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Prescott's NAVY 4-inch and 8-inch Bevolvers.
Superior in every respect to any other
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COMPRISING STRENGTH, GENTILITY, ACTION,
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100 Bbls. "Lucifer" Burning Oil on hand.
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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.

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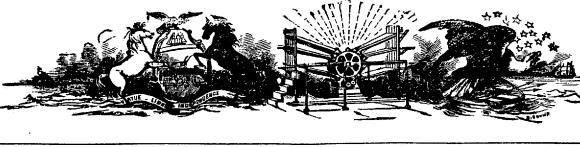
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1862. PHILADELPHIA, VOL. 5.-NO. 187.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1862.

Forever float that standard sheet!

With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,

Where breathes the foe but falls before us

And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

OUR LATE VICTORIES!

GREAT BATTLE AT PEA RIDGE, ARK.

THREE DAYS HARD FIGHTING!

OFFICIAL REPORT OF GEN. CURTIS.

The Rebels Commence the Attack.

ABLE STRATEGY OF THE U. S. FORCES.

THE ENEMY COMPLETELY ROUTED BY

A CHARGE OF INFANTRY.

Heavy Losses on Both Sides.

The Rebel Stronghold Abandoned.

MANASSAS JUNCTION EVACUATED.

ITS OCCUPATION BY OUR FORCES.

Strength and Strategic Value of

the Position.

HISTORY OF ITS FORTIFICATION

AND FIRST DEFENCE.

Official Report of General Curtis of the

Victory in Arkansas. Sr. Louis, March 11.—The following is the offi-

cial report of Gen. Curtis, of the battle of Pea

GENERAL: On Thursday, the 6th inst., the enemy

commenced an attack on my right, assailing and

following the rear guard of the detachments under General Sigel to my main lines, on Sugar Creek

Hollow, but ceased firing when he met my rein-

During the night I became convinced that he had

moved on, so as to attack my right or rear. Therefore, early on the 7th, I ordered a change of front

to the right on my right, which thus becoming my left, still rested on Sugar Creek Hollow. This brought my line across Pea Ridge, with my new

right resting on the head of Cross Timber Hollow.

which is the head of Dig Sugar Creek. I also or-dered an advance of cavalry and light artillery,

under Col. Osterhaus, with orders to attack and break what we supposed would be the reinforced line of the enemy. This movement was in progress

when the enemy, at 11 o'clock A. M., commenced

The fight continued warmly at these points during

the day, the enemy having gained the point held

in command by Col. Carr, on Cross Timber Hellow,

but were entirely repulsed with the fall of the rebel commander, McCulloch, in the centre, by

The plan of attack on the centre was gallantly

carried forward by Col. Osterhaus, who was imme-

diately sustained and superseded by Col. Davis'

entire division, supported also by Gen. Sigel's com-

mand, which had remained till near the close of the

Col. Carr's division held the right under a gal-

In the evening, the firing having entirely ceased

reinforced the right by a portion of the second division, under General Asboth. Before the day

closed, I was convinced that the enemy had con-

centrated his main force on the right; therefore I

commenced another change of front forward, so as

to face the enemy where he had deployed on my

right flank in strong position. The change had been partially effected, but was fully in progress, when,

t sunrise on the 8th, my right and centre renewed

My left, under General Sigel, moved close to the

hills occupied by the enemy, driving him from the heights, and advancing steadily toward the head of

left of the enemy and cross firing in his centre.

circle. A charge of infantry, extending throughout the whole line, completely routed the entire rebel

force, which retired in complete confusion, but

rather safely, through the deep, impassable defiles

Our loss was heavy. That of the enemy can never be ascertained, for the dead are scattered

over a large field. Their wounded, too, may, many

The foe is scattered in all directions, but I think his main force has returned to the Boston Moun-

ains. General Sigel follows the enemy toward

Keithsville, while my cavalry is pursuing him to-

wards the mountains, scouring the country, bring-ing in prisoners, and trying to find the rebel Major General Van Dorn, who had command of the en-

tire force of the enemy at this battle at Pea Ridge.

wounded, so as to justify a report; but I will refer you to a despatch which I will forward very soon.

I have not, as yet, statements of the dead and

The officers and soldiers under my command have

displayed such unusual gallantry, that I hardly

dure to make a distinction. I must, however, name

the commanders of the divisions: General Sigel,

who gallantly carried the right and drove back the left wing of the enemy, and General Asboth, who

was wounded in the arm in his gallant effort to re-

squads of the enemy could be seen in full retreat.

of Cross Timbers.

of them, perish.

firing, which was immediately answered by the enemy, with renewed energy, along the whole extent

ling and continuous fire all day.

the forces under Col. Jeff C. Davis, of Missouri.

forcements, about four o'clock P. M.

DRY-GOODS JOBBERS. 1862. SPRING. 1862. W. S. STEWART & CO.

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WHOLESALE HOUSES. AND 54-INCH

SKY-BLUE KERSEYS, SUPERFINE INDIGO-BLUE SATINETS, BLACK CADET AND OXFORD Do PRINTED Do, in variety.

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NO. 606 ARCH STREET. A full line of TIES, SCARFS, GLOVES, SUSPENDERS,

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GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE,
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(Opposite Independence Hall,)

CARPETINGS,

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CARPETINGS, Comprising every style, of the Newest Patterns and esigns, in VELVET, BRUSSELS, TAPESTRY BRUS SELS, IMPERIAL THEE-PLY, and INGRAIN CARPETINGS.

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FLOOD OIL CLOTHS, in every width.

COCOA and CAN'ION MATTINGS.

DOOR-MATS, RUSS, SHEEP SKINS,

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J. F. & E. B. ORNE, NO. 519 CHESTNUT STREET, (OPPOSITE STATE HOUSE,) Have received, per steamer Edinburgh, and other late arrivals, their

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500 PS. J. CROSSLEY & SON'S TAPESTRY BRUSSELS CARPETS, FROM 871 TO \$1 PR. YD., Together with a complete assortment of OIL GLOTHS,
STAIR AND FLOOR DRUGGETS,

RUGS, MATS, &c.,
All of new, choice selections, and
AT MODERATE PRICES.

RUGS, MATS, &c.,
all fled, precipitately, before our forces took possession, abandoning their fortifications at Centreville, as well as those on the Lower Potomac. It J. F. & E. B. ORNE. mh3-tf OPPOSITE STATE HOUSE.

HATS AND CAPS. 1862. SPRING STOCK 1862. C. H. GARDEN & Co., HATS, CAPS, AND FURS; STRAW GOODS, FANCY SILE AND STRAW BONNETS, Artificial Flowers, Ruches, Feathers, &c.,

No. 600 and 602 MARKET Street, S. W. corner of A large and complete stock. The best terms and the lowest prices. Cash and prompt "time buyers" are particularly invited to examine our stock. mhl-2m CARDINES .- 30 Cases Half and O Quarter boxes Sardines of favorite brands, fresh importation, in store and for, sale by RHODES & WILLIAMS, mb10 107 South WATER Street. The Rebel Exodus.

The advance of the Potomac army and its suc-cessful occupation of Manassas—the Gibraltar of the rebellion—has occasioned us little surprise. We were prepared for such a movement by the recent hulletin of Secretary Stanton to the newspapers We had not expected, however, that such a splenlid success would have been achieved without the firing of a gun, or the taking of a single life. That the magnitude of this bloodless victory may be right y appreciated, we have prepared the annexed history of the geographical position, fortification, defence, and final abandonment of the post.

Position and Strategic Value of Manassas. Position and Strategic Value of Manassas.

If the reader will take a good map of Virginia, he will find that this semi-circular shape of the Potomac continues down nearly to Acquia Croek, and as far up as Harper's Ferry, the greatest curve, however, being between Occoquan river (into which Bull Run emplies), some 15 or 18 miles below Washington, to Leesburg, about 25 above it. Within this space it approaches a half circle, on the outside of which is Washington, and on the inside, somewhat south of the centre, and respectively 18, 25, and 32 miles out, are Fulrfax, Centreville, and Mudarsas A line drawn from the mouth of the Medarses A line drawn from the mouth of the Occoquan river to Leesburg would pass between Fairfax and Centreville, while Manassas is not much further from Leesburg than it is from Washington, and is still nearer the mouth of the Occoquan, as well as Dumfries, another point still further down.

Thus with Manassas, Centreville, and Fairfax, as a base of operations, bodies of men can be thrown out with about equal facility from any point from Cecoquan river to Leesburg, between which their main lines extend, or can be concentrated as easily at any point within the semi-circle; or the wings of the array can revolve to ment an attack from any at any point within the semi-circle; or the wings of the army can revolve to meet an attack from any portion of it as far west as the Blue Ridge, and north to its junction with the Potomac. The face of the country, after leaving the Poto-mac bottoms, as you advance into the interior, is hilly, and covered for the most part with a dense growth of either hard timber or old field pines. These pines, which form a dense thicket, impen-These pines, which form a dense thicket, impenetrable by cavalry, must not be confounded with the
pine belonging to the original forests, and which
is getting very scarce in those parts. The old field
pines have only sprung up within the last seventy
years, on fields worn out by cultivation, being entirely maknown before that period. While our
Government was deficient in cavalry last summer,
they afforded an excellent cover for our infantry
scouts, which caused the rebel cavalry to give them
a wide berth. When they had to be passed, a favorite plan was to send some farmer ahead on foot
and in his shirt steeves, so as not to excite suspicion. If no danger lurked in ambush, the cavalry
followed.

On the 22d of July the special correspondent of

On the 22d of July the special correspondent of The Press furnished the following description of Manassas, which is more complete than the above:

The great body of the Southern levies have been centred at Manassas, skirting Bull Run, Brentsville, Butler's Ford. Centreville, and the Occoquan river. Nature has been lavish in strengthening this district as a defensive position. Immediately before Manassas there is a succession of equi-distant hills, in front of which there is said to be a ravine so deep and so thickly wooded that it is passable to an army only at two points, and those two gorges which a company of men could almost defend against a whole army. Months of preparation have enabled General Beauregard to add to these natural defences others of a more important nature. These defences were said, by Southern journals, to be a line of forts, two miles in extent, zig zag in form, with angles, salients, bastions, casemates, and everything properly belonging to the art of fortifications. In addition to this, the country is admirably adapted to the subsistence and entrenchment of The Press furnished the following description of

purpose, oreneral menowell has extended his base-line of operations to Contreville. The assault on Bull Run was a part of his plan, and a prelude to the great engagement of Sunday. Bull Run is nothing more than a small stream which crosses the read from Contraville constitution. the road from Centreville, constituting a kind of ravine, and is buried between dense masses of forest and shrubbery. In this woodland a poworful battery had been constructed, to oppose any attempt of the Government forces to threaten Manassas. It was the advanced battery of the great line of rebel batteries extending to the Junction. The action on Friday did not succeed in its capture, and in order to avoid the great and unpresserve. and, in order to avoid the great and unnecessary loss of life, which the success of such an effort would entail, it was determined, in the apprations of Sunday, to avoid it as much as possible—to extend the line against Manassas by a more northerly route from Centreville, and to take It by a flank more northerly route from the convenient of the conveni

Description of Centreville and Adjacent Country. Upon the day following the battle of Bull Run, the special correspondent of The Press wrote the

following graphic description of Centreville and Centreville is a small village, about four miles from Bull Run, and within seven or eight miles of Manassas Gap Junction, the centre of General Beauregard's position as commander-in-chief of the rebel forces. It commands a magnificent view —one seldom seen in the east part of Virginia. The approach from Fairfax Court House is through The approach from Fairfax Court House is through a succession of hills, covered in many parts with dense forests of timber, and occasionally showing evidences of civilization in large wheat fields, small, aristocratic mansions, and ungathered crops of new mown hay. The plain beyond Centreville is an extensive one, and will be memorable in history as the scene of the greatest battle ever fought on the American continent. It is bounded by the Blue Ridge, whose shelving and uneven summit faintly lines the horizon. It is watered by streams which rise in the mountain and flow into the Potomac, and is divided into fields of grain, pasture, and meadow. At almost regular intervals the plain itself ascends into gradually-sloping hillocks, most of which are covered with timber. Towards Occoquan especially the country is densely wooded, in the centre, and the right being now on the left, I most of which are covered with timber. Towards
Occoquan especially the country is densely wooded,
and we can but occasionally see a road or a field,
even with the aid of the most powerful glass.
In this romantic and beautiful district, the rebels
had determined to show their first organized opposition to the Federal Government. Fairfax, Alexandria, and the intervening points were but mere
picket stations, as it were, intended only as a
menace and a monitor. Their occupation by the
Government furges was but weekly contested and

Government forces was but weakly contested, and they were illy defended. Strength of Manassas before the Battle. The New Orleans Picayune, of the 14th of July, the Hollows. I immediately ordered the centre had a letter from a special correspondent at Manasand right wing forward, the right wing turning the sas Junction, dated July 7th. We make the following extract, which will give a complete idea of the This final position placed the enemy in the arc of a

strength of the position: This place still continues the headquarters of the army of the Potomae. There are many indications of an intended forward movement, the better to invite the enemy to an engagement, but the work of fortification still continues. By nature, the position is one of the strongest that could have been found in the whole State. About half way between tion is one of the strongest that could have been found in the whole State. About half way between the eastern spur of the Blue Ridge and the Potomac, below Alexandris, it commands the whole country between so perfectly that there is scarcely a possibility of its being turned. The right wing stretches off towards the headwaters of the Occoquan, through a wooded country, which is easily made impassable by the folling of trees. The left is a rolling table land, easily commanded from the successive elevations, till you reach a country so rough and so rugged that it is a defence to itself. The key to the whole position, in fact, is precisely that point which General Beauregard chose for its centre, and which he has fortified so strongly that, in the opinion of military men, 5,000 men could there hold 20,000 at bay.

The position, in fact, is fortified in part by Nature herself. It is a succession of hills, nearly equidistant from each other, in front of which is a ravine so deep and so thickly wooded that it is only passable at two points, and those through gorges which fifty men can defend against a whole army. It was at one of these points that the Washington Artillery were at first encamped, and though only half the battalion was then there, and we had only one company of infantry to support us, we slept as soundly under the protection of our guns as if we had been in a fort of the amplest dimensions.

Of the fortifications superadded here by General

who gailantly carried the right and drove back the left wing of the enemy, and General About, the way wounded in the arm in his gallant effort to reinforce the right; Colonel and acting Brigadie General Davis, who commanded the contre, when McCulloch foll, on the 7th, and pressed forward the centre on the 8th; Colonel and seting Brigadier General Carry, who is also wounded in the arm, and was nader the continuous fire of the enemy, and was nader the continuous fire of the enemy, and was nader the continuous fire of the enemy druing the two hardest days of the stringes.

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, and Missouri may proudly share the honor of the victory which their gallant berees wo nover the conditions of two victory which their gallant berees wo nover the condition of two of Yan mountains of Arkanass. I have the honor of two victory which their gallant berees wo nover the condition of the contrell to the series of the following and the contrell the property belongs to be formed to the contrell the property belongs to be formed to the contrell the property belongs to Beauregard is very popular here. I doubt if Napoleon himself had more the undivided confidence of his army. By nature, as also from a wise policy, he is very reticent. Not an individual here knows his plans or a single move of a regiment before it is made, and then only the colonel and his men know where it goes to. There is not a man here who can give anything like a satisfactory answer how many men he has, or where his exact lines are. For the distance of fourteen miles around, you see tents every where, and from them you can make a rough estimate of his men, but how many more are encamped on the by-roads and in the forests none can tell. The new comer, from what he sees at first glance, puts down the number at about 30,000 men; those who have been here longest estimate his force at 40,000, 50,000, and some even at 60,000 strong. And there is the same discrepancy as to the quantity of his artillery. So close does the General keep his affairs to himself, his left hand hardly knows what his right hand doeth, and so jeslous is he of his prerogative of a commanding officer that I verily believe if he suspected his coat clothed in negro clothing.

There was little or no picket-firing as our army advanced, the rebel pickets falling back before As our troops entered Manassas, straggling

of any acquaintance with the plans revolving with-in him, he would cast it from him. Advance of the Union Army.

Advance of the Union Army.

July 16.—The Federal army in Virginia took up the line of march for Fairfax and Manassas to-day. The force is fully 50,000 strong, the number reaching by actual count about 53,000. These are about 3,000 regular infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and 50,000 volunteers. The two Rhode Island, the Seventy-first New York, and the Second New Hampshire, comprising Col. Burnside's brigade, left Washington at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and struck the road for Fairfax Court House. The Twenty-seventh New York went over at 5 o'clock, and also took the Fairfax route. As soon as these regiments came together and passed the encampment, the soldiers cheered lustily, and shouted congratulations to each other 'hat they were fairly on the road to the robel capital. The De Kalb Regiment passed over the bridge, and went into Camp Runyon.

July 17.—The advance column of the National

yon.
July 17.—The advance column of the National army occupied Fairfax Court House, Va. at eleven o'clock to-day, meeting with no opposition from the Confederates either on the march or in taking possession of the place. Trees had been felled across the read and to make the read and the rea session of the place. Trees had been felled across the road and preparations made at one point for a battery, but there were no guns or troops on the route. The Confederates were drawn up beyond the town and a battle was expected, but at the National forces pressed on they retreated. The cavalry followed them some miles toward Centreville, but the heat of the weather and the previous long march prevented the infantry following. The abandonment of the village by the Confederates was so sudden that they left behind them some portions of their provisions, entrenching tools, and camp furniture. The army advances in three columns, one on the Fairfax road, and the others to the north and ture. The army advances in three columns, one on the Fairfax road, and the others to the north and south of the road. The advance will be continued to Centreville, eight miles beyond Fairfax, where the Confederates will probably make a stand if they design attempting to hold Manassas Junction. The only casualties reported by General Mellowell are an officer and three men slightly wounded.

July 18.—The Federal army left Fairfax Court House, Virging this mention and the law in the mention and the law in the second of the country in the second of the second House, Virginia, this morning, and took up its line of march in the direction of Centraville. General

McDowell, in a despatch to headquarters at Washington, gives the position of the several divisions of his army to-day. The Battle of Bull Run.

July 21.—This day the battle of Bull Run, Virginia, was fought, between the national forces under General McDowell and the rebels under Beauregard. Shortly after 5 A. M, three hours later than ordered, the national army moved from Centreville, in three divisions, commanded respectively by Gens. Richardson, Tyler, and Hunter. Richardson's (one brigade) moved on the road from Centreville to Manassas, to where that road crosses Bull Run, at Blackburn's Ford, and there opened fire upon the enemy with artillery. This movement, the extreme left of all the operations of the day, was intended as a feint, and to hold the enemy in check in case of disaster to the national forces on the right, as the enemy's movement forward here would imperil The Press furnished the following description of Manassas, which is more complete than the above:

The great body of the Southern levies have been centred at Manassas, skirting Bull Run, Breintsville, Butler's Ford, Centreville, and the Occoquan river. Nature has been lavish in strengthening this district as a defensive position. Immediately before Manassas there is a succession of equi-distant hills, in front of which there is said to be a ravine so deep and so thickly wooded that it is passable to an army only at two points, and those two gorges which a company of men could almost defend against a whole army. Months of preparation have enabled General Beauregard to add to these natural defences others of a more important nature. These defences were said, by Southern journals, to be a line of forts, two miles in extent, zig-zag in form, with angles, salients, bastions, casemates, and everything properly belonging to the art of fortifications. In addition to this, the country is admirably adapted to the subsistence and entrenchment of troops in numbers as large as they can easily be manceuvred on the battle-field.

To drive the rebels from this position has been a necessity, as at Manassas the commanding officer holds the key to the same road with Tyler's division until they had crossed a, small stream called Cub Run, and then between Cub Run and Bull Run, trun-rick to the Stone Bridge that crosses Bufl Run, and they had impeded the road by a heavy abatis. Hunter's division, (five brigades, four but trapike to the Stone Bridge the enemy was in position with artillery, and an imported the road by a heavy abatis. Hunter's division, (five brigades, four but trapike to the Stone Bridge the enemy was through they had crossed a, small stream called Cub Run, and they had crossed a, small stream called Cub Run, and they had crossed a, small stream called Cub Run, and they had crossed a, small Run, trun-rick to the stone Bridge the very differ holds the kensel of the same road with Tyler's division, (five brigades, four mand (burnsue's) reached and formed in the open space beyond Bull Run, the rebels at once opened fire with artillery, and soon after with infantry. The national forces received the enemy's fire very steadily, and supported by a battalion of regular in-fantry, and the first regiment that had crossed from Heintzelman's command, drove the enemy before it, and forced his position at the Stone Bridge.

Thus two brigades (Sherman's and Koyes') of Gen. Tyler's Division stationed on the Warrenton road, were enabled to cross, and to drive the right road, were enabled to cross, and to drive the right of the enemy, commanded by General Beauregard in person, from the front of the field. The contest then became severe for a position in front and to the right of Stone Bridge, but to the left of the ford at Sadley's Springs. Here was a hill with a farm house on it; from behind this hill the enemy's batteries annoyed the Union forces. Upon enemy's batteries annoyed the Union forces. Upon it, therefore, the attack was pressed very warmly by the brigades of Wilcox. Howard, Franklin, and Sherman, a part of Porter's brigade, and the cavalry under Palmer, and by the Rhode Island, Rickett's and Griffin's batteries. Rickett's battery became an chiest of the analyse social attaction.

-Rickett's, and Griffin's batteries. Rickett's battery became an object of the enemy's special attention, and he made strenuous attempts to carry it. Three times he was repulsed, and the third time was even driven from his own position, and entirely from the hill. From the Stone Bridge westward, the Warrenton road was now entirely in the possession of the national troeps, and the engineers were completing the removal of the abatis, that the remainder of Tyler's Division (Schenck's brigade and the batteries) might pass the bridge. The enemy was broken and disheartened. But it was now nearly 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the Union men had been in battle since ten o'clock in the morning, had previously marched nine miles, and morning, had previously marched nine miles, and had made no regular meal. Some of the regiments also had become shaken in the severe work that had also had become shaken in the severe work that had been done, and were unsteady; and at this time the enemy received reinforcements from Winchester, being that portion of General Johnston's command which had previously come up. These forces immediately attacked "on the right, and towards the rear of the right," and opened a fire of musketry, which threw the Union men into disorder. From this disorder they never recovered. Though every effort was made to rally them, it was in vain with the bulk of the force; the battalion of regulars alone formed, and moved to the attack. They held the rebels in check for a short time, when, as it was evident that no more could be done, the order to retreat was given. The retreat became a rout, and the rout a panic. Colonel Porter's force of regulars still maintained their order, however, and covered the passage of the stream, beyond which

and the rout a panic. Colonel Porter's force of regulars still maintained their order, however, and covered the passage of the stream, beyond which it was covered by Richardson's division, and a brigade (Blenker's) of Miles' division, and a brigade (Blenker's) of Miles' division, and a brigade (Blenker's) of Miles' division, and a main action, and exclusive of Richardson's and Miles' divisions, the actual force with which we crossed Bull Run, was 18,000 men. Those two divisions, if included, would swell the force to 35,000 men. One division of the army (Runyon's) was left at Vienna, its foremost regiment being seven miles back of Centreville.

Southern accounts of the battle make it appear that the rebels had 40,000 men upon the field, and 25,000 in reserve at Manassas, and on the road beyond. The national loss in killed and wounded, was 1,590; killed alone, 479. Many of the wounds were very slight. The enemy reports his own loss at 1,593; killed alone, 393.

P. G. T. Beauregard was promoted to the rank of general in the rebel army to-day. The New Orleans Delta in noting the fact says: "We have been furnished with a copy of the letter of President Davis, written on the field of battle after the glorious victory at Manassas, acquainting Brigadier General Beauregard of his promotion to the rank of general, the highest grade in the army of the Confederate States. This most richly deserved promotion and honor could not be conveyed in more just tasteful, and appropriate terms. The generals of the army of the Confederate States are Samuel Cooper, Robert E. Lee, Joseph E. Johnston, and P. G. T. Beauregard"

LETTER OF PREFIDENT DAVIS.

MANASSAS, Va, July 21, 1861.

Sir: Appreciating your services in the battle of Manassas, and one several ether occasions during the avising

Manassas, Va , July 21, 1861. MANASAS, Va, July 21, 1861.

Sir: Appreciating your services in the battle of Manasas, and on several other occasions during the visiting war, as affording the highest evidence of your skill as a commander, your gallantry as a soldier, and your zeals as a patriot, you are promoted to be general in the army of the Confederate States of America, and with the consent of Congress will be duly commissioned accordingly.

Yours, &c.,

JEFF. DAVIS.

Gen. P. G. T. Beaurogard, &c., &c. General McDowell's Official Report of the Bull Run Battle.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. N. E. VIRGINIA,
ARLINGTON, Va., August 4, 1861.
Lieut. Col. E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General,
Headquarters of the Army, Washington, D. C.

the south had shown that it was not practicable to the south had shown that it was not practicable to carry out the original plan of turning the enemy's position on their right. The affair of the 18th, at Blackburn's Ford, showed he was too strong at that point for us to force a passage there without great loss, and, if we did, that it would bring us in ront of his strong position at Manassas, which was not desired. Our information was, that the stone bridge, over which the Warrenton road crossed Bull Run, to the west of Centreville, was defended by a battery in position, and the road on his side of the stream impeded by a heavy abattis. The alternative was, therefore, to turn the extreme left of his position. Reliable information was obtained of an undefended ford about three miles above the an undefended ford about three miles above the an underended for a sout three mines above the bridge, there being another ford between it and the bridge, which was defended. It was, therefore, determined to take the road to the upper ford, and, after crossing, to get behind the forces guarding the lower ford and the bridge, and after cocupying the Warrenton road, east of the bridge, to sond out a love to destroy the religious to charge. Guingsville.

Warrenton road, east of the bridge, to send out a force to destroy the railroad at or near Gainesville, and thus break up the communication between the enemy's forces at Manassas and those in the valley of Virginia, before Winchester, which had been held in check by Major General Patterson.

Brigadier General Tyler was directed to move with three of his brigades on the Warrenton road, and commence cannonading the enemy's batteries, while Hunter's division, moving after him, should, after passing a little stream called Cub run, turn to the right and north, and move around to the upper ford, and there turn south and get behind the enemy. Colonel Heintzelman's division was to follow Hunter's as far as the turning-off place to the lower ford, where he was to cross after the one-my should have been driven out by Hunter's division, the Fitth division (Miles') to be in reserve on the Centreville ridge.

General Tyler commenced with his artillery at

the Centreville ridge.

General Tyler commenced with his artillery at half past six A. M., but the enemy did not reply.

After firing several times and obtaining no response, I held one of Heintzelman's brigades in reserve in case we should have to send any troops back to re-inforce Miles' division. The other brigades moved forward as directed in the general orders. On reaching the ford, at Sudley's Spring, I found part of the leading brigade of Hunter's division (Burn-side's) had crossed, but the men were slow in getof the leading brigade of Hunter's division (Burnside's) had crossed, but the men were slow in gotting over, stopping to drink. As at his time the clouds of dust from the direction of Manassas indicated the immediate approach of a large force; and fearing it might come down on the head of the column before the division could all get over and sustain it, orders were sent back to the heads of regiments to break from the column and come forward separately as fast as possible. Orders were sent by an officer to the reserve brigade of Heintzelman's division to come by a nearer road across the fields, and an aid-de-camp was sent to Brigadier General Tyler to direct him to press forward his attack, as large bodies of the enemy were passing in front of him to attack the division which had crossed over. The ground between the stream and In front of him to attack the division which had crossed over. The ground between the stream and the road leading from Sudley's Spring south, and over which Burnside's brigade marched, was for about a mile from the ford thickly wooded, whilst on the right of the road for about the same distance the country was divided between fields and woods. Shortly after the leading regiment of the first brigade reached this open space, and whilst others and the second brigade were crossing to the front and right, the enemy opened his fire, beginning with artillery, and following it up with infantry. The leading brigade (Burnside's) had to sustain this shock for a short time without support, and did it well. The battalion of regular infantry was sent to sustain it, and shortly afterwards the other corps of Porter's brigade, and a regiment detached

sent to sustain it, and snortly arcrewards the other corps of Porter's brigade, and a regiment detached from Heintzelman's division to the left, forced the enemy back far enough to allow Sherman's and Keyes' brigades, of Tylor's division, to cross from their position on the Warrenton road. These drove the right of the enemy, understood to have been commanded by Beauregard, from the front of the field, and out of the detached woods, and down to field, and out of the detached woods, and down to the road, and across it up the slopes on the other side. Whilst this was going on. Heintzelman's di-vision was moving down the field to the stream and up the road beyond. Beyond the Warrenton road, and to the left of the road, down which our troops had marched from Sudley's Spring, is a hill with a farmhouse on it. Behind this hill, the enemy had, narimouse on it. Benind this hill, the enemy had, early in the day, some of his most annoying butteries planted. Across the road from this hill was another hill, or rather elevated ridge, or table of land. The hottest part of the contest was for the possession of this hill, with a house on it.

It was at this time that the enemy's reinforcements came to his aid from the railroad train, understood to have just arrived from the valley with the residue of Johnston's army. They threw themselves in the woods on our right, and towards the rear of our right, and opened a fire of muskerry on our men, which caused them to break and retire down the billside. This soon degenerated into disorder, for which there was no remedy. Every effort was made to rally them, even beyond the reach of the enemy's fire, but in vain. The buttailion of regular infantry alone moved up the hill opposite the one with the house on it, and there maintained itself until our men could get down to and

opposite the one with the house on it, and there main-tained itself until our men could get down to and across the Warrenton turnpike, on the way back to the position we occupied in the morning. The plain was covered with the retreating troops, and they seemed to infect those with whom they came in contact. The retreat soon became a rout, and this soon degenerated still further into a panic. Orders had been sent beach to Miles' division for Orders had been sent back to Miles' division for a brigade to move forward and protect this retreat, and Col. Blenker's brigade was detached for this purpose, and was ordered to go as far forward as the point where the road to the right left the main road. By referring to the general order it will be seen that, while the operations were to go on infront, an attack was to be made at Blackburn's Ford by the brigude (Richardson's) stationed there. A refer-

brigade (Richardson's) stationed there. A reference to his report, and to that of Major Hunt, commanding the artillery, will show that this part of the plan was well and effectively carried out.

After providing for the protection of the retreat by Porter's and Blenker's brigades, I repaired to Richardson's, and found the whole force ordered to be stationed for the holding of the road from Manassas by Blackburn's Ford to Centreville, on the march, under the orders from the division commander, for Centreville. I immediately halted it, and ordered it to take up the best line of defence march, under the orders from the division commander, for Centreville. I immediately halted it, and ordered it to take up the best line of defence across the ridge that their position admitted of, and subsequently taking in person the command of this part of the army, I caused such disposition of the forces which had been added to by the First and Second New Jersey and the De Kalb Regiments, ordered up from Runyon's reserve, before going forward, as would best serve to check the enemy. The ridge being held in this way, the retreating current passed slowly through Cantreville to the rear. The enemy followed us from the ford as far as Cub Run, and owing to the road becoming blocked up at the crossing, caused us much damage there.

By sundown most of our men had gotten behind Centreville ridge, and it became a question whether we should or not endeavor to make a stand there. The condition of our artillery and its ammunition, and the want of food for the men, who had generally abandoned or thrown away all that had been issued the day before, and the natter disorganization and consequent demoralization of the mass of the army, seemed to all who were near enough to be consulted—division and brigade commanders and staff—to admit of no alternative but to fall back; the more so, as the position of the enemy, and

and staff—to admit of no alternative but to fall back; the more so, as the position of Blackburn's Ford was then in the possession of the enemy, and he was already turning our left.

At — o'clock the rear guard (Blenker's brigade) moved, covering the retreat, which was effected during the night and next morning. The troops at Fairfax station leaving by the cars took with them the bulk of the supplies which had been sent there. My aid-de-camp, Major Wadsworth, staid at Fairfax Court House till late in the morning, to see that the stragglers and weary and worn-out soldiers the stragglers and weary and worn-out soldiers were not left behind.

were not left behind.

From the reports of the division and brigade commanders, which were annexed, it appeared that our killed amounted to nineteen officers and four hundred and sixty-two non-commissioned officers and privates, and our wounded tosixty-four officers and nine hundred and forty-seven non-commissioned officers and privates.

and nine hundred and forty-seven non-commissioned officers and privates.

The report then closed as follows:

I conclusion, I desire to say, in reference to the events of the 21st ult., that the general order for the battle to which I referred was, with slight modifications, literally conformed to; that the corps were brought over Bull Run in the manner proposed, and put into action as before arranged, and that up to late in the afternoon every movement ordered was carrying us successfully to the object we had proposed before starting—that of getting to the railroad leading from Manassas to the valley of Viriginia, and going on it far enough to break up and destroy the communication and interviews between the forces under Beauregard and those under Johnston. And could we have fought a day or a few hours sooner, there is everything to show how few hours sooner, there is everything to show how we could have continued successful, even against we could have continued successful, even agains the odds with which we contended.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, you most obedient servant, Inwin McDowell, Brigadier General Commanding.

Our Second Advance upon Ma-

nassas. The New York Tribune of yesterday contained the following special despatch:

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The following was struck out of our despatches last night, by the military supervisor of the telegraph, acting under special order. As there is to-night no doubt of its truth, in even official minds, it is allowed to go forward to-day. Also, intelligence from four other points, brought by those loyal black mon, each making his way to the nearest national camp, announcing that the rebels were burning their quarters, removing their artillery, and moving back toward Fredericksburg. One came from Centreville, one from Manssas, one from a rebel camp north, and one from one south of those strongholds.

Still another party of four of the dispersed slaves, of whom one said that he was an officer's servant, came into Gen. Kearney's lines and told the same story. The New York Tribune of yesterday contained

ory. Light cavalry have been sent in pursuit to harass and track the rebol retreat. It is supposed to be their design to fall back first upon Fredericksburg and then upon Richmond.

This retrograde movement of the rebels has been going on for a week, according to the dispersed glaves' stories. All other information went to show

TWO CENTS.

that the rebels were strengthening themselves on the Lower Potomac, and were hurrying all their troops to Manassas.

Intercepted letters from well-informed quarters in South Carolina and Georgia, state that large bodies of troops, mostly raw levies, and illy armed and equipped, are moving North to Virgicia, and it is believed here in high quarters that they are falling back to be ready for a spring forward at the falling back to be ready for a spring forward at the wings or on the centre. Our troops occupy Centreville and Fairfax Court House to-night. Two companies, under Major Hat-House to night. Two companies, under Major Hat-field, were ordered yesterday morning to go to Fairfax Court House by the old Braddock road. When within a mile of the place, they met the enemy, who retreated before them At 5 o'clock last evening they entered the Court House, follow-ed by a full regiment. The two companies under Major Hatfield were then ordered back to Far's Cross Roads, where they met the body of the regiment, and bivouacked for the night.

met the body of the regiment, and bivouacked for the night.

At 12 o'clock noon, te-day, Hatfield's company were within sight of the village, and found that it had been evacuated in the night, leaving tents and other property behind in large quantity.

Lieut. Alexander, of the Liucoln Cavalry, arrived soon after with a detachment of men, and pressed on as far as Cub's Run, three miles above Centreville, where he discovered a vast number of tents left standing. The enemy had retreated to Gordonsville.

The Rebel Army of the Potomac, The rebel army of the Potomac was under the sole command of Gen. Joseph E- Johnston, and was sub-divided into three corps d'armée. The first corps, stationed on the upper Potomac, was under the command of Gen. Thomas J. Jackson, of Georgia; the second or middle corps, under command of Gen. Gustavus W. Smith, of New York streetcleaning notoriety; and the third, on the lower Potomac, under the command of Gen. Holmes, of North Carolina. These corps were sub-divided into divisions and brigades and placed under com-

mand of various generals. Sketch of General Johnston. Joseph Eccleston Johnston is a native of Virginia; graduated at West Point in 1825, and in July, 1849, he was appointed second lieutenant Fourth Artillery. In June, 1856, he was made assistant commissary of subsistence, and in the following month he was promoted to a first lieutenancy. He resigned on 31st of May, 1837, but re-entered the service sgain as first lieutenant Topographical Engineers on the 7th of July, 1838. He was brevetted captain on 7th July, 1838, for good con-

Gen. Pope's March to New Madrid, Mo POSITION OF THE REBELS AT ISLAND NO. 10-FORT Yesterday we published a telegraphic despatch stating that Gen. Pope's army had reached New Madrid and were investing the rebels in that place, readers may wish to obtain some information about the preluminary movements of Gen. Pope, we copy the following letter from the Cairo correspondent of the Chicago Post:

Immediately after the fall of Donelson, General Pope's army began to concentrate at Commerce, twenty miles above here, on the Missouri shore. A ridge of high ground (a little higher, at least, than the adjacent swamps) extends from that place to rioge of nigg ground (a little nigher, at least, than the adjacent swamps) extends from that place to New Madrid, slong which was the best, and, in fact, almost the only, road by which an army could march thither. The country is intersected and covered nearly all over with impassable swamps. The distance from Commerce to New Madrid is scarcely more than from Cairo to the same point, by the route which would have to be travelled.

General Pope's baggage train was reduced to the lowest amount practicable by dispensing with all unnecessary camp equipage, and filling its place with ammunition and entrenching tools. From this, it may be inferred that his first object was to obtain a suitable position, which he would proceed to fortify and hold for some future purpose. The army reached New Madrid on Monday last, since when very little vague rumor has been heard from it by those who do not wear stars on their shoulder straps. [Our despatches by telegraph have informed us that New Madrid has been for some days invested.—Eds.] should be borne in mind that the rebel position at Island No. 10 is above New Madrid some fifteen miles; so that our gunboats, in order to reach that place, must first drive the rebels from their island,

place, must first drive the rebels from their island, the present occupation of which enables their gunboats to co-operate with their land forces against General Pope. The rebel gunboats are represented to be old New Orleans tugboats, which would be easily sunk, by a single broadside from one of Commodore Foote's iron clad casemates

Where do the Rebels intend to Make a

Stand? Whatever the rebels may intend or expect to ac-complish by their present menacing occupation of Island No. 10, there is little doubt that they expect, Island No. 10, there is little doubt that they expect, sooner or later, to withdraw to their fortress at Randolph, called, in honor of that "tall walkor," Fort Pillow. This fortification is near the town of Randolph, Tipton county, Tennessee, about sixty miles above Memphis, one hundred and sixty below Columbus, and one hundred and eighty below Cairo. The position is naturally a strong one. The fort is a rough and incomplete earthwork, constructed last fall. It is built upon the second Chickasaw Bluffs, (those at Columbus being known as the first,) more than one hundred feet above the river, and immediately south of Island No. 34, the lower part of which commands the three mouths of the Hatchie river, a stream navigable at good stages, that empties into the Mis-

34, the lower part of which commands the three months of the Hatchie river, a stream navigable at good stages, that empties into the Mississippi, just above the town of Randolph, at the upper edge of the bluffs. Between the main bluff on the river side, is a "bench," or lower bluff, forming a natural parapet for water batteries, to which purpose it has been devoted. The space between the front of this natural parapet and the main bluff is about one hundred yards, and the ground sinks into a hollow sufficient to protect a large number of troops from any fire from the river. The position commands a view of the river for five or six miles, both above and below. As at Columbus, the river is here contracted into a very narrow channel, and consequently presents the additional difficulty, in a gunboat attack, of a swift current. Our gunboats, however, by silencing whatever guns may be placed on Island No. 34, might enter the northern mouth of the Hatchie out of the range of Fort Randolph.

The town of Randolph, near which the fort stands, consists of half a dozen or so dilapidated frame houses, and is approached in the rear by several good roads; but the country behind it, being full of ravines and gorges, is capable of being fortified to an almost indefinite extent. It is probable that Beauregard himself is on the ground, attending to this work. The pesition, however, is really of no manner of use or benefit, except to dispute the navigation of the river. It has no railroad communications, and, as an army stationed there would have to depend on the river exclusively for communications, and, as an army stationed there would have to depend on the river exclusively for the transportation of supplies, it would not require long to cut it off and starve it out. So, if the rebels concentrate at Randolph the capture of Memphis

will be so much the easier. THE GALLANT IOWA SECOND'S COLORS .-The Gallant lowa Second's Colors.—
The flag of the gallant lowa Second, the first that was planted on the enemy's works at Fort Donelson, is to hang over the Speaker's chair in the Iowa House of Representatives, and to be deposited, after the adjournment of the Legislature, in the archives of the Historical Society. The flag has, according to one account, sixteen, according to another, twenty-three bullet-holes through it. Three of the color bearers were killed, and the other was wounded. wounded.

Bowling Green, Ky., has the appearance very much of one vast cemetery. During its occupancy by the rebels, not less than forty-seven or forty-eight hundred new graves were made in its

THE WAR PRESS. THE WAR PRESS will be sent to subscribers by

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lines constitute a square.

## NAVAL BATTLE AT HAMPTON ROADS

Statement of the Pilot of the Cumberland.

Mr. A. B. Smith, pilot on board of the United

States frigate Cumberland, at the time of hor bat-tle with the Merrimac, has arrived in New York, and given a reporter of the World a full account of the desperate conflict. The pilot says: or the desperate conflict. The pilot says:

On Saturday morning, the United States steamer Cumber(and laid off in the roads at Newport News, about three hundred yards from the shere, the Congress being two hundred yards south of us. The morning was mild and pleasant, and the day opened without any noteworthy incident. About eleven o'clock, a dark looking object was described coming round Craney Island, through Norfolk channel, and proceeding straight in our direction. It was instantly recognized as the Merrimac. We had been on the lookout for her for some time, and were as well prepared then as we could have been were as well prepared then as we could have been at any other time, or as we have been during the at any other time, or as we have been during the last six months.

As she came ploughing through the water right onwards toward our port bow, she looked like a buge half submerged crocodile. Her sides seemed of solid iron, except where the guns pointed from the narrow ports, and rose slantingly from the water like the roof of a house or the arched back of a tortoise. Probably the extreme height of the apex from the water's edge, perpendicularly, was ten feet. At her prow I could see the iron ram projecting, straight forwards, somewhat above the water's edge, and apparently a mass of iron. Small boats were slung or fastened to her sides, and the rebel flag floated from one staff, while a pennant was fixed to another at the stern. There was a smokestack or pipe near her middle, and she was probably a propeller, no side wheels or machinery being visible. She is probably covered with railroad iron. last six months.

GETTING READY FORACTION. Immediately on the appearing of the Merrimac the command was given to make ready for instant action. All hands were ordered to their places, and the Cumberland was sprung across the channel, so that her broadside would bear on the Merrimac. The armament we could bring to bear on the Merrimac was about eleven nine and ten-inch Dahlgren guns, and two pivot guns of the same make. The gunners were at their posts, and we waited engorly for her approach within range. She came up at the rate of four or five knots per hour.

OPENING THE BATLE. OPENING THE BATTLE.

When the Merrimac arrived within about a mile

the service again as first lieutenant Topographical Engineers on the 7th of July, 1838. He was brevetted captain on 7th July, 1838, for good conduct in war against the Florida Indians, and made a full captain in September, 1846. He was appointed lieutenant colonel of voltigeurs on 16th of February, 1847, and he was brevetted colonel for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Cerro Gordo, where he was severely wounded. He also distinguished himself in the battle of El Molino Del Rey, and he was again wounded at the battle of Chepultepec, but received the brevet of lioutenant colonel for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle. At the breaking out of the present rebellion he was in the Adjutant General's Dayarment in Washington; but basely deserted his post and went over to the rebels. Jeff Davis rewarded him for this by appointing him to the command of thearmy of the Upper Potomao, and subsequently the whole department of Virginia. The rest of his bistory is already familiar to bur readers.

General Thomas J. Jackson.

General Thomas J. Jackson and general manufacture and discharged her guns at us, the shot passing through the main bay and killing five sick men. The water dame with men beck were almo early in the day, some of his most annylug batteries planted. Across the road from this hill was another hill, or rather olevated ridge, or table of lead. The hottet part of the contest was for the possession of this hill, with a house on it.

The force ongaged here was Heintaman' dities the possession of this hill, with a house on it.

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The force ongaged here was Heintaman' dities on the command on the Upper Potent's brigade of Heintzelman's division, Sherman brigade of

The Merrimae then turned her attention to the Congress, which lay probably two hundred yards of the south of where the Cumberland was The to the south of where the Cumberland was The Merrimac came up under her stern, and her crew fired their pistols into the ports of the Congress as she approached. I saw her fire on the Congress as she approached. I saw her fire on the Congress. The sailors of that vessel say that the Merrimac struck her; but of this I am not sure. The Congress had a good crew of fitty mon from the Cumberland previously taken on board, fifty from the Minnesota, fifty of the Naval Brigade, fifty from the Roanoks, and some others. Lieutenant Joseph Smith, who was in command, was killed by a shot. A great many of the Naval Brigade were also killed. The entire command seemed to have acted bravely during the engagement, which probably lasted not over half an hour, when the white flag was run up. During that night some sailors and men of the Congress returned and set fire to her, and she blew up about twelve o'clock. Neither the shot of the Cumberland nor Congress appeared to have any effect on the Merrimac, bounding off harmlessly, with a loud ringing sound from the iron plates.

The engagement with the Minnesota resulted in the killing of four men on the latter vessel, which was aground. The Merrimac did not seem to like to go near her, perhaps on account of her large armament of heavy guns, but more probably because she was afraid of also getting aground, the water being quite shallow in that neighborhood.

FIGHT DETWEEN THE MONITOR AND MERRIMAC.

The Monitor came in on Saturday night, and proceeded up past the Minnesota. The rebel stemmers Jamestown and Yorktown were not iron-plated, or, at any rate, only partially so. They came down in the daylight, making for the Minnesota. but to their surprise found the Monitor ready to receive them. On Sunday morning the Monitor moved close up to the Merrimac, and, side by side, engaged her for four hours and twenty minutes. Once the Merrimac dashed her iron prow squarely against the Monitor, but did not injure that vessel in the least. The Monitor in turn determined to try her force in a similar operation, but in some unaccountable manner, the FIGHT BETWEEN THE MONITOR AND MERRIMAC. operation, but, in some unaccountable manner, the wheel or other steering apparatus became entangled, it is said, and the Monitor rushed by, just missing her aim. Capt. Worden is confident that he put three shot through the hull of his antagonist—probably through the ports. The Monitor fired 178 pound cast-iron shot. The wrought-iron shot were not used, because their great weight and peruliar construction renders the guns much more point used, because their great weight and peculiar construction renders the guns much more liable to burst. The Merrimae fired about forty shots on the Monitor, which replied rapidly as possible, but, so far as it is known, neither vessel is damaged. Those on board the Monitor say the balls rattled and rang upon both vessels, and seemed to bound off harmless. The Merrimae is probably not injured, at least not more than the starting of a plate or so of her iron covering, and, her machinery being uninjured, she is probably fit to to come out again. It is impossible to keep the Merimae from coming out. She can sail three knots an hour faster than the Monitor. From her evolutions, I should judge she can go at the rate of eight or nine knots per hour. It is impossible to board the Merrimae. Should she come out again, she will be obliged to pass within range of the Union gun at the Rip Raps, and a shot from it might perhaps crush her sides; but it is very dificult to manage so heavy a piece of artillery, and the Union gun, in all probability, might be fired fifty times without touching her. I do not think the Merrimae is calculated to carry much coal, and that might have been a reason for her retiring from the context. The Mariter parkers with the Merrimac is calculated to carry much coal, and that might have been a reason for her retiring from the contest. The Monitor, perhaps, might follow up the rebel steamers and disable them, but if she gets among the rebel batterics, a heavy fire might be concentrated on her from different points, and she be thus injured, or possibly she might be grappled to and towed ashore. These and other reasons may suffice to show why the Monitor did not follow among the batteries of Crancy Island and Norfolk. General Wool, I understand, has ordered all the women and children away from ordered all the women and children away from Fortress Monroe, in anticipation of the Merrimuc's reappearance. KILLED AND WOUNDED AS FAR AS ASCERTAINE

Killed. Lieutenant Joseph Smith, executive officer of the Congress.
Captain J. L. Lenhart, of the Cumberland.
Second Addistant Engineer Andrew Nesbit, of the gunboat Whitehall.

Bostswain's Mute J. Harrington, of the Cum-Charles O'Conner, sailor, gunboat Whitehall. Robert Ward, sailor, gunboat Whitehall.

Wounded. Quartermaster Benjamin Hungerford, of the gunboat Zonave, seriously.
Charles Frees, ship's cook, of the Zonave, badly.
Wm. McDonald, sailor, of the Zonave, badly scalded.
The loss of the Cumberland in killed and wounded is about 150.
On the Minnesota, 6 killed and 25 wounded.
On the Congress, 50 killed; all the officers taken prisoners.

prisoners.

The enemy's shells had little or no effect on the Union camp at Newport News; one or two men were wounded, and one other seriously. THE Richmond Whig says that Joff Davis is a small potato. We suppose that's the reason that editor gives bim a dig.