THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

VOLUME LXXVIII--NO. 6. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1864. ESTABLISHED IN 1786.

The Pittsburgh Gazette.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

Official War Bulletin.

SAVANNAH CAPTURED!

800 Prisoners, 150 Guns, 33,000 Bales of Cotton, 130 Locomotives and 190 Cars Taken.

ESCAPE OF THE MAIN BODY OF THE REBEL ARMY.

The Rebel Iron Clads Blown Up.

THE NAVY YARD BURNED.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. SHERMAN.

Savannah "Fairly Won."

FORTER'S FLEET BEFORE WILMINGTON.

Fort Fisher Reported Captured.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 9 p. m.

To Maj. General Dix:

A dispatch has been received by the President this evening, from General Sherman. It is dated Savannah, Thursday, the 22d inst., and announces his occupation of the city of Savannah, and the capture of one hundred and fifty guns, plenty of ammunition, and about 25,000 bales of cotton. No other particulars are given.

An official dispatch from General Foster to General Grant, dated on the 22d inst., at seven o'clock, p. m., states that the city of Savannah was occupied by General Sherman on the 21st, and that on the preceding afternoon and night, Hardee escaped with the main body of infantry and light artillery, blowing up the iron-clads and the navy yard. He enumerates as captured 800 prisoners, 150 guns, 130 locomotives in good order, 190 cars, a large lot of ammunition and materials of war.

No mention is made of the present position of Hardee's force, which had been estimated at 15,000.

The dispatches of General Sherman to General Foster are as follows:

Savannah, Dec. 22.—His Excellency, President Lincoln:—I present you as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah, with one hundred and fifty heavy guns and plenty of ammunition, and also about 25,000 bales of cotton.

[Signed] W. T. SHERMAN, Major General.

STEAMER GOLDEN GATE, SAVANNAH, Dec. 23, 7 o'clock p. m.

Lieut.-Gen. Grant and Maj. Gen. Halleck:

I have just returned from General Sherman's headquarters in Savannah. I and Major Geary, of my staff, are bearers of dispatches from Gen. Sherman to the Secretary of War. We left Savannah the morning of the 21st. Gen. Hardee escaped with the main body of his infantry and light artillery on the morning of the 20th, by crossing the river to Union, opposite the city. The rebel iron clads were blown up and the navy yard was burned. All the rest of the city is in our hands, and contains 20,000 citizens, well behaved. The captures include 800 prisoners, 150 guns, 130 locomotives in good order, 190 cars, a large supply of ammunition and materials of war, three steamers and 33,000 bales of cotton, safely stored in warehouses.

All these valuables, the fruits of an almost bloody victory, have been, like Atlanta, fairly won, and I opened communication with the city with my steamers to-day, taking up what torpedoes we could, and passing safely over others. Arrangements are made to clear the channel of all obstructions.

Yours, &c., J. G. FOSTER.

The Richmond papers of yesterday state that on the 23d twenty-six vessels of the Wilmington expedition had re-appeared.

The dispatch of Gen. Bragg is published in the Richmond papers, as follows:

"*Wilmington, Dec. 23.*—Twenty-six vessels of the Federal fleet re-appeared this morning. There has been no change since my last dispatch."

The above is the latest intelligence received concerning the Wilmington expedition.

(Signed) EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—The Associated Press letter from Fort Monroe, dated five p. m., Dec. 23th, says: The mail steamer has arrived.

A telegraph operator, named Baker, belonging to one of the chief offices in Richmond, escaped night before last, and having succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the rebel pickets, made his way successfully into our lines. He was subjected to a severe examination by General Grant, and said that intelligence of the fall of Savannah, and the capture of the entire forces, 13,000 in number, commanded by General Hardee, had reached Richmond a few hours before he made his escape.

There was a report prevailing at the same time, that Fort Fisher, commanding the entrance to Wilmington, had also fallen, through a combined attack, by Gen. Butler's and Admiral Porter's forces, but this could not be traced to any reliable source.

The spirits of the citizens of Richmond, he declared, were very much depressed, and it was with difficulty that the authorities could exercise any influence whatever over the press and the citizens, such were their frantic manifestations of contempt for the action of the rebels.

General Griffin is a passenger in the Thomas Collier, and places the utmost confidence in the statement of Baker, and is of the opinion that the report of the capture of Fort Fisher is true, the extensive preparation made by General Butler on the expedition, warranting this early surrender.

MAIL ROBBER PARDONED.

Sprinkling Streets with Salt Prohibited.

SENTENCE FOR COUNTERFEITING, etc., etc.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The President has granted an unconditional pardon to Wm. Tuckerman, who was convicted of robbing the mails between New York and Boston about eight years ago. He was sentenced for twenty years. Since his imprisonment his conduct is said to have been such as to gain the sympathy of all connected with the prison.

An ordinance passed the Board of Aldermen to-day prohibiting the sprinkling of streets with salt for the purpose of melting the snow, under penalty.

Wm. Curtis Noyes, a distinguished lawyer, has had a dangerous paralytic attack.

The leader of the Port Jervis gang of counterfeiters has been sentenced to hard labor in state prison for five years.

Foote's Withdrawal from the Rebel Senate—Overthrow of the Administration.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Herald* says, editorially: Foote's recent withdrawal from the rebel Senate and his accompanying speech indicate that the rebel administration is about to be overthrown and General Lee appointed Dictator. It thinks that Dictatorship is a short road to peace, and is intended as such. The Confederate Government being committed never to make peace, brings into existence a power that can and will make it.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

Arrival of the Prize Steamer Julia.

A GUNBOAT BLOWN UP AT MOBILE.

Order Respecting Arms and Ammunition in Possession of Citizens.

THE MARKETS, &c.

CAIRO, Dec. 24.—The steamer Niagara with dates from New Orleans to the 17th, has arrived. The Evening Star, from New York, has arrived. The General Cromwell for New York left on the 17th.

The prize schooner Julia, of Nassau, with an assorted cargo, was captured off Brazos river by a United States steamer on December 5th, and she has arrived at New Orleans.

The gunboat Narcissus was blown up in Mobile bay on the 9th by a torpedo. No lives were lost, but several persons scalded. All her material was saved. The boat probably will be raised.

Cotton is in good request at $1,18@1.20; sugar and molasses firmer and held at 20@24 for the former. Flour receipts are mostly for forwarding.

General Dana has ordered that all the arms, ammunition and military pyrotechnics of private citizens, by military permission, be shipped north of Cairo previous to the first day of January. Any person found south of Cairo with such property or materials used for their manufacture will be arrested and imprisoned.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—New Orleans dates of the 17th, by the steamship George Cromwell, say that an order in relation to the sales of arms and ammunition, similar to General Dana's at Memphis, has been issued and being rigidly enforced. Orders were also issued on the 14th, prohibiting all persons endeavoring to bring in products, without proper military permits, under a new regulation.

The following particulars of the destruction of the Narcissus, have been received: Previous to the occurrence, the Narcissus had been stationed near the obstructions to watch the enemy's gunboat. She moored thereto half a mile down the bay, anchoring in nine feet water. Just after anchoring, a torpedo exploded under her, which lifted her out of water, broke her steam pipes and machinery, and filled her with escaping steam. She began to fill rapidly, and made signals of distress, which were answered by the Octoroona and Cowslip; the latter came alongside. Men, guns, powder, provisions and other stores were saved. Three persons were scalded, two seriously. The boat can easily be raised.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The steamer George Cromwell, from New Orleans, arrived last evening.

The managers of the Ladies' Association, having objected to display the National flag, on the ground of its being a holiday, Gen. Hurlbut sent a note, saying it was the symbol of the Constitution under whose protection they are, and ordered it to be immediately placed over the principal entrance of their hall, or the place be instantly closed. The arrest of any one insulting the flag was also ordered.

LATE REBEL INTELLIGENCE.

THE REBELS SMARTING UNDER THEIR REVERSES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 21st has an indefinite report that the rebel Breckinridge had two engagements with the National forces under Burbridge or Stoneman on last Sunday and Monday near Glade Spring, South Western Virginia, and defeated them, and compelled them to retreat precipitately towards East Tennessee.

The rebel salt works at Saltville were reported to be still safe; though 3,000 lbs. of bacon at the works at Marion are destroyed.

The rebel Colonel Scott, in an order dated at Clinton, Louisiana, directs that all prisoners captured while going in the direction of the Union lines, with cotton to sell to the Yankees, shall be punished with one hundred lashes each.

Some of the Richmond editors, writhing and smarting under the late succession of disasters to their armies, abuse Jeff. Davis in severe language, charging his meddling in military matters as the cause of all their misfortunes.

The Richmond *Sentinel*, of the 20th, says: It is reported that the Yankees have evacuated Decherd, Tullahoma and Shelbyville.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 21st, says the army in Tennessee has been terribly misused and has suffered awful injury, but it may be restored to full efficiency by the hand that did it after Missionary Ridge—Johnson.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 20th says: The Government has received official dispatches from Savannah, dated Dec. 19, saying all was well.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A *Herald* Washington dispatch of the 24th says: Richmond papers of the 24th contain official dispatches from Wilmington of yesterday which say, in regard to the situation at that place, that as yet no attempt had been made to attack the forts, in consequence of the storm. Rebel papers also contain a rumor that Charleston, and probably Savannah had been evacuated.

A rebel dispatch dated Wilmington the 20th, says: The enemy's fleet, thirty odd, appeared off New Inlet this morning.

The Richmond *Dispatch*, of the 23d, says: The enemy keep up an incessant bombardment on our lines, between the Jerusalem Road, and the Appomattox. The force sent out under Palmer is supposed to have gone to operate against them.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 23d says that Breckinridge had beaten Burbridge's raiders near Glade Springs. An unofficial dispatch says the damage done the lead works was slight and is being speedily repaired.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 23d says: Official information was received at Columbia that the enemy, numbering 5,000 men, were on the Ohio and Mobile road, north of the Mississippi railroad.

The *Examiner* also says it has no advices from Hood, but fears he is in a bad fix.

Jordan Magraw, has been recently elected Governor of South Carolina. He is in the prime of life and fully endued with the State Rights views of the South Carolina school of politics.

The *Whig* of the 23d has an article on the dark day of the Confederacy, and says that Hood has been badly defeated, but says he can learn a lesson of endurance from Early, and if his defeat proves different from what it is, it will be the first instance of the kind of the war.

Late rebel papers give additional accounts of Gen. Davidson's work from Baton Rouge across the southern portions of four or five Gulf States; among other work, portions of the Mobile & Great Northern Railroad were destroyed.

The rebel City Marshal of Atlanta, recently returned to that place, complains bitterly of the conduct of the Georgians who have been there, carrying off from fifty to three hundred loads per day of iron, furniture, wagons, window-blinds, door-locks, books, lumber, &c. They come from fifty to one hundred miles in every direction.

Most of the rebel papers is occupied in lamentations over disasters fallen upon the arms of the Confederacy.

The Richmond *Whig* of 22d says: At last accounts Savannah was closely invested on the south and west by Sherman. The Yankee papers state that their iron clads are about to move up the river to prevent our troops from evacuating the place if they are so disposed.

The Richmond *Examiner* thus alludes editorially to the Wilmington expedition: Of all the mammoth armadas yet sent forth by the North, Porter and Butler's expedition against Wilmington is perhaps the mammothest. The Confederacy, we apprehend, is not to be deprived this time of its chief port of entry for foreign commerce; neither is it our only one, for many vessels do even now enter many another harbor, which the enemy flatters himself he has hermetically sealed long ago.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 22d says they have no intelligence from Tennessee, except through Northern papers, but that if half told is true, Hood has suffered severely. It says there is much reason to hope that the reported death of Forrest is untrue, as it comes from General Rosseau.

STATES RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS TABLED.

Union Raid on Gordonsville Reported.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Richmond *Whig* of the 22d contains the proceedings of the North Carolina House of Commons, by which it appears that resolutions declaring that the States in their sovereign capacity have a right to decide the question of peace or war for themselves, were tabled by two majority.

The *Whig* says: Several days since a raiding party came up from the Peninsula and cut the Mobile and Great Northern Railroad at Pollard's, 79 miles east of Mobile, and then retired to Gordonsville.

It was reported yesterday that two divisions of the enemys cavalry had crossed the Blue Ridge at Chester's Gap and arrived at Madison Court House, southwest moving on Gordonsville. We also learn that the telegraph wires were cut on Tuesday night seven miles from Gordonsville. It is supposed to be done by a Yankee spy. No apprehension is felt for the safety of Gordonsville, even if the above report is not greatly exaggerated, as there has been ample time to concentrate a force to move the raiders.

FIVE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

Congratulatory Address in Regard to Mr. Lincoln's Re-election.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS VIEWED WITH THE GREATEST INTEREST.

&c., &c., &c.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 24.—The steamship Russian, from Liverpool on the 15th, via Londonderry, arrived off Cape Race at three o'clock this afternoon. She was boarded by the news boat of the Associated Press, and a summary of her news obtained, which is five days later than that per the Africa, at Boston.

The news by the Peruvian is of no special importance.

The British emancipation Secretary had presented a congratulatory address to Mr. Adams, the American minister, upon Mr. Lincoln's re-election.

The American advices, in view of Sherman's progress in Georgia, and Hood's operations in Tennessee, were received with the greatest interest.

The *Globe* says: Since the beginning of the war, there was never greater interests at stake.

The London *Times* urges the opening of negotiations in regard to the American war, saying that it must come to this at last, and the sooner it does come the better it will be for America and the world at large.

The sales of cotton in the Liverpool market for the last three days amount to 18,000 bales, and the market closing unchanged. Breadstuffs steady. Provisions have a downward tendency. Produce market is full. Consols 89 3-16@89½ for money.

The London *Times* says that the war, unless ended by negotiation and mutual compromise, must go on, until the South is made into a wilderness and the North prostrated, financially and commercially, for years.

London Money Market.—Gold continued to flow into the Bank of England, but there were large withdrawals for exports. A further immediate reduction in the bank rate of discount was made.

Latest via Londonderry—Liverpool, Dec. 16.—Cotton broker's circulars reports the sales of the week at 42,000 bales. The market is easier, and the authorized quotations are: Fair Orleans, at 29¾d; Middling, 26½d; Mobile Fair 27½d; Middling, 26¼d; Uplands, 27d, Middling, 25¾d. Sales to-day (Friday) of 6,000 bales. Closed quiet and unchanged. Stock in port is estimated at 216,000 bales, of which 153,000 are American. Breadstuffs quiet and steady. Provisions quiet and steady, except Lard which is slightly lower and Bacon which is excited.

London, Dec. 16.—Consols for money, 89½@89¾. Bullion in the Bank of England has increased £28,000. The bank minimum rate of interest has been reduced to six per cent.

Foreign files by the steamship Africa bring three days later news from Japan.

The Prince of Nagato having refused to pay the stipulated war indemnity, the Tycoon ordered his palaces to be destroyed and the Prince to death. Six hundred and thirty servants were executed, when the Prince offered to pay the stipulated sum, and asked all foreign representatives to intercede for him.

VICE ADMIRAL FARRAGUT'S PROMOTION.

FIFTY APPLICANTS FOR MINISTER TO FRANCE.

The Disclosures of Operations Against Wilmington.

REBEL VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE RESOLUTIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Vice Admiral Farragut is expected in Washington to-morrow, when his commission as Vice Admiral, and the Congressional resolution of thanks, inscribed upon parchment, will be presented to him.

The *World's* Washington special says: The President has received applications in the form of fifty different gentlemen, for Minister to France.

The *Herald's* special says: The War and Navy Departments are engaged in ferreting out the authors of the contraband publication, concerning the operations against Wilmington, and are determined to punish them severely. It is feared these disclosures may cause more loss of life than would otherwise have been necessary.

The Legislature of Virginia last Tuesday fill an honorable peace can be obtained, and pledging Virginia, to make every sacrifice possible for such end; that the sovereign power of making peace is wisely entrusted in the hands of the Government, and propositions of the enemy to any State to treat for separate peace are insidious and inadmissible.

GENERAL DAVIDSON'S GREAT RAID.

Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida Visited.

LARGE QUANTITIES OF REBEL SUPPLIES DESTROYED.

Guerrilla Operations on the Mississippi Continued.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Gen. Davidson and his division of Union cavalry, some accounts of whose raiding operations in the lower parts of Louisiana were some time ago republished from rebel papers, have arrived safely at Pascagoula, Louisiana, from Baton Rouge, which place they left on the 27th of November last. They moved through the southern portions of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and the western portion of Florida, meeting with little opposition, and destroying large quantities of supplies, occupying a number of towns, tearing up railroad tracks, burning bridges, capturing a number of prisoners, and two valuable mails, and inflicting immense damage generally on the enemy.

These operations caused great consternation among the rebels in the country through which they passed. Their casualties were two killed, eight wounded and forty captured.

The rebel guerrillas and bushwhackers continue their depredations on the plantations along the Mississippi river, above New Orleans, but they have nearly ceased firing on unarmed transports.

Union Raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF REBEL STORES DESTROYED.

Fights Reported at Zollicoffer.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 23.—Rebel papers contain the following:

Lynchburg, Va., Dec. 14.—Passengers by the stages report that a party of a raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, at Bristol, Tenn. The enemy are supposed to be a portion of Burbridge's command from Bean Station. They advanced rapidly and entered the town at five o'clock in the morning, and destroyed a considerable amount of Government stores, an engine and train on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, and one eastward-bound train on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, between Bristol and Abingdon.

No positive intelligence of the enemy's number has been received, but they are supposed to have been five or six thousand.

A body of the enemy, returning towards Ream's station, encountered our forces at Zollicoffer, a station on the East Tennessee railroad, nine miles west of Bristol, where a fight was said to be progressing at last accounts.

Gold, Stocks, Railway Speculations, Rumors, &c.

NEW YORK, December 24.—Railway speculation was more buoyant this morning, and there was a general improvement. There was more demand for stocks, partly on orders from out of town; but after all, the market was steady, with very few changes from the Board quotations. Governments were quite active and decidedly stronger. The Sub-Treasurer has received no official notification in regard to the 10-40 loan, and subscriptions are still open to the public. The coal and miscellaneous list was stronger, but without any special feature.

A few rumors were in circulation at the gold room to-day, which an adjourned until Tuesday morning. The market is weak. There is no session of the evening Board, to-night. Money was easier to-day than yesterday, holders being desirous of securing an extra days' interest.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Gold is weak and lower. The adjournment of business until Tuesday produces an indisposition to buy, and transactions were nominal at 221@221¼.

An interesting discovery has been made that some of the gold-bags transferred in sales have been tampered with, and instead of containing gold, the coin is mixed with stones, old iron, new pennies, old brass, and other make-weights.

REPORTED ATTACK ON THE DEFENSES OF WILMINGTON.

The Pirates Chickamauga, Tallahassee and Several Iron Clads Inside.

A NAVAL ACTION EXPECTED.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *World* thinks Porter's attack on the Wilmington defenses took place yesterday. It gives the names of heavy vessels that are to lie outside and shell Ft. Fisher. They are the Colorado, Powhattan, Wabash, Minnesota, Susquehanna, and New Ironsides, in all mounting 301 guns of large caliber and long range, and capable of being fired very rapidly. It is thought a few hours bombardment would reduce the forts sufficiently to allow light-draught vessels to enter. A naval fight is expected after the forts are passed. The pirates Chickamauga and Tallahassee are reported inside, and several blockade-runners have been armed.

It is rumored that the rebels have some iron-clads on the Cape Fear River, that will take part in the action. The banks of the river from its mouth to Wilmington are supposed to be strongly fortified.

The rebel force is estimated at 15,000, and it is rumored that it has been reinforced from Carleston and Augusta.

Many military and naval men think that the capture of the forts and the closing of the river is the only object of the expedition.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The heavy gale experienced by Porter's expedition may cause delay, and possibly compel its return to Fortress Monroe. The sea-sickness was very exhaustive to the negro troops.

MORE OF THE ST. ALBANS RAID

The Captures of Blockade Runners.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The *Times* says, editorially, that our Government should insist upon the return of the St. Albans money found in possession of the raiders, without regard to the decision in the case. The raiders themselves say that the question raised was not on the fact of the robbing, but on an entirely different point.

A Montreal paper says: If $225,000 was stolen from the St. Albans Bank, by the raiders, $90,000 was plundered from them by persons who gave them shelter across the Canadian border.

A London letter says: The recent captures of numerous blockade runners is seriously affecting the parties engaged. The vessels lately taken were owned by the Albion Stock Company and other companies. If these losses continue, the companies will be ruined.

Dr. Brown, Superintendent of the Bloomingdale Lunatic Asylum, testified yesterday that one of the leading New York dailies was, principally, edited by inmates of that asylum.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE 10-40 LOAN.

Three Cases of Conscience Brought to Light.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The subscriptions to the 10-40 loan, for the week ending with Saturday, amounted to $2,965,854, and to the 7-30 loan, $5,234,000.

Three cases of conscience have recently been brought to the notice of the Treasury Department. An officer in New York, being in doubt as to the propriety of having drawn a regular salary of $125.00, has returned the money, with the request that one half of it be considered as the property of the Government and the other half as his individual contribution to the cause of Uncle Sam. Another anonymous correspondent returns $152.50, but desires no publication of the fact; while the third, transmitting $2,575, requests his receipt to be acknowledged through a New York newspaper.

NAVIGATION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER.

CANADIAN TROUBLE PROBABLY SETTLED.

Financial and Commercial Matters.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Commercial's* Washington special says: The weather is moderating and the prospects are that navigation will soon be resumed on the Potomac.

The *Post's* Washington special says: Latest advices from Canada render it certain that there will be no trouble between our Government and the authorities of that Province.

The receipts at the Collectors Revenue Bureau, during the month of December, amounts to $20,000,000.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that Scrap Iron, hereafter taxed, is not subject to tax under the Internal Revenue Law; a tax upon it in the ore having already been paid.

SHERMAN'S BASE FULLY ESTABLISHED.

THE CITY PROBABLY ALREADY IN OUR HANDS.

Augusta Sherman's Next Field of Operations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—There is no later intelligence from Gen. Sherman beyond that already telegraphed. Military men direct from Fort McAllister are confident the city is already in our hands; at least the garrison can hold out but a few days. Sherman's base is fully established; he is receiving everything he desires in the way of supplies and ammunition. A large mail was sent to-day by the Fulton.

A private letter from an officer in Sherman's army says: After the fall of Savannah, the army will probably move to Augusta and capture that place, to hold as a new base of operations.

From San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—Business is at a stand still, owing to the roads being blockaded by mud, and freight communication across the Sierra Nevadas is prevented. The overland mail from the Atlantic States and mails to November 28th. The steamer Golden Age sailed to day with a small number of passengers and $1,058,000 in treasure, of which only $500,000 goes to New York. The remainder is for England and Mexico. The sailing of the next mail steamer is postponed until the Fourth of January, on account of the holidays.

A Rebel Raid.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 24.—General Lyon's forces, estimated at from two to five thousand cavalry, with six pieces of artillery, struck the Louisville and Nashville railroad at Elizabethtown, destroyed a few unimportant spans over Bacon creek, then turned north, and are now threatening the important trestle works at Muldrough's Hill. Lagrange's brigade of McCook's division is close upon Lyon's rear, and our military authorities are prepared to give him a warm reception.

The Rebel General Preston's Family in Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—The wife, son and daughter of the rebel Gen. Preston, of Kentucky, came as passengers in the steamer Africa. Orders from the War Department refused them permission to land, and also declined their request to leave by rail for Canada. They therefore remain on the steamer to be carried back from whence they came.

Formal Opening of the Pacific Railroad from Kansas City to Lawrence.

ST. LOUIS, Dec 24.—The formal opening of the Union Pacific railroad from Kansas City to Lawrence, Kansas, took place on Monday, and on Wednesday last a grand jollification was had at each end of the road. Daily trains are now running between the points named.

Extensive Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—An extensive fire occurred on Beekman street last night. The loss is $150,000. The sufferers are James E. Halsey & Co., Hardware Auctioneers, $10,000; S. Gicun & Bro., Hardware, 15,000; Foster & Tower, Hardware, $8,000. Bassett & Mace, Johns & Scott Edward Barnes & Co.'s losses are unknown.

Christmas—Fire.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The Federal Government Departments will be closed on Monday, in order to enable the employees to enjoy Christmas holiday. The main building of the Kalarmi Small Pox Hospital, under Government control, was this evening destroyed by fire, which originated in the Chaplain's room. The patients were all safely removed.

Death of an Ex-Member of Congress.

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—Hon. James M. Wood, formerly member of Congress from Maine, died this morning at the Revere House from an attack of lung fever. He was forty-nine years old.

Mosby Again Reported Killed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A special to the *Tribune* from Washington, kills Mosby again, by a report from Fredmont.

THE EXCHANGED UNION PRISONERS

Porter's Fleet Rumored Returning.

AFFAIRS IN THE POTOMAC ARMY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The *Herald's* Washington special says: The total number of Union prisoners received by Col. Mulford from rebel prisons is 10,039 enlisted men and over 200 officers. Of this number over 500 have died since they were received at the point of exchange. Those prisoners are such as were declared by rebel surgeons as unfit for duty for sixty days.

The *Sunday Mercury's* Washington special gives the rumor that Porter's fleet is returning to Fortress Monroe, on account of the supply of coal not being sufficient for the contemplated operations.

A special from the Army of the Potomac says: A separate burial ground has been assigned to each division of the army.

Boards for the examination of Quartermasters and Commissaries, as prescribed by Congress, are in session at Army Headquarters.

The presentation of a battle-flag, by Gen. Gregg, to the 2d Brigade of 2d Cavalry Division, is mentioned.

Subscriptions have been started in the Army of the James for erecting a monument to the memory of Gen. Birney.

FROM THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

Cavalry Fight Near Harrisonburg.

SHERIDAN'S FORCES ADVANCING.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Gen. Custar, of Sheridan's cavalry, last Thursday made an attack on the rebel cavalry under Rosser, nine miles north of Harrisonburg, in the Shenandoah valley.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 23d says: Sheridan's infantry has come up the valley to a point between Harrisonburg and New Market. His advance, it is supposed, is intended as a diversion in favor of the early movement on this place. Early has marched out to meet him. The mounted force which has crossed the mountains is 4,000. They were yesterday in Madison county.

Affairs at Mobile.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A gentleman who left Mobile says two-thirds of the people are hoping for the capture of the city. Much seven thousand troops are stationed at Mobile—all militia except one small brigade—and two iron-clads, both deficient in propelling power.

Match between Mace and Coburn Probable.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Sporting men say Jee Coburn is expecting to make a match with Mace as soon as the latter arrives. The fight will probably take place in Canada.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

No Paper To-Morrow Morning.

In order to give our employees an opportunity of engaging in the Christmas festivities, no paper will be issued on to-morrow morning. Our evening edition, however, will appear on Tuesday afternoon, as usual.

Allegheny Primary Meetings.

The Union Republicans of Allegheny city held their primary elections on Saturday, for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for Mayor and ward officers. Below will be found the result:

	FOR MAYOR.			
	Morrison.	McVicker.	Robertson.	
1st ward	122	171	5	
2d do 1st pct.	111	117	10	
2d do 2d pct.	51	97	25	
3d do 3d pct.	22	97	10	
4th do 1st pct.	222	89	8	
4th do 2d pct.	122	77	8	
Total	701	653	73	

Morrison's majority over McVicker, 142; over all, 68.

DIRECTOR OF THE POOR.

Mr. Emory Gleasor, of the Fourth Ward, was nominated without opposition, enough in Ward Ward, where William Chambers received 129 votes, and William Murdoch seventy-seven.

Common Council—Simon Drum, Geo. A. McCline, Chas. W. Benney, Alexander Hunna.

School Directors—Samuel Riddle, John Scott.

Alderman—John Dyer, sr.

Assessor—Simeon Bulford.

Judge of Elections—Samuel Thompson, jr.

Inspector of Elections—Charles F. Ingrain, Wm. H. Brown.

Return Inspectors—Jas. D. McGill, Wm. H. Robinson.

Constable—Samuel Irwin.

SECOND WARD.

Select Council—Reese J. Thomas.

Common Council—John Thompson, Jos. McDonald, J. W. Hall, Robert Ashworth.

School Directors—John Brown, jr., H. M. Dunlap.

Assessor—James Ramsey.

Judge of Elections—Christian Straight.

Inspectors of Elections—Isaac Long, Wm. Tate, jr.

Return Inspectors—J. T. Stockdale, Wm. H. Alexander.

Constable—Joseph Best.

THIRD WARD.

Select Council—James McBrier.

Common Council—Francis Torrence, John Robb, A. H. English, George E. Bellstein.

School Directors—C. C. Boyle, Dr. James Brown, James Thorn.

Assessor—Robert B. Ray.

Judge of Elections—John Holmes, 1st precinct; C. C. Smith, 2d precinct.

Inspectors of Elections—S. W. McGinnis, Jos. McNaughter, 1st precinct; Jacob Schaffer, Louis Schaffer, 2d precinct.

Constable—Louis Schaffer.

FOURTH WARD.

Select Council—Jas. Marshall.

Common Council—P. R. Hill; Hugh McNeil, Wm. Smith, E. F. A. Falhauber.

Alderman—J. S. Brown.

Assessor—James Graham.

School Directors—R. C. Loomis, Robt. Bole.

Judges of Elections—J. C. Patterson, 1st precinct; Louis Moul, 2d precinct.

Inspectors of Elections—Geo. Humbert, R. B. McGraw, 1st precinct; J. S. Slagle, C. W. Shaffer, 2d precinct.

Return Inspectors—J. J. Stephenson, Benj. Kennedy, 1st precinct; Wm. Brown, Adolph Ehlers, 2d precinct.

Constable—Wm. Hobson.

Tennyson Club Lecture Committee.

By advertisement elsewhere it will be perceived that the Tennyson Club have resolved to issue season tickets for the remaining Lectures and Readings of their course at the very reasonable price of two dollars each. Our readers are fully acquainted with this new association which has entered into the lecture arrangement, not, however, with any idea of pecuniary benefits, but for the sole purpose of elevating the literary character and tastes of our people to a standard much higher than it has ever attained. Under the auspices of the Tennyson Club three very acceptable literary entertainments have already been given this season, and a glance at the engagements for the remaining part of the course assures all that their lecture committee are determined to perform their whole duty towards the intellectual community. With the splendid course of Lectures and Readings offered by the Mercantile Library Association, and the equally good one of the Tennyson Club, there can be no cause for complaint of a scarcity of moral entertainment this winter. We trust that the efforts of both associations to meet a public want will be appreciated and seconded by the encouragement of all our citizens.

Return of an Escaped Prisoner.

Joseph Allen, Sergeant Major of the 100th Pennsylvania regiment (Roundheads), arrived at his father's residence, in Elizabeth township, on Thursday last, much to the surprise of his parents and the neighbors. Mr. Allen was captured, with others of his regiment, at the springing of the "mine" in front of Petersburg last summer, and taken to Danville, N. C. The rebels had detailed the most able-bodied prisoners to chop timber for their fortifications, which the Yankee boys did not relish very well, and concluded to make a "strike" for liberty. One morning, as they were going out to the timber, they overpowered the guard and escaped. Allen says about one hundred made the attempt, but he cannot tell how many succeeded. Nine others came in with him, via Knoxville. Maj. Leasure was among the number who made the attempt, but has not been heard from since.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—Coroner Clawson was yesterday called upon to hold an inquest on the body of a man named Robert Mason, a miner employed in the works of Kier, Foster & Kier, in Penn township. It appears that deceased had gone, in company with some friends, to a tavern somewhere in the vicinity, and that on his return home, about ten o'clock, he lost his way and wandered about a mile in the wrong direction, and while near Shade's run, fell over a precipice some forty feet in height and broke his neck. He was about forty years of age, and leaves a wife and two children. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The New City Hall, Allegheny.

This fine building is at last complete, and occupied by the several city officers. We deem the event of sufficient importance to note the fact, and to congratulate the citizens of Allegheny upon their public spirit and good taste.

The building is located at the corner of Federal and Ohio streets, in the geographical centre of the city, and not far from the centre of population; it is two-storied, built of pressed brick, and roofed with slate; the outside finish is of iron.

In the basement, which is well ventilated and lighted, are the

CELLS FOR PRISONERS.

Five in number, reached by a well-lighted corridor, reaching from the police room, in the southwest corner to an apartment in the north-west angle, set apart as a temporary lodging for any unfortunate persons thrown upon the hospitalities of this honor, and guilty of no crime. Each cell is thoroughly lighted and ventilated, with a soil pipe in each, purified by a constant stream of hydrant water. The other portions of the basement are occupied by the Superintendent of Water Works for storing tools, &c., coal vaults, water closets, etc. A private stair case leads from the police room and cells to the

MAYOR'S OFFICE,

Consisting of a public and private room, connecting by folding doors, located above the police room and cells, in the south-west centre. The main entrance to the Mayor's office is by the Ohio street front; there is also a private entrance from the main hall, in the rear of the office.

THE CITY POSTOFFICE,

Is located in the north end of the building, consisting of a spacious public room in the northeast corner, reaching from Ohio street to the north, or through the main hall from Federal street. A semi-circular desk some forty feet in length, is the chief feature of the Treasury, upon which the box books of the several Wards are arranged, while the Treasurer and his assistants operate upon "interior lines," transferring reinforcements from Ward to Ward with great facility, as the taxpaying public, at certain seasons of the fiscal year, make more or less serious demonstrations upon his "abattis." A neat room for the Treasurer's private business connects with the public office, containing a spacious vault, fire and burglar proof, for the safe keeping of the city archives and funds. The Finance Committee of Councils also hold their stated meetings in this room.

THE WATER COMMITTEE ROOM.

Is on the Federal street front, near the centre of the building, entrance from Federal street. Here the Superintendent of Water Works, or some of his assistants, may daily be found, to receive orders regarding the important public function under his control. Here, also, the Water Committee meet at certain seasons, to hear appeals from the Water assessments.

THE RECORDING REGULATOR.

Has suitable accommodations in a room in the rear of the Water Committee, entered from the main hall, with a spacious fire proof, for the safe keeping of the city maps and surveys.

THE MAIN HALL.

Approached from Federal street, or from the west front, gives access to all the apartments on the main floor, to the basement, and by an easy and spacious flight of stairs, to the upper floor. The hall is neatly laid in encaustic tile.

THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Are magnificent rooms, in the North and South ends of the building, each lighted by eleven high windows; the rooms are 31½x51½, corved ceiling, 25 feet clear in height. The chambers are conveniently and tastefully furnished with perfect desks, on a raised platform, for the officients, clerks and reporters of the press, and chairs and desks for the members, arranged in semi-circles, in front, all neatly carpeted. In the rear, opposite the speaker's desk, are the officials, are five rows of elevated seats for the accommodation of the public, who may feel an interest in city legislation. In passing, we may be pardoned for speaking a word in regard to the fact that the interest in the proceedings of Councils, may be increased by the presence of ladies, to give their chosen representatives the advantage of their presence? We have no doubt that the attendance of a fair audience of citizens, at the stated meetings of Councils, would exert a very salutary influence upon city legislation. We therefore refer with pleasure to the ample accommodations provided for this purpose in Allegheny.

THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS

Have their room on the second floor. The room for the use of Conference Committees of Councils, or other regular standing committees, are also on this floor, adjoining the chambers, and each reporter only accessible from the hall. A large room, separating the Council Chambers, and fronting Federal street, 40x30 feet, with a gallery on three sides, is admirably adapted for a

MERCANTILE LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

We have heard of a movement in Allegheny looking towards the establishment of such an association. The "Anderson Library," now in the charge of the city, would be a very good nucleus for an association organizing with the view of erecting a library worthy of the city.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE POOR

Occupy one of two fine rooms on the third floor