THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

VOLUME LXXVIII--NO. 88. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1865. ESTABLISHED IN 1786.

The Pittsburgh Gazette.

VERY LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Grant's New Movement.

GEN SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY LEADING THE ADVANCE.

RICHMOND ENTIRELY CUT OFF.

CHARGE OF THE ENEMY REPULSED.

HEAVY FIRING IN THE DIRECTION OF PETERSBURG.

A BATTLE PROBABLY GOING ON.

RUMORS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Early Capitulation of Lee's Army Probable.

GEN. THOMAS MOVING UPON RICHMOND.

Southside Railroad Secured.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, March 29—*Evening.*—The route taken by a portion of this army is the same over which they have travelled several times heretofore, namely, the Vaughn and Halifax roads, running southwest across Hatcher's run. The column started at 8 o'clock this morning.

A large force marched to within a short distance of the Boydton road, where the enemy's picket were found and driven back.

Griffin's division was sent up the Quaker road, and about 3 o'clock in the afternoon a division of the enemy made its appearance, and not knowing the strength of our force, formed in line and charged, but the rebels were repulsed with heavy losses.

A number of prisoners were taken and brought in. They said the move had been a complete surprise to them, as they expected an attack in the vicinity of Fort Steadman, and their troops had been massed there to meet it. It is believed the rebels were hurrying men towards the Southside railroad.

All the prisoners hoped of being able to prevent its destruction, but great confidence was felt that Sheridan would be a little ahead, and that by the next day we would have news of its destruction at some point near Burksville. If this should be accomplished, it is claimed that the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond must follow.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Information from the advance of the Army of the Potomac, dated Hatcher's Run, Thursday morning, shows that the locality of our army under Gen. Grant, at that time, was on a line parallel with and east of the Boydtown plankroad, and west of Hatcher's Run. These important positions have been gained with but little resistance from the enemy.

The 5th corps had a sharp encounter with the enemy on Quaker road, but they lost in the affair less than 300 men, and drove the rebels nearly a mile, with serious loss to them, and captured a number of prisoners.

New York, March 31.—The *Times's* Washington special says: An announcement having been made that the Army of the Potomac had again assumed the offensive, it will not be improper to state, that while the troops of the Army of the James, on Monday and Tuesday, crossed the James River, and joined Grant in his new movement, Gen. Grant himself left City Point for the front on Tuesday afternoon. Gen. Sheridan with his cavalry led the advance, and has probably, by this time, cut the only remaining line of communications with Richmond, somewhere between Burksville and Danville.

The rebels on Sunday and Monday had the bulk of their army massed on their right, either in anticipation of an attack in that direction, or preparatory to an evacuation of Richmond. The line between here and City Point has not been working for five or six hours, and if there has been any fighting it is unknown here. It is believed, however, that a heavy battle took place to-day.

The *Herald's* Washington special says it is now understood from the very highest and most reliable sources of information, that Secretary Seward was sent for by Mr. Lincoln to come to City Point for consultation, and that arrangements are actually in progress for a military convention between Generals Grant and Lee, supported on one side by Mr. Lincoln and Secretary Seward, and on the other by Jeff Davis and R. M. Hunter.

A grand movement of the army under Gen. Grant was being made on Wednesday morning. That this movement will result in compelling Lee to an early capitulation of his army, is regarded in military circles as inevitable.

The *World's* Army of the Potomac special of the 29th, has the following: The grand movement of this army was not fully developed until this morning. Several days of unusual activity had prevailed in the several departments, and a speedy opening of the spring campaign is anticipated. Orders were issued yesterday to the troops expecting to participate in the movement, to have themselves in readiness to move to-day.

At six o'clock p. m., punctually to time, two Corps, the Second and Fifth, and one cavalry regiment, started along the lines. The fresh troops that arrived were placed in the works vacated by the Second Corps and they threw up others extending still further out than did the old front of the Second Corps. This time there has been no swinging around to protect the flanks, or massing troops on the left, but the line has been straightened towards Boydton Pike and Southside Railroad.

Colonel Weston, of the 1st brigade, 3d division, sent out a small party on a reconnoissance towards Dabney Mills. Somewhere on his front, while the party was moving through the pines, one shot was fired, causing only one casualty to this corps for the day. Lieut. Patterson, of the 7th Michigan, was killed by it.

The 5th corps met with more stubborn opposition. It moved from its position near Hatcher's Run, along a narrow wood road, until they arrived at a thoroughfare known as Quaker, running northerly into Boydtown road, when they suddenly came upon the rebels in considerable force, lodged in a piece of timber near the run.

Previous to the crossing of the stream, Gen. Ayers's division, which held the right four moving columns, were detached and placed at the crossing of the Quaker and Vaughan roads, to guard against an attack from the extreme left, on the line of the latter road. As Gillis's division was in the centre, this disposition placed his troops at the right line, and being at the right, they were necessarily the first to meet and engage the enemy. Before crossing the plantation, skirmishers and flankers had been thrown out well upon the flank, who did not discover the enemy until receiving a sharp fire from him.

They fell back to the main body and Griffin sent the First Brigade to their support. They met with a bad fire which sent them back. Another brigade moved to their assistance, and they succeeded in rushing very close to the enemy's position, where they pelted him until he left the position and fell back to the exposed main line of works defending the approaches to the Boydtown pike and the South-Side railroad. Very little artillery was used.

Meanwhile the cavalry corps of Sheridan swung round still further South and rapidly moved toward the enemy's communication. Up to the time he left the field, he thought he had not engaged the enemy. Rumor says he captured a portion of the Boydstown pike, the 5th corps resting on the left of the 2d, the latter being connected with the main line. Ere this, it is probable the road is in our possession.

Our loss does not reach 300; the enemy's will not reach that figure. We captured 79 prisoners. The troops opposing us were Bushrod Johnson's.

The headquarters of Gen. Grant and Meade have been moved nearer to the left, in the vicinity of Gravelly Run. Warm work is expected to-morrow.

The *Herald's* Washington special of the 31st says persons supposed to be well informed respecting the plans of Gen. Grant, are confident that his movement against the Southside railroad with a view to compel the evacuation of Petersburg by Lee, if already not taken place, and Sheridan against Burksville, to prevent the escape of Lee's army.

New York, March 31.—The *Commercial Advertiser's* special says General Grant's recent predictions that within a few weeks Richmond would be rendered untenable is about being verified. Much of the news is contraband, but it does no harm to state that the combinations are of a character that seem to assure success. The present movement will cut off all communication between Lee and Johnston. General Thomas is moving upon Richmond from the Southwest with a heavy force. The enemy will be pressed so as to compel him to give instead of receive battle.

Later reliable advices from the army represent that General Grant's movement is certain to secure possession of the South-Side railroad, which is the key to Petersburg and Richmond.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—It is reported, but not authenticated, that the rebels during Wednesday night made several attempts to break through our lines in the neighborhood of Fort Steadman, but our forts and artillery opened on them a terrible fire, which as often drove them back in confusion until they abandoned the contest.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The *Times'* Army of the Potomac special says: Yesterday orders were received at the various field posts, to remove the sick and wounded to City Point, and keep the hospitals in readiness for any emergency that may arise.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—A private dispatch from Gen. Meade states that Major McEwen, of the 198th Pennsylvania Union League regiment, fell in the engagement of yesterday morning.

NEW YORK, March 31.—A special to the *Post*, from Washington, of the 31st, says: There is no truth in the peace rumors. Nothing but a vigorous war against the rebels is thought of in official circles.

LARGE NUMBERS OF DESERTERS ARRIVING.

The President Not Yet Returned.

SENTENCE OF NEW YORK BOUNTY BROKERS.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—During March 2,800 deserters from Lee's army were received in this city, to all of whom the oath of allegiance was administered. During February only 1,239 were received.

The President has not yet returned from Virginia. It is held on Wednesday he rode out to the front with a number of distinguished officers.

The finding and sentence of Devlin and Cahill, New York Bounty Brokers' cases tried before General Bragg's Military Commission, of which Col. N. P. Chipman, of the War Department, is Judge Advocate, have been confirmed by the Secretary of War. John Devlin was sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the penitentiary and fined $3,000. James Devlin to seven years imprisonment and a fine of $5,000 and John Cahill to five years imprisonment. They are to be sent to Clinton prison. This is just one instance of a large batch of similar cases, and which brings to light immense frauds practiced on the government. Steps are being taken to bring to justice these offenders in other parts of the country. The commissioner is going forward rapidly in examination.

SHERMAN'S VISIT TO GEN. GRANT.

Proposals for Cessation of Hostilities.

NEW YORK, March 31.—*The Herald's* Newbern special gives some particulars regarding General Sherman's recent quiet but hasty trip from Goldsboro to City Point, and visit to General Grant.

General Sherman on the way remarked to a friend that a talk of five minutes with General Grant would be sufficient for the mutual arrangement of their plans.

When Sherman was in Newbern a rumor was circulating that proposals for a cessation of hostilities had been submitted to him by Gen. Johnston, and that his visit to City Point was for the purpose of laying these before General Grant and General Lee.

A Fortress Monroe special says the exchange is progressing satisfactorily.

Paid Fire Department—Employment for Disabled Soldiers.

NEW YORK, March 31.—There has been some excitement here to-day over the passage of a bill providing for a paid fire department. Some firemen say they will not turn out in case of fire, and will prevent others from doing so. The Mayor has issued a proclamation, recommending good order and obedience to the laws, and calling on firemen to protect public property as usual.

The Society for procuring employment for disabled and discharged soldiers, publishes a letter from the President, promising such soldiers whatever offices they can fill in the various departments, and promising his hearty co-operation in the new movement.

Canada and the St. Albans Raiders.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The *Times'* Washington special says: The discharge of the St. Albans raiders has created a bad feeling; and although the Government is inclined to reciprocate the kindly sentiments of many of the leading Canadians, and sought to be carried out by acts of legislation, yet it is not to be presumed that the repetition of such farces can be taken as evidence of good faith, or good intentions on the part of the Canadian authorities.

Advices from Richmond.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The *Post's* Washington special says: Advices just received from Richmond state that the gold and general business of the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank of that city have been sent away. Two percussion cap manufactories have also been removed, it is supposed, to Danville or Lynchburg.

Lee's army has supplies ten days ahead.

The Negro Canal Boatman.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The *Star* says: The negro canal-boatman whose boat was smashed by Gen. Sheridan on his late raid, and who was lionized by the Richmond papers as having joined the colored recruits in a fever of indignation against the Yankees, has deserted to our lines, and brings with him twenty new rebel uniforms.

Guerrillas on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad---Train Captured and Burned.

BALTIMORE, March 31.—The western mail train from here for Wheeling yesterday, was captured by guerrillas, and all the cars except five were burned, and the passengers all robbed.

Rumored Evacuation of Petersburg.

BALTIMORE, March 31.—The flag of truce boat Manhattan, arrived at Annapolis this afternoon with seven hundred and fifty released prisoners. The Manhattan brings a rumor that Petersburg has been evacuated.

Sheridan's Movements.

WASHINGTON March 31.—The Richmond papers of Wednesday report that General Sheridan passed Dinwiddie Court House on Wednesday morning, and they think his destination is the South Side road.

Unfounded Rumor.

BUFFALO, March 31.—The report that Millard Fillmore has gone to act as a peace commissioner is incorrect. He is at present in Buffalo.

Failures in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—Two failures are reported to-day, one of them being for a very large amount.

THE SITUATION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Our Armies Taking Repose.

HEADQUARTERS REMOVED FURTHER NORTH.

Payment of the Troops Ordered.

NEWBERN, March 28.—The armies in North Carolina are taking a brief repose.

Sherman's forces are much in need of shoes, clothing and other necessaries prior to striking the finishing blow to the rebel Confederacy.

All is quiet at the front.

The enemy show no signs of life, where they are, or what they are about, and it appears a matter of indifference just now.

General Sherman's headquarters are to be removed from Savannah to Newbern.

General Howard's headquarters are to be removed from Beaufort, South Carolina, to this point.

Five hundred and fourteen bags of mail arrived on Sunday and Monday for Sherman's army.

The congratulations of the loyal citizens of this section of North Carolina over the appointment of Mr. Hugh McCulloch, of Indiana, and Senator Harlan, of Iowa, to the Cabinet, which were recently forwarded to Washington, coincide by saying: "These selections by our inflexible President, which are so satisfactory to us, represent the purity, skill and nobleness of our sister States of the great West."

Another batch of 500 rebel prisoners arrived here from Goldsboro on Sunday. They left yesterday for the North. More than half of them desire to take the oath of allegiance.

A general payment of all troops in this department is ordered.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 30.—The steamer Fairbanks, with prisoners from Newbern, reports that on the 29th she piloted up the steamer Hat with General Sherman aboard into Hatteras Inlet, by request, on account of the stormy weather.

New York Stock and Money Matters—Dry Goods Auction.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The Stock Market is more animated and prices show a general improvement. The market appears largely oversold on the leading stocks, and purchases of shorts to cover contracts have produced a decidedly firmer tone. The Railroad List was higher, and there are indications of prices being about to take an upward turn. State Stocks, Railroad Bonds and Bank Shares were generally quiet, being held above the views of buyers.

The Stock Board adjourned to-day to attend the funeral of Jacob Little.

Government Securities are all strong, with a fair demand for Gold Bonds. Gold uniform and the market ranged firm at 151½ to 152. It was slightly weak in the afternoon on the receipt of the military news.

There was a moderate business in Petroleum Stocks and prices steady; Empire City, 4-0; Rockerbocker, 50; Oceanic, 250; Rynd Farm, 370; Excelsior, 185; United States, 10,50; Tack, 260; Commonwealth, 4; Hydrech, 25,50; Germania, 83.

There was a renewed depression in the produce markets to-day, and business limited. Flour declined 25@40c, wheat 3@5c, corn 4c, oats 3@3c, pork $1, cotton 2@3c. Sales of of prime western extra, deliverable on opening of canal, was made to-day at 7c.

At the dry goods auction to-day the unfavorable weather caused a light attendance. There was rather an indifferent sale of cloths, dress goods, shawls, &c. The former mostly passed as there was an unwillingness to bid for them; the other articles on the catalogue did better. There was a competition for the mark down at the beginning of the sale. At the sale of cloths and woolen goods there was a large attendance and prices declined. Black Italians, 27 inch, brought 37½@39c; do 29 inch, 60@87c; do 4 4 Alt La Chapelle, $1,50; Belgian black cloth, $3,35@3,90, and very much in this proportion. There were not many duplicates and many lines were passed.

Rebel View of the Situation in North Carolina.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 27th says: The situation in North Carolina becomes more and more interesting. With his army scarcely half organized, Gen. Johnston has been able to resist the advance of the enemy from the time he left Cape Fear. On three occasions he has given Sherman severe lessons in the art of war. While at Kingston he was no less severely punished by Gregg. The battle of Bentonsville was a triumph to our arms. On the 20th the enemy was entrenched, and no fighting occurred. On the 21st there was heavy skirmishing and some severe fighting, in which the enemy were badly handled. That evening he moved off. Gen. Johnston maintains his position, and will be ready to meet the enemy at all points.

The *Confederacy* of the 23d, says: On the 21st General Johnston again attacked Sherman in front and on the flank, and after a severe battle drove the enemy in confusion from the field, capturing a large number of prisoners and utterly demoralizing the Federal army.

The same paper states, authoritatively, that the commandants of prisons in North Carolina have been ordered to be prepared to receive 5,000 prisoners, related in the battle of Averysboro on the 16th. Our loss is set down at 500, while that of the Yankees is set down at 3,800.

Thomas Moving "On to Richmond."

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Richmond papers of the 29th have the following:

Advices from Mobile to the 20th say preparations for its defense are very complete, and provisions enough to last for six months are in the city.

Augusta, Ga., March 26.—A force, reported to be under Grierson, one day last week made a demonstration on Tupelo, Miss., but were driven off.

The Richmond *Sentinel* has the following from East Tennessee:

Thomas having transferred a portion of his army to Knoxville and united it with Gillem's, is said to be moving in the direction of the Virginia line. At last accounts the command had reached the vicinity of Greeneville, a little over half way from Knoxville to Bristol. The division is accompanied by an engineer corps of 2,000 men, who are engaged in rebuilding railroads as fast as the army moves. Communication with the base at Knoxville will be kept up. The object of the expedition is, no doubt, to possess a hold in Southwestern Virginia, and if possible to move on and capture Lynchburg, thus co-operating with Grant in compelling the evacuation of Richmond. The scheme is well conceived, but it will be apt to miscarry in the execution, just as others have.

Cotton in Transit—Anarchy in Mississippi.

CAIRO, March 31.—Seventy-five bales of cotton for St. Louis, and eight hundred and twenty-five bales for Cincinnati and Evansville passed here.

Gen. Washburne offers from five hundred to one thousand dollars for the arrest and conviction of guerrillas within twenty miles of Memphis. Rebel deserters in the vicinity of Meridian, Miss., defy the authorities, threaten to annihilate the militia, and burn their houses if they attempt to oppose them. On the other hand, Forrest declares if the militia fails to arrest deserters, he will make a campaign in their locality and hang every one of them. The deserters are armed and organized, and the Legislature fear their influence. Bragg has appointed his brother Joseph to break up trade on the lines and turnpike, or burn all the cotton intended for federal posts, and stop traffic on the Mississippi river.

Georgia—Virginia Legislature—Movements Before Richmond.

NEW YORK, March 31.—A proposition to arrange for a State Convention, to decide whether Georgia shall remain within the rebel Confederacy or return to the Union, has been defeated in the Legislature of that State.

A majority of the old members of the Virginia Legislature have been returned to the one which meets next winter. Some were elected by a refugee constituency, numbering from 100 to 150.

The Richmond *Enquirer* says a heavy column of the enemy moved down the Jerusalem plank road on Thursday of last week. The movement is supposed to be a diversion in favor of Sherman striking Weldon, at the same time destroying the railroad between that point and Stony Creek.

7-30 Subscriptions.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—Jay Cooke reports that the subscriptions to the 7-30 loan to-day amounted to $9,156,900, including one from Cleveland of $50,000, the largest from the West, and one from Philadelphia for $100,000, which was the largest from the East. There were also 1,510 individual subscriptions for $50 and $100.

New York Gold Market.

NEW YORK, March 31.—Gold has shown rather more firmness this morning, partly from the supposition that the rain and storm may defeat the object of General Grant's important movement. Quotations fluctuated between 151¼ and 151½, and closing at the lower figure.

Guerrillas Respited.

LOUISVILLE, March 30.—Ashcraft and Nicholas, guerrillas, who were sentenced to be shot at Lexington, to-morrow, have been respited for thirty days. A respite has also been granted to O. K. Johnson, who was to have been hanged here to-morrow.

Gen. Banks Going to New Orleans.

NEW YORK, March 31.—Major-General Banks leaves to-morrow for New Orleans, via of Cairo and the Mississippi river. A complimentary dinner is to be given him this evening by his friends in the city.

The steamer Colorado, for Rio Janeiro, Panama and San Francisco, with Prof. Agassiz and suite on board, has anchored at Quarantine, and will go to sea as soon as the weather clears.

Opening of Navigation.

MILWAUKEE, March 31.—A telegram from La Crosse, yesterday, says that navigation is open to Lake Pepin, and that steamers are running to and from Winona.

The St. Albans Thieves—Another Judicial Decision.

Another Canadian Justice has decided that the St. Albans burglars were guiltless of the crime laid to their charge. More strictly speaking, Justice Smith, of Montreal, decides that the accused were Confederate soldiers, and that as such, they did not come within the Extradition Treaty. To better clinch the matter, in his own *Jeffersonian* way, Justice Smith further holds that the Extradition Treaty is no longer binding on the contending parties. And the cause of this lapse in the contract, is that the "United States Courts refuse to recognize the belligerent character of the Confederates!" Judge Smith is also made to say (by the telegram) that "he held that *Gen. Dix's order to shoot them down recognizes the raiders as belligerents, and not as robbers!*"

Several months ago, when the case of these burglars was transferred from the hands of the notorious Coursol to those of Smith, an eminent Canadian judge, on a visit to New York, remarked that the St. Albans raiders having been tried before a knave, were now to go before a fool. The telegram may do injustice to Justice Smith's learning and logic; for it is exceedingly hard of belief that even a second class provincial justice can have declared the Extradition Treaty at an end, by the fact of the United States Courts having "refused to recognize the belligerent character of the Confederates." This is nonsense so irrifiably dull that it is not even amusing. One must either suppose that Justice Smith was ignorant that the Extradition Treaty was put in active force at the instance of the British authorities, only a few months ago, in the case of Muller; and that it was in operation at the instance of our own government still more recently, in the case of Burley; or it must be concluded that Smith has constituted himself the supreme authority in the matter of terminating or annulling international covenants as he pleases. We had supposed that the opening or closing of treaties were matters of purely *Executive* action. This *Dogberry* tells us that it is a judicial matter altogether, and that he himself is the Judge.—*N. Y. Times.*

Interesting Physiological Facts.

In a letter to the London *Globe*, Dr. Kidd mentions the following instance of the restoration of sight in a young woman born blind. He says: "I saw individually and observed with interest the following case a short time ago at the Eye Institution, Moorfields—a case that would be invaluable to Berkeley, as bearing on the play played by the senses in intellect, etc. An interesting looking young woman, twenty-two years of age, born stone blind—partly educated in the family of a clergyman, all this time by finger alphabets, as we see blind men tracing the letters in one or two places in town—blind for twenty-two years, was restored to perfect vision in four days by a surgical operation and to partial vision in two minutes. This young woman in an instant, having been twenty-two years and from her birth stone blind of congenital cataract, began to see, as those deaf mutes in Paris began to hear, for the first time. The effect in the young woman was most curious, and something of this kind. She saw everything, but there was no idea whatever of perspective. She put her hand to the window to try to catch the trees on the other side of the street, then in Moorfield; she tried to touch the ceiling of a high ward; she was utterly ignorant also of common things—*e. g.*, what such things as a bunch of keys were, or a silver watch, or a common cup and saucer; but when she shut her eyes and was allowed to touch them (the educated sense) she told them at once! She could almost distinguish the greasy feel of a silver half-crown from the cold, dry, harsh feeling of a copper penny. Her joy was excessive when shown some mignionette and sweet pea that one of the surgeons had accidentally in his coat, for it seems she knew all the plants in the clergyman's garden by the touch and smell! She looked at the bunch of keys, and with quiet blackness at the flowers, then shut her eyes so as to recognize them. All this took up less than five minutes. But she failed to say, as well as I now remember the case, "these are flowers." But on my saying when she opened her eyes again, "Why, these are flowers!" "Oh, so they are," she replied, shutting her eyes again quickly and putting them to her nose, "This is mignonette," etc.

Acknowledgment of a Hopeless Case.

The Texas *Ranger* extra of March 17th publishes the following:

We are informed by a respectable citizen of Austin, that Mr. Charles West, formerly a citizen of that place, but now one of General E. Kirby Smith's staff, with the rank of Major, has written a letter to Mr. James Raymond, of Austin, stating the substance of our prospects west of the Mississippi were almost hopeless, and that Texas should look to her own interest. He suggests that the Legislature should be assembled, and measures taken for a Convention to be elected, and that Mr. West is willing to be a candidate for representative of Travis county. We learn from the same source that the Governor has written a letter in reply to the letter to General Smith, and to know whether he indorses Major W.'s sentiments. We should doubt the authenticity of this letter, had not our informant assured us that he had read the letter, and the matter was no secret, but publicly spoken of.

MEXICO.—The news from Mexico to-day would seem to afford some confirmation of the Paris reports—so often repeated—that the Emperor has ordered the return of a large portion, at least, of the French army. The arrivals of troops withdrawn from the Mexican service have been of frequent occurrence of late. And we are to believe the accompanying intelligence as to the decided stand Maximilian has taken against the claims and pretensions of the hierarchy, it is clear he is looking for compensation for the loss of the French Janisaries, by overtures to the Liberalists of a character ostensibly radical to a degree. His rejoinder to the Bishops is as pointed as the most ultra advocate of secularization could desire.—*N. Y. Times.*

A Vicksburg correspondent of the New Orleans *Times Delta*, writing on the 18th, says the rebel authorities, through their Commissioner of Exchange, Lieutenant Colonel Watty, have agreed to send 11,000 Union prisoners to a camp of exchange already established at a point called Four Mile Bridge, on the Vicksburg and Jackson railroad. Eight hundred of our men have already arrived there from Cahawba, Meridian, and other places in Alabama and Mississippi. They have suffered greatly from the want of clothing and by exposure to the weather, but have had enough food, though not of the best quality. The remainder of the men will be sent in as soon as rebel prisoners are returned for those already arrived.

LIEUT. C. H. BRADFORD of the U. S. Marine Corps, was mortally wounded in the attack on Fort Sumter, Sept. 7, 1863, and was taken prisoner. He died a few days after in Charleston, when Dr. Mackay, a prominent Union man of that city, had his body buried in the Masonic burial ground at the Magnolia Cemetery. Some rabid Secessionists learning this, dug it up and had it interred in the Potters field. It remained there until the 16th of the present month, when it was transferred again to the Magnolia Cemetery, with appropriate religious and military ceremonies. Admiral Dahlgreen, Gen. Hatch and a large number of army and navy officers and citizens followed the remains to the grave.

THE oft-repeated story of a desire for reunion in North Carolina comes afresh from Morehead City. A member of the Legislature, just from Raleigh, represent that the people have lost all faith and hope in Davis' Government, and are not only willing, but anxious to return to the Union, even on the condition of abolishing slavery. From the same source we learn that Davis himself has been trying to get a show for peace through the medium of the North Carolina authorities. He is said to offer the abolition of slavery if President Lincoln will grant full pardon for the past and join with the South in a foreign war.

FIVE offices are now open in Charleston where the oath of allegiance is administered. Each office is crowded during business hours, and the Charleston *Courier* of the 10th says "the desire to place themselves on the side of the United States Government seems to be prominent among all classes of citizens;" and that paper adds "we believe the majority of the people who subscribe to the oath do so because they have implicit faith in the stability of the United States Government."

FENIANISM is troubling the British authorities in Ireland. It is discovered that members of the society are endeavoring to seduce the soldiers in the army, and a jury, who acquitted a man charged with this offence, were suspected of being Fenians themselves.

A BOSTON storekeeper the other day stuck upon his door the laconic advertisement, "A boy wanted." The next morning, on opening the store, he found a little urchin in a basket, labeled "Here he is."

THE CROPS.—The prospects for an abundant wheat crop in this county were never more promising. The wheat in the adjoining counties also looks well, and promises to yield largely.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

To our Patrons.

Those of our city subscribers who will be moving on the 1st of April, will please give their new address to the carriers, or leave it at the office, so that their papers may reach them.

Court of Quarter Sessions.

Before Judges Mellon and Brown.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs Wm. Taylor and Thomas Jackson—larceny—the jury returned a verdict of not guilty in regard to Jackson, and found Taylor guilty, with a recommendation to the mercy of the court.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Hugh Wilkinson, assault and battery, the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the defendant was fined $1 and costs.

Commonwealth vs. John Farrell; abandonment, on oath of Rosanna Farrell. The defendant has been separated from his wife for six years. He has returned from a service of three years in the army, and during that period he has sent her small sums of money, but none prior to his enlistment. The court decreed that John Farrell pay his wife and her child $15 per month for their comfortable support until the further order of the court, and that he be committed to jail till he comply with this order or give security in the sum of $300, and he is ordered to pay costs of prosecution. The defendant has signified his willingness to live with his wife, with whom he has had intercourse within the past three years, and she is now *enciente.*

Commonwealth vs. James P. Stewart; assault and battery. Fined $5 and costs.

Commonwealth vs. John Schwartz; assault and battery with an attempt to commit a rape on the person of Sarah Beggs. The parties reside in Mpon township, and the assault was perpetrated last February. The young lady had gone about noon to the defendant's father's, who is a shoemaker, to get her shoes mended, and while she was there John left the house. As she was returning home through a piece of woods, he came out and endeavored to outrage her person, but her outcries made him desist—not, however, until after a severe struggle, in which her clothing was much torn. The plaintiff is a young girl of sixteen, and the defendant about the same age. Miss Gibbs was recalled to the stand, but was so abashed that she only answered in monosyllables. She testified that defendant threw her down, but she strenuously resisted all his efforts to effect her ruin. Her dress became saturated from snow, and the skirt was much torn in the scuffle. Her ankle was sprained when she was thrown down. The testimony given by the prosecutor is unimpeachable, and is fully borne out by other witnesses who saw her afterwards, and saw the ground where the assault was made, which bore evidence of a severe struggle, well and nobly maintained on the part of the girl. The testimony has been concluded, and the arguments of counsel will be heard this morning. District Attorney Kirkpatrick for the prosecution, and J. W. Whitcroft and J. R. Large for defense.

District Court.

Before Judge Williams.

Bredin, Johnston and Wilkins vs. Shreve & Tibson. Breach of contract. This case came up on Wednesday, and is one of considerable interest. It involves a claim of damages, fixed at $25,000 with interest, for the loss sustained by plaintiff, proprietors of the Aladdin Oil Works, in the non-delivery by defendants of a full amount of oil contracted for. The contract was made in January, 1862, and was for the delivery of 1,000 barrels per month for one year, to commence as soon as practicable, "at the privilege of delivering 2,000 additional in the fall months, and 3,000 in the spring, to prevent a failure of carrying out the contract on account of low stages of water." The contract provided that either party could recover in the sum of $1,000 for a breach of covenant. The defendant delivered 5,600 barrels, which was paid by the plaintiff, but no further delivery has been made on per contract. Some months afterwards defendant brought 4,095 barrels, at a time when he was only entitled to bring 2,000. The plaintiff was not prepared to receive it, then but claims that this was no absolute refusal. Defendant then took the oil to another market and disposed of it. In the meantime oil has risen several cents on the gallon. On the 10th of August a letter was written from Oil City, by defendants asking the privilege of putting in 2,000 in September and settling for the whole on the 1st of October. No answer to this letter appears in the testimony. The plaintiffs on the 11th of November, 1862, sent notice that in case of the failure of defendants to supply the Aladdin Works with oil they found it necessary to purchase at market rates. The rates having advanced since the contract was made, the plaintiffs claim to have lost by the defendant's breach of the contract $25,000, being the difference of the increased price of oil, with interest added. The case is now in the hands of the jury.

The German Opera.

EDITORS GAZETTE; Having been present at Masonic Hall, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, to listen to the operas of "Faust" and "Fidelia," I must say that I was very much disappointed—being led to believe by the flourish of trumpets that preceded their coming, that we would have something extra in the way of a musical treat, and hailed their coming with much pleasure. I was very much disappointed with the manner in which "Faust" was mutilated and cut to pieces. Indeed I would not have recognized the opera at all, had it not been for the character "Mephistopheles," which was well sustained by Hermann. The gentleman that tried to play "Faust" had better never attempt that part again, as his voice is not even approximate to fill Masonic Hall. The "Soldiers Chorus" I have heard better sung by Amateurs in our own city. I had hoped that "Fidelia" would have been a more creditable performance, but alas it was worse than "Faust!" The rendition of the chorus was miserable, with one or two exceptions. The orchestra is very good, and ably led by Carl Anshutz, and had it not been for that body of gentlemen to keep the choruses together and bring them back to pitch when they were screaming too loud and out of tune, the whole would have been a complete failure. It was as much as the orchestra could do in the last chorus of "Fidelia" to bring the soprano singers back to pitch, as they were singing from a quarter to a half tone too high. It would have been better for the manager to have brought more singers and better voices. The business part of the concern was certainly well managed in compelling the citizens to secure seats either for three or six nights as the modest sum of $1 *in advance per ticket.* It would do well in future if our citizens would wait and see if the managers of Operas performed all the "rich and rare" musical wonders their posters and advertisements promise, before paying in advance for the entire season. [Query.] What has become of Carl Formes?

A PROFESSOR.

Soldiers' Claims.

The business in the various departments of the State and General Government for adjusting the claims of soldiers, sailors, or their heirs, is becoming more extended and complicated. The multifold enactments by Congress on the subject—the unlooked-for rapid increase of such demands—tend to make settlements more slow and to require a greater degree of care and judgment in preparing and filing them, as the most trivial error may cause months of delay. Claimants should be careful to whom they entrust their business, as they may, by the ignorance of their agents or attorney, lose their money. In view of this, we can unquestionably recommend W. J. and Hall Patterson, Esqs., of 144 Liberty street, as every way capable and reliable. We know by their experience, ability and thorough knowledge of every branch of the business, and the high reputation they have gained thereby, that all matters entrusted to them will be carefully and promptly attended to.

Excelsior Institute.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of parents and guardians, having children to educate, to this excellent school. It is under the care of Rev. W. S. Gray a gentleman eminently fitted both by education and experience for his position. The Excelsior is just entering upon its tenth session, and has constantly grown in public favor until it may justly be regarded as one of the established institutions of our city. Mr. Gray, being a graduate of Dr. Dio Lewis' Normal Gymnasium, is amply qualified to take charge of the physical as well as the intellectual wants of his pupils, and to this end the institute is supplied with a full set of modern Gymnastic apparatus and a portion of each day is devoted to the physical development of his pupils, thus securing to them a sound mind in a sound body—the one condition of success in life. See advertisement in another column.

Last Matinee and Last Night of Fallon's Stereopticon to-day. It should be borne in mind that this beautiful entertainment will close to-night. A matinee will be given this afternoon, the admission to which, for children, has been reduced to fifteen cents, that all the little ones may have an opportunity of enjoying the pleasure afforded by this splendid view pro incud. No entertainment ever presented to our citizens has afforded more real enjoyment, than the Stereopticon, and those who have been so fortunate as to witness it will ever cherish a remembrance of its beauties, and recur to them with pleasure.

Appointment.—Mr. James Montooth, the well known grocer on Smithfield street, has been appointed U. S. Inspector of Commissary Stores for this post. Mr. Montooth is well-known as one of our most energetic and reliable business men, and he is peculiarly qualified for filling the responsible position to which he has just been assigned.

New Academy of Music.

A meeting of citizens was held at four o'clock yesterday afternoon for the purpose of furthering the project for an Academy of Music, to be created in this city. The attendance was composed principally of our young business men, who have a lively interest in the matter, which augurs well for the success of the enterprise.

C. D. Brignall, Esq., was called to the chair, and M. T. Townsend appointed Secretary.

Mr. Holtzman stated the object of the meeting—to consider on the act passed by the legislature incorporating a new Music Hall. The Secretary then read the act.

On motion of Mr. Mertz a committee of five was appointed wit power to nominate sub-committees, to procure subscriptions to the capital stock of the Academy of Music.

The chair appointed the following gentlemen on the committee: P. H. Mertz, C. W. Batchelor, G. R. H. Holtzman, H. M. Murray, and W. P. Weyman.

This committee are authorized to open subscription books, and transfer such subscriptions as they may receive, to the Board of Supervisors, provided by the act of incorporation. Under the charter of the corporation, the Supervisors are required to open books of subscription, and give two weeks' notice in two daily papers, of the place where subscriptions will be taken.

A free interchange of opinions was had between the gentlemen at the meeting, concerning the importance of an Academy of Music in Pittsburgh. It is an enterprise which our pleading people have been rather tardy about starting, but now that the movement has begun, it will doubtless be seconded by all lovers of musical and artistic exhibitions. A book was opened for subscriptions at the close of the meeting—the shares fixed at $10 each—and in twenty minutes 505 shares were subscribed.

Contest at Westminster College.

The annual contest between the Philomath and Adelphia Societies, of Westminster College, New Wilmington, Lawrence county, came off on Wednesday, the 29th ult. The audience was large, and great interest was manifested. The judges were Rev. Messrs. Carson and Hall, and Mr. Mitchell, the financial agent of the College. Mr. John Frasier, of New Wilmington, delivered an oration on "The Philanthropical Society." The combat between Rhoderick Dhu and Fitz James, was rendered by Mr. K. King, of Erie. Mr. Lorenzo G. Boice, of Pittsburg, read an essay on "Men in the Universe," and Mr. J. D. Brownlee, of Washington, Pa., one on "The Destiny of Liberty." Mr. J. J. Francis, of New Wilmington, delivered an original oration on "Imperishable Monuments," and was followed by Mr. R. B. Taggart, of East Palestine, Ohio, on "The Vanity of Human Grandeur." The most exciting part of the exercises was the "debate" on the question, "Should we have free trade?" The affirmative was maintained by Mr. R. McIntosh, of Croxton, Ohio, and the negative by Mr. S. R. Galbraith, of Glade Mills, Pa. The performances were all creditable alike to the performers and their preceptors; but, owing to some disappointment on the part of some of the performers originally appointed, the effects were not as brilliant as they would otherwise have been.

The judges made the following award: Select oration, Mr. King; essay, Mr. Brownlee; oration, Mr. Taggart; debate, Mr. Galbraith.

Blowing out Kerosene Lamps.

The case mentioned in our paper yesterday of the accidental explosion of a kerosene lamp by the wind blowing in at the chimney, and the injury of a young lady who was holding it, and two others, is an apt illustration of the danger of blowing out kerosene or carbon lamps from the top, which is greater than people generally suppose. There are several instances on record, we add, where there have been lives lost by the explosion of lamps from this practice. The following explanation of the causes that produce the explosion are worth considering and heeding:

First—The oil in the lamp is generally low, leaving more room for gas.

Second—The gas is very inflammable, and will always explode when ignited.

Third—In blowing the blaze down, it ignites the gas.

The inference is, a lamp should never be blown out from the top. The wick may not perfectly fill the tube, and the