THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. II---NO. 236. BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

MARRIED,

On the 19th instant, by Rev. Wm. R. Mills, R. EDWIN KIRK to Miss SIDNEY A. STARR, both of this city.

On the 19th June, by Rev. A. G. Thomas, ORLANDO ROBBINS to Mrs. GEORGEANNA WILKINS, both of Baltimore.

DIED,

On Monday, 23d instant, CHRISTOPHER BUSCHMANN, aged 63 years, 3 months and 9 days.

At Richmond, on Friday, the 20th instant, FRANK, youngest son of Major Hugh W. and Mary L. Fry, aged 4 years and 6 months.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States the debate on the Confiscation bill was resumed, and was continued up to the hour of adjournment.

In the House of Representatives a bill was passed appropriating five millions of dollars for the payment of bounties to the volunteers who were enlisted under the act of July last. The bill authorizing an additional issue of one hundred and fifty millions of Treasury notes was also passed—fifty millions of said issue to be of less denomination than five dollars.

That the Federal troops were repulsed in their attempt to capture, at the point of the bayonet, a Confederate battery on James Island, South Carolina, and were compelled to retire after sustaining a heavy loss in killed, wounded and prisoners, appears to be quite certain, if we may credit the account which the Charleston *Mercury* gives of that gallant and well contested affair. It is also evident that but for the restless vigilance and quick presence of mind of Colonel Lamar the battery would have fallen into the hands of the Federal troops. The latter, it is acknowledged, prosecuted the assault with remarkable courage and tenacity of purpose. Three times they advanced to the attack, and on each occasion were driven back. "It was," we are told, "a bloody fight, fought against odds by exhausted men, without preparation." The *Mercury* claims that, in the end, the Confederates gained a signal victory; but General Hunter's official report, when it comes to hand, will, in all probability, give a quite different coloring to the affair.

By the arrival at New York of the steamer Etna we have advices from Liverpool to the 11th inst. The London *Times* regards the defeat of General Banks as one of the most important successes of the Confederates, inasmuch as it proves that "efforts and sacrifices greater than any that has gone before must be made if even a border State is to be won back to the Union." The Paris *Patrie* states that there is a rumor of negotiations for a joint offer of mediation in American affairs by France and England; but Lords Russel and Palmerston on being interrogated on the subject both declared that such rumors were unfounded. The London *Times*, however, advocates mediation, and declares that if mediation be delayed the more important question—that of the recognition of the Confederates—may have to be considered. The *Morning Post* bitterly denounces General Butler's notorious "woman order," and thinks the Government "is bound to recall and court martial him." Other English journals allude to the proclamation in a similar strain, and express the hope that the Federal Government would disavow it.

Richmond papers are said to estimate the strength of the Confederates in the valley of Virginia at seventy-five thousand men. This, however, is regarded at Washington as a gross exaggeration. It is, moreover, significantly hinted that, "from present indications," Jackson will not even make the attempt to gather the harvest in the valley this season.

The *City Council of Cincinnati* has passed a resolution soliciting President Lincoln to allow the remaining members of the 5th Ohio regiment to return to Camp Denison, for the purpose of recruiting its decimated ranks. It will be remembered that this regiment suffered extraordinarily heavy losses in the recent battles against the Confederates on the Shenandoah.

From the Wheeling *Intelligencer* of the 21st inst., we learn that returning soldiers report that Fremont will fortify Mount Jackson and endeavor to hold the position. Siegel, it is said, was also marching in the direction of Mount Jackson to reinforce Fremont.

The Lynchburg *Virginian* states, "on reliable authority," that a party of guerrillas attacked, captured and burnt, recently, on Sewell's Mountain, one of the wagon trains of General Cox, loaded with provisions.

Four men, accused of conspiring to take the life of General Butler, were arrested recently in New Orleans, and although they protested their innocence, "were chained together until they should conclude to divulge the secrets of the conspiracy."

The steam gunboat Jacob Bell, while ascending the James river, got aground on a shifting bar, and soon afterwards a Confederate battery was brought to bear upon her and succeeded in inflicting considerable damage.

Commander Porter's mortar fleet has been recalled from before Mobile, to take part in the naval operations against Vicksburg.

FROM WASHINGTON.

From the Washington Star of Yesterday.

A RUMOR.

This forenoon the rumor (that prevailed here on the day before yesterday) that Gen. Ewell had returned with his Confederate force and occupied Front Royal, is current. We apprehend that for some days past the Union troops lately there have been employed elsewhere, and we believe that these rumors grow out of the fact; though it is by no means improbable that Ewell has come back to that quarter again, though improbable. His force may be 10,000 men. This information is said to come down by the Manassas Railroad.

THE WRECKS NEAR NORFOLK.

The U. S. steamer Satellite has gone to Philadelphia for machinery and operators to raise the wrecks of the Congress, Cumberland, and other vessels sunken near Norfolk.

Special Despatch to the New York Herald.

THE PROMOTION OF GENERAL SHIELDS REFERRED BY THE SENATE.

The nomination of General Shields, as Major General, was rejected by the Senate to-day in Executive session. It is said there was not a vote in his favor. The testimony adduced before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, in regard to the battle of Port Republic, showed, in the estimation of Senators, that General Shields was either insane or totally incompetent. It is said that many of the officers, medical and military, nearest to the person of General Shields for some time past, have been ready to bear testimony to his insanity. Some Senators call it by a different name, but it was sufficient to cause his rejection as a Major General, and will probably deprive him of any military command whatever.

Special Despatches to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

BURNING OF THE FERRY-BOAT AYRES.

Between eight and nine o'clock of last Thursday evening, the steam ferry-boat Ayres, formerly a Williamsburg ferry-boat of New York, lying about four miles below White House, Virginia, on the Pamunkey river, and near Indian Town, accidentally caught fire and burned to the water's edge. There were no lives lost. They had just finished coaling, and the engineer, banking his fires, went forward, in company with the captain, to enjoy the evening breeze, when in a few moments the cook announced that the vessel was on fire. All efforts to quench the flames were unavailing.

STONEWALL JACKSON'S FORCES.

The reports published in the late Richmond papers that the forces of Stonewall Jackson now number 75,000 are regarded as merely Confederate braggadocia. From present indications Stonewall Jackson will not attempt to gather the harvests of the Shenandoah Valley this season.

ARREST OF A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER.

The Marshal of Western Pennsylvania called upon the Second Ward Police to aid him in arresting Mr. A. Sawyer, an attorney-at-law, who stands charged with the forgery of pension papers. The Marshal left for Pittsburg this afternoon with his prisoner.

THE EMANCIPATION BILL.

The bill for the emancipation of slaves in the District of Columbia will require additional legislation.

IMPEACHMENT OF A CITIZEN OF ALEXANDRIA.—The Mayor and a delegation of the loyal citizens of Alexandria have waited upon the Secretary of War to present testimony impeaching the loyalty of Mr. Dangerfield, a resident of that city, worth property computed at half a million, who has recently returned from Richmond under the protection of the Government, and who persistently refuses to take the oath of allegiance and request that his commodious residence be converted into a hospital, as it possesses peculiar advantages in this respect.

The specific charges preferred against Mr. Dangerfield, which, we are prepared to say, Congressmen Julian and Wickliffe after a careful examination, these gentlemen having visited Alexandria for the purpose, are substantially as follows: Recruiting and drilling men for the Confederate army, sending men to join Werner's Rangers, urging Gen. Lee to hole him at the White House, so far as to button-hole him at the White House, and endeavoring by every artifice and inducement to cause him to act contrary to his wishes and inclinations, and actively co-operating himself with the Confederates until very recently.

The Mayor said that the citizens of Alexandria were incensed that such a person should have the protection of the Government, and be secure in the enjoyment of his property, while loyal citizens are compelled to sacrifice so much to preserve the interest and welfare. The Secretary of War, in reply to the representations of the Mayor, said that the pass which Dangerfield had received was given him upon the representations of Reverdy Johnson, his father-in-law, and of other unmistakably loyal men.

The Secretary promised, however, that he would investigate the matter, and that justice should be done. The Mayor subsequently attended a session of the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and laid before them the facts in Dangerfield's case, and in those of other Alexandrians securely domiciled in Baltimore.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

FURTHER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER ETNA.

MORE WARLIKE STORES FOR THE REBELS.

NEW YORK, June 24.—The steamer Etna, from Liverpool on the 11th inst., has arrived.

The steamer Columbia had left Plymouth for Nassau with warlike stores for the Southern "Confederacy," and two other steamers, the Merrimac and Sylph, had also arrived at Plymouth, believed to be intended for the same destination.

The brig E. Fleming, from Charleston, had reached Liverpool with a cargo of rosin and turpentine.

The *Times* regards the defeat of Gen. Banks as one of the most important successes of the Confederates, on account of the lesson it teaches the North, showing that efforts and sacrifices greater than any that have gone before must be made if even a border State is to be won back to the Union. Hopes of an early solution must be dispelled, and in the meantime increasing debts and mutual hatred will make a new Union more and more impossible.

THE LATEST.

The Liverpool cotton market closed firm. Flour steady. Wheat firmer, with an upward tendency. Corn quiet but steady, and prices unchanged.

Provisions closed very dull.

Consols closed at 91⅜@91⅞.

American securities are steady.

MORE RUMORS OF MEDIATION.

The *Patrie* gives a rumor of approaching negotiations for a joint offer of mediation by France and England in American affairs.

The *Times*, editorially, approves of mediation, and says that Europe ought not to look calmly on, and if the offer of mediation be delayed, the more important question—that of the recognition of the Confederates—may have to be considered.

The *Times'* advocacy of mediation had no effect on the Liverpool cotton market.

STILL LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER ARABIA.

THE INTERVENTION RUMORS OFFICIALLY PRONOUNCED UNFOUNDED.

HALIFAX, June 24.—The steamer Arabia, with Liverpool advices of the 14th, has arrived.

Questions were put in both Houses of Parliament relative to the rumors of mediation and General Butler's proclamation regarding the ladies of New Orleans.

Lords Russell and Palmerston said that the mediation rumors were quite unfounded, no propositions on the subject having been made, and that there was no present intention.

General Butler's proclamation was denounced, and the hope was expressed that the United States Government would disavow it.

The *Daily News* treats the defeat of General Banks as quite unimportant, and as not in the slightest degree calculated to disconcert McClellan's plans. It was nothing more than a mere raid of the Confederates.

The *Morning Post* denounces in the bitterest terms General Butler's proclamation relative to the ladies of New Orleans, and thinks the Government is bound to recall and court-martial him; and says that such an act as this, if not promptly disavowed, would soon turn the scale finally and decisively in favor of the Confederate cause.

COMMERCIAL ADVICES.

The sales of Cotton for the week amounted to 84,000 bales. The market closed buoyant at prices ⅛ to ⅛d. higher.

Breadstuffs were firmer and a trifle higher.

Provisions were firmer.

Consols 91⅜@91⅝.

Bullion in the Bank of England had decreased £150,000.

LATEST.

The Cotton market advanced at the close on Saturday ⅛d., with sales of 12,000 bales. The advance was caused by the Ministerial refutation of the mediation rumors.

Breadstuffs closed firmer.

Provisions closed flat.

Consols closed at 91⅜@91⅝.

FROM WASHINGTON

ARMY BULLETIN.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Despatches received today at the War Department indicate quiet in all directions. The telegraph lines are in good working order to all important points.

Opening of White River, Arkansas—The Rebel State Government Leaving Little Rock.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The following was received to day from Gen. Halleck:

CORINTH, Miss., June 23, 8.15 A. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Unofficial information has been received here that White River has been opened for 170 miles, and that Governor Regan and his rebel Government have fled from Little Rock, on a flat boat, towards Fort Smith.

[Signed] H. W. HALLECK,
Major General.

Army Contracts.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The following order has just been issued:

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 24.—The Secretary is of opinion that the act to prevent and punish fraud on the part of officers entrusted with making contracts on the part of the Government, approved June 2d, 1862, applies only to such contracts as are under the laws and regulations in force at the time of its passage were required to be in writing. The execution of the act in any other sense is utterly impracticable, and an attempt otherwise to enforce it would everywhere instantly arrest the operations of all our forces. It is, therefore, ordered that all contracts which, by the present regulations, are prescribed to be made in writing, shall hereafter be made in quintuplicate, of which four shall be disposed of according to such regulations, and one shall be sent by the officer making and signing the same to the return office of the Department of the Interior within thirty days after the contract is made, together with all proposals and a copy of any advertisement published by him touching the same, attached and verified in the manner required by the act above specified.

The Overland Mail Service—Reopening of Post Offices.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Information has been received at the Post Office Department that the service by the Overland Mail Company are recommenced on the 19th inst.

The mails from Colorado for the past month were visibly increased by the heavy immigration which has gone thither this spring, while the presence of an increased number of troops at Fort Kearney and Fort Laramie will account for an increase at these points. On the night of the 18th inst., there was received at St. Joseph, Missouri, twenty-six pouches under the brass lock and ten under the iron, being mail matter which has been delayed by the late troubles.

During the past two or three days several post offices have been re-opened in Tennessee, and mail facilities are being gradually extended throughout the State.

The Defence of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—It is understood that the military protection and defence of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad west of Cumberland to the City of Baltimore, and of the railroad between Harper's Ferry and Winchester, is especially assigned to the command of Major-General Wool. Officers on the line of that road will accordingly report to him—the operations of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad will remain under the direction of Major-General Banks, it being his line of supply.

A Rebel Vessel Caught in a Trap.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The Navy Department has received despatches stating that on the night of the 7th instant, the schooner Rowena, formerly the Garibaldi, seventy tons burthen, built opposite New Orleans, ran into Stono river, and anchored near the entrance, not knowing it to be in our possession. She was therefore a prisoner, we having seven gunboats in that vicinity. She was last from Nassau, and had on a cargo of lead and a few shells. She was taken by the Pawnee and sent to Philadelphia.

Applications for Passes and Permits.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The Secretary of War to-day ordered that all applications for passes and permits, for persons or property, within the lines of the United States forces, shall hereafter be made to Brigadier General Wadsworth, Military Governor of the District of Columbia, and be subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

Arrival of General Pope at Washington.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Major-General Pope arrived here to day, and is enthusiastically welcomed. He appears in deep black, citizens dress, and is not generally recognized while moving about his hotel this evening.

He was requested to visit Washington to consult with the military authorities if consistent with his duties in the West.

Passage of the Pacific Railroad Bill.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The members of the Select Committee on the Pacific Railroad are rejoicing with their friends to-night over the passage of the Pacific Railroad bill to-day.

General Rousseau, of Kentucky, is among the distinguished visitors in Washington just now. He met with a warm reception at the capital.

Minors in the Service.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The act of February 13th, 1862, published in General Orders No. 15, although prohibiting the discharge of minors from the service, does not authorize their enlistment or muster into service, excepting with the written consent of their parents, masters or guardians.

Dinner to the Mexican Minister.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—A diplomatic dinner was given this evening to the Mexican Minister. A number of Senators and other distinguished gentlemen were present. The gathering is supposed to have a significant bearing just now.

Nomination Rejected.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Moses Kelly, former Chief Clerk of the Interior Department, was to-day rejected by the Senate as Register of Wills for the [illegible]

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Surgeon A. Owen Stille, of the 23d Pennsylvania Volunteers, died suddenly in our general hospital here last night. He arrived here in the Nelly Baker, only yesterday afternoon, from the White House.

The steamer Port Royal arrived at Norfolk from Newbern this morning. There is no news of moment.

The steamer Metamora will proceed to City Point to-morrow, under a flag of truce, to convey thither a score of female Secessionists from Baltimore and Washington, besides several paroled Rebel surgeons and line officers.

The United States steam sloop-of-war Wachusett arrived from City Point this morning, and reports that on Saturday last the steam gunboat Jacob Bell proceeded up the James River to reconnoitre, and, when abreast of Turkey Island, ran hard aground on a shifting sand bar, which accident the Rebels soon observed, and took advantage of by bringing a battery of field pieces down on the south bank and opening upon her from rifled guns with shell and solid shot. The gunboat did what she could to drive off the Rebels, but did not succeed until she was considerably injured.

A new steamboat, called the John Tucker, arrived here from New York this morning, having made the run from wharf to wharf in 22 hours. The steamship Empire City sailed hence for Port Royal this morning, having in tow five schooners for Hatteras Inlet.

The British steamer Jason dropped down from Norfolk this morning to prepare for a cruise.

The steamship George Peabody, from Hatteras, bound for New York, put in here this morning with loss of starboard paddle wheel, by an accident.

Affairs at Memphis.

NEW YORK, June 24.—A special despatch from Memphis to the *Tribune*, dated 22d, says that over two hundred merchants have taken the oath of allegiance. Preaching of treason has been stopped by General Wallace, and the rector of an Episcopal church, who offered prayers for the Southern Confederacy last Sunday, has been effectually admonished.

The citizens of Brownsville, Hayward county, raised the stars and stripes yesterday. General Coles, originally a secessionist of Hayward county, sends word to General Wallace that since his cotton has been burned he wants to take the oath of allegiance.

The President at West Point.

NEW YORK, June 24.—The President and General Pope, it is stated, arrived at West Point early this morning, and stopped at Gen. Scott's hotel.

Sword Presentation.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Surgeon L. McKay, of the 6th Regiment New York volunteers, has been presented by the hospital stewards with a beautiful sword and belt.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, June 24.—Cotton is buoyant—sales of 2,500 bales at 22⅜ cts; market closed. Flour has an upward tendency—sales of 27,000 bbls. Wheat has advanced 2 cts—sales of 105,000 bushels; white $1.23@1.30; Milwaukee club 68 cts@$1.05. Corn has an upward tendency—sales of 106,000 bushels at an advance of 1 cent; mixed 47@51⅝ cts. Pork is firm; mess $10.75@$11; prime $8.50@$8.62½. Whiskey closed nonetitled at 27@29 cts. Sugar is quiet at 7⅛@8⅞ cts. Coffee is firm—sales of 800 bags at 21 cts. Spirits turpentine dull at $1.25. Rosin is dull. Freights are drooping.

THE YANKEE SOCIAL EXPERIMENT ON SOUTH CAROLINA NEGROES.

We find in the Portland (Me.) *Advertiser* (Republican), a letter from Geo. H. Blake, who, we are told, is a gentleman of position in Portland.—He is a returned "Missionary" from South Carolina. Mr. Blake states his views at length and thus refers to some of the difficulties encountered:

From the time of the capture of Hilton Head to the advent of the superintendents, a period of nearly five months, the negroes were thrown entirely upon their own resources for sustenance, Government having negligently made no provision for their maintenance, our army meanwhile having stripped them of what the Confederates left. That condition of things contrasted unfavorably with their former; and when the Superintendent would say, "Jeff, take your hoe and go into the field," he would reply, "My ole massa, him feed me well, give me corn, pork, plenty molasses—den I work. Hime no say work without him feed; ah, that no right—me work for you and find myself;" they understand this point at least.

Another illustration and difficulty is: A number of contrabands are employed about the Fort, as laborers. They are supplied with army rations and paid, averaging $6 per month. This is well known to all the negroes on the plantations, at least in the immediate vicinity. They would all cheerfully work at similar rates; but when required to labor on the plantation, planting corn, without definite pay being promised them, they complain, and, I think, justly. Government, after the first crop of cotton is gathered and sold, will undoubtedly institute a system of pay for them. That was a great mistake, in my humble judgment, in urging, and in some cases forcing, the contrabands to labor on the plantations at planting cotton, without even a promise of definite pay. Only a general promise was given them of pay at some future time.

A few words about teaching them to read and write. There is a noted eagerness on the part of all to learn the alphabet. Old and young of both sexes will crowd around you, as you seat yourself on a bale of cotton, and for an hour repeat patiently after you the letters of the alphabet. But as to learning those over 15 years of age, that is, the present generation, even the common rudiments of an English education, is a thing both unnecessary and impossible—unnecessary, for we need all above 15 years in the field, or in trades, and because there are so many other essential and practical duties to teach, that, in order that they may become [illegible] before they begin not at day-[illegible]ble, or after the novelty of learning the alphabet is over, the difficulties will rapidly develop. But there is reason to hope for the largest success with the young and rising generation, from 7 to 15 years of age. There is abundant material out of which to make intelligent, educated free citizens. God bless those who will patiently teach these contraband children. The ladies who went down under Mr. Pierce's charge, went for this purpose, and they are, for the most part, doing nobly. There are, besides the schools on the several plantations, three large ones successfully operating at Beaufort. Dr. Peck has charge of one, Dr. Johnson a second, and the ladies a third.

Before I went South, Fremont had issued his proclamation, giving unconditional emancipation to the slaves of the Rebels in Missouri. I hailed that proclamation as a God-send, and most heartily endorsed it. I only wished then that our noble President would catch a similar spirit. I came South from South Carolina with altogether new and different feelings. My experience and observation, though limited, has taught me a new lesson. There must be a controlling power exercised over the negro of the present generation, educated as he has been, under a system of slavery, else ruin to the blacks, and weaken Government. Slavery is a curse; do away with that, but not be an immediate and complete emancipation; for then you would have either four millions of paupers for Government to sustain, or, being incapable of self-support in its fullest sense, they will prey upon the communities in whose midst they shall scatter.

Of course there are many already capable of self-support; but the experiment at Port Royal has demonstrated, at least in my judgment, that the negro, educated a slave, must be taught the true meaning of "freedom," before all its privileges are granted to him. He need not be kept a slave, but must immediate control should be exercised over him; a understanding to the full "privileges of liberty" would upset the whole race of blacks, and destroy the very object sought to be attained. Mr. Phillips yet tell what the result of sudden freedom would be to the slave, or what disposition can be made of him after his liberation. Can you tell of any practicable project, on so broad a platform, without party distinction, with so much hope for success, as the "missionary enterprise" at Port Royal? Very truly, yours,

GEO. H. BLAKE.

THE RECONNOISANCE OF THE SIXTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS ON WEDNESDAY LAST.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

CAMP BROOK, RICHMOND, Thursday Night, June 19, 1862.

I thought yesterday that a fight was inevitable to-day. Everything seemed ready for it, and, in point of fact, we escaped it last evening by the skin of our teeth. At about 6 o'clock in the evening a regiment was sent into the swampy ground below the Williamsburg road, to see if it was practicable for artillery. It was a Massachusetts regiment, under Col. Wyman, and had with it two pieces of artillery. Three Confederate regiments came out to meet it, and quite a sharp engagement followed, which lasted for nearly an hour. By this time we had lost 17 in killed, 28 wounded and 24 missing, whose names were forwarded to you this afternoon. The loss of the enemy is not known, but a South Carolina Sergeant, who was wounded and taken, represents it as having been very heavy, in consequence of the fire of our artillery. As Col. Wyman's orders were to run no risk of bringing on a general engagement, reinforcements were not sent to him, and he withdrew. The object of the reconnoissance was accomplished.

CONFEDERATE ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE.

From the Richmond Dispatch, June 21.

Several of our field surgeons were busy in attending to the poor, unfortunate wounded who fell to our care on Wednesday, and the character of their wounds was most shocking, our men having taken deadly aim, and put an effectual barrier to all attentions of the medical staff. Several wounded Yankee officers died before any attention could be paid to them. From prisoners we learn that the Massachusetts regiments opposed to ours on McClellan, and in marching to the front anticipated naught else but "sport," thinking our men would immediately give ground before them; but, after a few hours of skirmishing, they learned to look upon the Rebels with a different eye, and could not be prevailed upon to advance on our line, although entreated and almost forced to do so.—Many of their killed and wounded were carried off as soon as they fell, so that an estimate of their loss is impracticable. It is considered to be not less than three hundred, from prisoners' statements, while ours does not exceed fifty.

HOW GEN. BUTLER MAKES MEN CONVICT THEMSELVES.—Gen. Butler learned the other night of a conspiracy between six men, French, and Spanish incendiaries, to take his life. Next morning four of them were arrested and brought before Gen. Butler. They protested their innocence, but they were ordered to be chained together until they should conclude to divulge the secrets of the conspiracy.—N. O. Picayune, June 7.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

[COPIED FROM OUR EXCHANGES.]

Confederate Account of the Evacuation of Corinth—A Full Southern Account of the Retreat of Beauregard

A correspondent of the Savannah *Republican* thus details the reasons which led to the evacuation of Corinth:

The evacuation of Corinth, under the circumstances which environed the army, was both wise and necessary, as a brief statement will suffice to demonstrate.

The soil around Corinth is of that peculiar character which is very wet in winter and very dry in summer. As was stated in a former letter, I saw a mule drowned in a small branch, near the town, where, two weeks afterwards, there was not a drop of water to be seen. The consequence was, at the time of my departure, both the troops and horses were suffering for water to an extent you can hardly imagine. The chief supply was obtained from the standing pools in the beds of exhausted streams.

Steps had been taken to bore a number of wells, but it was ascertained that there was no rope or tools to be had in the town, and that it would be necessary to send to Columbus, Mississippi, for the particular kind of rope desired. The rope had not been received up to the 26th, and, but for timely showers which renewed the springs and the wells dug by the men in the low, damp places, the army could not have remained there as long as it has.—The citizens use rain water, caught in cisterns, from the 1st of October to the 1st of May, but the supply in the cisterns was not sufficient to supply the army a week.

In the neighborhood of Pea Ridge, the locality of the enemy's chief encampment, the water is better and the supply more abundant.

But it was not the want of an adequate supply of water alone that rendered it necessary for our army to retire from Corinth. Our encampment was bounded on three sides by Bridge Creek and a dense swamp—in front, on the right, and in the rear—and our breastworks were just behind the swamp, and ran parallel to it for a considerable distance. The swamp was crossed by four or five roads, near which we had planted formidable batteries to cut off all approach by the roads. It would now appear that the same thing has been done by the enemy, who has advanced up near the swamp on the other side, thrown up breastworks and posted heavy siege guns, which not only command the roads leading out from our side, but are of sufficient calibre to shell nearly every part of our encampment. He has also thrown up strong works near Farmington and Pea Ridge, and erected heavy batteries at commanding points along the several routes to the rear. Indeed, the Federal works are superior to ours, and the position equally strong, if not stronger, while their force is one-fourth, if not one-third greater.

It was hoped and expected that Halleck would attack us in our position; but that he was too sensible to do, for defeat would have been the certain result. Could we expect a different result, if we should attack him behind his formidable works, and with his superior force? It was never intended to allow him to approach so near, and to get into position without first offering him battle. This we did at Farmington, when he declined to pick up the gauntlet thrown down to him; and this we sought to do on the 22d, when it was found impossible, because the ground had not been properly reconnoitred and mapped, to get our right wing, which was to lead the attack, into position. Had we encountered the enemy on that day, in accordance with the order of battle agreed upon by our officers, I do not see how we could have failed to win the greatest and most decisive victory thus far achieved in the war. That night, however, and the next day, the enemy moved up and got into position, where it would be as great madness for us to make the attack as it would for him to attack us.

Why, then, it may be asked, should we, and not Halleck, retire? Because Halleck is provided with guns of long range and heavy calibre, with which he can throw shot and shell into almost every part of our encampment, every two or three minutes, day and night, as long as he pleases; and because he has better water and a more abundant supply than we have.

The chief advantage the Federals will gain by the change will be the use of the entire line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, from Stephenson to Memphis. They are good workers, and will soon rebuild the bridges over the Tennessee river and Bear Creek, and those over the Hatchie and other streams west of Corinth, which the Confederates will doubtless destroy. As soon as these last bridges can be rebuilt, Memphis and Fort Pillow will be occupied, as well as those sections of the Mobile and Ohio and Tennessee and Ohio Railroads which lie north of the Memphis and Charleston road.

The withdrawal down the Mobile and Ohio road will diminish our transportation, and bring the army into a more healthy section of country, where all kinds of supplies are more abundant and the waters much better. The enemy, on the contrary, should he follow us, will have to march sixty-five or seventy miles into the interior, where, in case of disaster, he would be cut to pieces and destroyed.

An Honest Account of the Battle of Fair Oaks.

Correspondence of the Charleston Mercury.

RICHMOND, June 2.—With regard to the engagement of Saturday and Sunday, I can add little to the accounts which will have reached you through the city papers. It appears that our south reported 17,000 of the enemy on this side of the Chickahominy, at a point between the York River Railroad and the Williamsburg road, some six or seven miles from the city, and not very far from the fortifications opposite Drury's bluff. The swelling of the Chickahominy by the storm, cut off, as was supposed, all chance of reinforcing these 17,000; and the attack, which all felt was bound to come, at daybreak, found strongly entrenched and fully aware of our approach. His strength had not been very much over-estimated, if we may judge by the regiments represented by the prisoners taken. Of these nine-teen were mentioned in the morning papers. There may have been 40,000 or 50,000 Yankees engaged, but nothing proves it except their obstinate resistance and our heavy losses.

Desperate courage carried entrenchment after entrenchment, and captured battery after battery. Late in the evening of Saturday the enemy attempted to relieve himself by a heavy flank movement on our left; but this was promptly checked by Whiting, and the day ended. Early on Sunday morning the enemy made a terrible attempt to retrieve his losses of the day previous; but he was again driven off, leaving us his entrenchments and encampments with the addition of a few guns not taken by us the day before. Thus matters continued until this morning, when, as usual, we fell back, permitting the enemy to reoccupy the entrenchments from which he had been driven at such fearful cost.

Our loss is very heavy, particularly in officers. Jordan's Sharpshooters did their work well, and unless something is done to check them, promotions in the Confederate service will be altogether too rapid to be certain. Our killed may amount to five hundred; our wounded are nearly five thousand, General Johnston was wounded in the upper part of the right shoulder, the ball or fragment of shell passing over and burying itself in the muscles that cover the shoulder blade. In falling from his horse two ribs were fractured. He is, therefore, permanently disabled—at least for a month or so to come. Lee assumes command of the army. The number of Colonels, Captains and Lieutenants killed and wounded, I will not pretend to estimate. The enemy's loss, except at the entrenchments, is not large. Protected by his earthworks and the dense undergrowth into which we drove him, he poured a decimating fire into our crowded ranks. This, without rodomontade, is the result of the battle.

The Steamers Virginia and Mississippi—Finding of the Court of Inquiry, &c.

C. S. NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, June 11, 1862.

The following is an official copy of the report of the Court of Inquiry, which investigated the destruction of the steamer Virginia, (formerly the Merrimac.)

"The Court of Inquiry, convoked by the order of this Department of the 20th ultimo, whereof French Forrest, Captain in the Navy of the Confederate States, is President, and which Court convened at the city of Richmond on the 22d day of May, 1862, to investigate and inquire into the destruction of the steamer Virginia, and report the same, together with their opinion as to the necessity of destroying her, and particularly whether any, and what, other disposition could have been made of the vessel, have found as follows:

"The Court having heard the statement read, submitted by Flag-Officer Tatnall, was cleared for deliberation, and, after mature consideration, adopted the following report:

"The Court, after a full and careful examination and investigation of the evidence connected with the destruction by fire of the C. S. steamer Virginia, on the morning of April 11th, 1862, near Craney Island, respectfully report that it was effected by the order and under the supervision of Flag-Officer Tatnall, after her draft had been reduced to 20 feet 6 inches, and on the representations of the pilots, that in consequence of recent prevalent westerly winds, she could not be taken with a draft of 18 feet as high as Westover, near Harrison's Bar, in James river, (whither he designed to take her,) which they previously stated they could do.

"1. The destruction of the Virginia was, in the opinion of the Court, unnecessary at the time and place it was effected.

"2. It being clearly in evidence that Norfolk being evacuated, and Flag-Officer Tatnall having been instructed to prevent the enemy from ascending James River, the Virginia, with very little more, if any, lessening of draft, after lightening her to twenty feet six inches aft, with her iron sheathing still extending three feet under water, could have been taken up to Hog Island, in James River, (where the channel is narrow,) and could there have prevented the larger vessels and transports of the enemy from ascending, the Court is of opinion that such disposition ought to have been made of her, and if it should be ascertained that her provisions could not be replenished when those on hand were exhausted, then the proper time would have arrived to take into consideration the expediency or practicability of striking a last blow at the enemy or destroying her.

"In conclusion, the Court is of opinion that the evacuation of Norfolk, the destruction of the Navy Yard, and other public property, added to the hasty retreat of the military under General Huger, leaving the batteries unmanned and unprotected, no doubt conspired to produce, in the minds of the officers of the Virginia, the necessity of her destruction at the time, was, in their opinion, the only means left of preventing her from falling into the hands of the enemy, and seems to have precluded the consideration of the possibility of getting her up James river to the point or points indicated."

The Court of Inquiry, of which Capt. F. Forrest is President, is hereby dissolved.

S. R. MALLORY, Secretary of Navy.

The Finding of the Court of Inquiry in the Case of the Destruction of the Mississippi.

The Court, having carefully considered the evidence in the case of the C. S. Mississippi, is of opinion that her destruction was necessary to prevent her from falling into the hands of the enemy.

From the Richmond Dispatch, June 21.

A Skirmish.

On Wednesday Kershaw's South Carolina brigade was ordered forward by Gen. McLawes to "feel" the enemy on the Nine-Mile road. They started forward, skirmishers being thrown out by the 2d and 3d South Carolina regiments. They had gone but a short distance into the woods when a brisk fire commenced along the lines. Upon our steady advance the enemy was driven back, and our men then pressed forward and took possession of their camps, bringing off overcoats, rubber cloths, and several fine Enfield rifles. After pressing the Yankees back upon their main body, a fire was opened upon them with artillery, and our skirmishers were ordered to retire. Some seven or eight of the South Carolinians were wounded, among them Capt. Cathbert, of the 2d, severely in the arm, and Capt. Walker, of the 3d, severely in the shoulder. This skirmish is spoken of as a creditable affair for those engaged.

The Maryland Line.

The Maryland line, Col. Bradley T. Johnson, is now stationed at Staunton, Va., for the purpose of recruiting. The following order has recently been issued:

HEADQUARTERS 3d DIVISION,
June 12th, 1862.

General Orders No. 30.

In commemoration of the gallant conduct of the 1st Maryland regiment, on the 6th of June, when, led by Col. Bradley T. Johnson, they drove back, with loss, the Pennsylvania "Bucktail Rifles," in the engagement near Harrisonburg, Rockingham county, Va., authority is given to have one of the captured "bucktails," the insignia of the Federal regiment, appended to the color staff of the 1st Maryland regiment.

By order of Major-Gen. Ewell,

JAS. BARBOUR, A. A. G.

The Campaign in Western Virginia.

The Lynchburg *Republican* learns from reliable authority that a guerilla party attacked and destroyed Cox's train of wagons, on Sewell mountain, a few days ago; capturing all the wagons, (loaded with provisions, which they burnt;) also capturing the horses, and routing a party of Yankees at some severe loss, who came to see the whereabouts of the train. They also destroyed Wirt Court House and the oil wells that were in possession of the Hessians. Thirty citizens of Cabell county joined General Loring's command a few days ago, and they represent that there is a considerable reaction in our favor in that whole country.

Gen. Joe Johnston.

Gen. Johnston, who was wounded at the battle of Seven Pines, is now in Richmond, and is rapidly recovering from his wound. He was shot by a musket ball, the ball lodging in the fleshy part of the shoulder. He has sufficiently recovered to attend to correspondence.

Maryladers Killed and Wounded in Jackson's Battles of May and June.

FIRST MARYLAND REGIMENT.

Capt. Goldsborough's Company (A)—Nobody injured.

Capt. Edelin's Company (B)—Nobody injured.

Capt. R. C. Smith's Company (C)—Nobody injured.

Capt. J. R. Herbert's Company (D)—Killed: Lieut. N. Snowden, of Prince George's county; Sergeant Wells, of Prince George's county; Corporal Jos. McIntyre; Privates E. W. Beatty and Wm. Acker. Wounded: Privates T. Berry, Chas. Bird, Charles Hitzelberger, Joshua Simpson, John Key—not John R. Key, of Washington city.

Capt. O'Brien's Company (E)—No loss known.

Capt. Louis Smith's Company (F)—No loss known.

Capt. Nicholas' Company (G)—Killed: Private Murphy. Wounded: Noble dy.

Capt. Murray's Company (H)—Killed: Privates Wm. Harris, of Baltimore; Scelley, Eastern shore; Perry, St. Mary's county; J. Farr, St. Mary's co.; K. White, of Eastern Shore. Wounded: Privates Wm. E. Colston, Saml. Sindall, Saml. Rogers, not dangerously, Philip J. Coakley, slightly—all of Baltimore.

Capt. Robinson's Company (I)—Killed: Capt. Robinson, of Charles county. Wounded: Lieut. H. H. Bean, in foot, Privates Gwynn Barber, Saml. Lancaster, J. Chappelair, all of Charles county.

Wounded—Brig. Gen. Arnold Elzey, slightly; Brig. Gen. Geo. H. Steuart, slightly in shoulder; Lt. Col. Elw. Dorsey, slightly in arm. Col. Johnson not hurt.

Killed, at Winchester, May 21, Robt. B. McKim, Rockbridge Artillery, of Baltimore.

Died, at Petersburg, June 5, of typhoid fever, James G. Sterrett, son of Capt. Sterrett, C. S. N.

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