THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. II---NO. 244. BALTIMORE, FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

In our issue of this morning will be found the advertisement of Messrs. C. M. De La Mar & Co., General Commission Merchants, 53 Exchange Place. The Messrs. De La Mar have been long residents of Havana, have a knowledge of the qualities of Havana tobacco, and offer to the trade a genuine article of cigars, made here or in Havana. They have also a large selection of choice liquors selected with care from foreign markets, and our friends may rely upon getting articles as represented.

DIED.

On Wednesday, 2d instant, Mr. NICHOLAS PROSPER ARBELTIER late Vice Consul of France in this city. The funeral will leave his late residence No. 36 Holliday street on to-morrow (Saturday) morning, at nine o'clock, and proceed to the cathedral, where the religious ceremonies will be performed. His friends are invited to attend without further notice.

On the 24 instant, at the residence of Thomas Armstrong Baltimore county, JAMES W. GRAHAM, Esq., of Lancaster county, Va., in the 84 year of his age.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States the bill to amend the judicial system was taken up, amended and passed.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Bingham, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back Mr. May's bill relating to prisoners of State, with an additional section, "authorizing the President to suspend the *habeas corpus* in case of invasion, and for the public safety." A resolution was introduced by Mr. Dunlap, declaring the reply of General Hunter in regard to arming fugitive slaves, to be eminently derogatory to the dignity of the American Congress, insulting to the American peple, and unworthy of the American soldier.

The army correspondent of the Associated Press, who claims to have arrived at Fortress Monroe direct from General McClellan's headquarters, reports that after seven days hard fighting McClellan, pressed by superior numbers, was forced to retreat to a point on the James river near Turkey Island, where what remains of his army is safe under cover of the gunboats, and where, we are told, it is now being reinforced. The battles, it is said, have been "the most destructive of human life that the world has seen," having resulted in a loss in killed and wounded, of not less than forty-five thousand men, of which, it is assumed, that the Federal army lost fifteen thousand and the Confederates double that number. All the bridges across the Chickahominy are said to have been blown up by McClellan in his retreat, and all the property, stores, &c., destroyed which he could not save. The siege guns, or a portion of them—for the accounts differ—fell into the hands of the Confederates, who are also said to have taken about forty pieces of artillery. Some of the enemy's artillery is reported to have been taken by McClellan together with many prisoners; but rather than be encumbered with them they were subsequently released. McCall's division suffered terribly in the fight between Savage Station and Fair Oaks; McCall himself being wounded and taken prisoner. General Reynolds was also taken prisoner, but the fate of their respective commands is not stated. Generals Meade and Gorman and Burns were severely wounded, the former having since died in this city. Gens. Sumner and Heintzleman, being but slightly wounded, remained on the field. From the same source we learn that, on the part of the Confederates, Generals "Stonewall Jackson and Barnwell Rhett, of South Carolina were killed.

It can scarcely be said that the telegrams from which we have just quoted alter, in any essential particular, that grave aspect of affairs on the peninsula which was indicated by previous intelligence from that quarter. If General McClellan can be rapidly and heavily reinforced, and if, also, supplies can be furnished him by way of the James river, the position which he now occupies may possibly be successfully maintained, and his new base of operations may become firmly established. But the difficulties attendant upon pushing troops and supplies up the James river, in the face of an active and vigilant enemy who has undisputed possession of the south bank of that narrow and tortuous stream, must be enormous, and will unquestionably tax to the utermost the capacity of the naval flotilla, and the vigilance and bravery of the officers in command. The New York *World*, however, expresses, editorially, the opinion that McClellan has materially improved his position and has so protected his force by natural bar ers and by the covering fire of the gunboats, that "he is master of the situation and may laugh defiance at his enemies."

On the other hand, the New York *Times*, after a careful review of the situation, and guided by information derived from personal interviews with its correspondents, who left General McClellan's headquarters on James river on the afternoon of Monday last, and reached New York on Wednesday, comes to the conclusion that "there is now no room to doubt that our army has met with a very serious reverse, and that it is in a condition of peril which, if not imminent, at least calls for the instant and energetic efforts of the Government and the country." After giving a brief summary of the events that had transpired, that journal adds—"Beyond all question this intelligence will fall with heavy weight upon the public heart. It is entirely unexpected and shatters the high hope which the whole country has of late indulged, that with the fall of Richmond the end of the rebellion is close at hand." The most noticeable feature of all is that, up to the present writing, no official dispatch from General McClellan has been given to the public—the only knowledge we have of the sanguinary battles that have been fought, the losses sustained and the reverses experienced, being derived from irresponsible persons.

For ourselves, we have no opinion to offer in regard to the actual condition of affairs, beyond the mere hypotheses which we have already ventured to advance. We are, in the homely language of Wootton, "but gatherers and disposers of other mon's stuff," and simply undertake to string together, with a running commentary, what we find in the columns of other journals, and what we receive from outside sources that are open alike to all.

The New York *Times* has detailed reports of the battles of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, in which it is stated that the Confederates succeeded in crossing the Chickahominy in great force on Sunday and took possession of the ground previously occupied by the Federal troops on both sides of that stream, including the bridges and the earthworks that had been constructed to prevent their approach.

It is stated on the authority of a passenger who reached Louisville yesterday from the South that fifty-five men detailed by General Mitchell to act as scouts were all captured by the Confederates, taken to Atlanta and there hung. One of them is said to have made a most patriotic speech on the gallows.

This office will be closed to-day, according to custom, and no paper will therefore be issued tomorrow. Our Afternoon Edition of Saturday will be issued as usual, and will contain all the news of importance up to the hour of going to press.

GOV. MORGAN'S APPEAL FOR MORE TROOPS.

Special Despatch to the New York Express.

ALBANY, July 2.—Governor Morgan issues today a stirring and patriotic appeal to the citizens, calling on them to come forward at the call of the country, and furnish their quota toward the new force of volunteers demanded by the General Government.

CHARLOTTE HALL SCHOOL,
ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MD.

On January 1st, 1863, there will be a vacancy in the office of Steward of this Institution. Applications to fill this vacancy are to be filed for the action of the Board of Trustees, on or before the FIRST TUESDAY IN AUGUST next. In addition to the usual perquisites of building garden and several acres of arable land free of rent, the privilege is offered the Steward of educating his sons, free of charge for tuition.

The annual examination of this school will commence TUESDAY, August 5th, and continue three days. Parents and others interested are invited to attend.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

WM. T. BRISCOE, Secy.

June 26th, 1862. je30-ec2w*

FARMERS AND PLANTERS' BANK,
BALTIMORE, June 30th, 1862.

The President and Directors have declared a Dividend of FOUR PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, for the last six months, payable on and after the 8th July. The Transfer Books will be closed until the 8d July.

jy2-e06t T. B. RUTTER, Cashier.

BALTIMORE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
(ESTABLISHED UPWARDS OF HALF A CENTURY),
S. W. CORNER SOUTH AND WATER STS.

This Company INSURES AGAINST LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE, in the city or country, on the various descriptions of property.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

J. I. COHEN, Jr., President.

Robert A. Taylor,	Joshua I. Cohen,
Wm. G. Harrison,	Henry Carroll,
George R. Vickers,	Francis T. King,
Francis W. Alricks,	Richard H. Steuart,
David S. Wilson,	William H. Bruce,
Wm. F. Worthington,	Hermann Von Kapff,
Josias Pennington,	Samuel I. Donaldson,
	Thomas Franklin.

WILLIAM WOODWORTH, Secy.

mh6-eotf

THE GREAT WESTERN
(MARINE) INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF NEW YORK.

Authorized Capital	$5,000,000
Cash Capital paid in and Surplus	2,080,920
Assets 31st December, 1861	2,511,558

The undersigned is prepared to give Policies in this desirable Company at Equitable rates.

Losses will be paid, as heretofore, with the Company's usual promptness.

COLIN MACKENZIE, Agent,
fe17-eo3mr 44 Lombard street.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

THE LATEST AUTHENTIC NEWS FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

SEVEN DAYS' FIGHTING.

Fearful Slaughter.

GENERAL M'CLELLAN'S ARMY SAFE.

Death of "Stonewall" Jackson and General Rhett.

OFFICE ASSOCIATED PRESS, June 3d, 1862.

The army correspondent of the Associated Press has just arrived here direct from Gen. McClellan's headquarters. The following is briefly the state of affairs:

After seven days' incessant fighting, during which McClellan's army was compelled to fall back before vastly superior numbers, he reached a point on James river, adjoining Turkey Island. Here he is in safe position, with the support of his gunboats. His army are on high ground, out of the swamps, with abundance of good water, where he can be, and is now being, reinforced. The battle, or rather series of battles, has been one of the most destructive of human life that the world has seen, and has resulted in the killing and wounding of not less, it is thought, than 45,000 men on both sides.

The enemy's loss has unquestionably been enormous—far greater than ours, which, in killed and wounded, will not exceed 15,000. We have lost many prisoners, but not more than 5,000.

All the bridges were blown up by McClellan as he retreated, and all the property, stores, &c., that he could not save were destroyed. The enemy got very little besides a portion of our siege guns, and about 40 pieces of light artillery.

We captured a number of the enemy's artillery, and also took many prisoners, but were compelled to release most of them rather than be encumbered with them.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of Monday announced the death of General "Stonewall" Jackson and General Barnwell Rhett, of South Carolina.

A terrible fight took place on Sunday last between Savage Station and Fair Oaks, in which Generals Hooker and Heintzleman's corps were engaged. Our brave troops here engaged an immense force of the Rebels most successfully. Our artillery and infantry fire mowed them down in heaps, and finally repulsed them.

General McCall's division suffered severely in this battle, but, as usual, fought most desperately and unyieldingly. The brave leader, General McCall, fell wounded and was made prisoner.

The battle of Monday was at White Oak bridge, half way between Savage Station and James River. The fight lasted all day, till dark. General Smith's and General Naglee's divisions were on the right. On the left of Smith was General Sumner's corps, and on the left of Sumner, General Heintzelmen's corps, including McCall's division.

This was a bloody struggle, and the field was strewn thick with dead and wounded.

During the day our forces fell back three miles, reaching by next day their present position.

Here a halt took place, the enemy being evidently too much exhausted to make any very serious demonstration.

Generals Sumner and Heintzleman were both slightly wounded, but remained on the field.

General Reynolds was made prisoner.

General Meade and Burns were wounded.

Major Russell, of the 3d Infantry, Lieutenant Parker, of the 2d Infantry, and Col. Goswell, of the 54th Pennsylvania regiment, are among the killed.

STILL LATER FROM GEN. McCLELLAN. His Army Safe at Berkley on the James River—His Wagon Train Safe—Only One Gun Lost—Another Battle with the Rebels, in which They are Badly Beaten—Reinforcements Arrived—The Army in Good Spirits.

WASHINGTON, July 3—P. M.—A despatch from General McClellan has just been received at the War Department, dated from "Berkley, on the right wing of our army—about twenty miles from Richmond," and is as follows:

"Every preparation that military science could suggest has been employed at Vicksburg, and that city will be defended to the last."

The following special despatch is published by the *Appeal*:

"Vicksburg, June 27.—Porter's mortar fleet opened on the lower batteries at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and ceased at 7 o'clock.

"The bombardment was recommenced at 5½ o'clock this morning. Our batteries replied with but few shot. Our loss was two killed and three wounded.

"J. B. DeBow, Agent of the Confederate Produce Loan, informs the planters of Louisiana and Mississippi, and those desiring to subscribe their crops, that they can do so at a fair valuation, for 8 per cent. Confederate bonds.

"The steamer Atlantic arrived at Cairo to-night, with 1,300 men of Gen. Prentiss' brigade, who have been paroled.

"It is reported that the Federals are landing troops at Warrenton. I have no knowledge of the truth of this report, but it corresponds with their previous movements.

"At 1 o'clock to-day twelve transports came up above the gunboats, and landed troops at Brown & Johnson's place, on the Louisiana shore. From the number of transports engaged, they must have landed a large force."

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Intelligence from General McClellan—Terrible Fighting—Fearful Slaughter—McClellan in a safe Position on James River.

FORTRESS MONROE, July 2, 9 P. M.—The steamer Daniel Webster has just arrived here from City Point with upward of 300 wounded on board.

A gentleman who came down in charge of them informs me that yesterday was the 6th day that the battle has been going on with the most terrific fighting the sun ever shone upon. It has extended the whole length of our lines. We have lost a great many men in killed, wounded and missing—probably 15,000 to 20,000.

He informs me that General McClellan's headquarters are at Hardy's landing to day, and his lines extend five miles above, towards Richmond. This more of the right wing of the army was pre determined upon and planned ten days ago, and would have been carried out sooner but for certain reasons well known in the army, but which it would not be proper to state.

The enemy's forces have greatly outnumbered ours in almost every action, but, notwithstanding this, they have been repulsed oftener than we have, and their loss far exceeds ours.

Yesterday McClellan is said to have captured a whole Rebel brigade, and took from them several rifled cannon and other pieces.

It is now said that we have lost very few of our siege guns, most of them having been moved in safety.

There have been a great many wounded prisoners taken on both sides.

Our informant says that General McClellan and his staff all agree that the present position of our army is far more advantageous as a base of operations against Richmond than that hitherto occupied.

The gunboats can now be brought to bear, and materially aid in carrying on the work.

Some of our regiments have suffered terribly, while others have lost but little.

The New York 5th have suffered terribly. They made a most heroic struggle, and did great havoc among the enemy. About one-half of their number are killed, wounded or taken prisoners. They were in the fight at Old Arbor, and fought against desperate odds.

Our left wing were engaged yesterday, July 1st, up to 2 o'clock with the enemy.

Letter of Thanks to Com. Davis.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The following congratulatory letter has been addressed by the Secretary of the Navy to Flag Officer Davis, Commanding Western Flotilla, Cairo, Illinois:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, June 18, 1862.

SIR:—Your report of the encounter with the Rebel fleet on the 6th inst., off Memphis, announcing your complete success, aided by Colonel Ellett with the Ram fleet in capturing the enemy's flotilla, has been received and read with satisfaction.

I congratulate you and your associates on the virtual annihilation of the Rebel naval force on the Mississippi, and the surrender to you of the city of Memphis. These results are the sequel of gallant services rendered by our naval heroes and those who have been associated with them in a series of conflicts and triumphs on the Western waters for the maintenance of the rightful authority of the Government and the integrity of the Union.

You and all who have been connected with you in this triumph, are justly entitled to the thanks of the Government and country.

I am, respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
GIDEON WELLES.

Flag-Officer Charles Henry Davis, Commanding Western Flotilla, Cairo, Illinois.

The following reply to the above was received from Commander Davis:

UNITED STATES FLAG STEAMER BENTON, MEMPHIS, June 21.

SIR—The letter of the Department of the 18th inst., congratulating myself and the officers and men under my command upon the results of the engagement of the 6th inst., has been received and read with unalloyed pleasure. The satisfaction with the success of the day expressed by the Department, and its approbation generally, cost tute at once the proof and the reward of service. I shall cause your letter to be read on board of every vessel in the squadron, embracing those now present on the 6th instant, that all may perceive that former services are not forgotten, and that the Department in viewing present events still cherishes the remembrance of the long series of conflicts and triumphs of which these events are the sequel.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
C. H. DAVIS.

Flag Officer Commanding Naval forces on the Mississippi and its tributaries.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

The following, also to Commander Davis, has been issued:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, June 27, 1862.

SIR:—Your despatch of the 19th instant, communicating information of the capture of two batteries at St. Charles, and the removal of obstructions, which have, probably, given us the command of White River, has been received.

The intelligence of the continued success of the navy is most gratifying; but the victory at St. Charles is mingled with regret for the lamented dead and sympathy for the wounded who were victims of the fatal accident to the Mound City, and of their barbarous opponents who fired upon them after that great calamity. The contrast between these barbarities of a savage enemy at St. Charles and the humane efforts of your officers and your command to rescue the wounded and disabled at Memphis, is honorable to the gallant men of the flotilla, and will be gratefully remembered.

The nation, honoring the memory and sufferings of its heroes, sympathizes with the wounded survivors and the bereaved families of the gallant dead.

Its noblest tributes are due to those who bleed for their country and die in its cause.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
GIDEON WELLES.

Flag officer Charles H. Davis, commanding Western Flotilla, Memphis, via Cairo.

FROM SALT LAKE.

The Telegraph Line Cut by the Indians—Fight with the Indians.

SALT LAKE, June 26, via PACIFIC SPRINGS, July 1.—On Saturday afternoon the Indians attacked Lieutenant Green's party of 18 men near Rocky Ridge. Two whites and one Indian were killed. It is supposed the Indians cut the telegraph line the same afternoon, as they were seen along the road from Pacific Springs to Sweet Water. Col. Collins's troops are Sioux and Cheyennes, and number about 400. He could not cross the Sweet Water to follow. The stage is stopped for the present. The Indians are lurking in the hills above the Pacific Springs.

SWEET WATER BRIDGE, July 1.—The Indians are again troublesome, cutting the telegraph line between here and Pacific Springs faster than it can be mended. Troops start to-night in pursuit. It is supposed that the war party consists of about 180 Sioux.

CHEYENNE, June 28.—A message to J. E. Wade, President of the Pacific Telegraph Company, dated Salt Lake City, July 24, gives the result of the Indian affairs as the above despatch from Sweet Water. The telegraph line is promptly repaired as fast as broken by the war party, and no pains will be spared to keep the line working.

The Legality of the Acceptances of Ex-Secretary Floyd.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—Attorney-General Bates having given his opinion that the acceptance by Ex-Secretary of War Floyd, of the drafts drawn upon him by Messrs Russell, Mayers and Waddell, now held by Messrs. Pierce and Bacon, are not legal contracts of the United States, and that the United States is not legally bound to pay any money on account thereof, the claimants in their memorial to Congress propose to show that the Attorney General's opinion is in conflict with the statutes with the judicial decisions of the Supreme Court, and with the long practice of the Government in the use of acceptances in the discharge of the obligations of the different department's, and the frequent recognition of this usage by Congress.

Despatch from Col. Fitch.

MEMPHIS, June 30.—Despatches from Col. Fitch, dated at St. Charles, Ark., which works he still held at the time, set forth that General Curtis' Division is at Batesville, on short rations, and without provender for their horses and mules. Besides suffering from sickness, General Hindman is menacing him with a large force, and unless commissary and other stores can reach him soon, his troops will be rendered incapable of duty by starvation.

A regiment was called for and transports with provisions and provender.

Col. Fitch proposes to give the troops a share of active service, having in view a very important movement upon the enemy.

The Loss of the Massachusetts Regiments Before Richmond.

BOSTON, July 3.—A special despatch to the *Journal* states that Colonel Powell T. Wyman, Massachusetts 16th, was killed in the Richmond battle, and Colonel Edward W. Hinks, 19th Massachusetts, wounded.

It is reported that the loss of the 22d Massachusetts is 350 in killed, wounded and missing. That of the Massachusetts 9th, 311. The 11th also suffered severely, having only four line officers left.

The loss of officers in the Massachusetts regiments engaged is very great.

From Gen Mitchell's Division—Hanging of Federal Scouts by the Rebels.

LOUISVILLE, July 3.—A passenger just arrived from the South reports that Gen. Mitchell detailed fifty-five men from different regiments for scouting service. They were all captured by the Rebels, carried to Atlanta, Ga., and there hung. One of them, Robert Buffum—formerly of Salem, Mass., now of the 21 Ohio regiment, O. J. Norton—made a speech on the scaffold, saying "he considered it no ignominy to die for his country even in that manner."

The Agricultural Department.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The Department of Agriculture is to go into immediate operation, with Isaac Newton, of Pennsylvania, as Commissioner, and Richard C. McCormick, of New York, as Chief Clerk. The Department is in accordance with the recommendation of the President, in his annual message. The establishment of a distinct bureau or department devoted to a leading purpose, to the agricultural interest, has been discussed, more or less, for the last twenty years.

Stringent Order in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, June 30.—General Viele has issued the following order:

"Assemblages in the streets for purposes of political discussion, being provocative of civil disturbance, are positively forbidden, and the exhibition of badges and flags indicative of disloyal sentiments, will not be tolerated.

"Parents will be held responsible for the conduct of their children in this particular."

Murder in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, July 2.—W. Walters, temporarily in charge of a gambling house in Baker street, was murdered in his bedroom last night. The bank of the establishment shows that Walters had over $4,000. It is supposed the murderer got this amount, as no money was found. There were evidences of the terrible struggle in the room, although the victim was found in bed. The murderer is unknown.

COOK & HERRING,
NO. 7 SOUTH CHARLES STREET,
BALTIMORE.

DEALERS IN

CHINA, GLASS AND QUEENSWARE.

KEROSENE, OR COAL OIL, OF THE BEST QUALITY, and

KEROSENE LAMPS IN GREAT VARIETIES.

Manufacturers of

STONE WARE.

Orders promptly attended to. je23-eo3m

LATE FROM RICHMOND.

The Battle of Wednesday and Thursday.

CONFEDERATE ACCOUNT.

THE ATTACK FIRST MADE BY GEN. HILL.

ORGANIZATION OF MORE REGIMENTS, &c.

[COPIED FROM OUR EXCHANGES.]

From the Richmond *Whig* of Friday last (27th instant), we obtain the following interesting items:

The Battle of Thursday.

Yesterday afternoon an engagement opened a few miles northeast of the city, which we have no reason to doubt is the beginning of the great conflict that is to decide the fate of this capital, and perhaps of the Confederacy itself. The cannonading, till an hour or more after dark, was quick and heavy, exceeding in rapidity and volume that at Seven Pines. Not a word from the field has reached the city.—The reason probably is, that the attack was made and the fight waged on the enemy's rear. The city is confident and calm.

LATER.

Information came to hand last night that the attack was made by General A. P. Hill's division on the enemy's position near the Meadow Bridge, about 3 o'clock. The enemy recoiled, leaving a battery, as is reported, in the hands of our troops. Retreating about two miles, the enemy made a stand in their entrenchments at Mechanicsville, and offered vigorous resistance for two or three hours. But they could not stand the impetuous onset of our victorious troops, and again broke and made for the main body of McClellan's army, leaving three batteries to their pursuers. Darkness put an end to the chase. We have no report of casualties. The battle opens gloriously. May this morning's sun be our Sun of Austerlitz.

From the Lines—The Fight on Wednesday.

We are permitted to take the following extract from a letter from a member of a company in the fight, dated yesterday:

"We have had nothing to eat since yesterday morning, and then only a slice of bread and a cup of coffee to each of us. We had to lie all day in the sun. The Yankees were shelling us most of the time, but did not hurt us. About 6 o'clock P. M. we were ordered to fix bayonets and charge the Yankees—that is, four companies of our regiment (the 12th Virginia)—the other portion being held as a reserve and support for our artillery. We had to charge across a wheat field about three quarters of a mile. The Yankees were under cover, in a dense wood, and at least eight to our one.

"We crossed the field with a yell, and so quick and unexpected was the movement, that the Yankees broke and fled, but not until many of them had been made to bite the dust. I don't mean that our battalion did all this. We were nobly aided by the Forty-eighth North Carolina and Fourth Georgia. The woods were filled with the dead and wounded Yankees. None of our company were killed, but seven were wounded—Sergeant William Woodson, in knee; R. Elyson, through the lungs (mortally); J. B. Old, in calf of leg; A. Gathwright, in small of back (seriously); John Leatmont, in arm; Sergeant John Leighton, slightly, in leg; David Wilson, in foot (slightly). We took some twenty or thirty prisoners."

We have been unable to obtain any further particulars of the fighting in the early part of the day, and until the Generals in command concede some facilities to reporters and correspondents of the press, will have to trust to chance for whatever news we may obtain from the battle field.

The 48th North Carolina, alluded to in the above extract, is a new regiment, commanded by Colonel Hill. The regiment marched from the Capitol Square, Wednesday morning, about 8 o'clock, and went into action soon after reaching the lines.—About twenty of the regiment were killed, and a considerable number wounded, including Major Helps, who was struck in the right foot by a ball.

Early Wednesday morning "Long Tom" again operated on the Yankee breastworks, north of the Williamsburg road, and demolished a considerable portion of the entrenchments. The Yankees fled in dismay from the shells of this powerful engine. The gun was manned, we learn, by Captain Snowden Andrew's Artillerists, the infantry support being a portion of General Pender's brigade.

The General Postoffice Department First in the Field.

The nation, honoring the memory and sufferings of its heroes, sympathizes with the wounded survivors and the bereaved families of the gallant dead.

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Stringent Order in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, June 30.—General Viele has issued the following order:

"Assemblages in the streets for purposes of political discussion, being provocative of civil disturbance, are positively forbidden, and the exhibition of badges and flags indicative of disloyal sentiments, will not be tolerated.

"Parents will be held responsible for the conduct of their children in this particular."

Murder in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, July 2.—W. Walters, temporarily in charge of a gambling house in Baker street, was murdered in his bedroom last night. The bank of the establishment shows that Walters had over $4,000. It is supposed the murderer got this amount, as no money was found. There were evidences of the terrible struggle in the room, although the victim was found in bed. The murderer is unknown.

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THE LATE BATTLES NEAR RICHMOND.

From the Special Correspondents of the N. Y. Times.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, ON THE JAMES RIVER, Monday Evening, June 30, 1862.

Events of the gravest character have transpired within the last five days, touching the condition and prospects of the army on the Peninsula. Acting under the necessity which the Commanding General has long foreseen, the widely-extended lines of the army, with its miles of well-constructed defences, stretching almost from the James river on the left, to and beyond the Chickahominy on the right, have been abandoned, and the army before Richmond has fallen back to a more practicable line of defence and attack, upon the James river. Hither the grand army, with its immense artillery and wagon train; its Commissary and Quartermaster's stores; its ammunition; its cattle-droves, of 2,540 head; in fact, its entire *materiel*, horse, foot and dragoons, bag and baggage, have been transferred. This manœuvre, however—one of the most difficult and dangerous for a commander to execute in the face of the enemy—has been accomplished safely, though under circumstances of difficulty and trial which would have taxed the genius of a Napoleon.

The army has been engaged in constant conflict with the enemy for six days, during which their highest energies have been taxed to the uttermost. We have had no moment of repose—no opportunity scarcely to properly care for the wounded and to bury the dead. The enemy have closely watched every movement; and, with an army more than double that of our own, have had the ability to constantly launch fresh troops upon our rear, an advantage which they have been quick to discover, and remorseless in improving. Their perfect knowledge of the roads, paths and bridges, and the topography of the country, which has taken us time to learn, has placed an immense advantage in their hands. Heaven grant that here, under the shadow of these hills, and with the co-operation of the gunboats, our overtaxed soldiers and officers may have that brief repose which is so essential to them, and to the existence of the army itself.

The interruption of all communication with the Government has, no doubt, convulsed the country with anxiety and alarm. A knowledge of the facts, however, will relieve this feeling, while any effort to conceal the truth will not only be fruitless, but will leave the public to imagine a thousand evils which do not exist.

Beginning with the fight at Mechanicsville on Thursday, our advance forces, while steadily falling back, have had a continuous running fight.

On Friday one of the severest battles which was ever fought on this continent occurred on the right of the Chickahominy, near Gaines' Hill. On Saturday, after our forces had retired in good order across the creek and destroyed the bridges, we were attacked in front of our encampments, but General Smith repulsed the enemy, leaving the ground strewn with his dead.

On Saturday morning, the arrangements having been completed, the wagon train was started on its way to James river, and was followed on Sunday morning by the artillery and commissary train.

Meantime the enemy, getting scent of our movement, strongly reconnoitered our front, and finding that several of our positions had been abandoned, they at once attacked us vigorously. Generals Hooker and Richardson drove them back, and General Meagher's brigade, always on hand at the right time, charged, and captured two of their guns.—The Confederates paid a dear price for the information which they obtained. The chief struggle was near Savage's Station.

Anticipating a movement on our right flank, the railroad bridge over the Chickahominy was destroyed on Saturday morning. The Confederates, supposing we had fallen back on the White House, sent a large force of infantry, cavalry and artillery in that direction, but after a long, rapid, and weary march, discovered they had gone on a wild goose chase in the wrong direction. They only found a small force of our infantry and cavalry scattered down to guard the rear, who fell back and escaped from White House Landing. The rest was one of those "howling wildernesses," which the Confederates intend to leave to fate. All the quartermaster and commissary stores had been removed two days before, and the rubbish burned.

Gen. McClellan and Staff left the headquarters at Savage's Station at daylight on Sunday morning, with a body guard of the 4th United States Cavalry, and rode about some five miles out, after crossing the White Oak Creek.

There were, on Saturday, about one thousand of the wounded and sick, chiefly accumulated from the battle of Friday, many of whom it was found impossible to remove, owing to the nature and severity of their wounds, and as a matter of humanity, as well as of necessity, they were left behind.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE FRONT.

General Hooker's division broke camp in the intrenchments at 3 o'clock Sunday morning, and Gens. Sickles' and Grover's brigades proceeded to the outposts to relieve Gen. Patterson's New Jersey brigade. At 5 o'clock A. M. the three brigades fell back to the second line of redoubts, where they formed a line of battle with Richardson's and Kearney's divisions, and remained until 8 o'clock P. M. On discovering that Gen. Hooker had fallen back, the enemy advanced his scouts, with two field-pieces, and opened a brisk fire upon his rear, along the line of the railroad. Gen. Meagher's brigade made a movement on both the enemy's flanks, while the 88th New York charged in front, and captured two of their guns. The enemy then fell back under cover of the wood. None were killed in Hooker's division. In the 26th Pennsylvania three were wounded; the 1st Massachusetts lost two prisoners. One man lost both legs by a shell. Kearney's and Richardson's divisions were the last off the field.

On the approach of the Confederate force to Savage's Station, where the hospitals were established, a white flag was sent out, and it was met by A. R. Chandler, Esq., head of the Confederates, who gave assurance that the hospital should be respected. There was no firing, purposely, in that direction, and, it an occasional shell exploded near the house, it is believed to have been accidental.

About 120 Confederate prisoners, who were captured on Friday, accompanied us under guard.—On Sunday forenoon a sanitary train of our cavalry, who were reconnoitering in front, discovered a body of Confederate cavalry near a small church, and, after a sharp engagement, put them to flight, killing a considerable number of horses, and capturing some twenty five prisoners, who were added to the group already in hand.

Sedgwick's division left the front at daylight, and were engaged by the enemy half way to Savage's Station, which they reached at 5 P. M. Here the enemy's infantry, with a battery, came out of the woods on the right, and attacked them.

The First Maine were advanced on the left, with a line of skirmishers in front. They had twelve wounded, three mortally, viz: Smith, Wren and Taylor. C. W. Haskell, Company C, was slightly wounded in the hand by a shell.

Sedgwick's division crossed the creek at White Oak Swamp about 1 o'clock, A. M., Monday. His rear was not annoyed during the night.

Keyes' and Porter's divisions had already preceded us on the march, and had reached a position on the James river, near Turkey Island, which is about ten or twelve miles above City Point.

The Engineer brigade of General Woodbury preceded the army, and constructed corduroy roads where they were necessary. At the Four-mile Creek, a bridge was built across the run. At the White Oak Swamp Creek two bridges were also constructed by the same valuable corps. One for the passage of the main army train, and the other to accommodate General Heintzleman's division, who, with Hooker and Richardson, covered the retreat.

DESTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGES.

As the army resumed its march on Monday morning information was received, through General Richardson, that the enemy were pursuing, and orders were given to destroy the bridges.

The Engineer Corps was detailed for this duty and also to defend the approach to the place. A wide space of trees had been felled across the creek, and the brigade was deployed as skirmishers at the right and left of the passage. Ayers' battery of six guns was also left to hold the position, and was stationed on the hill overlooking the swamp.

HOW THE RETREAT WAS CONDUCTED.

The retreat was conducted in the most perfect order. There was no trepidation or haste; no smashing up of wagons by careless or fast driving, and not a single accident of any consequence is believed to have occurred. A drove of 2,500 fat cattle, under the charge of Colonel Clark, Chief Commissary, and Capt. L. M. Buchanan, Commissary of Subsistence on General McClellan's staff, were successfully driven along. They had been brought up from the White House, and narrowly escaped stamping by the Confederates.

The country through which we passed contained some of the finest farming lands I have seen in Virginia. Broad farms, with well grown crops of oats and wheat, were paraded along the roads, in which the horses and cattle found abundant forage. The forage of the army had all been consumed the day before, thus relieving the train of an immense burden. Instead of the expected swamps and impassable roads, we found well-travelled country roads in excellent condition, along which the immense artillery and wagon train passed with the greatest ease. After approaching within about five miles of the river, the train was divided, part being sent by each of three roads which converged near the landing. An occasional halt was