THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET.

VOL. II---NO. 270 BALTIMORE, TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

DIED,

On the morning of the 4th instant, after a lingering illness, SUSAN, wife of Charles H. Myers, aged 32 years. Requiescat in pace.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral this (Tuesday) morning, at 8 o'clock, from her late residence, No 29 McCulloch street. There will also be a requiem mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the same hour.

On Monday, the 4th instant, CAROLINE ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Thomas Norris, in the 20th year of her age.

On Sunday evening, August 3d, 1862, WM. WINDER POLK, infant son of J. Bannister and Louie P. Hall, aged 9 months and 8 days.

In the city of Petersburg, Virginia, on Saturday evening, July 26th, after a severe but short illness, which she bore with christian fortitude and resignation, Mrs. R. AMANDA, beloved wife of Geo. W. Talbott, of Baltimore, Md. aged 32 years. "Rejoiced in peace."

On the 29th ult, at Richmond, at the residence of G. W. Wilson, JOHN M. MOODY, of company E, Orr's regiment South Carolina Infantry.

HEALTH OFFICE, Baltimore, Aug. 4, 1862.

Report of Deaths in the City of Baltimore, for the week ending Monday morning.

Apoplexy 1, child bed 1, cholera infantum 22, cholera morbus 1, colic 2, consumption 11, croup 2, dropsy 2, dropsy in the head 2, dysentery 2, diphtheria 2, elephantiasis 1, scarlet fever 6, typhoid fever 5, gunshot wound 1, humor boils 1, infantile debility 5, inflammation of brain 3, intemperance 1, measles 3, old age 4, palsy 1, scrofula 1, smallpox 1, teething 6, unknown cause 1, unknown infantile 19. Whole number of deaths during the week 120.

Under 1 year, 45, between 1 and 2, 23, between 2 and 5, 10, between 5 and 10, 8, between 10 and 15, 2, between 15 and 20, 3, between 20 and 30, 4, between 30 and 40, 4, between 40 and 50, 8, between 50 and 60, 4, between 60 and 70, 5, between 70 and 80, 4, between 80 and 90, 1, between 90 and 100, 1, above 100, 0. Still births 4.

Males 61, females 49. Of which number 16 were colored persons—14 free, 2 slaves. By order,

JOHN F. SCHLOTT, Assist. Commissioner of Health.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

President Lincoln has issued a proclamation ordering that three hundred thousand militia be immediately called, by draft, into the service of the United States to serve for nine months unless sooner discharged. The Secretary of War will assign the quotas to the States and establish regulations for the draft. Drafting is to commence in the several States on and after the 15th inst.

In consequence of the activity of the guerrillas along the line of the Upper Potomac, the route between Front Royal and Winchester has been abandoned for trains and travel, except under strong escort. General Tyler's brigade of Western troops, reached Little Washington, Va., on Friday last, to reinforce the division at that place, under General Banks.

General Pope reports to the War Department that a reconnoitering column, under General Crawford, crossed the Rapidan on Saturday, and occupied Orange Court House, after a skirmish with two regiments of Confederate cavalry under General Robertson. Eleven of the Confederates are said to have been killed, and fifty-two taken prisoners, including the wounded. The Federal loss is set down at two killed and three wounded.

There is no confirmation of the report that the new Merrimac, or rather the "Richmond" as she is called at the South, has made her appearance in the James river below Fort Darling. On the contrary, it is now stated that this formidable vessel will not be completed for several weeks yet to come. In the night attack, by the Confederate artillery across the James river, General Fitz John Porter's Division, at Westover, appears to have suffered much more seriously than it was originally reported to have done. The correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* states that the artillery fire upon the shipping and the camp lasted for an hour; that none of the vessels were much injured, but that from thirty to forty of the volunteer troops were killed and wounded, and also a few regulars. The correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer* reports but five killed and two wounded; whilst the correspondent of the New York *Tribune* estimates the Federal loss at from fifty to one hundred. It is manifestly impossible to reconcile these discrepancies.

The New York *Post* of last evening publishes a letter from Fortress Monroe, announcing that the Corps of General Burnside has embarked on board of the transports in the roads, but the destination of the troops is not made public. The gunboats and mortar boats were also under orders.

From Washington we are informed that, for several days, it has been believed, in some quarters, that Richmond has been evacuated; "there being," says the telegram dubiously, "a reasonable suspicion that a pestilence has broken out in that city." General Pope also telegraphs to the War Department that information from various sources tends to confirm the belief that the Confederates have evacuated Richmond, and taken up the south side of the James river as the line of their defences. Notwithstanding this apparent confirmation of the story by the General commanding the Army of Virginia, it is not at all probable, and the language employed in making the statement public indicates the little credence that is given to it by the Federal authorities.

The siege of Vicksburg has been abandoned. The flotilla under Commodore Farragut passed down the river on Thursday last, followed by the land forces under General Williams. Their destination was supposed to be Mobile, where, it is said, "their services are greatly needed." As a necessary consequence of this movement, the famous canal—that "model of engineering stupidity," as it has been sarcastically styled—has of course been abandoned. Strange to say, many of the negroes employed upon the work have been returned to their masters. As the negroes were being taken down the river, on board of the transport *Ceres*, for the purpose of being returned, the boat was fired into at Warrenton by the Confederates, and a Vermont Captain killed.

The New York *World*, in commenting editorially upon the abandonment of the siege of Vicksburg, declares that "it is trifling with serious things and with truth not to admit that this is as great a disaster to the Federal cause as the loss of a heavy battle."

The correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, writing from Columbus, Kentucky, gives a deplorable account of the extensive and greatly damaging operations of the Confederate guerillas in the military department of West Tennessee, and also in that of the Ohio. All of their recent forays are said to have been singularly successful. These have extended along both banks of the Tennessee river, including the towns of Florence, Waterloo and Savannah on the right, and extending from the same starting point to Chickasaw and the immediate vicinity of Hamburg and Pittsburg Landings. At Florence they captured the Federal soldiers stationed at that place and burnt large quantities of quartermasters' and commissary stores which were there accumulated. On the river, between Florence and Waterloo, they captured the transport steamer Colonna. At Eastport they repeated the performance performed the day before at Florence, and below the same town they captured a train of not less than sixty mule teams, just arrived from Cairo and on its way to Iuka. The burning, at Grand Junction, of four hundred and fifty bales of cotton, which had been bought and paid for by Northern speculators, closes, for the present, the record of their exploits. Four days were occupied in achieving these results.

Positive information has been received at Hilton Head, South Carolina, that a formidable steam ram has been completed at Savannah, Georgia; that she is of light draught, great power, and heavily armed, and that the Confederates were taking the necessary soundings, preparatory to sending her down the river. Admiral Dupont was making every preparation to receive "the monster."

It is now said to be the settled policy of the Government not to organize the negroes into regiments, but all that offer themselves as laborers will be accepted.

From Helena *via* Cairo a report reaches us that the army of General Curtis has been reinforced and is now competent for offensive operations.

[COMMUNICATED.]

FORT MCHENRY, August 4, 1862.

To the Editors of the Maryland News Sheet:

GENTLEMEN:—Having seen in this morning's issue of the *American*, under the head of "Detention of River Steamers and Arrests," a statement that contraband goods were found in my possession, and as the charge is wholly unfounded, I request you will give place to its contradiction.

A very careful search of my baggage (which was all on board that I had the slightest claim to), revealed nothing objectionable to the authorities, my arrest being solely for refusal to take the oath of allegiance; and every statement to the contrary I can disprove at any moment I may get a hearing.

J. G. FITZPATRICK.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

HUNTER'S NEGRO REGIMENT.

Correspondence of the New York Tribune.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., July 26.—All quiet here.—Gen. Wright and command will, in all probability, go to Fortress Monroe.

The negro regiment is not at all popular here.—The colored men—as well behaved fellows as could be wished—were jeered at, insulted, and sometimes struck on their way to their daily labor at the wharf, until Gen. Hunter directed that no details from the 1st South Carolina volunteers should be made for that purpose, but that gangs of men from the regiments who had abused them should take their place. Now there's a howl raised about "a nigger being of more account than a white man."

General Wright and the greater portion of his staff left the Astor House, New York, on Saturday for McClellan's headquarters.

LATEST NEWS.

TELEGRAMS.

ORDER FROM THE PRESIDENT CALLING FOR A DRAFT OF 300,000 MILITIA FROM THE SEVERAL STATES.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, August 4th, 1862.

Ordered.—First—That a draft of 300,000 militia be immediately called into the service of the United States to serve for nine months, unless sooner discharged. The Secretary of War will assign the quotas to the States, and establish regulations for the draft.

Second—That if any State shall not, by the 15th of August, furnish its quota of the additional 300,000 volunteers authorized by law, the deficiency of volunteers in that State will also be made up by special draft from the militia. The Secretary of War will establish regulations for this purpose.

Third—Regulations will be prepared by the War Department, and presented to the President, with the object of securing the promotion of officers of the army and volunteers for meritorious and distinguished service, and of preventing the nomination or appointment in the military service of incompetent or unworthy officers. The regulations will also provide for ridding the service of such incompetent persons as now hold commissions.

By order of the President.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FROM GEN. POPE'S ARMY.

NEAR LITTLE WASHINGTON, VA., August 1.—A field officer with an escort conveying sick from Front Royal hither was fired on by a small party of guerillas on Wednesday night a few miles from here, and in the immediate vicinity of a house guarded by some of our troops. The shots were harmless.

The route between Front Royal and Winchester has been abandoned for trains and travel except under strong escort, so troublesome had the guerillas become, and it appears they are now transferring their deeds of "heroism" to this side.

Belle Boyd, who is said to have recently visited Warrenton under the auspices of some of her Federal dupes, has at last been arrested and taken to Winchester preparatory to some further action. Why she has been permitted this long to roam at large, well known as she was to all to be an arch-traitoress, no one can conceive. Not many months ago she was arrested in Winchester with numerous contraband letters, and paroled to return to Front Royal. This parole she has probably broken on every favorable opportunity, and is reported to have boasted frequently to our officers of holding communication with the enemy.

This assertion is not doubted, as several paroled prisoners have resided there, besides it being a very favorable point to receive and despatch Southern mail from, and our movements in that vicinity having been evidently faithfully transmitted by some one. It is stated that on the occasion of her recent arrest a collection of papers and documents were found in her possession fully corroborating her atrocious occupation.

General Geary's scouts last night brought in three prisoners from the mountains, who are returned Confederate soldiers, according to their own confession. The object of the scouting party was to examine a reported mountain pathway north of Thornton's Gap, where the Rebels were said to communicate between the Luray valley and this region, as well as to rout any predatory bands found there. The enterprise was successful, as stated.

The removal of General Hatch from this corps to the command of an infantry brigade causes much regret. Our cavalry which was consolidated under him had improved in their tactics and discipline, and had become a most useful and important adjunct. He is regarded as a judicious and brave officer of many years experience in the only mode of warfare practicable in this mountainous region, with guerillas for an enemy.

In pursuance of the President's orders, this forenoon was appropriated to ceremonies in memory of the late ex-President Van Buren. All the infantry and artillery of the Second Corps, except those on detached service, assembled in an extensive field. The orders were read, and funeral airs played by the bands. Gen. Banks made a few brief introductory remarks. Flags were displayed at half mast and a battery of Napoleons fired the usual salute.

The arrival of Gen. Pope was announced during the field ceremonies, and his appearance was enthusiastically greeted by the assembled troops. Subsequently all the general officers paid their respects to him in person, and the interview is announced as an exceedingly pleasant one.

The troops to-day hailed with joy the arrival here of Gen. Tyler's veteran brigade of Western troops, who performed such heroic acts at the first battle of Winchester.

Major L. D. H. Crane has been commissioned as Lieutenant Colonel of the Third Wisconsin, and Capt. J. W. Scott promoted to be Major of the same regiment.

Died, at Little Washington, July 26th, Amos Billings, Second Massachusetts regiment of Lunenburg, Mass.

There are no important advices from our advanced posts to-day.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, August 3.—About twenty-five Rebel prisoners arrived here from Baltimore this morning to be exchanged. They were under guard of a detachment of the 7th New York regiment.

The mail steamer arrived this afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from up the James river, but brings no news from our fleet. There is nothing further in reference to the Rebel steamer New Merrimac.

Another Brilliant Achievement of Pope's Army—A Dash upon Orange Court-House.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA, August 3—9 A. M.

To Major General Halleck:—

The reconnoitering column under General Crawford crossed the Rapidan and passed forward to Orange Court House yesterday, and took possession of the town, which was occupied by two regiments of the enemy's cavalry under General Robertson. Eleven of the enemy were killed and fifty-two taken prisoners, among the latter one major, two captains and two lieutenants. Our loss was two killed and three wounded.

The enemy retired in such haste as to leave their wounded in our hands. The railroad and the telegraph line between Orange Court House and Gordonsville were destroyed.

JOHN POPE, Major General.

Supposed Evacuation of Richmond.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—It has been believed here in some quarters, for several days, that the enemy have been evacuating Richmond, there being a reasonable suspicion that a pestilence has broken out in that city.

GENERAL POPE'S HEADQUARTERS, August 4.—Information from various sources tends to confirm the belief that the enemy have really evacuated Richmond and taken up the south bank of the James River as the line of their defences. The Rebel cavalry, under General Robertson, are believed to have been withdrawn from the Shenandoah Valley, leaving that part of the country to the defence of the guerillas alone.

Proceedings Against Disloyal Citizens

WASHINGTON, August 4.—A number of persons have recently voluntarily taken the oath of allegiance. They were doubtless influenced by the newspaper speculations, or report, that Government was about to thus test the patriotism of our citizens. Arrests are frequently made in Washington of offensive disloyalists.

B. Wheat, W. C. Taylor and Dr. J. B. Johnson were arrested in Alexandria last night and have been brought hither.

Several citizens of Fairfax county arrested under General Pope's orders, and taken to Springfield Station, have been released. Considerable excitement exists in Alexandria and neighborhood in consequence of these and kindred proceedings.

Explosion of the Steamer Commodore Perry —Loss of Life, &c

LOUISVILLE, KY., August 2.—The stern-wheel steamer Commodore Perry, with a heavy cargo of cotton for Toledo, from the Cumberland river for Cincinnati, collapsed a flue while the passengers were at supper, at the foot of Fifth street. Immediately afterwards the steamer caught fire and several women jumped overboard, some of whom were saved. Two or three firemen were badly scalded and probably one or two killed. The books and papers of the boat were lost. The money was saved. The boat was owned in Pittsburg and insured. There were about thirty passengers on board.

From the Western Flotilla—Falling of the Mississippi.

PHILADELPHIA, August 3.—A letter from the United States steamer Brooklyn, below Vicksburg, to the *Press*, after describing the attack on the ram Arkansas, says that the fleet will go down to morrow, the 4th, as the falling waters would soon leave our ships high and dry. The river is falling rapidly. We have the river, but must have troops to hold it. September rains will soon be upon us, and after that, fevers are gone and the land will be healthy. At present the heat is intense, and the troops suffer.

Defence of New York Harbor.

NEW YORK, August 4.—At a meeting of the Common Council to-day, Mayor Opdyke sent in a message urging the taking of immediate steps to co-operate with the Federal Government in perfecting the defences of this harbor, and recommending an appropriation of $1,000,000 for the construction of iron plated batteries and ships.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen an ordinance was offered providing a bounty of $50 in addition to all other bounties offered by the State or United States to each volunteer, and appropriating $250,000 therefor.

Deserting the Service.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA, NEAR SPERRYVILL, VA., August 4th.

First Lieutenant Winfield Simpson, of Company K, 102d New York Volunteers, and Lieutenant Wm. Ellen, of Company A, 27th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, are reported by their Colonels and Commanding Generals as having deserted the service. The usual reward will be paid for their apprehension.

By command of Major-General Pope,

[Signed.] GEORGE D. RUGGLES,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

Employment of Negroes in the Army.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—A special despatch to the *Post*, from Washington, says: In answer to a deputation of prominent citizens who waited on the President to day to urge the acceptance of negro regiments. President Lincoln replied that he could not accept negro regiments, but would accept as many as offered as laborers. This is understood as the settled policy of the Government.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER NORTHERN LIGHT.

NEW YORK, August 4.—The steamer Northern Light has arrived from Aspinwall, with $957,600 in specie from California.

The news from the Isthmus and South America is unimportant. Panama was still excited and the Bishop had removed all the church ornaments to safe places to prevent their falling into the hands of Mosquiers. The military had seized all the muskets and ammunition belonging to the police force, and Panama would probably soon be under military government.

Valparaiso dates to July 24, and Callao July 13th, are received by this arrival.

Grand War Meeting at Washington.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Preparations are making upon a grand scale for the war meeting to be held on the grounds at the East front of the Capitol at 5 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. Hon. George S. Boutwell, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Hon. Leonard Swett of Illinois, Hon. Richard W. Thompson of Indiana, Senator Harlan of Iowa, General Wadsworth Military Governor of the District of Columbia, William Haines of Illinois, and others, have accepted invitations to speak.

The President and members of the Cabinet, and Major General Halleck have been invited and will be present should their public duties at the time not prevent. The Marine band has been detailed to perform during the afternoon.

Assistant Postmaster-General.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—John A. Kasson, Esq., having been nominated candidate for Congress of the 5th District, Iowa, left the city to-day to enter upon the canvass. General Skinner has been placed temporarily in charge of the position just vacated by the former as First Assistant Postmaster-General.

Heavy Robbery—Recovery of the Stolen Goods.

BOSTON, August 4.—The store of Simon Willard & Son was entered by burglars yesterday and robbed of chronometers, gold watches, &c., valued at between fifty and sixty thousand dollars. The robbers were arrested last night and the property recovered.

Pennsylvania Enlistments.

HARRISBURG, Aug. 4.—Troops are pouring in from all sections of the State by every train, and the indications are that nearly the whole quota of nine month's men will be raised by the 10th inst. Camps for State troops are to be established at Philadelphia, Pittsburg and Lancaster, in addition to the central camp here.

Burnside Moving.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—The Fort Monroe letter to the *Post*, says that Gen. Burnside's corps has embarked, and are now moving off. The gun-boats, and mortar-boats, are all under orders, and when they strike the splinters will fly.

New York Bank Statement

NEW YORK, August 4.—The weekly Bank statement shows such increase of $749,500 in loans; $957,915 in specie; $56,915 in circulation, and $1,685,759 in deposits.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, August 4.—The market for Cotton is quiet and prices firm—sales of 400 bales at 40⅝@50 cts. Flour is firm—sales of 1,600 bbls. Wheat—sales of 189,000 bushels new white Kentucky at $1.54. Corn is active—sales of 98,000 bushels mixed at 62@67 cts. Mess Pork is lower—sales at $11; prime firmer at $9.50@9.75. Lard is quiet. Whiskey is dull and heavy at 39½@30½ cts. Sugar is firm at 8⅝@9⅞ cts. Coffee is quiet. Spirits Turpentine closed firm—sales at $2.34. Rosin firm—strained $1.42½@1.75. Freights are dull.

FROM WASHINGTON.

From the Washington Star of Yesterday.

ARRIVAL OF CONTRABANDS.

The boat from Aquia Creek yesterday afternoon brought up over a hundred contrabands, who are principally from Caroline county, Va. Many of them have been away from their homes for a considerable time. They were sent to the Creek on Saturday last. On their arrival here, they were at once directed to the contraband quarters at the McClellan barracks. Among them are persons of all hues, ages and sizes, including a sprinkling of infants barely a week old. The women, for the most part, lugged the children, Indian fashion, and the men bore on their shoulders immense bundles of baggage.

NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

We are informed that the negroes of the city are organizing secret associations for the purpose of protecting themselves, in anticipation of a riot and massacre similar to those which lately occurred in New Albany, Indiana, Cincinnati, Ohio, and other places. It is also alleged that a number of clerks in Government employ, are aiding the negroes in perfecting their organization. Our informant is a colored man of this city.

ARREST OF REV. T. C. CONRAD.

On Saturday afternoon, Captain Lansing, of the Georgetown Provost Guard, arrested Rev. T. C. Conrad, of Georgetown, by order of the Provost Marshal, and took him to the headquarters of the guard there. At the same time two or three young men, named Wheatley and Cropley, were taken in custody as witnesses; and some of their friends also put under arrest. They were, however, released after a few hours, and Conrad was sent to the Old Capitol. The charges against him are of holding communication with the enemy and attempting to send his scholars as recruits to the Confederate army. This Conrad is the same man who was noticed in the *Star*, several weeks since, as having allowed his school to indulge in secesh demonstrations at an examination. The route for sending these recruits is through Marlboro' and Horse Head, Md., and thence to the river, where they are transported across.

ANOTHER ARREST.

Dr. Camp, a dentist, was arrested last night at his boarding house, on Eleventh street near F, for boisterous secession language, and boasting of his having communication with Richmond. His effects from Gen. Beauregard was found. Camp is an old offender, having been arrested some two weeks since, on his return from Richmond. He was released through the mediation of the French Minister, since which time he has been comparatively quiet. Recent movements on his part made him an object of suspicion, and last night he was arrested. He was sent at once to the Old Capitol.

HELD AS A HOSTAGE.

Rev. D. D. Broadus, a minister of Fredericksburg, was arrested here last week, and brought to the city, and committed to the Old Capitol. It is understood that he is held as a hostage for the return of several Union citizens of Fredericksburg held as prisoners by the Confederates.

Special Despatches to the New York Herald.

MARRIAGE OF THE COUNT OF PARIS.

The sudden and unexpected departure of Count de Paris and Duke de Chartres from the United States, which has been the subject of so many comments on this side of the Atlantic, has just been explained to us by the news brought by the last European mail. According to what we learn from private sources, it seems that Count de Paris, who, previous to his visit to America, had made a trip to Italy, in company with his brother, the Duke de Chartres, had occasion to meet there the eldest daughter of the Duchess of Parma, with whom he soon fell in love. His affection was soon shared by the young lady, and both informed their parents of their intention of being united. But as they were rather too young to be married immediately, it was decided that the Count would travel a year or two, and if at the end of that time their affection for each other was the same the wedding would then take place. The thing having been agreed upon, the Count came to America, enlisted himself in the service of the North, fought under General McClellan, and gave up service only when pressed by his bride to go to Italy because the time appointed for their nuptials had come. The most curious feature of this alliance is that the bride of Count de Paris is a niece of Henry V., and that this marriage brings about what the French call a fusion, or a connection of two royal branches in one single person. Henceforward the Count of Paris will be the legitimate representative of the rights and pretensions of the houses of Bourbon and of Orleans.

M. THOUVENEL GOING TO LONDON TO SETTLE THE AMERICAN QUESTION.

A great deal of curiosity has been lately elicited on the subject of M. de Thouvenel's visit to London, which some persons were inclined to attribute to a desire upon the part of the French Government to come to a definitive understanding on the American question. Count de Persigny, who had left London some time ago, having brought no satisfactory answer, it was decided in secret council that M. de Thouvenel, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, would go himself, and, under pretext of occupying the place of Prince Napoleon, left vacant by reason of the confinement of his wife, would try to know the intention of the English Cabinet on that subject. It seems, however, that M. de Thouvenel has not been more successful than his predecessor, and that all things are still in suspense concerning the settlement of the American question. It was thought, however, that Lord Lyons, who had just arrived from the United States, would greatly contribute to put an end to the perplexity now agitating the minds of English and French statesmen, by a statement of the fact that public opinion in America was unanimously in favor of the war, and strenuously opposed to any intervention on the part of foreign Powers.

MORTALITY AMONG THE HORSES IN THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Cavalry officers writing from the army of the Potomac represent that the mortality among horses exceeds that among the men. One regiment for several days past has lost, by disease, an average of nineteen horses a day.

PENSIONED SOLDIERS.

There are now one hundred and thirty pensioners at the Soldier's Home, honored mementoes of the wars of 1812 and of Mexico. They have every comfort which can be obtained, are generally healthy, and cheerfully bear testimony, whenever opportunity offers, to the fine discipline and kindness of Colonel Alexander, their officer in command.

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE FROM NASSAU, N. P.

Mr. Newport, United States Consul at Turks Islands, is at present here. He states that not a single one of the vessels which have run or attempted to run the blockade has gone out from Turks Islands, but nearly all of them have gone out from Nassau. There is at the latter port a regular agent of the Confederates, living in great style openly at the hotel. The business of forwarding contraband goods is done principally by a leading firm there, to whom nearly all the vessels come consigned, and cargoes are transferred in open daylight from large vessels to small schooners and light-draft steamers, which can reach Charleston in twenty-four hours. They always leave Nassau at night, so as to reach the coast of the main land in the night time, and the more easily evade our cruisers.

FROM THE SOUTH.

[FROM THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER OF YESTERDAY.]

We have received a copy of the Richmond *Enquirer*, of July 28th, which furnishes us with the latest news from the South. We make the following extracts:

Confederate Account of the Burning of the Union Transport.

On Saturday morning, a party of five of the Prince George cavalry, Captain Marks, consisting of Corporal Teller Cocke, and privates Thomas Martin, William Daniel, Alexander Dimitry and Wm. Williams, conceived, and carried out successfully, a private little enterprise of their own, which resulted in the burning of a large Federal transport, the capture of its commander, and the consternation and surprise of the Yankee fleet in the immediate neighborhood.

The party left Coggins' Point, on the south side of James river, five miles below City Point, about one o'clock Saturday morning, in an open boat, armed with naked sabres and their revolvers. The Federal fleet of transports and gunboat lay around them. One gunboat was at anchor about one hundred yards above them, and another half a mile immediately below, while several others, invisible at the time, were in various positions. The transports lay scattered along the channel, some not twenty yards apart.

After getting amidst them, the party made a reconnoissance to discover the largest, and finally selected a splendid looking schooner of two hundred tons burden, which proved to be the Louisa Rives, of New York, loaded with corn, oats and other articles of forage, and commanded by Capt. John A. Jones. As they approached her a dog on board commenced barking furiously, they plied their oars vigorously and quietly, and, reaching the bow chains boarded the schooner without faltering. The crew were sleeping soundly, but the Captain, awakened by the dog, rushed on deck from the cabin, and was met at the very door by Martin, (himself a sailor,) who seized him by the collar and placing a pistol at his head, cautioned him that to speak a word was death.

Taking the surprised captain back into his cabin, he was allowed to dress and secure whatever valuables he wished to carry away with him. The mattresses were then drawn out, ripped open and fired, the door locked and the captain escorted to the boat. In a few minutes the party reached the shore, when the flames burst from the fired vessel, and the whole fleet was in commotion. Small boats plied about in every direction, hawsers were attached to vessels, anchors weighed and a general pulling and tugging commenced to keep clear of the burning vessel.

In the meantime, the crew of the Louisa Rives, awakened by the smoke, yelled "fire!" and scampered over the deck with buckets of water with all the volubility and nimbleness of New York firemen. A boat was sent from one of the adjacent vessels to their relief and assistance, and for the additional purpose of saving the schooner if possible. But the crew had scarcely mounted the deck before a shell and some rifles, which were in the cabin, exploded. All hands commenced a general stampede, and tumbled over the bulwarks into their boats in the utmost confusion. No further attempt was made to save the vessel, and she burned to the water's edge.

The heroes of this achievement, concealed in the woods above Coggins' Point, watched the event with the utmost satisfaction, and then carried their prisoner into quarters.

They stated that they would have taken the whole crew, but their boat was leaky, with a hole in one side just a little above the water line; so that if they had taken the crew in, all would have gone down together. Had they stopped to lower a boat from the vessel the manœuvre would doubtless have been observed, and their capture the consequence.

Promotions in the Confederate Army.

Brigadier General J. E. B. Stuart to be Major-General of Cavalry.

Col. Fitzhugh Lee, of the 1st Virginia Cavalry, to be Brigadier-General of Cavalry.

Col. Hays, of the 11th Louisiana regiment, to be Brigadier General.

Brigadier-General Wade Hampton has been assigned to the Brigade of Cavalry.

A High Compliment.

A few days since a prominent South Carolinian sent a magnificent English sword to Col. Grisholm, of General Beauregard's staff, requesting him to present it to that officer in the Confederate States army whom he regarded the "most gallant." General J. P. Villipique was the fortunate recipient.

From Hanover.

The Federal raid makers on the Central Railroad are now in Caroline, about four miles from Anderson's Station, in Hanover. Everything was quiet up that way on yesterday.

A Raid on the White House.

The Federal advance guard made a raid on the White House, on Saturday, drove in our pickets and retired. No harm was done.

Gay Sight in Knoxville.

The streets of Knoxville presented quite a lively appearance on the morning of the 22d. The long train of United States wagons, captured by Colonel Forrest, at Murfreesboro', made its *entree*, with a flourishing and rollicking air. And, passing up Gay street, was turned over to the Quartermaster, after first having deposited the captured arms, &c., at the Ordnance Department. In the afternoon a portion of the horses and mules were also brought in, and turned over to the care of the Quartermaster.

Simms, the Novelist, Reimbursed.

W. Gilmore Simms, the great Southern novelist, in consideration of the patriotic services he has rendered South Carolina, has been presented by his friends with $3,100 to aid in rebuilding his homestead recently destroyed by fire.

Speculation in the Staples.

The Fayetteville *Observer* says that cotton has suddenly jumped up from 8 to 12½ cents, spirits turpentine from 17 to 25 cents, tobacco in the same proportion, and large quantities of each have

List of Officers of the Kearsarge.

Lieutenant Commanding, G. N. Brown, C. S. Navy, Mississippi.

Lieutenant, H. K. Stevens, South Carolina, C. S. Navy, Executive Office.

Lieutenants, John Grimball, South Carolina; A. D. Wharton, Tennessee; C. W. Reid, Mississippi; A. Barbot, Louisiana; Geo. W. Gift, Tennessee; T. B. Wilson, Virginia.

Surgeon, H. W. M. Washington, Virginia.

Assistant Paymaster, Richard Taylor, Virginia.

First Assistant Engineer, George W. Clay, Virginia.

Acting Masters, Samuel Milliken, Kentucky; J. L. Phillips, Louisiana.

Assistant Surgeon, C. M. Morfit, Maryland.

Midshipmen, R. H. Bacot, South Carolina; D. M. Scales Mississippi; H. S. Cook, Virginia; C. W. Tyler, Virginia.

Third Assistant Engineers, W. H. Jackson, Maryland; E. H. Brown, Virginia; James Dolan, Virginia.

Master's Mate, J. A. Wilson, Maryland.

Pilots, Shacklett, Gilmore, Brady and Hodges.

From the Southwest.

Telegraphic Despatch to the Richmond Enquirer.

A special despatch to the *Tribune*, from Grenada 25th, says:

Memphis refugees report that a portion of Sherman's army left that city on Tuesday last for the lower Mississippi, supposed to be for Vicksburg.

Two disabled Yankee gunboats, towed by steamers, passed Helena on Monday, upward bound.

Information, deemed reliable, has been received here, that Gen. Curtis hung three of our guerillas at Helena. He has again moved all his force to the other side of the river.

MOBILE, July 26.—A special despatch to the *Tribune*, dated Grenada, yesterday, says:

The enemy, yesterday, advanced to Cold Water, which place is twenty miles west of Senatobia, with artillery, infantry and cavalry, estimated at from five hundred to one thousand. This morning a skirmish ensued, with small loss on our side, our pickets falling back and burning the bridges to stop their advance.

Numbers of refugees are arriving here from Memphis.

From the New York World, Aug. 4.

BAD NEWS FROM THE MISSISSIPPI.

The siege of Vicksburg has been abandoned, and with it the attempt to obtain complete control of the Mississippi. It is trifling with serious things and with truth not to admit that this is as great a disaster to our cause as the loss of a heavy battle. It gives the Confederates the use of the twenty thousand men who were detained at that place, for service in Central Mississippi, in Arkansas, in Tennessee, or against New Orleans as the Confederate leaders may determine; it insures the beef and mutton of Texas for the Confederate armies; it shuts the river for an indefinite period, and makes our whole western campaign defensive instead of offensive. The ram Arkansas, which has proved itself worth a fleet of our western iron-clad gunboats or rams, is now free to enter upon her work of destruction.

It is idle to blame any one for this serious check in the West. We are fighting with men of our own race, who have staked everything upon the issue of their rebellion. War is now their only business, and they cannot be conquered unless our people are willing to make as great sacrifices to subdue them as they are to succeed. Our final triumph is assured if we put forth our whole strength, but not otherwise. We are now outnumbered East and West, and if the Confederate navy is small we fear it will prove efficient enough to inflict serious disasters upon our fleet. In two months' time we shall have three iron-clad gunboats to the Confederates' one, but it is to be feared that just at present the proportion is against us.

This whole Vicksburg matter is not creditable to us. There was an unaccountable delay in attacking the place; then the canal was a botch, and the failure to cut out or destroy the Arkansas a downright disgrace. If from the first it was impossible to capture the town without a land force, it should have been supplied long since from the thousands of idle soldiers who went into summer quarters after the evacuation of Corinth. But it is useless to complain. The mischief has been done, and we must try and do better when next the opening of the Mississippi is attempted.

MAMMOTH STEAMER FOR CHINA.—John Ingils, the celebrated shipbuilder of this city, is now engaged in the construction of a steamer four hundred feet long, to be used in the Chinese waters. This steamer, it will be observed, will be as large as any of the North river palaces. She will be fifty feet beam and perfectly flat bottomed, so that when loaded she will not draw over three feet of water. The vessel, after being framed, will be taken apart and sent in sections to its destination. The engine for this mammoth vessel will be of the walking-beam style, ninety-inch cylinder, and twelve feet stroke of piston. It is now being constructed by the Allaire Works.—*N. Y. Herald.*

From the Scientific American.

IRON CLAD FRIGATES—BENDING THEIR ARMOR PLATES.

The steam frigate Roanoke, which is now at the Navy Yard at Brooklyn, has been razeed, and is being converted into an iron-clad turret war ship. She is to be clothed amidships with thick iron plates, which are to extend about five feet below the water line; and she will have three great revolving gun turrets on deck, and a powerful iron beak or ram on her bow. The beak resembles a huge axe, and is formed of plates 20 feet long, 4½ inches thick, thus making 9 inches of iron on the front edge. Each of the revolving gun turrets will be 20 feet inside diameter, and the sides will be formed of eleven courses of inch iron plates.

These plates are laid over and rivetted to one another in such a manner as to "break joints," and vertical plates are also bolted to several courses so as to secure the whole in the most rigid and perfect manner. These gun towers for the Roanoke are now being constructed at the Novelty Works, in this city, where the plates for them, likewise those for the armor, are bent to the proper curves. Each plate for a turret is about nine feet in length by forty inches in width, and an inch in thickness. Two courses of rivet holes are punched out in each, and they are all bent cold in a powerful hydraulic press. The bed plate of the press is of a concave form, and the top block is of a convex form.

A plate to be bent is placed upon the concave bed plate of the press, and when properly adjusted the pump forces up three rams under it, and the plate is reduced to the proper curve against the top block. The pressure to which each plate is submitted, to give it the proper curve, is three and a half millions pounds. By this method of bending the turret plates cold, there is perfect uniformity and accuracy secured for the whole. The turrets for the Roanoke will be of a superior character, but only six courses of plates have as yet been laid on two of them.

The bending of the thick plates for the ram, and also for the sides of the frigate, is quite a different and difficult operation to perform, compared with those of the gun towers. Each of these plates has to be bent to the proper curve to suit its own particular place on the vessel, and not only the broad side but the edges also must be bent to suit the particular curves. The bending operations are under the charge of Mr. George Cornwell, an intelligent young shipwright. All these plates are hammered iron, and are furnished by several companies in Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts.

When they arrive, they resemble huge straight iron slabs, varying in length from eleven to twenty-two feet, and in breadth from twenty-two to twenty-four inches, and their average thickness is four and a half inches. One of eleven and a half feet in length weighs about 4,200 pounds, one of twenty-two feet length, for the ram, weighs over four tons. Such masses of iron are difficult to move about, and the operations connected with bending them are necessarily tedious and troublesome; and they require great care and skill to conduct properly. Of course, it is impossible to bend such masses of iron cold; hence, each plate is first heated to nearly a white heat in a long furnace, shaped somewhat like a baker's oven, with a movable arched cover.

The press for bending is quite different from the one used for the turret plates. Outwardly it resembles a long, strong iron screw press, used for pressing woollen cloth. Its top block or platen is moved up and down, but its bed is fixed and very solid. A gudgeon hydraulic jack at each end supports and moves the block up and down. The bed, upon which the heated plate is laid, is formed of a series of adjustable bolster blocks, one of which is capable of being set by a screw to any desired height on either side, and at any desired angle to suit the bend to be given to a plate which is compressed between the descending top block and the adjustable bed.

A plate is first placed in the furnace, and it is then raised to nearly a white heat. The cover of the furnace is now raised by a block and tackle, and the plate is then seized by a powerful crane, secured on a carriage. The heated plate is now lifted, the crane carriage moved back, and the plate swung around and placed on the press, where it is perfectly adjusted to obtain the proper curves.—The huge top block is then forced down, squeezing the plate into the form of the intended shape.

In about half an hour the plate has acquired a permanent set, and it is taken out, ready to have its edges planed, when it is fit for bolting to the frigate. The bolt holes are all drilled. It requires a large number