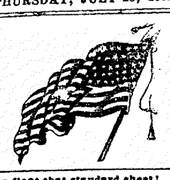
The Press.

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1861.



Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathe the foe but falls before us
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

THE APPROACH of the pickets of the enemy to the immediate vicinity of Washington indicates that the insurgents are disposed to again threaten the Capital. But, meanwhile, our army there is rapidly being organized, and numerous reinforcements are hurrying on to assist in its defence.

AN EXCITING SCENE occurred in the House of Representatives yesterday, between WM. A. RICHARDSON, of Illinois, and Mr. BURNETT, of Kentucky. Full particulars will be found in our telegraphic report of the proceedings.

WE ARE not disposed to exaggerate the great issues which have been forced upon us by the recent disaster to our arms in Virginia. That we have met with a terrible reverse; that the largest army which ever marched under our banner has been beaten; that we have been driven from our advanced position in Eastern Virginia, are facts which the people must reluctantly admit and carefully consider. The people of the South have gained the greatest triumph of this revolution. If there has been division before, there cannot be division now, for the sword which checked the career of the Federal army, under the brow of the Blue Ridge, will check any attempt to maintain a loyalty to the Union in the seceded States. The confidence of the people of those States who have been looking forward to a time when they could gladly welcome the victorious armies of the Republic has been sadly shaken. They may have been Secessionists under protest before, but they can be so no longer. The victory of their troops will consolidate the Southern sentiment; for a rebellion, that is formidable enough to win a great battle, within thirty miles of the capital of the country its leaders betrayed, will be strong enough to punish as treason to its authority any exhibition of discontent within its own borders.

But this consideration, great as it may be, is one of the very least which press themselves upon the minds of the people. The great task before the nation is to save the Capital of the nation; for, in saving Washington, we can retain a hope of saving the Union. It is the political heart of the republic, and when the blood flows sluggishly, or swells into a high and rapid fever, we must look for the effect upon the various extremities which depend upon it for sustenance. If we lose Washington we must look to a future terrible to contemplate, and among the probabilities of that future we must rank the recognition of the Southern Confederacy; the estrangement of the Northwest; the mere effigy of the Union in the Eastern and Middle States; a republic on the north Mississippi, a republic on the south Mississippi, a republic of New England, and a republic on the Pacific coast.

The course of reasoning which leads us to this conclusion is very plain. The capture of Washington means the occupation of Maryland, the subjugation of Western Virginia, the secession of Kentucky, the thraldom of Eastern Tennessee, and the triumph of treason in Missouri. The capture of Washington will be the triumph of the theory of self disintegration, and by showing to the world that the Central Government has not the power to maintain itself, it permits the constituent parts of that Government to look only to their own selfish interests, and to enter into any arrangement, either politically, commercially, or socially, which those interests may suggest. When the corner-stone is gone the edifice must crumble. It will be no longer the Union of thirty-four States for the sake of the Union, but the Union of the Cotton States for the sake of an inter-State slave trade; of the agricultural States for the sake of agriculture; of the mineral States for the sake of a high tariff; of the commercial and manufacturing States for the sake of a low tariff, and of the States of the Pacific for the sake of the gold upon the shores of the Pacific. Unless we have strength at the great centre of our political system, the bodies composing that system must of necessity gravitate from it. Unless we are strong enough to maintain the Republic as the Republic was founded, we must submit to that common fate of weak republics—a great despotism or a confederation of mere petty tyrannies.

We think this is understood by the people of the North, but it is well that they should understand it in all its aspects. The Southern cannon are no longer in Charleston bay, but on the sides of the Blue Ridge. BEAUREGARD has brought his batteries from Carolina to Virginia, and now literally menaces the Heights of Arlington. In April, Washington was in terror of a local rabble which had collected from the counties of Fairfax, Prince William, Loudoun, and Jefferson. In July, the danger comes from a large, well-disciplined, and a gallant army, flushed with victory, commanded by able generals, and representing every community in the South, from the aristocratic planters of Virginia to the uncouth foresters, who roam through the woods of Texas. That Washington can be taken as easily as the town of Fairfax or Centreville, we do not think; but it can be taken, and Mr. DAVIS would consider it cheaply bought at the cost of ten thousand lives. And this Richmond dictator is not the man his record has proved him to be if he does not make the effort.

The Federal Government is on the defensive. The capital must be defended, and a hundred thousand men must be there before another week rolls past. The people of the North must come up to the work, and they must come with the sword. No more declamation; no more invective; no more speculation; no more idle sympathy for traitors; no more halting between two opinions; no more hankering after the flesh-pots of compromise; no more partisanship and treasonable resolutions by party Conventions—we must use the sword. It must be wielded by no divided energies, but with one will and one purpose. And then, having placed the capital beyond all danger; having raised it high above the shoals of treason, we may hope to go forth again, armed with this fearful experience, and anxious to conclude the work of asserting the integrity of the Union.

Colonel James Cameron.

This gallant officer, who died at the head of his regiment, the New York Seventy-ninth, better known as the Caledonian or Cameron regiment, on Sunday last, was born at Maytown, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and at the time of his death was about sixty years of age. When that fine corps reached Washington they had no Colonel. Their ranks were full and their enthusiasm unbounded. Learning that Colonel CAMERON was in town, they offered him the command, which, after some hesitation, he accepted, and was duly commissioned by the President.

The CAMERON brothers have always been conspicuous in the politics of Pennsylvania. Their parents were in straitened circumstances, and JAMES, the youngest of the four brothers, was, like them, thrown early upon the world, and forced to take care of and educate himself. The qualities that enabled their widowed mother to look after her children in youth have strengthened them in their many contests with the world. Of the two surviving brothers the eldest is WILLIAM, one of the noted capitalists of the State, resident in Union county, and the next in years the present Secretary of War.

JAMES CAMERON was married to the daughter of Mr. LEHMAN, of Lancaster, more than twenty years ago. Always identified with the politics of Pennsylvania from the year 1832, he was, like his brother SIMON, the editor of several leading newspapers. Both were printers. He also acted as the superintendent of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, when that improvement was under State management. Colonel CAMERON always belonged to the Democratic party until within recent years, when his sympathies were enlisted on the side of the straight Douglas Democracy of Pennsylvania, with whom he efficiently co-operated until the nomination of Mr. LINCOLN, whose election he warmly supported. He was a man of singular unselfishness of character. His kindness and his charity were his prominent attributes. He had a charm in his manner that attracted a stranger to him at once, and in all his life, it may be truly said that he was never guilty of a mean act. He was ever a favorite with the Irish citizens of Pennsylvania, particularly with those who lived in and about the town of Lancaster. Inheriting their social nature, and proud of his connection with them, he was never so happy as in their company; and born in an old German settlement, he may be said to have been equally a favorite of the Germans. He was highly courageous. Whatever he might have lacked in other respects, he made up by his natural, instinctive, and daring intrepidity. More than twenty years ago, in a contest with a newspaper editor in the town of Lancaster, while attempting to enter his office, he was shot down, and his conduct, in what threatened to be his death-bed, showed that he could meet the dread destroyer without fear. After having been elected Colonel of the Seventy-ninth, he took up his quarters with the corps at Georgetown College, and soon secured their confidence. His brother, the Secretary of War, took great interest in the regiment, and although averse to his acceptance of the command, on account of his age, did all in his power to encourage him. But the natural vigor and intrepidity of Col. CAMERON soon fitted him for the arduous duties of his new position. In the first engagement he exhibited great coolness and gallantry. The effect of a passing cannon ball threw his horse upon his haunches, when he dismounted, and, with a joke, said, "I think I had better be among the footmen." But, in the bloody battle of Manassas, he exposed his person, and cheered his men at all points. A short time previous to his death, he met a citizen of Lancaster, Colonel HEISTAND, the editor of the Lancaster *Examiner and Herald*, and conversed with him freely, assuring him that he intended to lead his regiment and to come out of the fight with honor, if his life should pay the forfeit. He then disappeared; the order came from the commanding General directing the Seventy-ninth to go "forward!" and in a short time JAMES CAMERON was numbered among the departed. He was struck at the same moment by two balls, one in the stomach and the other in the head, immediately after he had called out to his command, "Scots, follow me!" He expired almost without a groan. We understand that HENRY S. MAGRAW, of Pennsylvania, proceeded yesterday to the battle-field for the purpose of making an effort to recover the body of our deceased fellow-citizen.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1861.

It would be a fatal folly to go back to the past and to inquire into the causes of our misfortune near Manassas, on Sunday last, and those who allow themselves to do so will gather nothing from the experiment. If we allow ourselves to quarrel over these causes we shall become an easy prey to an exultant enemy. I have been astounded that certain of the New York journals, who assisted to create and to keep up a frenzied sentiment, and compelled the advance upon the batteries of the enemy before the proper time, should now demand a change in the Administration, because it yielded to their own appeals, and induced Gen. Scott to alter the plan of his campaign. A better feeling, I am happy to say, prevails among the representatives of the people, many of whom were carried away by the excitement which first began by declaring that General Scott was too slow, and too many of whom insisted upon giving advice to the officers of the army. Many Representatives and Senators now say that the only way successfully to conduct and to conclude this war is to repose undoubting confidence in the veteran Lieutenant General. They will not, I think, listen to the new exactions of the New York newspapers. When politicians insist upon assuming the control of an army, they always make mistakes. Confidence in our military leaders is a first requisite; and submission to these leaders on the part of those not in the army will undoubtedly be manifested hereafter.

As an evidence of the prescience of General Scott, I need only recall the fact, that for many weeks past, those most urgent for our advance upon Virginia complained bitterly of his plan of fortifying the heights near and around Washington. [illegible] and money, and yet we now find that this very precaution has saved the capital from capture! If his directing genius had been left unfettered, there would have been no rash advance upon Manassas, and therefore no such catastrophe as we now mourn over. A leading statesman, who called upon him some days ago, and advised a speedy attack, was answered by the old man in these words: "I am older than you, and your younger blood may be right, but my maturer judgment is against any precipitate action." General Scott never was more confident than he is at this moment. He thinks that we have won a victory, all things considered, and if left to himself, will, I have no doubt, so discipline and dispose of our forces, as to reflect new lustre upon his own name and upon the flag of our country. OCCASIONAL.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

[From our Special War Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1861.

Yesterday was a busy, tumultuous, and discordant day. The city is filled with soldiers; and Pennsylvania Avenue never presented a more exciting scene than it has done since Monday morning. Large bodies of troops are constantly thronging every street, filling the corridors of the hotels, standing at the corners, and forming in little knots around curious listeners in the Capitol, the public grounds, and the White House. Energetic efforts are being constantly made to organize the various regiments, and during the day messengers were riding around the city endeavoring to collect the straggling members of each particular regiment. In many parts of the city the soldiers are quartered, and the officers are anxiously laboring to restore their men to a state of efficiency—taking care of the wounded and striving to hunt up the missing. It will be a day or two before this work is accomplished, as the work of assembling and arranging twenty thousand weary soldiers is a task of wonderful magnitude. I have conversed with many of these soldiers, and I am glad to be able to say that there is in every breast a deep, bitter, inexorable sentiment of eagerness to return to the contest, and to hurl back upon Richmond the treasonable hordes of Davis, Johnston, and Beauregard. The announcement that General McClellan has been appointed to take command has created great enthusiasm among our men. I have no fault to find with General McDowell. He is a brave man; he made a mistake; but the error of a soldier is the ruin of a soldier. General McDowell, with the fate of Manassas on his memory, can never command the confidence of the army. The man for the hour seems to be our gallant young townsman. Without disparaging any single officer of this campaign, it must be admitted that around the brow of George B. McClellan cluster the greenest laurels of the war. He enters into the sympathy of the hour; his heart beats honestly, and warmly for the Union, and every impulse is true to his native land. I have faith in him. The time is one of peril. The Carthaginians are before menaced Rome, and may be be the Scipio Africanus of the American Republic.

The dead march! Its slow, sad, solemn strains wall through the air, and the procession winds around the broad Avenue at the foot of the hill to the mournful martial music. It is a dreadful thing to see on this glorious summer day, for it brings up to us all the fearful memories of the battle-field, its horrors, its unwritten woe, its unappreciated, because ineffectual, bravery. It is one of the victims who fell on Sunday, a gallant private of Ohio. The flag drapes his coffin, and before and behind the hearse his companions in arms slowly pace. The traces of the battle are still upon them, for they are jaded with excitement, travel worn, and weary, and sad with the gloom of a great grief.

I wish I could write you one-half the stories I hear of the indomitable bravery of our troops. Every tongue has some great achievement to tell, and every eye sparkles with the recollection of deeds of daring. One incident comes to my mind as a striking illustration of the temper of our men. While the Third Infantry of regulars were under a fearful fire, a South Carolina soldier was seen to ride along the lines bearing a Palmetto flag, and waving it insultingly and in defiance at our forces. One of the privates noticed the action, and quietly remarking, "That flag has been there long enough," deliberately raised his piece and brought the audacious rebel to the dust.

Poor Kent is missing. He was a young man and a resident of Philadelphia. Lately graduating at West Point, with high honors in his class, he was immediately ordered into service and joined the Third infantry as a lieutenant. In the early part of the action he was wounded in the foot, and borne to an ambulance. But the spirit was strong, and although weak with the loss of blood, he left the conveyance and endeavored to rejoin his company. On his way he fainted from exhaustion, and it is supposed was left on the field, in the tumult of retreat. One gallant fellow, Sergeant, Morton, of the regular service, distinguished himself in the course of an infantry charge. The men were proceeding up a declivity, on double-quick time, to take a battery. The sergeant rushed out in advance of his company, and, waving his flag cheered for them to come on. The artillery poured forth their deadly volley, but they went on, and the battery was taken.

Among those who fell was one old man whose head was white with age, and whose story is a romance of war. He had been thirty years in the regular service as a private soldier. He had followed the Indians through the everglades of Florida, bivouacked upon the side of the Rocky Mountains, chased the Comanche and the Cherokee through New Mexico, stood before the fire of Buena Vista, charged up the heights of Chepultepec, and followed the victorious flag of his country along the plains of Mexico and into the halls of the Montezumas. His arm was covered with chevrons, six blue stripes indicating six consecutive enlistments, and two red battle-stripes, typifying *Florida* and *Mexico*; and with these simple insignia he felt prouder than ever did the white-plumed Murat at the head of his gaudy cavalry. He fell in the heat of battle, with the shouts of his comrades ringing in his ears. Poor fellow! Lowly among the brave, almost forgotten in this age of ingratitude and forgetfulness, who shall relate his eventful and glorious history?

The smoke is passing away, and we begin clearly to comprehend our recent disaster in Virginia. It is gratifying to know that the magnitude of that disaster is lessened the more closely we scan it. The killed, wounded, and missing will not outnumber more than a few hundreds, and of the wounded, all are well treated, and most of them will recover. One thing appears to be certain; that if the rebels have gained a victory, that victory has been a barren one, and so completely have their forces been demoralized and decimated by the splendid, though ineffectual, valor of our soldiers; that they were unable to follow up their triumph, and realize its advantages. It was at first thought that the main body of their reserve army had moved down in the rear of our retreating column, occupying Centreville and Fairfax, and all during yesterday and the day before the most vivid apprehensions were entertained for the safety of the city. It was rumored that Beauregard had taken Fairfax, and that, as soon as his army had rested, he would move at once upon Arlington and menace the capital. That apprehension, indeed, has not entirely passed away, and many an anxious head lay upon its pillow last night, expecting to be awakened by the guns of the victorious enemy.

Battles are judged by their results, and when we know the tide of victory has turned either one way or the other way, we hardly care to ask the details of the engagement, or the valor of each the intrepidity of another. When victorious, all are deserving. When defeated, we do not ask who did the most to avoid that defeat, but upon whose shoulders must the responsibility fall. This is the great question which agitates Washington to-day, and rumor, with her thousand tongues, is busily endeavoring to attach the misfortunes of the day to some erring or unfortunate public servant. By many it is charged that General McDowell envious perhaps of the fame of General McClellan in the West, was anxious to hurl his column instantly upon Manassas, and risk a defeat for the opportunity of gaining the splendid renown of a decisive victory. I have heard this charge made by officers who served under him; and I have heard it said further that so closely did General McDowell conceal his purpose, that officers of high grade, commanding under him, had no idea, on entering the field, that they entered to participate in a general engagement. Another charge fixes the whole responsibility upon General Patterson, at Martinsburg, who either neglected or refused to form a connection with McDowell, or prevent the junction of Johnston with Beauregard at Manassas. The disposition is general to fix the blame on Patterson, and nothing but the official showing of his instructions and his doings can relieve that officer from the responsibility showered upon him.

It is very certain, however, that this disaster does not belong to any one general or to any one executive officer, but to the dictatorial and rash sentiment which newspapers and politicians had infused into the people. It is almost impossible to describe the extent of this haughty and insolent dictation to the Administration. It extended from politicians to statesmen, and infused its baneful spirit into the Senate and the House of Representatives. The most fatal error of the Administration is that it followed the sentiment of the people, and if it erred at all it erred by the observance of a Democratic virtue. Newspapers of great influence, like the New York *Tribune*, and the New York *Times*, were the most unreasonable and overbearing in this course. Their cry was, On to Richmond, without delay; and as day after day passed without making a forward movement, as preparation upon preparation was carefully and cautiously made, this incessant censure and ungenerous criticism were constantly indulged. No single member of the Administration, no single person who had in any way expressed confidence in the Administration, was free from their abuse. General Scott himself,

"Whose eighty winters freeze with one rebuke
All great self-seekers, trampling on the right,"

was assailed in the most unjust and malignant manner; his loyalty was doubted, his abilities [illegible] misrepresented, his counsels scoffed at, the very affections of his heart and the hospitalities of his house being subjects of ridicule and censure. The public opinion thus manufactured, and directed by men high in the confidence of the country, became too strong for the Administration, and against its judgment it yielded. "For the first time in my life I have been a coward, for I have for the first time in my life yielded my judgment to the clamors of politicians and newspapers." These are said to have been the words of General Scott, and they truly show the effect of this fearful public sentiment.

Let us learn one lesson, however, and let that lesson be—confidence in the men who have shown themselves worthy of confidence. At the head of our army we have the greatest captain of the age, and we must trust him. At the head of the Government we have a pure and an honest man, who deserves the affection and the respect of the nation. He has around him statesmen of experience and sagacity. They are all filled with one purpose. They are all anxious to see the Union restored and the Constitution defended, and in their hands we must place this work. The day of newspaper dictation has passed away. J. R. Y.

LATEST NEWS

By Telegraph to The Press.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, Jul. 24, 1861.

Approach of the Secession Pickets towards our Lines.

Early this morning the picket guard of the New York Twenty-fourth, at Falls Church, twenty-two in number, were attacked by about forty Secession cavalry and driven in. Half a dozen shots were exchanged. On our side, none were injured. The Secession pickets are within five miles of us on the Columbia turnpike.

Reorganization of the Army—Eighty Thousand Volunteers Accepted.

The most vigorous measures are being adopted by the War Department for a thorough and complete reorganization of our army. Old systems will be changed to practical modes for the better management of our forces, by providing reliable officers. To this end, the Secretary of War has issued a general order to-day, that all officers of regiments will be subjected to examination, by a board of military officers to be appointed by the Department, with the concurrence of the Commander-in-Chief, as to their fitness for the positions assigned to them. Those found incompetent will be rejected, and their positions will be filled by competent officers that may have passed an examination of the Military Board.

Up to twelve o'clock, to-day, nearly eighty thousand men have been accepted, and are at this moment being marshalled into service all over the North. Many are now in motion on their way to the national capital.

The energy and well-directed efforts of the War Department and the General-in-Chief have done much to restore confidence. The prompt appointment of General McCLELLAN, who is now on his way here to command the Grand Army has given unbounded satisfaction, and created great enthusiasm among the soldiers. They are worthy of being led by so great a general as McCLELLAN, who has recently given such decisive proofs of his great abilities.

Army Orders.

An order has been issued by Gen. MANSFIELD dated noon to-day, as follows:

"All straggling soldiers will join their respective regiments without delay. [Here follows a designation of the rendezvous for twenty of the regiments by name.]

"Soldiers attached to regiments in camp, or quartered on the Virginia side, and not embraced in the foregoing list, will rendezvous at Jackson Square and opposite the President's house. All stragglers found in the streets six hours after the promulgation of this order will be deemed guilty of disobedience of orders, and be taken care of."

The wisdom of this order is universally commended.

The Bravery of our New Officers.

The bravery of most of the newly-appointed officers in the regular army is a theme of general commendation. They stood the fire like veterans. Among those who distinguished themselves was ANDREW SHERIDAN, lieutenant commanding Company H, of the Third Infantry, a young man of your city, and a recent appointment of the Administration. He passed through a fearful fire, and barely escaped with his life, a rifle ball having passed through his hat. His company was severely shattered, nine of his soldiers being killed, and six wounded and missing.

Confirmations.

The Senate has unanimously confirmed WILLIAM B. THOMAS as collector of the port of Philadelphia, and WILLIAM MILLWARD as marshal of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Colonel Andrew Porter.

The officers of the army are loud in the praise of Colonel ANDREW PORTER, the Brigadier General commanding the advanced division of the satalling army. His regiment covered the retreat of the army splendidly, and to his great efforts as a commander, and the bravery of the battalion of regulars under Major SYKES, we must attribute the rescue of our panic-stricken army from destruction.

Order Being Restored.

Our soldiers are gradually getting into order. Discipline is being slowly restored. The best spirits prevail, and the only anxiety entertained by our soldiers is an anxiety to proceed as rapidly as possible to retrieve the fortunes of the fatal day at Manassas.

General Harlan.

General JOSHUA HARLAN, of Chester county, an officer of large experience, and well known for his services in India, has been authorized by the Secretary of War to raise a regiment of cavalry. He has been commissioned as colonel of cavalry by the President.

The Associated Press.

The despatches sent by Mr. HASSAN, the war correspondent of the Associated Press, were curtailed in the telegraph office by a Government inspector. Hence the incorrect reports of a victory which appeared in the Northern newspapers of Monday. Mr. HASSAN was on the field of battle, and his descriptions as written were reliable.

Stopping the War Stampede.

When the panic-stricken crowd turned for Washington, and the foremost of them had got past Centreville, they were headed off by Senators WADE and CHANDLER, Representatives BLAKE, RIDDLE, and MORRIS; Mr. BROWN, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate; Mr. EATON, of Detroit; and THOMAS BROWN, of Cleveland. These gentlemen, armed with Maynard rifles and navy revolvers, sprang suddenly from their carriages, and, presenting their weapons, in loud voices commanded the fugitives to halt and turn back. Their bold and determined manner brought most at that point to a standstill. Many on horseback attempted to dash by them, and had their horses seized by the bits. Some of the fugitives were armed, and menaced these gentlemen; and one, a powerful man, supposed to be a teamster, shot Mr. EATON through the wrist, as he held his horse by the bridle rein. None, however, were permitted to pass, except an army courier, who exhibited his despatches. Mr. WADE and his party held the crowd until the arrival of the Second New Jersey Regiment, then on way to the battle ground, the colonel of which turned back the flying soldiers and teamsters. Two or three officers were stopped and turned back. This check, though finally overcome, was creditable to our Senators and their associates.

Musicians Arrived.

The band of the Seventh Massachusetts Regiment, Colonel GOODE, arrived here this morning. They number twenty pieces, and have a neat uniform of gray, trimmed with red.

Inauguration Ball Room.

The large building which was put up for the Inauguration Ball has been taken down and removed.

Central Guard House.

The Central Guard House was crowded with soldiers last night, many of whom came in voluntarily to obtain shelter for the night.

Movements of the Hour.

A busy movement is perceptible everywhere among the officers, the object of which is the gathering of their men together in camp. The fellows were so fatigued that they sought rest where ever it could be attained, and squads, who have been in the fields and woods between here and Fairfax, continue to come in. A number of these parties came in to-day. But there is a strong prospect that this evening will find nearly all the men in camp, and ready for duty.

Troops are arriving also in large numbers, and an immediate reorganization and vast increase of the army will be made.

The District Volunteers are all for the war. They are organizing regiments, one or two of which will be sworn in within a few days.

Those troops who were in the engagement are keen for a renewal of the struggle. Not a voice but says, "I am still for war."

The President.

The President is out among the troops to-day, and has passed the highest praise upon many of those officers and their men who were in the engagement on Sunday.

Idle Rumors.

The story of an advance of the rebels upon the capital is revived about every two hours. The last is, that they are within ten miles of Alexandria.

The Killed.

My estimate yesterday, from all the evidence I can gather, is about as near the truth as I can arrive, and puts the number at 700.

Going Home.

The Fourth Pennsylvania, Colonel HAYRANDT, and the Third New Jersey Regiments left the city yesterday, en route for home, their term of service having expired. I understand that a large proportion of the men in these regiments propose to return immediately, and engage "for the war."

Generously Provided For.

Our citizens generally throw open their doors and called in the toil-worn soldiers from the streets as they returned from the battle-field. The best our tables afforded was placed before them. They were provided with baths and with suits of clothes, while their own clothes were being washed for them. The young ladies entertained them with patriotic airs, and everything possible was done to comfort these brave spirits in their hour of trial.

More Prisoners Brought In.

I informed you yesterday that four prisoners had been brought in from Bull's Run. Another lot of seven has been brought, under guard, to the city, and, by order of Gen MANSFIELD, they have been confined in the old Capitol, on Capitol hill, now converted into a prison.

Miscellaneous.

In the present confused condition of affairs it is impossible to procure full lists of the killed and wounded. There cannot yet be an official report giving the information. The names of such, however, as can be reliably ascertained are transmitted as soon as received.

Fresh troops are continually arriving, and they appear to be of the most desirable character. Baggage-wagons and commissarial supplies seem to be as plentiful as heretofore, and, altogether, there is a gathering up of the army fragments.

Major BIDWELL, of the Michigan First, who assumed the command of the regiment after Col. WILSON fell, was yesterday and is to day gathering up his men. He estimates that thirty or forty will cover the number of killed and double that number the wounded of his regiment.

The telegraph despatches hourly accumulate, the senders tendering troops in surprising numbers. For example, Illinois has tendered seventeen and Indiana ten regiments; some of them have already started, and others will be *en route* to morrow.

Ambulances containing the wounded continue to arrive at the various hospitals.

The *Intelligencer* of this morning says, "We learn that two intelligent officers of the Ellsworth Fire Zouaves arrived in the city last night, one of whom left Centreville at 4 o'clock P. M., and the other Fairfax Court-House, at 12 o'clock noon. They both report that up to that time, at th se respective points, no Secession forces had appeared; a fact which would seem sufficiently to indicate that it is no part of their purpose to undertake anything like an advance towards Washington."

Information reached here this morning that the rebel pickets now extend to where General TYLER was formerly encamped, in the neighborhood of Falls Church.

Hon. ALFRED ELY, of New York, whose absence has caused much uneasiness, is safe.

Colonel CAMERON's body has not been recovered. It is reported the house where it was deposited has been burned.

Chief Engineer DROHER, of New York, is here, looking after the interests of the Fire Zouaves, many of whom are going home, there being trouble about their pay, in consequence of the loss of their muster rolls.

Colonel LAZOS's regiment of Horse Artillery has been accepted by the War Department, and will be mustered into service immediately.

Nine Secession prisoners were brought into the city this evening. A party of Fire Zouaves and Garibaldians surrounded and assaulted them, but they were saved from more serious violence by the interference of the officers who had them in custody.

Colonel TERRILL, of Kentucky, serving on Gen. SCHENCK's staff, was not killed, as reported. His horse was shot under him, and he suffered a severe contusion of the hip.

It is stated that the reply to the flag of truce, proposing, ourselves, to see to the wounded left upon the field of battle, is that, while they will not permit our surgeons and ambulances to come within their lines, they will take as good care of our wounded as of their own.

The ordnance department at the Navy Yard, is turning out rifle cannon with an extra force. One hundred are nearly finished, which will throw a projectile, weighing sixty four pounds, four and a half miles. The gun weighs 10,000 pounds. There is great activity in the ordnance department, night and day.

The proceedings in the House to-day, in which Messrs. RICHARDSON and BURNETT were particularly concerned, have led to conference between friends of the parties, with a view to an adjustment of their difficulties.

The steamer *Yankee* arrived this evening. One of those on board represents that the steamer *Resolute* was despatched on Friday last to the Eastern Shore, to look after a schooner supposed to be loaded with goods for the South. She was expected to return within two days, but no tidings have yet been heard from her.

The *Pocahontas* was off Acquia Creek, where it is reported that a large force of rebels were erecting a battery. The ice-boat *Philadelphia*, is cruising in the lower Potomac. The *Gypsey* is at Fort Tobacco Creek, preventing goods from being conveyed to the Virginia shore.

Miss Dix Among the Soldiers.

The labors of this lady since Sunday have been unceasing. Beside her duties at the hospital, she procured a workshop on Twelfth street, where she gathered in the lame and hungry soldiers coming from the war, and, by the aid of ladies in the neighborhood, she had them fed and clothed, removing each man, when made comfortable, to make room for another. Hundreds of grateful hearts acknowledge her kindness, and that of the ladies on Twelfth street, among whom none were more unremitting in their devotions and contributions than Mrs. JOHNSON, formerly of your State.

Senator Ely Missing.

Senator FOSTER has returned, but the most serious apprehensions are felt in regard to the fate of Mr. ELY, who was present at the battle of Manassas as a spectator. He left Washington on Sunday morning, accompanied by Senator FOSTER and two other friends. He left his companions when the retreat of our troops took place, determined, as he said, to go to a point where he thought the Thirteenth New York regiment was stationed; but Mr. FOSTER thinks he was mistaken, and fell into the very midst of the enemy.

Mr. ELY was born in Lyme county, Connecticut, in 1815, but when quite young removed to Rochester, New York, where, as a hard-working lawyer, he was eminently successful. He was a member of the Thirty-sixth Congress, during which he served on the Committee of Claims, and, having been elected to the Thirty seventh Congress, he was made chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Baggage Brought Over.

The camp equipage, knapsacks, &c., of the Eighth New York Regiment, Col. BEMMER, were brought to the city this morning from their old camp, near Alexandria. They are now quartered in the city.

Going Into Camp.

The Second New York Regiment, Col. TOWNSENDS, went into camp last evening on Seventh street. Their colonel was wounded, but is recovering.

The Second Ohio Regiment went into camp on Sixth street this morning.

Colonel Wilcox.

Colonel WILCOX, of the First Michigan Regiment, and commander of the Second brigade under General MCDOWELL, who was reported as only wounded, is known to be dead.

The Potomac.

The steamer *Coatzacoalcos* came up to the navy yard. Her officers could discover no movements of the rebels at Matthias Point, or at any other favorable position on the river.

Rebel Prisoners Attempt to Escape.

Two rebel prisoners escaped from the guard this morning. They made a rush through the yard, but were retaken and placed in close confinement.

News from Alexandria.

ARRESTED FOR SPIES.

ALEXANDRIA, July 24—A young man, named John Bradley, who is studying for the ministry, and son of a wealthy citizen, and Columbus Bradley, were arrested to-night by the Provost Marshal, on a charge of being spies, and taking information to Manassas Junction. There is said to be almost positive evidence of the fact. The information was given by deserters.

The volunteers have nearly all gone to their respective encampments.

This afternoon there was an alteration between Private William Dougherty and Corporal Quinley, of Company A, Eleventh Massachusetts. Quinley shot Dougherty through the nose; and the former was arrested.

The Webster Regiment en Route for Washington.

NEW YORK, July 24—P. M.—The Webster Regiment left here to-day for Washington, via Harrisburg.

Newly-discovered Spurious Gold Coin.

NEW YORK, July 24—Double eagles, split open, and filled with platina, and newly milled, have been detected here.

Loss of the Fifth Maine Regiment.

NEW YORK, July 24.—A special despatch to the *Advertiser*, from Washington, reports that the Fifth Maine Regiment is now at Alexandria. 500 strong, having lost 50 killed, 60 wounded, and 300 taken prisoners.

Colonel Patterson's Regiment.

SANDY HOOK, Md., July 24—The Seventeenth regiment (Col. Frank Patterson's) will leave here for home at 9 o'clock this morning. [Sandy Hook is opposite Harper's Ferry. We presume the regiment will go to Baltimore by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.]

Massachusetts for the War.

BOSTON, July 24—The Tenth Massachusetts Regiment, Colonel Briggs, will leave to-morrow, in a steamer, for Washington. Besides the field train of the regiment, twenty ambulances are to be shipped for the other Massachusetts regiments now in the service.

Two hundred tons of powder and a million ball cartridges were sent from Watertown arsenal yesterday, for the seat of the war.

Col. Lewis' Regiment.

BALTIMORE, July 24—Gen. DIX, in day's orders, expressed great regret at the intelligence that Lewis' regiment to remain in service ten days longer. Three-fourths of the men volunteered, to remain; the others will leave for Philadelphia to-day. Col. Lewis and his entire staff volunteered immediately.

From Gen. Patterson's Army.

HARPER'S FERRY, July 23—This morning the Wisconsin First forded the Potomac on their way to another encampment, below Sandy Hook. They were followed by the Pennsylvania First, who expect to take the navy for home at 12 o'clock. Before they left Gen. Patterson addressed the latter regiment in the public square, where they were drawn up to receive him, as follows:

"OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE FIRST REGIMENT: I am here to thank you for responding to the call of your country, and for your good conduct and orderly behavior whilst you have been under my command. It has been a rare thing to hear of any of you having disobeyed your orders, or having sent to me letters complaining of your perhaps onerous duties.

"For this I thank you, and for your noble conduct your friends in Pennsylvania will thank you. You were one of the regiments who said you would stand by me after your term of enlistment had expired; but I do not wish to detain you. You are now on your way home, hoping you may have a pleasant journey. I bid you an affectionate farewell."

The best feeling pervaded the whole regiment, or rather part of a regiment, as 230 went home before, and when the old general retired, one round of applause after another sounded for him. He withdrew with his staff while the regiment, bound homeward, marched off to the tune of "Gay and Happy."

Missouri State Convention, etc.

JEFFERSON CITY, July 24—In the Convention this morning, Mr MASS introduced a resolution, to the effect that any change in the Executive or Judicial office of the State, by the present Convention, would not conduce to the peace of Missouri. The resolution was strongly debated, and finally referred to a committee of seven, chosen to report what action the Convention shall take. Had a vote been taken, the resolution would have been lost.

After some other unimportant business, the Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning.

The Convention is awaiting the report of the committee of seven, which represents every Congressional district of the State, before taking any action. They will report to-morrow.

The State Government, in the Executive department, will be reorganized, and it is thought the present incumbent will be removed.

The city was thrown into a state of great excitement last night, owing to the pickets firing at an officer who galloped past them, not knowing that they were there. He was, however, unhurt. The artillery summoned the troops in the city and at the Fair ground to arms, and the report got out that Governor Jackson was approaching with a large force.

Arrest of a Secessionist in Maryland.

CAMP GUNPOWDER, Md., July 24—A man, named Benjamin Smith, was arrested to-day by order of Captain Barry, of the First Delaware Regiment, for seditious and treasonable conversational threats. He was, however, subsequently discharged, on taking the oath of allegiance.

Military Guard for the Overland Mail Route.

WASHINGTON, July 24—Senator Latham, by earnest solicitation, has obtained to-day an order from the War Department to raise a full regiment of infantry, and five hundred cavalry, three-years volunteers, in California, to protect the overland mail, treasure and immigration, from Carson Valley to Fort Kearney. Colonel Charles P. Waite, of the Eighth United States Infantry, leaves on the first of August via Panama, to take general command of this force, and give it efficiency. The Californians here are much gratified at this important step.

The New Jersey Troops.

TRENTON, July 24—Company A, Capt. J. A. Yard, and Company B, Capt D. Pierson, of the Third Regiment, three months volunteers, arrived here this afternoon from Washington, and were met at the station by a crowd of men and women. It is understood that all the four regiments of three months volunteers from this State are on the road to this city where they will be mustered out of service, and receive their pay. It is probable that these regiments will not be paid off and discharged before Monday or Tuesday next. It is supposed that a large portion will reenlist for the war.

Governor Olden has not yet received any requisition from the War Department for more troops from this State, although there are three full regiments ready to answer the call of the Government, which can be despatched, fully equipped, in two weeks.

Vermont Democratic State Convention.

MONTPELIER, July 24—The State Democratic Convention to-day made the following nominations:

For Governor, Paul Dillingham; for Lieutenant Governor, Stephen Thomas; for Treasurer, James T. Thurston. There was a spirited debate on the no-party issue, in which the straight-out Democrats were too much for the Unionists.

Col. Frank Patterson's Regiment.

BALTIMORE, July 24—The Pennsylvania Seventeenth, Col. Frank Patterson, left here at seven this evening for Philadelphia.

☞ Adams Express Company have our thanks for a copy of the Memphis *Appeal* of Saturday last.

ESCORTS TO RETURNING REGIMENTS.—Regarding military escorts to returning regiments, it is proper to say, that when notice is received at headquarters of the intention of any such return, a suitable detail from the Home Guard, to pay these gallant and patriotic soldiers every military honor, will be promptly made; no such notice has yet been received respecting any regiment.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

EXTRA SESSION.

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1861.

SENATE.

Mr. FOSTER, of Connecticut, presented a report and memorial from the Common Council of New London, in favor of establishing a naval school at New London, and urged the claims of the State in a few remarks. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. RICHARDSON (Gen. Greeley, who, I think, is the ablest at the head of all the generals, should be appointed by President Lincoln, and s