I am happy to say that we were not disappointed. We reached Harrisburg at 1 o'clock, some twenty minutes behind time. We were, consequently, compelled to forego the pleasure of partaking of the hospitality of the citizens of Harrisburg. We had scarcely left Harrisburg, however, before the engine attached to our train blew off one of the caps of her cylinder, thereby detaining us some two hours further behind time. A telegraphic despatch was immediately sent to the next nearest station for another engine, which arrived thereafter on the spot, when off we started again at the rate of thirty miles the hour. The most attractive scenery on this route is after you leave Harrisburg. The first town of importance you meet is Duncannon. It is located at the mouth of Sherman's Creek. There is a rolling-mill and an extensive nailery here, which employ a number of hands. After you pass this place you enter the picturesque Juniata Valley, a region of great romantic beauty and bold scenery. Newport is the next in importance, in Perry county, and is situated at the junction of Buffalo Creek with the Juniata River, and has a population of 500. The next place that attracts attention is Perrysville. This town stands at the junction of Tuscarora and Licking creeks with the Juniata. It is the principal depot for the shipments of the surrounding country. We halted here but a few minutes, when we started for Mifflin. This is the county seat of Juniata county. After leaving this town the road follows the river course to the northwest boundary of Juniata county, and enters Mifflin county. The road enters the latter county through a passage between Blacklog Mountain on the left and Shade Mountain on the right. The scenery in this narrow gorge is of the wildest character. The next we reached was Lewistown, the county seat of Mifflin county. It abounds in iron ore of the best quality, from which is made the celebrated Juniata iron.

After passing several small towns and villages, we reached Newton Hamilton. There is near this place a curious bend in the river. After a southeasterly course of several miles, it runs suddenly to the northwest, and approaches within a few hundred yards of its channel, above the bend. We now arrived at Mount Union, a village at the entrance of Jack's Mountain. After leaving Mount Union, the road runs through the midst of the mountain scenery, which presents many sublime features. We are now upon the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad. The wild mountain scenery extent of this road is magnificent in extreme. A vast presenting all those characteristics of mountain scenery which enchant the lover of nature. On reaching Altoona, we had ample time to partake of a hearty supper, which, I can assure you, we did justice to. This town can boast of having one of the largest hotels of any railway station in this country. It has a dining-room capable of seating seven or eight hundred persons. This house was erected by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at a great expense.

After leaving this station, we began to climb the Allegheny Mountains at the rate of ninety-five feet to the mile. After reaching the top of a heavy grade, the grandest view of the whole route is presented to your view. It is grand beyond all description. After this, night closed in upon us, and we were shut out from the beauties of nature. The passengers then proceeded in different ways to kill time. Some fixed themselves for a nap, while those of a more devout nature sang hymns, much to the annoyance of those who felt disposed to throw themselves into the arms of Morpheus. We arrived at Pittsburg at one o'clock A. M., very much fatigued with the long journey, and were conducted to the Monongahela House, where we were placed in comfortable quarters. This morning at seven o'clock, the Mayor, a committee