The Press.

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THE PRESS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,)

BY JOHN W. FORNEY,

OFFICE No. 417 CHESTNUT STREET.

THE DAILY PRESS,

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COMPRISING STRENGTH, GENTILITY, ACTION, and ECONOMY;

Or, in other words, containing all the excellencies of COLT'S, SMITH & WESTON'S, and ALLEN & WHEELOCK'S, concentrated in one instrument, thereby making this PISTOL the most formidable weapon ever offered for sale.

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The largest assortment of Cartridges ever offered in the city of Washington, adapted to all CARTRIDGE PISTOLS.

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Orders from City or Country promptly attended to. fe28-2m

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100 Bbls. "Lucifer" Burning Oil on hand.

We guarantee this oil to be non-explosive, to burn all the oil in the lamp with a steady, brilliant flame, without crusting the wick, and but slowly. Bbls. lined with glass enamel. WRIGHT, SMITH, & PEARSALL.

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No. 261 South SECOND Street,

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. fe26-6m

LOOKING GLASSES.

JAMES S. EARLE & SON,

MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF

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FINE ENGRAVINGS,

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CARTE-DE-VISITE PORTRAITS,

EARLE'S GALLERIES,

816 CHESTNUT STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

ja16

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ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO.,

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WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS,

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WINDOW AND PLATE GLASS.

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Oil of Vitriol,	Acetate Morphine,
Calomel,	Lac. Sulph.,
Patent Yellow,	Ether Sulphuric,
Chrome Red,	Ether Nitric,
Chrome Yellow,	Sulphate Quinine,
Aqua Fortis,	Corro. Sublim.,
Muriatic Acid,	Denarcotized Opium,
Epsom Salts,	Chloride of Soda,
Rochelle Salts,	Wetherill's ext. Ginchona,
Tartaric Acid,	Tartar Emetic,
Orange Mineral,	Chloride of Lime,
Soluble Tart.	Crude Borax,
Sub. Carb. Soda,	Refined Borax,
White Vitriol,	Camphor,
Red Precipitate,	Benin Copaiva.

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Druggists and Manufacturing Chemists, Nos. 47 and 49 North SECOND Street, PHILADELPHIA.

ja18-tf

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CORNER OF BREAD AND QUARRY STREETS,

ja13-3m Bet. Arch and Race, and Second and Third.

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The rebels are straying
Away from Manassas,
With bragging and braying
Like frightened jackasses.

The *Monitor* punches
The stout *Merrimac*,
Belaboring the monster
With whack after whack.

The President's message
Doth stir up the nation,
To the Border States' help
In E-mancipation.

The rebels now wonder,
And look for the crash,
When our great anaconda
Shall grind them to smash.

'Mid all their derangements,
We cheerfully sing
Of OAK HALL'S arrangements
Of CLOTHES FOR THE SPRING.

CLOTHES! GOOD CLOTHES!! FASHIONABLE CLOTHES!!!! SEASONABLE CLOTHES!!!! NEW CLOTHES!!!!! — OAK HALL, S. E. corner SIXTH AND MARKET. WANAMAKER & BROWN. — MASCULINE ELEGANCE for the SPRING.

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1862. SPRING. 1862.

W. S. STEWART & CO.,

IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS OF

SILKS AND FANCY DRESS GOODS,

NO. 305 MARKET STREET.

We invite the attention of the trade to a full line of BLACK AND OTHER STAPLE SILKS,

As also a great variety of NEW STYLES OF DRESS GOODS,

Bought for cash, and which will be offered on the most favorable terms. fe25-3m

NEW SPRING GOODS.

M. L. HALLOWELL & Co.,

333 MARKET and 27 NORTH FOURTH STS.,

Wholesale Dealers in

SILKS AND FANCY DRY GOODS,

Have open a large variety of *freshly-imported*

SPRING DRESS GOODS,

To which, with a handsome assortment of

BLACK AND FANCY SILKS,

SHAWLS, MANTILLAS, WHITE GOODS, EMBROIDERIES,

And other goods in their line, they invite the attention of city and country dealers. mh4-tf

YARD, GILLMORE, & Co.,

Nos. 617 CHESTNUT and 614 JAYNE Streets.

Have now open their

SPRING IMPORTATION OF SILK AND FANCY

DRESS GOODS, SHAWLS, WHITE GOODS, LINENS, EMBROIDERIES, &c.

Bought in Europe, by one of the firm.

To which the attention of the trade is particularly invited. fe21-2m

CARPETS AND OIL CLOTHS.

GLEN ECHO MILLS,

GERMANTOWN, PA.

McCALLUM & Co.,

MANUFACTURERS, IMPORTERS, AND DEALERS

CARPETINGS,

OIL CLOTHS, &c.

We have on hand an extensive stock of Carpetings, of our own and other makes, to which we call the attention of cash and short-time buyers. mh7-3m

FOURTH-STREET CARPET STORE,

No. 47 ABOVE CHESTNUT, No. 47.

J. T. DELACROIX

Invites attention to his Spring Importation of

CARPETINGS.

Comprising every style, of the Newest Patterns and Designs, in VELVET, BRUSSELS, TAPESTRY BRUSSELS, IMPERIAL THREE-PLY, and INGRAIN CARPETINGS.

TAPESTRY and DAMASK STAIR CARPETINGS.

SCOTCH RAG and LIST CARPETINGS.

FLOOR OIL CLOTHS, in every width.

CANTON and CANTON MATTINGS.

DOOR-MATS, RUGS, SHEEP SKINS.

DRUGGETS, and CRUMB CLOTHS.

AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,

LOW FOR CASH.

J. T. DELACROIX,

mh5-4m 47 South FOURTH Street.

NEW CARPETINGS.

J. F. & E. B. ORNE,

NO. 519 CHESTNUT STREET,

(OPPOSITE STATE HOUSE,)

Have received, per steamer *Edinburgh*, and other late arrivals, a portion of their

SPRING IMPORTATION OF

NEW CARPETINGS:

CROSSLEY'S

YARD-AND-A-HALF-WIDE VELVETS,
9-4 MEDALLION DO.,
ENGLISH BRUSSELS,
EXTRA-QUALITY TAPESTRY,
BRUSSELS CARPETS, WITH BORDERS,

(of new designs, for Halls and Stairs).

INGRAIN AND THREE-PLY CARPETINGS, of extra quality.

ALSO,

500 PS. J. CROSSLEY & SON'S *TAPESTRY BRUSSELS CARPETS,*

FROM 87½ TO $1 PR YD.,

Together with a complete assortment of OIL CLOTHS, STAIR AND FLOOR DRUGGETS, RUGS, MATS, &c., All of new, choice selections, and

AT MODERATE PRICES.

J. F. & E. B. ORNE,

mh3-tf OPPOSITE STATE HOUSE.

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FLANNEL OVER-SHIRTS

FOR THE ARMY.

FINE SHIRTS,

COLLARS, STOCKS, AND

WRAPPERS,

Manufactured at

W. W. KNIGHT'S,

NO. 606 ARCH STREET.

A full line of TIES, SCARFS, GLOVES, SUSPENDERS, HOSIERY, AND UNDERCLOTHING, Always on hand. mh5 3mif

FINE SHIRT MANUFACTORY.

The subscriber would invite attention to his IMPROVED CUT OF SHIRTS, Which he makes a specialty in his business. Also, constantly receiving NOVELTIES FOR GENTLEMEN'S WEAR.

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GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE,

No. 814 CHESTNUT STREET,

ja2-tf Four doors below the Continental.

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SELF-ADJUSTING CLOTHES WRINGER.—This improvement will wring water from any article of the most delicate texture to a bed quilt better than by hand, without the least injury, and adjusts itself, so that it is superior to all other wringers and modes of wringing. Purchasers can use them one month and, if not satisfied, return them and receive their money. For sale by L. E. SNOW, at office of JOY, COE, & CO., FIFTH and CHESTNUT Streets.

Ladies are particularly invited to call and see them. fe26-1m

The Press.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1862.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.]

All the Sensation Reporters sent Home—The "Press" Still Represented—Arrival of the Oneida—Funeral of the Engineer Nesbit—Prospect of a Storm.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 13.

Since the naval battle of Hampton Roads, newspaper proprietors have come to the conclusion that Fortress Monroe was a vastly more important place than they had previously imagined. At least it would appear so, for yesterday representatives of three New York journals arrived. They were doomed to disappointment, however, receiving special permits to leave for home last evening.

This morning a special of another New York journal arrived, but will depart for the North this evening.

The reason for this action on the part of the authorities is unknown to all save the commanding general, but it is doubtless good and sufficient.

The Press is now the only journal represented here. The agent of the Associated Press, however, was not included in the edict. All the "special" despatches published by papers in your city, and purporting to come from this point, are purely home-made.

The rebels confess that their much-vaunted ram, the *Virginia*, did receive some damage. They say that her prow was bent considerably, that her smoke stack and steam pipe were riddled, and that her iron plating was considerably shattered. They also acknowledge two men killed and eight wounded.

The U. S. steam sloop-of-war *Oneida* arrived this morning, and is now anchored in the roads.

The rebels are at work building a new battery on Sewell's Point.

The operator at Cape Charles reports that two large war steamers were seen off that point to-day, bound in. One is supposed to be the *San Jacinto*; the name of the other is unknown.

Company G, Captain Newburgh, of the Tenth New York Zouaves, Col. Bendix, accompanied by a full band, escorted to the boat to-day the remains of Andrew Nesbit, the assistant engineer of the *Whitehall*, and who was killed in the late engagement. The company marched with reversed arms, the band playing the Dead March in Saul, and the coffin, draped with the American colors, was drawn in a wagon behind.

The remains will be conveyed to New York, where they will be taken in charge by the members of Mohawk Engine Company, No. 16, under whose direction they will be interred.

Mr. Nesbit was highly esteemed by many friends, who are called upon to mourn his death.

The weather is cloudy and there is every sign of a storm.

FROM COM. DUPONT'S EXPEDITION.

Departure of the Fleet—Reinforcements—Ship Fever—Colonel Guss' Regiment—St. Simon's Sound—Reconnoissance—Capture of a Prize Schooner—the "Alick," from Nassau, N. P.—A Valuable Cargo—Another Prize from Nassau, N. P.—The Schooner "Arrow"—Martial Music—Contrabands—St. Andrew's Sound—The Cumberland Island Lighthouse—The "McClellan" Aground.

UNITED STATES STEAMER PEMBINA, St. Andrew's Sound, Georgia, March 4, 1862.

Of the expedition against the Southern coast, from Port Royal to St. Augustine, particularly against Brunswick and St. Mary's, Georgia, and Fernandina, Florida, I would have informed you long since, but for a special and very proper order issued by Flag Officer Dupont, prohibiting all correspondence containing the slightest allusions to our forces, plans, and destination. The object of this exemplary order is to prevent intelligence of our projected movements reaching the rebels via the North, and thereby promoting the interests of the Government and the success of the expedition. As no objection is made to accounts of what has actually happened, I will endeavor to "post" you on our progress, but not our prospects, commencing with the first day.

THURSDAY.—After the usual number of preparations, postponements, signals, orders, and delays attendant upon an expedition of such magnitude, it was announced on Thursday morning, the 27th ult., that the advance fleet would certainly sail in the afternoon. Similar reports having been current for several days, the announcement was but little heeded, until about 3 P. M., when we observed the flag-ship "firing up," running up her boats, and otherwise preparing for sea. About 4 o'clock she weighed anchor, got under way, (the first time for nearly three months,) and steamed slowly down the channel towards the bar, followed by the noble old *Susquehanna*, the *Flag*, (formerly the *Phineas Sprague*,) and the *Florida*. Owing to the high wind and sea, they did not cross the bar until morning. Several of the new and invulnable sister gunboats remained to increase their supplies of ammunition from an ordnance store vessel newly arrived from New York. This they accomplished, with the assistance of the *Mercury*, by 9 P. M., and at daylight on

FRIDAY morning they went to sea, by the south channel, joining the fleet near the light ship on Martin's Industry, a dangerous shoal off Port Royal entrance. At 9 A. M. the line of sailing was formed, and the *Wabash*, Flag Officer Dupont, Captain Lowe, and Commander Rogers, with the *Susquehanna*, Captain Gardner; *Flag*, Commander John Rogers; *Ottawa*, Lieut. Commanding Stevens; *Seneca*, Lieut. Commanding Ammen; *Pembina*, Bankhead; *Huron*, Downes; *Isaac Smith*, Nicholson, and *Penguin*, ——, in her wake, led off in a southwesterly direction along the coast. When coming out of Port Royal we met the huge ferry-boat man-of-war *John P. Jackson*, Lieut. Commanding Renshaw, from New York, bound to Key West, going in. The *Florida*, Commander Goldsborough, was sent to overhaul her and obtain the mails and latest news, if any, from the North. She was absent several hours, but with what success her chase was rewarded we have not yet learned.

In the meantime the fleet continued moving quietly and majestically over the placid sea, parallel with and about six or eight miles distant from the land, until we reached the Savannah bar. While passing this point we were reinforced by the *Pawnee*, Commander Drayton; *Pocahontas*, Lieut. Commanding Balch; *Keystone State*, Commander Le Roy, and *Patumska*, Lieut. Watmough, a portion of the blockading squadron stationed there. A few moments previously we passed the United States transport *Cosmopolitan*, with troops aboard and a schooner in tow, going back to Hilton Head. This measure was necessitated by the appearance of ship-fever among the soldiers, produced by prolonged confinement on the vessel. The sick will be moved to the hospital and well cared for. Here, also, the army steamer *McClellan*, Captain Gray, came up with the Maine battalion, under Major John G. Reynolds, aboard. This fine body of soldiers (three hundred and fifty in number), after their perilous adventure on the steamer *Governor*, in November last, were brought to Port Royal by the frigate *Sabine*, and landed at Bay Point. Since then they have been subjected to the most constant and fatiguing drills and rigid disciplines, the results of which are very apparent in their noble demeanor and precise movements.

They are a credit to the Government, and are indispensable ornaments to the navy. Leaving Tybee in the distance, we were soon abreast of Warsaw Sound, and about nine leagues from Port Royal. Here the flagship signalled the fleet "to anchor in the third order of steaming," and sent a steamer in with despatches. In an hour or two she returned, followed by the *Alabama*, Commander Lanier; *Seminole*, Commander Gillis, and *Ellen*, Lieutenant Budd; and still later in the day by the transports *Empire City*, with General Wright and staff aboard; the *Boston*, with a portion of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, Colonel Guss' fine regiment, from Chester and Delaware counties; the *Marion*, *Star of the South*, and *Beleidere*, with troops; and the *George's Creek*, and five or six schooners, with water, provisions, horses, cattle, and regimental equipage. These numerous additions increased our sailing fleet to twenty-seven sail, all of which got underway about 9.30 P. M., and headed for southward. It was a fine, clear, starlight night, and the scene that then and there presented itself was one long to be remembered. The sea, fanned by a genuine southern zephyr that merely ruffled its gently-heaving bosom, was grandly illuminated by the multitude of red, green, and yellow signal-lights of our men-of-war and transports, which, as they glided swiftly through the phosphorescent element, twinkled and glowed like the stars of new and brilliant constellations.

SATURDAY.—At day-dawn this morning the fleet was somewhat scattered, but before "seven bells" every vessel was in her proper position, flag-ship leading and transports astern, steaming quietly along at a "seven-knot gait," until 8 A. M., when all hove to, off St. Simon's Sound. The steamers *Ottawa* and *Seneca* were then sent in to reconnoitre, and ascertain the condition of affairs in the vicinity of Brunswick. At 9 o'clock, the United States steamer *Bienville*, Commander Steedman, came up with a prize-schooner in tow; the *Alecks* Captain Hone, from Nassau, N. P., that nest of Secession abettors, and the headquarters of the British Navy in the South Atlantic. This trim little craft was formerly the Savannah pilot boat *Charleston*. Her cargo consists of iron, steel, coffee, (217 bags,) dry goods, small wares, and cigars, and though small, is quite valuable. A few days before, the *Bienville* captured the schooner *Arrow*, also from Nassau, with twelve hundred bushels of salt, coffee, etc. Soon after the *Bienville* came up the *Mohican*, Commander Gordon, arrived, and a few hour's later the clipper cruiser *Morning Light*, Lieutenant Commanding Nichols, swept gracefully through the fleet with royals set fore-and-aft. During this time the fleet was enlivened by the martial strains of a fine military band on the *Empire City*. The "red, white, and blue," elicited especial applause, and caused many a soldier and sailor heart to beat, and eye to glisten with unwonted vigor at the thought of a speedy contest for, and under the dear old flag. We only ask to measure swords with our traitorous brothers, to again prove our might and our right. May it be granted us.

P. M.—The *Ottawa* and *Seneca* have returned with some contrabands, who state that the enemy have deserted their outer fortifications, and removed their batteries to Savannah, to aid in protecting that city from an expected attack. Upon receipt of this intelligence, the fleet got under way immediately, and at 4 P. M. "came to" off St. Andrew's Sound, Ga. The naval commanders then repaired to the *Wabash* for orders and a conference, and ere long the smaller vessels were sent in towards the land. Being of light draught, they steered boldly in, finding several buoys unmoved and the light-house on Cumberland Island uninjured. Anchoring in the waters of the Satilla river, they waited for daylight before proceeding further.

SUNDAY.—At an early hour this morning, the flag officer transferred his broad blue pennant to the *Mohican*, and entered the Sound accompanied by the remainder of the fleet, excepting the *Wabash* and *Susquehanna*.

Finding the water more shallow than was supposed, he was obliged to return with all vessels drawing over twelve feet. Nothing more was done to-day. Vessels in the sound at anchor. Weather very warm; at noon thermometer indicated eighty degrees in the shade. Pleasant wind from southwest. Saw large numbers of cattle ashore, and one old man, the only white occupant of Cumberland Island.

MONDAY.—But little progress has been made to-day. The channel leading to Cumberland Sound is very narrow and tortuous; several vessels aground; others waiting to pass, like omnibuses in Third street, less than a thousand years ago. In the afternoon had first rain storm, with a gale of wind from the S. S. W. At high water, vessels all afloat, and pushing on. Those out at sea are having a rough time.

TUESDAY.—To-day our progress has been more satisfactory. The *Pawnee* and *Ottawa* got through this morning, and it is hoped that all will be in deep water to-morrow. The *Pembina* is towing the revenue yacht *Henrietta*, Lieutenant Commanding James G. Bennet.

The *McClellan* is the only vessel "hard and fast aground." She can be gotten off, however, without receiving any damage. I have now given you a precise, though rather detailed account of our movements up to this afternoon. When we reach Fernandina, I may be able to finish this "long yarn," with a victory, until then, I am

Yours, &c., CHESTER.

LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

NORFOLK AND RICHMOND PAPERS OF THE 11th AND 12th INST.

Rebel Reports of the Late Naval Battle.

CAPT. JONES' OFFICIAL DESPATCH.

THE REASON OF THE EVACUATION OF MANASSAS.

&c., &c., &c.

We have received, from our correspondent at Fortress Monroe, files of late Norfolk and Richmond papers to the 12th inst, from which we obtain the rebel accounts of the naval contest in Hampton Roads, as well as other important intelligence:

[From the Norfolk Day-Book of the 10th March.]

At a quarter past eleven o'clock on Saturday, the iron-clad steamer *Virginia* cast loose from her moorings at the navy-yard, and made her way down to Hampton Roads, toward the blockading fleet lying off Newport News. She reached their neighborhood, after some detention at the obstructions below, at two o'clock. Here she found the two first-class sailing frigates *Cumberland* and *Congress*. With a determination to pay her respects to the *Cumberland* first, the *Virginia* bore down for that vessel, and while passing the *Congress* she gave her a broadside by way of a salute. Her operations on the *Cumberland* were performed in the short space of fifteen minutes' time, at the end of which the *Cumberland* sunk just where she had been lying.

The *Virginia*, on approaching her and getting within point-blank range, fired her bow gun several times, and ran into her, striking her fairly with her ram, which made her reel to and fro, and sent her speedily to the bottom; but while going down, we understand, the after gun of the *Cumberland* was discharged at the *Virginia*, with what injury we know not.

The object in first getting rid of the *Cumberland* was probably to destroy the very heavy armament which the frigate carried, it being the heaviest in the Yankee navy. The officers and crew of the *Cumberland* made their escape as best they could, many of them being captured by our gunboats. The wounded on board it is believed went down with the vessel.

The *Virginia* next turned her attention to the *Congress*, which vessel, it is said, gallantly resisted her inevitable fate for nearly an hour, but finally finding the ship rapidly sinking, she hauled down her colors and made for the beach, where she was run as high aground as possible. Her officers and crew were taken off by our gunboats, and while she had her flag of truce hoisted and was being relieved of her killed and wounded by our boats, the Yankees on shore at Newport News, disregarding the flag of truce, with Minie muskets fired into her and killed several of their own men and slightly wounded in the arm Mr. John Hopkins, one of our pilots, attached to the *Beaufort*.

While the *Virginia* was engaged with the *Congress* with her bow gun, she poured broadside after broadside into the shore batteries of the enemy at Newport News. One discharge from the bow gun of the *Virginia*, says one of the prisoners, capsized two of the guns of the *Congress*, killing sixteen of her crew and taking off the head of a Lieut. Smith, and literally tore the ship to pieces.

The enemy seemed entirely unaware of our intention to attack them, and, it is said, were so completely lulled into security that the *Virginia* had got down to Sewell's Point before they took the alarm.

While the engagement was going on between the two frigates and the *Virginia* the enemy's steam frigate *Minnesota* put out from Old Point to their assistance. She laid well over towards Newport News, but not entirely out of the range of our batteries on Sewell's Point, which opened on her, with what effect we are unable to say, but she repled to them without any damage whatever. The *Minnesota* got aground when within a mile or two of Newport News Point. There she stuck, unable to get off, while the Confederate steamers *Patrick Henry* and *Jamestown* peppered her with their batteries, while the *Virginia* was attending to the shore batteries at Newport News.

The frigate *St. Lawrence* then came up to the assistance of the *Minnesota*, and she also got aground, and a steam frigate, supposed to be the *Roanoke*, put off from Old Point with the same intention, it is supposed, but, seeing the sad havoc which the *Virginia* was playing with the Federal vessels she put back to Old Point.

The *Minnesota* and *St. Lawrence*, we learn, are hard aground and in the power of the *Virginia*, at high tide, as the latter vessel was at Sewell's Point, after the engagement, where she remained on Saturday night, ready to commence on them on Sunday morning. She is between them and all assistance from Old Point.

The frigate *Congress* was set fire to, on Saturday night, by a boat's crew from some of our vessels. She illumined the whole Roads and river, and about midnight her magazine exploded with a tremendous noise. Her configuration afforded a rare sight to many thousands of spectators who lined the shores of our harbor to witness the spectacle of a ship on fire. Many articles of value, we learn, were removed from her by our gunboats before being fired.

Tugs and steamers were sent to the assistance of the *Minnesota* and *St. Lawrence* from Old Point, after they grounded, but their efforts to haul them off were unavailing.

The first gun fired in the engagement is said to have been fired by the Confederate gunboat *Beaufort* at the frigate *Congress*. All of our steamers and gunboats are said to have been managed with the utmost skill and dexterity, rendering great assistance to the *Virginia* in this magnificent and successful engagement.

We are without means of getting at the loss of the enemy in killed and wounded, though it is believed to have been very great. Our total loss in killed and wounded, as far as we can learn, is nine killed and twelve wounded, most of them slightly.

Twenty-three prisoners were brought up to this city on Saturday night. These were all taken off the frigate *Congress* by the gunboat *Beaufort*, while our other gunboats took off others. One of these prisoners died while on his way to the city. He said another one wounded were shot by their own forces while being saved from the sinking frigate *Congress*. The wounded prisoners were carried to the hospital.

The *Virginia* had two men killed and some five or six wounded. *A shot entered the porthole and struck the gun in the muzzle, knocking off a piece nine inches long. This disabled the gun, which was immediately replaced by another of the same calibre.*

Captain Buchanan and Lieutenant Minor, of the *Virginia*, are said to be wounded, the former slightly, the latter severely.

On board the *Patrick Henry* a shot entered one of her ports, we understand, and passed through one of her boilers, disabling it. She was compelled to haul off temporarily for repairs. There were four men killed and three wounded on board of her. Other damage not material.

On board the gunboat *Raleigh*, Midshipman Hutter was killed, we understand, though we did not learn of any other casualties.

The James river steamers arrived at the scene of action, it is said, about one hour after the engagement commenced. They easily passed the Newport News battery, and, after joining in the fight, rendered very efficient aid.

By this daring exploit we have raised the James river blockade, without foreign assistance, and are likely, with the assistance of the Virginia, to keep open the communication.

Several small prizes were said to have been taken by our gunboats from the Yankees, one of which, the schooner *Reindeer*, was brought up to the Navy Yard on Saturday night. Two others were said to have been carried over to Pig Point on Saturday.

Another report we hear says that but two persons were killed on board the *Virginia*.

Andrew J. Dalton, a printer, who left our office a few days since to join the *Virginia*, and who was at the bombardment of Sumpter, and participated in several other engagements during the war, we learn, was one of the wounded on board that vessel on Saturday.

The engagement was renewed again on Sunday morning, about half past eight o'clock, by the *Jamestown* and several of our gunboats, firing into the *Minnesota* and *St. Lawrence*. At high water we expect the *Virginia* will pay her respects to these vessels.

Since the above was written, we have been enabled to gather some additional particulars.

Some detention occurred on board the *Virginia* on Sunday morning, we learn, or she would have commenced the engagement much earlier than half past eight o'clock, at which time she, together with the *Patrick Henry*, *Jamestown*, and our other gunboats, opened fire on the *Minnesota*, which still lies hard and fast aground. The tide being at the ebb, the *Virginia* did not take the channel where the *Minnesota* lay, probably for fear of grounding, but getting within a good range of her she opened fire with terrible effect, completely riddling her, and rendering constant exertion at the pump necessary to prevent her from filling.

Early in the morning, the Ericsson battery, now called the *Monitor*, was discovered off Newport News Point, she having gone up there during the night. *A sharp encounter soon took place between her and the Virginia, during which time they were frequently not more than thirty or forty yards apart.* Unfortunately, the *Virginia* ran aground, and the *Ericsson*, using her advantage, poured shot after shot into her, but without doing any serious damage. In a short while, however, the *Virginia* succeeded in getting off, *and, putting on a full head of steam, ran her bow into the Ericsson, doing, as it is thought, great damage.*

We are rejoiced to say that, notwithstanding the firing was much heavier than on Saturday, *there were no casualties on either of our vessels, not a man being in the least injured by shots from the enemy or otherwise.*

Several of the enemy's gunboats being within range, they were favored with a shell or two from the *Virginia*, with telling effect, and, in every case, disabling or sinking them. One of these, laying alongside the *Minnesota*, had a shell thrown on board of her which, on bursting, tore her asunder and sent her to the bottom.

Having completely riddled the *Minnesota* and disabled the *St. Lawrence* and *Monitor*, besides, as stated above, destroying several of the enemy's gunboats, in a word—having accomplished all that they designed, and having no more material to work upon, our noble vessels *left the scene of their triumphs and returned to the yard, where they await another opportunity of displaying their prowess.*

The enemy's loss, killed and wounded, during the two days' battle, is exceedingly large, and estimated at from six to twelve hundred. *The scene around the Congress is represented as heart-sickening.* The officers of the *Beaufort*, who ran alongside of her on Saturday night, and who boarded her for the purpose of removing the wounded aboard of her, and who were brutally fired upon by the enemy while engaged in this work of mercy to their own kith and kin, represented the deck of the vessel as being literally covered with the dead and dying. One of them assured us that as he went from fore to aft his shoes were well nigh buried in blood and brains. Arms, legs, and heads were found scattered in every direction, while here and there, in the agonies of death, would be found poor deluded wretches, with their breasts torn completely out.

Of the crew of the *Cumberland* but few survived to tell the tale. As she went down her crew went with her, except some few who were taken as prisoners by us, and a few others who escaped to the shore. Out of the five hundred aboard of her, it is estimated that not over a hundred at most escaped, the remainder either being killed by our shot or drowned as the vessel went down.

Of course, the greater part of those on board the gunboats were also drowned, as there was not sufficient time for them to have made their escape. Added to this, very many in the camps of the enemy at Newport News were killed by the shells which the *Virginia* threw among them.

On our side, the loss was indeed small, and, when we consider the storm of shell to which at times they were subjected, we can but wonder, while we rejoice, that so few of them suffered injury.

On the *Virginia*, there were two killed and eight wounded. Among the wounded, we regret to mention Captain Buchanan and Lieutenant Minor. Their wounds, however, we are happy to state, are but slight.

On the *Raleigh*, Midshipman Hutter was killed, and Captains Taylor and Alexander wounded, the first-mentioned quite severely.

On the *Beaufort* Gunner W. Robinson and two seamen were wounded. This was all the damage sustained by the vessel among her men. Two Yankee pioneers aboard of her were struck by the balls of their friends, one of them killed, and the other severely wounded. The former was standing in the door of the wardrobe at the time the *Beaufort* was alongside the *Congress*, and one of the shower of balls sent by the enemy on shore from their Minie muskets struck him on the forehead, penetrating his brain, and killing him almost instantly.

On the *Teaser* the man was wounded very slightly.

On the *Patrick Henry* four men were killed and three wounded. While the loss of the enemy is counted by hundreds, ours, as will be seen from the above, amounts to only seven killed and seventeen wounded.

The loss on our part, as small as it is, was not the work of the enemy's shots from their vessels, but the result, for the most part, of the fire of muskets from shore.

During the contest the mainmast of the *Raleigh* was carried away. The flagstaffs of the *Virginia* were also cut down.

The report that the *Congress* was fired by the Federals to prevent her falling into our hands is without a shadow of truth. She was fired by hot shot from the *Virginia*, for firing into our boats while she had a flag of truce at the time flying after she had struck her colors and surrendered to us.

Among the prisoners taken off the *Congress* was the slave Sam, the property of —— Drummond, Esq., of this city, who escaped to the enemy some time in October last. He is now safe, having reached his home sooner and under different circumstances than he anticipated.

On the arrival of the *Virginia* at the yard her men were mustered and addressed by the commanding officer in terms of praise for their noble bearing during the engagement. They responded with hearty cheers, and expressed a desire to again re-enact the scenes through which they had just passed whenever opportunity presented.

The injury sustained by the *Patrick Henry* was not as great as at first supposed, being so trifling that a few hours' repairs were sufficient to place her in readiness for action.

The officers of the *Virginia* are represented as having acted with the utmost courage and bravery during the contest. It is related of Captain Buchanan, that during the thickest of the fight he remained on the deck of the *Virginia*, and that he discharged musket after musket at the enemy as they were handed up to him. It was while thus exposed that he received the wound of which mention is made above.

It is said that all of the batteries on Newport News were silenced except one, and that our shot and shell were thrown with such unerring aim and precision among the enemy that great numbers of them were killed and wounded.

Official Report of the Engagement.

In the rebel Congress, on the 10th inst., the following communication was received from the rebel Executive in response to the resolution of Mr. Lyon, calling for the report of the naval battle in Hampton Roads:

C. S. STEAM BATTERY VIRGINIA, OFF SEWELL'S POINT, March 8, 1862.

FLAG OFFICER: In consequence of the wound of Flag-officer Buchanan, it becomes my duty to report that the *Virginia* left the yard this morning at 11 o'clock A. M.,