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PUBLISHED DAILY, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY.
OFFICE NO. 417 CHESTNUT STREET.

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IMPORTERS AND DEALERS
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WINDOW AND PLATE GLASS.
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VERY LOW PRICES FOR CASH.
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200 lbs Extract Taraxaci, in 1 lb jars.
50 lbs Vin Rai Colchici, in 1 lb bottles.
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500 lbs Pil Hydrarg., in 1 lb jars.
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MOORE & CAMPION,
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In connection with their extensive Cabinet Business are now manufacturing a superior article of
BILLIARD TABLES,
And have now on hand a full supply, finished with the MOORE & CAMPION'S IMPROVED CUSHIONS, which are pronounced, by all who have used them, to be superior to all others.
For the quality and finish of these Tables the manufacturers refer to their numerous patrons throughout the Union, who are familiar with the character of their work.
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DEALER IN FINE GROCERIES,
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4,000 boxes extra new scaled Herrings.
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In store and landing, for sale by
MURPHY & KOONS,
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HELMBOLD'S GENUINE PREPARATIONS.
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Cures Diseases of the Bladder.
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Cures Gravel.
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Cures Dropsy.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
Cures Nervous Sufferers.
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Cures Debilitated Sufferers.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Loss of Memory.
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For Consumption, Insanity.
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For Epileptic Fits, St. Vitus' Dance.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Difficulty of Breathing.
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For General Weakness.
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For Trembling.
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For Night Sweats.
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For Cold Feet.
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For Dimness of Vision.
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For Languor.
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For Universal Lassitude of the Muscular System.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Pallid Countenance.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Eruptions.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Pains in the Back.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Headache.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU
For Sick Stomach.
HELMBOLD'S GENUINE PREPARATIONS.
If you are suffering with any of the above distressing ailments, use HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. Try it, and be convinced of its efficacy.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU, recommended by names known to SCIENCE and FAME.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. See remarks made by the late Dr. Physic.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. See Dr. Dewee's valuable work on Practice of Physic.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. See Dispensatory of the United States.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. See remarks made by Dr. Ephraim McDowell, a celebrated physician, and Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, and published in King and Queen's Journal.
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"Give health and vigor to the frame,
And bloom to the pallid cheek;"
and are so pleasant to the taste that patients become fond of them.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU, $1 per bottle, or six for $5, delivered to any address. Depot 104 South TENTH Street, below Chestnut, Philadelphia, Pa., where all letters must be addressed.
PHYSICIANS IN ATTENDANCE
From 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.
Describe symptoms in all communications.
ADVICE GRATIS. CURES GUARANTEED.
Sold by Druggists and Dealers everywhere. oc5-stuth3m

RETAIL DRY GOODS.
COWPERTHWAIT & CO.,
Have now on hand
A LARGE STOCK
of
MUSLINS.
Which will be sold at prices
LOWER THAN THE MARKET RATES.
Also, GREAT BARGAINS IN PAINTS,
2,000 yards of which will be sold *very low*. ja4-6m

EYRE & LANDELL have in store a full stock of MUSLINS, comprising all the makes justly celebrated for durability.
4-4 Williamsville.
4-4 New York Mills.
4-4 Wamsutta Mills.
4-4 Fruit of the Loom.
12-4 Muslin Sheetings.
Golden Flax Linens.
Linen Bosoms, Fine Stitch. ja3

EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH and ARCH, will open, to-day, a large lot of BALMORALS, $2.50, full length and full width. ja3

HOLIDAY DRESS GOODS.
The following goods are desirable for Christmas Gifts:
Low priced DeLaines and Calicoes.
Wide English and French Chintzes.
Brilliant Figures new American De Laines.
Dressing Gown Stuffs of Gay Cashmeres.
French Figured De Laines and Fancy Merinos.
Plain Poplins and Rich Styles of Epingelines.
Plaid Flannels, Bright Broche Dress Goods.
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Kid Gloves, Warm Silk and Cloth Gloves.
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Silk Handkerchiefs, French Linen Cambric Hdkfs.
Black Silk Cravats, Scarfs, and Neck Ties.
Plain and Fancy Silks, Rich Black Silks.
Blanket Shawls, Broche Merino Shawls.
SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
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HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Delaines, at 18¾ cents; Calicoes, 12½ cents.
Black and fancy Silk Handkerchiefs.
Neck-Ties, Gloves, Gents' Shawls.
Misses' and Ladies' Shawls in variety.
Nice assortment of Dress Goods.
Balmoral Skirts in great variety, at
J. H. STOKES',
702 ARCH Street.
N. B.—On hand, Jack-straws and Solitaires, made by and sold for an invalid. They are nice games as well as presents, and any one would confer a favor by purchasing the same. de12-tf

HEAVY CLOAKINGS.
Brown and Black Sealskin, 75c to $1.50.
Cheap heavy Coatings and Cloakings
Fine Black Cloths and Beavers.
Good stock Cassimeres at old prices.
COOPER & CONARD,
de14 S. E cor. NINTH and MARKET.

HOUSE FURNISHING DRY GOODS.—SHEPPARD, VAN HARLINGEN, & ABRISON, Importers and Dealers in Linen, and House Furnishing Dry Goods, etc.
Have now on hand a full assortment of Linen Sheeting, Table Cloths, Napkins, Table, Diaper Towelling, etc., etc., imported under the old tariff, or bought a great sacrifice.
N.B.—Five per cent. allowed on purchases as above, if paid for on delivery. no27tf

WILL CONTINUE TO SELL UNTIL JANUARY 1st, our entire stock of BLANKETS at the old prices.
Will open THIS DAY a large stock of all Wool Flannels.
Our 25 cent White Flannels are the best in the city.
Very handsome neat styles DeLaines at 18½c; handsome dark grounds, all Wool, at 31 and 37 cents.
COWPERTHWAIT & CO.,
de5-tf N. W. corner EIGHTH and MARKET.

CLOAKS AND MANTILLAS.
CLOAKS! CLOAKS!
MAGNIFICENT
FRENCH SILK PLUSH CLOAKS
JUST RECEIVED PER LAST STEAMER.
FROSTED BEAVER CLOAKS
In endless variety. Also, the largest and best assorted stock of
SEAL SKIN CLOAKS
In the City.
EVERY NEW STYLE; EVERY NEW MATERIAL.
The very best work, at
PRICES THAT ASTONISH EVERY ONE.
IVENS',
d9-1m NO. 23 SOUTH NINTH STREET.

CLOAKS! CLOAKS!
GOOD STYLES.
BEST MATERIALS.
LOWEST PRICES.
COOPER & CONARD,
S. E. corner NINTH and MARKET Streets.
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CLOAKS! CLOAKS! CLOAKS!
WATER PROOF CLOTH CLOAKS,
in endless variety;
LIGHT AND DARK CLOTH CLOAKS,
of every shade;
BLACK CLOTH CLOAKS,
of every quality;
BLACK SILK-VELVET CLOAKS,
EVERY NEW STYLE,
EVERY NEW MATERIAL;
THE LARGEST STOCK
AND
THE MOST REASONABLE PRICES IN THE CITY
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GREAT BARGAINS
IN
LADIES' CLOAKS,
To close out,
At the
ARCH-STREET CLOAK AND MANTILLA STORE,
N. W. corner TENTH and ARCH Sts.
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Handsome styles of well-made, serviceable garments. The best made, the best fitting, and the best materials for the price. A large stock from which to select.
COOPER & CONARD,
de14 S. E. cor. NINTH and MARKET.

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The Largest, Cheapest, and Best-assorted Stock in the city.
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WATCHES,
JEWELRY,
SILVER AND PLATED WARE,
AT
REDUCED PRICES.
JOS. H. WATSON,
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Ornamental Flower Pots.
Parlor Vases for Growing Flowers.
Baskets for Jardinieres.
Pedestals with Vase for Flowers.
Antique Vases for Mantels.
Vases Reminiscence for Parlor.
Rustic and Terra Cotta Vases.
Lava Flower Pots and Vases.
Garden Vases and Pedestals.
Brackets for Busts and Figures.
With a great variety of articles suitable for Christmas presents, for sale cheap for the trade.
Warerooms 1010 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia.
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AT J. A. ESHLEMAN'S! AT J. A. ESHLEMAN'S
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NORTHWEST CORNER OF
SEVENTH AND CHESTNUT.
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THE ONLY CRAVAT STORE IN PHILADELPHIA.
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P. S. The above articles, being PATENTED, cannot be obtained elsewhere.
P. S. No. 2. Men's Furnishing Goods, in every variety.
P. S. No. 3. PATENT ENAMELLED COLLARS,
10 FOR A QUARTER.
de7-stuth3m

PORTLAND KEROSENE OIL.
We are now prepared to supply this
STANDARD ILLUMINATING OIL
AT
GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.
Z. LOCKE & CO., SOLE AGENTS,
1010 MARKET STREET,
oc2-3m Philadelphia.

FRESH MINCED MEAT.
The subscriber begs leave to inform the public that he is again prepared to offer his justly celebrated
NE PLUS ULTRA MINCED MEAT,
In large or small quantities. Orders through Despatch Post will be punctually attended to.
JOSHUA WRIGHT,
SPRING GARDEN and FRANKLIN Streets,
no13-2m Philadelphia.

The Press.

VOL. 5.—NO. 132. PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1862. TWO CENTS.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1862.

THE REBELLION.

THE WAR IN KENTUCKY.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE SKIRMISH AT SACRAMENTO.

AFFAIRS AT PADUCAH.

THE WAR IN MISSOURI.

GENERAL PRICE'S RETREAT.

ATTEMPT OF JEFF THOMPSON TO STEAL ANOTHER STEAMBOAT.

HE IS FRUSTRATED BY THE HEROIC CONDUCT OF A LADY.

INTERESTING SOUTHERN NEWS.

A Letter from Parson Brownlow.

ANOTHER BATTLE IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

A LARGE AMOUNT OF REBEL STORES BURNED.

CONTRADICTION OF A SENSATION REPORT.

The Public Feeling in Canada, &c., &c., &c.

THE WAR IN KENTUCKY.

Proclamation Literature at a Discount.

Gen. Buell, who has had command in Kentucky for nearly two months, has now put his hand to a proclamation, and, what is of still more importance, has issued an order to his subordinates, forbidding them to proclaim. We have no doubt but this order will press heavily upon some of our loquacious colonels and brigadiers, but the public service will hardly be damaged by the arrangement.

The Skirmish at Sacramento.

The Louisville *Democrat* of the 3d inst. says:

We had an interview with a gentleman just from Col. Jackson's camp at Calhoun, and from him we learned the following full particulars of the engagement or skirmish at Sacramento last Saturday:

On Friday evening, December 27th, a messenger arrived in camp, who reported to Col. Jackson that a party of 80 rebels were in South Carrollton. A force of 350 cavalry was sent out under Majors Megowan and Murray. This force left Calhoun at nine o'clock on Friday night, and arrived in South Carrollton on Saturday morning, when they found no rebels, nor any evidence that they had been there; neither could they hear of any in that vicinity. On their way back to the camp this force was divided, Major Megowan, with 200 men, striking off in a southerly or southwesterly direction, to reconnoitre, in preparation for an advance movement towards Hopkinsville, and the remainder of the force, (150 men,) under Major Murray, returning to Calhoun via Sacramento.

When in the vicinity of Sacramento the rear was attacked by a force of about seventy rebels. They turned, and, as well as the road would permit, charged upon them, driving the rebels before them till they were drawn into a skilfully-laid ambush of 790 men, under Colonel Forrest. The attack was made from both sides of the road, and for fifteen minutes the battle raged with great fierceness. Major Murray then gathered his force together, and retreated through Sacramento. As they passed through the town several of the citizens fired on them from the houses. Major Murray's loss was 9 killed, including Captain A. G. Bacon; 9 wounded, who were taken back to camp, and 16 missing, supposed to be taken prisoners, among them two wounded—Captain DAVIS and Lieutenant Walters—Captain D.'s wound supposed to be mortal. Total killed and prisoners, 25; wounded, 9. The loss in killed on the part of the rebels was admitted by them at Greenville to be 30; number of wounded not known.

On Major Murray's return to camp, Saturday evening, Col. Jackson, with a squad of cavalry and about four hundred infantry, started in pursuit, but on arriving at Sacramento, learned that Col. Forrest, with his entire command, had retreated to Greenville. At Sacramento Col. Jackson took captive nine of the citizens who were engaged in shooting his men from the houses, among them one Lucas, sheriff of McLean county, a very violent rebel, who had absconded into the rebel army with all the county revenue in his possession.

A negro, forcibly taken by the property of a Mr. Wing, and endorsed by him as a trustful fellow, who had been in Greenville, stated that the rebel force under Col. Forrest was but 552, but the citizens of Sacramento and Greenville state that there were fully 700 of them. At Greenville, Col. Forrest admitted his loss to have been 30 killed, including a Captain Meriwether.

We consider the skirmish as a drawn battle; our forces numbered 160, the rebels nearly five times as many; our killed was nine, theirs thirty; our wounded (total) eleven, theirs unknown, but two of our wounded, as well as one of the killed, (Capt. Bacon,) were shot by the citizens of Sacramento—not by Col. Forrest's men. Our forces retreated; so did theirs.

Major Murray's men say if they had been properly armed they would have gained the victory in spite of fearful odds against them. The only arms they had were sabre and one revolver to each man. The revolvers are reported as being worthless French arms, with a very short barrel, and imperfect to such an extent that on return to camp many were found that had their loads still in, the cap which is attached to the cartridge not having exploded at all. In fact, so miserable were they, that many of the men threw them away, declaring themselves better off with only their sabres than with such unreliable arms.

From Paducah.

GENERAL WALLACE'S EXPEDITION—HIS RUMORED PERIL—A SOUTHERN ITEM—AN "UNCLE TOM" BY THE NEW ORLEANS "TIGERS"—TWO OF THEM EXECUTED—THE SURVIVORS CUT THE THROATS OF THE OFFICER OF THE DAY AND THE OFFICER OF THE GUARD—"THESE ARE REVOLUTIONARY TIMES," ETC., ETC.

[Special Correspondence of Cincinnati Times.]

PADUCAH, December 30, 1861.

On Saturday night (28th), about midnight, General Wallace took with him some four hundred mounted men, and proceeded on a reconnoissance in the direction of Mayfield. The country south of this post has been, for a week past, infested with marauding parties of rebels, who have been committing all manner of outrages on Union men, and arresting refugees from Tennessee who attempt to make their way through to escape impressment.

To-day a courier arrived here, who (as the account reaches me) reports Gen. Wallace surrounded, but defending himself against large odds, as we all know Gen. Wallace would. This was near a place called Viola, about nineteen miles south, at 10 o'clock this forenoon. The order being given, in just eighteen minutes the Ninth Illinois had girt their armor on and were on the march. These, with part of another regiment and a battery of artillery, preceded by the Twenty-first, four companies were despatched soon after by the cars.

What may come of this expedition I cannot tell; but will venture to say that if our forces meet with success, or escape reverse, it will be, as usual, the result of their superior process, and not on account of the generalship displayed. In this saying I do not mean to reflect injuriously upon Gen. Wallace. Chafing at the inert, do-nothing policy of Gen. C. F. Smith, who commands this post, which has allowed the rebels to keep almost undisputed possession of the open country around us, General Wallace earnestly desired to go out and call the freebooters to account. Why he should have ventured or been sent so far with so small a force, and without reserves to follow in his rear, I am not able to explain. But I am sure of this, that the troops might just as well have gone out twenty-four hours earlier as not. The exercise would have been good for their health, even if their services had not been needed.

Another version of the street rumors is, that Gen. Wallace's position is not precarious, but that the reinforcements called for are to enable him to surround and capture the rebel force which he has encountered. In that case, the aid called for is quite as likely to reach him too late as in the other. Our troops seem good for nothing but gallant fighting and hard marching. I think God, however, that they are all, No. 1, gilt-edged at that; and when, in the course of time, our officers shall have all been killed or taken prisoners, men will rise to the command who have judgment, and military genius, and enterprise, as well as military schooling and courage.

I enjoyed the rare felicity, this morning, of looking over a copy of the Nashville-Bowling Green-Louisville *Courier*, of the 26th. I could not secure the paper for your use, nor was it worth while, as below I give you the only paragraph in it worth your readers' notice. It is chiefly filled with extracts from Northern papers and flash despatches, so much like those I sent you yesterday, which filled the columns of the Southern journals five days before, that they would have answered just about as well had they been the same.

But, while all the news which is not true finds in the South so large a circulation, and while matters of little note are announced with so great a flourish of capitals, there is a most extraordinary quietness in the way some things are told there. The following paragraph, had the affair happened in General McClellan's army, would itself have required at least two rows of black head lines, in a Northern paper; while the manner in which it refers would have become the subject of half a dozen exciting disputes, and twice as many letters.

There is a fierce company among the Louisiana troops under General Johnston, opposite Washington, who rejoice in the expressive name of "Tigers." They are from New Orleans, among the earliest levies, and are doubtless composed of "the flower of the youth," of that city. These Tigers seem to have committed an outrage recently, no mention of which I have ever seen in or from a Southern paper, that I can call to mind. What the nature of the outrage was, therefore, we may guess at, with the whole field of conjecture open before us. Two of the Tigers were executed for the outrage, and, "as a sequel," the officer of the day and officer of the guard, who were instrumental in the arrest of the Tigers, were found one morning with their throats cut.

The allusion to these trifling circumstances I find in a letter of "Se De Kay"—C. D. Kirk—dated "Camp near Centreville, Virginia, December 14," and published on the 26th, in the *Courier* I refer to. No startling capital head-lines convey the impression that Charley's letter contains anything extraordinary—no editorial notice—and in view of these things and its ancient date, I came near giving the letter the go-by, as, probably, containing only the stale, flat, and unprofitable stuff which is so often found in letters from the camps on the Potomac. But remembering that "Se De Kay" is often a teller of contraband news, I went in, and from an obscure portion of the text dug out the following, which I faithfully transcribe:

"As a sequel to the execution of the two 'Tigers,' by order of court martial, I have to record that yesterday morning two officers of the Seventh Louisiana regiment were found with their throats cut. They were the officer of the day and officer of the guard, at the time of the commission of the outrage by the 'Tigers,' and were instrumental in bringing them to punishment. It would be well could the whole company be effaced for this new and most horrible villainy."

"These are revolutionary times," Mr. Kirk, and that accounted for all these little deeds of lawless violence. I have, or had, a venerable friend in Nashville, where I was brought up. He was a kind-hearted man, and a man of intellect. He regarded me as a young man of steady, business habits, generally irreproachable character, unpretending manners hitherto, and, which, in an humble way, as a young man of promise. The old gentleman had taken a liking to me, and may have thought of me more highly than he ought. The revolution came, and as it swept away in its career all the laws of common decency, common sense, and natural right, I found daily more and more reason to set my face against it and its enormities.

Had I been what we used to call a Disunionist *per se*, I felt that the cause was blackened and made infamous by the wicked riot run by those who defied the vengeance of Heaven in the name of revolution. The air was filled with falsehood, and no man dare tell the truth. Theft had become a duty. The mails were robbed by those who had sworn to keep them inviolate. Robbery under its provisions. Some six persons, who are accused with participating in this work of treason at Quincy, over whose cases a court-martial is in session, we shall soon see the test of this matter.

HALLECK HOLDS OFF.

The execution of the levy on Secessionists in St. Louis has, we are informed, been suspended. Out of the list of sixty who were booked for a forced contribution for the benefit of the refugees from the Southwest twenty-five have signed a lengthy protest against its execution, drawn up by Judge Wright, in which there is an unusual parade of law and Constitution. General Halleck is too good a lawyer and too much a soldier to be at fault in this matter. It is not probable his action was based upon any civil law whatever, and if it was intended to be anything more than a mere flourish of the rod of military justice, was undoubtedly based upon his judgment as a military necessity. The sum of ten thousand dollars is not so large that we can afford to transcend one of the fundamental guarantees of our Constitution. Gen. Halleck therefore wisely waives the execution of his order No. 24.

AFFAIRS AT COLUMBUS.

By the arrival of a steamboat man, whose name I suppress, from Columbus, we are in possession of some interesting facts from that point. He has a wife and family at Carondelet, and at the breaking out of the insurrection was running on a steamboat on the Red river. Like many others, he was unable to leave while it was still safe, and consequently had to fall in with the powerful party. He confirms the statement of so many others that there is still a considerable but helpless Union element in the South. It may be distinguished now and then by the confidential and suppressed conversation of the more intelligent men of the South.

He gives a pitiable description of the state of affairs at the South. First, there is hardly any other medium of currency than Confederate treasury notes. These notes are a legal tender, and, singularly enough, a suspicion attaches to any person who refuses to take them. The scarcity of small change produces the most inexplicable confusion, as a man will hardly part with silver for this worthless trash. There is, therefore, the fear of being branded as a traitor continually present in tendering one of these bills. None but well-known men can refuse them with impunity on the ground of a want of change. The rate of premium, when it can be found, is fifty per cent.

Capt. —— was near Union City at the Belmont fight. His boat was brought up to the field to carry the wounded soldiers to Memphis. He affirms that on going over the field there could not have been less than five hundred of our men killed and wounded on the ground, and probably eight hundred of the rebels.

Columbus, he says, is very strongly fortified. He supposes that there are already more than a hundred guns in battery, and more arriving. The cannon are mostly of heavy calibre. Trees have been felled across the approaches, and he expresses fears that we shall not be able to take it without great loss of life. It is fair to say that his opinions are only valuable in proportion to his military knowledge. Strategic knowledge consists of two or three ideas upon which are mounted some 100 lbs. of conjecture. My informant, anxious to see his family, conceived the plan of crossing to the Missouri shore, above New Madrid, and thence making his way through the swamps of the Mississippi, above Cairo, which he successfully accomplished, crossing over to Illinois, and, after much delay, got on board the St. Louis packet, reaching this city on Friday last, happy to be finally released from a despotism which has galled him for months.

A Yankee Trick in Missouri.

The following is told of Major Hovey, of the Twenty-fourth Indiana, in connection with General Pope's recent exploits in Missouri:

While at some point near Clinton, Major Hovey took 100 men, put them in wagons, so as to hide them from view, and then putting a few stragglers to walk, as if guarding the train, he started out. Secession, shot-gun in hand, hiding in the brush, saw the *cortege*, and supposed it a Federal wagon train, poorly guarded, and hence an easy as well as legitimate prize. Reasoning thus, Secession walked from the brush, presented its shot-gun, and demanded a surrender, which demand was instantly met by fifty men rising from the wagons, presenting a row of glittering muskets, and requesting a similar favor of astonished and now mortified Secession. Secession generally complied, and worked off all its ill-humor by cursing such "mean Yankee tricks," unknown to all honorable warfare, and unworthy of chivalrous hearts. In this way many a patriotic rebel was confounded, and in two cases, where fight was preferred rather than surrender, two rebel sons of chivalry bit the dust from the effects of minie bullets, which left canister-like sugar-holes clear through their heads. Before his return, Major Hovey captured a large number of prisoners, and burnt one mill which was grinding for Price.

Attempt to Capture and Burn the Steamer City of Alton—Heroic Conduct of a Lady.

[From the St. Louis Republican, Dec. 31.]

On Sunday afternoon the mail steamer *City of Alton*, Capt. Barnes, came near falling into the hands of Jeff Thompson and his men at Commerce. The circumstances, as related to us, are as follows:

As the boat neared the landing at Commerce, a lady was seen on the bank gesticulating wildly, and shouting to those on board the boat "to keep back, keep back! don't land; the secesh will shoot you!" But before she could be distinctly understood the boat had approached close to shore, and the gang plank had been run out, so that it nearly touched the levee. At this instant the crowd of Jeff Thompson's band rushed forward from their concealment, and commenced firing with muskets to bring down the pilot. The bullets fell thick and fast, hitting the smoke stack and upper works in sundry places, but the pilot had by this time rang the bell to "back," and the boat put down the river, some two miles, to the plantation of a loyal French man, where they procured arms in sufficient quantity to make a formidable resistance; and, having barricaded the wheel-house and the exposed points below, the *Alton* moved back up the river again, with colors flying. On her approach the second time the Secesh took to their heels, leaving the landing of the boat uncontested. Commodore Porter, who was on board, took charge of the arrangements for defence, and things were speedily put in condition for vigorous action.

Jeff Thompson told the people who were standing on the bank shivering with the cold, as the boat was coasting round the bend on her first approach, that he would soon make a fire hotter than that they then felt. He had made preparations and intended to burn the boat, after having taken from her all articles of most value to his gang of desperadoes and thieves, and would undoubtedly have succeeded in his designs but for the heroic lady above referred to—Mrs. Eversoll. The would-be incendiaries endeavored to stop her from warning off the boat, but being something of an Amazon, she cast from her, right and left, the half-starved and shivering followers of Jeff as though they were children; and when they threatened to shoot her she defied them to do it. After the boat had backed out, in accordance with her timely warning, Brigadier General Jeff approached her, menacingly, filled with rage, when she coolly informed his excellency that he was a dirty cutthroat, and his men were a band of thieves and murderers, and if they would come one at a time she would take the contract of whipping every mother's son of them. "You know," said she, "that you are all cowards, and that if that boat comes back with half a dozen muskets you and your cowardly dogs will all take to your heels." Another lady, a Mrs. Hawkins, gallantly seconded Mrs. Eversoll, and to them belongs chiefly the credit of saving the boat. The day of heroines is not past.

The *Alton* arrived safely in this city at a late hour last night. Captain Barnes should take warning by this incident, and be prepared in future for any similar demonstration.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Letter from Parson Brownlow.

We copy from the Nashville *Patriot* the following characteristic letter from Parson Brownlow:

KNOXVILLE JAIL, Dec. 20, 1861.

In your issue of the 17th inst. you say: "We learn that W. G. Brownlow, imprisoned at Knoxville, refuses to eat anything, desiring to starve himself to death."

I have no doubt, Mr. Editor, that you have learned such a thing, but it is wonderful intelligence. And, but for the fact that I do not wish to be understood as trying to commit suicide, I would not care to correct the erroneous statement. The truth in my case is, that I have now been in jail two weeks, and I have eaten too much every day, my family, with the permission of Brigadier General Carroll, furnishing me with three meals a day. But for taking cold, and suffering from a sore throat, I could boast of usual health. As it is, I claim to be the most cheerful of more than one hundred prisoners I found here on my arrival.

But, sir, I will now give you an additional item or so, which many of your readers will peruse with interest, if you are allowed to publish them. I left home about the 5th of November, with a view to collect some claims due my office for advertising, and to relieve the fears of my family, who were daily annoyed with the calls of drunken soldiers, bawling before my house, and flourishing their side knives and pistols, and making threats of violence. On the 9th of December, I received a brief letter from Major General Crittenden, inviting me to his headquarters in Knoxville, promising me passports into Kentucky, and a military escort to conduct me safe. At the same time, I was furnished with the copy of a letter to the major general from J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of War, advising him to give me passports and a safe conduct beyond the Confederate lines.

Supposing the head of the War Department and the Major General commanding here to be acting in good faith, I reported myself in person and accepted the offer of passports. I agreed to start on Saturday, and the General designated Capt. Gillespie's company of cavalry for an escort.

But, on Friday evening, just before sundown, I was arrested for treason, founded on certain editorials in the Knoxville *Whig* since June last, the warrant being signed by Commissioner Reynolds and Attorney Ramsey. I am, therefore, in jail—in close confinement—perfectly contented and making no complaints against any one. I am waiting patiently to see which is the highest power—the War Department at Richmond, associated with the Major General in command here, or the Commissioners' Court for Knoxville. Nay, I am anxious to know whether the high authorities inviting me here were acting in good faith, or were only playing off a trick to have me incarcerated. I am not willing to believe that the representatives of a great Government, struggling for its independence, and having in charge the interests of twelve millions of people, intend to act in bad faith to me. The chivalrous people of the South and all the journals have denounced the high-handed measures of the United States Government in suspending the habeas corpus act, suppressing public journals, and incarcerating citizens upon *lettres de cachet*, and I will not allow myself to believe that the Confederate Government will resort to similar tricks.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,
W. G. BROWNLOW.

Old Dick, the Drummer.

A Richmond paper says: A few days ago, Dick, a venerable darkey in uniform, was arrested for carrying a huge bowie-knife. He was on his return home, to Danville, from a campaign against the Yankees, and the Mayor discharged him, after confiscating the knife.

The person referred to has occupied the position of chief drummer for the Eighteenth Virginia Regiment for the last eight months, and is highly esteemed by the regiment, not only as a musician, but as a brave and gallant old man. He is a hero of two wars, and in several instances has rendered good service to the country. When the war with Mexico broke out, he enlisted as musician for a South Carolina regiment, and followed it through the war, and was present when the gallant General Butler fell. The war being successfully terminated, he returned home to his usual avocations. Upon the breaking out of our present war, though old and gray, he was among the first to respond to Virginia's call for volunteers, and was regularly mustered into service with the Eighteenth regiment. Since that time he has not only carried his drum, but also the bowie-knife referred to above, and a musket.

In the memorable battle of the 21st July, he deserted his drum, and, with musket in hand, followed the regiment throughout the battle. Several days after the battle, while strolling through the woods, he discovered the hiding-place of what he thought a Yankee, and, on reporting it, went down with several of the regiment and captured three of the creatures—one of them Col. Wood, of the Fourteenth Brooklyn. In every scene of danger or of difficulty, old Dick has accompanied the regiment with bowie-knife by his side and musket in hand. When on picket duty, if he heard the approach of the enemy, he would go beyond the picket lines to get a fair crack at the Yankee pickets. In fine, old Dick, we believe, is a gentleman and true patriot, and we feel sorry that his knife, around which cling so many proud associations to him, should have been taken from him. He is above all things except his musket. It is true the law may have required its confiscation, as setting a bad example to darkeys in civil life; but, under the circumstances, it does seem hard to have subjected the old man not only to the loss of his bowie-knife, but the mortification attendant, of a suspicion of evil designs. We hope old Dick may live to prove his character still further by flogging his Yankee.

The Confederate Bonds—A Query for Financiers.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 2.]

Mr. Memminger's extraordinary financial scheme of paying interest on