THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

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The Pittsburgh Gazette.

VERY LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

ADVICES FROM GEN. SHERMAN.

FLORENCE EVACUATED BY THE REBELS.

Our Army Marching Towards Goldsboro or Raleigh.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS IN PROGRESS.

EXTRACTS FROM REBEL PAPERS.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Anybody *Republican*, just issued, says:

Officers of Gen. Schofield's army, who arrived here this morning from Wilmington, state that when they left that place, on the 1st inst., deserters and refugees who came into our lines on that day, reported that Sherman, by a flank movement, had compelled the rebels to evacuate Florence, S. C., and was moving in the direction of Fayetteville, N. C., which is in a direct route to either Goldsboro or Raleigh.

Richmond papers, of February 28th, say: The Yankee prisoners have all been sent from the camps near this place to North East Bridge for the purpose of being exchanged. Many others from Greensboro and Salisbury have passed through here for the same destination. All the federal prisoners in North Carolina are to be exchanged, we learn, at North East Bridge. We presume the exchange will be effected in a few days.

The Raleigh *Conservative* closes an article on Sherman's movement as follows:

"What will be the result of his present expedition, time will only determine, and the people of the whole country await the news which will solve the problem with intense anxiety."

The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 3d, says:

"We have had no official intelligence from the seat of war in the South, lately, and for two days not even a rumor."

The Hon. Roger A. Pryor, who has just returned from a Northern prison, was in the city yesterday. He is looking well.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 3d, says:

"There was a report yesterday of some firing on the lines around Richmond, but it is hardly to be presumed that there are reports of any important action.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *Tribune* has extracts from Richmond papers. They contain no news from Sherman.

The *Whig* copies from the Raleigh *Conservative* a high compliment to Gen. Johnston's ability, and the expectation that he will put a stop to Sherman's movements. It thinks Sherman's movements through the country will unite the people against the Yankees, and intimate that the Confederate cause is the better strengthened.

The *Whig* says the *Sentinel* of the previous day states on authority, that the Secretary of the Treasury will be gratified to receive donations of money, bonds, plate and other valuable articles, with the view of rollering the Treasury and enabling it to pay some of the meritorious claims outstanding against the Government. The *Sentinel* adds that many offers of contributions have already been made, some of them of the most liberal character and all indicating the existence of a very general disposition to come to the assistance of the Government in a practicable and acceptable manner.

The *Whig* declares that the rebel treasury is nearly exhausted, and has issued nearly all the notes permitted by law. The army must be paid, and money must be raised to-day, and the only practicable way to accomplish the object is by getting money enough to back up the accepted of the Government. This can be done by taking advantage of the liberal and patriotic spirit which undoubtedly exists among the people. Contributions in any form will be received. Coin, plate, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, and currency; but for the present purpose currency first and then bonds are preferable. It is intended to acknowledge these advances from time to time, through public prints. Committees of collection should immediately be formed in every town and county.

The *Examiner* says: "The hanging of Capt. Gee on authority of President Lincoln is exciting deep indignation in this community where the deceased had many friends."

The *Sentinel* opposes the movement for a State Convention and says: "The call for a convention in North Carolina and Georgia is a form in which openly disloyal men of those States are making opposition to the Confederacy and exhibiting their treason. In the name of the people we call upon the House of Delegates to put its heel on it, and with emphasis, on the convention scheme."

The *Whig* announces the appointment of an agent to collect old muskets and says: We call upon the ladies generally, to interest themselves in this matter, as many of them already have done. Let them ransack every nook and corner in quest of arms and equipments, and report the result.

In the rebel House an animated discussion occurred on the conduct of North Carolina and other troops. Some members charged their with opposition to conscription and cowardice in the field, which others denied.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 3d says there has been altogether too much talk, and urges Congress to quit speech-making, and go to work or adjourn, and says we don't observe that Sherman will any where stopped by a thousand rounds of oratorical parrot guns, which Governor Moore and other public speakers have fired off at his advancing columns. Unless representatives of the people take the field themselves, and secure a position closely to the enemy that he can hear what they say, we have no hope that he will put his fingers to his ears and run for his life.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

REBEL RAMS QUESTION.

Debate on the Defenses of Canada and American Affairs.

THE MARKETS, &c.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The steamer City of Baltimore, from Liverpool on the 23d and Queenstown on the 22d of February, arrived here at 10 o'clock to-night. The Cuba arrived at Liverpool and the Virginia arrived at Queenstown on the 21st of February, and the Peruvian was off Londonderry on the 22d.

The statement that the French government had sent away war vessels in pursuit of the rebel rams Stonewall and Olinde was denied.

The Cuba's news, confirming the failure of the peace negotiations, caused a slight depression in American securities, and an improvement in Cotton, but this improvement afterwards was lost.

It is stated that the steamers Niagara and Sacramento were at Terral, or cruising off there, watching the new rebel steam ram Stonewall, which was alleged to be unseaworthy.

In the House of Lords there was an important debate on the defenses of Canada. Lord Lyndon called attention to the matter, and pointed to the hostile feelings of Americans, and urged immediate measures for the defense of the province.

Earl De Gay and Ripon admitted the importance of the question but regretted that any doubt should be expressed on the conciliatory intentions of the American Government. He explained the measures proposed by the Government and would ask a vote of fifty thousand pounds for Quebec defenses, while the Canadians would undertake the defense of Montreal.

Earl Derby thought the position of the government was humiliating when the question of peace or war depended on the excited populace, with strong prejudices against England, and strongly censured the government for having so long delayed the defenses, and ridiculed the smallness; and Foote mocked Granville if he thought Derby's views exaggerated; but as long as Canada took a fair share, he thought England bound to assist the colony.

Malmesbury and Elenborough complained of the small sum asked.

Russell regretted the discussion and stated that the Government declined to make a movement while Canadians declined to take measures themselves, but as they now show a different position the Government comes forward to assist.

In reply to Derby, Ministers said the subject of naval forces for the lakes, owing to the legislation of the Convention, was under consideration.

This debate caused a depression in funds and a slight fall in consols.

The *Daily News* credited Lyndon and Derby with having raised the most mischief in the debate.

The government will take no measures for a naval force on the Lakes, as the Washington government has explained its action as entirely of a temporary character.

Field Marshal Lord Condermere is dead.

The British army and navy estimates before Parliament show material reduction in changes.

The official Yellow Book, laid before the French Legislature says: France continues neutral in the American question, she has confined herself to the condition of the French subjects in America, and regrets the demands for reparation of injuries were not responded to in a manner expected from Washington.

The Queen of Spain agreed to the sale of the immense property forming the royal patrimony, for the benefit of the Spanish nation.

There is a ministerial crisis in Portugal.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 23, P. M.—The cotton market opened on Monday at a partial improvement under the Cuba news, but subsequently the improvement was lost. Sales in three days of 14,000 bales.

Trade at Manchester on Monday showed better hope, but on Tuesday business was very dull.

Breadstuffs—Richardson, Spence & Co., and others, report Flour quiet but steady; Wheat firmer, holders demanded an advance which checked business; Corn without material change.

Provisions—Bacon, Ashyes & Co., and others, report Beef and Pork without change; Bacon steady; Lard quiet and in ½ cwt. easier; Tallow very dull and rather lower; Butter unchanged.

Produce—Ashes; small sales of Pots at 30s 3d; Pearls 31s; Linseed Oil unchanged.

Petroleum—Flat, at 1s 10d@1s 11½d for refined.

LONDON MARKETS.—*Breadstuffs*—Firmer. Tallow dull, at 40s 6d@40s 9d. Linseed Oil 38s 6d.

LATEST FROM THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.—*By Telegraph to Queenstown.—Liverpool, Feb. 13.*—The steamship America arrived out on the 22d, the City of Cork and Damascus on the 23d.

European politics unimportant.

The Peruvian's news caused an improvement in Federal securities.

LATER.—*Liverpool, Feb. 23.*—Cotton firmer but prices unchanged. Sales to-day of 6,000 bales of which speculators and exporters took 2,000. Breadstuffs quiet and steady. Provisions quiet. Tallow still declining. Consols for money 89½@89¾; Illinois Central Shares 52@53; Erie Shares 83¼@83; Five-twenties 53@54.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS RETARDED BY MUD.

Exchange of Gen. Grant's Brother-in-Law, &c.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *Herald's* Army of the Potomac special says: Mud appears to retard to a considerable extent military operations before Richmond. The rain up to Saturday had been so heavy and continuous for some days, as to turn all the roads into sloughs, and has put a stop to all military movements on either side.

The same special says: John Dent, of St. Louis, brother-in-law of Gen. Grant, has just been exchanged, and arrived at headquarters yesterday. He was captured on the Mississippi river a year ago, and was taken to Canton, Miss., and thence to Demopolis. After a short stay at the latter place he was conveyed to Mobile, until sent to Governor Benham of South Carolina, when he was ordered into the hands of the Sheriff in Columbia, and was ten months confined in a corridor five feet wide, which runs around the prison cells. During all this time he was never once outside of his prison walls. With one or two exceptions his treatment was courteous, and all was done for his comfort that his jailors could afford on the insufficient supplies permitted by the rebel government. He was robbed of two thousand dollars at the time of his capture, and was afterwards forced to exchange his clothes for a poorer suit.

Nominations Confirmed—The President Waited upon by the Diplomatic Corps—Naval Appropriations—Cotton Agents.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The Senate has confirmed the following nominations: Major Generals of Volunteers Schofield and Oliver O. Howard to be Brigadier Generals in the regular army, the latter in place of Thomas who has been promoted to Major General. Also the following as Brevet Brigadier Generals in the regular army: Col. Paul, Major Wallen, Captain Essenden. Also the following promotions to Major Generals of Volunteers: Brigadier Generals Jefferson C. Davis, Birge and Brock. Brevet Brigadier Generals Pennypacker and Strolbrand are to be full Brigadier Generals.

Among the civil appointments are the following: Horace Rubleo, of Wisconsin, Consul at Funchal, Maderia, and Jarrot, of Illinois, Indian Agent at the Upper Platte.

The Diplomatic Corps to-day waited on the President, according to custom, to pay their respects to him as the newly sworn in Chief Magistrate. The interview was pleasant and cordial.

The naval appropriation bill appropriates $21,500,000 for completion and repairs of vessels, and for their equipment nearly $6,000,000, and for construction and repair of machinery of vessels in construction over $700,000,000.

WASHINGTON, March 6—The Senate has confirmed the following nominations for Captaincies in the Revenue Cutter service: Wm. A. Howard, Jno. Hall Wilson, Daniel D. Tompkins, J. M. Selden, George G. Baker and Theodore N. Spencer.

The bill to repeal the section of the act which provides for the appointment of agents to purchase Cotton and other products of insurrectionary States, was not vetoed by the President, but it was said, failed to receive his signature, which amounts to about the same thing, namely its failure to become a law.

Rebel Deserters Sent Home.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Twenty-five rebel deserters arrived, on Saturday, from City Point. They reside in Florida and Georgia and deserted from Lee's army on the promise of being sent home. They leave for Savannah and Fernandina to-morrow.

The Elections in New Brunswick.

QUEBEC, March 6.—The result of the elections in New Brunswick will probably be a postponement of the confederation scheme for an indefinite period. The Legislative Union of the Canadas will probably go on.

First Mail from Charleston.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6.—The steamer Massachusetts, which arrived here to-day, had on board the first United States Mail that has left Charleston since the breaking out of the Rebellion.

LATE FROM WILMINGTON.

Deserters and Prisoners Sent North.

SECRETED MEDICAL SUPPLIES DISCOVERED.

&c., &c., &c.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Information from Wilmington says that everything is progressing well in that department.

Gen. Couch has been assigned the command of the 2d army corps, and of the city of Wilmington. On March 2d, he issued orders allowing all citizens to resume their occupations, with proper restrictions, relating to contraband trade.

One thousand deserters and prisoners were about to be sent North on Wednesday last.

Fifteen thousand dollars' worth of medical supplies were discovered secreted in Wilmington, several thousand dollars' worth being quinine.

The paymasters had nearly finished paying the troops in that department.

The weather had been very bad.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *World's* Wilmington correspondent says: The prisoners lately received above Wilmington have been reduced to a most horrible condition by cruelty and starvation. Every thing is very quiet at Wilmington.

Extra Session of the Senate.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 2, 1865.

SENATE.

The Senate met at noon to-day, Vice President Johnson in the chair.

The Secretary read the journal of Saturday.

On motion of Mr. Morgan it was ordered that a committee of two be appointed to wait on the President and inform him that a quorum had assembled, and were ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make. Messrs. Morgan and Guthrie were appointed such committee.

Mr. Lane, of Kansas, offered a resolution that soldiers and compensation be paid to the gentlemen from Arkansas and Louisiana, claiming seats in the Senate.

Mr. Sumner objected to its consideration at this time.

Mr. Trumbull gave an account of the proceedings of the two Houses on the clause in the army appropriation bill, prohibiting any part of the money being paid to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, but which was stricken out by the House in order to save the bill. He said that a joint resolution purporting to have passed both Houses, providing that no money be paid to said Central railroad, and providing for the Attorney General to bring a suit to test the legal question involved, was presented to the Senate, but which was not approved by the President. He (Trumbull) undertook to say that such a bill never passed the Senate.

Mr. Clark explained that a bill was passed for the relief of Josiah O. Armes, but the clerks enrolled instead of this the proposition to which the Senator alluded, so his friend Armes lost his bill.

Mr. Trumbull remarked that the matter ought to be enquired into.

Mr. Clarke said it were better that the President be requested to return the bill.

Mr. Sumner thought the Senate ought not to act upon the matter as they were in Executive, and not Legislative session.

Mr. Trumbull said it was proper to enquire how the signatures of the bill of this President and speaker were obtained.

Mr. Clark's suggestion was acquiesced in.

Mr. Trumbull said he would not ask for a committee until the bill was returned.

Mr. Hendricks said he was satisfied that no blame could be attached to the enrolling clerks. It was extraordinary that no more mistakes had occurred, considering the manner in which business is crowded through at the close of Congress.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, a resolution was adopted requiring the Sergeant-at-Arms to remove, from the Senate part of the Capitol, the sale of spirituous liquors.

The Senate here took a recess.

The Senate here again assembled again, reported that the committee appointed to wait upon the President had performed that duty, and that he would send, forthwith, to the Senate several communications in writing. The President's Private Secretary, Mr. Stoker, then entered with these gentlemen, then announced that he had been directed, by the President, to deliver several messages in writing, whereupon the Senate went into Executive Session.

Among the nominations sent in were Hugh McCulloch to be Secretary of the Treasury, and the following officers of the recently established Court in the State of New York: Chas. L. Benedict, Judge; Benjamin D. Gillman, District Attorney, and A. F. Campbell, Marshal.

The above nominations were referred to the appropriate committees, and will be acted upon to-morrow.

The Senate then adjourned.

Vigorous Volunteering in the West—The National Currency.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—It has been ascertained from authentic source that volunteering is progressing vigorously in the west. Wisconsin, with only six districts, has just 1,000 more men under the President's last call than New York. The bulk of recruits are enlisted for old infantry regiments. New regiments are being formed, and already the following organizations have been forwarded to the field: From Ohio, five regiments; Indiana, four; Illinois, ten; Wisconsin, three; all infantry regiments; also one regiment of heavy artillery. Total, twenty-one. Districts which fail to recruit rapidly, are now being drafted or about to be drafted, for their respective quotas.

By an amendment to the National Currency act the amount of circulation is to be apportioned to the different States and Territories.

Mr. McCulloch, Comptroller of Currency, to-day issued a circular, saying: All persons who contemplate organizations of National Banks, other than those whose papers have been filed, or whose applications have been approved, are requested to suspend operations until the necessary data can be collected, and the required apportionment can be made. State Banks contemplating to change their organizations can proceed without interruption.

Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The appointment of Chief of Freedmen's Bureau is now engaging the attention of public men. Gen. Butler, Judge Bryney and Thomas Webster are mentioned for the position.

Indiana Legislature Adjourned.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 6.—The Indiana Legislature adjourned *sine die* to-day. Several important bills, including the Special Appropriation bill, were passed over for want of time, the constitutional limit of the session having expired.

Seven-Thirty Subscriptions.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6.—Jay Cooke reports the sales of 7.30's to-day to amount to $2,943,000 including one subscription of $300,000 from New York, and over 1,500 in individual subscriptions.

A Visit to Fort Sumter—Condition of the Works.

"Carleton" writes to the Boston *Journal* as follows:

"After a ramble of several hours through the city of Charleston, we made a visit to Sumter, entering by the sally port where Major Anderson and his faithful few entered on that over to be remembered morning of April 14th, 1861. The fort bears little resemblance to its appearance then, externally or internally. No portion of the original face of the wall is to be seen, except on the side towards Charleston, and a portion of that facing Moultrie. From the harbor and from Wagner it appears only a tumulus—the debris of an old ruin.

"All the casemates, arches, pillars and parapets are torn up, rent asunder and utterly demolished. The great guns which two years ago kept the Monitors at bay, which damed and battered away while upon Wagner, are dismounted, broken, overturned, and lie half buried beneath the mountain of brick, dust, concrete, sand and water. After Dupont's attack, in April, 1863, a reinforcement of palmetto logs was made, as the harbor defense of Sumter and Gran at the wall facing Moultrie. The lower tier of casemates was filled up with sand bags, but when Gen. Gillmore obtained possession, his fire began to crumble the parapet. He then endeavored to reconstruct the wall, or to maintain its original height, by gabions filled with sand, but this compelled a widening of the base inside. Thousands of bags filled with sand were brought to the fort at night. Bombproofs were constructed. Day after day, week after week the pounding from Wagner was maintained so effectually and thoroughly that it was impossible to keep a gun in position on that side.

"The only guns now remaining are five or six on the Moultrie side in the middle tier of casemates. Five howitzers were kept on the walls to repel an attack by small boats, the garrison keeping under cover or seeking cover whenever the lookout cried, 'a shot!'

"*Chevaux de frise* of pointed sticks protect the fort from a sudden attack. At the base outside are iron posts and wire net work. There is also a submerged net-work of wire and chains kept in place by floating buoys.

"I had the curiosity to make an inspection of the wall facing Moultrie to see what was the effect of the fire of the iron clads in Dupont's attack. With my glass at that time I could see that the wall was badly honeycombed; a close inspection shows that it was a very galling fire. The bricks are seams in the masonry and great gashes where the solid bolts crumbled the bricks to fine dust. It is almost a wonder that the fire could have been continued any considerable length of time there that the wall would have fallen. The effect of the fire led to the filling up of the lower casemates.

"An hour was passed in the fort, the band playing national airs, and the party inspecting the ruins and gathering relics.

"Captain Jones, of the Massachusetts Fifty-fourth, who is now aid to General Gillmore, was of the party. He was stationed in the trenches at the time of the attack, and at the raise with estimation, and mingled with melancholy interest the sands of Morris Island, where his brother officer, fellow-soldier and fellow-student, Shaw, was lying—his brother officer, fellow-student, that he was not there on the day when the first flag upon the works but one was raised.

"The cannon of Sumter bolts against the rights of the South, and here is exended. The struggle between Beauregard and Johnston's lands, Battle Fisckoy and Grant's grandeur, was carried by slaves, however, except as mere chattels. As I stood there looking down upon the Sumter, looking down into the panorama was unrolled before me, the events which will forever make this the most land. At the posters gave the signal for the dismissal of the flag, till the last, the flag of the old, old man of the South turning to the wall of April, the barracks over past victories, he hung out, the surrender assist in securing new c[illegible] of the moment."

Purturbation in Richmond.

The tone of the Richmond papers indicates very clearly the amount of excitement that city is laboring under at the present time, which is about three hours in passing a given point. The meeting in Union Square was largely attended. The crowd in the street was probably the largest ever seen in New York.

Nine thousand bales of cotton arrived here to-day from Savannah.

Election in Tennessee—Inauguration Celebrated—Firearms Fired Into—Boats gone to Mobile, etc.

CAIRO, March 6.—At the election in Memphis on the fourth, for Governor and Members of the Legislature, Brownlow received for Governor 1106 votes; scattering, 110. Smith, for State Senator, received 500 majority over Logue Timothy. The elected are Union.

The *Bulletin* says: It is clear from the result of this election that there is a large majority of the people of Memphis opposed to the proceedings of the State Convention, and states that had there been a candidate for Governor opposed to Brownlow and having any chance of success elsewhere, he would have received one thousand majority in Memphis.

The inauguration day was celebrated by a salute of one hundred guns and a partial illumination at night.

The steamers Golden Era and Tycoon were fired into by guerrillas, five miles below Memphis. The Tycoon arrived in charge of a Custom House officer, charged with contraband dealings with parties along the river.

Governor Murphy has called an extra session of the Arkansas Legislature on the first Monday of April, to consider the Constitutional amendment to abolish slavery.

It is reported that many boats of the fleet which recently went down the river, have gone to Mobile, via the Gulf.

Gen. Canby has ordered the reorganization of the 13th and 18th corps.

Gen. Gordon Granger will command the 13th, and Gen. Smith the 18th.

From California—Cotton from Mazatlan.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1.—The last steamer from Mazatlan brought seventy bales of cotton grown in Sonora by Americans. The cotton culture in that State is attracting great attention. Two cotton factories are in operation, which turn out a million dollars' worth of goods annually from Hong Kong. We hear of the purchase of eighty thousand pounds of cotton, half of which is to be shipped direct to New York, and the remainder to San Francisco.

The late new — have been heavier and more extensive than has been known in California for several years; 1,000 bbls. of California crushed sugar sold here to-day for June and July delivery at 16c; the present rates are 16@16½c.

The ship Charles Farwell has arrived from New York.

The steamship St. Louis departed for Panama, with passengers and mails for New York, and about one million dollars in treasure, of which only about $147,000 goes to New York.

The Celebration in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4.—The day is being observed with parades, rejoicings, firing of guns, and illuminating in every part of this State, Oregon and Nevada. The Legislature of Nevada passed resolutions in honor of Lincoln's second inauguration, which was voted for by the only two Democrats in that body in the city. Business is entirely suspended.

EVENING GAZETTE TELEGRAMS.

LATE NEWS FROM REBEL PAPERS.

THE ADVANCE ON RALEIGH.

The Rebel Hapgood's Brigade Reported Captured.

SHERMAN'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN.

A Forward Movement by Gen. Grant Predicted.

A COMPANY OF REBELS SURPRISED AND CAPTURED.

Exchanged Union Prisoners at Wilmington.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The Raleigh (N. C.) *Journal* of the 3d says: "As the train left Wilmington our Whitworth battery, planted at the head of the market, was firing upon the enemy, who had appeared upon the causeway upon the western side of Cape Fear river. Their main advance was then checked at Alligator Creek. Some few skirmishers pushed forward, but were driven off.

It is believed that Hapgood's brigade, with the exception of the 7th battalion, has been captured. Some accidental cases may have escaped; they probably have. They were on the west side of the Cape Fear, and the other troops on that side."

The Richmond *Whig* of the 3d says: The Raleigh *Conservative* alludes to Sherman's operations, and indulges the hope, if our plans are not thwarted, that our able generals and brave troops will prove that we will be able to hug him or send him howling to the rear.

If the report brought us by telegraph that the small force left by him at Columbia has been captured be true, then the repulse in front, should he suffer such, would probably render his situation desperate in the extreme. But we will not speculate further in regard to matters of such grave import, lest we come to be matters for mere speculation soon.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 3d says, by telegram from Fayetteville, on the 1st says, that at that time no Yankees had advanced in that direction from Wilmington. We have nothing from Sherman. He is supposed to be still in the mud of South Carolina."

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 3d, has a long article showing that Sherman and Grant are to be beaten in detail, and then the independence of the Confederacy will be secured. Gov. Vance is now active at work, it says, in rallying the people and organizing a resistance. It says that Grant has stripped every section of the country, and in Western Virginia has not enough to protect his generals while sleeping. The Richmond papers are confident in the belief that Grant will move on the storm, but he will be sufficiently hard to permit him to do so. They say he has everything ready for an advance.

Our force are kept watching briskly for Semmes, on the James, while the roads are kept active watching for deserters from their lines.

A portion of the New York 12th cavalry and one company of the 1st North Carolina mounted infantry, lately surprised and captured a company of rebel soldiers near Greenville, N. C., and then dashed into the town, destroyed the commissary stores and captured other prisoners.

The *Tribune's* Wilmington correspondent announces the arrival there of eight hundred exchanged Union prisoners—sick, starved, emaciated and naked.

IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

FORT WHITE CAPTURED BY OUR FORCES.

OCCUPATION OF GEORGETOWN.

REBEL CAVALRY REPULSED IN THE STREETS.

FLAG SHIP SUNK BY A TORPEDO.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6.—The transport Massachusetts has arrived and reports that our naval forces had captured Fort White, a splendid work mounting seventeen guns, just below Georgetown, South Carolina, and that the marines landed and took possession of Georgetown. The rebel cavalry charged on them on the street, but were gallantly repulsed, with a loss of several killed, wounded and prisoners.

Our loss was one man.

Adjutant Gillmore's flag-ship, the "Harvest Moon," on her way down was sunk by a torpedo. All hands were saved except the wardroom steward.

FROM THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

A CONSPIRACY TO CAPTURE GEN. SHERIDAN.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *Herald's* Winchester correspondent of the 3d says of Sheridan's expedition up the valley a few days ago: Three Winchester families by the names of Sherrard, Lee and Bunell were sent without our lines on the charge of disloyalty. It is alleged that they conspired together to get up a sociable ball to which Gen. Sheridan was to be an invited guest, and that during its progress a detachment of Mosby's guerrillas was to seize the General, take him captive, and convey him to Richmond. Also Generals Kelley and Crook. The plan was frustrated and the ladies who concocted it are now in full communication with those for whom they have exhibited such a warm sympathy.

The Exchange of Prisoners Question.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The *Tribune* contains two long articles on the exchange question, from one of its correspondents who recently escaped from a rebel prison. It complains of the proclaimed sympathy displayed towards rebel prisoners by our Government, while our own men are dying of starvation in the South. It instances the recent release of Fryer on his parole, in Washington, and mentions numerous occasions where prominent rebels were released without any equivalent; while the same class of prisoners are treated by the rebels army, with the utmost severity. It charges the bad management of this matter upon Secretary Stanton, and demands that the country shall be honestly and fairly dealt with.

GEN. SCHIMMELFINNIG.—A correspondent asks if it is possible to get the name of Gen. Schimmelfinnig, the commander of Charleston, into rhyme. Guess so:

"The gallant Dutchman, Schimmelfinnig,
Holds Charleston as he would a hen egg!
He grabs the harbor by the nose,
And brings them to their lager beer.
We wish we had a million such men
As this bold rebel-hating Dutchman."

A LARM Dublin paper says that the more announcement, in a message of President Lincoln, that there was such a thing as "free emigration to the United States," led multitudes in that country to seek information as how they were to escape. The condition of a country must be deplorable when its citizens deem it a blessing to "escape" from it.

THE Board now in session at Springfield for the examination of small arms, &c, have decided to reduce the calibre of small arms from fifty-eight and fifty-four to fifty, which reduces the weight of the ball one third, thus making an important saving of lead in the ammunition and reducing the weight necessary to be carried by the soldier.

THE headquarters of an immense gang of thieves, robbers and counterfeiters in the State of Ohio has been discovered, and eight men and two women belonging to it have been arrested. A large amount of property, supposed to have been stolen by this party, has been found and identified by the owners.

ROBERT SMALL, the slave pilot of Charleston who ran the steamer Pilot out of Charleston harbor, and delivered it over to the blockading squadron, and has since been of so much service in our naval operations on the Carolina coast, is said to be now worth $34,000, all of which he has invested in Government securities.

It is reported that the southern peace agents suggested to President Lincoln that the southern slaves are worth nine hundred million dollars, for which the Government should pay in case of reunion, and that the President replied: "That little bill is settled and the receipt's dried away!"

JOHN STUART MILL, who has all along been a good friend of the United States, has directed that whatever copyright may be allowed by the American publishers of his works shall be given to the Sanitary Commission, or some similar object of national charity.

IT is surmised that hereafter colored men engaged on board foreign and Northern vessels will not be imprisoned when they enter the port of Charleston.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

Want of Buildings.

Now that the winter is almost over, and spring approaching, we would call the attention of leading capitalists to the fact that as their personal interest is involved in the growth and prosperity of the city, they can make no better investment than in lending their capital to the construction of buildings, especially dwelling-houses, of which there seems to be a decided want just now. We doubt if there was ever, at any time, such a proportionate demand for houses. Money wisely and judiciously invested in buildings and improvements cannot fail to yield a handsome remuneration to those who make the outlay, and will besides confer a material advantage and permanent welfare upon the public at large. It is the duty of our capitalists to hold out every inducement that will attract and invite either mechanical labor, industry, business capacity and wealth; and whether we regard it as a duty from a selfish or liberal point of view it is alike imperative. Will our monied men act upon the hint we have thrown out? Let them make the investment, and it will result to their benefit tenfold. This direction of capital will promote the prosperity of the city, as well as individual interests, beyond all former precedent. We are surrounded by almost every advantage that could be wished for. The promise for the future was never better. There is health and position in the locality, combined with skill, industry and enterprise in the population; and if our capitalists fail to give the impetus to the improvement that is demanded, with them alone will rest the fault.

The New Police Organization.

The new organization of the police has been perfected, and will go into effect in a few days, as soon as the additional force can be properly uniformed and equipped. The day police will consist of twenty men, under the superintendance of a Lieutenant, and will be distributed judiciously on the most public thoroughfares, and so posted as to have them as nearly as practicable in a continuous chain, commencing on Fifth street and diverging to all parts of the city, although the larger portion will be principally located in the centre of the city. The scope of the detail will be taken in more remote localities; but the lieutenant in charge will, in cases of emergency, call as many as he wishes, or he deems it necessary, for the purpose of making arrests or quelling riots. They will go on duty, and be relieved at specified times. The entire police system will consist of a day and night police, one part relieving the other.

The day police will all be uniformed as soon as possible, wearing in addition to their established dress, a belt in which to carry a short mace, with which they will all be armed.

"All the honor, mayor Lowry, is exercising eminent discrimination and sagacity in making his selections with reference to the competency, energy and peculiar adaptation of the men appointed for the important trust. The charge is one which will commend itself to every lover of municipal order, and is as seasonable as it is wise."

Oil Prospects in Columbiana County, Ohio.

A correspondent of a Cleveland paper, who recently spent some weeks in the valleys of the Little Beaver creeks in Columbiana county, O., says:

"This country lies directly between the great Oil Basins of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the geological appearance of the territory here is very much like Venango county, Penn. At the mouth of Little Beaver creek, on the Ohio river, I saw some eight or ten wells that have been worked for some three or four years quite successfully, and the oil seems to increase rather than diminish in them. Some of these have recently been sold for large sums of money. I think these wells, however, to be on the outcrop of the basin. A few miles up the creek at Island run, I passed four flowing wells, that produce more oil than those at the mouth. The one highest up the creek of these, and the last one put down, is said to flow nine barrels per day. The oil in these wells is the purest I have ever seen, and is being used in the common oil lamp as it comes from the wells, without refining. When this territory is proved farther up, it will be a much larger flow of oil will doubtless be the result. It is said that a fine deposit of oil has been struck at the Lake Erie, about 40 miles to the south of Ashtabula, in Ohio. Ashtabula Oil Company, with its thoroughly alive with its joyous life which we saw it on the occasion of the Ashtabula Oil Company,