BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

VOLUME L.--NUMBER 67. BALTIMORE, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 21, 1865. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Latest News by Telograph TO THE BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

GEN. SHERMAN'S ARMY.

ESCAPE OF UNION PRISONERS.

Union Meeting in Wilmington.

FROM THE SOUTH

Desperation of Alabama Rebels.

TERRIBLE THINGS TO BE DONE.

More "Last Ditch" Resolutions.

REBEL COURAGE TO DISPLAY ITSELF.

THE GREAT FLOODS.

Overflow of the Susquehanna.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

The Lower Part of Harrisburg Submerged.

SUFFERING OF PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

LATEST FROM SHERIDAN

THE ARRIVES AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

&c., &c., &c.

Latest from Wilmington.

FORT MONROE, March 19.—The steamer James T. Green arrived here last night from Wilmington. She brings nothing later from General Sherman. It was known he had crossed Cape Fear River, and was marching on Goldsboro.

The James Green brings from Wilmington 39 Union officers who had reached there after a long journey on foot from Columbia, S. C., from which point they made their escape at the time the rebels were removing their prisoners from that place to Charlotte, N. C., in anticipation of Sherman's coming that way to release them.

The officers had hid themselves in the ceiling of the hospital, and on a dark stormy night made their escape unobserved, and after traversing through forests, swamps, and thickets, travelling only at night, guided and aided by faithful negroes, they succeeded in reaching Gen. Sherman's forces near Fayetteville on the 16th, and then came down Cape Fear River to Wilmington. They belong mostly to Eastern regiments. When they reached our lines they were in a most destitute condition, many of them having been prisoners for a year past.

Pursuant to the call of the Mayor of Wilmington, a very large and respectable meeting was held on the 14th instant at the Theatre in that city. Some of the most prominent citizens were present, and the dress circle was occupied by a large number of ladies, who seemed to take an eager interest in the proceedings.

The meeting was called to adopt resolutions making a formal recognition of the authority of the United States Government. The stage was handsomely decorated with national flags, and the bands of the 1st and 34 Brigades of Gen. Ames' Division of Gen. Terry's Corps, were in attendance, performing patriotic airs. Several speeches were made and resolutions fully recognizing the authority of the Government were adopted. The Mayor concluded his remarks with these words:

"My friends—let us to-night forget and forgive all past political differences, and live only for the future, resolving that from henceforth, it shall be our aim and object to secure peace, promote prosperity and add to the glory and grandeur of our common country."

This excellent sentiment was received with prolonged applause.

From the Army of the Potomac.

HEAVY CANNONADING—EXECUTION OF DESERTERS.

(From the Washington Star.)

Information from the Army of the Potomac, says that cannonading was heard all day Saturday, in front of the 9th Corps, without any object apparently than to advise our troops that they still have an enemy opposite to them. The 114th and 66th Pennsylvania volunteers, performing duty at the headquarters of the army for some time past, have been relieved and ordered to City Point. They, with the 20th New York and 61st Massachusetts, are to form an independent brigade under command of Brevet Brigadier Gen. Collis, and will occupy the works at City Point. The 11th and 14th regulars are ordered to headquarters in place of the 114th and 66th Pa. volunteers.

Brevet Brigadier General Macy, of the 21 corps, has been appointed Provost Marshal of the Army of the Potomac, relieving Captain Schuyler, who has for some time past filled the position satisfactorily. General Macy was severely wounded at Deep Bottom last summer, where he gained much credit for the way in which he handled his men on that occasion.

Three deserters were executed on Saturday, namely, John Smith, 4th New Jersey; J. J. McNeely, alias James Johnson, and ——— Baker, alias James Weaver, both of the 1st Maryland. The two last at City Point. Delavan Devo, of the 18th New York, was to have been shot, but his sentence was commuted to imprisonment during the war, owing to mitigating circumstances.

DECLINE IN PRICES.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The Post says that all the leading dry goods retail houses are marking down their prices to-day to conform to the decline in gold.

Latest from Richmond.

The Confederate Congress Adjourns in a Panic—They are Afraid they can't Get Home—No Quorum to be Got—Jeff. Davis' Appeal for Help Not Heeded by the Panicky Congress.

[From the Washington Star.]

Richmond papers of Saturday have been received, but contain no news of special importance. The most important fact is that the Confederate Congress adjourned at noon of Saturday, without having passed any of the measures of relief asked for by Jeff Davis, and which he alleged to be imperatively necessary to enable the Confederacy to maintain the struggle. Most of the members had left in a panic, lest they should be cut off from return to their homes by Sherman's advance, and there was no quorum remaining to do business.

Insinuations are made in the Richmond papers that Vice-President Stephens has neither staid by Jeff. Davis nor raised his voice in Georgia to fire the Confederate heart, as expected after the failure of the peace mission. So Jeff. Davis is left alone in his glory to deal as he best can with the difficulties thickening around him.

From the expostulatory tone of the various calls for negroes to be put in the rebel army in the Richmond papers, it would seem that the owners of slaves do not respond very heartily or promptly to the enactment for arming negroes.

Another letter from General Lee is published, urging the carrying out of this measure. Also the correspondence between Generals Ord and Longstreet and General Lee and General Grant, in relation to a military convention to negotiate terms of peace, appears in the Richmond papers. The correspondence shows nothing additional beyond what has already been stated, further than as showing that the rebels were mistaken in supposing that General Ord proposed any convention to deal with any subject not purely military.

GLOOMY STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE REBEL CAPITAL.

Washington, March 19.—Private and semi official information received here within the last day or two represent the state of things at Richmond as most gloomy and discouraging for the rebellion. Davis has repeatedly declared his intention of abdicating unless the rebel Congress will confer upon him the extreme powers which he has asked for. General Lee also declares that the combinations against him are too strong to be resisted successfully unless aid is promptly afforded by Congress. The banks, in anticipation of the seizure of their specie by the rebel government at Richmond, have disposed of it by the redemption of their circulation and otherwise; so that even if Congress should accede to the demands of Davis and Lee, no considerable amount of specie could be obtained, and without it Davis has officially declared that the rebel army around Richmond cannot be fed. Every man in the Confederacy who has any specie is hiding it to avoid being robbed by the Government, and to await the reoccupation of the country and the restoration of the authority of the nation, when it will be once more available. Everybody, from Jeff. Davis down, is convinced that the end of the rebellion is at hand, and are casting about for the means of personal safety when the final crash shall come.

From Texas.

CAPTURED COLORED TROOPS SOLD AS SLAVES—FROM MOBILE BAY—OUR FLEET ACROSS DOG RIVER BAR.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The steamer George Cromwell from Texas, has arrived.

Two thousand negroes captured at Berwick Bay were, it is reported, mostly taken to Houston and sold at auction by Col. Sydner, he knowing that they had been legally emancipated by the United States, and were entitled to be treated as prisoners of war.

Letters from Dauphin Island state that our flag-of-truce boat Nashua, which went within two and a half miles of Mobile to exchange prisoners on the 23 instant, was fired upon by the rebel batteries and compelled to retire. She was not injured—The rebels subsequently declared that they did not see the flag-of truce until after they had fired fourteen shots.

Our fleet is reported to have crossed Dog River bar.

From General Sheridan.

FORT MONROE, March 19.—An arrival from the White House, at a late hour last evening, reports the arrival of General Sheridan's cavalry force on the north bank of the Pamunkey, a few miles from the White House at noon on Saturday.

The bridge across the river which had been partially destroyed by the rebels has been repaired by a portion of Gen. Roberts' command, which was sent to the White House some days since, in anticipation of the appearance of General Sherman at that point, so that his forces will have no difficulty in crossing the river, which it was supposed would be effected by twelve o'clock last night.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The Government sends out by the steamer of Wednesday the funds to pay the annual instalment of the Scheldt dues—$55,000 in gold.

There are now 913 National Banks.—Many applications are pending to enter. The organizations applying are principally State Banks.

The recently appointed Comptroller of the Currency, Freeman Clark, will probably enter upon the duties of his office to-morrow.

Solicitor Whiting, after a long absence, in consequence of sickness has returned and resumed his duties in the War Department.

Among the more prominent Treasury officers who have lately been recommissioned, is Collector Goodrich at Boston.

GENERAL LEE SAID TO BE DISHEARTENED.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The Tribune in its latest morning edition, editorially says:—"If our private information is authentic, and we see no reason to doubt it, General Lee has notified Jeff. Davis that it is impossible, with the means at his command, to make head against the Union forces now concentrating for his overthrow." That such is the fact we cannot doubt. That Lee realizes and has privately confessed it, we firmly believe.

NEW YORK BANK STATEMENT.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The weekly statement of the city banks shows the following result:—Specie, increase, $1,500,000; Loans, $23,000,000; Circulation, $1,900,000; Deposits, $22,000,000.

Latest from the South.

The Golden Opportunity for the Display of Rebel Courage.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, March 15.]

It is an ancient remark that opportunity makes men. Nothing is more common with persons of spirit and ambition, as they read the record of human greatness and distinction, than to wish that their lives had fallen amid the scenes which furnished the occasion for so much renown.

Let all who have generously sighed for opportunity bear in mind that opportunity is now afforded them. In the great occasion which is upon us all have opportunity for the display of whatever courage and greatness of soul God has implanted in them, and for the development of whatever gifts and address they can bring to the public service. The Washingtons, the Henrys, the Greenes, the "Mad Anthonys," the dashing Light Horse Harry, the sleepless Marion, all have their representatives now. The opportunity which has come to us has already availed to make the names of many of our citizens historic and renowned. The list is still open, and there are many candidates for a like distinction.

But there is a praise which is open to every one, even to the humblest among us. All of us may not hope to achieve a great name; but to all it is allowed to win an honest fame, such as kings might be proud of. The opportunity comes not merely to him whose eloquence and wisdom fit him for the lead in the councils of the country, or to him who is qualified to guide in strategy or shine in arms. It comes also to the humblest citizen who has a hand to help or a heart to love his country. Nay, some of the proudest triumphs of the grand occasion have been won by the loving wife or mother, who has buckled the sword or the knapsack on the object of her tender affection and sent him to the war; and who, enduring her own distresses with patience and fortitude, has followed him to the camp with words of resolution and encouragement.

The opportunity has come to all—are all improving it? Is the statesman aiming to achieve an enviable fame by distinguished service? Is the officer sacrificing the suggestions of a present ease, to an untiring activity and enterprise in winning success to his country? Is the soldier making up a record that shall tell only of his praise? Is the citizen at home exhibiting a disinterestedness and devotion such as the cause requires? Are all our ladies sharers in that fame which the sex has so well won?

Let every one put these questions honestly to himself, and henceforth act as his conscience shall bid him. It would be idle to pretend that all have endured the trial and the test of opportunity, without dishonor. Some have proved traitors.—Some have shrunk from their posts of duty. Some have deserted to the enemy. Some have abandoned themselves to the pursuit of gain. Some have been factious. Some have been croakers. Some have repined under the pressure of privation, and become faint-hearted and weary. Some have shown themselves whipped. That opportunity which has won fame for others, and laid up a store of pleasant memories and honest self-respect for future enjoyment, has brought disgrace in greater or less degree to these. The cowboys and tories and royalists of the last century made up their record at the same time that brave and loyal men were making up theirs.—We have a parallel exhibition now. Some are acquiring a fame that shall live forever, while those that may prove unequal to the great occasion will be an everlasting hissing and reproach to their descendants.

Let all profit by the opportunity of showing that there dwell within them the hearts of heroes and the souls of patriots. It is only gold that will endure the crucible; but, happily, gold will endure it. Let every man consider that his character is now on exhibition; that his honor is at stake, and that opportunity is now showing to the world whether he has within him the elements which entitle a man to respect, or whether he is a sham, a fraud and a libel upon the form he wears.

HOSTILITIES ABOUT TO BE RESUMED.

Petersburg, March 14th.—The situation here is still unchanged. Some slight skirmishing occurred yesterday afternoon on our extreme right, but nothing important resulted. There is considerable activity existing in the enemy's lines since the commencement of good weather, and no doubt hostilities will very soon begin.

MEETING IN MONTGOMERY.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 27, 1865.—Last Saturday night an unusually large and enthusiastic meeting was held here. It was a perfect success, a glorious ovation to liberty and independence. Judge Bibb presided and made a speech. He was followed by Gov. Watts, Judge Chilton, General Clanton, Lieut. Colonel Gaines, Col. Woods, Hon. Thomas B. Cooper, and others. The speeches were of the highest tone, and were received with great demonstrations of approval. Resolutions were adopted unanimously, by a rising vote, as follows:—

Whereas, the United States are, by their own confession, waging a war of subjugation or extermination of the Confederate States, and have unequivocally refused to consider any proposition for peace which would not involve unconditional submission to the Government of the United States, emancipation of the slaves, a general confiscation of property, with our leasehold of life itself dependent upon the assurances of Abraham Lincoln that he will make a liberal use of the pardoning power for the benefit of the repentant rebels; therefore

Resolved, That with undiminished confidence in the faith, in the right and justice of our cause, and humble dependence on Almighty God, we maintain the struggle until our independence is established, and to this end we pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Resolved, That desertion, confessedly deserving and always punishable with death in the army, is more excusable in soldiers in the field than persons at home, who are shielded by the army from the hardships of war in the hour of our country's need, and desert the cause and seek to curry favor with the foe, when they have not manliness enough to oppose.

Resolved, That the surest remedy for desertion in the army is a zealous and uncompromising support of our cause by the people at home.

Resolved, That, as a practical manifestation of our appreciation of the services of our armies, we solemnly pledge ourselves to each other and to the soldiers in the field to renewed exertions to relieve the necessities of their families, and thus lift from their hearts the only burden calculated to unnerve the arm of freemen in a contest like this.

Resolved, That, in the language of an eminent Senator from Virginia, we recommend to the people of the whole confederacy faith in our cause, faith in our government, faith in ourselves, faith in each other and faith in God.

FORREST GROWING HUMANE.

[From the Richmond Whig, March 15.]

Major General Forrest, we learn from the Rebel, at Selma, Alabama, has inaugurated his administration as commander of the District of West Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana, by an agreement with the Yankee General Thomas to supply suffering and destitute families within and near the Yankee lines with food from the rich prairies of Mississippi and Alabama.

ANOTHER DELUSION OF THE REBEL MIND—NAPOLEON AND THE CONFEDERACY.

(From the Richmond Whig, March 15.)

We see it stated that a reliable citizen of Augusta reports that Mayor Macbeth, of Charleston, says the French Consul assured him that he had advices from the Emperor Napoleon to the effect that he would assert the independence of the Confederacy on the 4th of March, and, if necessary, support the declaration with armed intervention. French vessels are rendezvousing at convenient points on the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico.

KIRBY SMITH NOT EXPECTED TO DO ANY FIGHTING.

From the Richmond Whig, 15th.

A gentleman arrived here this morning direct from beyond the Mississippi. He reports everything quiet in the department of General Kirby Smith.—*Mobile Tribune.*

This has been the report for nearly ten months. We have ceased to look for war news from that quarter.

A SANGUINE VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

From the Richmond Enquirer, 15th.

From the Fayetteville Telegraph of Wednesday morning last we extract the following on the situation in South Carolina:—

The prospect brightens. Under the skillful management of Joseph E. Johnston the campaign is beginning to assume shape and plan and definiteness. The excitement created by the thousand rumors which swept over the land, carrying gloom and despondency to the hearts of our people, has settled into a determination to await with coolness and patience the dispositions of the able officer who has lately been restored to active duty, and whose sagacious mind now controls to a great extent the destinies of North Carolina and the confederacy.

The people are becoming more confident—more hopeful. They feel that there is a man at the helm—one whose coolness and sagacity are sufficient guarantees that the ship will be guided with a steady hand over the breakers and past the reef. He is a man of mind—one who thinks, one who knows the requirements of the emergency. He has before him the grandest opportunity ever offered for distinction on this continent. He has been placed in his present position by the almost unanimous voice of his countrymen as the man best qualified to vanquish the pride of the Yankee nation—General Sherman. We believe he will do it. We deplored his removal from the command of the Army of Tennessee. We advocated his restoration to active duty as commander of the forces now operating against Sherman.

From Charleston and Savannah.

From late Charleston and Savannah papers we make the following extracts:

THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

A new order says: Numerous applications for the restoration of captured property are daily received at these headquarters, the persons applying producing certificates of having taken the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. So many of these cases have occurred as to lead to a suspicion that the desire to receive a horse or mule may have induced some unprincipled persons to profess loyalty, and take and subscribe to the oath, with no intention of being truly loyal citizens. * * * It is therefore announced that citizens of the United States applying for the restoration of property taken for the use of the Government, must be prepared to prove that they have remained loyal to the United States Government during the present rebellion, or that they held, at the time of their seizure, a certificate that they had already complied with the terms of the proclamation.

RELIEF OF THE POOR OF CHARLESTON.

The Charleston Courier says:—"Yesterday Colonel Woodford, commandant of the post, whose office is daily besieged by citizens, male and female, each anxious to be heard in reference to their various cases, was very agreeably interrupted by a communication enclosing the handsome sum of two thousand dollars, contributed by Northern dealers, for the relief of the poor of the city. This liberal donation could not have come at a more opportune moment.

"We are happy to state that Colonel Woodford had the pleasure to extend immediate relief to several hundred persons during the day, and among them one whose trials and daring conduct we have already recorded. The balance Colonel Woodford turned over to John Phillips, Esq., President of the Auxiliary Association of the American Union Commission, for distribution among the most necessitous and in need of early assistance."

FEDERAL PRISONERS HELPED.

The same paper says: "Mr. Cornelius B. Webb, a citizen of Charleston and a loyal Union man, was recently presented with a purse of one hundred dollars by Union officers, that he might be enabled to purchase to fit and material to engage in business. This generous act on the part of officers was called forth by the fact that Mr. Webb, assisted by his wife, did all in their power to aid Union prisoners of war in Charleston last summer, and we are pleased to notice that their kind and humane attentions have not been forgotten. This is not the only instance which has been brought before us of citizens of Charleston giving succor to our unfortunate soldiers who were in rebel power.—We are told that several parties gave large sums of money to our men in exchange for their notes payable at some future time. Of course it is not expected now, nor was not expected at the time of the transaction, that the holders of the notes would be able to collect all the amounts, which circumstance proves that the object of the citizens was simply to alleviate suffering and accomplish good."

EDUCATING CHILDREN.

The Courier says:—"Colonel Woodford has succeeded, by the system he inaugurated, in rapidly removing vagrant children from the streets. About fifteen hundred children are already attending the schools now in operation. There has been no parallel to this fact in the history of any captured city in the insurrectionary States. Thirty-eight teachers are employed in the schools, and the Christian Commission has generously furnished all the primers necessary for the use of beginners. The large majority of the teachers are citizens of Charleston. While there has been no distinction recognized among applicants for admission to the schools, no attempt whatever has been made to force any uncongenial companionships. The white children are taught in entirely distinct departments, have different playgrounds, and are wholly taught by Southern white ladies."

REFUGEES IN SAVANNAH.

The Savannah Herald of March 7 says: "We notice in our city quite a number of refugees, both male and female, from the upper part of the State who have come into our lines either to go North or remain in Savannah. From them we learn that the Union feeling is increasing very rapidly, and that men who, six months ago, dared not give utterance to their sentiments, are now openly favoring reconstruction. Indeed, many large slaveowners are not only willing, but prepared to yield their slaves and return back into the Union. They are heartily sick of the war, and although most, if not all, who own slaves, would prefer to retain them, yet rather than take the risk of losing them, they evince a strong desire for peace, even by giving up the negroes in order to save the balance of their property, and once more enjoy the blessings of the Union."

THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE.

PROVIDENCE, March 18.—It is reported that the loss by the burning of Sprague's Cotton Mills at Warwick will be $25,000, the insurance on which is divided between Eastern and New York Companies.

The Flood in the Susquehanna.

HARRISBURG, March 18.—The flood in the Susquehanna is unprecedented. It exceeds by thirty inches in height the memorable and destructive freshet of 1846. Thousands of timber logs with millions of feet of sawed lumber have already passed this point.

Intelligence from the north and west of us indicates the most frightful destruction of private and public property on the many streams emptying into the Susquehanna. Bridges have been swept away and torn to pieces, and from the character of the ruins floating by Harrisburg, it is fair to infer that many dwelling houses, barns, &c., have been swept from the shores.

At seven o'clock this morning it was ascertained that the bridges at Northumberland, Duncan's Island, and part of the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge, above the city, has been carried away, while as I write a bridge, said to be from the Juniata, is being borne with fearful violence down the stream.

The Cumberland Valley Railroad bridge, which is also used by the Northern Central Railroad, is in imminent danger, several spans at the eastern end being submerged to the depth of two feet. It is scarcely possible, as the water is steadily rising, that the submerged portion can resist the force of the flood for many hours.

There have been no trains passing through Harrisburg from Pittsburg or Philadelphia for the last twelve hours.—The lower part of the city is completely submerged, and much suffering has been inflicted upon the poor families living in that part of the suburbs.

At Middletown, Dauphin county, and the villages along the shore clear to Columbia, in Lancaster county, the destruction of private property and the suffering among individuals is immense.—The fires in several iron furnaces have been quenched, and of course the furnaces will chill.

Thousands of dollars worth of lumber, usually stocked at Marietta, Columbia and Middleton, was swept away. The bank in front of the city has been lined all day with thousands of citizens, watching the progress of the flood. Families are being removed from the streets in the lower section of the city, which was not approached by the waters of the great flood of 1846, but which are now considered in imminent danger of being overflowed. Our city water works are completely submerged, and all the pumps stopped.

It is conceded on all hands, alike by our oldest inhabitants and experienced water men, that this is the most immense flood that has taken place in the Susquehanna within the memory of man.

Danville, Pa., March 18.—The most destructive flood ever known in these parts is now raging on the northwest branch of the Susquehanna.

The railroad is submerged and all travel suspended. All the bridges on the west branch as far as Williamsport are gone.

The Lackawanna and Bloomsburg road is under water, in some places ten feet.

The canal in many places is completely destroyed.

Half of Danville is under water, and the river is still rapidly rising.

Philadelphia, March 18.—Our latest reports from Harrisburg state that the water in the Susquehanna river is thirteen inches higher than in the great flood of 1846.

Telegraphic communication closed with Harrisburg at twelve o'clock, and the probabilities are that the line has been washed away.

THE FLOOD IN THE HUDSON RIVER.

Albany, March 18.—The flood in the Hudson river has reached a greater height than has been known for many years and is still rising. In crossing on the platform from the ferries at the railroad station passengers can step over the gas lamps.—The ice drift is pretty much cleared away in the river.

Albany presents the aspect of a dirty Venice. Flatboats are substituted for railroad hacks, and the North river steamboat palaces are expected up here on Monday.

Great damage has been done by the flood to the Hudson River Railroad. The outside or down track has been battered by the ice, and is submerged for miles at different places above Poughkeepsie, the drift ice having canted the sleepers and washed away the outside track and bank. It has taken great labor to get the trains through on the inside track. Travel is transferred to the Harlem road. The Hudson road will be impracticable between Albany and Poughkeepsie for some days.

Albany, March 19.—Owing to the damage to the track between Castleton and Stuyvesant by the freshet no trains have arrived or gone out on the Hudson River Railroad to-day.

Passengers are carried around from Hudson for the Berkshire road.

The New York papers of this morning did not reach here until six o'clock this evening.

No trains have arrived here from west of Fonda, Montgomery county, since Thursday afternoon, and none will be sent out for places beyond that point before Monday.

The Central Railroad tracks are more or less damaged between Fonda and Rome, and some bridges have been carried away; but large gangs of men are employed in repairing the road, and a telegram received from Fonda this evening says the tracks will be in running order as soon as the water falls sufficiently to enable them to see the tracks. The greatest damage done to this road is in the vicinity of Fonda, where three or four miles of the road has been washed away.

Telegraphing to points west of Fonda cannot be resumed before Monday or Tuesday morning.

No damage or detention is reported on the Harlem Railroad or on the Susquehanna Railroad.

Poughkeepsie, March 18, 1865.—One mile and a half of the Hudson River Railroad track, in the vicinity of Schodack, is washed away, and the company has issued an order suspending the running of down trains. Up trains convey their passengers to Albany via the Hudson and Berkshire road.

THE LATEST.

HARRISBURG, March 20.—The extraordinary freshets in the Susquehanna and Juniata rivers are subsiding, and the water is falling rapidly. The damage to the Pennsylvania Central has been found to be very slight, and the road is now in working condition between Harrisburg and Pittsburg. The east and west trains came through on time to-day from Pittsburg to Harrisburg.

The damage to the track that was overflowed east of Harrisburg about six miles will be repaired by to-morrow evening.—In the meantime the business of the road to and from Philadelphia and New York is passing over the Philadelphia and Reading road.

The Cumberland Valley bridge has been repaired, and the trains of the Western Central Railroad between Harrisburg and Baltimore are passing as usual.

THE DAMAGE TO THE ERIE RAILROADS.

New York, March 20.—The damage by the high water to the Erie Railroad is so far repaired that trains are now running between New York and Chemung and between Addison and Buffalo. The gap between Chemung and Addison is being rapidly repaired, and through trains will probably be resumed within 24 hours.

From Newbern.

THE OCCUPATION OF KINSTON.

NEWBERN, N. C., March 16, 10 A. M.—Our forces are now occupying Kinston and are repairing the railroad bridge across the Neuse River, which will be finished in a few days. The enemy were much demoralized on leaving Kinston for Goldsboro. Most of the North Carolina troops belonging in the Eastern part of the State took French leave of Bragg and returned to their homes.

There has been no fighting since Friday last. The result of the battles in front of Kinston last week will not be far from 200 killed and wounded and prisoners on our side, and all of three thousand on the enemy's side, whose dead outnumber ours five to one, owing to their reckless assaults upon our works.

Refugees report that Gen. Lee is in command of the enemy's forces in this State, whose headquarters are at Raleigh, and that he has brought quite a strong force with him from Richmond.

These refugees and deserters also state that Johnston and Beauregard are in command at Richmond, and that the fortifications there are being manned by negro troops who, relieve the forces which have accompanied General Lee to this State.

The Goldsboro' Journal of the 7th inst., states that a council of war was held not more than 300 miles from that city on the 4th instant, consisting of their leading Generals, among whom was their great leader General Lee.

The weather is very warm and showery. The mercury is at 75° in the shade.

A Colonel belonging to Gen. Sherman's army has just arrived here from Wilmington, *who states that Sherman will be in Goldsboro' on the 20th.*

The enemy sends in no rumors or reports of bad news from Sherman, which is conclusive evidence that he is all right.

The Treasury and Military authorities are in favor of having Newbern and Morehead City declared ports of entry, which will save the people nearly 200 per cent. on their imports and exports, and relieve much distress now existing on account of this blockade.

From Nicaragua.

Arrival of the Western Metropolis—Threats of Rebel Sympathizers to Seize Her.

The steamship Western Metropolis, from Greytown, Nicaragua, 6th instant, via Havana 12th, arrived at New York on Saturday. Had heavy weather the entire passage; put into Havana for a supply of water.

The bark J. A. Bishop, McClellan, was to leave Havana for Nassau on the 13th instant.

The blockade-runner steamer Wren, owned at Havana, arrived at Havana 11th instant, from Galveston, with 600 bales of cotton on board.

The Western Metropolis brings the mails from Nicaragua and Havana.

The steamer Western Metropolis, which left New York on the 20th ult., arrived at Greytown, Nicaragua, on the 3d instant, after a smooth but long passage, which was owing to an accident to the port boiler, making it necessary to reduce the steam to three or four pounds. At Greytown took on board seven hundred and four California passengers, consigned to the Central America Transit Company, the Western Metropolis being chartered to take the place of the Golden Rule. Left Greytown 6th, at 6.45 P. M., and being short of water, sailed direct for Havana; had a heavy cross sea in the Carribean Sea, and another in the Gulf. Arrived at Havana at 9 A. M., on the 11th. The size and trim build of the ship created quite a sensation, and hundreds of boats came off to meet her, some with fruits to vend and others to ferry the passengers ashore for the small sum of fifty cents each, in silver. The harbor was filled with vessels from all countries—quite a number being blockade runners. On the 11th the Confederate steamer Wren came in with 700 bales of cotton from Galveston.

There were numerous threats on shore that the W. M. would be burned before she got to New York. They were so prevalent that the American Consul was kind enough to send off word to be on the lookout. The watches were doubled and armed for all emergencies. Twelve suspicious, and, as was afterwards learned, very dangerous characters, were found on board, seven of whom were sent on shore. Their sympathizers had a desire to give trouble, as Captain Hilton captured in this same steamer, while in government service, a blockade-runner in the Gulf, owned at Havana.

Flour has been selling in Havana as high as $40 per barrel for the week previous.

UNION SUCCESSES IN ALABAMA.

Alabama Ready to Return to Her Allegiance.

Admiral S. P. Lee transmits the following to the Navy Department:

FLAGSHIP GENERAL BURNSIDE, *Off Bridgeport, Alabama, March 4, 1865.*—Sir: I have the honor to inform you that I took advantage of the late rise in the Tennessee river and crossed Elk River Shoals, with the flagship and the Gen. Thomas, and went down to Muscle Shoals. I came across the rebel General Roddy's camp and drove them off, captured some of their horses with the equipments, and seven bales of cotton. I destroyed the rebel communications at Lamb's Ferry. A large number of flats, pontoons scows and canoes, that I found there, I also destroyed.

I then penetrated Elk river, and found a rich and populous country. A great deal of loyal sentiment was displayed. I am meeting with a great deal of success in endeavoring to encourage loyal feelings on the south side of the river. The citizens are constantly coming in from the rebels and taking the oath. From interviews I have had with prominent men, I think there is no doubt that Alabama will soon return to her allegiance to the Government. Mr. Clements, I have understood, is endeavoring to become military Governor, and I think will be very popular with the loyal people of the State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. CORBAN FORREST,

Lt. Com'g 11th Div. Miss. Squadron.

Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, U. S. N., Com'g U. S. Miss. Squadron, Mound City, Ill.

PROTECTION OF OUR COMMERCE AGAINST REBEL PRIVATEERS.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Official dispatches from Acting Rear Admiral Pearson, dated on board the United States steamship Lancaster, 27th ult., were received at the Navy Department yesterday. Such orders had been issued to the commanders of the steamers of the squadron as would render them vigilant in protecting commerce against the efforts of rebel pirates. He reports that attempts had been made near Panama to construct one or more torpedoes, for the purpose of blowing up the St. Mary's, or any other United States vessel in the harbor of Panama; but such measures had been taken as would frustrate any such attempt. Such dispositions had been made of the vessels of the Pacific squadron as were necessary to protect American interests in the State of Costa Rica and in the Pacific ports, in case of internal disturbances, which are threatened, occurring.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Apprehension of Deserters.—Col. Browne has issued the following in regard to deserters:

OFFICE ACTING ASST. PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL FOR MD. AND DEL., BALTIMORE, March 20, 1865.

To the Provost Marshals of the States of Delaware and Maryland:

Gentlemen—The proclamation of the President of the United States, dated March 11th, 1865, issued in compliance with the requirements of the twenty first section of the Act of Congress, approved on the 3d instant, entitled "An Act to amend the several acts heretofore passed to provide for the enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," is designed to benefit such deserters from the army and navy, and such only, as were at large at the date of the proclamation. Persons who were in arrest or under trial for desertion at the date of the proclamation, are necessarily excluded from its beneficial provisions, no inducement being required to secure their return to the service. And such persons as have or shall desert after the date of the proclamation, and while it is in force, are also excluded from its beneficial provisions, as otherwise the entire army might desert for sixty days.

The benefits of the proclamation are offered as an inducement to deserters to return voluntarily to the service; and to such, and such only, can these benefits be properly extended. But deserters, who being at large on the 11th day of March, instant, shall be arrested before the 11th day of May next, will be regarded as having voluntarily returned to service, and will be entitled to these benefits on the assumption that they might have returned within the time specified, or for the still better reason that they were prevented by superior military authority.

Persons who were deserters, and in arrest before the date of the proclamation, are only liable to the forfeiture of pay and allowances, the reward for their apprehension, and such punishments as may be inflicted by sentence of a court martial. But deserters not in arrest at the date of the proclamation, who shall not voluntarily return to service or surrender themselves to a Provost Marshal within the time specified, and persons who hereafter shall desert after the date of the proclamation, shall, in addition to the above penalties, be deemed and taken to have voluntarily relinquished their rights of citizenship and their rights to become citizens, and shall be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under the United States, or of exercising any rights of citizens thereof.

Deserters from the draft are to be regarded and treated in all respects as ordinary deserters; and all such persons arrested before the date of the proclamation, and all such as shall fail to report to the Provost Marshal of the district in which he was drafted, within said period of sixty days, shall be liable to all the penalties of the aforesaid section. And all persons who being duly enrolled, shall depart the jurisdiction of the district in which they are enrolled, or go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to avoid any draft into the military or naval service, duly ordered, shall be in like manner disfranchised.

It is the first duty of every deserter from the Army or Navy to voluntarily return to his service, or surrender himself to a Provost Marshal to be returned, and of every deserter from the draft to report to the Provost Marshal of the district in which he was drafted for examination, and this should be done at the earliest practicable moment to avoid apprehension; for it is the duty of every Provost Marshal to arrest such deserters wherever found, as though the proclamation had not been issued. But the records and returns of such deserters will show the fact of their having voluntarily surrendered themselves in conformity with the proclamation, the cases in which arrests are made included.

The Secretary of War directs that no reward be paid for the arrest of deserters who may be arrested subsequent to the receipt of this order by District Provost Marshals. But this alludes only to such as were deserters at the date of the proclamation. All who desert subsequent to that time, whether before or after the 11th day of May next, must be certified as deserters, liable to all the penalties of the section aforesaid and rewards must be allowed for their apprehension.

Gentlemen's Furnishing House.—With a spirit of enterprise characteristic of the gentleman, Mr. George McKendree Teel, has so improved his place of business, corner of Baltimore and Frederick streets, as scarcely to be recognizable. By doing away with a large side room in the store he has fitted up one of the largest and most attractive clothing and gentleman's emporiums to be found in the city. The second story of the building has been fitted up in a costly manner. This portion of the building will be known as the sales-room. An apartment elegantly furnished adjoining the sales room, will be used for gentlemen's trying on garments. The sporting room is also on this floor. The third story will be devoted to the cutters, tailors, sewers and others. Mr. Teel intends to keep on hand a superior stock of gentleman's furnishing goods, which he will dispose of at the lowest market rates.

He has just received a valuable lot of the finest French carsimers and other cloths that has ever been imported into this city. His patterns of spring and summer goods defy competition. Mr. Teel is an experienced clothier, and by strict attention to business, honest dealing, and adhering to the cash and one price system, he has gained a reputation most complimentary. He has engaged the most proficient cutters and artisans, and what is represented by him to be a good article may be relied upon. In fact, so complete is the establishment of Mr. Teel that, with the exception of hats and boots, a gentleman can be furnished with a complete outfit—Reader, call upon Mr. T. and judge if we have been fulsome in our praise.

The Court Martial.—Yesterday before the court martial at No. 39 Lexington street, of which Capt. Marsh is president, and Major W. P. Lord of the 1st Delaware, judge advocate, the trial of Wm. P. Lowry, ex Quartermaster clerk, was resumed. All the witnesses for the defence were examined and the case concluded, except the defense, which will be presented to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, by Archibald Sterling, Jr., counsel for the accused. The court, after meeting to-morrow, will adjourn as soon as the records can be duly signed and sent to headquarters. The court has averaged under Major Lord, over forty pages per day of testimony written in a clear and careful hand-writing. To-morrow the commission will resume its business at No 39 Lexington street, with Major Lord as judge advocate, and the court martial will reorganize elsewhere. Eighty political prisoners await trial in Major Wiegel's office and the city jail. Major Lord, by the clear and intelligible manner in which he manages the trial of parties, and by the energy, zeal and skill he brings to bear upon the performance of his duties, has deservedly won high praise as a judge advocate.

Mrs. Humphrey Marshall En Route to the South.—Major J. L. Wharton, 5th Kentucky Cavalry, arrived in this city yesterday, having in charge six political prisoners to be sent through the lines by order of Major Gen. Palmer, commanding at Louisville, Ky.—Among the party were Mrs. Humphrey Marshall (wife of the rebel ex general) and two daughters. Mrs. M. has been quietly residing at Louisville, Ky., for some time, and recently applied to Gen. Palmer to be sent through the lines, stating she was "rebelliously" inclined, that officer promptly acted upon her application. She expects to join her husband at Richmond where he is practicing law. One of the daughters, who it seems has become enamored of a dashing Federal Colonel, is stated to have strongly demurred at the idea of going South, but the mother's will prevailed and she was induced to accompany the party. They left the city in the mail boat yesterday afternoon for Fortress Monroe.

Intoxicated Females.—On Saturday night of each week the different station houses contain a large number of unfortunate females of both colors, who are found wandering through the streets in an intoxicated condition. The following were arrested on Saturday night last: Southern Station—Patience Hackett, colored; Matilda Bard, colored; Susan Gale, colored; Eva West, colored. Western Station—Margaret Revel, Mary Olney. Eastern Station—Lucy Clayton, Rose Smith, Mary Robinson, Isabella Buck, colored. Central Station—Caroline and Susan Lemmon, Elizabeth Bradford, Anna G