THE WAR FOR THE UNION !

in Hampton Roads.

Attack upon our Blockading Vessels relief of the Minnesota and the St. Lawrence, by the Rebel Steamers Merrimac, Jamestown and Yorktown.

FRIGATE CUMBERLAND RUN INTO BY THE MERRIMAC AND SUNK.

Surrender of the Frigate Congress

THE MINNESOTA AND OTHER VESSELS AGROUND.

Five Hours' Engagement betwen the Monitor and the Merrimac.

IMPORTANT FROM NEW-MEXICO.

CAPTURE OF COCKPIT POINT.

Burnside Advancing on Suffolk.

The duliness of Old Point was startled today by the announcement that a suspicious looking vessel, supposed to be the Merrimac, looking like a submerged house with the roof only above water, was moving down from Norfolk, by the channel in front of the Sewall's Point batteries. Signal guas were also fired by the Cumberland and Congress to notify the Minnesota, St Lawrence, and Roanoke of the approaching danger, and all was excitement in and about Fortress Monroe.

There was nothing protruding above the water but a flag-staff flying the Rebel flag, and a short smoke-stack. She moved along slowly. and turned into the channel leading in to Newport News, and steamed direct for the frigates Cumberland and Congress, which were lying

at the month of James River. As soon as she came within range of the Cumberland, the latter opened on her with her heavy guns, but the balls struck and glanced off, having no more effect than peas from a pop gun. Her ports were all closed, and she moved on in silence, but with a full head of steam. In the mean time, as the Merrimac was approaching the two frigates on one side. the rebel iron-clad steamers Yorktown and Jamestown came down James River and engaged our frigates on the other side. The batteries at Newport News also opened on the Yorktown and Jamestown, and did all in their power to assist the Cumberland and Congress, which, being sailing vessels, were at the mercy of the approaching steamers. The Merrimac in the meantime kept steadily on her course, and slowly approached the Cumberland, when she and the Congress, at a distance of one hundred vards, rained full broadsides on the ironclad monster, that took no effect, glancing

of checking her progress for a moment. After receiving the first broadside of the two frigates, she ran on to the Cumberland, striking her about midships, and literally laying open her sides. She then drew off and fired a broadside into the disabled ship, and again dashed against her with her iron-clad prow, and knocking in her side, left her to sink, while abe engaged the Congress, which lay about a quarter of a mile distant. The Congress had, meantime, kept up a sharp engagement with the Yorktown and Jamestown, and having no regular crew on board of her, seeing the hopelessness of resisting the iron-clad steamer, at once struck her colors. Her crew had been discharged several days since, and three companies of the Naval Brigade had been put on board temporarily, until she could be relieved by the St. Lawrence, which was to have gone up on Monday to take her position as one of the blockading vessels of the James River.

apward and flying off, having only the effect

On the Congress striking her colors, the Jamestown approached and took from on board of her all her officers as prisoners, but allowed the crew to escape in boats. The vessel, being thus cleared, was fired by the rebels, when the Merrimac and her two iron-clad companions opened with shell and shot on the Newport News batteries. The firing was briskly returned. Various reports have been received. principally from frightened sutler's clerks .-Some of them represent that the garrison had been compelled to retreat from the batteries to the woods. Another was that the two smaller rebel steamers had been compelled to retreat from their guns.

In the meantime the steam frigate Minnesota baving partly got up steam, was being towed up to the relief of the two frigates, but did not get up until it was too late to assist them. She was also followed up by the frigate St. Lawrence, which was taken in tow by several of the small harbor steamers. It is, bowever, rumored that neither of these vessels had pilots on board them, and after a short engagement, both of them seemed to be, in the opinion of the pilots on the Point, aground.

The Minnesota, either intentionally or from necessity, engaged the three steamers at about a mile distant, with only her two bow guns .-The St. Lawrence also poured in shot from all the guns she could bring to bear, and it was the impression of the most experienced naval officers on the Point that both had been considerably damaged. These statements, it must be borne in mind, are all based on what could be seen by a glass at a distance of nearly eight miles, and a few panic stricken non-combatants, who fled at almost the first gun from Newport

In the meantime darkness approached, though the moon shone out brightly, and nothing but the occasional flashing of guns could be seen. The Merrimac was also believed to be aground, as she remained stationary at a fell back toward Middleburg. distance of a mile from the Minnesota, making no attempt to attack or molest her.

Previous to the departure of the steamer for Baltimore, no guns had been fired for half an hour, the last one being fired from the Minnesota. Some persons declared that, immediately after this last gun was fired, a dense volume of vapor was seen to rise from the Merrimac, indicating the explosion of her boiler. Whether this is so or not cannot be known, but it was the universal opinion that the rebel

monster was hard aground Fears were of course entertained for the affety of the Minnesota and St. Lawrence in are in possession of the bank, Post Office, and

such an unequal contest, but if the Merrimac was really ashore she could do no more dam-Desperate Naval Engagements

This close quarters with the Merrimac, avoid her iron prow, and board her. This the Merrimae spirits. seemed not inclined to give her an opportunity

At 8 o'clock, when the Boltimore boat left, a fleet of steam tugs were being sent up to the and an endeavor was to be made to draw them off the bar, on which they had grounded. In the mean time, the firing had suspended, whether from mutual consent or necessity

could not be ascertained. The rebel battery at Pig Point was also enabled to join in the combined attack on the give battle. Minnesota, and several guns were fired at her from Sewall's Point as she went up. None of them struck her, but one or two of them passed over her

The Baltimore boat left Old Point at eight o'clock last night. In about half an Lour after she left the wharf the iron-clad Ericsson steamer Menitor passed her, going in, towed by a large steamer. The Monitor undoubtedly reached Fortress Monroe by 9 o'clock, and may have immediately gone into service; if not, she would be ready to take a hand early on Sunday morning.

The Monitor arrived at 10 P. M. yesterday, and went immediately to the protection of the Minnesota, lying aground just below Newport

At 7 1. M. to-day the Merrimac, accompa nied by two wooden steamers, the Yorktown and Jamestown, and several tugs, stood out toward the Minnesota, and opened fire. The Monitor met them at once, and opened fire, when the enemy's vessels retired, excepting the Merrimac. The two iron-clad vessels fought part of the time touching each other, from eight a. m. till noon, when the Merrimac retreated. Whether she is injured or not it is impossible

Lieut. J. L Worden, who commanded the Monitor, handled he with great skill, assisted by Chief Engineer Stuners. The Minnesota kept up a continuous fire, and is herself somewhat injured. She was moved considerably to-day, and will probably be off to-night.

The Monitor is uninjured, and ready at any moment to repel another attack.

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1862. The following was received to-night by Major-General McClellan from Gen. Wool, dated Fortress Monroe at 6 o'clock this evening :

"Two hours after my telegraphic dispatch for the Secretary of War, last evening, the She immediately went to Monitor, arrived. the assistance of the Minnesota, which was aground, and continued so until a few moments is equally made to all, the more Northern since. Early this morning she was attacked shall, by such initiation, make it certain to the by the Merrimac, Jamestown, and Yorktown. After a five hours' contest, they were driven off, the Merrimac in a sinking condition. was towed by the Jamestown, Yorktown, and several smaller boats, toward Norfolk, no for all doubt, if possible, to get her in the dry dock for repairs. The Minnesota is afloat, and being towed toward Fort Monroe."

The Merrimae is understood to have been under the command of Commander Buchanan, late of the Navy Yard.

The principal loss of life was on board the Cumberland, where, it is thought, as many as one hundred and fifty men must have been killed or drowned.

But six lives were lost on board the Minnesota, according to the report of one of her the State and its people immediately interest-

CAPTURE OF COCKPIT POINT.

WASHINGTON, March 9 1862. The Stars and Stripes wave over Cockpi Point. About 2 P. M. to-day the rebels commenced to fire their tents and other property difficult of removal. They also burned the steamer Page, and all the other creft in the

Our gunboats opened fire on the Cockpit Point battery about three o'clock P. M., and at four and a half landed and run up the glorious old flag.

Gen. Hooker reports that all the enemy's batteries in front of his line are entirely abandoned, and their guns spiked. Some of the guns of which we have taken possession appear to be valuable pieces. This is virtually opening the Potomac, and raising the so-called

The above dispatch is dated Budd's Ferry.

IMPORTANT FROM NEW-MEXICO. DENVER CTTY, March 8. The following news was received here to-

day by military express:

A desperate and terrible battle, lasting all day, took place at Valverde, ten miles south of Fort Craig, on the 21st of February.

The fight was probably resumed again on

The loss is great on both sides.

Both parties claim the victory. Capt. McRae, who had charge of our artillery, and every one of his command were killed at their post, and their cannon were taken by

the Rebels. Kit Carson was within fifteen miles of Fort

Firing was heard from his direction, but with what result was not ascertained at the time the messenger left.

GEN. BURNSIDE ADVANCING TO SUFFOLK.

FORTRESS MONBOE, March 8. A strong force is concentrating at Suffolk to check Gen. Burnside, who was reported to have occupied Winton, in force, and moving

The reason given by the rebels for not returning Col. Corcoran is that maps and drawings have been found concealed upon his per-

LEESBURG, Saturday, March, 8. Col. Geary has taken Leesburg, and driven

Gen. Hill, with his whole command, from the town and surrounding forts. The Stars and Stripes now wave over all. Gen. Hill's army Last night Col. Geary left Lovettsville

with his whole command, and marched through Wheatland and Waterford, taking prisoners at both places, and putting the scattered forces of the rebels to flight. Shortly after sunrise he took possession of

Fort Johnston, which was cristened by the officers Fort Geary. He then entered the town, with flags flying and bayonets fixed. The Rebel troops, who had thought this one of their greatest strongholds, could be dis-

cerned through a glass retreating.

public building.

This brilliant achievement, by a well-times blow and skillful maneuvre, is of vast impor tance. The commands is well, and in good

A detachment of the 1st Michigan Cavalry did much service under Col. Geary in this

SANDY HOOK, March, 8. Col. Geary, with the fource under his command, occupied Leesburg to-day, and the aban doned works of the enemy in the vicinity of

No further particulars have yet been received here, but it is believed the enemy declined in this instance, as in most others, to

Col. Broadhead of the First Michigan Cavalry is acting as Chief of Cavalry in this division of the army.

At this moment artillery firing is heard in the direction of Winchester.

Message from President Lincoln. WASHINGTON, Thursday, March, 6.

The President to-day submitted to Congress the following Message :

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives :-I recommend the adoption of a joint resolution by your honorable bodies, which shall

be substantially as follows: Resolved, That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolishment of Slavery, giving to such States pecunary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion, to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such

hange of system. If the proposition contained in the resolution does not meet the approval of Congress and the country, there is the end ; but if it

does command such approval, I deem it of importance that the State and people immediately interested should be at once distinctly notified of the fact, so that they may begin to eonsider whether to accept or reject it.

The Federal Government would find its highest interest in such a measure as one of the most efficient means of self preservation. The leaders of the existing insurrection entertain the hope that the Government will ultimately be forced to acknowledge the independence of some part of the disaffected region and that all the Slave States north of such parts will than say, "The Union, for which we have struggled, being alread gone, we now choose to go with the Southern section." deprive them of this hope substantially ends the ebellion, initiation of emancipation completely deprives them of it, as to all the States initiating it. The point is not that all the States tolerating Slavery would very soon, if at all, initiate emancipation, but that while the offer Southern that in no event will the former ever join the latter in their proposed Confederacy .-I say "initiation," becau e, in my judgement, Battery Monitor, which left this port on gradual and not sudden emancipation is better

In the mere financial or pecuniary view any member of Congress, with the census tables and the Treasury reports before him, can readilv see for himself, how soon the carrent expenditures of this war, would purchase, at a fair valuation, all the slaves in any named State. Such a proposition on the part of the Gen-

eral Government, sets up no claim of a right by Federal authority to interfere with Slavery within State limits, referring, as it does, the absolute control of the subject in each case, to ed. It is proposed as a matter of perfectly free choice with them.

In the annual Message last December I thought fit to say :- "The Union must be jured. preserved, and hence all indespensable means must be employed." I said this not hastily, but deliberately. War has been, and continues to be, an indespensable means to this end -A practical reacknowledgement of the National authority would render the war unnecessary. and it would at once cease If homever sistance continues, the war must also continue. and it is impossible to foresee all the incidents which may attend and all the rain which may follow it. Such as may seem indespensable or may obviously promise great efficiency to ward ending the struggle, must and will come.

The proposition now made, though an offer only. I hope it may be esteemed no offence to ask whether the pecuniary consideration tendered would not be of more value to the States and private persons concerned that are look fairly for a sweeping advance by General the institution and property in it, in the pres ent aspect of affairs.

While it is true that the adoption of the proposed resolution would be merely initiatoit is recommended in the hope that it would soon lead to important results. In full view of my greet responsibility to my God and to my Country, I earnestly beg the attention of Congress and the people to the subject. (Signed,) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE TREASURY NOTE BILL.-The United States note bill has received the President's signature, and become a law. The most important of the Senate's amendments, that making the interest on all the obligations of the bill as it finally passed. The duties on imports are set apart as a fund for the payment of this interest, and the creation of a sinking fund for the liquidation of the principal. The bill authorizes the issue of a hundred and fifty millions of notes in addition to those now in circulation; but it contemplates the withdrawal of these last from circulation, while the new ones may be repeatedly paid out after being received for government dues. The old notes and specie will alone be received in payment of duties on imported goods; the new ones are receivable for every other kind of government dues, and are a legal tender for the payment of all public and private debts except interest on government notes and bonds, and dues at the custom house.

The new currency has some advantages over the notes of the suspended banks, so long as suspension of specie payments continues .-They can be used for the payment of taxes, for which bank notes cannot, and they will legally discharge all private debts. Being convertable into interest bearing bonds, they will faciliate the funding of the public debt. and through this channel and the payment of taxes a large amount of them will be constantly withdrawn from circulation to be as constantly returned into it by the Governmen.

Specie is quoted at Richmond at 40

Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

TOWANDA:

Thursday Morning, March 13, 1862. THE LATE NAVAL ENGAGMENT.

We have news of the most exciting character from Fortress Monroe. The rebel ironclad steamer Merrimac, about which so much has been said recently, came down from Norfolk on Saturday morning accompanied by the steamers Yorktown and Jamestown, also ironclad, and 'moving directly toward Newport News engaged the sailing frigates Cumberland and Congress, blockading the mouth of James River. The Merrimac is represented to have resembled a submurged house, with the roof only above water. The two frigates opened fire upon her, but with no affect, as the heavy mettle glanced from the slanting top of the Merrimac. Even at the distance of only one hundred yards, a full broadside from both vessels did her no damage. She ran against the Cumberland amidship, with a full head of steam on, staving a large hole in her side; then drew off and poured in a broadside, after which she dashed against the doomed vessel again, and left her in a sinking condition. She then turned against the Congress and that vessel, having no regular crew on board, and seeing the hopelessness of further effort, lowered her colors, when she was boarded by the Jamestown, and all her officers were taken prisoners, while the few men on board were allowed to escape in boats. The Congress was then set on fire and left to her fate. The three rebel vessels then opened fire upon her batteries "at Newport News, which had been rendering what assistance was possible to the Cumberland and Congress, and the action continued for some time, when the Merrimack and her two companions drew off as far as Craney Island. The Minnesota, at the commencement of the action, in attemping to tow the Roanoke up, got ashore near the Rip Raps, and could render no assitance. It was supposed that the Merrimac would attempt to run the blockade on Saturday night, and preparations were made accordingly; but she appears not to have made the effort. Meantime on Saturday night the iron-clad Ericsson Wednesday arrived at Fortress Monroe, and Sunday morning she was attacked by the Merrimack, Jamestown and Yorktown, but this time they met more than their match. After a five hour's contest, they were driven off, and the Merrimac retreated toward Norfolk in a sinking condition. The full particulars of this doubt of the correctness of the report, as it is telegraphed officially from Washington, also from Fortress Monroe, by order of Gen. Wool. The latter dispatch states that at times during the engagement the two iron-clad vessels were touching each other. The Monitor was unin-

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The left wing of Gen. Bank's Division is EVACUATION OF MANASSAS. giving a good account of itself. The advance reported, including the occupation of Leesourg, Col. Geary having left Lovettsville ou Friday evening, marched through Wheatland and Waterford, and being master of the forts, surrounding the town before sunrise on Saturday. Leesburg would appear to have been defended by a large Rebel force-whatever may have been the policy of retiring without a fight. The position gained by Col. Geary is one of great importance : and we may now Bank's right, in conjunction with the forces under General Shields. It deserves to be specially recorded that the scouring of the re-, and not within itself a practical measure, gion leading to Leesburg is due in very great part to the 1st Michigan Cavalry, under Col. Broadhead. As to the rumors of heavy firing in the direction of Winchester we attach no value to them. By a good road, such as the main bo'y of the division would move over from Charlestown, Winchester must be distant

from the Ferry at least 40 miles. From the provoking Rebel position at Cock pit Point, on the Potomac, comes the agreeable news that the Union gunboats opened fire on the latter at 3 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, that the rebels having set fire to the greater portion of their moveable effects, and burned the piratical boat Page, retired to some of their other haunts in the interior, and the National flag is restored to the ground so long held to the annoyance and discomfiture of the Union traders in the river. A reference to the map will show that Cockpit Point is situated about seven miles below the junction of the Occoquan Creek with the Potomac.

By way of Chicago we have news from Cairo of the 8th inst., which represents that in their hasty exodus the Rebels at Columbus were compelled to leave no less than 30 cannon behind them, which will doubtless be turned to account in the National service.

New-Madrid, Missouri, where the Rebels have made a stand with between 5,000 and 10,000 men, supported by four gunboats, under Gen. Pope. Some skirmishing had taken place, during which several of our men had been killed by shells from the Rebel gunboats. Our officers were confident of their ability to achieve an easy victory, provided the gunboats were diven off. New Madrid is a little town of two thousand inhabitants on the Mississippi River, just below Island No. 10, 280 miles south-east of Jefferson City.

The Rebels are said to be fortifying Savannah, on the Tennessee River, to resist the advance of our gunboats. Savannah is situated

on the east side of the Tennessee, about 13 miles south of Nashville, and before the rebellion had a population of 1,000, with a flourishing trade in cotton and negroes.

A despatch from Denver City states that a desperate battle had been fought on the 21st this late date.] of February, at Valverde, New-Mexico, on the left bank of the Rio Grande, ten miles south of Fort Craig, lasting two days, with great loss on both sides. The title to the victory was disputed. A regiment of New-Mexicans under Col. Panton are said to have run away. Capt. McRae, who had charge of our artillery and every one of his command, are said to have been slain, and his battery was then taken by the Rebels. Kit Carson was within 15 miles of Fort Craig, and was supposed to have arrived at the scene of action soon after the messenger left, as by the latest reports firing dusk, six Companies of our (50th) Regiment was heard in the that direction. The Union were on the move toward Port Royal P. forces were under Col. Canby, and the Rebels under Gen. Sibley. Judge Watts, the Delegate from New-Mexico, thinks from his latest

all events, that the reports are greatly exag-From rebel sources we learn that Gen. Burn. side had occupied Winton, in force, and was leaving nine men to man the boat, and moving on Suffolk. Winton is a villages in variegated tramp of two miles through sy Forsyth County, Nort Carolina, situated on hedges, cotton fields, and brushwood, the right banks of Chowan Kiver, 115 miles N. E. of Raleigh. Suffolk, the alleged point Regiment. In about half an hour our of attack, is at the junction of the Seaboad all came up, we all embarked, and steare and Roanoke, and the Norfolk, Peterburg, and regular order down the river to the John Richmond Railways. A strong Rebel force is place near Chisholms; at snorise, after a concentrating at Suffolk to check Burnside's

A very large meeting was held at the Cooper Institute, in New York, on Wednesday evening of last week, in response to a call for the friends of emancipation. Hon. J. M. Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton, presided, and addresses were made by the President, Rev. Mr. Conway, Carl Schurz and others. The tone of the meeting was unanimous ly in favor of emancipation as a war measure. Letters, sympathizing with the objects of the meeting, were received from Hon. Charles and skirmishers. Sumner, Hon. David Wilmot, Hon. Henry Wilson, Hon. G. W. Julian aud Rev. John Pierpont. A petition to the President was entensively circulated for signatures, advocating the emancipation policy to complete the word which the revolution began.

Mr. Wilmot's letter will be found in another

A special despatch to the N. Y. Even ing Post, says the news from the South is that the Confederates have organized a new grand military plan, which is to revive their waning fortunes. A part of it is that Robert Toombs, the violent orator, is to be appointlate action are yet wanting, but there is no ed Lieutenant-General or General Command ing, and that he is to organize an offensive war against the North. Ohio and Pennsylvania are to be invaded, and the forces now

BY TELEGRAPH.

Over the Towarda Telegraph Line.

Centreville.

EVACUATION OF MANASSAS.

WASHINGTON, March 11, 1862.

o day state that our forces occupied Manassas Junction yesterday. No official news yet. EVACUATION OF WINCHESTER.

CHARLESTOWN Va March 10 1862

It is currently rumored and believed that Winchester was fully evacuated yesterday. A reconnoissance is out this morning to ascertain the facts.

The intelligence from other quarters greatly encourages all friends of the Union, as indicating a speedy termination of hostilities.

EVACUATION OF CENTREVILLE.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1862. There is no longer any doubt that the rebels have evacuated Centreville, Winchester and other important points, indicating a general falling back of their forces.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., March 10, 1862. It is now ascertained beyond a doubt that Winchester has been evacuated by the rebels. The prominent places between here and Winchester are occupied by our trnops.

WASHINGTON, March, 10 1862. The President received to-night a despatch from Gen. Halleck announcing that after a three days' battle at Sugar Creek, in Arkansas. General Curtis had won a complete victory over the combined forces of the rebel leaders Van Dorn, McCulloch, Price and McIntosh. The Union loss is estimated at one thousand killed and wounded. The rebel loss is much

The following is an official despatch to Major General McClellan :-

St. Louis, March, 10, 1862. The army of the Southwest, under General Curtis, after three days' hard fighting, has gained a most glorious victory over the combined forces of Van Dorne, McCulloch, Price and McIntosh.

Our loss in killed and wounded is estimated at one thousand!

That of the enemy was still larger. Guns, flags, provisions, &c., were captured

in large quantities. Our cavalry are in pursuit of the flying en-

H. W. HALLECK Major General.

Letter from Beaufort.

[The following letter was writen for pub [The following sever weeks since. It never appe in that paper, and at the request of several; the Company to which it refers, we give it a plan We think it will be for

FRIEND ARGUS :- For the first time life, I address a letter to an editor. I a few leisure moments in writing you a bay. statistical account of what has transpin statistical account the past few days; and it no more than natural for one who had been in a battle" to be highly, yet sole impressed with its scenes.

December thirty first there was quite.

motion in camp. Orders were given for

preparation to move; blankets neatly

forty-eight bours rations in our haven forty rounds of cartridges in our boxes neatly scoured-all things in reading at 9 P. M. the balance of the Regime Companies A. B. G. (Goodrich Guards I moved to the beach at Beaufort. barked in flat or ferry boats. We togget advices, that no action had taken place, or at toiled, bailed, and rowed until 11 o'clock, ris the tide, too strong to stem with this h la: gest in the expedition, containing the rich Guards and a part of Company I hauled up at Brickyard Point, disemba by a faithful contraband, in a solitary pull, and a strong pull of two miles against tide, we met two gunboats of light drag and four surf boats, each carrying a twe pound howitzer; a landing was then effer without resistence. Gereral Stevens, who with the surf-boats, went on shore with body guard, and followed by the Goods Guards, the first of whom to jump on muddy beach was our valiant Captain, H. Telford, followed by his men, who had honor of being the first to form in battle arr on the rebel main. The balance of the immediately landed -- five hundred all drawn up, made an advance preceded by of the howitzers, taken from the surf-h and one Company thrown out as an adva and magestically up in front of the rebel teries, and opened a fire. Their fort was so abandoned, when we, after a march of to miles came up, we were told by the over darkies that their " massas all run to de wo All that remained for us too see was a re ing white flag through the brush on its we Port Royal Ferry. Meanwhile our gunbant the Ferry was dealing death and care among their terrified troops.

We remained here about three hours

crackers, and were reenforced by the ba of Gen. Steven's Brigade and part of Ge Vela's command, amounting to about thousand men. A march was made for Ferry. About one mile we marched amid bursting shells of the rebel batteries that been moved from their fort and planted in woods. Strange to say, but one man wash and he but slightly, although the burs shells would fall among us, tear up the gro at our feet, and literally cover us with sa We came to a halt, the different Regimen were posted in the most favorable position possible. Gen. Stevens, our Commander, more at the head of the columns with perfect ouposure, not seeming to shield himself in east, nor asking his men to go wherehm not lead, and managed the battle so a to gain the favor and approbation of every man, officer and private. The Eighth Michig Regiment were sent forward in one direct Evacuation of Winchester and gain if possible the rear of their batteries when within musket shot, they were fired by a Regiment of Infantry in the thick br wood, killing two and wounding six. The was returned with telling effect, but their fo assisted by their battery, was too formidable foe for a Regiment with only small arms. Despatches received by General McClellan retreat was ordered and made in perfect on The Fiftieth was then thrown in advance another direction, under Col. B. C. Christ. met about four bundred of the enemy face face, and were fired at by them, when be Christ) halted his men, called in his skirm ers, advanced one Company and fired, kill about twenty; another Company immediate advanced, and fired by platocus, falling a not ber and disorganizing them. They began rally, when we came to a charge bayonet double quick, but came to a sudden fetch of and rolled up three hearty cheers at the sight of a single shell, sent by one of our ganboats burst in the midst of the gathering group killing and borribly mutilating twenty five of thirty, and wounding many more; the scampered off in every direction. were all called in, and the woods were shell from the boats for about half an hour; all ss quict, not one of our Regiment was et wounded. All who were Lurt in the whole engagement were the afcresaid eight in

took of a hearty dinuer of cold pork

the rebels to move in their hurried flight, slept soundly with the blue and starry sky a covering. In the morning we found that the week were filled with from twenty five thomsail thirty thousand men driven from Savannso sai Charleston. We accomplished with perfe success all we undertook, and all re rem ordered by Gen. Sherman, and came back to Port Royal Island elated with our New Year's excursion and exercises under the fre do gunboats four in number, which shelled the

Michigan Eighth. We all took quarters

the beach, in and around the evacuated for

after securing two English guns, too heary h

woods for miles back, dealing death to traite Several darkies who have come here for Gardner's Corners, state that the rebels treated past that place and acknowledged in loss not less than seven thousand; in out stance one whole Company was killed establed three, from one shell, thrown four miles had

A party of the Michigan Eighth scored portion of the ground occupied by the Sale Carolina troops, on the 3d, and state that the woods were literally filled with dead book and found no living secesh within fire miles the Ferry. I close by wishing you a hip New Year, and promise that you shall atte

KING OF SIAM AND THE ELEPHANTS. Majesty of Siam, learning that elephants 188 a great curiosity in our benighted could proposed to the Presidect to forward a 100 ber, to be let loose and propagate in our reference wilds, but the proffer was politely declined.

hear from me.