## OUR WAR CORRESPONDENCE.

OUR ARMY NEAR RICHMOND.

A SLAVER ESCAPES FROM HAMPION BOADS.

The Inhabitants Around Richmond. MOW THEY LIVE IN OLD VIRGINIA.

A High Premium on Whisky. THE REBELS TEARING U RAILROADS.

# McCLELLAN INVESTING RICHMOND.

## FROM GEN. MCCLELLAN'S DIVISION.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.] CAMP FIVE MILES WEST OF TUNSTALL'S STATION, 20, 1862. To-day, at three o'clock, we left our camp at Tunstall's station and marched until six o'clock, pitching our tents in a field belonging to a Secessionist who has some in the rebel army. We came some five miles, and, as near as I can say, are between thirteen and seventeen miles from Richmond, General Smith's troops and General Stoneman's force are in advance of us. All day heavy firing has been heard on our left, distant some ten miles, which did not appear to be answered by the enemy. A reconnoiseance in force, to shell out rifle-pits, was sent out on he left this morning, and no doubt the shots came from their artillery. General McClellar, fisited the right today, and rode to the outposts, re urning to headquarters at five o'clock. Headquarters will not be moved from

their position at Tunstall's station. OUR IRON-CLADS. It is reported here the gur boat Galena has been terribly, used up on James river, but that the Monitor sustained the fire beautifully, coming out of the fight unscathed. If rumor is to be believed the gunboats have theen driven back. General Keys is reported as having POSSESSION of Bottom's Bridge.

A half gill of whisky will be served out to all the troops morning and evening to morrow. An order has been issued from headquarters requesting officers and smen to be very careful in their correspondence, and not send, even in private letters, information which may be mseful to the enemy.

We are marching with great precaution. Strict discipline is enf. reed, and no private property, even of Sesionists, is allowed to be seized. At every house and fence there is a guard. This system of guarding the fences of avoyed Secessionists, when the men have to go miles for firewood, meets with universal condemnation. Negroes become thicker and thicker as we advance, and every one of them declares for the Union.

A HEROINE.
As we passed the house of Dr. Webb, about two miles back on our merch, there appeared, by the road-ide, a femula dressed in soldier clothes, who, with tears running down her checks, piteously begged for permission to go on the hagenco-train and go with the troops. She was a choly sight; and, on inquiry, I learned her simple story. She came from Chenango county, New York, and her husband was an armorer in the 61st New York Regiment. Ever since his enlistment she had gone with bim, acting as nurse for the sick soldiers. At Alexandria she became separated from the regiment, and lost all her baggage. Without money, friends, or advice, she knew not what to do, but finally concluded to unsex herself, and did so. She joined a Pennsylvania dragoon ourps, but was soon discovered. An officer promised to take charge of her. He cared for her for a few days, and, when he thought his time had arrived, made infamous propo sals to her, which she resisted. This angered him, and he turned her out in a strange land, among an unfriendly people, and a dangerous, and, in many cases, brutal arm; At the doctor's house they roughly told she must move on and she had come to the roadside to beg permission to go and find her bushand, no matter in what capacity, so that it be an honorable one. I am rejoiced to state that she at last found shelter. The kind hearts of the teamsters of General Slooum's brigade were soon touched; she was mounted on a wagon and went on her way happy. The woman's sex could easily have been discovered she had successfully passed goards and broke through stantly cashiered turned her out by the roadside, home American women have degenerated in those days of mis-

#### FROM THE ADVANCE. Special Correspondence of The Press.] CAMP NEAR BICHMOND, May 21, 1861.

A FURTERR ADVANCE. At 4 o'clock this morning we were all turned out of our ests in the midst of a den e fog, and told to be prepared or marching at once. A ration of fresh meat was served hisky given to each man. Everything was packed in mand men started on their march. All the previous tht and early morning cavalry, infantry, and artiller ad heen tramping along the road to Richmond, and sery one of them, eager for the fray, was pressing onwar the great end of his ambition. We marched three e whole bringing us within three miles of the Chickaital is west-couthwest from us.

ard from the distant southwest, no doubt either on the nes river or near Bottom's bridge. Our advance is on ong the swamps in that region. The bridge over that ver was burning and impassable when the Union ad-noce reached it, and its repair may cause some slight Our advance on the river is within eight miles of het left, and bringing him to close quarters.

ly woodland, and but little cultivated. But few ins, they were very uncommunicative. An emigran m Maine, and a polite miller, were the only friendly ale on the whole road. We passed another church day, of the same character as that described in my iter of yesterday. It had about two spittoons for each A VIRGINIA STORE.

on the left-rand side of the road, we passed a store ich had been deserted by its proprietors. It was a ouilding, a story and a half high, with two rooms on ground floor and no celler. The building, which was and dilapidated, was set upon four piles, one at each er. Inside, a pail fence ran across one of the rooms what in the style of a Northern counter. Some around, but no merchandise could be seen. The room seemed to have been a stable, as it was ped upon and divided into stalls. Inside the store about the door lay scattered the account books and r papers of the concern, and also parts of a capy of utes of Virginia. Being bound on a voyage of very, I, of course, pounced upon these as trophies, and you some of the more curious. This store, from r kind of business—a business which is entirely und in Northern States. Nine-tenths of the mersold was whisky, and from the prices, I uld judgo the article generally furnished was the most villainous character. If other Virginia in the spring of 1861, and finally took the State f the Union. I picked up a page of the day-book, isted June 8, but of what year I could not There were thirty-seven entries upon it, and of me were for rum and whisky. Credit was at four months for one dollar and seventeen cents. was so'd at seventy cents a gallon and rum at

not, in some way, refer to the article. I picked up il and six orders one after the other, and they all to whisky. I cannot do better than send them.

stuff, bought at 24 cents, was retailed at 70 cents will observe that the above bill is not receipted, appear the firm, whose premises I walked over this ng, are some of the defaulting Southern debtors the Lincoln campaign. The six orders, which I

Mr. Brown you will Pleas field me 1 gallon of Respectfully yourse "ELIJAH KELLEY."

Mr. Brown & Paisly you will send me one lb of coffee 70 of shugar & five lbs of six penny nails & a quart of 1 whisky and much oblige March 12, 1857 WM. B. GOODLY." Mr. Drown you will pleas send me half gallon of Yourse Respectanty
"ELIJAH KELLEY." 44 Town the 6, 1856.

"JONE toe 0, 1000."
Mr. Brown you will please send me a half pound of lies and a quart of common whiskoy and a half galfor molases. I have sent you 25 cents to pay for the liles and whiskey—the molases you will please charge. "MARGREF K. BIRATT." r. Pirsley and Brown will please send by the hear-lbs of sugar 2 lbs of conee 1 lb of candles 1 quart t whiskey 1 pair of lines and one plug of tobaco. "W. F. ROBINEAU." May the 27, 1859."

r. Brown pless send me for pounds of brown shu-counds of wrise I pound of crackers for which I

uthe money.

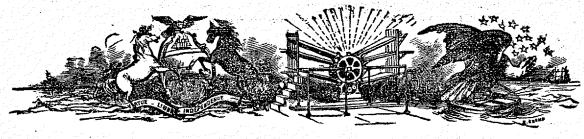
u will please send 3 pounds of lard 2 yards of your
low cotton, 1 bottle of whiskey that 1 ou sell at 60
gallon plese send a bill I will seltle in a corse of a

t.

"JAMES S. KELL EY." . 19th, 1859." her quotation and I am done. Few people out of

we States know of the requirements of the Blave in Virginia, a slave found wandering or engaged business at a distance from his home without a ermission, is liable to be seized as a fugitive, on who intercepts him getting a specified roward apportant services. My quotation is one of these es, found on the floor of that deserted store. It

bearer of this, Joe, belonging to Mr. Joseph I this county, has permission to sell, for my



The Union Prisoners at Richmond.

We copy from the Hartfor I Evening Press the follow

ing extracts from a private letter, written by an officer

above. Almost 400 men are on the two floors above us, sind frequently, as it has now been the case for two days, their water-closets overflow, and discharge their awful contents upon us. This comes down sometimes in terrents. Yesterday it poured down where a captain was lying with a broken leg. He had to be moved as quickly as possible, and has not been able to occupy his place since, on account of this stream of pollution flowing from above. A similar stream, with scarcely an intermission, has been now for two days pouring down into the cook room, which is a room partitioned off in one corner of the one which we occupy. All our cooking is done in this room. You will say, "How can you est?" I answer, I have icancely thought of the matter in relation to eating. Our schooling has prepared us for it. You will swish to know what my food is. This I can soon tell you, though I might give you

prepared us for it. You will wish to know what ms food is. This I can soon tell you, though I might give you dictuic history which would painfully interest you. Our food, as furnished by the Southern Confederacy, consists in the morning of bread and mest; for dinner, meat and bread, and bread and mest. This is all; and this is all we get, unless we have money to send out for articles. Many times we cannot do this when we have the money, as we have not been able to do so now for three days. Therefore, we have had no sugar, no coffee, no potatoes, no money. All these sricles are rarities, esting immensely. We have made out to supply ourselves comfortably well, by the blessing of a kind Providence.

An Old Rebel Account of the Battle of

In a number of the Weekly Picayune of the

26th of April, which has been handed to us by a

friend, we find a letter dated Corinth. April 9th,

written by a private in the Washington Artillery.

from which we make the following extract, which

now in Richmond. Its comminances is vouched for

#### PHILADELPHIA. THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1862. VOL. 5.—NO. 254.

woman Betsey, two and a half dozen chickens in the city of Richmond, and in the county of Hanover and Henrico, as he may deem best. WM. O. SMITH. "BASTREN YIEW, HENOVER, Aug. 24, 1855." This store, exhibiting the vice and ignorance of Virginians, is within twelve miles of the rebel capital, the boasted centre of Southern virtue, education, and art.

If a community is judged by its mode of domestic life, Isnover county, Virginia, must be a most wretched place.

We expect to go to church in Richmond on Sunday, and that, too, without much of a battle. We have come so near the capital, and found and little opposition, that it seems almost foolish to anticipate any. The army has dvanced very rapidly, overcoming every kind of obstacles, both human and natural. BAGGAGE TRAIN CAPTURED.

oun nores.

Lest night, a regiment of cavalry in Gen. Stoneman's orps brought in a large baggage train, with forty mules and eighty oxen, which had been captured from the enemy. The wagons are parked six miles from us, and I can give no particulars.

The good news from North Carolina gives universal

CAMP 10% MILES FROM RICHMOND, May 23, 1862. [Special Correspondence of The Press.]

Yesterday was a busy day in all parts of the army. Our advances, delayed by burned bridges and swamps, halted the day before on the ridges skirting the Chickahominy river, and, carly yesterday morning, strong parties were sent out to protect bridge-builders and road.

ing rebels. The morning was very warm, and from noon until night thunder showers passed over the country, deluging us with rain, and filling up all the streams and guilies. The reads, however, even after the storm, continued good, and heavy wagons and artillery could pass over them without difficulty. My position in the advance of the mein body, whilst I am out of danger, (very important you know,) is one of the best for observation in the whole army. Except in great battles, the advance corps are the only ones who ever see the enemy. They are engaged in all the ekirmishes; they capture all the prisoners; receive all the contrabands; do all the picket duty. They see the war in all its romance, and counteract

CAMP SCENES. Yesterday afternoon your correspondent was within six miles of Richmond, and whilst looking on at a shirmish, which was being fought between the enemy's cavelry and a delachment of the 16th New York Infantry, enjoyed a plate of fine strawberries, raised on the farm of Captain Hudson, of the robel army. The Chickahominy river ran along, diagonally, about half a mile in front of my position, there being between it and me two ridges, running parallel with the river, the one nearest the stream being shirted by woods. A party of rebel cavalry came out of the woods in front of me galloped about a mile along the ridge, and took to the woods again. Our men followed closely upon them, firing volleys into the woods, and then entering it. Proviously to this, a cavalry vidette was killed, and another wounded and taken prisoner, at a place a few hundred yards in the rear of Captain Hudson's farm, our forces having afterwards advanced and driven the enemy back. The farthest point to which the Union troops marched was about five miles northeast of Bichmond. Our scouts may have been further. The enemy were supposed to be in great force in front of our men, but, as General McCiellan was too far off to be able to be present for two er three hours to take command, an eegsgement was thought to be imprudent, and our troops acted strictly on the defensive. We did not hold this advance posttion after sundown, the troops retreating stabout S P. M. I could distinctly hear the whistles and humming of

constantly running trains during the half hour I was at THE COUNTRY. The land, as we near Bichmond, seems better cultivated and mere clear of woods. Market gardens, to supply the capital, become very plenty, and vegetables and fruits for being extravagant prices, are extensively grown. The appearance of the country is beautiful. A gently rolling land, with patches of timber here and there, and varie gated with all the hnes of an opening spring, greets the ere. The houses are of a better style, and the people otly of a higher class than those in Harover and

CONTRARAND STORIES-RICHMOND TO BE DEFENDED Several contrabands were captured yesterday, and made for the defence of Richmond-planty of artillery ammunitien, and men. One of Capt. Hudson's negroes, of which I saw three, had a team hitched up to go to hi aster in Richmond, but our sudden advance stopped his calculations, and, before he was three hours older. he was seized, taken to headquarters, and made to tell all he knew of the enemy. I cannot avoid saying, in this confidence is to be placed in either negroes or inhabitents. The former are evidently Secessionists at heart— the latter, principally women and children, knowing nothing which can be useful to us. Our own sconts can bring us information enough to keep us posted as to the enemy's movements, and frequent reconnoissances wil

CAMP NEAR CHICAHOMINY RIVER, May 21, 1862.

ON THE MARCH. Our march to this place was one of the most fatiguing which our army has experienced for about two weeks. The sun was intensely hot, and at noon the men were halted for rest. No shade could be found by the larger portion of the division, but the men experienced much The sun was so warm that I wrapped my blanket around me, and found much more comfort than without it. After a couple of hours the march was resumed. A strong but by the time his troops and baggage train had passed it was necessary to repair the road for the advance of the ther divisions. The advance of this division is by this time (night) at the Chickshominy, and the road from there to Tunstall's Station is filled with troops and baggage trains. The trains of this division did not all arrive until after midnight, though the distance was

only towen miles, and they started at five o'clock this morning. After the first four miles had been accom plished, the mon began to fall out of line, and to seek reat in the woods. When the column reached the camping place many of the companies had been reduced to were overcome by the heat, but the officers also experienced its effects. After nightfall the stragglers came in in squads, until nearly all were in before midnight. The men corried their rations in their haversacks, and they started small fires and boiled their coffee in their cups. As they did not always extinguish the fire, the flames spread to the underbrush, which, being damp. burned but slowly, and the trains were sided in their march by the light of the burning brush, which could be seen blazing in the distance like some huge beacon. No

other effect than the destruction of the underbrush will be caused by the fires. The men soon had their tents up. their coffee boiled, and supper over, and were nearly all asleep by eleven o'clock. The section of country over which the men marched day was poorly supplied with water, and nearly all that was found was of a very inferior quality. This induced the men to go to the neighboring houses and endeavor to purchase milk, eggs, etc., neither of which could be bad. The bridge across a millpond had been weakened by the passage of the advanced portions of the divisions, and the trains were stopped to allow it to be repaired. The baggage guard then spread themselves through the neighborhood after eatables. Many of the men went about a mile into the woods and gathered quantities of excellent strawberries, which were eagerly

sought after by the officers, at fifty cents a quart. Persons residing on the road were compelled to sell their chickens, geese, guinea fowls, etc., or else the men would have taken them by force. If the farmers would sell, the men would pay; if the farmers refused to sell, the men helped themselves. The men have a liking for mutton, and nearly all the sleep on the road are bought or stolen. They are but few, however, as most of them re hidden in the woods. SECESSIONISM. There are but few of the planters along the route who were not Secessionists, and who have not sons in the rebel army. One old man on the route pretended to be a

Union man, and, when asked if he had no family, said that his wife was dead, (which was true,) and then mentioned his daughters, and gave us to understand that he had no sons. We accertained, on arriving at the next house, that he had three sons in the rebel army, and had been one of the most violent Secessionists in the country The man who told us this fact was not so communicat but freely answered all questions. He told several untruths, however. His name was Parsley. One of Gen. Smith's efficers asked him what had become of the cattle on his place, to which Parsley replied that he had had none. His darkey told us that the cattle had been sent nto the woods along with a parcel of the negroes, whon he had frightened into going by telling them stories o the cruelties perpetrated by our troops. This man Parsley sold a cart to the officers for forty dollars in gold, while they offered him fifty dollars in Treasury notes, but he chose the forty in gold. He afterwards told us he was sorry that he had not taken the notes. He sold about twenty-five chickens at thirty cents each, and he received silver. A quantity of corr and flour was receipted for by the proper officers. I will, therefore, be seen that nothing was taken from him without his receiving an equitable return. Yet the nex morning Parsley sent word to his daughter-in-law that the men had taken nearly everything from his place, an ruined what they had not taken. His daughter-in-law resided further along the route, and her husband was i the rebel service, acting as lieutenant. She said he had belonged to the militis, and had been taken with them, but she would not say that he went unwillingly. She said she wished we would capture him and send him home She did not appear to care which side was trumps, so that

THE INHABITANTS. It may be safely granted that there is not a Union man in this district who resides on his property. Appearances all go to prove this. Plantations requiring about a hundred slaves to properly cultivate the soil, now have less than a dozen. No cattle are seen on the route, though there is every sign that they were there only a few days ago. The planters have plenty of provisions on hand, and yet refuse to sell, unless at the most exorbitant prices. Who would pay twenty-five cents for drink of buttermilk in Philadelphia. seventy-five cent for a dozen of eggs, fifteen cents for a biscuit smaller than a baker's roll, which sells for a cent? And yet, the farmers say that these prices are very moderate. Th slaves say that last week a regiment of rebel cavalry went along this road, and that the officers were taken into the able and fed with the best of food, and that their masters did this willingly, and refused pay when offered. Such

is the character of their assumed Union principles. Great diversity of opinion exists among the officers a to the manner in which the planters still remaining of their properties should be treated. Many think that the officers should take everything off the places needed by the army, leaving the owners enough subsistence to la for the next three months. Acting on this opinion these officers do not restrain their men unless they go to excesses. Other officers think that men are sufficiently

provided for by Uncie Sam, and that they need nothing which that benevolent person does not provide. They, lowever, do not go to any trouble in restraining their latter depends the character of the realment received by the residents on the route. All the men ask for is a mething to eat, nothing else is dis-turbed. When the roads are bad, instead of taking the

sence rails, the men go to the trouble of cutting down the trees in the woods for the purpose of obtaining the maerial for the construction of the cordaroy roads. In vicinities where some regiments encamp, not a fence rail is taken for firewood or tent poles, nor a fence thrown down, unless to allow entrance and exit for the teams. MOVING ON.

The operations of the army are being energeticall rried on. Not a day is allowed to pass in any division without comothing being accomplished towards that end. The divisions are marching rapidly at present, so as to throw them into the roads leading to Richmond, and to place them in order for the fluxl advance. Nothing do buite has yet been ascertained as to the condition of the dayr, as the balloon is coming into use once more. It caunot be said that we will certainly have a fight; the probabilities are the same for a fight or for another avanation, and then another long chase after the rebel ermy further into the South. Lee and Magruder were both in Richmond at last accounts. Whether Richmond will experience the fate of Hampton, through the influence of Magrader, is greatly to be doubted. It will cor tainly not be the case if the Virginians have the power to prevent it.

[Epecial Correspondence of The Press.] NEAR THE CHICKAHOMINY, May 22, 1862. Our advance is close on the heels of the retreating rebels. They are continually firing at each other, but with little effect. One of the members of the Lincoln Cavalry was wounded this morning by a robel picket. The distance between the advance and Richmond is only about seven miles, which is the same distance as that nade by the troops yesterday. Our men are anxious lest the rebels should not make a stand but evacuate, and ins render it necessary to follow them into the South during the extreme warmth of the summer. There will e no further advance of this body of troops to-day. The men do not regret it, as the day will be much warmer than yesterday, and they will thus have a chance of recruiting themselves after the fatigues of yesterday, The divisions in the rear are closing up as fact as possible. STILL LATER, 10% A. M.—The rebels have just apreared on the Chickshominy, and a strong force from this livision is now forming ranks, for the purpose of marching there and driving them back. I will not be able to send any particulars in this letter, as the mail is ready

to start.

NEW COAL HARBOR, VA., May 24, 1862. THE ROADS. Last night a steady, cold rain set in, which continued till late this afternoon, greatly to the discomfort of the soldiers. The soil in this part of the country is very light and sandy, so that the ground underneath the tents was soon almost as wet as that without. The weather i still cloudy, but there is a slight prospect of change from stormy to fair. The weather has been so warm that the soldiers have generally thrown awny their over even their freekcoats when blouses could be had. Blankets were, therefore, greatly in demand, and the men ra mained in their tents, so that from a distance the camp seemed quite deserted. The roads are now in a terrible condition; in many places they are completely blocked up by heavily laden baggage-teams, which are sunk almost to the body in mud. The artillery can, with the greatest difficulty, be brought up and sent to the advance. In many cases the gun-carriages are se deep in the mud that the brecches are imbedded, and, in one or two cases, almost covered in mind and water. To-morrow is Sun day, however, and, as the army does not march on the

Sabbath, the roads will have a chance to dry, and be in condition to sllow the march to be resumed, perhaps, o

Monday morning. An advance would have been made

pordence of The Press.]

his morning if it had not been for the severe storm. A SKIRMISH. The affair of the afternoon of the 221, near Mechanica ville, in which one sergeant was killed and a corners taken prisoner, was an act of the greatest barbarity. Sorgeant George Cummings, of Company K. Lincoln Cadvance of two companies of infantry, commanded by ntenant of the 16th New York, and, with his small party, was marching along a road, on each side of which was a high hill, when they were suddenly fired down upon by a large party of the rebels, who at the same time ppeared on the edge of the hill. Cummings was shot falling to the ground at the same time. The corporal, William Auderson, also fell, and was left on the ground, our whole perty immediately falling back. After some back, and the body of the sergeant was found, but not that of the corporal, who is, therefore, supposed to be a prisoner. The frequent occurrence of these barbare tacks on small parties of our men, by strong parties of the eremy, has induced the sending out of stronger skirishing parties, in the hope of avoiding their repetition

POSITION OF THE ARMY. The main portion of the army is now within tan mile of Richmond, while the advance is to-day in force within six miles of the city. The rebels still appear in force on the other side of the Chickshominy, and advance in ful sight of our pickets on this side of the river, as if to defy hem into opening fire. Our pickets are out in every lirection, strongly supported by infantry and artillery and as our main force is not far off from them, any sho f an attack on our lines would be instantly resisted by ufficient force, and the rebels turned back. WILL THE REBELS FIGHT?

Our men still agitate the question as to whether or not the rebels will fight at Richmond. The prevailing opinion seems to be that if they had intended to defend that city they would not have suffered themselves to be so com pletely outwitted at Yorktown, and would make a desperate resistance to so close an approach to their lines The capture of Richmond by our forces is regarded by great number of our officers as the virtual termination of the war, and many will resign their positions soon after the occupation. This will be the case more generally smong the officers who have families than with those who are single, many of whom announce their set-MECHANICSVILLE TAKEN.

Notwithstanding that the storm prevented a general advance of our forces, reconnessances in considerable var ce had been determined on in the direction of Mechanicsville, a small town, about five and a half miles from Richmond. A party of our men having been fired on from one of the houses, a piece of artiflery was sent forward, and the house shelled, when the rebels ovacuted, and made a hasty retreat. The town itself is a onehorse affair, consisting of not more than half a dozenhouses, of unpretending dimensions and appearance. Soon after the flight of the rebel pickets, Gon. Stoneman etermined to occupy the place, and a portion of General appeared in force, and disputed our advance. A brilliant ahole, who fled after a brief stand, and our force immean is therefore close en Richmond, as his pickets ex

OUR LOSS IN THE FIGHT. Our loss in the engagement was three killed and eight wounded. Twenty-two of the rebels were taken pri-soners, but their loss in killed and wounded is not yet known. Ambulances have been sent to remove the wounded from the field. The prisoners say that they are the only ones not killed or wounded in the four companies which they had in the fight.

IMPRESSED SOLDIERS. Three of the prisoners are Northern men, and say they were impressed into the army. Two of them were recognized by members of a New York regiment. One is from Courtland county, New York, another from New

BEYOND NEW COAL HARBOR, Va., May 26, 1862. nen are beginning to show impatience at the delay. They this morning, but no orders to start have yet been reslowly passing away, and the sun is becoming intensely warm, so that the march will probably not begin until late in the afternoon. All is quiet around the encamp-ment, which is now left solitary and alone, instead of being the centre of a wast army. The greater portion of the men are a considerable distance ahead, but this day's march will bring us up to them, after which we will follow close on their heels, and be among the first to enter Rich

The funeral of Sergeant George Cummings, late of Company K, of the Lincoln Cavalry, took place on Saturday afternoon, and was a solemn and impressive scene The chaplain paid a touching tribute to the bravery of the deceased, and his worth as a seldier. The body wa interred in the woods, about half a mile distant, and wa followed to its last resting place by his comrades of the

OUR MAILS. We may hereafter expect more regularity in the mails as after to-day they will be brought here from West Point by railroad. The first mail by this route will arrive here to-night at 9 o'clock. When I say here, I mean wherever the post office may be. A large number of cars and locomotives have been placed on the York River railroad, and the trains will run as far as Dispatch, a station about nine miles from Richmond. Hitherto the mails were brought from Fortress Monroe, via the Panunkey river, to the White House, and were then carsiderable time was consumed by this arrangement.

if it has not been forn up before this; and such has been the case if the reports of the contrabands are relia-ble. The delay will be but trifling, however, and within a few days there will be a complete railroad communica tion between West Point and Richmond, via White

House. IN THE INFANTRY SERVICE The 4th Connecticut Regiment, which has been doing such efficient service as an artillery organization, has been supplied with muskets, and are again acting as infantry. This is one of the strongest regiments in ser WILL THERE BE A BATTLE ?. A heavy train of artitlery is being brought up and sup

plied to the army, so that if the rebels make a firm stand at Richmond, there will be no less of time in making an immediate and florce attack along the whole line. The probabilities of a great fight are growing more doubtfu every day, for it is reasonable to suppose that if the rebeli derigned making a desperate stand, they would not have allowed our army to approach so near with every inch of ground. But, as there will clapse such a short time before the question will be settled practically

cents at first, but as the supply fell the price rose in a INTERESTING SOUTHERN NEWS. corresponding ratio. No Philadelphia paper has been here for four days, and we are as ignorant of affairs at home as if we were prisoners at Richmond. Gon. Sykes' division of regulat troops has gone forward, and at last the order has been given to our mos and they are now forming, and in a few minutes will be

FROM GEN. WOOL'S DIVISION.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.] FORTRESS MONROE, May 27-P. M. The news from the Valley of the Shenandoah is the all absorbing topic here to-day. Nothing short of the capture of Richmond would be considered a set-off to the poor success of General Banks, in holding his position a STARTLING, IF TRUE. The following startling intelligence, which we obtain

from a gentleman supposed to be in the confidence of the

military authorities here, we publish for the benefit of the Government: For some works past, a vessel (bark) has been quietly lying at anchor beyond the fortress, ostensibly for the purpose of communicating with her consignees in New York, and in the meantime sending to there daily for a condition, were these men allowed to return to this dred and seventy-two contrabands were ferried out to the ship. Decming this about as far as he could safely go, the "skipper" "skipped" out to sea last night. under the cover of darknoss. "Brother" Wilder, sunerintendent of contrabands hero, has thus been foiled in his charitable intentions of reforming the blacks, at least as regards this lot of "culled pussons," who are, by this time, far on their way to Cuba or the West Inclos. We learn that the fleet gunboat Wamentta has been sent after the slaver, and it is hoped that she may be overtaken, and these poor contrabands returned. The cargo is made up of sprightly lads, worth, in Cuba, from \$1,200 to \$1,500 cach. We are sorry to observe that, owing to the embargo

mouths are scaled," we are not able to present the facts of the case well authenticated. THE NAUGATUCK. It is understood that the E. A. Stevens (Nangatuck) will be sent North for repairs. The publication of a private letter written by her captain. Lieutenant D. C., Constable, to Captain Faunce, in the New York Tribune, a few days since, is a breach of confidence on the ter of a worthy officer. It is due to Captain Constable to say that the letter was not intended for publication

recently placed upon naval officers, who "say their

under any circumstances. PROM THE ADVANCE. The beat from White House Point has arrived, bringing a variety of rumors, among the most important of which is one to the effect that our advance are within the enemy's enfrenchments before Richmond.

THE NEWS IN NORFOLK. The rebels in Norfolk had the news of our reverse in the valley of the Shenandcah by noon to-day, and are the retter pleased because it is what they predicted would

### happen ten days ago. AFFAIRS AT NEW ORLEANS. Another Proclamation from Gen. Butler.

The New Orleans Delta of May 13th announces the death of Captain T. B. Huger, Confederate States navy. He was commander of the steamer McRae, and was wounded in the battle at Fort Jackson. The Delta else contains the following news items: Fix large square-rigged vessels arrived yesterday from

sen loaded with United States tr. ops. The flag of the consulate of the Netherlands is not flying to day. We learn that the residences of General Twings and Colonel Acams, in Peytonia street, have both been taken fer eccupancy by the Federal forces. We learn that W. B. Munford, who is charged with being conepicuous as the leader of the party that, before the arrival of Gen. Butler, tore down the Federal flag which was hoisted on the Min. by the forces under Capt.

In Virginia, by eyacuating Manassas, Yorktown, and Norfolk, we have concentrated an army at Bichmond sufficiently reported to assail the enemy, and then drive being from our soil, and follow him upon Mrs. The discontinuous contraction of the Spar-

We understand that the authorities of the United States on Sunday arrested Mr. Esnard, who was formerly a clerk of Mr. A. J. Guirot, an officer of the mint, together with the books of Mr. G , and on yesterday they arrested Mr. Bernard Avegno, one of Mr. Guirot's securities on his The presidents of the banks were requested to meet Gen. Butler yesterday, and we learn he invited them to return the specie, which they had sent out of the city, to their vaults, assuring them he would not seize or inter-fere with it. We did not ascertain the determination of

Acting Brig. Gen. George T. Shepley, colonel of the 12th Regiment of Maine volunteers, has been appointed by Gen. Butler military commandant of New Orleans.

Proclamation of General Butter. The deplorable state of destitution and hunger of the brought to the knowledge of the commanding general. He has yielded to every suggestion made by the city roverment, and ordered every method of farnishing ood to the people of New Orleans that thee government. desired. No relief by those officials has yet been affordcd. This hunger does not pinch the wealthy and influential, the leaders of the rebellion, who have gotten up this war, and are now endeavoring to prosecute it, without regard to the starving poor, the working man, his. wife and children. Unmindful of their suffering fellow-citizens at home, they have caused, or suffered provisions to be carried out of the city for Confederate service since the occupation b; the United States forces. Lafayette Square, their home of affluence, was made the depot of stores and munitions of war for the robel armics, and not of provisions for their poor neighbors. Striking hands with the vile, the gambler, the idier, and the ruffian, they have destroyed the sugar and cotton trious and good, and regrated the price of that which is left by discrediting the very currency they had fur-

nished, while they eloped with the specie, as well that stolen from the United States as the banks, the property of the good people of New Orleans, thus leaving them to ruin and starvation.
Fugitives from justice, many of them, and others, their associates, staying because to puerile and insig-nificant to be objects of punishment by the element Government of the United States. They have betrayed their country. They have been false to every trust.

They have shown themselves incapable of defending the State they have scized upon, although they have forced every poor man's child into their service. They cannot protect those whom they have ruined, but

nechews cilicers have left them to the mercies and assassinations of a They will not feed those whom they are starying Mostly without property themselves, they have plun-dered, stolen, and destroyed the means of those who had property, leaving children penniless and old age

Men of Louisiana, Working men, Property holders, ever nation you may have had birth, how long will you uphold these flagrant wrongs, and, by inaction, suffer yourselves to be made the serfs of these leaders?

The United States have sent land and naval forces here
to fight and subdue rebellious armies in array agains her authority. We find, substantially, only fugitive masses, runaway property-owners, a whisky-drinking mob, and starving citizens with their wives and children. It is our duty to call back the first, to punish the second, root out the third, feed and protect the last. Ready only for what we had not prepared ourselves, feed the hungry and relieve the distressed with provicommanding general, it shall be done.

He has captured a quantity of beef and sugar intended for the rebels in the field. A thousand barrels of these stores will be distributed among the deserving poor of this city, from whom the rebels had plundered it; even although some of the food will go to supply the craving wants of the wives and children of those now herding at Camp Moore's and elsewhere, in arms against the United States. Captain John Clark, acting chief commissary of sub-

sistence, will be charged with the execution of this or-der, and will give public notice of the place and manner of distribution, which will be arranged, as far as possible, so that the unworthy and dissolute will not share its

GEO. C. STRONG. A. A. G., Ohief of Staff. Secessionists in the North.

[For The Press.]

If the loyal citizens of the North had, from the first, treated the Secessioniats then as they should have done-that is, have condemned, despised, and avoided them as they would the very lowest and the very worst class malefactors, for there is no thief or murderer so utterly despicable, or so justly amenable to the hatred and contempt of all loyal citizens, as these sneaking traitorous cov ards—the war would have been ended before this; but the mere fact of allowing these wholesale aiders and abettors of the greatest crime that ever was committed these vipers, whose very breath is a taint upon the con munity; these cowardly, sneaking, wretched villains, to so brave in their hellish iniquities, that they are becoming now even bolder in their efforts to hamper the Govern-THE RAILROADS.

That portion of the railroad within the rebel lines will no doubt be destroyed before we occupy the town, at the commencement of hostilities. For God's sake, let Northern men treat these wretches as they deserve; kick them out of your clubs; drive them from your doors as you would vipers; cut them everywhere; never open your mouths in their presence, except to spurn them, and let the cowardly, sneaking wretches herd only together. until they become so mutually disgusted that they will, me by one, crawl away from the society they have tried minate and disgrace—to slink out of existence in some hole filthy enough to receive them. You cannot by any possibility induce them to go South, for there han-

pens to be some, a little, fighting going on there, and hat's a part of the game they don't play at. A YOUTHFUL CONVIOR.—James Brady, only nineteen years of sge, who was arrested in Honeybro k, Chester county, some time sgo, for robbing the mail, plead guilty in the United States Court on Wednesday last. Brady was a stage diver, and the letter bag for the town which he drove to was entrusted to his keeping. He robbed it of its contents, and took the package of letters to his boarding house, where it was found. The shortest peried to which he can be sentenced, under the law, is ten years.

every men or ground. But, as there will outside practically, there is no use of industing in random suppositions.

This morning our usually small supply of newspapers was even smaller, and consequently they sold at very exorbitant prices. The price of any paper was fifteen

BUCHANAN ON THE WAR. THE SOUTHERN PROSPECT. THE DEFENCE OF MOBILE.

The Union Prisoners at Richmond.

TLE OF SHILOH. Destruction of the Merrimac.

From the Norfolk Day Book, May 24.] The Loss of the Merrimac.

arricles are rarities, c-sting immensely. We have made out to supply ourselves comfortably well, by the blessing of a kind Providence.

May 1.—It is May-day, but what a dreary one! dark and lowering without, and the floods which have continued all night still pour down upon us from the sinks and privy-holes above. We are the sewer for near 400 men. There is not a foot in the cook-room, excepting under the stove, which is not covered with water. A hole has been cut in the ceiling, which lets most of the water down in one place, instead of silting it down all over. Several holes in the plank of this floor have been cut this morning, to allow the water standing on it to pass through into the batement, which has long since become an awfoll muck-hole. Thus overything is being prepared for lisease when the warra weather shall come. The measles have already broken out smong us.

On the whole, we are in a most deplorable condition; and what very much aggravates this unbearedle state, is the sending home of the men and non-commissioned officers, while the officers are still held in custody. All the officers wear the most gloomy faces. Our fate is uncertain. So far as we can judge (being denied the papers entirely, one man being a few days ago gagged, and then made to keep time half a day at a time, in order to compel him to till how a paper was got in) our army from the Rappabanock seems to be moving on this place. In this case we chall by no means be suffered to remain in Richmond, but will undoubtedly be sent South. You can imagine the undostrableness of this.

May 2.—The rumor is that the officers are to be taken The Norfolk Examiner For Sale. The following advertisement appears in the Norfolk Day Book of May 24: THE EXAMINER NEWSPAPER FOR BALE. THE FRESSES, TYPE, FIXTURES. AND GOODWILL OF THE NORFOLK EXAMINER are offered for sale.

This paper cleared for its propietor the sum of \$5,000 during the last year of its publication, as the books, which were faithfully kept, will atlest.

tan spirit displayed by the Confectace and state generals; in the publicly-declared determination to defend the capital at all hezards, and never to surrender it, prosage the happiest results. What if some of our coast town and muny of our interior counties are in possession the invaders? \* Xerves at one time had all Attica in his possession, except the little bland of Salamis, to which

m the Mobile Express.]

One of the Mobile Express.]

One of the last extremity with the last extremity was the Union army. Gen. John T. Forney has publicly declared such to be his purpose, and the Mayor, aldermen, and Common Council have resolved to second him in any way they can.

Markets in Norfolk.

o much as a bone. The Movements of General Jackson. [From the Richmond Dispatch.]
We expect to receive stirring news from the valley, where Generals Jackson and Ewell command, before the expiration of another week.

[From the Delta, May 4.]

gainst the city. Federal Fleet at Natchez-The Surrender of the City Demanded.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE CITY HALL, May 13.—The Mayor and selectmen of GITY HALL, May 13.—The Mayor and select mon of the city of Natchez assembled in special meeting at 8 o'clock A. M.

Present—John Hunter, Esq., Mayor; Messrs. Baldwin. Curry, Dix, Walworth, and Walker.

The Mayor stated that he had called the meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration the following communication. viz.

our town.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. S. PALMER, Commander.
To his Honor the Mayor of Natchez. To which communication the major was directed to make the following reply, viz make the following reply, viz:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }

NATCHEZ, Miss., May 13, 1862. }

SIR: Your communication of the 12th instant has been received by me and laid before the Board of Selectmen of this city, and I am directed to return the following reply: ing reply:
Coming as a conqueror, you need not the interposition
of the city au horities to possess this place. An unfortified city, an entirely defenceless prople, have no alternative but to yield to an irresistible force, or uselessly to imperil innocern blood. Formalities are absurd in the face
of such realities.

now in Richmond. Its genuineness is vouched for:

\*\* \*\* Our condition is most dark and dreary.

There are only three windows to the room, and those on
one end. The floor is always in a filthy condition. It
having been used for a pork werehouse (immediately before we were removed to it, however, for a slave-pen),
the floor is perfectly saturated with greams. This makes
it impossible to get it clean, and causes it to be coated
with an amalgam of pork-fat and all kinds of dire. In
welking, this vile stuff adheres to the shoes, and we need
a correct more in walking heart, than you do in welter. THE FEDERAL FLEET AT NATCHEZ—THE SURRENDER OF THE CITY DEMANDED. a scraper more in walking here than you do in walking in the treet. Then add to this the filth that comes from above. Almost 400 men are on the two floors above us,

TERRIBLE SUFFERINGS. SHOCKING REVELATIONS. AN OLD REBEL ACCOUNT OF THE BAT-

REBEL TREACHERY.

Buchanan on the War. Mr. Buchauan, from his retirement at Wheatland, has ventilated his opinion that "the rebellion cannot be put down." He argues that "hot weather is approaching, at with it its concomitants of yellow fever, &c., and that the Federal soldiers will die like rotten sheep." He also entertains the opinion that "the staveholders of the South will never yield." &c. Time will reveal the truth of Mr. Buchenan's remarks, and will prove the truth of the old saving, that "a prophet is not without honor, gave in his own country." save in his own country.

[From the Memphis Argus.]
But why, in the name of all that is infamous, was the Merrimac—the pride of the South and the terror of the North, and the worder and admiration of the world—destroyed at Craney Island, when, if nothing more, she could have run up either the James or York river, and waited the appreach of the Union gunboats? It is certainly strange that this vessel, impervious to shet and shell, was carrificed by her commander, without having her brought within range of an enemy's gunboat or mat-of-war. Perhaps subsequent intelligence may divest the matter of its present inexplicability, but just now the distruction of the Merrimac looks like a terrible blunder. From the Memphis Argus.]

It will be sold cleap.
It has a complete Job Printing Office attached. For further particulars and terms of sale apply at EWING'S Drug Store, Churca Street.

For further particulars and torms of sale apply at EWING'S Drug Store, Churca Street.

The Southern Prospect—Xerxes and Patrick Henry.

[From the Petersburg Express, May 23]

As the season is rapidly drawing to a close in which the enemy's gunboats can be used en the Western rivers, we may now confidently expect a favorable turn in the silbits in that quarter. The amy at Cerinth, reinforced by the division of Price and Van Dorn from Arkansas, and by the column of General Lovell from New Orleans, is now in a condition to take advantage of the low stage of water in the river, and strike a heavy and decisive blow, which will clear Tennessee and Kentucky of the inviseds who have temporarily occupied portions of the former State and nearly the whole of the latter. A victory at Corinth, properly followed up, as it doubtless will be, will open the way for the recovery of all that we have lost in the Valley of the Mississippi; and also, we trust, for a march across the Onto. We have genera's in the West who can be relied on for a vigorous and effectual execution of the moreoments necessary to accomplish the grand results which will secure the expulsion of the Union forces from the Confederate territory south of the Ohio and Missouri rivers, which has been overrun by them. In this prospective view of affeirs is that important quarter we find everything to cheer us with the confident expectation that the Western campuign will close brilliantly.

In Virginia, by eyacuating Manassas, Yorktown, and Morfolk we hexpeconcentrated an army at Richmond enf-

the Rapyabanpock seems to be moving on this place. In this orse we chall by no means be suffered to remain in Richmond, but will undoubtedly be sent South. You can imagine the undesirableness of this:

MAY Z.—The rumor is that the officers are to be taken Scuth. Join and the self-content of the self-conte

and many of our interior counties are in cossession of the invaders? Xerxes at one time had all Attica in his possession, except the little Bland of Salamis, to which the Athenians retreated, after evacuating their beautiful city, and here they resolved to make a final and desperato stand, knowing that one defeat of the Persians in a pitched battle would be their utter ruin, and that they would thus, by a single blow, recover every inch of their territory. So it will be in the present case.

By drawing the war in Virginia to a focus, and by compelling the Unionists to fight a great battle at or in the vicinity of Richmond, which will decide the fate of their grand army, our Government has followed, in effect, the strategy of the Athenian general, Themistocles; and our brave commander and army have only to fight as only the Greeks did at Salamis to achieve a similar success, and reap the fruits of it. However much we may have regretted the abandomment of Norfolk and the destruction of its navy yard, together with the percless Morrimac, we are consoled with the thought that a victory at Richmond will be far more than an equivalent for their sacrifices. We have dissumbarrassed ourselves of the sca t-red defences which so long divided and weakoned our forces, and now we are in a condition to present a front to the foe at the threaten doolnt which assures him, to file deep mortification, of an infinitely more dangerous and terrible encounter than he has yet dremmed of. He has already qualled under the new and more formidable preparations for his reception, which have been made, and are still making, in and around Richmond. Drury's Bluff has given him a preliminary taste of the castigation which is in reserve for him. His boasted gunboats have been taught a lesson which will make them exceedingly careful how they again get within range of the elevated and well-served batteries which played such havo with them in their first attempt to pass them. McGleilan, with his famous army, now finds a general battia a considerab

then marching down again, of entrenched camps, and all the paraphernalia of academic warfare—we must fight. Yes, as Patrick Henry exclaimed on a menorable ordation, "(we) REFRAT IT, WE MUST FIGHT.") If the enesion, "(we) REFEAT IT, WE MUST FIGHT." If the ene-my won't in a manly way give us battle, we must give it

Confederate Disloyalty. The Express also blows up "various parties" for re-fusing to receive postage stamps in change, but eager to spend the supplies they had on hand; and denounces "these attempts to bring Confederate issues into disre-pute, as reprehensible" and "evidence of disloyalty."

Markets in Noriolk.

[From the Noriolk Day Book, May 24.]

Saturday's market, usually so replete with all the substantials and delicacies of the season, has "fallen from its high estate," and this morning presented a rather sad spectacle to the epicure. Fish, green peas; strawberries, and some few other articles of the season were to be found on sale, but that profusion which formerly characterized Saturday's market was the more painfully remembered by the contrast with the present searcity. Meats of all kinds were scarce, and so high that many were forced to buy sparingly, while some few, like Mother Hubbard's canine friend, went home without oven go much as a bone.

Provision Boats at New Orleans.

[From the Delta, May 4.]

We learn that there are several steamers up the river loaded with provisions for this city, which will not come into our port unless assurances are given by the commander of the United States equadron that they will not be seized or interrupted in their business. Such assurances have become necessary, since it is stated that several steamers—the private property of citizens—have already been detained by the United States ressels in port. We do not understand upon what grounds these seizures were made, especially as Commodore Farragut, in his first message to the mayor, pledged himself to protect private property. The free passage of steamers to the city from the up-river is absolutely necessary to the sustenance, of this population, and we hope that Commodore Farragut does not intend to add the threat of starvation to the other menaces which he has launched against the city.

From the Natchez Courier of the 14th.

the purpose of taking into consideration the following communication, viz:

UNITED STATES STEAMER IROQUOIS, AT ANCHOR OFF NATCHEZ, Miss, May 12th, 1862.

Sir: In advance of the squadron now coming up the Mississippi, I am instructed by the flag-officer to demand the surrender of the city of Natchez to the naval forces of the United States.

The same terms will be accorded as those granted to New Oneans and Baton Rouge. The rights and proper-The same terms win be accorated as those granted to Now One ans and Baton Rouge. The rights and property of all peaceable citizens shall be respected; but all property in this city belonging to the so-called Confederate States must be delivered up, and the flag of the United States must wave unmolested and respected over

So far as the city authorities can prevent there will be no opposition to your possession of the city; they cannot, however, guarantee that your flag shall wave numolested in the sight of an excited people; but such authority as they possess shall be exercised for the preservation of good order in the city.

As to property belonging to the Confederate States, they are not aware of any such within the limits of the city. the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN HUNTER, Mayor TO JAMES S. PALMER, Commander U. S. S. Iroquois, at anchor off Natchez, Miss.

The board then adjourned.

O. F. MERRICK, City Clerk. TWO CENTS.

The Destruction of the Merrimac-Letter from Commodore Tatnail. The following is a copy of a letter addressed by Com modere Tainall to Mr. Mallory, the Confederate Secreta y of the Navy : RICHMOND, May 14, 1862.

RIGHMOND, May 14, 1862.

Sin: In detailing to you the circumstances which caused the destruction of the Confederate States steading to you the circumstances which caused the destruction of the Confederate States steading to the 4th and 5th instant, directing me to take such a position in the James river as would entirely prevent the enemy's ascending it.

General Huger, commanding at Norfolk, on learning that I had received his order, called on me and declared that its execution would oblige him to abandon immediately his forts on Craner Island and Sowell's Point and their gunes to the enemy. I informed him that, as the order was imperative, I must execute it, but suggested that be should telegraphe you and state the consequences. He old so, and on the 6th instant you telegraphed me to endeavor to afford protection to Norfolk as well as the James rivor, which replaced me in my original position. I then arranged with the general that he should notify me when his preparations for the evacuation of Norfolk were sufficiently advanced to enable me to act independently.

Crithe 7th inst. Commodore Holling reached Norfolk. ently. Crithe 7th inst, Commodore Hollins reached Norfolk, with orders from you to consult with me and such officers as I might select in regard to the best disposition to be made of the Virginia, under the present aspect of

to be made of the Virginia, under the present aspect of things.

We had arranged the conference for the next day, the 8th, but on that day, before the hour appointed, the enemy attacked the Sewell's Point battery, and I left immediately with the Virginia to defend it.

We found six of the enemy's vessels, including the iron clad steamers Monitor and Naugatuck, shelling the battery. We passed the battery and afood directly fer the enemy, for the purpose of engaging him, and I thought an action certain, particularly as the Minnesota and Vandechit, which were anchored below Fortress Monroe, got under way and stood up to that point apparently with the intention of joining their squadron in the Roads. Before, however, we got within gnushot, the enemy cassed firing and retired with all speed, under the protection of the guns of the fortress, followed by the Virginia, until the shells from the Rip Raps passed over her. the shells from the Rip Raps passed over her.

The Virginia was then placed at her moorings near
Sewell's Point, and I returned to Norfolk to hold the onference referred to.
It was held on the 9th, and the officers present were Colouel Anderson and Captain——, of the army, selected by General Huger, who was too unwell to attend himself,

and of the navy, myself, Commodore Hollins, and Cap-tains Sterrett and Lee, Commander Richard L. Jones, and Lieutenants Ap Catesby Jones, and J. Pombroke Jones.

The opinion was unanimous that the Virginia was The opinion was unanimous that the Virginia was then employed to the best advantage, and that she should continue, for the present, to protect Norfolk, and thus afford time to remove the public property.

On the next day, at 10 o'clock A. M., we observed from the Virginia that the flag was not flying on the Sewell's Point battery, and that it appeared to have been abandoned. I deepatched Lieut J. P. Jones, the flag licutenant, to Crapey Island, where the Confederate flag was still flying, and he there learned that a large force of the enemy hed tanded on the bay shore, and were marching rapidly on Norfolk; that Sewell's Point battery was abandoned, and our troops were retreating. I then despatched the same officer to Norfolk to confer with Gen. Huger and Captain Lee. He found the navy yard in flames, and that all its officers had left by railroad. On reaching Norfolk he found that Gen. Huger and all the other officers of the sumy had also left; that the enemy were within a half mile of the city, and that the mayor was treating for its surrender.

On returning to the ship he found that Craney Island and all the other batteries on the river had been abandoned. It was now seven o'clock in the evening, and this unexpected confirmation rendered prompt measures necessary for the sastey of the Virginia.

The pilote had assured methaturbey could take the ship,

this unexpected confirmation rendered prompt measures necessary for the safety of the Virginia.

The pilote had assured me that they could take the ship, with a drought of eighteen feet, to within forty mises of Bichmond. This the chief pilot, Mr. Parrish, and his chief assistant, Mr. Wright, had asserted again and again; on the afternoon of the 7th, in my cabin, in the presence of Commodore Bollins and Captain Sterrett, in reply to a question of mine, they both emphatically declared their ability to do so.

of Commodore Holins and Captain Sterrett, in reply to a question of mine, they both emphatically declared their shifty to do so.

Considing in these assurances, and after consulting with the flist and flag lieutenants, and learning that the efficers generally thought it the most judicious course, I determined to lighten the ship at once, and run up the river for the protection of Richmord.

All hands having been called on deck, I stated to them the condition of things, and my hope that by getting up the river before the enemy could be made aware of our designs, we might capture his vessels, which had ascended it, and render efficient sid in the defence of Richmord; but that to effect this would require all their energy in lightening the ship. They replied with three cheers, and went to work at once. The pilots were on deck and heard this address to the crew

Being quite unwell, I had retired to bed. Between one and two o'clock in the morning the first lieutenant reported to me that, after the crew had worked for five or six hours, and lifted the ship so as to render her unfit for action, the pilots had declared their inshifity to carry eighteen feet above the Jamestown Flats, up to which point the shore on each side was occupied by the enemy. On demanding from the chief pilot, Mr. Parrish, an explanation of this palpable deception, he replied that

There is no discenting opinion. The ship was accordingly put on shore as near the mainland, in the vicinity of Cravey Island, as possible, and the crew landed. She was then fired, and after burning flercely fore and aft for newards of an hour, blew up a little before five on the morning of the 11th. We marched for Suffolk, twenty-two miles, and reached it in the evening, and from thence came by railroad to this city.

It will be asked what motives the pilots could have had to decive me. The only imaginable one is that they wished to avoid going into battle.

Ilad the ship not been lighted, so as to render her unfit for action, a desperate contest must have ensued with a ferce against us too great to justify much hope of success, and, as battle is not their occupation, they adopted this deceifful course to avoid it. I cannot imagine another motive, for I had seen no reason to distrust their good faith to the Confederacy.

My acknowledgements are due to the first lientenant, Ap. Cutesby Jenes, for his untiring exercitors, and for the sid he rendered me in all things. The details for fixing the ship and landing the crew were left to him, and everything was conducted with the most perfect order. To the other officers of the slip, generally, I am also thankful for the great zeal they displayed throughout.

friend, we find a letter dated Corinth. April 9th, written by a private in the Washington Artillery, from which we make the following extract, which shews that there was terrific fighting in that terrible two-days battle:

"We got orders to fly to another part of the field and sesist a regiment to take another part of the field and sesist a regiment to take another part of the field and sesist a regiment to take another part of the field and sesist a regiment to take another part of the field and sesist a regiment to take another part of the field where we sone continual storm of shot, shell, and Minib bells. Our men were all sarpale as death, but stood manfully at their guns. I thought every moment would be my last. After a rest of about twenty minutes we had orders to go to another part of the field, where we were in one of the most murderous fires ever seen. There was a column of infantry advancing to charge a Mississippi battory, pouring in a tremendous volley, a battery trying to silence the Mississippi battery at not more than three hundled yards' oistance.

We went into position and opened fire on both batteries and infantry, when a regiment of sharpshocters, conceiled in a wood not more than one hundred and fifty 1 ards off, firing with a kind of white powder which unakes/no report, began picking off our men. The Mississippi battery had their horsos killed, and their men all killed or wounded, so we were left to fight the whole, and it is miraculous that three-fourtus of u were not killed. Men who have been in several battles say they never saw anything that could begin to equal it. Heretoforo, artillery always fought at a distance of a mile and a half to two miles, but we were at speaking distance, point-blank range, and in the fiercest part of the fight. It is impossible for me to convay an idea of the terrible storm that fell smong us. I don't exaggerate when I say that the little fill his hail. I verily believe that a thousand balls passed within a foot of me; the air seemed full of them in every po To the other officers of the slip, generally, I am also thankful for the great zeal they displayed throughout.

The Virginia no longer exists, but 300 brave and skilful officers and scamen are saved to the Confederacy. I prosume that a court of inquiry will be ordered to examine into all the circumstances I have narrated, and I carneatly solicit it. Public opinion will never be put right without it.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servan,

JOSIAH TATNALL.

Rebel Treachery-Letter from Captain In a letter from Captain D. D. Porter, United States navy, to Senator Grimes, of Iowa, dated Ship Island,

any, to Senator Grimes, of Lowa, dated Ship Island, May 6th, he says:

"Four rams and floating batteries, such as the world never before saw, have been destroyed in the late attack. The Louisiana, an invincible steam battery, was set on fire and sent down on the versels while I was engaged in drawing up a capitulation for the surrender of the forts—a fleg of truce was flying at the time. She exploded within three hundred yards of us, ard sunk in one minute, her splendid battery of rifled gams being lost to us. Her fragments fairly covered Fort St. Philip, and killed a man of theirs in the fort. There was Southern honor for you! That vessel was four thousand tons, two hundred and seventy feet long, and had sixteen heavy rifle gams, all made in 'Secessia.' She intended to take position that night; when she would have driven off all our fleet, for, as proof of her invulnerability, one of our heaviest ships laid within tan feet of her, and delivered her whole broadside, making no more impression on her than if the was fring pees. The Louisiana's shot, on the contrary, went through and through the above-mentioned sloop-of-war, as if she was glass.

"The iron ram Manassas hit three vessels before her commander ran her ashore and abandoned her. She has been a troublesome customer all through.

"In Kow Orleans, our mays Cliests found the most splendid specimen of a floating battery the world has ever seen, (a sea-going affair,) and had she been a finished splendid specimen of a floating battery the world has ever seen, (a sea-going affair.), and had she been finished and succeeded in getting to sea, the whole American navy would have been destroyed. She was six thousand tons, two hundred and seventy feet long, sixty feet beam; had four engines, three propellors four inches (and in some places more) of iron, and would steam eloven knots an hour. She cost 'Mr. Mallory & Uo.' two millions of dollars.

an nonr. She cost 'mr. manny w. Oc. two minous of dollars.

"The best one I saw floating by me was a dry-dock turned into a floating battery, mounting sixteen guns, and the entire engine, which was to propel it, hermotically sealed by a thick iron turret against shot. bhe was sunk, but floated down to 'Southwest Pass,' and is now aground on the bar and can be easily raised.

"Besides theso monsters, the naval part of the enemy's defences at the forts consisted of six or seven iron-clad bad silenced besides several minor duties we had performed. We next took up a line of march for another part of the field where we were met with a salute of a shower of shells from those enormous mortars of the Yankee gunboats; it had now become dark, so it was useless to advance further, and we got orders to bivouacin an old corn. field in close proximity to the enemy. Thus ended our first day's fight, which was said by our generals to be the hardest fought battle that ever took place on this continent. The enemy had been driven entirely from their encampments, losing everything they had.

It was astonishing to see the amount of cannon, small strme, commissary and quartermasters' stores and tents we took; there were seventy-five piecos of cannon of the very finest hind, and all of heavy calibre. We were so much exhausted that in five minutes after lying down we were salesp, but were awakened at 12 o'clock by a heavy rain, which continued all night, so there was no sleep after for us, as most of us lost out only blanket in the action, and were compelled to stand by the fire te keep warm. At 5 o'clock next morning, we again received orders to proceed to a point, where the cnemy were approaching, they having been heavily reinforced during the night. Never did I hear such an unwelcome order; the thought of witnessing such scenes as I saw the day before was perfectly awful to think of—our brave and noble ones dead and maimed, but passing before the hospital was worse to me than the battle itself.

At 7 o'clock we were again in action, in a regular artillery duel, which lasted half an hour, when the Yankees of course, withdrew. At about 10 o'clock we got orders to march to the support of Breckinridge's brigade, which was then marching to stop an advance of a division of the enemy against our centre, we following at a distance of fifty yards, only supported in our van by the Orescent Regiment; we advanced but a short distance when there was a tremendous fire opened on us, the Kentucky Driaguest the minutes, when they sunk, but heated down to 'Southwest Pass,' and is now aground on the bar and can be easily raised.

"Besides these monsters, the naval part of the enemy's defences at the forts consisted of six or seven iron-clad gunboats; almost impervious to shot, and certainly so against vessels coming bow on We had nothing there on our side buttwenty frail mortar boats, five sloops-of-war, nine or ten poor gunboats (in all a little over one hundred and forty guns), to contend against two of the most impregnable forts in this or any other country, mounting one hundred and twenty-seven heavy guns (many of them rified), three iron-plated battories, mounting thirty-one guns, six or seven iron-plated gunboats, and nine or ten things got up for the occasion, soon destroyed, and their power never to be known.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

"Allow me to send you a perfectly correct tracing of Fort Jackson, made by the coast survey party attached to the mortar fleet. They acted in the same capacity as the topographical party hold in the army. Without them our work would have been tedious. They trinogulated every position occupied by the mortar vessels, and

lated every position occupied by the mortar vessels, and it is safe to say that we knew to a yard the exact distance of the month of the mortars from the centre of the fort. The enemy never saw us except for one day, when one of the divisions of six vessels was placed in sight, getting pretty roughly handled. I moved them under a point of woods, where, with their masts covered with green bushes, and their rigging with vines, they were invisible, to the best glasses. Our firing was a matter of calculation, and you may judge how accurate it was when I tell you that 1,313 bombs struck in the centre and rolid parts of the worts; 2,380 struck in the centre and rolid parts of the worts; 2,380 struck in the moat near the foundation, shaking the whole fort to its base; nearly 1,500 exploded in and over the works, and 1,357 struck about the leves, in the marsh close around, and in the naths and near the water's edge, where the steamers attempted to come. All small boats, accws, and armed barges, were sunk; and if the garrison had desired to get away, they could not have done so essily. I never saw so perfect a scene of desolation and ruin, nor do I believe there was ever such perfect mortar practice. We could clear the batteries whenever the soldiers appeared on the ramparts. In fact, no gues there could be worked.

"This sketch may interest your friends in the far West. It will remind them that the indusnce of the may is felt everywhere over this great country, and when the vast riches of the Western States are floating securely and peacefully to the seaboard on the swift waters of the Mississippi, let them remember that it was the rany which opened the doors to a commerce that might have been shul up for a quarter of a contury, and that they can dictate fiee trade now where they might have been obliged to pay tribute.

"With my best wishes, I remain, dear sir, yours very truly, Paper I labor to be such as the proper of the missispip. The main, dear sir, yours very truly, Paper I labor to be such as the paper of the li

A REBEL LADY—A letter from Winchester, Ya, states that among the rankest of the rank Secession ladies there is Mrs. Dandridge, better known as "Betty Bliss," the daughter of the late President, Zachary Taylor. The lady recently paid a visit to the prison there, to see some of the robel immates, and during her stay had the bad taste to express the hencyclent wish that our troops might be destroyed by the yellow fever, if not by powder and lead.

their 848. However, a housand and remeaser regiment came up, repulsed the enemy, and retook-our guns, when we jumped to them, and gave their retreating column a parting salute. Hardee himself says this was the most murderous fire he ever saw. This was the last part we played in the fight. Our battery was hors de combat, two men killed, eight wounded, thirty horses killed, and our annunition exhausted; we re-ceived orders to leave the field, and while doing so, wo halted a moment. Gen. Beauregard passed, raised his san, and said, "Young senitemen, you have done nobly; you have done nobly; you have fought as men never fought before!" I really think this was one of the hap-plest minutes of my life. These words can never be for-gotten. Beauregard's aid passed us and said: "Boys, you may tell your comrades in Virginia that they have teen rothing." You will be corry to hear that the brave and gollant Johnsen was killed while leading a charge. His enemies can say nothing more against him; he has died nobly. \*\* \*\* \*\*

On our way back we heard nothing but praise of the

ANOTHER MONITOR—The preparations for building an iron-clad shot-proof floating battery, of the Monitor model, in Jersey City, are nearly completed, and the vessel will be occumented during the present week. The vessel is to be 200 feet in length, 46 feet breadth of beam, and 11 feet 10 inches depth of hold. She is to be built of the exact model of the United States gunboat Monitor, with a few slight modifications in regard to machinery and the location of the pilot-house. ENGLISH MONEY .- Recent facts have come to light, ENGLISH MONEY.—Recent facts have come to light, which show that English money finds its way South. Scarcely a dead body of the rebol soldiery on the fields of the Peninsula but their pockets contained English sliver. A friend and officer of the army, just from the doll of operations, had an English shilling from the body of one of the dead rebels, and he assures me this is the case with slimost all of their dead. Lost fall English Sank of English ones were very common in Richmond amongst the robel magnates.

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THE WAR PRESS.

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THE WAR PRESS.

ar Advertisements inserted at the usual rates. Six lines cons. itute a square. FROM GEN. BANKS' DIVISION. DETAILS OF THE FIGHT AT FRONT ROYAL.

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GALLANT CONDUCT OF THE MARYLAND REGIMENT, COLONEL MURPHY'S REGIMENT IN THE

COLONEL KNIPE A PRISONER. COL, MURPHY REPORTED KILLED.

The correspondent of the New York World, writing The correspondent of the May, says:

Colonel Kenly, the lamented officer of the Maryland
1st, received notice of the approach of the enemy only
by the surprise and capture of some of his pickets. No
intimation of their coming had been received, and it was,
therefore, impossible to have supported him in essays to
have prevented the sad havoc which succeeded.

But he detended himself through the cutire day with
an ability and energy which speak loud praises for him
to the hearts of all his loyal countrymen. With scarcely
a thousand men in his command he was compiled to sustain himself sessions the three full brigades of General
Ewell, who had abandoned his camp, fifty mules above in
the valley, for the purpose of making tais descent upon a
regiment of loyal hay ylanders.

The peculiar malignity which Southerners bear toward
those whom they fancy should be of Southern sympathies in the Border States, was, I think, the peculiar
cause of the unccruptious disregard of the ordinary
homanities of war, which was exhibited during the attack of Friday.

A Southerner fighting against the independence of the
South seems to excite all the worst passions of a human
bring in them. I can scarcely credit the statements made
to me by trustworthy men, and confirmed by many others
of those who experienced and witnessed them, in regard
to the abandonment of all mercy and pity for a vanquished foe.

During the whole forencon, and until 3 o'clock P. M. rom Hagerstown, Md., on the 25th of May, says:

to the abandoment of all mercy and pity for a van-quished foe.

During the whole forencon, and until 3 o'clock P. M., the fighting was a slow intermittent struggle between the enemy, who were moving on gradually and cautiously, and Col. Kenly's command, which he endeavored to menage as carefully as possible, sawing them from injury, and retreating the advance until reinforcements should come up to bis assistance. Thus a continual right, more of the nature of a skirmish than a battle, was kept up conthe nature of a Sariman than a back, was kept up continuously duting the forenoon, and until the middle of the afternoon.

Three o'clock, and a detachment of cavalry, one hundred men, Commandes B and D, of the Ira Harris Guard, commanded by Major Yought, arrived from Straeburg, and reported immediately to Col. Kenly, who ordered him at once to charge the enemy. The cavalry obeyed the order, charging upon them with great force, though greatly inferior in numbers

But the power of the enemy's superior force soon continent backwards, and compelled them to retreat from the charge, exvertly regulated. The superiority of their numbers could not be withstood by the excellent bravery which was shown by the Ira Herris Guard.

Two c'clock Wim. H. Mapes, commanding pioneer corps, arrived and reported to Colonel Kenly, who gave orders immediately where they should be stutioned, and they continued with the remainder of the little force, doing noble cervice, and holding in check successfully not less than six times their number.

Seeing the danger of their position, the commander of the brigade gave the order to retreat, which they did in excellent order across the bridge of the south branch of the Shenandosh.

Mispec was then ordered to burn the bridge, which was county during the torenoon, and until the midule of

excellent order across the bridge of the south branch of the Shenandoah.

Me pea was then ordered to burn the bridge, which was accordingly fired by placing upon it piles of foace raits, but was not destroyed, for the rebels came on so closely and hotly that they were driven away, and did not succeed in the attempt.

They soon surived at and crossed the bridge on the merth branch of the Shenandoah, which they succeeded in firing and destroying, but not, bowever, in detaining the rebels, who, cavalry and intantry, plunged in and forded it, and were soon upon the other side.

Soon was received the unwelcome news that the enemy had surrounded them, flanking them with their superier numbers both by right and left.

The loyal Marylanders encountered them hand to hand, fighting when a crowd of rebels were upon a single opponent, and instances of individual bravery have been mentioned to me which seem almost fabulous.

No man upon the field of battle ever managed his soldiers with more coolness, judgment, and bravery, than did Colonel Kenly. His cry to his men was not "go," but "come with me," and they did so, every man of them.

When ordered to surrender, he shot the one who debut "come with ms," and they did so, every man of them.

When ordered to surrender, he shot the one who demanded it, and when ore powered and summoned to give up the sword he broke the blade in halves, was shot, wounded, placed in an ambulance, and afterwards—I tell it not on the testimony of one, but of many—while being carried away was killed by a pictol shot, fired at him as he lay wounded in the vehicle.

The forces engaged upon our side comprised eight companies of the Maryland 1st, two companies for the 29th Pennsylvania, two companies ira Harris Guard, two picces artillery of Captain Knap's battery, and Captain Mapes' pioneer corps of fifty-sixmen.

off our connection with Winchester, and we saw, very naturally, before us, the prospect of an enemy (Ewell) in our front, while Jackson, whom we had known to be behind us near Harrisonburg, seemed more than probably intending to push upon us in our rost, placing us between two fires, each, doubtless, larger than the little command which remained to Gen. Banks after the withdrawid of so large a portion of it to reinforce other less exposed divisions of the army.

We soon learned that the forces of Ewell were on the road upon which we were retreating, and in front of us. The soldier's received the intelligence with a shout, and with animate? faces. Orders to halt, right face, were immediately stacked up-by the roadside, and guards were appointed over them. All were ordered forward at more, and the men, though ordered to march, moved almost at the speed of double-quick.

The infantry were kept somewhat in the rear, until the general and his body-guard had advanced to ascertain the position of the enemy, and the space between was filled with the baggage wagons, which were somewhas filled with the baggage wagons, which were some being repossessed by their timorous possessors under the inspiring influence of the wagommaster's white, who, enraged at their cowardly rout, was driving them back with most numerciful lashes to their deserted charges.

Our early and rapid march prevented the accomplishment of their contemplated plan to crush us between the upper and nether millstone, and the disaster they would have accomplished was postponed until the following day, (Sunday.) This in the front.

The other end of our column eacountered the force which was to have been sent to attack our rear. First the Zouaves d'Afrique, body guard of General Banks, had been stationed in the rear to burn the bridge access Cedar creek, three miles from Strasburg, after all had passed except the cavalry under Gen. Hatch, who were yet to come up, and would ford the river. While they were beamearing the bridge with tar, unsuspecting any danger, The rapid flight of cavelry caused a great pavic among the teamsters, who fled from their wagons, while some upset them, and others of them broke down, cattle got loose and joined in the general stampeds, and horses breeking loose joined their neighing and gilloping to the great meles. The rebel cavelry came up, and more than a hundred wagons were taken possession of price and my.

The cayairy which were behind have suffered much more than I am able now definitely to speak of. They were ordered at daylight, when the infantry and artillery and baggago had started toward Winchester, to make a second to the second of the reconnolisance to Woodstock to see if anything could be learned of the anticipated attack in the rear. They were cut off by the cavalty of the enemy, and unable to re-turn. More particulars in regard to this I wilt forward

Sunday's Fighting.

After a long and anxious day's march, preceded by a balf night's steep, disturbed by uncertain rumors of the disaster of Colonel Kenley, I retired to rost in the town of Winchesfer, and dropped off into quites slumbers, from which, by daybreak upon the following morning, the voices of cannon and the rattle of musketry, coming in through my open window, brought me suddenly to the consciousness that another day must be broken of its peaceful quiet by the fierce and unnatural pursuits of war. I listened to the sounds and saw the smoke which rose from the hills, but three miles distant.

The people with whom I remained were gazing thitherward as upon an interesting spectacle, rejoicing that Jackson was again coming to free them from the Northern yolo.

Jackson was again coming to free them from the Northern yoko.

During my breakfast I heard the tramping of horses upon the road, and the heavy rolling of artillery over the pavements. Certainly, I thought, there can be no haste; we shall not be compelled to leare Winchester.

But I took to horse with all speed now, when the enemy were in the other end of the town, as the rattle and echo of the muskerty up the streets and between the houses most plainly indicated.

The confusion and disorder were not of long duration. Gen. Banks, riding continually among the men, and addressing them kindly and firmly, shamed them to a consideration of their unbefitting consternation. At length, stationing himself and staff, with several others, across a field through which the soldiers were rapidly fleeing, the men were ordered to stop their flight, were formed into line, and made to march on more in a soldier-like manner.

mecticult, is reported, and on good authority, as captured.

During the fight, which continued for two hours before the retreat from Winchester, the brigade behaved admirably and repulsed the enemy, but being outlanked by superior numbers, they were compelled to withdraw.

Our forces, Donnelly's brigade on the left, and Gordon's upon the right, were in position along a gorge between two hills. The 2d Massachusetts was firing upon the enemy from behind a stone wall, when, being spend upon by an onfliading fire from the enemy, who had come upon our flank, they had to escape from them, coming as they were in vastly superior numbers.

The enemy are said to have fought well. At one point they came up in a large hollow square, single file upon they from and back, and double file upon either side. Morching up thus to within a certain distance, they were ordered to halt, to fix bayoners and charge, which they did in good order.

Col Gordon and staff are safe, also Gen. Williams and staff. While retreating through Winchester, women from the houses opened fire of pistols upon our soldiers and killed a great many of them. and killed a great many of them.

Lieut. Col. Brown, 28th New York, is said to have been killed. Col. Knipe, 46th Pennsylvania, wounded and taken prisoner. Col. Murphy, 29th Pennsylvania,

Lieut. Col. Brown, 20th New New Lie as and to lake been killed. Col. Knipe, 48th Pennsylvania, wounded and taken prisoner. Col. Murphy, 29th Pennsylvania, killed, and many others.

The column retreated, after the slight panic to which I have alluded, in good order, pursued by the enomy beyond distrinsburg. The baggage train proceeded as far as the Polomac, and many of the teams have been conveyed across upon ferry boats this evening.

The sudden descent of the enemy's forces, though really a surprise, was not by many altogether, mexpected.

Ewell had been well known to have his camps still located upon the Shenandosh, at Elk Ruu. Jackson was also known to be in the valley, upon a road communicating directly with our own position, and Johnson was also near by, having but lately attacked the advance goard of Genearl Framont.

A portion of Ira Harris' guard and Vermont cavalry supported the battery in the rear, and Majors Davidson and Gandner, New York, and Oapt. Preston, Vermont cavalry, commanded them with coolness and bravery.

Gen. Banks was in the rear of the retreat, and a shell exploded only four feet from him, fortunately without injuring him.

Winchester is reported to be burned. Some ammunication was seen to explode. While we were loaving a loud to the prises of a large schere of

Winchester is reported to be burned. Some ammunition was seen to explode. While we were leaving a loud report was followed by the rising of a large sphere of the bose high into the air like a balloon.

The enemy had stationed a force at Berryville, to prevent our retreating towards Harper's Ferry, and we were compiled to take the load to Martinsburg.

General Banks, this morning, on the other side of the river, made a short address to the soldiers, encouraging them to maintain themselves until reinforcements shall be received, which will, doubtless, arrive immediately, and we shall soon recross the river, and drive back the enemy over the ground we have lost. enemy over the ground we have lost.