

The attention of the reader is directed to the advertisement of Dr. Markley's Family Medicines to be found in another column of this paper.

This Office for Sale.

We desire to dispose of the Spy Office, and offer it for sale. It is well known as one of the best Country Offices in the State. The Jobbing and Advertising custom is 'first-rate,' and 'increasing.' The business of the town is better to-day than it has been for years, and the Spy prospers accordingly. The Circulation of the paper is, small, but may readily be doubled with little effort.

For information apply at the Spy Office, or address SAMUEL WRIGHT, Spy Office, Columbia, Pa.

Rev. C. Reimensnyder, of Chester Springs, will preach in the E. E. Lutheran Church to-morrow (Sunday) morning and evening, at the usual hours.

A Card.

In behalf of the men and officers of Co. "K," 135th Regt. Penna. Vols., the subscribers have been instructed to tender to the Borough authorities, Union League, Ladies of the Soldiers' Aid Society and citizens of Columbia their sincere thanks for the warm-hearted welcome and beautiful and beautiful banquet which awaited them on their return home on Monday last.

Geo. H. ERISMAN, Capt. Co. K. GEN. A. SODERS, 1st Lieut. S. K. ALBRIGHT, 2d Lieut.

In my own behalf I would tender respectful thanks to the ladies of the Soldiers' Aid Society for the handsome cake presented us by them on the above occasion.

Geo. H. ERISMAN.

To the Citizens.

We are requested by the ladies of the Soldiers' Aid Society of Columbia, to return their sincere thanks to the citizens who so generously responded to their appeal for contributions toward the collation provided for the returning volunteers of Co. "K," 135th Regt. P. V.

The "CONTINENTAL."—The proprietor of this favorite temple of refreshment having returned from the service of his country, is now giving his entire attention to placing his saloon on its old unrivaled footing. At 10 o'clock A. M. and 9 o'clock P. M. he hosts out an appetizing lunch for all comers, and will be happy to serve his friends to the best of his ability. "Buwery" is a true patriot and should receive the support of all Union lovers of lager. Call at the "Continental" and try the beverage.

WHIT MONDAY.—Monday was a great day in Lancaster—and with our own reception of our gallant volunteers it was a great day in Columbia. As it was a holiday there were many friends of the boys from the country in town, beside some visitors from the line of the Reading and Columbia Railroad. There was a heavy live stock business done by this road on Monday. About half-past three in the morning a train of eleven cars started from Columbia, having the Columbia Band aboard for Coalingo. It left that point to return at 6 o'clock, gathering the pleasure seekers as it progressed westward, and when it reached Columbia the cars were full to overflowing. The regular Lancaster train of three cars was crowded and the cars which brought the festive crowd from the country were run as an extra train. The same trains returned in the evening, with the same jam of excursionists. It was a new experience to most of our country friends—going to see "Joe" by rail—and they were highly delighted with the trip. We hear that the crowd in Lancaster was greater than has been known for many years.

We may add that the Reading and Columbia Railroad is an immensely popular institution with the citizens along its line. They appreciate the benefit it is, and will increasingly be to them. A heavy train of coal, lumber, &c., is run over the road every day, and the return freight of flour, grain, marketing, &c., is also an important item. D. F. Griffith, Esq., has been appointed Transportation Agent for the road, a fact which insures the prompt and regular conduct of the fast increasing business of the road. A better selection could not have been made. The passenger business of the road is soon to have an important increase. With the opening of the Ephrata Mountain Springs there will be a regular flow of travel to and from this popular watering place, which will be accommodated, we learn, by a second train each way daily.

By-the-way! when is that long promised excursion to come off? We have had several visits from our country cousins, and it seems to us time to be thinking about returning the favor. Pleasant weather may be counted upon now, and the sooner we can get up a little pleasure trip the better. We say Mr. Superintendent Crawford! Let us have our Whit Monday some other fine day.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.—A special meeting of Council was held May 22, 1863. Members present, Messrs. Appold, Bogle, Denny, Hook, Herr, Shuman, Sourbeer and Breneman, President.

A communication was read from Geo. B. Babcock, chairman of Committee of Arrangements, inviting Town Council to participate in the reception to be given Capt. Erisman's Company, upon their return home. On motion the invitation was unanimously accepted.

On motion the time for allowing an abatement of five per cent. on taxes, was extended from June 1st to June 15th. Mr. Hook moved that the amount of taxes due on the old warehouse lots at the Basin, be transferred to the Penna. Railroad Company. Agreed to. On motion a Journal.

OUR NEW SCHOOL HOUSE.—On Monday last in company with two of the most active of our School Directors, Messrs. Grove and Bogle, and several citizens, we paid a visit to the new school building on Cherry street. We found the structure more nearly completed than we expected, and already in sufficiently forward condition to give a general idea of the character of the whole when ready for use. It is a noble building—one of the largest and most complete for the purpose in the State. It is one hundred feet in front on Cherry street, and seventy-five feet in depth, three stories high, built of brick and covered with a slate roof. There are fifteen recitation rooms, six on each of the first two stories and three on the third. One-half of the third story is in one noble room, 75 feet deep by about 44 wide, which will be used as a lecture room.—This is the finest room for the purpose in town. The recitation rooms are commodious, well lighted, heated by flues, well ventilated and will be furnished with all the appliances of first-class school-rooms. A portion of the walls of each room will be finished with a patent composition, of the color and hardness of slate, which will serve as blackboards. The heaters are constructed on the safest plan, and the flues each contain an inner flue of tin which prevents the absorption of heat by the surrounding brick-work. Each room has an entirely separate flue, and all the flues are perfectly fire-proof. The passages run through the centre of the building from front to rear, and are ten feet in width. The stairways are at each end of the halls, very wide and of easy ascent.—The time necessary to complete this fine edifice may be reckoned by weeks, so there cannot be a doubt of its readiness to receive the public schools next fall.

As the structure now stands there is a "squareness" of effect which will be obliterated when completed, as it is the intention to have the tower surmounted by a cupola in which will be hung a bell.

The yard, which is roomy, will have a broad pavement in front, and eleven feet pavements on each side leading to the rear. The grounds, we presume, will be planted with shade trees.

We have in our hands a communication inspired by the new school house which we had intended giving this week, but the reception ceremonies on the occasion of the return of our brave volunteers occupies so much room that we are obliged to defer it another week.

Return of Captain Erisman's Company "K," 135th Regt. P. V.

We announced last week that Captain Erisman's Company of the 135th Regiment Penna. Vols. would probably reach home about the middle of the present week. Arrangements having been made for paying the Company off in Lancaster instead of Harrisburg, the boys came upon us rather unexpectedly on Monday afternoon. A telegram was received about noon announcing the departure of the Company from Harrisburg in cars attached to the "Cumberland Valley Freight." This train is due here at 1:40 P. M., so that there was little time to call the people together. The bells were immediately rung, and the Marshals and Committee set to work busily to prepare for the reception. The line was formed on Locust street, and marched to Blacks where it halted. The train arrived about 2 o'clock, and the boys alighted opposite the Basin, the train passing on with the two Lancaster Companies who were cheered by the crowd. The Company was formed and marched to Blacks, where the escort awaited, conducted by the Marshals, who placed the gallant soldiers in the line. Their arrival was greeted by a burst of cheering, and their ranks were almost broken by the rush and greeting of friends. The procession then moved in the following order: Columbia Band, Borough Authorities, Committee of Arrangements, Columbia Fire Company with Hose Carriage, Susquehanna Fire Company with Reel, Company "K," 135th Regt. P. V. Citizens.

The streets were exceedingly dusty, but the procession passed over the route announced, cheered everywhere, and welcomed by waving handkerchiefs on the part of the ladies, and accompanied by a large and enthusiastic crowd on the sidewalks. On arriving at the end of the route the line commenced on Second street, and the Company being drawn up was welcomed by Rev. H. R. Callaway, from the step of Equivoque Bruner's office. We give in full the Address of WELCOME.

Soldiers!—returned soldiers of the Union, and of the great Army of the Potomac!—it is with no feigned feelings of emotion that I sit at the instance of the Union League, in their behalf and in behalf of the citizens of our town and Commonwealth, to extend to you a cordial, heartfelt welcome—such a welcome as only true patriots can give to fellow patriots who have been voluntarily fighting for Constitutional liberty, for republican institutions, and for human freedom!

It may not be amiss, amid the gratulations of the hour, to review in brief the history of the Army of the Potomac, and your connection with that army. But as its career passes before us as in panoramic view—now mustering its forces, and under the cry of "on to Richmond!" rushing with impudent haste upon the strong-hold of "Bull Run," then receding panic stricken, and lying panting and prostrate in the fortifications of Washington! now again organizing for months and months in sight of the terrible quaker guns of Manassas Hill, then heroically marching on Manassas when it was known that the enemy had fled; now entrenching before Yorktown, then storming the fortifications of Williamsburg; now sickening and dying in the swamps of the Chickahominy; then victoriously fighting the way to the healthier, and secure bank of the James, under the protection of the Pennsylvania "bake-ovens" dealt out by the almost omnipresent Navy; now receding again, divided, weakened and bereft, and pressed to the gates of our Capitol, then shattering the combined strength of its desperate foe in the sanguinary conflict of "Antietam," now killing time in the vicinity of the Potomac, then (condemned by disappointments and delays) pushing itself with heroic tenacity forward, against the almost impregnable entrenchments of Fredericksburg; now checked by the elements (in other words stuck in the mud), then under its present indomitable leader "Fighting Joe," it is free to the front and rear of Lee, dragging and driving him from his stronghold and shattering his forces on the bloody field of Chancellorsville—a less interested spectator might find blending together the rear, the smile and the shout. But who

will say, considering the desperate character of its foe and the war it has been waging in defence of the life-centre of the so-called "Confederacy," that the Army of the Potomac has not had its glory? We have seen it feel ourselves recent sons of noble sires, if we did not feel that it had endeared itself to us by what it has dared, suffered and done; and by the great lessons it has taught us.

First of all, by the Army of the Potomac, Washington, beleaguered all round with treason—has been rendered thus far secure. Again it has not only held a very large portion of the army of the Rebellion—with its leaders in Eastern Virginia, while the power of the Nation has advanced on more propitious fields, but it has by its repeated onsets greatly weakened and shattered that army. Again; by its changing commands, and divided councils, we have been led to appreciate the difficulties the Administration in procuring the right men for the right places; and besides, by its varied fortunes and misfortunes, we have been made to comprehend the magnitude of the Rebellion, and to prepare for its overthrow.

And by the great lesson that we—under God—by this great army is yet to be taught. We have been led step by step up to a standpoint from which is presented clearly to view the secret, both of the power and weakness of our enemies; a lesson, as Jackson, and, a lesson, as he said, "God's rod" will be in his hand, and the substitution of the true "corner-stone" of American Institutions. True, we had a vague impression, that equality in creation, and certain "rights"—among which were life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—were guaranteed to all men; and that "to secure these rights governments are instituted among men"; and that these formed the true basis of our political system. But we had not fathers so thought, so proclaimed, and so taught us; but we had gradually, and almost imperceptibly, fallen into the fatal error, that Freedom and Slavery might continue to co-exist in the same government, and yet our institutions be maintained.

Our fathers were mistaken; that they were old fogies; that Freedom was not, but that Slavery was the true basis of Government. And when they taught us, that we should be taught us the true lesson—the lesson which we have been slow to learn, but up to which every lagard is yet to be brought—that Liberty and Slavery cannot continue to co-exist in the same government, and yet our institutions be maintained.

In contemplating the process by which this alternative has been forced upon us, in connection with its anticipated results, I am forcibly reminded of the old, yet instructive history of the "Philistines" and "Samson"—a history which, in its leading features is being repeated in our own day. A history, the very language of which, with a little change, may be applied to the crisis through which we have been passing. For the former do not inaptly represent the champions of Despotism and Slavery, nor the latter the champions of a true and just government, and feel that for these you fought, and perilled your lives. And in that hour, may God grant you—not only the sweet consciousness of having defended your country in the hour of its need, but also the feeling of reverence, and honor, had but deepened with time.

And when you come to die, you may not be able to bequeath those you leave behind the legacy of wealth, but you can bequeath to them a patriot's blessing, a country, and a government, and feel that for these you fought, and perilled your lives. And in that hour, may God grant you—not only the sweet consciousness of having defended your country in the hour of its need, but also the feeling of reverence, and honor, had but deepened with time.

Again, and finally, in behalf of the Union League, who sit at the head of the table, we bid you welcome!

On the conclusion of Mr. Callaway's address, which was enthusiastically received, the band struck up "Home Again," and the company was marched into the Hall to partake of the collation prepared by the Ladies of the "Soldiers Aid Society." A reply to the address of welcome was unfortunately prevented by the indisposition of Captain Erisman, who was scarcely able to take part in the ceremonies of reception.

In spite of the short notice the tables prepared by the ladies were a wonder of beauty and profusion. Three tables were laid—the entire length of the Hall—and the arrangement was perfect in point of taste, and both for variety and plenty unsurpassed by anything of the kind ever gotten up in Columbia. The justice done the repast by the boys testified their appreciation. The ladies deserve the thanks of the citizens for their prompt action, and the handsome result.

with the returned soldier with whose sentiments and influence we could well have dispensed. In such cases the suspicion has been forced upon us, that they were covered on the field, and covered in glory. We have seen them from the service. But when we call those who have served out their term and been honorably discharged, we expect better things.

Finally—we welcome you to honor you! Some two years ago, whilst I yet lived in Maryland, a patriot band met in the old town of St. Michaels. Patriot ladies had purchased a beautiful flag—'twas not the Rebel rag—and the purpose of this meeting was to spread it to the breeze, as the emblem of our Loyalty. The honor of raising that flag was conferred on the few remaining "old defenders" of the great Republic. We were there, and we were there, and as we looked on those who had been white with a "win" they raised it aloft, displaying within its opening folds "the Stars and the Stripes," you may well think that it was, with feelings of reverence, and honor, had but deepened with time.

But let me say to you, that when the roar of artillery shall have died away, and the smoke of battle shall have cleared away, and the cohorts of the Nation shall have returned home in triumph to cultivate the arts of peace; when the "Free of Liberty" (now a little stiff) shall have taken deeper root, and spread out its branches to all eyes, and the Nation, with its children and children's children, shall gather beneath its shade, to celebrate the First or the Second Declaration of our Independence on the fourth of July, or the first of January, or the first of August, first written by Thomas Jefferson—the second by Abraham Lincoln—be assured that you will then realize amid those repeated, festive coronations of the Nation's freedom, and in the midst of our own history, the feeling of reverence, and honor, had but deepened with time.

And when you come to die, you may not be able to bequeath those you leave behind the legacy of wealth, but you can bequeath to them a patriot's blessing, a country, and a government, and feel that for these you fought, and perilled your lives. And in that hour, may God grant you—not only the sweet consciousness of having defended your country in the hour of its need, but also the feeling of reverence, and honor, had but deepened with time.

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On the conclusion of the feast Capt. Erisman was presented with a handsome cake on the part of the ladies of the Society by their President, Mrs. J. G. Ives, and Rev. Mr. Callaway received a like compliment—the ladies in this case being represented by Chief Marshal Geo. W. Haldeman, who tendered the cake in a felicitous little speech, which was happily responded to by the recipient of the gift.

After all had partaken of the delicacies, the expectant youngsters were admitted to the Hall, and were feasted to repletion. In spite of a number of adverse influences, chief among which were the short notice of the hour of arrival, and the absence of a large number of our citizens, particularly members of the different Fire Companies, in Lancaster participating in the festivities of Whit Monday, the reception of Captain Erisman's Company was one of the most successful and creditable public displays that has ever taken place in our borough.—The boys are delighted with their reception, and one and all pronounce it everything that they could desire.

The members of the Company look well, and with few exceptions are in robust health. We regret that Capt. Erisman has suffered since the exposure and fatigue of the late battle from a prostrating fever, which, however, is happily gradually disappearing.—The boys proceeded to Lancaster on Wednesday, where they were paid off. They are noble fellows, and return from the war imbued with the feeling that this accursed rebellion must be put down at any and every cost. All honor to their patriotic devotion!

Pennsylvania Reserves. Brig.-Gen. Crawford has been relieved by an order of the War Department from the Military Commission, and assigned to duty under Major Gen. Heintzelman, for the command of the division known as the Pennsylvania Reserves. Gen. Seymour takes the place of Gen. Crawford in the Commission. The assignment was made at the request of the Governor of Pennsylvania, in consideration of the fact that Gen. Seymour is a native and a fine soldierly qualities. He was with Anderson during the bombardment of Fort Sumter, with Banks in the Shenandoah Valley and Cedar Mountain, and while commanding the first division after Mansfield fell, was severely wounded at Antietam.

MURDER IN MARIETTA.—Yesterday afternoon the quiet citizens of Marietta were startled and horrified by the report that a cold-blooded murder had been committed in their midst. The report proved to be true. The facts, as we have collected them from a responsible source, are as follows: The victim of the murder was Charles Brady, who kept a restaurant along the river shore, and was highly respected as a citizen. He was last seen on Saturday night, when it was understood by his sister and others that he was coming to Lancaster. This fact determined an suspicion that would have otherwise arisen from his place of business being closed on Monday, but on Tuesday his sister became uneasy at his protracted absence, and in the afternoon the door was forced, when he was found dead behind the counter, with two wounds on his head, sufficient to have caused his death. One of them, on the back part of the head, had evidently been inflicted by a hatchet or axe, the skull being laid open for some inches and the brain exposed; the other looked as if it had been inflicted with the pole of the hatchet or axe.

From the position in which the body was found, it is supposed that he was stooping down, in the act of drawing a glass of beer or ale, when the assassin struck him on the head. There was standing on the counter a glass of beer and a glass of ale partly drunk, from which it is inferred that there were two persons present participating in the tragedy. Deceased was found lying on his face, with his boots off. The removal of the boots is explained by the fact that Mr. Brady was known to have money, at least \$300, which he carried in his boot, and to secure this was doubtless the object of the fiendish deed.

Deputy Coroner Brown, of Maytown, held an inquest on the body last evening, when Dr. Houston made the post mortem examination. A verdict was rendered in accordance with the facts as stated. We understand that two or three parties have been arrested on suspicion, the circumstantial evidence pointing strongly to one of them, but, for the present, we forbear entering into the details, hoping that the guilty authors of such a diabolical deed will be brought to justice.—Express May 27.

Mr. Brady was well known to many of our citizens, having learned his trade—tinning—with Mr. J. M. Ruple, of this place.

The lady who called at our office yesterday, is requested to call again, as we wish to obtain her name, so as to be able to inform the people who it was that brought us that box of Bryan's Pulmonic Balm, for it relieved us of a very severe cough in a few hours.

WAR NEWS.

The Great Achievement on the Mississippi. Official Details of the Battles at Baker's Creek and Big Black River Bridge—The Rebels Driven Back to Vicksburg with the Loss of One Hundred Pieces of Artillery—Successful Operations of Gen. Sherman—Eight Thousand Prisoners Taken—The Victory Complete.

WASHINGTON, May 24, 1863. The following official details of the battle of Big Black river have been received: MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 23—11:30 A. M. Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War: The following despatch has been received at these headquarters, and is forwarded, as requested:— S. A. HURLBUT, Major General.

THE BATTLE OF BAKER'S CREEK. REAR OF VICKSBURG, May 20—6 A. M. Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War: General Grant won a great and momentous victory over the rebels, under General Pemberton, on the Jackson and Vicksburg road, at Baker's creek, on the 16th inst. Pemberton had a most formidable position on the crest of a wooded hill, over which the road passed longitudinally. He had about twenty-five thousand men.

The battle began at eleven o'clock in the morning, and was gained at four o'clock in the afternoon. Its brunt was borne by Gen. Hovey's division, of General McClernand's corps, and by Generals Logan's and Crocker's divisions, of General McPherson's corps. Hovey attacked the hill and held the greater part of it till two o'clock in the afternoon, when, having lost sixteen hundred men, he was succeeded by Generals Boomer's and Hulmes' brigades, of Crocker's division, by which the conflict was ended in that part of the field. Boomer lost five hundred men. Logan operated on the right, and cut off the enemy's direct retreat, so that he was compelled to escape by his right flank through the woods. Logan lost four hundred killed and wounded. We took about two thousand prisoners.

THE BATTLE OF BIG BLACK BRIDGE. On the 17th, advancing to the Big Black, we fought Pemberton again at the Bridge there and captured three thousand more prisoners. He fought in rifle pits, protected by a difficult bayou, full of abattis. General Lyle's brigade, McClernand's corps, charged the rifle pits magnificently, and took more prisoners than their own numbers. Pemberton burned his bridge, and returned to Vicksburg with only three cannon out of sixty that he had taken out.

INVESTMENT OF VICKSBURG. Building four bridges over the Big Black, General Grant arrived before the town on the evening of the 18th, and now holds it closely invested. He has opened a line of supplies via Chickasaw Bayou, having out the town off from Haines' Bluff, which is abandoned by the enemy, and which General Grant will occupy. There was sharp fighting through the day yesterday. General Steel won and holds the upper bluffs and the enemy's upper water batteries, and gets water from the Mississippi. General Sherman's corps lost yesterday five hundred killed and wounded. General McPherson, who holds the centre, lost little, as did General McClernand, who holds the left. The gunboats kept the enemy alert during the night, and probably the town will be carried to-day.

There are from fifteen to twenty thousand men in it.

OPERATIONS ON THE YAZOO RIVER.

The Reports from Cairo—The Union Forces Reported in Full Possession of Haines' and Chickasaw Bluffs—Capture of One Hundred Guns and Eight Thousand Prisoners by Gen. Sherman, &c. CAIRO, May 24, 1863.

It is reported that Gen. Sherman has taken Haines' and Chickasaw Bluffs, with eight thousand prisoners, one hundred guns, and ammunition and commissary stores. The prisoners were paroled and sent across the Yazoo.

Another report says those points were evacuated and Sherman took quiet possession. Gen. Grant attacked the upper batteries of Vicksburg Sunday, while the gunboats attacked the water batteries Tuesday; the upper batteries were captured and turned on the water batteries.

The paroled prisoners who were brought across from Vicksburg, say our forces have possession of the entire line of outer fortifications, and rebel officers tell their men since the capture of Haines' Bluff that there was no chance of escape. The rebel force is estimated from twenty thousand to thirty thousand. The wildest confusion existed among them. Officers were unable to keep the line of battle.

The Empress, the last boat up, says when she left, Wednesday evening, the firing had ceased. There is no doubt but that the rebels surrendered. Gen. Blair reached Chickasaw Bluffs on Tuesday, and was sent down for rations. The federal loss is reported heavy.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS. Telegram from Assistant Adjutant General Rawlins. REAR OF VICKSBURG, May 20, 1863. The Army of the Tennessees landed at Brulenburg on the 30th of April. On the 1st of May we fought the battle of Port Gibson, and defeated the rebels under Gen. Bowen, whose loss in killed, wounded and prisoners was at least fifteen hundred, and loss in artillery five pieces.

On the 12th of May, at the battle of Raymond, the rebels were defeated with the loss of eight hundred. On the 14th of May we defeated General Joseph E. Johnson, and captured Jackson with a loss to the enemy of four hundred, besides immense stores and manufactures and seventeen pieces of artillery. On the 16th of May we fought the bloody and decisive battle of Baker's creek, in which the entire force at Vicksburg, under Gen. Pemberton, was defeated, with the loss of twenty-nine pieces of artillery and four thousand men.

On the 17th of May we defeated the same force at the Big Black river bridge, with the loss of two thousand six hundred men and seventeen pieces of artillery. On the 18th of May we invested Vicksburg closely. To-day Gen. Steele carried the rifle pits on the north of the city. The right of the army rests on the Mississippi, above Vicksburg. JOHN A. RAWLINS, Assistant Adjutant General.

THE LATEST REBEL ACCOUNTS. UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP MINNESOTA. OFF NEWPORT NEWS, May 24, 1863. Hon. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy: SIR—At half-past eight o'clock this morning the steamer James Brooks came down from City Point, with six hundred and twenty paroled prisoners, including eighty officers and crew of the Indianaols.

The Richmond Inquirer of the 22d inst., has the following under the telegraphic news head: MOBILE, May 21, 1863. The special reporter of the Advertiser and Register, at Jackson, sends the latest news from Vicksburg down to Tuesday night. In Saturday's fight we lost thirty pieces of artillery, which were spiked and abandoned. On Sunday the Federals advanced to take the Big Black bridge. They crossed higher up and took us in the rear, when the bridge was burned and the works abandoned.—Loss heavy.

Vicksburg is closely besieged, the enemy closing in on every side. General Loring has assumed command at Jackson. No official confirmation has been received here of the crossing of Big Black by the Federals, or of the destruction of the bridge and abandonment of the works. Private despatches from Jackson up to the 22d say nothing of these events.

LATEST FROM VICKSBURG. Everything Going Well up to the 22d—Our Troops Encircle the Town—The Gunboats Still at Work—Capture of Six Thousand Prisoners and Seventy-four Pieces of Artillery, &c., &c. MEMPHIS, Tenn., 11:30 A. M., May 25. Major General H. W. HALLACK, General-in-chief: The luminary is just up from Vicksburg. No official despatches are brought by her. Lyleford the ordnance officer writes under date of the 22d, 9 o'clock, a. m. "Our loss is not very heavy for the position we have gained. "The rebels make a firm resistance. I think we shall have the place to-morrow. "We completely encircle the town, and our men to-night have their colors planted on the enemy's works, and are lying on the exterior slope. "The gun and mortar boats are in front of the town working away. "Our captures thus far are about six thousand prisoners and 74 pieces of artillery, some of which have been destroyed. "Gen. Grant is in good spirits. "If we take Vicksburg, we shall take about 15,000 prisoners, with Pemberton, &c." (Signed) S. C. LYFORD." S. A. HURLBUT, Major-General.

Naval Operations at Vicksburg. Captains of Haines' Bluff, with Fourteen Forts, Guns and Camp Equipage in good order—Bombardment of the City. WASHINGTON, May 25.—The following has been received at the Navy Department: CAIRO, Ill., May 25, 1863.—To the Hon.

Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy: The following dispatch has just been received. A. M. PENNOCK, Fleet Captain, Mississippi Squadron.

FLAGSHIP BLACK HAWK, HAINES' BLUFF, YAZOO RIVER, May 20, 1863.—To the Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy: On the morning of the 15th I came over to the Yazoo river, to be ready to co-operate with General Grant, leaving two of the iron-clads at Red river, one at Grand Gulf, one at Carthage, three at Warrenston, and two in the Yazoo, which left me a small force.—Still I disposed of them to the best advantage. On the 18th, at meridian, firing was heard in the rear of Vicksburg, which assured me that Gen. Grant was approaching the city.

The cannonading was kept up furiously for some time, when by the aid of glasses, I discovered a company of our artillery advancing, taking a position, and driving the rebels before them. I immediately said that General Sherman's division had come into the left of Snyder's Bluff, and that place had been cut off from joining the forces in the city. I dispatched the De Kalb, Lieutenant Commander Walker, the Choctaw, Lieutenant Commander Ramsey, and the Romo, Petrel and Forest Rose, all under command of Lieutenant Commander Breeze, up the Yazoo, to be open communication in that way with Generals Grant and Sherman.

This I succeeded in doing, and in three hours received letters from Generals Grant, Sherman and Steel, informing me of their vast success, and asking me to send provisions, which was at once done. In the meantime Lieut. Com. Walker' in the De Kalb, pushed on to Haines' Bluff, which the enemy commenced evacuating the day before, and a party remained behind in hopes of taking away or destroying the large amount of ammunition on hand. When they saw the gunboats they ran, and left everything in good order—guns, forts, tents, and equipage of all kinds—which fell into our hands. As soon as the capture of Haines' Bluff and fourteen forts was reported to me, I shoved up the gunboats from below Vicksburg to fire at the batteries, which fire was kept up for two or three hours.

At midnight they moved up to the town and opened on it for about an hour, and continued at intervals during the night to annoy the garrison. On the 19th I placed six mortars in position, with orders to fire night and day as rapidly as they could. The works at Haines' Bluff are formidable. There are fourteen of the heaviest kind of mounted eight and ten-inch and seven and a half inch rifled guns, with ammunition enough to last a long siege. As the gun carriages might again fall in to the hands of the enemy I had them burnt, blew up the magazine, and destroyed the works generally. I also burned up the encampments, which were permanently and remarkably well constructed, looking as if the rebels intended to stay for some time. These works and encampments covered many acres of ground, and the fortifications and the rifle pits proper of Haines' Bluff extended about a mile and a quarter.

Such a network of defences I never saw. The rebels were a year constructing them, and all were rendered useless in an hour.—As soon as I got through with the destruction of the magazines and other works, I started Lieut. Com. Walker up the Yazoo river, with a sufficient force to destroy all the enemy's property in that direction, with orders to proceed as far as Yazoo city, where the rebels have a navy yard and store house. In the meantime General Grant has closely invested Vicksburg, and has possession of the best commanding points.

In a very short time a general assault will be made, when I hope to announce that Vicksburg has fallen, after a series of the most brilliant successes that ever attended an army. There has never been a case during the war when the rebels have been so successfully beaten at all points, and the patience and endurance shown by our army and navy for so many months is about to be rewarded.

It is a mere question of a few hours, and then, with the exception of Port Hudson, which will follow Vicksburg, the Mississippi will be open its entire length. Signed, D. D. PUTMAN, Acting Rear Admiral Commanding the Mississippi Squadron.

CONFESSIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF AN INVOLUNTARY REBEL. Published for the benefit, and as a warning, and caution to young men who suffer from Nervous Debility, Premature Decay of Manhood, &c., supplying the same time with moral and religious instruction, has cured himself after being put to great expense and injury through medical humbug and quackery. By enclosing a note and a recent correct single copy may be had of the author. NATHANIEL MAYFAIR, Esq., No. 24, No. 17 Bedford Kings County, N. Y.

EDITORIAL: Dear Sir—With your permission I wish to say to the readers of your paper that I will send by return mail to all who wish it, (free a recipe, with full directions for making and using a simple Vegetable Balm, that will effectually remove, in 10 days, Pimples, Blotches, Tan, and other eruptions of the skin, leaving the same soft, clear, smooth and beautiful. I will also mail free to those having Bad Heads or Bare Faces, simple directions and information that will enable them to start a full growth of curly hair, whiskers, or a mustache, in less than 30 days. All applications answered by return mail without charge. Respectfully yours, THOS. F. CHAPMAN, Chemist, No. 821 Broadway, New York, February 25th.

MADEIRA. At the house of Mr. James' Lyle, the bridegroom, in Columbia, on the 20th inst., at 7 o'clock P. M., by virtue of an order of the Ophanon Court of Lancaster county, all the LET OF BROWN, against the south side of Union street, between Third and Fourth streets, in the borough of Columbia, bounded by the lot of John A. Beaman, and other, consisting in front on said Union street sixteen feet, and in depth one hundred feet, more or less, to a certain street, with a two-story FRAME DWELLING HOUSE.

TERMS—One Hundred Dollars cash when the property is struck down, and the balance April 1st, 1864, when deed will be made and possession given. J. DUNCAN COTTELL, Administrator of Andrew Gieseler, dec'd., Columbia, May 20, 1863.

NEW YORK PLUMS! A good thing for pies and puddings, and for eating. One bushel of choice, pure, sweet, and entirely new fruit of French, Canada, and other varieties, for sale at Groceries, at the corner of Third and Union streets. J. B. BRUNER.