THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

VOLUME LXXVIII—NO. 71. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1865. ESTABLISHED IN 1786.

The Pittsburgh Gazette.

VERY LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

MURDER OF UNION FORAGERS.

Sherman's Letter to Wade Hampton.

RETALIATION ON REBEL PRISONERS.

Response of the Rebel General

NEW YORK, March 12.—The following is Gen. Sherman's letter to Gen. Hampton:

HEADQUARTERS, &c., IN THE FIELD, February 24, 1865.

Lieut. Gent Wade Hampton, Commanding Cavalry Forces of the Confederate States of America—General:—It is officially reported to me that our foraging parties are murdered after their capture, and labeled "death to all foragers"—one instance of a Lieutenant and seven men, near Chesterville, and another of twenty near a ravine, eighty rods from the main road at three miles from Feasterville. I have ordered a similar number of prisoners in our hands to be disposed of in like manner. I hold about one thousand prisoners, captured in various ways, and can stand it as long as you; but I hardly think these murders are committed with your knowledge. I would suggest that you give notice to the people at large, that every life taken by them simply results in the death of one of your Confederates.

Of course you cannot question the right to forage in the country. It is a war right as old as history. The manner of exercising it varies with circumstances, and if the civil authorities will supply my requisitions I will forbid all foraging, but I find no civil authorities who can respond to calls for forage or provisions and therefore I must collect directly of the people. I have no doubt this is the occasion of much misbehavior on the part of our men, but I cannot permit an enemy to judge, or punish with wholesale murder.

Personally, I regret the bitter feelings engendered by this war, but they were to be expected, and I simply allege that those who struck the first blow and made war inevitable, ought not in fairness to reproach us for the natural consequences. I merely assert our war right to forage, and my resolve to protect my foragers to the extent of life for life. I am, with respect, your ob't serv't, W. T. SHERMAN, Maj. Gen., U. S. A.

The rebel General responds that he knows nothing of such murders, and that for every soldier executed by Sherman, he will execute two of his prisoners, picking out officers as the first victims. He made a long story about the barbarities alleged to be practiced by Sherman's army, and concludes by saying he shall hold fifty-six federals for the confederates to be executed by Gen. Sherman.

ADVICES FROM GEN. SHERMAN.

THE MAIN ARMY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

THE PEDEE RIVER SUCCESSFULLY CROSSED.

SHERMAN BETWEEN BEAUREGARD AND HARDEE.

NEW YORK, March 12.—The *Tribune's* Wilmington letter says advices deemed trustworthy have been received from General Sherman confirming the reports which reached us several days since that his main army passed into North Carolina at least four days ago. His route lay through Cheraw.

The rebel forces of Hardee are reported lying on two sides of the Pedee, which river Sherman has successfully crossed, placing himself between Hardee and Beauregard.

The direction taken by the Union army since entering North Carolina it would be contraband to mention. What may have occurred the last day or two, or where there can have been any meeting of the two armies, is not positively known here, though it is not expected any general battle can occur for some time to come.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Juarez Reported Marching on Matamoras.

SURRENDER OF CORTINA, AND HIS WHOLE FORCE.

The Imperialists Becoming Alarmed.

REBELS IN TEXAS REINFORCED.

NEW YORK, March 12.—The *Herald's* New Orleans letter says that Juarez is reported now advancing on Matamoras with 3,000 men. Mejea has only one thousand and is afraid he will be compelled to surrender. He sent out Cortina with four regiments to check his progress, but Cortina surrendered his whole force of Mexicans to Juarez. The reason given for this is that Maximilian agreed to give Cortina half a million dollars provided he turned over his command to the Imperialists, but after he had contented, he refused to pay him. The Imperialists are becoming alarmed at the increasing force of Liberals and the treachery of Mexican officers and their troops in the service of Maximilian.

Gen. Slaughter, commanding the rebel force at Brownsville, on the Rio Grande, is said to have received reinforcements to the number of 1,100 men. Of late the rebels feared that the union force at Brazos Santiago were making preparations to advance upon the town, and all the valuables in the place were moved to Corpus Christi.

QUIET IN THE POTOMAC ARMY.

THE FIRST CORPS PICKETS ADVANCED.

Rebel Colored Troops in Our Front.

REBEL TROOPS SENT TO LYNCHBURG.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, March 9, 1865.

Quiet continues in this department and is likely to do so for some time, so far as any movements are concerned, for the roads are in a very bad condition owing to the recent heavy rains. Troops are being drilled daily, and new arms and clothing are issued, preparatory to the coming campaign. Our men are in excellent condition. Deserters continue to come in, although they are not so numerous as heretofore. About thirty arrived to-day through the lines of the 6th and 5th corps. It is reported that four more shot on their way over. The first corps advanced their picket lines a short distance this morning, and it is reported to have found rebel colored troops on the picket line in their front. If this is true it shows that the rebels have at last adopted the policy of arming their slaves.

NEW YORK, March 12.—A *Tribune's* army special of the 8th mentions the arrival of 135 deserters from Lee's army in one night. Deserters say troops are being sent to Lynchburg to hold it at all hazards.

Union Prisoners from Southern Pens.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Another batch of Union prisoners from the slaughter pens arrived this morning. The men belong to the upper part of New York State, and have been absent over three years. All these men, who have improved in appearance since they have been exchanged, expressed themselves in the most bitter terms against the treatment they received from the rebel authorities while in Charleston and Andersonville. At the latter place the men were so reduced in flesh from the unwholesome food which they were forced to eat, or starve, that sores broke out on their bodies. In the battle before Richmond last spring they were taken prisoners and have been in close confinement nearly one year. A furlough of thirty days has been granted to them, after which they will return to the front and rejoin their regiments.

From Cairo and Below.

CAIRO, March 12.—Four hundred and forty-five bales of cotton passed here for St. Louis and one hundred and twenty bales for Evansville.

Over two million dollars worth of Government property is said to have been destroyed at Eastport, Miss., by a rise of the Tennessee river.

The rebels had possession of Hickman, Ky.

New Orleans papers of the 5th contain no military news.

The steamer Post Boy was totally destroyed by bursting her boiler, twenty-five miles above New Orleans, on the 5th. Two lives were lost.

INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON

Arrival at Wilmington of a Scout from Sherman's Army.

RUMORED BATTLE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

GOOD NEWS RECEIVED FROM SHERIDAN.

HUNGARIANS GOING TO AUSTRALIA.

UNWAVERING CONFIDENCE IN GENERAL SHERMAN.

GOLD SPECULATION ILLEGAL AND VOID.

LEE'S ARMY FAST DWINDLING AWAY.

The Senate Extra Session Adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, March 11.—The *Bulletin* has the following dispatch:

Washington, March 11.—A letter dated Wilmington, March 6th, was received here to-day, in which it is stated in positive terms that a scout from Gen. Sherman's army had reached Terry's headquarters, who left our forces in the occupation of Charles, S. C., the terminus of the Charlotte and Darlington road, and but a very few miles from North Carolina. Nothing but cavalry skirmishes had taken place. The army had rested for some days, and found very fair subsistence along the route. The advance into North Carolina was a certainty. This letter adds that on the first of March the scout started for Newbern, but learning of the occupation of Wilmington, reached that place much sooner.

The source of this intelligence is perfectly correct.

WASHINGTON March 11.—The rumors of disaster to Schofield originated in a boastful dispatch from Bragg, published in a Richmond paper, claiming that he had checked him. No importance whatever is attached to the statement, and it is believed that both Schofield and Sherman are all right.

Vice President Johnson was in the capitol today, but did not preside in the Senate. His health is much better.

Second Dispatch.—The rumors of a battle by Schofield in North Carolina, attracts increased attention, but nothing can be ascertained from any reliable source. They are evidently founded on the doubtful Bragg dispatch in the Richmond papers.

There is no reliable news from Sherman yet. Good news has been received from Sheridan. The remnants of Early's forces have fled to the mountains. The rebel army is believed to be broken up.

NEW YORK, March 11,—A *Herald's* Washington special says: About five hundred Hungarian families who are desirous of settling in one of our territories, are represented here by a gentleman who is trying to make arrangements with the State Department for their transportation from Europe to the rich mineral and agricultural sections of Arizonia.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says: Senators Wilson, Foote, Morrill, Wade, Grimes, Harlan, Ramsay and others, are contemplating an excursion to Savannah and Charleston in a government steamer.

So unwavering is the confidence in Gen. Sherman's ability to move on against all obstacles, that in government circles the conviction prevails that he has severely crippled the rebel forces sent to oppose his progress.

The *Times* Washington special says: Judge Carter, U. S. District Judge for this District, in his charge to the jury to-day, in regard to gold transactions, stated that the purchase and sale of gold for the purpose of under-cover speculation, not use was valid, but that all transactions for speculative purposes, which tends to depreciate currency are not only against public policy but illegal and void.

The *Herald* editorially thinks the rebellion is on its last legs, and thinks it possible that the Confederacy will crumble to pieces without another battle. It completes a thorough review of affairs, relative to deserters, and thinks Lee's army is fast dwindling away.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The Senate session to-day was altogether of an executive character.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Lane, of Kansas, and Sprague, of Rhode Island, was appointed to wait on the President, and inform him that it has no further communications to make the Senate was ready to adjourn.

Mr. Lane subsequently reported that the President had no business of a sufficiently important character to longer detain them. The Senate then adjourned.

Previous to the adjournment of the Supreme Court, yesterday, an order was promulgated, requesting the gentlemen of the bar of Southern States, at that bar that they had never voluntarily borne arms against the United States, and have not given aid, counsel or encouragement to the rebellion, &c., and that they will support and defend the constitution, and will demean themselves as attorneys and counsellors of court, uprightly and according to law.

A Washington letter to the *Commercial Advertiser* says: It appears that recruiting by loyal States in the insurrectionary States has been stopped.

The *Post* says: Washington is filled with rumors of a battle in North Carolina, between Gen. Schofield's forces and the rebels. No particulars are known.

Mr. Nicholay Consul to Paris—Senate Confirmations—Vice President Johnson.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—John G. Nicholay, Private Secretary of President Lincoln, was nominated yesterday for the post of Consul to Paris, to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of John Bigelow, the late incumbent, to the post of Charge de Affaire at the French Court. The nomination was unanimously confirmed. Mr. Nicholay is a fine scholar, speaks French and German fluently, and will be able to bring to his position a thorough knowledge of American politics, and a full insight into the workings of the Administration since the beginning of the rebellion. He will not proceed to Paris, but will continue for some time yet in the discharge of his duties as Private Secretary.

The Senate confirmed the nominations of Oscar Malmers, of Minnesota, Consul at Galatas; H. H. P. Gorley, of Iowa, at Quebec; Richard McCurdy, Attorney, and Alexander C. Sands Marshal of the Southern District of Ohio; Geo. D. Bill, of Michigan, Surveyor General for Dacota territory; Lyman E. Munson, of Connecticut, an assistant Justice of the Supreme Court of the territory of Montana; James Russell Jones, Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois.

The following were confirmed as the judicial officers for the United States for the District Court of Nevada: A. W. Baldwin, Judge; Robt. M. Clark, Attorney; Edwin Bruin, Marshal.

The commissions of a large number of Federal officers who were appointed for four years in 1861, will expire in a few days, when they will be renewed by the President or other appointments made in place of the incumbents. The Senate is to act upon them at its next meeting.

The *Chronicle* of to-day says Vice President Johnson appeared in the Senate yesterday. His health is entirely restored. During his stay in the Vice President's room a large number of Senators called upon him to pay their respects.

Confederate Cavalry Deserting in a Body.

NEWBERN, N.C., March 6.—Yesterday, Co. B, of the 6th North Carolina Confederate cavalry, which was raised in the western part of the State, came into our lines in a body, with their two Lieutenants, their horses and equipments, numbering over sixty-men, and delivered themselves up to our commanding officer at Camp Palmer. After partaking of a bountiful feast at Camp Palmer, they, with the old flag at the head of their column, entered the city, the hospitality of which they are now enjoying. When they were informed that they would receive pay for their horses and arms, and be furnished employment, or allowed to go North, they remarked that if it was generally known in the South that such a reception awaited the Confederate soldiers in our lines, that the entire army of the Confederacy would follow their example. The arrival of the remainder of the regiment into our lines is daily looked for. They say that Kinston is being evacuated, and that the South Carolina troops are the first to give up, and acknowledge that the South is whipped.

Appeal of Governor Andrew to Deserters.

BOSTON, March 12.—Governor Andrew publishes a special appeal to deserters, in which he says: I avail myself of the earliest opportunity after the proclamation of the President, in this public manner, to advise all persons liable to the charge of desertion, to accept at once, the President's offer of pardon, to report themselves immediately, to the nearest Provost Marshal, to return to duty and obedience, to retrieve their reputation, and protect themselves against punishment hereafter, and save from certain forfeiture, their precious rights as American citizens. I appeal to the neighbors and friends of all such deserters, especially to the mothers and wives who have heretofore invoked so often my advice and interposition, earnestly counseling them both as a magistrate and as a man, to enforce and persuade the absent to return and seek the shelter, pardon, honor and happiness, which now await them, under the Union flag.

More Released Union Prisoners.

BALTIMORE, March 12.—Another lot of Union prisoners arrived at Annapolis, most of them very sick. Many of them died. A sad sight was seen at Annapolis; no less than fifty-four soldiers were carried to their graves at one time.

INFORMATION FROM REBEL SOURCES.

BATTLE REPORTED NEAR KINGSTON, N. C.

Dispatch from Gen. Lee to the Rebel War Secretary.

EARLY ATTACK ON MOBILE EXPECTED.

DEBATE IN THE REBEL SENATE.

Senator Hunter and Others on the Arming of Slaves.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The Richmond *Dispatch* of Friday, contains the following dispatch from Gen. Lee, giving the particulars of a battle near Kingston, N. C., between Bragg and the Union forces which removed from Newbern to meet Sherman, in the direction of Goldsboro:

HEADQUARTERS, &c., March 9, 1865.

To Gen. J. C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War: Gen. Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy yesterday, four miles in front of Kingston, and drove him from his position. He disputed the ground obstinately, and took up a new line three miles from his first one. We captured three pieces of artillery, and 1,500 prisoners. The number of the enemy killed and wounded, who were left on the field, is large. Ours is comparatively small. The troops behaved most handsomely, and Maj. Gen. Hill and Hoke exhibited their usual zeal and energy.

[Signed] R. E. LEE.

Kingston, near which the fight occurred is situated on the direct route from Goldsboro to Newbern, is about twenty miles east of Goldsboro, and about thirty miles from Newbern. It if suspected that this force of the enemy was advancing from Newbern against Goldsboro for the purpose of cutting the railroad at that point. It is not likely after this repulse that the enemy will attempt to advance, and it is likely that we shall next hear of them falling back on Newbern, or changing their course to some other point of the compass.

This movement of the enemy was evidently designed to be co-operative with Sherman, and in this light and in this junction it may be of great value to us in embarassing the movements of Sherman.

NEW YORK, March 12.—In the debate on the bill to arm negroes, Mr. Hunter said that as he had been instructed by the Virginia Legislature to vote against his conviction, it was proper he should give his opinions. When we left the old government he thought we had gotten rid forever of slavery agitation; that we were entering into a new confederacy where the agitation of that very question, which had seemed insoluable under the old Union, was to have no place. To his surprise he finds this government assumes the power to arm slaves, which involves also the power of emancipation. To the agitation of the question of the assumption of this power he dated the origin of the gloom which now overspreads the people. They knew that if the liberties were to be achieved, it was to be done by the hands and hands of free men. It also injured as abroad. It was regarded as a confession of despair and the abandonment of the ground upon which, we united in forming the Union. We had always held that Congress had no right to interfere with slavery. We also contended that wherever two races were thrown together, one must be master and the other subject, and we defied the present pamphlet against the accusations of abolitionists by asserting that slavery was the best and happiest condition of the negroes. This proposition admits the fact that we contend government by the slaves into the militia, and to emancipate so many as shall be placed in the military service, and it is a clear claim of the central government to emancipate slaves. If we are right in passing this measure, we were wrong in denying to the old Government the right to interfere with the institution of slavery, and to compel a Northern citizen, who office slaves their freedom, we confess that we were insincere in asserting that slavery was the best state for negroes. He had been sincere, in declaring that the subject was exclusively in the power over the institution of slavery, and that freedom would be no boon to the negro. He believed that arming and emancipating slaves was the abandonment of this ground, and the grounds on which it was undertaken. Not for all the gold in California would he have put his name to such a measure unless obliged to do it by instructions.

Mr. Hunter argued the necessity of freeing the negroes if they were made soldiers. Something in the human heart tells us that we never come out of the conflict from conflict they must be free. If we could make them soldiers we could make them officers perhaps to command white men.

Mr. Graham opposed the bill. He considered the adoption of the measure as the actual abandonment of the principles of the contest, and protested against the right of the Virginia Legislature to instruct Senators after the mature deliberation of the Senate.

Mr. Semmes advocated the bill as a necessity, and said it was urged by Gen Lee, and the consequences which would follow would not be so bad as represented.

The *Enquirer*, commenting on the passage of the negro enlistment bill, says: The influence upon slavery is more of apprehension than reality, for slavery is dead in Virginia. It is no surrender of the principle of the contest to emancipate slaves, if we think proper to offer the offer. We are not fighting to emancipate negroes but we are not fighting to keep them in slavery. We are fighting to preserve the great principle of self-government.

The *Examiner* says: Gen. Lee must be held responsible for the enforcement of the laws.

Henry A. Wise, in a recent speech, said: Gen. Scott's plan at the beginning of the war was for our invasion and subjugation, and it has been trying to that consummation. We are cut into fragments of territory, divided by the Mississippi and in every section driven into close incursions and forced to self-reliance, apart from the rest of the world.

NEW YORK, March 12.—A rebel dispatch dated Mobile, February 28th, says: Twenty-two steamers and six Mississippi river transports are in the lower Mobile bay, with a number of troops on Dauphin Island and at Pensacola, indicating an early attack on the city.

A New Orleans letter of the 27th announces the arrival there of 1,200 exchanged prisoners from Texas, including a number of naval officers.

The rebel papers chronicle the passage of the negro enlistment act, and saying it is a measure more of necessity than choice.

Mr. Wigfall, during the debate, denounced the Legislature of Virginia, and demanded the resignation of Jeff. Davis.

Stock and Money Matters.

NEW YORK, March 11.—At the Stock Exchange the railway list was heavy and lower on the first call. As soon as Western shares were reached, the market assumed more firmness and improved slightly as the call progressed. After call there was more demand for Stocks. The government list was all strong, with a moderate demand on gold bonds. Miscellaneous shares were generally better, Mariposa taking the lead. Coal shares are firmer, with Cumberland as the favorite. The Gold market was excited last night, at the evening Exchange, by a batch of dispatches from Washington, announcing the defeat of Schofield, and the total annihilation of his army. This caused the price to rise to 190 ¾, from which it finally dropped to 191. This morning the market was excited by similar rumors, but was steady towards the close, and fluctuations were not so wide or frequent during the early part of the day. The demand for money is very moderate, a large supply offering at 7 per cent. Exchange is nominal. Petroleum stocks quiet. There was a falling off in the Rynd farm, United States and Germania. Sales Rynd farm 5,30; Buchanan farm, 1,30; Cherry Run, 98; United States, 29,25; Commonwealth, 5,00; Germania, 97; Oceanic, 5,50. Petroleum market closes flat and heavy. Crude dull and lower at 40@40½. There has been a decided falling off in the demand for Oil during the week, and prices have declined. Refined has been extremely dull and heavy, prices showing a decline, and at the close are nominal at 65 for bonded and 80 for free.

From California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—Speculators control the receipts of flour and wheat and keep up prices for these articles. Flour has advanced to fifteen dollars per barrel at wholesale.

Advices from Colima, Mexico, say that Maximilian has ratified the contract of Juarez with Messrs. Holliday & Co., the owners of the line of steamers running between San Francisco and Mexican ports. These steamers must sail under Mexican colors, as those running in the Gulf on the eastern side are required to do. Our trade with Mexico is now very large and rapidly increasing.

A cotton mill is to be erected in San Francisco forthwith. The staple is to be procured from Sonalora, Utah and the Sandwich Islands, while efforts are making to successfully cultivate it in California.

Returned Soldier Killed.

NEW HAVEN, (Conn.) March 11.—This evening, about six o'clock, John Estey, returned soldier of the 13th Connecticut volunteers, was killed by John Donnelly, town pauper, at the store of Joseph Pinlos, on the corner of Day and Martin streets; there was a dispute about payment for some liquor, when Donnelly seized a butcher knife and plunged it through the heart of Estey.

FROM GEN. THOMAS' DEPARTMENT.

Gens. Lee and Cheatham Gone to Operate Against Sherman.

NEW YORK, March 11.—The Washington *Republican* of yesterday, contains the following:

General Thomas telegraphs to the Government that one of his scouts came in with information that the rebel Generals Lee and Cheatham, have been sent from Alabama, against Sherman; but that Lee was subsequently recalled to defend Selma. Gens. Cheatham and Price aided in tending to form a junction with Hardee, from Charleston, but scouts report that the rebels have information that before the junction was formed, Sherman hurled a few of his veteran brigades back upon Cheatham's column, completely crushing it. Hardee was not up to time, and the report does not say he gave battle at all, but that Johnston was supposed to have attacked Sherman in front and got awfully whipped.

The *Republican* says: there is every reason to believe that the above is true.

From Rebel Sources—The Tobacco Captured at Fredericksburg.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 6th inst., says: All remains quiet along the line of Gen. Grant; in fact, for the past week everything has been mud bound, and rain fell almost incessantly yesterday, which served to make matters decidedly worse in that respect. It is not probable that Gen. Grant will attempt any movements until there is a change of weather, and the country and roads are in a better condition. Our military authorities should be none the less vigilant, however, for he may attempt to advance his lines when least expected.

The Northern papers continue to report a number of desertions from our lines, and their columns are filled with the stories they tell. Grant has thought these stories of sufficient importance to telegraph them to Washington, and the whole North catches at them in great exultation.

For some days parties in this city have been sending large quantities of manufactured tobacco to Fredericksburg. Reports say that this tobacco was to be traded with the Yankees for bacon, and that Gen. Singleton was the prime mover in the arrangement; this being the business that brought him again to Richmond. The tobacco was transported to Hamilton Ferry by railroad, and thence hauled to Fredericksburg, five miles distant, in wagons. The Yankees were expected to come up in vessels to Fredericksburg and bring bacon with them and carry off the tobacco without the delay of thirty or forty hundred thousand pounds of tobacco had been sent up the Fredericksburg Railroad, 40,000 pounds of which had been hauled to Fredericksburg and stored in a warehouse on the Rappahannock, convenient for shipping, and the other 100,000 pounds was in thirty one box cars at Hamilton Crossing.

The teams were sent up to Fredericksburg in numbers on Monday night, but brought no bacon that we have been able to hear of. Their first step was to send a party of cavalry to Hamilton's crossing to burn the bridge over which the cars and tobacco there. This party also burned the bridge over Massaponax Creek, a short distance this side of Hamilton's crossing. There are two reports as to what was done with the tobacco at Fredericksburg; one, that the enemy carried it off, and the other that they fired the warehouses, and destroyed both houses and tobacco. If the latter report be true, they burned the wagons employed in hauling the tobacco, and carried off the horses. This is one of the most brilliant schemes of our latter day speculations, the railroad regretting having the thirty-two miles of road, the Government had just been come to with the enemy that they should not be molested.

From Memphis.

MEMPHIS, via CAIRO, March 9.—A grand banquet was given by the Union men to General Washburn last night, at which he made a speech defending the military law, and hoping for a speedy restoration of a civil government in the State, expressing much charity for the Southern people, and promising to receive them kindly when they come in in a proper spirit. He told the Memphis merchants the interests of their city were to a certain extent antagonistic to the interests of the Government, but he would be glad to encourage a legitimate, honest trade, but in anything else they would find him their inexorable foe.

A fight occurred at Fort Pickering night before last between the 3d U. S. colored artillery and a white regiment, resulting in the death of several negroes and one white soldier. The feeling grew out of disagreement about rations. Both regiments belonge to the garrison at Fort Pickering. Washburne ordered the arrest of the chief clerk of the office, Mr. Ellery, treasury agent, for his participation in it.

Gen. Dana left for Vicksburg yesterday.

The river is bank-full and rising.

Gen. Washburne has issued an order permitting steamboats to navigate the Hatchee river to bring out produce from the country, but will not allow them to take on supplies.

Suffolk Again Occupied by Our Troops—The Bill to Arm the Slaves Passed by the Rebel Congress.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 6th inst., says: It is reported that Suffolk was again occupied by the enemy on the 1st, with a force of 1,500 cavalry and a regiment of negroes. It is surmised a raid is intended by them in the direction of the Weldon railroad.

Both Houses of Congress agreed yesterday to adjourn next Saturday. The business of the session is pretty well closed up.

The only important bill now pending is that putting negroes in the army, which was passed in the Senate by one of a majority. The bill was slightly amended in the Senate, and necessarily goes back to the House for concurrence. The amendment not being material, it is supposed that the bill will pass the House without difficulty.

Rebel War Meeting—Yankee Citizens Released.

NEW YORK, March 12.—The Richmond *Whig* of the 9th mentions a great war meeting held at Talladega on the 28th, in which the wildest enthusiasm was displayed.

The same paper says sixty-eight Yankee citizens, held as hostages under, were paroled yesterday preparatory to being sent northward by the flag of truce steamer this morning, and for whom we are to receive an equal number of our citizens.

All Civilian Prisoners Released.

NEW YORK, March 12.—The *Herald's* Washington special says: The President, to-day, released the last batch of civilian prisoners, who were held for trial by Military Commission, of which Gen. Dumbledey is President, which was virtually the trial of civilians charged with offenses against Government. This release was made in accordance with an act of Congress prohibiting military authorities from sitting in judgment upon such cases.

Michigan Democratic Nominations.

DETROIT, MICH., March 11.—The Democratic State Convention met yesterday, but made no nomination in opposition to Judge Christiancy for Justice of the Supreme Court. Ebenezer Wells and Oliver C. Comstock were nominated for Regents of the University.

All the regular passenger trains will be resumed on Monday, on the Michigan Central, Great Western and Grand Trunk Railroads.

Subscriptions to the Seven-Thirty Loan.

PHILADELPHIA, March 12.—The subscriptions to the Seven-Thirty loan received by Jay Cooke on Saturday, amounted to $2,641,000, including $1,000,000 from New York, $300,000 from Cincinnati and $120,000 from Carlile, Pa., in single subscriptions, and also 1,833 of individual subscriptions of $50 and $100; The total subscription for the week is $21,022,100.

Gold in New York.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Gold has been more excited this morning than for several days past. A rumor that Gen. Schofield was defeated with the loss of 1,500 men and 60 guns, strengthened the price, and buying on three days' epide was quite general, though not on any large amounts. The price opened at 190, rose to 191½ and fell again to 189¼.

Bounty Jumpers and Substitute Brokers Arrested.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Seven hundred bounty jumpers and seventeen substitute brokers were arrested yesterday at Hoboken, after having enlisted at a bogus recruiting station. They were all put in irons and sent to Governor's Island to-day.

Railroad Travel Resumed.

CINCINNATI, March 11.—The Ohio and Mississippi railroad track being clear of water, trains will resume regular trips to-day.

The Indianapolis and Cincinnati railroad is also in running order.

The river is falling, with fifty feet in the channel.

The Reported Evacuation of Mobile Denied.

NEW YORK, March 11.—The Meridan, Mississippi, *Clarion*, denies the report that Mobile was being evacuated, and says if the preparations now being made for Granger & Co., could be seen, these stories of evacuation would not be credited.

Flax Cotton Mill Burned.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., March 11.—The Flax Cotton Company's mill and machinery at this place was burned last night. Loss $15,000, insured for $10,000. The fire is supposed to have been caused from the friction in the machinery.

Confederation Scheme Adopted.

MONTREAL, March 10.—Parliament this morning adopted the confederation scheme by 91 yeas to 33 nays.

CITY AND SUBURBS.

The Allegheny Water Question.

Citizens and Councilmen have been alike excited, in our sister city, for some weeks past, on the subject of the City Water Works. A very wide difference of opinion seems to exist upon the question of the ability of the present works to supply the city with an abundance of water. Committees of competent mechanics have been appointed to examine the works, and elaborate and scientific reports have been made with reference to the lifting capacity of the pumps, and the power of the engines to drive the same. Even "doctors will differ," and we have one set of scientific gentlemen demonstrating that the works are amply sufficient for years to come, and another proving, by figures "which cannot lie," the absolute inability of the works.

But these mathematical problems, involving the cubic contents of metal cylinders, and the gravity and friction of columns of water, do not keep the city hydrants running. The people grumble a little at advancing the water rents twenty-five per cent, but absolutely crow mutinous at the prolonged scarcity of water.

We visited the Allegheny Water Works, on Saturday, to ascertain for ourselves the cause of the scarcity of water, and furnish the results of our inquiries, for the information of our readers. We stated in the *Gazette*, some two months ago, that the difficulty was in obtaining a sufficient supply of water for the pumps, rather than from any incapacity of the machinery to throw enough into the basin. Such we find to be still the case. The main supply pipe is 24 inches in diameter, and extends some 200 feet into the river; there is an elbow at the outer extremity, from which the pipe extends down the river some 16 feet. This elbow is perforated with holes about ¾ of an inch in size, through which the water passes into the supply pipe, and by force of gravity runs into the well at the pumps. Now supposing the four 12 inch pumps, double acting, 8 feet stroke, and which the water is forced up into the basin, to be running at the ordinary speed of ten strokes to the minute, experience proves that water is pumped into the basin faster than the public necessities demand, as the engines are only run about sixteen hours each twenty four. But when a sudden rise takes place in the river, accompanied by floating ice and other debris, the strong current so draught through the perforations in the main supply pipe, caused by the exhaustion of water in the pump well, attracts this floating ice and debris to the openings in the supply pipe, and the result is a partial stoppage in the supply, and an increase in the suction through the unobstructed openings. The evil once begun, is self-aggravating; and the result is that the perforated main pipe becomes so entirely coated with debris as to cause a stoppage of the engines, and for lack of power, but for want of water.

Such is the explanation of the present, and all the late difficulties at the Allegheny Water Works. A temporary remedy is to put in a boat, and scrape clear the supply pipe—at present some sixteen feet under water, and in a strong current.

What will be a permanent remedy? This is what the water committee are endeavoring to decide. The most practical suggestion which we have heard is this: let the Water Commissioners, appointed under the new act of the legislature, prepare plans for an addition to the present Water Works, based on the prospective necessities of the city; let this plan be submitted to Councils for approval, and the money be paid out. Then authorize the Commissioners to proceed, at the earliest possible period to excavate for the pump well, and wall up the same, and lay an additional supply pipe from that well into the river, of approved dimensions, and with the best arranged filtering apparatus which experience can suggest. We would then connect this new supply pipe with the present pumps, and thus gain an ample supply of water. If the present machinery is capable of lifting enough into the basins, to supply the citizens, no doubt the additional pumps would be required. If not, the foundation would be ready for additional pumps, as soon as the same could be built.

By this method, no expense would be incurred which is not absolutely necessary; and the improvement, so far as it shall be made, will be available, when the necessity for an increased pumping power shall arrive.

In this connection we might state that some remarks on this subject, in a contemporary, seem to have been written without information of the subject. The impression there made that Water Works is not materially out of order, and the Water Committee of Councils, so far as we know, have done and are doing all that is possible under the circumstances, to supply the city, by means as easily as possible, in proportion to the number of man readers therein liable to military service, taking into account as far as possible the number which has been previously furnished therefrom.

It is earnestly insisted, and most ingeniously argued, that this 2d section of the amendatory Act repeals so much of the 12th section of the Act of the 3d of March, 1863, as makes it the duty of the President to take into consideration the period of service of the volunteers and militia from the several States. The argument in favor of the repeal rests wholly upon the words of the amendatory Act—"the number which has been previously furnished therefrom." It is insisted that "number," as here used, means an arithmetical count. I cannot so understand it.

The Act of the 3d March, 1863, had prescribed a rule by which the number of men due from the several States, and the Districts of the several States, should be ascertained; and that mode required, not a simple count, but a consideration of the period of service of men previously furnished. Congress used the word *number* in the 2d section of the amendatory Act, understanding that the mode of count prescribed in the original Act would be preserved.

There are many evidences upon the face of the amendatory Act which show that it was not the intention of Congress to change the mode of count prescribed in the original act.

The amended Act does not undertake to say how the quota of a State or District is to be ascertained. In ascertaining what number is due from a State or District the President must pursue the mode prescribed in the 12th section of the original Act—he must take into consideration the period of service; and yet, under the construction, held at Washington, and related upon, when the draft, as authorized to do by the amended act, in the Districts, he must be controlled by simple numbers. It cannot be that Congress intended one mode of count for the States and Districts, and a different and wholly inconsistent one for the sub-divisions of Districts. Inextricable confusion would result.

From the language used in various parts of the amendatory act, it is evident that Congress did not intend to disturb the mode of count prescribed in the original act. For instance, in the 5th section of the amendatory act, it is said that the town, ward, or township, shall be credited *by his service*, and in the 7th section, "the period for which he shall have been enlisted," and "the period for which he shall have been drafted," all going to show that time of service was held to be an element in the count.

Nor do I think that the argument in favor of the repeal is aided by the language of the 1st section of the act, entitled "An act further to regulate and provide for the calling out of the national forces," approved 4th of July, 1864. The act says, that "any such volunteer, or in case of draft, as hereinafter provided, 'any substitute shall be credited to the town," &c. Congress meant that the credit should be given according to the mode of count prescribed in the act of 3d March, 1863.

The whole purpose of the 2d section of the amendatory act was to enable the President to equalize the draft in the several districts, surely not to have one mode of count in ascertaining the quota of the several states and districts, and another mode for equalizing the districts. Besides, it is hardly to be considered that Congress would thus incidentally strike from so important a section of a statute so premeditated an equivalent.

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the mode of ascertaining and assigning to States and districts their respective quotas, as prescribed in the 12th section of the act of the 3d March, 1863, is not repealed, and that the same mode must be pursued in equalizing the draft among the subdivisions of each district.

Next comes the question, what is the mode of count prescribed in the 12th section of the act of March 3d, 1863?

It is very plain that Congress regarded that a considerable period of service would change the rule from a merely numerical one. Some credit was to be given for the period of service as well as the man. Congress has fixed various periods of service, and States and districts, and fractions of districts, had furnished men for those periods of service. Now how is the credit to be given?

Before proceeding to answer the question, it may be proper to state, that it is insisted that the words "period of time" and "time of service," as used in the 18th section of the act of March 3, 1863, mean something different from *term of service*. It seems to me that the phrases mean one and the same thing. When the word *term* is used in reference to time, it is, according to the lexicographers, very nearly the synonym of *period*. The difference between them, if any, is too uncertain and shadowy to believe that Congress meant by the use of one, something different from what is understood by the other. But the words *period* and *term*, both occur in other parts of the acts now under consideration. In the 18th section of the act of 1863, the term of service is spoken of, and the term of reenlistment; while in the 7th section of the amendatory act, it is the period for which he shall have enlisted, and the period for which he shall have been drafted. Thus it will be perceived that upon the very face of these acts, Congress used these words as meaning the same thing. It happens, too, in the act, that neither word may be used and yet the same idea is intended, as in the 8th section of the amended act, where the language is "shall be credited to his service."

Regarding, then, "period" or "service," and "term of service," as meaning the same thing, any argument predicated upon a difference must be disregarded. And thus we are brought back to the question, how is the credit to be given? Must the credit be for the time of actual service, or the period of enlistment.

I think that Congress intended by the words "period of service," to give credit for the time of his enlistment. When a man enlists in the service of the Government for one, two, or three years, his services are due to the Government for that period, and during that period his services are withdrawn from the industrial pursuits of life. The act speaks as though there was a certain and fixed period for the services of each man, and yet, if any period or time is taken, other than the term of enlistment, by some system of averages or guesses, a rule must be fixed. To do so would violate the certainty contemplated by the act.

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the President must, under the act, give credit by the whole period or term for which the man enlisted.

Whether this is the rule which should have been adopted by Congress, whether it does not operate unequally, and whether it is exactly just or not, are questions that cannot now be considered. It is familiar to all that special cases of hardship will occur by the application of any general rule, nevertheless the law, as written, must be pursued and enforced. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES SPEED, Attorney General.

To the President.

Amended Enrollment Law.

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, D. C., March 8, 1865.

Circular, No. 5.—The following act of Congress is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"*An Act to amend the several Acts heretofore passed to provide for the enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes.*

* * * * * * *

SECTION XIII. *And be it further enacted*, That where any revised enrollment in any Congressional or draft district has been obtained, or made, prior to any actual drawing of names from the enrollment lists, the quota of such district may be adjusted and apportioned to such revised enrollment instead of being applied to or based upon the enrollment as it may have stood before the revision.

SECTION XIV. *And be it further enacted*, That hereafter all persons mustered into the military or naval service, whether as volunteers, substitutes, representatives, or otherwise, shall be credited to the State, and to the ward, township, precinct, or other enrollment sub-district, where such persons belong by actual residence, (if such persons have an actual residence within the United States, and where such persons were or shall be enrolled, (if liable to enrollment,) and it is hereby made the duty of the Provost Marshal General to make such rules and give such orders to the several Provost Marshals, Boards of Enrollment, and Mustered Offic