The Present Opportunity.

Just now we are very jubilant over our recent successes. They are great and can, if used aright, be made of per manent value. The more thoughtful men of the nation are awaiting the action of the Administration with much anxiety. What will Mr. Lincoln and his party do with these victories? Will they use them aright, and make them the stepping stone to a speedy and honorable peace? That is just now the great question. They have given to them a golden opportunity for accomplishing great and beneficent results. Will they

use it aright? We have not the slightest doubt that an open, manly offer of settlement. made to the people of the South, would be responded to promptly by the people themselves. The leaders might scout it, and seek to rally the masses to new and more desperate contests; but, if the declaration should go forth at once from Washington, that each and every one of the seceded States would be received back into the Union, without any humiliating conditions, merely on the basis of the unamended Constitution, we believe the rebel leaders would find themselves in a condition in which it would be an utter impossibility for them to continue the contest.

Now is the time. This is the tide in our affairs which should be taken at the flood. Each month of war, every new raid that is made, every barn that is burned, every house that is pillaged, but adds to the number of those whose disposition will be that of desperation, and whose hatred of us will be the more unappeasable. If we are ever to have a Union worth restoring, indeed, if we are ever to have any Union under a free form of government, it must be one of consent. A Union of force under Re publican institutions is an impossibility. We cannot achieve it if we make war upon the South for twenty years. and it would undesirable if obtained .-It will avail us noting to pin the seceded territory fast to us by bayonets .-Now is the propitious hour for wise action. If it should be neglected; if the mad cry of utter subjugation is to prevail, we shall find all the good fruits of our present victories dropping away from us, and shall one day be made painfully aware of the utter folly of the policy of our rulers. If Mr. Lincoln and his party desire to see the war end within the next four years they must abandon their fanatical schemes, and lend all their energies to one honest and manly effort to restore the Union .-Their schemes of reconstruction are ut terly absurd and impracticable. W scarcely dare hope, however, that they will be wise enough to use the presen advantages aright, but we are sure they will bitterly regret not having done so.

The Great Anaconda.

We are not about treating our reader to a dissertation on this king of the serpent species-far from it. But it is our purpose to direct their attention to a huge serpent of vastly more dangerous characteristics, and one which will en gulf in its capacious maw, if not speedily destroyed, the liberties of the American people. We allude to the great Anaconda of Abolitionism, than which a more deadly enemy to our free institutions has never existed. In its destructive career it has successively swallowed the Federal party, the Whig party, the Anti-Masonic party, the Temperance party, the Know-Nothing party, the Republican party, and a score of other political parties and isms of lesser note and more circumscribed influence; and it is now engaged in the laudable work of separating the Federal Union and swallowing it by piece-meal. It has slaughtered myriads of our fellow-citizens, and made widows and orphans by tens of thousands. It has saddled the country with a debt, the magnitude of which exceeds the power of numbers to calculate, and which will rest as an incubus upon us and our posterity to the latest generation. It has engendered heart-burnings and bitterness discord and contention in every neighborhood of our widely-extended domain Brother has been arrayed against brother, father against son, and even christian churches have been torn and distracted, and the Saviour of men set aside by his professed ministers to make room for this new god of their idolatry Such has been the destructive career of this huge monster-this terrible serpent-who only had his counterpart in the Garden of Eden, and whose baleful influence there brought "death into the world and all our woes."

This is but a feeble picture of the slimy and poisonous trail of this modern monster of infidelity and crime. Can there nothing be done to stay his ravages? Are the American people so far demented, as that no danger, however imminent, can arouse them from their lethargy? Is this Great Anaconda to go on unopposed and unobstructed in his horrid career of desolation and death? Is there no American Hercules to encounter and slay the vile monster, ere the last vestige of Constitutional liberty is crushed beneath the weight of his ponderous folds? We pause for a reply, and shall resume the subject more at our leisure. Our object at this time is merely to direct the attention of good men of all parties to the terrible condition into which we have been plunged by this Demon of Abolitionism with which the Nation is cursed. The remedy will suggest itself to every right-thinking, unprejudiced mind.

Speech of C. F. Black, Esq. We publish to-day a speech delivered at Reading in October last by our talent-

ed young friend C. F. BLACK, Esq., of Some of our readers may be dispose to think that we have chosen an inappropriate season for the publication of matter of this kind. But it is in periods of political calm that the public mind is best prepared to take in truth, and there are some truths in this speech which the public mind should lay hold

of and reflect upon. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that the speaker, when he touched upon that subject, did not go more minutely into matters connected with Fort Sumpter. The nonular mind, which has never reached the naked truth in relation to that Fort, has thrown the responsibility where it does not belong. A malignant and unscrupulous Administration, taking unmanly advantage of the extraor dinary forbearance of those most injured by the popular delusion, has carefully suppressed every official document calculated to enlighten the public mind We live in hope of seeing the veil lifted at no very distant period, and facts disclosed which have been too long withheld from the people.

Inauguration of a Governor. ALBANY, Jan. 2.-Governor Fentor was inaugurated to-day, and has issued a proclamation urging the people to fill up the last call by volunteers.

What Shall be Done With the Negroes? It is only the advance guard of the Abolitionists who are as yet willing to announce boldly their belief in the tenlency of the principles of their party and to accept with welcome the ulfimate and well-foreseen result of their political teachings. All candid men who ave given the creed of that party a areful examination unite their testimony in declaring that it can, if carried nto action, have but one result—that of elevating the negro to equality with the white man, or rather of degrading the white man to a level with the negro.

No one who has studied, by the light of history, the problem of the conditions of the continued existence of two distinct races, the one superior andthe other inferior, in the same country and under the same form of government, has ever been able to arrive at any other than one of two solutions. In all such cases it has invariably happened, through the action of natural laws, that the superior race has dominated over the inferior, and kept it in a condition of complete subordination and dependence; or else, that the two by a mingling of blood have been blended into one

composite race. The same problem is now set before is, and it imperatively demands to be met and answered. When our Government was formed, the negroes among us occuried a strictly subordinate position, and in that state they were left by the Constitution.

Constant agitation upon the subject of slavery at length elevated to power the representatives of a party bitterly hostile to that order of affairs. They came into office possessed, as religious fanatics always are, of a single idea.-To carry this out they were willing to go to any length. Regardless of the ruin sure to follow any violent disturbance of long established social and political conditions, they went to work o accomplish the overthrow of African slavery in the Southern States. It mattered not to them that they would infliet the greatest possible miseries upon a once happy country; that they would inaugurate the most gigantic and barbarous civil war the world has ever known: that millions of lives would be wasted: that the treasure of the nation would be exhausted, and, the people be burthened beyond endurance with taxes. Fanaticism never stops to count the cost.

And now, after four years of such horrors as no nation ever experienced, when it seems possible that slavery may be destroyed, the great problem of the conditions of the continued existence of the two widely differing race under the same form of government is found to be no nearer a solution than it was at the beginning. Not only has the war inflicted great miseries on the white man, but it has entirely failed to benefit the negro. It has stricken the shackles of slavery off many, but it has only removed them from the easy condition of lightly worked agricultural laborers to throw them on their own resources, and bring them into immediate contact with the stronger and more intelligent race in the struggle for a livelihood. What is sure to be the fate of the poor negro in such a contest is well attested by the history of all inferior races rought into contact with a superior and stronger except where the two have by common consent mingled with one. The Abolitionists cannot reverse the laws of nature, or do away with the examples of history. The more sagacious and thoughtful among them see the difficulties of their position, and those who are bold enough to be without fear of ne alternative of breaking down all distinctions between the two races. That this is the only way in which the negro race can be saved from extinction. by a slow but sure process of exhaustion n a hopeless struggle for existence in antagonistic contact with a race so im-

have studied the subject are, if honest, forced to admit. There are honest men among the abolitionists, men who dare to avow and uphold the doctrines of their party, and who having followed the teachings of their party to their legitimate results are not afraid to embrace even the ugly ultimatum of universal amalgamation Mr. Stevens, boldly declared that all men should be made equal under the law. He is a representative abolitionist a man of brains and of nerve. He knows what the teachings of his party are, sees the necessities thrust upon it by the new order of things, and demands that the negro shall be made a citizen.-Others of his class are boldly advocating amalgamation before the Northern public. We shall give in to-morrow's paper some extracts from a speech nade on Tuesday last by Wendell Phillips, at Cooper Institute, N. York. His oration is instructive, as showing the real tendencies of the doctrines of

measurably his superior, all men who

the party to which he is attached. Death of Hon. George M. Dallas. The whole country will profoundly regret to hear of the death of the Hon. eo. M. Dallas. As announced in our telegraphic despatches of Saturday he expired at his residence in Philadelphia, on Saturday last, after only a few hours illness. He was a distinguished citizen, and few men in the country have borne a more irreproachable character in public and private life than he He was a christian gentleman and a true patriot :

Mr. Dallas was born in Philadelphia, July 10, 1792. He graduuted at Prince-ton College with high honors, com-menced the study of the law, was ad-mitted to the Bar, and immediately appointed Private Secretary to Hon. Mr. Gallatin, United States Minister to the court of St. Petersburg. On his return to his native country he recomnenced the study of his profession, in which he always held the highest posi-tion. His great legal erudition and fine intellectual powers eminently fitted him to take a prominent place in his profession. He was appointed, as a mark of Presidential favor, to the position of Deputy Attorney General at Philadelphia, His fellow-citizens, desirous of showing him their esteem, elected him the highest position in their gift—that of Mayor. Upon the expira-tion of his term, he was appointed Uni-ted States District Attorney for the city. In 1831 he was elected United State

enator from the State of Pennsylvania holding this post for two years resigned, and returned again to the practice of the law. In 1837 he was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and inister Plenipotentary to the Court of St. Petersburg. He was re-called in 1839, and in 1844 was nominated for the

Vice-Presidency on the same ticket with James K. Polk. During his Presidency of the Senate, the question of abandoning the Protective policy and deriving revenue from duties was brought before the Senate in the Report of Hon. R. J. Wulker, Secretary of the Treasury.

The Senate was equally divided and Mr. Dallas had the casting vote. His voice in favor of the bill caused the proposition to become a law. He there-fore was the father of this great improvement in our national system. 1855 he was spoken of generally for the Presidency, but was defeated in the National Convention. On February 4, 1856, he was appointed United States Minister to the Court of St. James,

which position he held. Prisoners of War.

There are yet languishing in rebel prisons over fifty thousand of our Northern soldiers, while it is said we hold nearly one hundred thousand rebels in our various barracks. Cannot our suffering soldiers be released by a wise system of exchange? Is not the life, are not the services of each one of our men North as much to us as a rebel of equal rank is to the Confederacy?

Court of St. James,

What Wendell Phillips Would Do the Negro.

The opinions of Wendell Phillips ar worth something for two reasons. In the first place he is a man of some coniderable intellect, and, secondly, he is representative man of his party. He has evidently studied to some purpose the problem of the existence of the negro race among us after they are emancipated. He is not content, as are most of those who blindly follow where he and such as he have led, with joining in the hue and cry for the destruction of an existing social and political institution without taking some thought as to what is to follow. He knows that the old system being abblished, it is utterly impossible for so many human beings to exist without some new relation being provided for them. He is willing to risk everything for the sake of emancipation, but he refuses to shut his eyes to what is to follow. He sees the difficulties that must be encountered in the future, which he regards as near at hand, and sets about to provide for them. His method of disposing of the great political and social problem may not be the most agreeable one, but it is in strict accordance with the theories of the representation men of the party now in power, and has the merit being consistent. He does not shirk the real issues because they are ugly and unpopular, but meets them face to face, recognizes them as truth, and em-

braces them. In his late speech at New York he outs the Copperheads and the vascillating conservatives of his own party on a par. Neither of them, in his opinion, are to be trusted. He regards incoln as very near right in sentiment, but thinks he is slightly lacking in back hone. He admits that the triumphs of the battle-field will establish nothing, unless the national mind can be edu cated up to what he declares to be the proper stand-point in this really imortant matter. Hear him: "Conquest does not make a nation. Well, then, another element of nationality is a mixture of races. There never was a great nation on the strain of a

single blood. I don't care whether you force it—it matters not. The Slavonic is the noblest race, judged by the same test, in the world: but nobody can now test, in the world; but hobody can how hardly trace its abiding place. All great nations, ever since Rome wel-comed all the gods to her Pantheon, have been the mosaic of races. The proud Yankee—the proud Saxon spreadfrom Massachusetts before, but at St. Louis claiming the domination of the continent, with more brains in his right hand, as Emerson said, than other races have in their skulls, shirking the primal ordinance to work for his living the sweat of his brow, harnessing the steam and sending lightning on errands—still that race summoned the Dane and the plodding German to its aid. We did not make nations for number one. It is no matter what other races were, the elements were all necessary to the great result. And you know now that I am coming to the blacks. [Applause.] As that unwelcome councousin said, 'I am your cousin, and you can't help it.' [Applause and laughter.] Some fastidious white man says, 'I do not like negroes;' but, as the man said, 'God did not consult him.' Now, the nation, in order to be strong,

rosperous and just, should be inspired y one idea, and should welcome into its bosom all races that have taken re fuge on the continent. [Applause.]

A gentleman in the audience here arose and inquired of Mr. Phillips whether he was in favor of amalgamat ing the white and black races. (Hisses.)

"Mr. Phillips—Oh, no don't hiss him.

What did I come here to-night for? Not, certainly, to conceal any sentiment I entertain—not, certainly to avoid any questions any man in this house may isk me. (Hear, hear.) I have endeavor ed, if the questioner has understood me, to show you that the history of all nations has proved the absorption of races to be beneficial to the great national recult. I looked upon the German, with

its appurtenaces of Saxon and the various races represented in these Northern States—the Latin of the Southwest and the negro of the Southern States—as the great elements out of which God is to ouild up the nation. (Loud applause.) And as Trajan is represented as having in his conquests every language and every creed, so I believe that when America represents her conquests the negro will find himself in the same position equal with the white man, in the Sen-

The voice of Mr. Phillips in this matter has one merit at least—it is honest. He sees that in no other way than the one he has pointed out can the negro race ever exist in this country, except in a state of dependence and virtual slavery. He is hard upon Gen. Banks' apprentice system, denounces it as a mere sham, declares that the freezegroes on the Government plantations are still slaves in all but the name; and not only fully developes his theory, but roves conclusively its entire correct-We agree with him in this mat-

ter throughout. Whatever may become of the institution of slavery, as it existed before the war began, whatever may be the result of the war, there are out two conditions of existence possible for the negro. Either he must be made the equal of the white in all respects, and become gradually absorbed by a process of miscegenation, or he must remain virtually the slave of the white man forever. It is to be hoped we shall see less dodging of vital issues among the supporters of Mr. Lincoln's Administration. It is high time they should open their eyes and look the ugly issues squarely in the face. The great question of the day is, what shall oe done with the negroes? Mr. Phillips, and such as he, present the only solu tion which seems possible, unless the poor blacks of the South are to be ex erminated and buried in the same grave with their masters. It is citizenship for the negro, with all the rights of citizenship; or his destruction, if the Abolition theory is to prevail. It is high time the Abolition leaders were deciding which

it is to be. The poor negro has suffered almost as nuch in this war as the white man, and his future is very gloomy. It is doubtful whether even Mr. Phillips' proposed plan can save him. In the report of the present commissioner of Agriculture a passage occurs which is very sensible, and founded upon some knowledge of the capacity of the negro race for improvement. The following paragraph seems to extinguish the last hope even of such abolition philanthro pists as Wendell Phillips:

"Mongrels bred upon half-breeds com municate most of the vices and infirmi-ties of their blooded ancestry and few of their virtues, and a second or third out cross generally loses all trace of the original good blood. The exemplification of this can be found nowhere more sharply defined than in the crossing of the Caucasian with a lower type of hu-manity. The first cross results in a man inferior to the pure Caucasian, but superior to the Chinese, the Indian, or the negro, from whom he may have sprung. The second cross with another sprung. The second cross with another mongrel produces a being inferior to either race. Persistent commingling with the same blood destroys all trace of the Caucasian element and in the case of the negro, at least, leads to scrof ula, impotence, and death. Well may we ask, what is to be done with the negro? The war may free him

Death of James William Wallack. The theatre-loving public, and especially the elder portion of it, will learn with profound regret of the death of James William Wallack, the veteran James Whilam Wallack, the veteran actor of America. He may be said to have formed almost the only remaining link that bound the old school of theatricals to that of the present day. For the last six or seven years he has not, with slight exceptions, appeared on the stage, and since 1861 devoted himself to the management of his new these extensions. the management of his new theatre at the corner of Fourteenth street and Broadway, New York.

from the control of his master, but, what

is to become of him then?

Pennsylvania (ongressional Election.

Crasy Authors and Crazy Editors

singular case has been on trial in

confining her in the Bloomingdale In-

sane Asylum. It came out in the evi-

dence that Miss UNDERHILL is the

author of a number of very well-written

poetical effusions, and the question was

ut to Dr. Brown, principal physician

fthe Bloomingdale Asylum. "whether

it was not possible that a person of in-

sane mind should write excellent poetry

such as the plaintiff claims to have

written, or to excel in any other art?'

To this question the Doctor made the

insane mind; I might also mention a number of the standard text-books which were

three or four times a week by a person or unsound mind confined in that institution

following answer:

century?

the City Court of Brooklyn, New York or some days past. The plaintiff, Miss MARIE C. UNDERHILL, is a lady of about forty years of age, and the defen dants are her own nephew and sister. She has brought the action against them A PROCLAMATION, in and by an act of the G to recover damages for injuries inflicted upon her health and reputation by their

I suppose the best reply I can give to that question is to state that Adler's German and English Dictionary, which is used as a standard text-book in the principal colleges in the country, was written in the Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum, by a person of insean mind. I might also mention a num. ber of the standard text-books which were written in that institution; and I will state as a conclusive fact, that one of the leading newspapers in New York is principally edited in the Bloomingdale Lunatic Asy-lum, and the leading editorial is written Dr. Brown did not give the name of the "leading newspaper" that "is principally edited in the Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum," but no one who is well acquainted with the leading New York journals can doubt that it is the Herald. Its columns of jumbled words without ideas-its railing to-day at men and things it had praised but yesterday -its constant exhibitions of glaring inconsistency, while claiming to be entirely consistent-and its morbid longing to be everywhere recognized as the head and front of American journalism, when it is in fact entitled to but a very counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myc Stronse has been duly elected; in th Eleventh district, composed of the countie of Northampton, Carbon, Monroe, Pikean Wayne, Phillp Johnson has been dul elected; in the Twelfth district, compose low rank-all are evidences that its editorial columns are controlled by persons of unsound mind. Compared with the finely-written and well-digested articles of the counties of Luzerne and Susque of the World and the Journal of Comnerce, its incoherent editorials do indeed read like the productions of a madhouse. What, for example, could read more like a Herald editorial than the following, written by a lunatic named LEE, an inmate of the Dublin Insane Asylum, about the close of the last the name of any person as having b ed of the counties of Cambria

entury?
It that my lungs could bleat like buttered peas, ind by their frequent bleatings eatch the litch, ir grow as mangy as the frish seas or engender whirlwinds in some scabby witch; fot that a hard-rood herring dare presume to swing a tithe pig in a cat-skin purse,—secause the great hail storm that occurred at Rome Rome
By lessening the fall might make it worse.
I know that drunken rainbows, fulled to sleep bance like welsh raibits on a fair maid's eyes. I love to see a pudding creep, for creeping puddings always please the wise The reason's plain—for Charon's western barge Driving full-tilt into the subjunctive mood.
Beckoned to a permose and eavy in charge oned to a porpoise, and gave in charge tten paddocks on Antartic food, , Jupiter, and snuff the moon, a cloud is supposed to have passed over

the moon,]
Alas! thou envious God, thou'st snuffed it ou

The Exchange of Prisoners of War. The Washington correspondent of the

New York Herald says: "The prisoner question is just now a subject of serious consideration with the authorities here. Apprehensions are entertained that it may be made a subect of Congressional investigation, when it may possibly appear that our own Government is not free from blame in regard to the continuance of the suffer ings of the Union prisoners in the South The rebel officials allege that they afford them the best treatment in their power. and it is said they have invited our Government to send for them and bring them home. This has not been done because the rebels have failed to recognize the equality of negro prisoners, and

be reinforced only by the return of pris-oners. It is probable, however, that authority will be given to Colonel Mulford to go on making exchanges, until the question as to the negre prisoners becomes a practical one. Why is it that, after all the stories of the terrible suffering to which our prisoners have been subjected in the rebel prisons, we hear no demand for their exchange from Abolition newspapers. These journals teem with reports of rebel barbarities, but not one of them seems ready to advise the adoption of

any judicious plan of exchange. Have not enough of brave men already died in utter misery, because the authorities refuse to permit an exchange to procede until the status demanded by Mr. Lincoln for the negro shall be recognized by the South? How many more thousands must thus most wretchedly perish?

A Mahommedan's War Order.

Aboubekre then causing his army to ranged around him in a circle Warriors of Islam," said he, "att a moment and listen well to the precents which I am about to promulgate to you for observation in time of war. Fight with bravery and loyalty. Never use artifice or perfidy towards your enemies; do not multilate the fallen, do not slay the aged, nor the children, nor the women; do not destroy the palm trees; do not burn the crops; do not cut down the fruit trees, nor do not slaughter the animals except what will be necessary for your nourishment. You will find upon your route men living in solitude, in meditation, and in adoration of God

do them no injury, give them no offense —Lamatine's Turkey. The religion of Mohommed would not permit the indiscriminate plunder and burning of houses, mills, fences, and stacks of grain, of both friend and foe as the want of some sort of religion did both Sherman and Sheridan. Yet the man who gave utterance to the forego ing extract is called a pagan and a heathen. If that be heathenism, give it to us in preference to the Christianity of such orders as was recently issued by Sherman and Sheridan, by whose order large portions of Georgia and Virginia, were rendered desolated by pillage and plunder, and friend and foe, involved in one common ruin. That may be the religion of Abolitionism, but it cannot be that of the Prince of Peace.

The Good Old Times. Thomas Mifflin in his message to the Legislature of this State, delivered in

this city, on December 11th, 1799, used the following language: "For a period of almost ten years, during which the expenses of the Government have been unavoidably great, and the appropriations for pub-lic improvements liberal beyond all former example, let it be repeated that the people of Pennsylvania have been exonerated from every species of

State taxation." Think of that ye overburthened taxpayers of the present day. Ten years of emplete exemption from all taxation, except such light assessments as were then levied for county and city purposes. No National debt, no State debt, no national taxes, no State taxes. What contrast to our present condition .-Verily we have fallen upon evil times and we are paying heavy penalties for having discarded the honest principles and the safe political maxims of our fathers. Ten years of complete exemption from even a State tax. That is something we shall never see again; a blessed relic of the past only to be made to appear more charming and desirable by a contrast with our present overtaxed condition. In those days of honesty and economical expenditure an ample State revenue was derived from sales of the State lands, and from a moderate license on taverns and re-

THE PRESIDENT LOOKS BAD. - A re cent visitor to Washington informs us that Old Abe looks haggard and careworn, and thinks that he may not sur vive the term for which he has been re-elected. What a pity it would be if the country should lose him!

THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION Pennsylvania, ss: In the name and by the authority of the Commune although the pennsylvania, Andrew G. Curtin, Governor of

Whereas, in and by an act of the General Assembly of this commonwealth, passed the 2d day of July, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, entitled an act relating to the elections of this Commonwealth, it is made the duty of the Governor, on the receipt of the returns of the election of the members of the House of Representatives of the United States, by the Secretary of the Commonwealth-to-declare by proclamation the names of the persons returned as elected in their respective districts. And whereas, the returns of one general election held on Tuesday, the lith day of October last, in and for the several districts for members of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States for the term of two years, from and after the 4th day of March next, have been received in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, agreeably to the provisions of the above recited act, whereby it appears that in the First district, composed of the Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth and Eleventh wards in the City of Philadelphia Samuel J. Randall has been duly elected; in the Second district, composed of the First Seventh Eighth. Ninth and Tenth Eleventh wards in the City of Philadelphia Samuel J. Randall has been duly elected; in the Second district, composed of the First, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth wards in the City of Philadelphia, Charles O'Neill has been duly elected; in the Third district, composed of the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth wards in the City of Philadelphia, Leonard Myers has been duly elected; in the Pourth district, composed of the Fourteenth Fifteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-forth wards in the City of Philadelphia, Wm. D. Kelley has been duly elected; in the Fifth district, composed of the Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth wards in the City of Philadelphia, and the county of Bucks. M. Russell Thiyer has been duly elected; in the Sixth district, composed of the counties of Montgomery and Lehigh, B. Markley Boyer has been duly elected; in the Seventh district, composed of the counties of Chester and Delaware, John M. Broomall has been duly elected; in the Sixth district, composed of the county of, Berks, Sydenham E. Ancona has been duly elected; in the Nith district, composed of the county of, Berks, Sydenham E. Ancona has been duly elected; in the Tenth district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the counties of Schuylkill and Lebanon, Myer Strouse has been duly elected; in the Eleventh district, composed of the cou of the counties of Luzerne and Susquehanna, Charles Dennison has been duly elected; in the Thirteenth district, composed of the counties of Bradford, Wyoming, Sullivan, Columbia and Montour, Ulysses Mercur has been duly elected; in the Fourteenth district, composed of the counties of Northumberland, Union, Snyder, Juniata and Dauphin, George F. Miller has been duly elected; in the Fifteenth district, composed of the counties of Curièr berland, York, and Perry, Adam J. Glossbernner has been duly elected; and I do further declare that no such returns of the election in the Seventeenth Congressional district have been sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as would, under the act of July 2d, 1839, authorize me to proclaim the name of any person as having been duly elected as morning of the Marca of Parameters. elected a member of the House of Repre entatatives of the United States from that district; in the Seventeenth district, com

posed of the counties of Cambria, Baur, Huntington and Mifflin, Abraham A. Bar-ker, has been duly elected; in the Eigh-teenth district, composed of the counties of Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, Tloga and Potter, Stephen F. Wilson has been duly elected; in the Nineteenth district, compos-of the counties of Erie, Warren, McKean, of the counties of Erre, Warren, Murcan, Forrest, Elk, Cameron, Jefferson and Clearfield, Glenni W. Schofield has been duly elected; in the Twentieth district, composed of the counties of Crawford, Vennago, Mercer and Clarion, Charles V. Calver has been duly elected; in the Twenty-first district commosed of the counties of Indiana, district, composed of the counties of Indiana Westmoreland and Fayette, John L. Dawsor has been duly elected; in the Twenty has been duly elected; in the Twentysecond district, composed of that part of
Allegheny county south of the Ohio and
Allegheny rivers, including Nevil Island,
J. K. Morchead has been duly elected; in
the Twenty-third district, composed of that
part of Allegheny county north of the Ohio
and Allegheny rivers, and of the counties
of Butler and Armstrong, Thomas Williams
has been duly elected; in the Twenty-fourth has been duly elected; in the Twenty-fourth district, composed of the counties of Law-rence, Beaver, Washington and Greene, eorge V. Lawrence has been duly elected George V. Lawrence has been dury elected. Now, therefore, I. Andrew G. Curtin, Governor as aforesaid, have issued this my proclamation, hereby publishing and delaring that Sanuel J. Randall, Churles O'Neill, Leonard Myers, William D. Kelley, W. Busell, Theory, B. Walldor, Rayer, B. Walldor, Rayer, R. Walldor, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer, Rayer,

1. Russell Thayer, B. Markley Boyer, ohn M. Broomall, Sydenham E. Ancona Thaddeus Stevens, Myer Strouse, Philip Johnson, Charles Dennison, Ulysses Mer-Johnson, Charles Dennison, Ulysses Mer-cur, George F. Miller, Adam J. Glossbren-ner, Abraham A. Barker, Stephen F. Wil-son, Glenni W. Schofield, Charles V. Cul-ver, John L. Dawson, J. K. Morchead, Thomas Williams and George V. Lawrence have been returned as duly elected in their several districts, before mentioned, as repre-sentatives in the Congress of the United sentatives in the Congress of the United States for the term of two years, to com-mence from and after the fourth day of -- Given under my hand

L.S. great seal of the State, at Harris-burg, this twenty-sixth day of December, in the year of our Lord one ousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and By the Governor:

ELI SLIFER,

Secretary of the Commonwealth

Death of Col. Charles A. May. We take the following notice of the leath of this gallant officer from the N. Y. World. Col. May was stationed for a number of years at the Carlisle Barracks, and was personally well known to many in this State. The World

A brave and chivalric soldier, a true and high-souled gentleman, an American whose name is indissolubly connected with one of the most brilliant to his rest in this city on Saturday, the 24th instant.

Colonel Charles A. May, of Maryland, entered the army of the United States during the second presidency of Andrew Jackson, and, resigning his commission in 1860, retired into private life in this city, where he has since resided, winning an honorable name among our citizens as the active and efficient Vice President and Superintendent of the Eighth Avenue Railroad Company. But on the rolls of that noble army of

the Union, enlisted for all time, company of patriotic soldiers who fight-ing together side by side under the one flag of their fathers, knew no North, no South, no East, no West, but won for all the land a common triumph and a common fame, the name of Colonel May, the soldier of Resaca de la Palma and of Monterey, is still borne most among the foremost."

Few names shine more brilliantly than his in the records of the last war waged by Americans against a foreign foe. Others, his companions in arms, during that glorious episode of our anhave since made themselves more widely known in the conflicts of the civil strife which now desolates the republic. But the fame of May neither South nor North can claim. The story of the resistless, cavalier who led so many charges on those far fields of Marize belower to America and will be many charges on those far needs of Mexico belongs to America, and will be proudly remembered by Americans as long as knightly courage stirs the blood of youth, and duty loyally done com-

mands the respect of men.

Colonel May was still in the vigor of life, having been born August 9, 1818, in the City of Baltimore; and his singularly stalwart frame and stately pres-ence, well befitting a soldier of romance seemed to promise him many years of usefulness and happiness. But an or-ganic tendency to disease of the heart, to which his brother, Captain Julian May, some years since succumbed, developed itself into sudden and fatal force, and aggravated probably by his incessant devotion to the duties of his position among us, into which he carried a military thoroughness and exactness of administration, over-matched

even his colossal strength of frame "A WAR for the Union," coercing the people of the North into an army in order to coerce the South into the Union! The Northern people, according to the war logic, desire so strongly to have the Union preserved, that they have to be caught, chained and put in the army! It is coercion both ways. Coercing the South into the Union, and coercing the Northern people to force them in! Was there ever such stupendous madness, since man was created?

Peace Commissioners gone to Richmond. Francis P. Blair, Senior, and Montomery Blair have gone to Richmond on a mission of peace. It is questioned here if their errand is self imposed, or if they went in obedience to a request communicated to Blair, senior, by Jeff Davis. It is understood that the passes and orders which cover this expedition were granted by the President.

THE ATTACK ON WILMINGTON.

Admiral Porter's Official Report. WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1864.

U. S. Flagship Malvern, at Sea. Off New-Inlet, Dec 29, 1864. STR: I was in hopes that I should have been able to present to the nation Fort Fisher and the surrounding works as a Christmas offering, but I am sorry to say it has not been taken yet. I at-tacked it on the 24th inst., with the ironsides Canonicus, Mahonac, Monadnoc, Minnesota, Colorado, Mohican, Tuscarora, Wabash, Brooklyn, Powhattan, Susquehanna, Juniata, Seneca nattan, Susquenama, Juniata, Seneca, Shenandoah, Patuxent, Ticonderoga, Mackinaw, Maumee, Yantic, Kansas, Iasco, Quaker City, Monticello, Rhode Island, Sassacus, Chippewa, Oscola, Kacony, Pontoosuc, Santiago de Cuba, Fort Jackson, and Vanderbilt, having a reserve of small vessels, consisting of a reserve of small vessels, consisting of of the Aries, Houqua, Wilderness, Che-rokee, A. D. Vance, Anemone, Eolus, Gettysburg, Alabama, Keystone State, Banshee, Emma, Lillian, Tristam Bran-dy, Brittania, Buckingham and Nansenond. Previous to making the attack a torpedo on a large scale, with an amount of powder on board supposed to be sufficient to explode the nowder magazines of the fort, was prepared with great care, and placed under the com-mand of Commander A. C. Rhind, who had associated with him on this perilous Second Assistant-Engineer A. F. Mullen of the United States steamer Agawam, and Acting-Master's-Mate Paul Bayard, and seven men. So much had been said and written about the terrible effect of gun-powder in an explosion that happened lately in England that great results were expected from this novel mode of making war.— Everything that ingenuity could devise was adopted to make the experiment a success. The vessel was brought round from Norfolk with great care and without accident, in tow of the United States steamer Sassacus, Lieut.-Commander J. L. Davis, who directed his whole attention to the matter in hand, and though he experienced some bad weather and lost one of his rudders, he took her safely into Beaufort, where we filled her up with powder, and perfected all the machinery for blowing her up. Gen. Butler had arrived at the ren

dezvous before us, and I hastened mat-ters all that I could, so that no unnecessary delay might be laid to my charge On the 18th inst, I sailed from fort with all the monitors, the new Ironsides, and the small vessels, including the Louisiana, disguised as a blockade runner, for the rendezvous twenty miles east of New Inlet, N. C., and found all the larger vessels and transports sembled there, the wind blowing 1 light from the northeast. On the 20th a heavy gale set in from the southwest, and not being able to make a port without scattering all the vessels, I determined to ride it out, which I did without accident of any kind, except the loss of a few anchors, the monitors all behaving beautifully. Only two vessels went to sea, in order to avoid the gale, and fared no better than those at anchor. The transports being short of water, put into Beaufort, N. C., and were not suitable for laying out at anchor in such heavy After the southwester the wind chop

ped around to the westward, and gave us a beautiful pell of weather, which I could not affect to lose, and the transports with the troops not making their appearance, I determined to take advantage of it and attack Fort Fisherand its outworks.
On the 23d I directed Commander Rhind to proceed and explode the vessel right under the walls of Fort Fisher. Mr Bradford of the Coast Survey, having gone in at night and ascertained that we could place a vessel of seven feet draft right on the edge of the beach, Lieut. R. H. Lamson, command-ing the Gettysburg, volunteered to go in the Wilderness, Acting-Master Henry

Arsy in command, and tow the Louis-anna into position. At 103 p. m. the powder vessel started in toward the bar and was towed by the Wilderness until the embrasures of Fort Fisher were plainly in sight. The Wilderness then ast off and the under steam until within 200 yards o the beach, and about 500 from the fort. Commander Rhind anchored her sethere and coolly went to work make all his arrangements to blow her This he was enabled to do owing up. This he was enabled to do owing to a blockade runner going in right ahead of him, the fort making the which they blockade runner signals, which they also did to the Louisana. The gallant party, after coolly making all their arrangements for the explosion, left the vessel, the last thing they did being to set her on fire under the cabin, and then

taking to their boats they made their escape off the Wilderness lying close by. The Wilderness then put off shore by. The Wilderness then put on snore with good speed to avoid any ill effects that might happen from the explosion. ing of the 24th, the explosion took place and the shock was nothing likeso severe as was expected; shook the vessels some and broke one or two glasses, but nothing more. At daylight of the 24th the fleet got under way and stood in line of At 11.30 a.m., the signal was battlè made to engage the forts, the ironsides leading, and the Monadnock, Canonicus and Mahopac following. The ironsides took her position in the most beautiful and seamanlike manner, and opened a deliberate fire on the fort, which was firing at her with all its guns, which did

not seem numerous on the face, though we counted what appeared to be 17 guns. But four or five of these were fired from that direction, and they were silenced almost as soon as the Iron sides opened her terrific battery.

The Minnesota then took her position in handsome style, and her guns, after

getting the range, were fired with ra-pidity, while the Mohican, the Colo-rado, and the large vessels marked on the plan, got to their stations, all firing to cover themselves while anchoring. By the time the last of the large vessels anchored and got the batteries into play but one or two guns of the enemy were fixed, this feu denter driving them al to the bomb proofs. The small gunboats Kansas, Unadilla

Pequot, Seneca, Pontoosuc, Yantic and Pequot, Seneca, Pontoosuc, 1 and and Huron took a position on the southward and the eastward of the monitors, and enfiladed the works. The Shenandoah, Ticonderoga, Mackinaw, Tacony and Vanderbilt took effective positions, as marked on the chart, and added their fire to that already begun. The Santiago de Cuba, Fort Jackson, Osecola, Chippewa, Sassacus, Rhode Island, Monticello, Quaker City and Iasco dropped into position according to order, and the battle became general. In one hour and fifteen minutes after the first shot was fired, not a shot came from the fort. Two magazines had been blown up by our shells, and the fort set on fire at several places, and such a torrent of missiles were falling into and bursting over it, that it was impossible for anything human to stand it. Find ing that the batteries were silenced completely, I directed the ships to keep up a moderate fire, in the hopes of at tracting the transports and bringing them in. At sunset Gen. Butler came in, in his flag-ship, with a few transports, the rest not having arrived from Beaufort. Being too late to do anything more, I signalled to the fleet to retire for the night to a serie appears. for the night to a safe anchorage, which they did without being molested by the enemy.

There were some mistakes made the day when the vessels went in to take position. My plan of battle being based on accurate calculations, and made on

information to be relied a, was placed in the hands of each con hander, and it seemed impossible to go astray if it was strictly followed. I required those vessels that had not followed it closely to get under way and assume their proper positions, which was done promptly and without confusion. The vessels were placed somewhere near to ressels were placed somewhere nearer to the works, and were able to throw in their shells, which were before falling in the water. One or two leading vessels having made the mistake of an-choring too far off, caused those coming after them to commit a like error, but when they got into place, and com-menced work in earnest, the shower of shells (115 per minute) was irrestible. So quickly were the enemy's guns silenced that not an officer or man was injured. I regret, however, to have to report some severe casualties by the bursting of 100-pounder Parrott cannon. One

some severe casualties by the bursting of 100-pounder Parrott cannon. One burst on board the Ticonderoga, killing six of the crew and wounding seven others; another burst on board the Yankee, killing one officer and two men; another on the Juniata, killing two officers and wounding and killing ten others; another on the Mackinaw, killing one officer and wounding five other men; another on the Quaker City, wounding, I believe, two or three;

another on the Susquehanna, killing and wounding seven. I think the burst-ing of the guns (six in all) much dis-concerted the crews of the vessels where

The Secretary of the Navy received the accidents happened, and gave one and this afternoon, the following by special all a great distrust of the 100-th Parrott, and as subsequent events proved, they were unfit for service and calculated to kill more of our men than those of the wessels were struck of the wessels were struck. once or twice. The Mackinaw had her boller perforated with a shell, and ten or twelve persons were badly scalded. The Osceola was struck with a shell near the magazine, and was at one time in a sinking condition, but her efficient commander stopped up the leak, while the Mackinaw fought out the battle, notwithstanding the damage she receiv ed. The Yantic was the only vessel which left the line to report damages. which left the line to report Commander John Guest, at the east end of the line, showed unusual intelligence

in selecting the position and directing his fire. Twice his guns cut down the flag-staff on the mound battery, and he silenced the guns there in a very short time, the Keystone State and Quaker City co-operating effectively. Lieut.-Commander J. R. Davis, with both rudders disabled, got his vessel, the Sassacus, into close action, and assisted materially in silencing the works, and the Santiago de Cuba and the Fort Jackson took such positions as they could get towing to the research and could get, towing to other vessels no forming proper line and throwing them out of place, and fought their guns well. The taking of a new position while under fire by the Brooklyn and Colorado was a beautiful sight, and when they do was a beautiful signt, and when they got into place both ships delivered a fire that nothing could withstand. The Brooklyn well sustained her proud name under her present Commander, Capt. James Alden, and the Colorado gave evidence that her commander. derstood the duties of his position. The Susquehanna was most effective in her fire, and was fortunate enough to obtain the right position, though much bothered by a vessel near her that had not found her right place.

The Mohican went into battle gallantly and fired rapidly and with effect, and when the Powhattan and Ticonderoga and Shenandoah got into their po-sitions they did good service. The Paw tuxet fell handsomely into line and did good service with the rest, and the Vanerbilt took position near the Minnesot:

and threw in a splendid fire The firing of the Monitors was excellent, and when their shells struck great damage was done, and the little gun-boats that covered them kept up a fire sufficient to disconcert the enemy's aim. The rebels fired no more after the vessels all opened on them, except a few shots from the mound and upper batteries, which the Iasco and her consorts soon silenced. Our men were at work at the guns five hours and were glad to get a little rest. They came out of the action with rather a con-

empt for the rebel batteries and anxious to enew the battle in the morning. On the 25th, all the transports had ar rived, and Gen. Butler sent Gen. Weitzel to ee me and arrange the programme for the lay. It was decided that we should attack day. It was decided that we should attack the forts again, while the army landed and assaulted them, if possible, under our heavy fire. I sent seventeen gunboats under the command of Capt. O. S. Glesson to cover the troops and assist with their boats in landing the soldiers. Finding the smaller vessels kept too far from the beach which was quite bold, and having sent in the Brooklyn to sent them an example, which that vessel did, relying as every com-mander should on the information I gave him, in relation to the soundings. To this number was added all the small vessels that vere covering the coast along. And fir I sent some eight or nine vessels that wer cting under Commander Guest in en leavoring to find a way across the bar .-This gave 100 small boats to land the troops with, besides those the army provided with, about 20 more. osides those the army were alread

At 7 a. m. on the 25th I made signal get under way and form in line of which was quickly done. The order to at-tack was given, and the Ironsides took position in her usual handsome style, the position in her usual handsome style, the monitors following close after her. All the vessels followed according to orders, and took position without a shot being fired a them, excepting a few shots fired at the four last vessels that got into line. The iring this day was slow, only sufficient to muse the enemy while the army landed which they were doing five miles to the eas of the fleet. I suppose about three thou-sand men landed, when I was notified they were re-embarking. I could see our sol-diers near the fort reconnoitering and sharphooting, and was in hopes an assa leemed practicable

General Weitzel, in person, was making observations about 600 yards off, and the troops were in and around the works. One rallant officer, whose name I do not know went on the parapet and brought away the rebel flag we had knocked down. A soldier went into the works and led out a horse, killing the orderly mounted on him, and taking his despatches from the body. Another soldier fired his musket into the boombproof among the rebels, and eight or the active research which partired them.

ten others who had ventured near the forts were wounded by our shells. As the ammunition gave out the vess As the ammunition gave out the vessels retired from action, and the iron-cadas and Minnesota, Colorada and Susquehanna, were ordered to open rapidly, which they did with such effect that it seemed to tear the works to pieces. We drew off at sunset, leaving the iron-clads to fire through the night overeting the troops would attack in night, expecting the troops would attack in the morning, when he would commence again. I received word from Gen. Weitzel informing me that it was impracticable to issault, and herewith inclose a letter from Gen. Butler, assigning his reasons for with-drawing the troops. I also inclose my an-

drawing the troops. I also inclose my answer.

In the bombardment of the 25th the men were engaged firing slowly for seven hours. The Rebels kept a couple of guns on the upper batteries firing on the vessels, hitting some of them several times without doing much damage. The Wabash and Powhattan being within their range, the object seemed mainly to be to disable them; but a rapid fire soon closed them up. Everything was coolly and systematically done throughout the day, and I witnessed most beautiful practice.

throughout me day, and beautiful practice.

The army commenced landing about 2 o'clock, Capt. Glesson in the Santiago de Cuba having shelled Flag-Pond Battery to insure a safe landing, and they commenced to re-embark about 5 o'clock. The weather a brigade state of the safe same about a brigade to re-embark about 3 clock. The weather coming on thick and rainy, about a brigade were left on the beach during the night, covered by the gunboats. As our troops landed, 65 rebel soldiers hoisted the white flag, and delivered themselves up, and were taken prisoners by the seamen landing the troops, and conveyed to the Santiago de Cuba; and 218 more gave themselves up to the reconnoitering party, all being desirous

the reconnoitering party, all being desirous, to quit the war.

I don't pretend to put my opinion in opposition to Gen. Weitzel, who is a thorough soldier and an able engineer, and whose business it is to know more of assaulting than I do; but I can't help thinking that it was worth while to make the attempt after coming so far.

coming so far.

About 12 o'clock I sent in a detachment of double-enders, under Commander John Guest, to see if I could effect an entrance Guest, to see if I could effect an entrance through the channel. The great number of wrecks in and about the bar has changed the whole formation, and where the original channel was we found a shallow bar. I sent Lieut, W. B. Cushing in to sound, and broy out a channel if he could find one, with orders to Commander Guest to drag for torpedoes and be ready to run in by the broys when ordered. One boat belonging to the Theory was sunk by a shell, and a to the Tacony was sunk by a shell, and a man had his leg cut off; still, they strek to their work until ordered to withdraw for other duty.

In conclusion, allow me to draw your attention to the conduct of Commander Rhind and Licut. Preston. They engaged in the most perilous adventure that was perhans

most perilous adventure that was perhaps ever undertaken; and though no material result has taken place from the effects of the explosion that we know of, still it was not their fault. As an incentive to others I beg leave to recommend them for promotion. Also that of Lieut. R. H. Lawson who piloted them in and brought them off No one in the squadron considered that their lives would be saved, and Capt. Rhind and Lieut. Preston had made an arrangement to sacrifice themselves in case the vessal was boarded a thing likely to have most perilous adventure that was perhaps ment to sacrifice themselves in case the vessel was boarded, a thing likely to hap-pen. I inclose herewith the report of Com-mander Rhind with the names of the gal-lant fellows who volunteered for the des-

ant fellows who volumeers.

Allow me to mention also the name of Mr. Bradford of the Coast Survey, who has always patiently performed evry duty he has ever been called on to carry out.

My thanks are due to Lieut. Comman My thanks are due to Lieut. Commander K. R. Breese, Fleet Captain, for carrying about my orders to the fleet during the action and for his general usefulness; to Lieut. Commander H. A. Adams, for Lieut. Commander H. A. Adams, for promptness in supplying the fleet with ammunition; to Lieut. M. W. Sanders, Signal Officer, whose whole time was occupied in making signals, and who preformed his duty well; and to my aids, Lieut. S. W. Terry, and Lieut. S. W. Preston who afforded has reliable so it was a signal and who reformed the state of the state of

ed hie valuable assistance.

I have not yet received a list of the casualties, but believe they are very few from the enemy's guns. We had killed and wounded about 45 persons by the bursting of the Percett suits.

I must not omit to pay a tribute to the flicers and crews of the monitors riding out the heavy gales on an open coast, with

George I. Belkinip of the Canonicus; and E. E. Potter, of the Mahopac.

There are about 1,000 men left on shore by the army, who have not got off yet on account of the surf on the beach. These will be got off in the morning, and the soldler will then be sent home.

I inclose the general order for the attack.

I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant. DAVID D. PORTER, Rear Admiral. Washington, D. C.

GEN, BUTLER'S LETTER.

HDQRS DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., December 25, 1864. Admiral: Upon landing the troops and thorough reconnoissance of Fort Admiral: Upon landing the troops and making a thorough reconnoissance of Fort Fisher, both Gen./Weitzel and myself are fully of the opinion-that the place coule not be carried by assault, as it was left substantially uninjured as a defensive work by the navy fire. We found/ seventeen gunprotected by traverses, two only owhich were dismounted, bearing up the seath and covering a string land the only

beach and covering a strip of land, the onl practicable route; not wide enough for thousand men in line of battle. Having captured Flag Pond Battery, the garrison of which, sixty five men and two commissioned officers, were taken off by the navy, we also captured Half Moon Bat tery, and seven officers and 208 men of th Third North Carolina Junior Reserves, in Third North Carolina Junior Reserves, in cluding its commander, from whom learned that a portion of Hoke's Division consisting of Kirkhand's and Hapgood's Brigades, had been sent from the lines before Richmond on Tuesday last, arriving a Wilmington Friday night.

Gen. Weitzel advanced his skirmish linwithin fifty yards of the fort, while the gar rison was kent in their bound-proofs by the

rison was kept in their bomb-proofs by the fire of the navy, and so closely that thre fire of the navy, and so closely that three or four men of the picket line ventured upon the parapet and through the sally port of the works, capturing a horse, which the brought off, killing the orderly, who was the bearer of a dispatch from the Chief of Artillery of Gen. Whiting, to bring a ligh battery within the range of the fort. This was done while the shells of the may wer falling about the heads of the daring men who entered the works; and it was evident who entered the works; and it was evident as soon as the fire of the navy ceased, be cause of the darkness, that the fort was full cause of the darkness, that the lort was full manned again, and opened with grape ancanister upon our picket line.

Finding that nothing but the operation of a regular siege, which did not come with in my instructions, would reduce the for and in view of the threatening aspect of the weather, the wind arising from the southwest rendering it impossible to make further landing through the surf. I caused the troops with the reference to a contact, and the surf.

ther landing through the surf, I caused the troops with the prisoners to re-embark; an I see nothing further that can be done by the land forces, I shall therefore sail for Hampton Roads as soon as the transpontleet can be got in order.

My engineers and officers report For Fisher to me as substantially uninjured as a defensive work. I have the honor to by very respectfully, your obedient servant.

very respectfully, your obedient servant, BENJ, F. BUTLER, Maj. Gen. Com. To Rear Admiral Porter.

NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON, U. S. FLAG.) SHIP MALVERN, OFF NEW INLET, December 28, 1864.) General: I beg leave to neknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, the sul stance of which was communicated to me be Gen. Weitzel last night. I have ordered the largest vessels to proposed off Boaufort to it. largest vessels to proceed off Beaufort to fi up with ammunition to be ready for anothe attack in case it is decided to proceed with attack in case it is decided to proceed withis matter by making other arrangement. We have not commenced firing rapidly yeard could keep any rebels inside from showing their heads until an assaulting column was within 20 yards of the works. I wissome more of your gallant fellows had foolowed the officer who took the flag from the paranet, and the braye fellow who brough parapet, and the brave fellow who broug the horse out from the fort. I think the would have found it an easier conque would have found it an easier conquesthan is supposed. I do not, however, protend to place my opinion in opposition Gen. Weitzel, whom I know to be an accougnished soldier and engineer, and who opinion has great weight with me.

I will look out that the troops are all off safety. We will have a west wind presently and a smooth beach about 3 o'clock, who sufficient boats will be sent for them. The prisoners now on board the Santiago

prisoners now on board the Santiago Cuba will be delivered to the Prove capa win up delivered to the Prov Marshal at Fortress Monroe, unless y wish to take them on board one of transports, which would be inconveni-ing their.

odent servant, DAVID De PORTER, Rear-Admiral. To Maj.-Gen. B. F. BUTLER, Comma ng, &c., &c.

Sad Times in Kentucky

The good people of Kentucky having more than their share of peculiar blessings attendant upon the war. It seems they are ruthl roving bands of guerrillas, and th even the Federal soldiers who are su posed to be placed among them as protection commit gross outrages a the most barefaced robberies. The con dition of that State is a very sad one The Louisville Journal thus speaks

the rebel guerrillas: Cowardly, thieving guerrillas, depe date with impunity in Kentucky, the authorities seem powerless to suppress the crime. To have read of sup outrages four years ago, the blood wou have chilled and the brain have grov dizzy, and the heart sick. are of daily occurrence, and their reciscarcely awakens a thought of surpr and wonder. Cumberland county, theatre of these revolting murders, 1 suffered terribly by such wanton der dations. It has furnished more sold for the Federal army, in proportion its population, than any one count the State, yet it is destitute of protect While the soldier braves the hardsh and the dangers of the battle-field, nome is given up to the despoiler, his friends left to the tender merci men more bloodthirsty and fiendi security for life and property in t section, and the country is fast becording desolated. The males who has not enlisted in the army have be driven from their homes

into decay, and every where stalks olack form ruin. Another of the daily papers of city gives the following account of t manner in which the Federal soldie

onduct themselves: When a band of guerrillas come wit in a mile or two of the city and go in a citizen's house or grocery and kno down the proprietor, rob him of goe and money, and commit like depretions, people think it an outrage, call the perpetrators thieves, rascals, & and the military authorities send a scouts and parties of soldiers to cat them and have them punished for th rascality. At the same time we have "Federal guerrillas" bodly operati under the very noses of the military thorities in the city every day and nig and nothing is done whatever to pu stop to the many depredations mitted upon our citizens every n During the past few days our Ger citizens, more particularly the logones in the upper portion of the citizens in the upper portion of the citizens who will boldly into their establishments, a while one holds a pistol to his bothers rob him of what they want, f the proprietor shows any resista ne is knocked down and beaten. this is not all. They walk boldly i private residence and demand s thing to eat, scaring women and cdren, commit highway robberies, to almost as they please.

Between the assaults and the dep dations of the two parties it must anything else than pleasant living there. But such are the inevitable sults of a brutalizing war like that which we are engaged.

From Charleston.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—A private leter from the fleet says that refugees from the fleet says that refugees from Charleston and other ports in Sou Carolina, state that all the inhabitation who could do so have removed into the could do so have removed into the state of the same state. country. Great distress prevails, flour and other necessaries of life scarcely be obtained at any price. man's moves occasioned general als Several blockade runners are in Cha ton harbor waiting an opportunit escape. Many passengers for Nass have already engaged berths. Ve little business is doing in Charlest other than that connected with blod ade-running and war matters.

Railroad and Steamboat Accidents. There were more people killed a rounded by railroad accidents last ye than in any preceding year since I One hundred and forty accidents curred: four hundred and four were lost, and one thousand eight h dred and forty-six persons were would cd. The transportation of troops d not account for this increase; for railroads transported quite as many diers in 1863, and yet the number of cidents and the number of killed wounded were nearly double those that year. The steamboat accident 1864 were less frequent and fatal. T did not exceed the average for the ten years, but were more numerous th