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The Pittsburgh Gazette.

EVENING GAZETTE TELEGRAMS.

DEPARTURE OF A LARGE FLEET.

The Expedition Steering South.

INDICATIONS OF A COMING STORM.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *Times* has the following:

OFF CAPE HENRY, Tuesday, Dec. 13.

A large naval fleet, accompanied with land forces in transports, left Hampton Roads this morning, steering in a southerly direction. The larger part of the army transports left during the night. At this writing, the flagship Malvern and several of the larger vessels of the fleet are in the Roads; but as the sailing orders have been signalled, they will probably get under way in a hour time.

The iron-clads attached to the fleet were the first to move. The single turreted monitors go out in tow of steamers. The iron-clads and the double-turreted monitor Manadonick propel themselves.

Thus far we have been favored with fine weather, a light wind blowing from off shore, although indications seem to point to a northeaster before we arrive at our journey's end.

Our place of destination will be made known to the public at the proper time. Suffice it to remark, that ample preparation has been provided to warrant a vigorous and formidable attack upon the enemy's works. In all probability a few days hence will give me an opportunity of sending you full details of the expedition.

REBEL NEWS FROM SHERMAN.

A Battle Believed to have been Fought.

NO COMMUNICATION SOUTH OF MILLEN.

Dispatch from Gen. Bragg.

THE RICHMOND WHIG ON REBEL INCENDIARIES IN THE NORTH.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *World's* Washington special says Richmond papers of Wednesday, December 14th, came up to night from the army. They are reticent on matters in Georgia.

The *Examiner* indulges in speculation, and puts its faith in Beauregard. It admits that Sherman is upon Savannah, and believes that a battle has been fought ere this.

The *Sentinel* and *Enquirer* are silent, and the *Dispatch* professes to have no later news than that in Tuesday's papers. It is quite evident from the tone of the papers that there is no communication either by rail or telegraph south of Millen.

Bragg, in an official dispatch of the Waynesboro fight, shows that Wheeler fell upon a small party of our cavalry, who fell back upon the main body, when Wheeler retired. Bragg then calls for a concentration at Savannah and Grahamsville, and urges the people to put all the obstructions possible in Sherman's path.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 13th says they are without definite advices from Georgia. It has no doubt Sherman holds the same position before Savannah that Hood does before Nashville.

It then appeals to the War Department for news, whatever it is. Whatever Sherman will do now, it says, will have little effect on the fortunes of this war. His campaign may yet furnish additional material for Yankee brag, but he has attained no strategical object beyond the ruin of a belt of country a couple of miles wide.

The Richmond *Whig* has another article in reference to the rebel incendiaries in the North. It professes great pleasure in observing that the Yankees are about to make their country too hot to hold the Southern refugees, who have come hither to keep out of the reach of danger, and hopes that General Dix, if he cannot find a law severe enough to suit their cases, will manufacture one.

A new conscription bill was reported, in the rebel House of Representatives at Richmond, on the 10th inst.

The Notorious Quantrel Probably Dead.

THE STEAMER EXPLOSION AT CARONDALET THE WORK OF A REBEL TORPEDO.

PRINTERS' STRIKE IN ST. LOUIS.

Apprehensions Felt for the Safety of a Government Train Bound to Fort Gibson.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 15.—The Lawrence *Tribune* says that the notorious brigand Quantrell, had been moved in an ambulance in Price' retreating column. He is sick beyond hope of recovery.

The recent explosion of the steamer Maria, at Corondalet, previously reported, is said to have been the work of a rebel torpedo. An investigation will soon be made.

The printers of St. Louis are on a strike, but the publication of the papers has not been suspended. The proprietors offer fifty cents per thousand and steady work to good hands.

The *Democrat's* special from Fort Scott, of the 2d, says: Yesterday a courier arrived from Fort Gibson with dispatches, causing apprehension for the safety of a large Government train which left camp on the Drywood, ten miles south of this place, on the 22d of November. The train consists of one hundred and twenty government wagons, with five yoke of oxen to each one, thirty suler wagons, with six mules to each, all heavily loaded for Fort Gibson, a distance of one hundred and eighty miles, and guarded by a few dismounted Indiana cavalry and a section of artillery of about twenty-five men. The train is said to be on the Nasha river, about one hundred miles south of this place, and the men are throwing up earthworks for defence, being closely invested by the rebel General Galaso with 7,000 men and five pieces of artillery. Colonel Moonlight is reported moving to the assistance of the train.

The Last Message.

A soldier came into our rooms in Nashville to get an envelope. He said he had a letter to send his house a small package, carefully wrapped, and opening it, held up a scrap of a leaf from a memorandum book. It had bloody finger prints on it, and a few words hastily written with a pencil. The writer was the soldier's partner, he said. In the charge on Kenesaw Mountain, he found him staggering back from the line, the blood streaming from his mouth, and covering his hands and clothes. A minie ball had cut off his tongue at the root. He tried to speak, but could not. Finally, by motions, he made his partner understand his want—paper and pencil. A scrap was torn from the diary, and on it the boy, held up by his comrade, with fingers dripping with blood, and trembling in death, wrote,

"Father, meet me in Heaven."

He tried to write his name, but it was too late. Life had fled. Fathers and mothers, what will you not do for your sons, whose waking and dreaming, and dying thoughts are homeward turned?—*Zion's Herald.*

A WRITER in the Glasgow *Herald* estimates the number of converts to Christianity in China at 2,500. He says: "We do not consider this result as a great success, but we cannot regard it as a failure, we may not view it with exultation, but we do view it with thankfulness and hope. The period of labor has not really been more than twenty years."

"FATHER," said a little fellow, apparently reflecting intently on something, "I shan't send you any of my wedding-cake when I get married." "Why not, my son?" was the fond father's inquiry. "Because," said the young hopeful, "you didn't send me any of yours."

THE LATEST NEWS!

BY TELEGRAPH.

Official War Bulletin.

FROM GEN. THOMAS.

The Battle Before Nashville.

DECIDED UNION VICTORY.

The Rebels Driven Eight Miles.

WAGON TRAINS AND 1,000 PRISONERS CAPTURED.

Sixteen Pieces of Artillery Captured.

SPLENDID BEHAVIOR OF OUR TROOPS.

The Battle Probably Renewed.

NOTHING LATER FROM SHERMAN.

Special Western Associate Press Dispatch.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, December 16th.

Gen. Dix, New York: The following official report of the battle before Nashville has been received from General Thomas:

Nashville, Dec, 15, 9 *p. m.*—I attacked the enemy's left this morning and drove it from the river, below the city, nearly to the Franklin pike, a distance of about eight miles. We captured Chalmers' headquarters and train and a second train of about twenty wagons, with between 800 and 1000 prisoners, and 16 pieces of artillery. Our troops behaved splendidly, all taking their share in assaulting and charging the enemy's breastworks. I shall attack the enemy again to-morrow, if he stands to fight, and if he retreats during the night, I will pursue him, throwing a heavy cavalry force in his rear, to destroy his trains, if possible.

G. H. THOMAS, Maj. Gen.

No intelligence has been received from Sherman later than the published dispatches transmitted by Major General Foster and Admiral Dahlgren.

(Signed.) E. M. STANTON.

A correspondent gives the following particulars of the fight before Nashville:

NASHVILLE, Dec. 15.—Our line advanced and engaged the rebel line at nine o'clock this morning. The line was formed thus: Steadman on the left, L. J. Wood, 4th Corps, next, A. J. Smith next, with Cox, in reserve, and the cavalry, under Wilson, (dismounted) occupied the extreme right, assisted by the gunboats on the river. The artillery was engaged at times, but the musketry firing was continuous and heavy, and though the casualties have been great, the results are very important.

The left occupies the same ground it did this morning, but the right has advanced five miles, driving the enemy from the river, from his entrenchments, from the range of hills on which his left rested, and pushed his centre back from one to three miles, with a loss in all of seven ten guns, about fifteen hundred prisoners, and his whole line of earthworks, except about a mile on his extreme right, where no serious attempt was made to dislodge him.

The whole of Hood's army is here, except his cavalry and one division of infantry, which has been detailed to work on Murfreesboro.

The whole action of to-day was a splendid success.

The divisions commanded by Gen. Kimball of the Fourth corps, by Gen. Garrard of the command under Gen. A. J. Smith, and the cavalry under Gen. Knape, were under my observation, and I have never seen better work.

Gen. Kimball's division captured two fortified positions by assault, with very light loss, capturing at one point four hundred prisoners and six guns.

There is no doubt other parts of the line did as well. I only speak of what I saw.

FROM THE POTOMAC ARMY.

All Quiet in Front of Petersburg.

UNION PICKETS MURDERED.

An Attack Soon to be Made.

&c., &c., &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY POTOMAC, *December 16th, 1864.*

Universal quiet has prevailed along the line in front of Petersburg for the last few days, scarcely a shot being exchanged excepting in the evening on the right of the line. Last night, however, quite an excitement was kept up from about eight to ten o'clock, when the firing died away gradually, and after midnight not a shot was heard. Of course the pickets in the vicinity of the Fort are responsible for the outbreak, although some other parts of the line farther west were participants

There is a report current, that a number of pickets watching the rear of our lines, were taken and murdered night before last, and that in consequence of this the force on this side has been doubled.

Changes are being made in the disposition of our troops, but there is no indication of an early attack on the enemy.

The troops engaged in the late raid are almost all in good condition; some of them returned from the trip with frozen hands and feet, and others ill, caused by severe weather which prevailed at the time.

On Friday five deserters are to be hanged—two from New York, two from New Hampshire, and one from Maryland.

Rebel deserters are coming in daily, they report nothing new from rebeldom.

[Signed] W. D. MCGUNNIGLE.

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER OF GEN PECK.

All Persons Arriving from Insurgent States Must Register Their Names.

THE DECISION IN THE ST. ALBANS ROBBERY CASE.

Great Reactionary Feeling in Montreal.

THE MONEY TO BE RETURNED TO THE BANK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—General Peck has issued a supplementary order, calling upon all persons arriving in the city from the insurgent States to register their names at his headquarters. He says the result developed by the registry fully justifies the action of the department, and the decision in the case of the St. Albans raiders makes it imperative that the registering be pushed vigorously.

A private dispatch received in this city to-day from a gentleman in Montreal says it was reported that the money belonging to the St. Albans bank is to be restored; that there is great reaction there in rebel stock since Wednesday, and that even the tons feel disgusted with the proceedings of the court, presided over by Judge Coursal.

From Canada.

QUEBEC, Dec. 16.—Another cabinet meeting was held to-day. Parliament has been summoned to meet on the 19th of January.

Stipendiary magistrates have been appointed to take cognizance of breaches of the international laws, and they are to be aided by a strong police force.

The *Journal de Quebec*, of to-day, says: Gen. Dix's proclamation is disapproved by the Washington government.

Late Canadian News.

BANDS OF THIEVES ORGANIZING FOR PLUNDERING THE FRONTIER.

Reception of Admiral Farragut and Capt. Winslow.

THE FENIAN BROTHERHOOD IN NEW YORK.

Priests Denouncing Their Meetings.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AMONG THE ORDER

Semmes the Pirate in Command of the Sea King.

EXTENSIVE FRAUDS IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

Loe's Army to be Transferred to North Carolina.

&c., &c., &c.

Special Western Associated Press Dispatch.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—A Toronto letter of the 12th says: The rebels in Canada West are awaiting the result of the trial of the St. Albans raiders. Bands of thieves are already organized for plundering the towns and farmhouses on the frontier, and were only waiting the release of the raiders, as a signal to commence operations.

Admiral Farragut and Com. Winslow were received last nigh, at the Union League Club Room. No speeches were made.

There is much excitement among the Fenian organization, in Jersey City, Hudson City and Hoboken, growing out of the action of a Catholic priest in denouncing a meeting of the Fenians, last Sunday, in Hoboken City. A meeting of all the Fenians in the three cities, is called for Sunday next, in Jersey City, to take action on the matter.

A London letter to the *Tribune*, says:

The Laurel, which left Liverpool early in October with Semmes, forty officers and some of the crew of the Alabama, joined the Sea King off Madeira on the 18th of the same month. Both vessels then sailed for Tenerife, Rio, where the Laurel transferred to the Sea King, four 68-pounders, two 32-pounders, three 12-pounder howitzers, and a large quantity of ammunition and provisions. Four men of the Laurel volunteered to join the pirate. The name of the Sea King was changed to "Shenandoah," and the name of the Laurel's four men was made under English colors. The ship then sailed for Tenerife, where the crew of the Sea King was put on board, after giving promise to report the vessel of their seizure in a gale of wind off the coast. The Shenandoah is 1,000 tuns register and very fast.

A letter from Colonel Mulford's Headquarters, brought by steamer, gives an account of the suffering of Union prisoners recently released, and says the rebels have offered to exchange man for man; and adds that our government, after over 1 hanging for all white soldiers, will have sufficient excess to hold as hostages for negroes now in rebel hands.

It is reported from Washington that an investigation will soon be made in the charges of extensive frauds in the Mississippi Valley by W. P. Mellen, General Agent of the Treasury Department, and his subordinates in points along the river. It is stated that Gen. Brayman, at Memphis, has forwarded a large amount of testimony in relation to the affair.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says the several Courts Martial in session there, have been ordered not to entertain any new cases till after their re-organization, which annually takes place.

The Radical Kentucky delegation are said to have succeeded in impressing their views upon the President, and have obtained from him an assurance that the policy of the administration should hereafter favor the earliest loyalty of that State.

Lieut. Col. Clark, formerly of Gen. McPherson's staff, now Chief of Gen. Howard's staff, has been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

Information has been received, which is regarded as trustworthy, that the rebels in Eastern North Carolina are making preparations for the expected transfer of Lee's army from Virginia to North Carolina. They are constructing, up the Roanoke river, two large vessels, intended as transports.

Since the destruction of the ram Albemarle they have remodeled and are strengthening one of their vessels to make another ram.

At Weldon and Goldsborough quite large bodies of troops are actively engaged in fortifying both places. At other points along the line of the Weldon Railroad exterior works are in course of construction.

In the rebel House of Representatives the Military Committee reported the general conscription bill. The clause in regard to the exemption of the press is materially changed. Also in relation to teachers, excepting only teachers of colleges, theological seminaries, military academies. On newspapers, one editor for each paper, and such printers and foremen as the editors may require, on oath, as indispensible.

The Richmond *Sentinel* of the 12th contains a bill for the impressment of negroes as passed by the rebel Congress. It holds all free negroes liable to perform any military duty required of them, and authorizes the employment of 40,000 slaves at necessary labor, and provides for renting the owners in case of death or escape of slaves. Not more than one in five shall be taken from any owner, and all States be made to contribute their fair quotas.

AFFAIRS IN GEORGIA.

Sherman Still Moving Toward Savannah.

FORTRESS MONROE, December 15, via BALTIMORE, December 16.—The Charleston *Courier*, of the 10th, says: Sherman's army is still moving towards Savannah. We learn that the affair at Station No. 2 was simply a slight skirmish.

From the Charleston *Courier*, of the 9th last., we take the following:

The Augusta *Chronicle* says We had the pleasure, yesterday, of meeting Captain Caper, of General Wheeler's staff, who is in our city on business in connection with the Confederate Prison Bureau, whose headquarters are to be located in this city. Captain Caper informs us that the Yankee prisoners at all points within reach of Sherman have been safely removed. He also states that the vandals were so disappointed at finding that the "blue bellies" had flown from Millen, that they vented their spleen on defenceless inhabitants of the country.

The Charleston *Courier* of the 9th instant, in relation to Georgia affairs, says:

We learn that, on Sunday last, Lieutenant Reynolds, of General Wheeler's cavalry, with a detachment of fifteen men, crossed the Savannah river at Harper's Ferry, in the Beaufort District. He had been engaged in a scouting expedition, and becoming separated from his command, crossed over into this State to rejoin them higher up. He represents Sherman's army as occupying Grant's bridge on Brier Creek, six miles from the river.

The opinion seems to prevail that Sherman can be easily defeated.

A report was in circulation yesterday, that on the arrival of Sherman's forces at Station No. 2, he held off in the direction of Sisters' Ferry, which would indicate an invasion of South Carolina.

The enemy were reported as being near Pocotaligo on Friday.

Prisoners from Sherman's army arrived in this city yesterday.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

General Davidson's Great Raid.

LARGE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY DESTROYED.

He is Marching on Mobile.

ARRANGEMENTS MAKING TO RECEIVE GEN. BANKS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The Steamer Morning Star, from New Orleans on the 10th, has arrived. She saw off Hatteras, on Thursday, a large fleet of steamers steering south west.

Cotton is quoted at New Orleans at $1,20 for Middling.

Gen. Davidson's great raid from Baton Rouge had been heard from. He had reached Tungo-pahoo on the 50th ult., burned the conscript camp, destroyed all the stores and dwellings, captured a large number of horses, and carried away an immense number of negroes.

Mobile papers of the 4th say: He was marching on that city. He has a force of 5000 cavalry. Price claims to have accomplished all he intended in Missouri, and returned at his leisure with immense stores.

A large meeting was held in New Orleans to make arrangements for the reception of General Banks.

WAR BULLETIN.

Official from General Canby.

GEN. HOOD'S COMMUNICATIONS CUT WITH MOBILE.

From Southern Sources.

CAPTURE OF BRISTOL CONFIRMED.

Official Report of the Battle of Franklin.

&c., &c., &c.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—8:15 p. m.

To Major General Dix:—Official dispatches from General Canby have been received to-day, showing the complete success of an expedition sent by him from Vicksburg to operate with General Sherman and cut Hood's communications with Mobile. General Canby reports the probable success of another expedition from Baton Rouge, under General Davidson, the details and object of which it is not proper now to disclose. When last heard from, Davidson was reported as having caused quite a panic in Mobile, and to be devastating the country generally.

Lieut. EARLE, Commanding.

The Richmond papers of to-day confirm the reported capture of Bristol by an expedition supposed to be under command of Generals Stoneman and Burbridge; also the surprise and capture of the Glade Spring Depot on the railroad thirteen miles south of Abingdon, Va. They also contain General Hood's official report of the battle of Franklin, in which he acknowledges the loss of many gallant officers and brave men, among whom he mentions the names of Major General Cleburne, Brigadier Generals John Williams, Adams, Gist, Strahl and Gembay, killed; Major General John Brown, and Brigadier Generals Carter, Manigault, Quarles, Quantrell and General Sherman carried the works commanding the entrance to the Ogeechee river by storm, and that the capture of this position puts Genl. Sherman in direct communication with the Yankee fleet, and hesitates the reinforcement of Savannah.

The dispatches of General Canby, so far as is proper for publication, and extracts from the Richmond papers giving Hood's official report of the battle, and our success in South-western Virginia and in Georgia, are subjoined.

Up to this hour (8:30 P. M.) nothing has been heard from Nashville since last night, and nothing in newspapers' report.

NEW ORLEANS, La., December 9.—On the 20th ultimo it was reported that movements, co-operative with General Sherman, would be made from Vicksburg and Baton Rouge, for the purpose of cutting Hood's communications with Mobile.

The expedition sent out from Vicksburg, consisting of about 2,000 cavalry and eight pieces of artillery, under the command of E. D. Strand 1st lieutenant, Battery I, 2d Colored Cavalry, returned on the 4th to an admirably executed flank movement on Jackson, on the 26th ultimo, the expedition burned the bridge over the Big Black river, on the Mississippi Central Railroad, which was reached on the 27th, and, after a struggle, overcame, captured and destroyed. This cuts Hood's army off from the large quantities of supplies and stores which are accumulated at Jackson, Mississippi, and makes that road, which is his main reliance, unavailable to run for 200 miles to come.

The following property was completely destroyed: 30 miles of track, including culverts; 1 wagon bridge over the Big Black; Vaughan, Bolton, Edwards' Depot stations, with all the railroad depots and buildings; 2500 bales of cotton; 1 locomotive, 4 cars, 4 stage-coaches; 20 barrels of salt, and $100,000 worth of stores at Vaughan's station.

The expedition was considerably harrassed on its return by large bodies of the enemy's troops, but suffered no material losses, and brought back more recruits than the entire loss in effective men.

Maj. J. R. Cook, commanding the 2d Colored Cavalry, distinguished himself and his regiment by the gallantry with which the force guarding the Big Black river driven from behind their strong stockade, on the opposite side of the river. Our men had to dismount, with nothing but rail fences for protection, in the face of a heavy fire.

(Signed) E. S. CANBY, Maj. Gen'l.

FRIGHTFUL RAILROAD ACCIDENT

Several Persons Burned to Death.

DETROIT, Dec. 15.—A terrible accident occurred on the Grand Trunk Railway last night, caused by the collision of the western-bound passenger train with a freight train near this city. After the collision, the cars took fire; and several wounded persons, being unable to extricate themselves, were burned to death. Two persons are known to have suffered death in this manner, and it is reported that others were killed in this manner also. The full extent of the loss of life is not ascertained.

Late.—George W. Miller was the only person killed by the collision on Grand Trunk railroad. Several were severely wounded. There was no detention of the trains on the road.

Savannah Strongly Fortified.

THE CITY REPORTED CAPTURED.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *Commercial Advertiser's* Washington special says: Savannah is known to have been fortified in its rear by a mand a brief siege ere it surrenders.

The Revenue Department has directed the Collector at Detroit in appropriating large sums of money for private speculation. The Government will not be a loser, as all bids were ample.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—The *American* has just received a dispatch from Annapolis, stating that the steamer Varuna had just arrived from Charleston with news that Gen. Sherman had captured Savannah, with 1100 prisoners, after eight hours fighting.

New York Money and Stock Market.

Western Associated Press Despatch.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Share market heavy and lower at first hour, and after call. Market steady at last quotations. Government list stronger on gold bonds, with a fair business. Treasury paper steady. Subscriptions to the 10-40 loan are on the increase; they were over $1,500,000. State bonds quiet, and without any change. Coal and miscellaneous list heavy, and generally lower. Bank shares firmer and in fair demand, without much stock offered for sale. At the mining board there was quite a brisk speculative movement. At the petroleum board Germania was the most active, and sold at 1,10@ 1,15, on buyers' options; Highgate 1,10; and Knickerbocker at 50c. The military news had very little effect on the price of gold this morning. The market has been quite uniform and steady throughout the day. The money market has been abundantly supplied with surplus means. Loans were freely offered at 6 per cent. to brokers. Foreign exchange was dull. Reduction in imports has lessened the demand for bills.

The Pitch Landing Expedition.

NEWBERN, N. C., December 13.—The expedition sent out from Roanoke Island to Pitch Landing on Roanoke river, on the 3d, under command of Colonel Clark, met with complete success. Nearly a million dollars worth of rebel commissary stores and eighty-three bales of cotton were destroyed. A number of prisoners, mules and army wagons were captured.

News from the Union expedition now moving up the Roanoke river has been received. The gunboat Attosgn, when above Jamestown, ran into a torpedo, by which she was blown up and totally destroyed. The picket boat, Barly, No. 5, met with the same fate, only two lives, however, were lost. The expedition proceeded on to its destination.

It is reported here this morning that our forces have captured Kingstown, where they have struck the railroad and are moving on into the interior.

Meeting of the Electoral College of Louisiana.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The Electoral College of Louisiana met on the 7th, and cast seven votes for Lincoln and Johnson, and appointed a messenger to convey their vote to Washington.

The French Corvette La Megere has arrived.

Gold to-night is 224.

Gold Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Gold stronger, in spite of the favorable news from Nashville and the coast. The demand for shipment is a partial cause for the former, but there is an additional speculative demand, although it is not seen on the street what it is based. Opened at 224½; the price fluctuated between 224 and 224¼.

OFFICIAL FROM CITY POINT.

The Capture of Bristol.

GEN. HOOD'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

[Official:]

CITY POINT, VA., Dec. 16.—The Richmond *Dispatch* of to-day, after fully confirming the previous reports of the capture of Bristol, states that "the enemy then advanced up the railroad towards Abingdon, which we presume fell into their hands. The next we hear of them, they had, at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, pounced down on Glade's Springs, the depot on the railroad, 13 miles this side of Abingdon, taking every one there by surprise, and capturing all the railroad employees except one.

At last accounts the enemy were pushing up the railroad, in the direction of Marvin, which is twenty-seven miles on this side of Abingdon. This is a raid in Breckinridge's rear. Leaving his forces somewhere in the neighborhood of Knoxville, he came up on the north side of Holston river, and crossed over to Bristol. It is probable that the raiders separated, one party proceeding to Bristol, and the other to Abingdon. If unchecked, it is likely they will soon strike the railroad at Salem, and thence escape to the Kanawha, by the route followed by Hunter last summer.

It is unknown who is in command of this expedition, but it looks very much like some of Stoneman's work. None of the dispatches say anything about Saltville; if it is unprotected, it has doubtless been visited by the enemy.

Hood's official report of the battle of Franklin has been received. It confirms the report of the killing and wounding of many general officers. He says he drove the enemy into their inner line of works, which they evacuated at night, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands. We captured several stands of colors and 1600 prisoners.

Sherman's Army Increasing—The Issue of Twenty Year Bonds.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The *Tribune's* Washington special of the 16th says: It was stated in conversation to-day on the floor of the Senate that the President had said that Sherman had come out at Savannah with 40,000 more men, black and white, than he started with.

It is understood that the financial policy which the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means will endeavor to pass through this Congress, will be the issue of twenty year bonds bearing eight per cent. interest, payable in currency. It is intended to rely upon them for the means to finish the war.

Gold opened at 224¼, and closed at 224½.

Washington City Items.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Supreme Court is now engaged with the important case of Storie vs. the United States, involving the title of the United States to the large and valuable part of the military reservation of Fort Leavenworth. J. M. Carlisle and O. H. Browning, Esqs., are for the claimant, and J. T. Coffey, Esq., for the United States.

Col. Hiscock, who has been relieved as Chief of the Veteran Reserve Corps Bureau, is ordered to Sandusky, Ohio, to assume command of Johnson's Island.

Col. Fox, President of the Examining Board, will doubtless succeed Col. Wisswell as Chief of this Bureau.

Panic in Canada.

BOSTON, Dec. 16.—A private dispatch from a reliable source at Montreal, states that there is a perfect panic in Canada amongst railway men. Every one is participation of non intercourse with the United States, which will be expected, unless the government takes prompt action to allay the excitement on the border.

At five o'clock this afternoon nothing was known at Montreal of the Confederate soldiers, nor were there further developments in relation to the resolution of the money stolen from the St Albans banks.

Southern News.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Late Richmond papers say in an official dispatch report that Sherman has developed upon Savannah. Hardee commands there. Beauregard arrived at Charleston on the 11th and immediately left for the scene of hostilities in the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

Arming the Slaves.

Harriet Martineau, one of the shrewdest women in the world, treats the rebel policy of arming the slaves as follows, in a letter to Senator Wilson:

"*As far as I can see, the greatest blow yet sustained by the thoroughgoing Confederate sympathizers in this country is the serious proposal among the Confederate authorities to make soldiers of the slaves.* Our secess partisans evidently don't know what to make of it. In the South, Northern side, are trying to teach them; but, probably, the masters themselves will be the first to make all clear to friends. I do hope that slaveholding will be attempted. If not, the mere proposal is a great gain."

Miss Martineau is not better acquainted with the state of English opinion than will the character of slavery; and she is one of the most competent of our friends in Europe. Her few words contain the whole argument. The proposal to arm the slaves has, as it might have been expected, had the effect of bewildering many upon those Englishmen who have been laying the foundation of their aristocratic sympathies upon the perpetuity of slavery. Jefferson Davis' last blunder has turned the milk of kindness into bitterness into curds; and we may clearly tell the state of the political case from the barometer of British feeling. Those English noblemen who, while disavowing all sympathy with slavery, admired the South because of its military genius and ambition to rule, will not be less stubborn creatures of the North, but will feel privately disenchanted of the knight chivalry. A people professedly fighting for liberty, yet calling upon their slaves to defend slavery, can meet only with the decision and contempt of the world and of history, and the inexorable retribution of events which punishes deceitfully when it becomes blunder. The fatal necessity which urges the South to arm the slaves is only the synonym of dissolution and death. It cannot transfix the purpose of the North, and, in appeal for aid, only summons up judges and executioners to make the ultimate ruin more terrible. The rebel rulers, we imagine, will not dare to arm one but hazardous request of Jefferson Davis. Either the black must march indiscriminately with the white, or the two hundred thousand slaves—whose enlistment Governor Smith recommends in his message—must form a separate corps, and their own part. At the same time they must endured from the depositions of the commissariat, and the robberies of hunger and famine. What else? except that the rebellion will have an army, without having a stomach. Every observer of the war knows that the South is not able to feed more than its present standard of soldiers, if one quarter of its people are not already starving, while an equal fraction, at least are robbing. What race can make Jefferson Davis put to the places of those who labor feeds the South? What compensation can be offered to the planter, whose cup of disaster is so full already? Worse than all is the pro-slavery Confederacy will recede from itself. To sum up all the necessity of keeping the slaves without, they are is quite as great if not greater than the necessity of arming them.—*Phila. Press.*

The John Brown Anniversary.

The Richmond rebels have not forgotten their execution of John Brown, and they have good cause to remember the shedding of the blood of that martyr to human freedom. The Richmond *Dispatch* of December 2d speaks of the "fatal rable day," and as if troubled with the blood of "brave old Ossawattamie," declares that "the events of that day, and of the week that preceded it, will never fade from our memory." John Brown was hung on the 2d of December, 1859, and the *Dispatch* says "that was the beginning of this war." It adds:

"We say we shall never forget the day when Brown was hung. It was one of the most lovely days that ever came from Heaven. It was as mild as though it were the middle of May; and it might well have passed for such, and it has been that the trees were bare of foliage. But five years, as time is counted, have passed since that memorable day. And yet the events of a whole century have been compressed into that little space. When we look upon that day over the five intervening years, we can hardly realize the fact that we are the same person, that this is the same country, and the objects most familiar to us are, really, the same objects. It sometimes seems like a phantasm or a hideous dream. We had all, then, read of war, but how few of us had any conception of what it really was! We had heard old people talk of the trials and troubles of the old Revolution, and their juniors eloquent on the subject of the Mexican war. But the most lively imagination had never formed a conception of the gigantic struggle of which that day's work was the opening scene."

DURING the pursuit of Price by Colonel Benteen's brigade, and after they had gone into camp at Carthage, Missouri, the night being cool, the soldiers commenced to gather wood and build a fire. One squad of soldiers found what they took to be a log, and, after piling leaves and broken sticks about and against it, they lighted a fire. Judge of their horror, when the fire was started, to ascertain that what they had taken for a back-log was a dead rebel's body. The fire was soon quenched, and the body buried.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

Correction of the Enrollment in the 23d District.

By a recent order, the Commissioner and Surgeon, of the 23d District, are directed to go to Butler and Kittanning, for the purpose of purging and correcting the enrollment lists of Butler and Armstrong counties. In pursuance of this order, those officers will be in Butler from Tuesday, the 3d, to Friday, the 6th of January, and in Kittanning, from Monday, the 9th, to Thursday, the 12th.

All good citizens will be called upon to aid these officers in the discharge of their duties, by giving information bearing upon this important subject. The order says:

"It is to be distinctly understood by the people, that their only surety of a fair proportion of the burdens of the draft, lies in the proper correction of these lists. Every name improperly left upon the list swells disproportionately the quota. It is the duty, therefore, of each good citizen to bring before the Board, every man who, by reason of *over age, permanent physical disability, or two years' service*, shall be entitled to have his name stricken from the lists; and, also, to furnish to the Board satisfactory evidence in cases of death, removal, &c."

The greater the number of competent men there are in these lists, the less likelihood there is of any particular one of them being drawn; therefore, each citizen owes it to himself to see that the name of every man in his sub-district, who is properly liable to draft, shall be on the list.

The Board is directed to recommend to the several sub-districts, the propriety of appointing committees to examine into all cases requiring action, and bring the parties concerned, or the evidence of their death or removal, before the Board.

"An opportunity is now offered to all sub-districts of correcting completely their enrollment lists. It must be done; and let it be distinctly understood that, should another draft be subsequently ordered, no notice whatever will be taken of complaints of committees that their enrollment lists are erroneous; nor will any suspension of draft or alteration in the quotas be granted on that plea.

"It is the duty of the Board to add to the lists the names of all men who shall have arrived at the legal age, or who may have removed into the district, and to strike therefrom the names of all men not properly enrolled, on account of—1. alienage; 2. non-residence; 3. over age; 4. permanent physical disability, of such a degree as to render the person not a proper subject for enrollment under the law and regulations; 5th. having served in the military or naval services two years during the present war, and been honorably discharged. The person claiming to have his name stricken from the lists on any of the grounds, must present himself in person, or furnish such legal evidence of his disqualification and inability to attend in person as shall satisfy the Board."

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing is applicable to all the districts, and we commend it to the attention of the people.

Gold Watches for Christmas Presents.

The practice of making presents, during the Christmas Holidays, is of very ancient origin—so ancient, indeed, that we do not care about tracing it back. We only mention it for the purpose of giving the custom our hearty approval. It begets friendship and strengthens love—it endears parents to children and children to parents—makes lovers more lovely—and causes everybody—giver and receiver—to feel in better humor with themselves and mankind generally. The season for making such presents is now fast approaching, and all are casting about to know what they shall select to present to the friend or the loved one. To help such as are undecided what to choose, is the purpose of this article. A day or two since, we happened in the neat and tasteful establishment of our energetic and reliable friend, W. Watties, No. 61 Fifth street, whose place of business is well known to all our citizens. While in there, we were shown many beautiful and desirable articles that would make acceptable gifts, and we noted that all tastes could be accommodated; but the most surprised us was the extraordinary low prices at which he retails Gold Watches. Our astonishment, however, abated when he informed us how he managed to sell at such low prices, not withstanding the great appreciation of gold.

Mr. Watties procurts the movement of his gold watches direct from the importers, furnishes the gold and puts the cases on himself, thus saving the profit usually accruing to jobbers; besides he does all his watch repairing himself. Than such watches as Mr. W. has for sale, we know of no more desirable, durable and comparatively cheap Christmas present. A gold watch retains its intrinsic value for many years; it is not so with almost all other article. We saw gold watches in his establishment ranging from $75 to $200—from the small and beautiful watch intended for ladies, to the large hunting and magic cased timekeeper, of the finest gold cases and most beautiful finish, for gentlemen use. If you intend to make any presents during the holidays, do not fail to call and see for yourselves. We have tried him and know whereof we affirm.

Miss Anna Dickenson's Lecture.

Notwithstanding the extreme inclemency of the weather, Concert Hall was crowded last evening to its extremest corners to hear the lecture of this eloquent young lady upon "The Meaning of the Election." The subject was a grand one, and grandly did the speaker rise to it. With graphic force she traced the progress of opinion from the low point it occupied at the beginning of this war, up through its successive stages, marked by toil and agony and blood, to the grand utterance of a nation baptised in blood, as proclaimed by the election of the 8th of November. But that was not enough; the goal is not yet reached; and she pointed forward *freedman*, but a FREEMAN—when traitors should meet their just deserts—when those who stood side by side with white men on the battle-field should rise to the enjoyment of equal political privileges. Miss Dickenson is a good deal in advance of the average public sentiment of the country on some points; but if the march of public opinion progresses for three years longer as it has for three years past, her views, so fearlessly uttered, and so bold and startling, will become the calm and settled sentiment of the nation.

This gifted lady, when in a state of repose, has nothing in her appearance to distinguish her from other handsome young women. But when inspired by her theme, and the burning words leap forth strong, ringing, clear and penetrating, from the lips of one of the gentler sex, so manly in her choice, is the language in which they are clothed, so grand.

Attempted Infanticide.

The citizens of Canal Dover, Ohio, were somewhat startled on last Saturday evening by the discovery of an attempt of a woman to commit the fearful crime of infanticide in that place. It seems that this woman, who is as yet unknown, was seen to enter a privy and remain there for a considerable length of time. Shortly after she had gone, a gentleman heard the cries of a child, and going to the place from whence the cries came, he discovered a new born babe down in the privy. He immediately made known the fact, and help being obtained, the building was overturned and the child rescued from the terrible death which the mother, in her shame and guilt, had intended it should die. It proved to be a fine bouncing boy, and has found a home in the family of Mr. Jacob Rider.

Harry Overington's Benefit.

The numerous friends of the gentlemanly and accomodating Treasurer of the Theatre, will take notice that his benefit comes off this evening. No one connected with the establishment is worthier of a crowded house than this gentleman, who has filled the position he now occupies so long with credit to himself and profit to the manager. The selections made for the evening's entertainment, are of the most inviting character, and we confidently anticipate seeing the house crowded to its utmost capacity. The Ballet Troupe of the Metedeon will appear on this occasion, which will add greatly to the variety and interest of the performance.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY.—A very superior oil well has been discovered near Stewardson Furnace. While some of the workmen were digging for water, they struck a vein of oil, which soon filled the well. An engine will be on the ground in a few days, which will test the matter thoroughly.

We understand that a good oil well has also been struck on Mahoning creek, near Milton, in that county.

BARGAINS in everything at M'Clelland's Auction, 55 Fifth street, Masonic Hall. The stock must be closed out immediately, and in