

own as strongly in favor of the Union. Many citizens are returning to Jacksonville, among whom are deserters from the Rebel army, anxious to take the oath of allegiance and who state that desertion will be numerous. The sentiment of Eastern Florida is declared to be loyal and many are willing to take up arms to defend themselves against Rebel tyranny. On one occasion, when the regulators were reported as coming, even the women seized arms to defend themselves. The National troops are treated to every hospitality which the town affords, and the people state they will go away with the gunboats if they leave, but measures have been taken to fully protect them.

Some eighty of the inhabitants of Fernandina have returned to their homes. The news of our victories had greatly rejoiced our troops and inspired them with renewed energy. The gunboat *Osawa* had been 120 miles up the St. John's river, beyond Jacksonville, meeting with no opposition. White flags have been displayed by the inhabitants, who claimed his protection.

The Rebel steamer *St. Mary's* and yacht *America* were also found sunk, but Captain Stevens, of the *Osawa*, was raising them. Pensacola has been evacuated, including also Forts Barancas and McRae, and the Rebels announce the entire abandonment of Florida. The troops raised in Florida had been ordered off, but they refused to go.

Gen. Sherman has issued a proclamation to the people of Florida, in which he stated that the troops of the United States had come to protect loyal citizens and their property and all loyal people who remain at their homes in the quiet pursuit of their lawful vocations shall be protected in all their constitutional rights. The safe desire and intention of the Government was to maintain the integrity of the Constitution and laws, and reclaim the States revolted from the national allegiance to their former prosperous conditions.

He expresses great satisfaction at the evidence of loyalty, and recommends the citizens to assemble in their cities and towns and subscribe and throw off the sham Government forced upon them, and swear true fidelity and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States, organize a State Government and elect officers to the good old ways of the past. When this is done he predicts a return of happy and prosperous times, immunity from want and suffering, and the enjoyment of honest labor and the sweets of happy homes, and the consolation of living under wise and salutary laws, due only to an industrious and law-abiding people.

### The Columbia Spy.

COLUMBIA, S. C.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1862.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of Milliners &c., to the Millinery and Straw Goods House of H. Ward, Nos. 103, 105, and 107 N. 2nd St., Phila. whose advertisement appears in this issue.

We notice in Haldeman's windows the most beautiful selection of goods we have seen for a long time. Particulars will be found in the advertising columns. Call and examine the stock and you can't help buying.

We are requested to announce that in addition to the studies advertised as to be pursued at the "Washington Classical Institute" under Prof. Vickroy, a course of single and Double Entry Book-keeping will be given for pupils who desire it. We are glad to learn that Prof. Vickroy has succeeded in filling up his school with quite a respectable number of pupils.

**EXAMINATION FOR CADETS.**—By an oversight we last week omitted publishing Mr. Stevens' letter concerning his appointments to the military and naval academies. A general examination of candidates takes place to-day, (Friday) in Lancaster Judge Hayes, Prof. Wickersham, and County Superintendent Evans. The result will scarcely be known this week. Mr. Stevens placed the selection of the appointments in the hands of the above named gentlemen, from all who should apply from his district. This will give the appointment to those whose attainments best entitle them to the favor.

**THE RIVER.**—The river has rapidly fallen, and the rafts which passed down in large numbers last week have ceased to run. They were principally timber, but some few board rafts have also arrived. We have heard of no sales yet, and prices will scarcely be established until we get the general stock of the headwaters. We have no means of judging whether the rates will rule high or low. We hope to see a brisk Spring business on our shores. A large accumulation of lumber here this season would stir up trade considerably.

**DEATH OF A SOLDIER.**—On Wednesday morning we received a telegram from Capt. A. Collins, of Company K, Fifth Reserve, stating that one of his company, George Fackler of this place, had been shot on Saturday, by a Rebel sentinel at Alexandria, and died on Sunday. This is all the information concerning the sad affair that we have been able to obtain. Probably written particulars are considered contraband. Fackler was a quiet, steady man and a good soldier. We are left to conjecture as to the cause of the shooting, and whether it was designed or accidental, provoked or wanton. As far as we can learn the deceased was an entire stranger in this country, his relations being all in Germany. He lived some years in Columbia previous to enlisting, working at his trade—turning—in which he was skillful. He has numerous friends here among his countrymen, by whom his widely and is sincerely mourned. Indeed the announcement of his death produced a feeling of sorrow in the entire community. We hope some of our correspondents with the company will send us the particulars of his death for publication, if permissible. It is painful to the friends of the poor soldier to be kept in suspense as to the cause of the shooting.

**GENERAL FARMER.**—The Genesee Farmer for April has been received. It is a capital number and should be in every farmer's hand.

**TO WORK IT MAY CONCERN.**—We would most earnestly and indignantly protest against a pernicious custom that has lately obtained amongst certain of our sporting men, of gunning among the board piles after nightfall. What game is sought we can't tell, but no possible object can justify such reckless hazarding of life. We learn that a most valuable citizen was placed in imminent jeopardy a few nights since, by a fusillade which filled the air around him with bullets, shot, shell and other missiles of destruction. He was grazed several times, and probably only saved his life by prompt flight. The river shore below the bridge must not be made a hunting ground.

**ANOTHER FISH WAR.**—We give elsewhere an account of the proceedings of a meeting held in Bainbridge with a view to compel the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal Company to "lead-head" the fish—that is furnish them free passage, over the dam below town. We imagine the irate fishers above us will scarcely make a descent upon the structure as did our own knights of the seine upon the fish-pots of Safe Harbor some years since. If they came down upon us, friends Supply will have to bring out their rifled cannon (the Harbor men have always denied producing the Griffin cannon on the occasion above referred to; but we have our opinion) for the defense of our institutions. Individually we are rather interested in the success of the movement, and heartily wish that a means may be devised to pass the fish over the dam. Such passage is practicable, we believe, without detriment to the interests of the Company; and even should the corporation suffer a little, it is only fair that private interests shall succumb to public good.

**THE CANALS.**—We made a little tour of inspection a day or two since through "Texas" and parts adjacent, in search of information concerning the Pennsylvania Canal and its business. We found the "Collector of the P. R." at his post, courteous and ready to afford us an item—as he always is. We learned from Mr. Wright that business is yet merely a name on the canal, the two branches, North and West, being still under repair. The line along the main river is open, and the local traffic upon that portion has been good, for the season, but the two great feeders have not yet contributed their large share of what is expected to be a very heavy business this year. It is thought that next week will be ready for navigation some time next week, when the carrying trade will commence in earnest.

Before the opening of navigation the Company expended considerable money in the repair of the out-let locks at this point. These were in very bad condition—both gates and walls. Both locks have been handsomely and strongly faced with dressed Conewago stone where repair was required. New gates have replaced the old ones, where needed, and the locks generally put in first-rate order. The repairs to the lower lock were attended with very considerable labor and expense. The back-water of the river, which was very high at the time, had to be excluded by a coffer dam, and a steam pump was kept constantly at work, night and day, to keep down the water which leaked through the wall. A new mitre sill for the lower gates was laid and other important repairs effected, and then the accumulation of mud at the coffer dam required the presence of the Company's dredging machine, before boats could pass. Everything is now in good condition.

It is nothing strange to record the permanent and handsome improvements of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The wisest policy is pursued in making these for all time, as nearly as possible. Wherever this Company lays its hand improvement follows. The splendid wharf occupied by Col. A. S. Green, on the west side of the Canal Basin, is one of the greatest and most important changes made since the canal passed into the possession of the Company. With this known spirit of change for the better, we cannot but wonder that the canal authorities should be content to transact business in the present cramped and uncomfortable quarters. The room is small, low-browed, close and uncomfortable. Between the outlet lock and the basin is the spot for an office—convenient, light and commanding the canal in every direction. There should be an office here by all means. Our friend Col. Thos. F. Wright is worthy better and more comfortable quarters than his now occupies.

**FISHERY MEETING AT BAINBRIDGE.**—A meeting was held in the public school house in the village of Bainbridge, on Tuesday of last week, with a view to compel the Susquehanna Canal Company to arrange their dams so as to allow the free passage of fish up the Susquehanna. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Emanuel Nagle, who, by request, read the following written opinions.

"Having been requested to give an opinion in writing, as to whether the Susquehanna Canal Company have the legal right to maintain their dam as at present constructed at Columbia, Lancaster county, especially with reference to said dam obstructing the passage of fish, and as to the remedy if any, against the Company by the citizens of the Commonwealth aggrieved. We give briefly the following opinion:

"First: We are of the opinion that to fish in the great navigable rivers of Pennsylvania, is a right common to all citizens of the Commonwealth, and with it the right to have the fish to pass freely through the waters of such rivers, and such passage cannot be obstructed and stopped except by express enactment of the Legislature.

"Second: If at Common Law a right to obstruct the passage of fish were doubtful, early legislative enactments in Pennsylvania have prohibited such obstruction.

"Third: The supplement to the charter of the Susquehanna Canal Company, authorizing the construction of a dam at Columbia, expressly provides that the same shall not impede the ascent of fish, and requires such dam to be of a given height and slope, so as to promote the passage of fish; and the subsequent enactment of the Legislature, further provides for the construction of said dam so as to promote the passage of fish. Any dam constructed in a manner essentially different from that authorized by law, and placed in the Susquehanna river, would, in our opinion, constitute a nuisance, and as such dam is notoriously constructed, as you state to us, in violation of the terms and provisions of the charter of the Company, and the several acts of the Assembly relating thereto, such

dam is a common nuisance. The Company cannot plead a Legislative license, for the license does not authorize such a dam as they have constructed, but a structure of a different character, preserving the valuable common rights of navigation and fishing. For can the Company avail themselves of any advantage from the lapse of time, for the nuisance continues, and no one can acquire the right to maintain a public nuisance, and the length of time the same exists only aggravates the offence.

"The only remedy we conceive is by indictment in the name of the Commonwealth, and are of the opinion that a corporation can be indicted for maintaining a public nuisance. We therefore advise that if proceedings are intended to be instituted, that complaint be made against the Company for maintaining a public nuisance.

O. J. DICKEY,  
H. B. SWARTZ.

After the reading of the opinion, a committee was appointed to take the necessary legal steps to bring the matter before the proper tribunal.

M. E. CHURCH APPOINTMENTS.—The Philadelphia Conference of the M. E. Church adjourned on Friday evening last, after the announcement by Bishop Morris of the appointments for the ensuing Conference year. The following were made for Lancaster city and county:

City—Duke Street—James E. Meredith.  
St. Paul's—Thomas Kirkpatrick.  
Columbia—J. B. Maddux.  
Marietta—J. M. Wheeler.  
Mount Joy—O. W. Landreth.  
Bainbridge—J. C. Gregg.  
Safe Harbor and Manor—W. B. Gregg.  
Strasburg—J. Pastorfield.  
Fulton—W. McMichael.  
Mount Noto—H. B. Manger.  
Enterprise—J. N. Magee.  
Churchtown—William S. Wendell.

Before the appointments were announced the following preamble and resolutions on the "state of the country" were adopted:

WHEREAS, A most unjust and wicked rebellion has arisen in the Southern States against the Government of these United States, with the avowed purpose of its overthrow, and the establishment of a separate and independent Confederacy, on principles subversive of human liberty; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government has been compelled to use force of arms, and is now engaged in a fearful war to suppress said rebellion, and to maintain its supremacy; and

WHEREAS, It is the duty of the Church, both in its ministry and membership, to employ every appropriate means for the maintenance and perpetuity of good government, and to sustain the powers that be in this great struggle; therefore

Resolved, That while we disclaim all connection with the political parties, yet as local ministers, in Conference assembled, we do hereby express our utter abhorrence and opposition to the present rebellion as being the offspring of treason, and the instrument of the destruction of the best Government of the world.

Resolved, That the Government, the army and navy, have our deepest sympathy and fervent prayers, and that we pledge our influence to encourage and assist them in their noble and righteous deeds to protect the honor of our flag, the integrity of the Constitution, and the maintenance of our glorious Union.

Resolved, That we will cheerfully bear our portion of any tax or taxes that may be required by the Government to defray the expenses of the war.

Resolved, That while we confess our sins, and humbly protest ourselves before the Almighty God, we thankfully receive the many victories which have crowned our arms as tokens of his favor, and, with gratitude and hope, we lift our hearts to Him by whom kings reign and princes decree justice, that victories may continue to bless us, until our brethren in South, East and West, again united, may "learn war no more."

**HARPER'S MAGAZINE.**—Harper for April is rich in illustration and general contents. The serial tales progress steadily, "Philip" being almost brought to a conclusion. Among the illustrated articles is one upon capriciousness which is entertaining, but containing some amusing singularities. In enumerating the artists employed upon *Punch* the writer properly places John Leech at the head, but dismisses John Tenniel as an inadequate successor to Richard Doyle, who "has produced some good pictures." Independent of Doyle's inimitable modern medieval sketches, that gentleman's works are not to be compared in point of merit with Tenniel's. Tenniel has produced not only the most artistic, but many of the best political caricatures that have appeared in *Punch*. He does not pretend to Leech's happiness in domestic caricature (who can't), but is none the less a great caricaturist; and certainly a grand artist, for his drawing is perfect. Where will he be found anything equal, in the line, to his illustrations of the "Calendar" in *Punch's Almanac*, or his title page, "index," "contents," &c. to each succeeding volume of *Punch*? The writer does no more than justice to Charles Keene in his praise, but by what strange mistake he has managed to produce as the most favorable specimen attainable of that artist's style and humor, a picture that never came from his pencil; and one, moreover, by an apprentice hand which is generally employed in filling up the odd corners of *Punch*. The sketch in question is the work of an artist whose name escapes us, but whose distinguishing sign is a trident. It in no manner resembles Keene's peculiar, happy and very forcible style; on the contrary, it is feeble and undecided, like all works from the same hand. If John McLellan is entitled to a place among the great caricaturists by the illustration from *Fisher River Scenes* (one of his very best sketches it is too, but rather a portraiture than a caricature), why is not Darley credited with his immortal delineation of "Rip Van Winkle," "Ichabod Crane," and the immortal "Sugg"? Surely we have in Darley a great humorous artist, if not a great caricaturist.

Appropos of caricaturists, *Fanny Fair*, which is making steady advances in its pictorial department to excellence, has in the number for March 8th, a full-page political hit which is admirable both in concept and design. The drawing is by R. Wylie, Esq., Curator of the Academy of Fine Arts, of Philadelphia, and is in better style than anything we have yet seen in the same page.

**OUR ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.**

OTTER POINT, S. C.,  
March 18, 1862.

**FRIEND SPY.**—Some time has elapsed since I last wrote to you, and the only excuse I have to offer is, that other and abler pens than my own were freely contributing to your columns and keeping your worthy readers fully advised of our movements. The *Spy* is always a welcome visitor to the "Forty-fifth"—not only to the Columbians in it, but to all who are connected with the regiment. You can scarcely imagine, Mr. *Spy*, how our hearts overflowed with joy on the late return of Col. Welsh. I imagine there never was manifested more genuine and heart-felt pleasure than was shown on Otter Point, by the men and officers, of the Forty-fifth, on Monday, the 10th day of March. The Colonel met with such a reception as only soldiers can give. It seemed that our measure of joy was full, and we drank deep draughts. Alas! in a few short hours we were called upon to drain to the dregs the bitter cup of sorrow. Oh! what a change—what gloom and depression fell upon us when we learned the sad fate of our gallant comrades—Captain Rambo, and his brave men! Men trained by their beloved commander's precept and example to an unflinching stoicism which even the enemy's steel would in vain have sought to disturb, melted to tenderness and tears at the sight of his lifeless body, borne aside indeed filled the air, and none more deeply or truly sorrowed than Col. Welsh. He loved our noble captain as his own life. He was a noble heart, and an undaunted spirit. He felt a martyr to his country's cause, though he fell by the hands of his comrades. We can still scarcely realize our sad loss, and I will gladly dismiss the melancholy subject; first, however, warning our good people at home against exaggerated reports, and asking them to await the official and impartial report of Lieut. Col. Bauer, who commanded the expedition.

The wounded are doing well, and in a few days will all be able to be about. Sergeant McCann was out this afternoon, as was Smith, from Cornwall, Lebanon county. Augustus Wagner is now the only one seriously wounded. He is a German, but hailed from good old Lancaster county. He was at Dr. N. Watson's for a long time. He is one of the best soldiers in the regiment, and has many wishes for a speedy recovery. You, Mr. *Spy*, and his host of Columbia friends, would be delighted and astonished to see how rapidly our Colonel is "picking up." He stepped on the scales this afternoon, and made the beam stand steady at 175 lbs. I had the nudacity to follow him, and only pulled 143 lbs. Quite a contrast between a man just risen from a sick bed and one who has enjoyed rugged health for years. [How about the difference in inches?—Ed.]

The new recruits brought on by the Colonel are doing finely, and seem happy and in full enjoyment of rebellion. They were scarcely landed before they were racing round for a chance at the rebel. I suppose Col. Tom had been indoctrinating them on the voyage out. The boys pricked their ears and cocked their eyes yesterday on dress parade, when the Colonel spouted command, and issued "General Orders No. —" All hands heartily rejoice to see him at his post once more, and ready to lead us upon Charleston or any other stronghold of acesh. We are ready to aid in raising the blockade, which Gov. Brown and other rebel dignitaries, I observe, pronounce pretzlingly. I notice, also, that they taunt us with the ignominiousness of the victories achieved and spoils gained; but I fancy they

are not entirely easy at having Sherman and his army in this immediate vicinity. They do not succeed in communicating with "Pulaski" so readily as before our appearance. They tried it on last Thursday, but were compelled to back down and break it for Savannah.

A gentleman from the Eighth Maine told me last Wednesday that Gen. Sherman was down at, or about, Tybee, wading around knee deep in mud; I imagine he was planting some of those heavy loggers which Uncle Samuel has sent him for special purposes which will no doubt be made manifest to our jubilant people before many days.

It grows late, friend *Spy*, and wearied from my duties and diabolically tormented by the natives of this delightful strip of sand—*Neas* to wit—I will finish out my news by enclosing a copy of the *New South*, a journal started in Port Royal.

The regiment is in first-rate condition, and the boys anxious for a chance.

Yours, &c.,  
HEMPFIELD.

[The following lines have been sent us by our correspondent "CAVALRIER," with the army of the Potomac, who wrote them immediately after the burial of a comrade. We are always glad to give place to his contributions.—Ed.]

**THE RANGERS' GRAVE.**

Sad were their hearts, and each rough face wore  
A shadow of grief and gloom,  
As slowly o'er valley and hill they bore  
Their comrade away to his home.

In the early light of the cold gray sky,  
With measured step and tread,  
They rode where the red clay mire daubed high  
O'er the coffin of him that was dead.

Healed was each tone as they gathered around  
The spot where he lay so late;  
And the reds answered with solemn sound,  
As the storm went hurrying by.

The rifle spits above his grave,  
The damp clouds rolled on his breast,  
And the martial strains the trumpeters gave  
Were the dirge that sent him to rest.

For him, afar in a mountain home,  
Affection looks from the door,  
And kinship lips: "O! will he come?"  
Alas! he will come no more.

Where hills in their rugged beauty rise,  
And rustles Potomac's wave,  
Nearth the angry swell of stranger skies,  
He has found a Soldier's grave.

CAVALRIER.

**GENERAL ARMY NEWS.**

**FROM GEN. BANKS' CORPS.**

Advance from Strasburg up the Valley of the Shenandoah.

The Rebels Retreat as we Advance, After Making Feeble Resistance.

Woodstock, Va., April 1.—General Banks advanced from Strasburg this morning towards this point. When on approaching the town, Ashby, with a force of Rebel cavalry, infantry and battery, disputed the passage of the Federal troops. We however, passed on through the town, the Rebels frequently stopping in their retreat and throwing shells, to which we responded with effect.

Gen. Banks pursued the enemy to Edinburg, five miles south of Woodstock, Ashby burning two turnpikes and one railroad bridge in his retreat. All the railroad bridges between here and Strasburg had been previously destroyed.

The only casualty on our side was one man killed in the Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Regiment, and one of the Second Massachusetts Regiment received a rifle ball in his belt plate, but it proved harmless.

**LATER.**

Woodstock, April 2, 8 A. M.—Our guns and musketry drove the enemy from Stony Creek, near Edinburg, this morning at 7 o'clock. They were in line of battle within range of our guns. Probably there were none but Ashby's command.

Our forces will rebuild the bridge over the creek to-day.

All was quiet during the night. It is not known if Jackson's main body were engaged in the skirmish yesterday.

**Farther from Woodstock—the enemy Driven before Us—The Rebel Estimate of the Relative Loss at the Battle of Winchester.**

Woodstock, April 2.—We have driven the enemy to-day from Strasburg to Woodstock, a distance of twelve miles, and then to Edinburg, seven miles beyond. He contested the march most of the way, and at a strong position at which he contemplated making a stand, as at Edinburg, quite a sharp contest occurred. He burned the bridges in his flight, except that at a narrow passage, which we were enabled to reach in time to extinguish the flames. We lost but one man and had but one wounded. The enemy suffered more, but I cannot state the extent.

Colonel Ashby received a shot through his cap, which he exhibited with some satisfaction to the people of Woodstock. Others suffered more severely.

Our men behaved admirably during the advance of yesterday. Our skirmishers were frequently fired upon by the rear guard of Jackson's retreating force. We shelled them through the town as often as they appeared in range.

After passing the bridge over Stony Creek, they set fire to it, but our troops arrived in time to save it. Also another pike bridge and the railroad bridge, all in two miles this side of Edinburg. Our artillerists endeavored, but unsuccessfully, to prevent the destruction by pouring into the enemy showers of shell.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 27th, places our loss at the Winchester battle at 1,200 to 1,500, and theirs at 350 to 400. Among their casualties, Colonel L. T. Moore, of Winchester, and T. H. Tower, of the General Assembly, were killed, and Colonel Eckels, of the Twenty-seventh Virginia Regiment, was wounded. The Second Virginia Regiment lost 100 men.

**FROM FORTRESS MONROE.**

News from Gen. Sherman's Forces—Fort Pulaski Invested.

**NEWS FROM REBEL SOURCES.**

Fortress Monroe, April 1.—A flag of truce from Norfolk to-day brought down letters from the Federal prisoners and despatches from General Huger to General Wool.

Several Norfolk and Richmond papers were received.

A despatch from Charleston says that Gen. Evans advanced on Saturday on North Edisto Island with two thousand Confederate troops, but finding the Federals at least 6,000 strong, retired in a masterly manner. The despatch does not say whether there was a fight or not.

The United States gunboat *Seminole* arrived here this afternoon from Port Royal, with dates to Saturday last. Fort Pulaski had been thoroughly invested for thirty days and was hourly expected to surrender.

It was said that about 500 Rebels were in Pulaski, and that they had offered to go out with the honors of war, but Gen. Sherman demanded an unconditional surrender, and would on the 1st of April open the fort, if they still refused.

The Rebels had withdrawn all their forces from the coast of Georgia, and had abandoned their works at Thunderbolt, taking all their guns to Savannah. The *Seminole* landed a force and destroyed the fort there entirely. It is within five miles of Savannah, over a good shell road.

A refugee from Savannah says that the friends of the troops in Fort Pulaski had offered \$30,000 to any one who would rescue them.

Refugees from Charleston represent a great panic as prevailing there since the capture of Newbern; women and children were leaving, and there was a general expectation that a terrible blow would be struck soon.

A despatch from Norfolk in this morning's Richmond papers mentions the arrival of Vice President Hamlin and a large party of ladies and gentlemen here and the salutes on the occasion, and in the same paragraph says there has been no communication by flags of truce for several days.

There appears to be little doubt that all movements here are faithfully reported to the Rebel authorities.

The Norfolk papers also state that nearly one hundred transports, steamers and other vessels are in Hampton Roads, and that a large number of Federal troops have recently landed here.

The Richmond Dispatch of this morning says: "The Grand Army of the Federals seem to have been transferred from the neighborhood of Washington to the Peninsula, which they have probably concluded is a shorter and easier road to Richmond than that via Manassas, which we have courteously placed at their disposal."

The Dispatch says the route here is as bad as those on the Potomac, and refers to General Magruder as a man not likely to be caught napping.

The New Orleans papers of the 27th ult., report the loss of the Confederate steamer *Vanderbilt*. The Captain, crew and eight passengers arrived safe on the Florida coast. One boat, with 17 men, had not been heard from.

The Rebel Ordnance Bureau has issued an order calling for all the balls that can be obtained to be recast into light artillery.

There was a rumor in Richmond yesterday that a severe fight had taken place on the Peninsula—probably caused by the fact that a strong reconnaissance towards Yorktown was made on Saturday.

A despatch from Augusta, Georgia, of the 31st, says the Charleston papers of that date contained a despatch dated New Orleans, March 29th, stating that two Federal gunboats on the 23th commenced an attack on Fort Jackson, at the mouth of the Mississippi, but up to that time nobody had been hurt.

Rebel troops were gathering in large numbers at Jacksonport and Pocahontas, in Arkansas, and Generals Van Dorn and Jeff. Thompson were preparing for an early movement on some point of the Mississippi river. With this force it is considered the Mississippi Valley is safe from the enemy.

The Memphis Avalanche of the 29th ult., says the forces of the enemy attempting to take Island No. 10 have been throwing shot and shell for 240 hours without doing any damage to the work or guns up to this time only one Confederate soldier has been killed.

A small tug came down James river yesterday afternoon, and at long range threw some half-dozen shells into Newport News camp. No damage was done. The distance was so great that it was useless to waste ammunition in making a reply.

The rumor current here that the Yorktown has been abandoned by the enemy is not believed by the highest authorities here.

Notwithstanding the great delay in the appearance of the Merrimac, she is hourly expected, and our naval and military commanders feel fully prepared to receive her at any moment.

**SIEGE OF ISLAND NO. 10.**

Chicago, April 1.—A special despatch to the *Times*, dated "off Island No. 10, March 31," says the Rebels have erected a large entrenched camp in the bend of the river, directly in front of our gunboats. An embankment half a mile long has been thrown up on shore, behind which guns are mounted. Large numbers are masked as yet, and we have no means of ascertaining what artillery they have posted at this point. Several batteries, however, are plainly visible.

Their entrenchments extend from the center of the bend to the upper point of the island. They are constantly busy both with steamers and men. Our mortars were fired yesterday and to-day every fifteen minutes, with what effect we are unable to decide. Our shells are all thrown upon the island. The Rebels make no answer, except an occasional shot at our transports. Occasional firing is heard in the direction of New Madrid, caused by engagements between batteries which are placed on the opposite sides of the river below that place. We get no news from there at this point.

**FROM TENNESSEE.**

Forced March against a Rebel Camp at Union City, Tennessee—The Rebels Surprised and Routed—Large amount of Spoils Captured.

Chicago, April 1.—A special despatch to the *Journal*, from Cairo, says that Colonel Buford, yesterday, accompanied by the Twenty-seventh and Forty-seventh Illinois Regiments and part of the Fifteenth Wisconsin, from the force near Island No. 10, with a detachment of cavalry and artillery from Hickman, under Col. Hedge, made a descent upon Union City, Tennessee, after a forced march of thirty miles, and fell on the rebel encampment there at 7 o'clock in the morning, and dispersed the entire force stationed there under Clay King, both cavalry and infantry. They fled in every direction, and several of the enemy were killed, and a number wounded and taken prisoners. A large amount of spoils were captured, including 150 horses, Commissary and Quartermaster's stores, etc. Our loss was only one man killed from the explosion in burning. The Rebel force numbered 700 infantry and between 700 and 800 cavalry.

**FROM CAIRO.**

Cairo, April 1.—The gunboat *Conestoga* arrived from Island No. 10 to-night. She reports no change of affairs there. The mortars fire every half hour but elicit no response. The Rebel mail, captured to-day at Union City, contained letters from the Rebel troops on the island, representing that the forces there were disheartened and dispirited.

There is nothing received from Gen. Grant's column to-day.

Forty or fifty soldiers came into Hickman and gave up their arms, and desired to return to their allegiance and join the Federal army. They were a portion of those who escaped from Union City yesterday. They report that a large number of the troops are disposed to yield.

**Late Telegraphic News.**

Official Despatches from Commodore Dupont.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Official despatches received at the Navy Department to-day from Commodore Dupont, under date of Port Royal, March 27, says the formidable batteries on Skidaway and Green Island have been abandoned by the Rebels, the guns having been withdrawn in order to be placed near Savannah. This abandonment, he adds, gives us complete control of Wassaw and Oseabaw Sounds, and the mouths of Vernon and Wilmington rivers, which form important approaches to Savannah river.