183 FOR THREE MONTHS—invariably in advance for the Advertisements inserted at the usual rates. Six nstitute a square. THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS. eribers out of the City at Four Dota PER ANNUM, in advance.

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FOR CORN. OATS, COFFEE, BONE DUST, &c. SEAMLESS BAGS. standard makes, ALL SIZES, for sale cheap, for net

cash on delivery. GEO. GRIGG. No. 219 and 221 CHURCH ALLEY. CEAMLESS BAGS.

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2.000 CANADA A, all Cotton, 17 ounces.
5,000 OZARKS.
600 KELLYS.
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3,000 HAMPDEN E., half Cotton. GRIGG & HARMSTEAD. MERCHANDIZE BROKERS,
No. 21 STRAWBERRY Street.

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WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINES, 628 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

THE WILCOX & GIBBS SEWING MACHINES have been greatly improved. making it
have been greatly improved. MOISELESS,
and with Self-adjusting Hemmers, are now ready for sale
by
FAIRBANKS & EWING.
115 CHESTNUT Street.

CLOTHES-WRINGERS. THE GREAT OLOTHES WRINGER. "PUTNAM "SELF-ADJUSTING OLOTHES WRINGER" Is warranted to be superior to any other in use. EVERY FAMILY SHOULD POSSESS A

CLOTHES WRINGER.

BECAUSE. lst. It is a relief to the hardest part of washing-day. 3d. It saves clothes from the injury always given by iwisting.
4th. It helps to wash the clothes as well as dry them. WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO PROCURE ONE OF THIS KIND. BECAUSE.

BECAUSE,
Figar. The rolls being of vulcanized rubber, will
beer hot and cold water, and will neither break nor tear
off buttons.
SECOND. The frame being of iron, thoroughly galvanized, all danger from rust is removed, and the liability to shrink, swell, split, &c., so unavoidable in
wooden machines, is prevented.
THEED. The spiral springs over the rolls render this mathine self-adjusting, so that small and large articles, as
well as articles uneven in thickness, are certain to reseive uniform pressure. eive uniform pressure.
FOURTH. The patent fastening by which the machine rightened to the tub, we believe to be superior in simplicity and efficiency to any yet offered.
Firth. It will "It any tub, round or square, from one-right to one-and-a-quarter inches in thickness, without the least alteration.

RETAIL PRICE: Agents wanted in every county. Reliable and energetic men will be liberally dealt For Sale at the

"WOODENWARE ESTABLISHMENT" A. H. FRANCISCUS, No. 433 MARKET St. and No. 5 North FIFTH St., ja13-tuths tmh8 Wholesale agent for Pennsylvania, WILLIAM YARNALL, DEALER IN HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS, No. 1020 CHESTNUT STREET,

Agent for the sale of HALEY, MORSE, & BOYDEN'S PATENT SELF-ADJUSTING CLOTHES-WRINGER, Believed to be the best CLOTHES-WRINGER in use.

It will wring the largest Bed Quilt or smallest Hand kerchief drier than can possibly be done by hand, in B.—A liberal discount will be made to dealers. CABINET FURNITURE.

CABINET FURNITURE AND BIL LIARD TABLES. MOORE & CAMPION. 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.

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IN

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC WINDOW AND PLATE GLASS, MANUFACTURERS OF WHITE LEAD AND ZINC PAINTS, PUTTY, &c. FRENCH ZINC PAINTS.

Dealers and consumers supplied at VERY LOW PRICES FOR CASH.

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The well-earned reputation of FAIRBANKS' SCALES Has induced the makers of imperfect balances to offer them as "FAIRBANKS" SCALES," and purchasers have thereby, in many instances, been subjected to fraud and imposition. Fairbanks' Scales are manufactured only by ins original inventors, E. & T. FAIRBANKS & CO., and are adapted to every branch of the business, where a sorrect and durable Scales is desired, FAIRBANKS & EWING,

General Age apio-if masonic hall, 715 Chestnut St. 517 ARCH STREET.

C. A. VANKIRK & CO. Have on hand a fine assortment of CHANDELIERS AND OTHER GAS FIXTURES.

Also, French Bronze Figures and Ornaments, Porcelain and Mica Shades, and a variety of FANCY GOODS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Please call and examine goods. HERRING'S

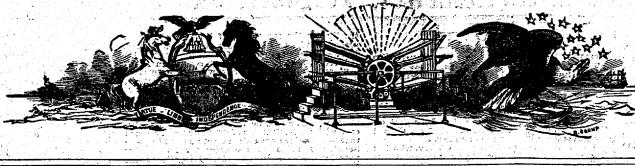
FRANKLINITE IRON DRILLED. From New York Journal of Commerce, of Jan. 8, 1868.1 THE UNDERSIGNED were present at an experiment of the purpose of testing the drill-proof qualities of a sample of FRANKLINITE or CRYSTALIZED IRON, left bith the Manhattan Bank of New York, by S. C. HER-black Co., as drill-proof. The Iron was tested with a said-drill five-eighths (%) inches in diameter, and was

filled readily in our presence. WM. L. JACOBS, GILBERT LANE. Brooklyn, Jan. 7, 1863. jal3-tuths-6t

CASES 30-INCH BLACKSTONE UMBRELLA CLOTHS. For sale by MATTHEW BINNEY'S SONS,
BOSTON, Mass.

CHAMPAGNE WIND AN INFOICE
Wine, to arrive, and for sale
JAUB STRUME STRUKT Street.





PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1863. VOL. 6.—NO. 144.

Dana's Geology.*

James Dwight Dana, Silliman Professor

of Geology and Natural History in Yale

College, and also Editor of the American

Journal of Science, has the reputation

abroad of equalling the late Dr. Buckland

and Sir Henry Delabeche, and the living Sir

Richard Murchison and Sir Charles Lyell,

in the extent, variety, and value of his scien-

tific-attainments. Like these eminent men,

also, Professor Dana has the faculty of com-

municating his knowledge in the plainest

language his noble simplicity of expres-

sion making his writings clear even to those

who take them up as students. His work

on Mineralogy has a European reputation,

and has gone through several editions. In

the account of Commodore Wilkes' Ex-

ploring Expedition (1838-1842), the Geolo-

gical and Natural History Reports were

written by Professor Dana, who was mineralogist and geologist to the Expedition. His

illustrated "Geology of the Pacific" is one of

these Reports,—of which so few copies were issued by the United States Government that

the work is known more by reputation than

perusal. Associated for many years in the

labors of Professor Silliman, his father-in-

law, to whose chair in Yale College he succeeded eight years ago, his leisure, ever

since, has been mainly employed upon a

Manual of Geology, which has lately been

published in this city. It forms an octavo

volume of over 800 pages; it is illustrated

with a Physiographic Chart of the World,

engraved on steel by John M. Butler; it is

enriched with over a thousand well-exe-

been newly engraved—generally from draw-

cuted wood-cuts, every one of which has

ings on the box-wood by Mr. T. B. Meek, a

good palæontologist, as well as artist. In

numerous cases, these drawings have been

made from the specimens themselves, or from

Professor Dana's own works, particularly

the reports connected with Wilkes' Explo-

ring Expedition. The illustrations of Ame-

rican palæozoic life have been largely copied,

the author states, from the reports of Prof.

Hall. The wood-engravings have been

executed by Lockwood Sandford, of New

Haven, under Professor Dana's own surveil-

lance. Being original, chiefly from Ameri-

can subjects, and rarely copied from foreign

geological works, they place additional ori-

ginal object-teaching before the student. Besides a full table of contents, the book is

completed by a capital Index. There is also an Appendix, one valuable portion of which

must facilitate its use as a class-book. More-

over, the book is handsomely got up-

printed, on fine paper, by C. Sherman &

Son; electrotyped by L. Johnson & Co.,

and published by Theodore Bliss & Co., all

of Philadelphia. It is sold at such a re-

markably low price (\$4 in muslin covers,

and \$4.50 in half turkey-morocco), that it is:

placed within the reach of that vast army of

inquirers and readers, the public at large,

and will be mailed by the publishers, to any

address, prepaid, upon receipt of the price.

Many persons, we are confident, will thank

A treatise, specifically intended for educa-

tional purposes in this country, it stands to

reason should have special relation to Ame-

rican Geological History. The manual

under notice, has been prepared with that

"Two reasons have led him to give this manual its American character—a desire to adapt it to Ame-rican students, and a belief that, on account of a pe-

operations in progress. Dynamical Geology, contrary to the views of some geologists, has been placed after the stratigraphical or historical portion. It will, however, be found that through the latter the facts have been followed by statements.

and explanations of principles; so that the stu-dent, on reaching the pages treating of geological causes, has already learned much of what they con-

Geology teaches the Natural History of

the Earth, and elucidates the Past by

inductions drawn from facts by Science.

It shows the various changes in the

great globe which we inhabit"-changes

which were made by the active prin-

ciple of Progress, which the Omnipotent

Creator has unceasingly carried on. Never

before has this science been placed before

the world in a manner which is full without

diffuseness, and lucid without being dry and

hard. We, who have sat under Buckland,

can tell young students of both sexes that

there is no science more interesting, more

instructive, or more fascinating than Geolo-

gy; none which more plainly shows the

Wisdom and Greatness of the Creator;

none, with such a Manual as Professor

Dana now places in their hands, which can

be so easily acquired, or so practically ap-

plied. Every quarry is a lecture-room for

students of geology-even in a lump of coal, or a stone, a lesson of knowledge may

be found. How to apply and extend and

systematize this knowledge is precisely what

Professor Dana's Manual of Geology clear-

* Manual of Geology: treating of the Principles of the Science with especial reference to American Geological History, for the use of Colleges, Academies, and Schools. By James D. Dana, M. A., L.L. D., Silliman Professor of Geology and Natural History in Yale College; Author of "A System of Mineralogy," &c. Illustrated by a Chart of the World, and over One Thousand figures, mostly from American Sources. One volume, 8vo., pp. xvi. and 788. Philadelphia: Theodore Bliss & Co.

The British Empire.

Sin: Your correspondent, "A Reader," in your is-

sue of the 13th inst., refers to my communication, pub-

lished on the 6th inst., and wishes to be enlightened

as to a portion of it, which I am not unwilling to

do; though he has misquoted my letter, which was a statement of facts, rather than eulogy. I stated (in-

ter alia) that "England has the largest empire, the argest population, the largest navy, the largest

debt, the highest credit, and is by far the most

wealthy-lending to all nations, whose banker she

also is ;" and might have truly added that she also

has the largest mercantile marine. Your correspon-

dent wishes me to explain "how and by what means

The question, as a whole, is too large to be dealt

with in a newspaper whose space is valuable; but I

may briefly state that it has been accomplished by

treaties, conquest, invincible courage, commercial

enterprise, industry, toil, and inherent and indomi-

table energy. Many of Great Britain's most eminent

men were of humble origin, who raised themselves to the highest state by indefatigable application and

honesty of purpose, apart from politics, and bargain

and sale. The celebrated and learned Lord Chancel-

lor Eldon's father was a coal-hauler in the north of England. Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst, whose father

was an artist, was born in Boston, Mass. The fathers

of Lord Chancellor St. Leonards and Lord Chief

Justice Tenterden were country barbers. These men,

chants and others-English, Irish, and Scotch-have

and thousands of their compeers, statesmen, mer-

idded great lustre to the fame of Great Britain.

this grand result has been accomplished."

To the Editor of The Press:

view. The author says, in his preface:

us for giving these particulars.

RETAIL DRY GOODS. TIP STAIRS DEPARTMENT.

BOYS' CLOTHING

LADIES' CLOAKS,

READY MADE OR MADE TO ORDER.

COOPER & CONARD, S. E. COR. NINTH and MARKET Sts. TAMES R. CAMPBELL & CO.,

IMPORTERS AND CASH DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,

727 CHESTNUT STREET. Have just received, and are now offering, magnificent SILKS, SHAWLS, AND DRESS GOODS, ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THIS SEASON.

DRESS GOODS, AT REDUCED PRICES. 5,000 YDS. MOUSELEIN DELAINES, OF CHOICE STYLES. On hand, Saxony-woven DRESS GOODS, at 20, 25, and SI cents per yard.
CURWEN STODDART & BRO.

450, 452, and 454 N. SECOND Street, above Willow jair-4t 1024 CHESTNUT STREET. E. M. NEEDLES.

ELINENS, WHITE GOODS, LACES, AND EMBROIDERIES.

A full assortment always on hand at LOW Just received, lace-trimmed Embroidered and Mourning Muslin Bows and Neck-Ties, for the house and street. Also, all-linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, at 16 cents.

Also, all descriptions of Linen Handkerchiefs, for Ladies, Gents, and Children, at

WHOLESALE PRICES. ja8-tf 1024 CHESTNUT STREET. EDWIN HALL & BRO.. Have reduced the prices of Fancy Silks,
Rich Printed Dress Goods,
Choice Shades of Merinoes,
Beautiful Colors of Reps or Poplins,
All-Wool De Laines,
All kinds of dark dress goods reduced:
Also,
Fine Long Broche Shawls,
Open Centre Long Cashmere Shawls,
Rich new styles of Blanket Shawls.
44 Lyons Silk velvets, pure Silk. DRY GOODS FOR WINTER.

Orib Blankets.
SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
CHESTNUT and EIGHTH Street MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR.

Cassimeres for Busiaess Suits. Cassimeres for Dress Suits. Cassimeres for Boys' wear. oths adapted to every use Boys' Clothing, ready made. Men's and Boys' Suits made to order. BLANKETS. Atip top lot at \$5.

Atip top lot at \$5.

Damaged Gray Blankets at \$2.50 and \$3.50.
Horse Blankets—Army Blankets.
Domestic Goods at lowest prices,
TABLE LINENS.
Fine Table Damasks and Cloths.
The famous power-loom Table Linens. TABLE LINENS.

Fine Table Damasks and Cloths.
The famous power-loom Table Linens.
Bargains in Napkins, &c., &c.
DRESS GOODS.
2,631 yards newest styles Delaines at 25c.
Blue Reps, Blue Poplins, Blue Paramattas.
Brown Reps, Brown Poplins, Brown Coburgs.
Balmorals at \$2.75, \$3, \$3.25, and \$3.60.
COOPER & CONARD,
185-16 S. E. corner NINTH and MARKET Streets.

H STEEL & SON HAVE A LARGE STEEL & SON HAVE A LARGE
assortment of DRESS GOODS, spitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Rich Fanoy Silks; Plain Silks, choice colors.
Plain and Figured Black Silks.
Plain and Figured Merinoes.
Plain and Figured Merinoes.
Plain and Figured Merinoes.
Plain Solferino Cashmeres, at 57½c, worth 62.
WINTER SHAWLS, in great variety.
MERINO SCARFS, BROCHE BORDERS.
CLOAKS—Of New and Fashionable Styles, made of
Black Beaver, Frosted Beaver, and Black Gloth.
Call and examine our stock. We guaranty to give satisfaction, as we sell nothing but good articles, and at
lower prices than they can be bought elsewhere.
dels Nos. 713 and 715 North-TENTH street.

TRIB AND CRADLE BLANKETS. Large Crib Blankets.
Fine Cradle Blankets.
EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH and ARCH. EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH AND
ARCH, have a fine stock of
GOODS FOR FAMILY CUSTOM.
Good Large Blankets.
Good Linen Sheetings.
Good Muslin by the piece.
Geod Unshrinking Flannels.
Good Fast Colored Prints.
Good Table Linen and Towels.
Good Quality Black Silks.
Good Assortment Colored Silks.

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS. ARCH STREET. 606.

FINE SHIRT AND WRAPPER EMPORIUM. GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, IN GREAT VARIETY.

SUPERIOR QUALITY, AND AT MODERATE PRICES. G. A. HOFFMANN. Successor to W. W. KNIGHT.

ja3-stuth 3m 606 ARCH STREET. 606. CINE SHIRT MANUFACTORY. hich be makes a specialty in his business. Also, con-

NOVELTIES FOR GENTLEMEN'S WEAR. J. W. SCOTT, GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE, No. 814 CHESTNUT STREET,
Four doors below the Continental. HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Nos. 1 AND 3 NORTH SIXTH STREET. JOHN C. ARRISON.

(FORMERLY J. BURR MOORE.) Has now in store an elegant assortment of

GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS. ALBO SCARFS, NECK TIES, GLOVES, &c.,

U. S. REVENUE STAMPS. AGENCY FOR THE SALE OF STAMPS,

UNITED STATES TAX No. 57 South THIRD Street, first door above Chestnut. A full supply of all kinds of REVENUE STAMPS that have been issued by the Government for sale in quantities A liberal discount allowed on amounts of \$50 and up Orders by Mail promptly attended to JACOB E. RIDGWAY,

No. 57 South THIRD Street. 1,000 DOZEN HICKORY SHIRTS. 1,000 do. {GRAY, RED. AND BLUE FLANNEL SHIRTS.

do. SASSORTED FANCY
TRAVELING SHIRTS. do. {LOW-PRICED WHITE MUSLIN SHIRTS DENIM OVERALLS.

10,000 PAIRS COTTONADE PANTALOONS. For sale by BENNETT, RUCH, & CO. jal3-lm Manufacturers, 217 CHURCH-ALLEY

A. OPPENHEIMER, No. 231 CHURCH Alley, Philadelphia, CONTRACTOR AND MANUFACTURER OF ARMY CLOTHING Of Every Description.

ALSO. TENTS. HAVERSACKS. PONCHOS, CAMP BLANKETS,
KNAPSACKS, and
BED TICKINGS FOR HOSPITALS:

MATERIAL BOUGHT FOR CONTRACTORS. All goods made will be guarantied regulation in size n.B. Orders of any size filled with despatch. ja7-tf

chants and others—English, Trish, and Scotch—have added great lustre to the fame of Great Britain. I am then unreasonably charged with not mentioning "the squalid poverty, misery, degradation and crime which exists in that empire, nor the thousands that are starving." This is somewhat the case in all countries, and if your correspondent has ever been in Europe, I defy him to name the counterpart of the unfortunate, abominable, criminal and filthy dwellers in Bedford street, its neighbor-hood, and many other localities of this beautiful city, where may be found all he names, in its most hideous and revolting forms.

"A Reader," in a spirit of badinage, calls on me to explain the meansused whereby the wealth produced by the labor of the millions has been absorbed by the few. My reply is, that in many cases the law of "primogeniture" is doubtlers the cause of this, and whether this right is an unjust prerogative is a "vexata questio." The British laborer has, however, the same chance of acquiring wealth as those of other countries, and among the thousands who have become rich and great may be named the late Lord Mayor of London, now a member of Parliament, who, when a young man, was a carpenter, with his brother, at \$7 a week each. Another: Sir S. M. Peto, Baronet, once a bricklayer at small wages, has obtained similar honors and riches, and dispenses \$60,000 yearly to his church (Baptist) and the deserving poor. The men I have mentioned ennobled themselves, but

"What can ennoble sots, or slaves, or cowards?" Alas! not all the blood of all the Howards." COTTON SAIL DUCK AND CANVAS. of all numbers and brands.

Raven's Duck 'Awning Twills, of all descriptions for Tents, Awnings, Trunk, and Wagon Covers.

Also, Paper Manufacturers' Drier Felts, from I to feet wide. Tarpaulin, Bolting, Sail Twine, &c.

JOHN W. EVERMAN & CO.,

my4-tf 102 JONES' Alley. CARD PRINTING, NEAT AND Cheap, at RINGWALT & BROWN'S, 111 South FOURTH Street, below Chestaut.

The Galveston Disaster—Details of the Sur the Harriet Lane—Blowing Up of the Westfield—Governor Hamilton Safe—List of the Killed and Wounded—The Owasco TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1863. Investigations in Progress.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 6, 1863. SITUATION OF GALVESTON.

A glance at the map and an understanding of the situation of the island and harbor will satisfy one that Galveston has no strategical advantages. It is situated on a low, sandy island, about thirty miles long, and on an average about a mile and a half wide. It is separated from the mainland by shallow water, which is almost fordable. About four miles from the city, and to the west of it, is a long rail-road bridge, spanning this water and connecting the island and the mainland. This bridge was in possession of the rebels, who had three batteries stationed at the end of it, on the mainland, and one battery on the island. But even had it not been in their possession the extent of the island and the shallowness of the water; which is actually fordable in places, rendered it an easy matter for the enemy to throw troops across. The water, in fact, scarcely added strength to the situation, and our forces would, perhaps, have been as secure upon the mainland as upon the island.

Three companies were certainly inadequate to guard a coast thirty miles in extent, even if it had all been in their possession. It was naturally supnosed that the railroad bridge was the point of dan SITUATION OF GALVESTUN.

warned Commodore Renshaw, who was in command of the fleet, that he would be attacked before morn-ing. But he did not, credit their statement, regard-ing it as one of the many idle tales he had so often d repeated. he fleet consisted of the following vessels: The Westfield; flagship, (iron-clad, nine guns), Commodore Renshaw; the Harriet Lane, Commander Wainwright; the Owasco, Commander Law, and

the Sachem.

The transport Mary Boardman, with supplies on board, arrived and crossed the bar about seven o'clock on the evening of the attack. Fortunately she did not arrive in time to land any supplies. She lay inside the harbor, and carried a twelve-pound howitzer on her bow. THE ATTACK.

The night was as still as the grave, and no one appeared to believe in an attack. Whether this sense of security was such that proper vigilance was not exercised I am unable to say. In any event, the darkness of the night greatly favored the eney's movements. He commenced the attack about three o'clock in the norning; the moon having sunk several hours before. He came down from Galveston bay with before. He came down from Galveston bay with five vessels, and one of them sufficiently formidable, as the event showed. This was a steamer of very light draught, built after the manner of a Mississippi river boat, with her machinery completely protected with cotton, compactly fixed on every side. From her deck cotton had been built up to the height of twenty-five or thirty feet, planked, and fastened with bolts, forming a high parapet wall, from behind which sharpshooters, with comparative security, could fire down upon the deck of any one of our gunboats, as soon as they came within range. She appeared like a long floating house, smoke-stacks for chimneys, and carried several guns. The other four vessels, although less formidable, were all protected by cotton and all carried guns, and they were all crowded with infantry, the majority of them rifemen.

THE FIGHT WITH THE HARRIET LANE. is a Synopsis of the whole work, which THE FIGHT WITH THE HARRIET LANE. As might have been expected, the Harriet Lane was the first object of attack. Her position in the channel rendered her comparatively helpless, and it

As might have been expected, the Harriet Lane was the first object of attack. Her position in the channel rendered her comparatively helpless, and it was important to the enemy that she should be disposed of first, in order that the bridge might be left free for the passage of his troops. Two of the enemy's vessels, including the most formidable, accordingly bore down upon her, and seemed to have approached very near before they were discovered. As soon as they were seen, the Harriet Lane opened upon them, while, at the same time, the enemy opened his shore batteries upon the Harriet Lane. This artillery fight lasted more than an hour, without inflicting any serious damage on either side. The two ships, however, succeeded in getting close; up to the Harriet Lane, one on each side of her; for they were of such lightdrauhgt that they could run all around her, and were thus enabled to come to close quarters. As soon as they came within range, the enemy's riflemen opened a destructive fire, pouring a shower of bullets upon the deck of the doomed vessel, and killing the gunniers at their posts; and as soon as they got; well alongside they boarded her in overwhelming force. There were about one hundred and thirty men, all told, one the Harriet Lane, who made a desperate, but hopeless fight. The odds against them were so great that they were crushed by the mere weight of nearliers; and the deck immediately became the scene of a sanguinary slaughter of ghastly proportions. The poor fellows fought hand to hand with their cutlasses, with the splendid valor with which our sallors always do fight; but it availed them nothing against the shower of bullets that fell like hail from the high cotton walls, and the crushing tide of hostile men which swept over them from either side. The deck became slippery with blood, and, in a moment's time, was literally covered with dead bodies. It was a hopeless contest, and the tragedy of blood and horror was soon at an end.

Of the one hundred and thirty men who fought upon the deck of th rican students, and a belief that, on account of a peculiar simplicity and unity. American Geological
History affords the best basis for a text-book of the
science. The author has, therefore, written out
American Geology by itself, as a continuous history.
Facts have, however, been added from other continents as far as was required to give completeness to
the work, and exhibit strongly the comprehensiveness of its principles.

"It has been the author's aim to present, for
study, not a series of rocks with their dead fossils,
but the successive phases in the history of the earth
—its continents, seas, climates, life, and the various
operations in progress. Dynamical Geology, con-

their country.

The enemy's attack was thus wholly successful.

The Harriet Lane, a favorite vessel in the navy, as it had been with the public for years, fell into his possession, and it is believed that she had not been materially damaged, either in her machinery or her causes, has already learned much of what they contain.

"The manual has been adapted to two classes of students—the literary and scientific—by printing the details in finer type. The convenience of a literary class has been further provided for by the addition of a brief synopsis of the work, in which each head is made to present a subject, or question, for special attention."

PROBABLE CAPTURE OF OUR SIGNAL SYSTEM. It is feared, and generally believed, that the signal book of the Harriet Lane was captured by the rebels. If so, this, for the first time, places them in possession of our system of signals. THE LAND ATTACK. While this successful attack was made upon the

While this successful attack was made upon the Harriet Lance the enemy pushed a heavy force across the railroad bridge without opposition, and marched, nearly two thousand strong, to attack the small body of Union troops which was stationed in the city. Colonel Burrill had his men drawn up on the wharf, and, although he was attacked by more than five times his own number, he made a stout resistance, and actually repulsed the first attack of the enemy. Of course it was a hopeless struggle unless he could get relief from the fleet, and he despatched his adjutant, Lieutenant Davis, to the Commodore, to notify him that he was attacked by Commodore, to notify him that he was attacked by a force he could not long resist, and that he should be compelled to surrender.—When Lieut. Davis left the wharf there had been but very few of our men killed, and, as he surrendered soon after, it is proba-ble that but few lives were lost. The whole force was, of course, made prisoners of war. THE FIGHT BY DAYLIGHT.

THE FIGHT BY DAYLIGHT.

The darkness had effectually covered the operations of the enemy, and all were ignorant of what had occurred beyond their own ship. When morning dawned, signals were sent up from the flagship, which were responded to by all the gunboats except the Harriet Lane; and now it was that the commodore first discovered that she had fallen into the hands of the enemy.

The light also revealed the position of the enemy's fleet, and his preparations for an attack from the shore with artillery and rifiemen.

It was now determined by the commodore to retake the Harriet Lane, and he ordered the Owasco to round to and open fire. This gunboat has an armament of one 11-inch and two 9-inch guns, and she opened with her heaviest.

No sconer had she sent one of her shells than the rebels crowded our prisoners—some of them wounded and diving—upon the deck of the Harriet Lane. rebels crowded our prisoners—some of them wounded and dying—upon the deck of the Harriet Lane. They then raised a flag of truce, and paroled and sent the acting master of the Harriet Lane, and her only surviving officer, on board the flagship, with a message to Commodore Renshaw, to the effect that if another shot was fired upon the Harriet Lane every Union prisoner would be instantly thrown overboard. In consequence of this message Commodore Renshaw ordered the firing to cease, and made no further attempt to recapture the vessel. The position of the enemy's fleet was at this time as follows: The two vessels which had accomplished the capture of the Harriet Lane were still lying near that vessel, swarming with sharpshooters. Two more lay further off toward the bay, while the fifth held herself aloof at a considerable distance. This fifth vessel was reported to be the flag-ship, and, throughout the engagement, was said to have on board the precious carcass of General Magruder, whom the fortunes of war, since the outbreak of the rebellion, have carried from Yorktown to Galveston. But it is probable the form Magruder was a load. rebels crowded our prisoners—some of them wound-ed and dying—upon the deck of the Harriet Lane. whom the fortunes of war, since the outbreak of the rebellion, have carried from Yorktown to Galveston. But it is probable that Gen. Magruder was on land. During the morning the enemy opened fire upon our vessels from the shore and the city, of which they were now in possession. Their sharpshooters, breaking open the houses along the shore, took possession and fired from the windows, while the batteries which had been placed in position also opened. They were responded to by our gunboats, and this mutual exchange of courtesies continued for some time, without much effect on either side.

The rebels had placed two guns upon a point of land inside of and near the entrance to the harbor. The gunboat Clifton was directed to silence these guns, and performed her work very handsomely.

guns, and performed her work very handsomely. She fired first from her bow gun, then rounded and poured in a broadside, then turned and fired from her gun aft, then rounded again and delivered a broadside. This she did twice, when the enemy's guns were effectually silenced. TERRIBLE EXPLOSION—DEATH OF COM-MODORE RENSHAW. MODORE-RENSHAW.

The flagship Westfield was aground, and, a little before ten o'clock in the forencon, the Commodore determined to burn her. The determination resulted in a terrible accident, which cost the Commodore his life. He covered the deck with turpentine, and made all necessary dispositions to insure her burning and had her set on fire. He then got into his boat, with Lieutenant Zimmermann, Chief Engineer William R. Green, and two sailors, to proceed to another vessel. But the magazine had been left open, and scarcely had the Commodore and his comrades seated themselves in the boat when a terrible explosion occurred. The magazine, which was stored with amthemselves in the boat when a terrible explosion oc-curred. The magazine, which was stored with am-munition, shells, &c., caught, and half the flagship and the Commodore's boat were scattered through the air in ten' thousand fragments. Not one of the unfortunate men on board the vessel at the time or in the boat escaped instantaneous death. It is not known how many perished by this terrible explosion, but the number is estimated at ten to twenty officers and sailors. The explosion left the smokestacks standing and the vessel aft unharmed, but what re-mained was soon burned. mained was soon burned.

Meantime the rebels were making formidable pre-

mained was soon burned.

mained was soon bard the poly apringed previate parting and the fact of the comsels. They were seen to drag artillery with heavy
training ther point commanding the bury and
training ther point commanding the bury and training ther pount training ther parting and tr

The transports, which had gone to carry supplies to the island, immediately put to sea and returned to this city, the gunboats remaining behind. LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED. Commander Wm. B. Renshaw, of the Westfield killed by the explosion.

Commander Wainwright, of the Harriet Lane.

Commander Wainwright, of the Harriet Lane.
Commander Wainwright was a son of Bishop Wainwright, of New York, and was killed during the fight on the deck of his ship.
Eirst Lieutenant Charles W. Zimmerman, of the Westfield, killed by the explosion.
Chief Engineer William R. Green, of the Westfield, killed by the explosion. Mr. Green was a resident of New York, where he has a family. He volunteered his services on the Westfield.
First Lieutenant Lee, of the Harriet Lane, shot through both shoulder blades, and mortally wounded.
Acting Master Monroe, of the Harriet Lane, had his right arm shot off.
A man on board the Clifton, whose name is unknown, was killed by a rife ball from the shore. known, was killed by a rifle ball from the shore.
On board the Harriet Lane it is supposed that a on board the Harrier Lane it is supposed that a hundred men were killed and wounded; but there is yet no record of their names.

On board the Westfield ten to twenty men were also killed, of whom we have no list.

THE TRANSPORTS.

Two or three schooners were lying off Galveston, which were captured by the enemy. One of them was the Cabello, and another of them was the yacht formerly owned by General Mansfield Lovell. The Elias Pike, Portsmouth, loaded with coal, was also continued. Three companies were certainly inadequate to guard a coast thirty miles in extent, even if it had all been in their possession. It was naturally supposed that the railroad bridge was the point of darger, and the gunboats were expected to prevent the army from crossing. The Harriet Lane, for this purpose, had been sent up the channel were she bridge as she could get, and the channel where she was lying at the time of the attack was so narrow and shallow that she could neither turn nor maneutive with effect; and the event showed with sufficient clearness that she was quite unable to perform the part to which she had been assigned.

Galveston possesses many advantages as a base of operations for the rebels. The communication by railroad with numerous points inland and on the coast renders it easy for them to concentrate all their available troops there in a short time; and General Magruder, who is now in command of the Secession army in Texas, did not fail to avail himself promptly of all these advantages. He collected upwards of three thousand men, and on the night of Dec. 21st. had his preparations complete for a combined attack by land and water.

Hints had been thrown out by the Texan newspapers some time before that an attack was about to be made upon the Yankee gunboats; but these hints were generally regarded as empty boasts. On the reached, the headquarters here, a consultation was the gunboat from the main land, and warned Commodore Renshaw, who was in command of the fleet, that he would be attacked before morn-

nature of the discussion, or the conclusion reached, has not transpired. It is known, however, that the Admiral immediately despatched a fleet to Galves-The following is a list of the officers, and crew of the Westfield, who took passage and escaped on board the transport Mary Boardman :

OFFICERS. Acting Master-L. D. Smally. Acting Master's Mates-J. B. Johnson, John P. Acting Second Assistant Engineers-George S. MARINES.

Gorporal David Cornell.
Privates David Finch, Geo. Alton, Geo. Donehoe, John Davis, Geo. E. Yeoman, John Fitz, Henry Juzley, John Schuleson. PETTY OFFICERS. David Johnson, armorer. Lawrence Lynch, master-at-arms. James Mumford, captain of forecastle. James Stewart, quartermaster. William Taylor, purser's steward. James Johnson, messroom steward. Henry Chevar, captam's cook. Richard Revel, quartermaster. Richard C. Halloran, sailmaker's mate.

Daniel Cargen, carpenter's mate. John Brokenberger, ship's cook. W. W. Blake, m SEAMEN. Charles F. Rodden, Henry Benson, Daniel Ward. Charles H. Roberts.

John Gordon. Charles Thompson. Thomas Coffield. William R. Charsey. Samuel Boyd. Louis Dederick LANDSMEN. a J. Flynn. John Rengan.
ould. Ed. Doyle.
Whipley. John McCurty.
s Cotter. John Rielly.
Granville Bailey, first-class boy. William J. Flynn. ENGINEER'S DIVISION.

ENGINEER'S DIVISION.

Firemen—John Glover, Henry Piper, Eugene Smith, Patrick Callen, Theodore A. Smith, Francis Wisher, Wm. Matryer.

Coal Passers—Patrick Larkin, James Percy, Jeremiah Edgerton, Ward Smith, Philip Smith, John Meenan, Wm. Katon, Eugene McCarthy, Charles Morris, Geo. Campbell.

The Mary Boardman also brought one prisoner—Phillips, of Galveston.

The above list embraces only the men who were taken on board the Mary Boardman. The total number saved was one hundred and thirty.

ber saved was one hundred and thirty. INCIDENTS. The weather on the day of this affair was warm, clear, and delightful, and no doubt the rebels had a grand celebration of New Year's after our gunboats left.

The explosion of the Westfield occurred at about ten o'clock. Commodore Renshaw, having determined to burn her, put all hands working smartly to remove cutlasses, small arms, hammocks, furniture, officers' baggage, icc., and the boats were kept busily plying between the Westfield and the Mary Boardman, discharging men and baggage, only the oarsmen returning for other loads. Most of the baggage and all the men were thus transferred, and only shout twenty salors were on howld the Westfield.

and an one men were thus transferred, and only about twenty sailors were on board the Westfield when the Commodore left the ship, with orders to fire her, expecting of course, that there would be plenty of time for all to escape safely. A large boatload at this moment was lying slorged to a safely. fire her, expecting, of course, that there would be plenty of time for all to escape safely. A large boatload at this moment was lying alongside the Mary Boardman, about to go aboard. The Commodore had sent by this boat two swords and pistols and a bible, with the following directions in regard to their disposition; and in giving this message he unconsciously uttered his last words: "Tell them to send these things to my sister, at the corner of Fourteenth street and Fifth avenue." Major Burt has charge of the articles.

Two oarsmen were in the Commodore's gig. Engineer Green descended and took a seat, followed by Lieutenant Zimmerman. The Commodore descended last, and was yet standing when the torch was applied to the turpentine with which the deck was covered. There was a bright flash, and the Commodore turned his face to look at the vessel; the sailors all stopped work, and from every boat and vessel all eyes were turned in the direction of the Westfield, attracted by that flatal flash. It was a monfent of suspense and of perfect silence, and it was only a moment. Then there was a flash of light blue smoke, and then a fearful explosion, which shook the Mary Boardman as an earthquake shakes a house. The shells of the magazine, rising in the air, burst far up; then there was a plunging noise in the water, such as is occasioned by the falling of a heavy body, and then, for a radius of five or six hundred fleet, there was a shower of fragments which sounded like the falling of rain.

The Westfield was seen to part or burst out forward, like a chestnut, bur, and when the smoke cleared away there was no sign of life about her. Forward she was blown into fragments down to the water; but the machinery had not been spoiled, as the singing of the steam was distinctly heard after the explosion. The Commodore's boat and all in it were annihilated in the terrible catastrophe—scattered through the air in fragments.

The smokestack and the after part of the ship lay

were annihilated in the terrible catastrophe—scat-tered through the air in fragments.

The smokestack and the after part of the ship lay a black mass in the water for ten minutes, when there was another flash, and she was speedily wrap-ped in flames. Her guns exploded one after another, and then it was that the Mary Boardman moved off, leading theretreat. She was followed by all the vessels, including the gunboats, the Clifton bringing up the rear. LAST SIGHT OF THE REBELS.

The retreating fleet was followed by one of the cotton-clad vessels of the rebels. The Clifton gave cotton-clad vessels of the rebels. The Olifton gave her two shots from her gun att, when the rebel vessel backed off and made no further effort to pursue. The passage over the bar was extremely difficult and dangerous, and the interest of the occasion was not lessened by the sight of the rebels with their mules, busily engaged in hauling artillery, with which to prevent their escape. The vessels would bump against the ground every minute, and the mass would translate and bend as if about to fall in mortal terror. The passage of the Lar Occupied some hours, and it was two o'clock before the fleet was outside ready to sail.

The last seen of the wreck of the Westfield was a cloud of smoke. She was still burning when the fleet left. a cloud of smoke. She was still burning when the fleet left.

It seems that the French and English consuls have made themselves quite busy in our affairs at Galveston. They had notified Commodore Renshaw of certain claims they had upon private property in Galveston, including all the cotton in the city and many residences. These claims are founded upon an advance, or pretended advance, of money upon the property in question. There was but a small quantity of cotton in the city, but this would have been seized but for the recapture of the place.

STATEMENT OF A REFUGEE. I have conversed with a gentleman who effected his escape from Galveston after the enemy was in possession of the city, and who witnessed a part of the fight between the Harriet Lane and the rebel fleet. From his statement I gain the following information: It was reported that this attack was to be made a It was reported that this attack was to be made a long time before it actually occurred, but the story was generally discredited.

There was the hulk of an old vessel sunk in the channel, and the Harriet Lane, running foul of this, stuck fast; and, at the time of attack, was entirely unable to manœuvre. The enemy's vessels were nothing but small steamboats, well protected with the exception of one—the larger one—which was iron-clad on her bow, and constructed for a ram. The object of the enemy, however, was to capture the Harriet Lane, and not to damage her, and the artillery firing from the enemy was only intended for a diversion. or a diversion. The fight on the deck of the Harriet Lane was The fight on the deck of the Harriet Lane was fearfully desperate and bloody. The brave-fellows fought hand to hand, killing a great number of the enemy, whose loss was probably greater than ours in killed and wounded.

Commander Wainwright was killed early in the action on the deck. He was shot in the left knee by one of the enemy's sharpshooters, and had dropped upon the right knee, and was exhorting his men to fight. "Stand up to it, boys," he shouted; and this directed special attention to him. Two of the enemy rushed upon him; but he had a revolver in his right hand and shot them both dead. A third came up and placing a pixel to his head shot him in his right hand and shot them both dead. A third came up, and, placing a pistol to his head, shot him. The men fought until all but the acting master and eleven men lay dead or mortally wounded upon the deck of the ship; and these made no formal surrender, but were disarmed and overpowered. The fight in the city was of short duration. Col. Burrill's command consisted of Companies A, B, and C, and my informant saw the colonel taken prisoner. He reports that three of the Union men were killed and about twenty wounded. My informant then effected his escape to the transport Saxon. He is a Texan, and had come to Galveston to enlist in the service. He is now here, and has offered his services to Governor Hamilton.

I am enabled to give you the following trustworthy statements gathered from the officers of the Owasco: CASUALTIES ON THE OWASCO.

Killed.—Thomas Jeff, shot through the heart.

Wounded.—L. V. Gassallo, acting master, shot through the thigh.

Frederick Saunders, shot in right shoulder and hest. Isaac P. Hews, seaman, skull fractured by a piece of shell.

Michael Wreck, coalheaver, through the eye.

Titus Freeman, colored, shot through the thigh,
John Carney, seaman, fracture of skull by shell.

Frederick Ether, landsman, shot through the high. John Honan, ordinary seaman, shot through the John Honan, ordinary seaman, anot through the thigh.

Wm. J. Murphy, landsman, shot through the hand. Charles Burnham, captain of the after guard, shot through the right cheek.

Wm. Reed, captain of the forecastle, shot through the arm and buckshot in shoulder.

James Penny, slight wound on leg.

Henry Brown, bullet in the arm.

George Hozier, slight wound.

Wm. Taylor, seaman, bruised by splinters.

Total of casualties on the Owasco: One killed and CASUALTIES ON THE HARRIET LANE. Killed.
Commander Jonathan M. Wainwright.

Lieutenant and Executive Officer Edward Lec. Assistant Surgeon Thomas N. Penrose. Acting Master Charles H. Hamilton. Acting Master Willis F. Munroe. Assistant Acting Master Julius Richardson, Second Assistant Acting Master Charles H. Stor Third Assistant Engineer John E. Cooper, Third Assistant Engineer Robert N. Ellis, Third Assistant Engineer A. T. E. Mullen, Master's Mate Charles M. Davis.

LOSS ON THE WESTFIELD. There were thirteen men missing from the West-field; but two are believed to have been picked up. The total loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, is probably as follows:

A man named Shaunessey, from Boston, was severely wounded in the engagement on the wharf.
The troops on shore built a barricade, and twice repulsed the enemy before the surrender. THE OWASCO IN THE ENGAGEMENT—A FLAG OF TRUCE FROM GEN. MAGRUDER —THE REBEL GOVERNOR OF TEXAS ON

BOARD, &c. The Owasco, under command of Capt. Wilson, was lying on the wharf on which the Union troops were stationed when the attack was made on the Harriet Lane. She immediately steamed up to take part in the fight, and got within 300 yards of the scene of action, when she was so near getting aground that she could not approach nearer. She was within easy range of the rebel riflemen, as the bullet marks through her bulwarks plainly show. Her shrouds were shot away, and most of the injuries received by her men were the result of musketry, as will be seen by the above list.

Just at daybreak the enemy got possession of the Harriet Lane, tore down the United States flag, and raised a small Confederate flag and a flag of truce. The Owasco, finding the Harriet Lane was in the hands of the rebels, sent a shot clean through her machinery, just above the water line, having first steamed down out of musket range. The shot probably disabled her, as the rebel vessels subsequently towed her off to the wharf. The rebels replied to the Owasco with the guns of the Harriet Lane.

About an hour after daybreak, General Magruder sent a flag of truce, in charge of two rebel officers, on board the Owasco. He demanded the surrender of all the vessels in the harbor, and gave three hours for deliberation. The captain of the Owasco sent the flag of truce to Commodore Renshaw, saying he had no power in the matter.

The rebel Governor of Texas (Lubbuck) accompanied the flag of truce, and became so much interested in the Owasco, and so much amused by his The Owasco, under command of Capt. Wilson panied the flag of truce, and became so much in-terested in the Owasco, and so much amused by his own conversation, that he remained on the Owasco while the officers went to the Westfield with the flag while the officers went to the Westfield with the flag of truce.

"She is a fine vessel," said the Governor, looking about admiringly. "She will be a fine addition to the Confederate navy."

The captain of the Owasco, not seeing the subject exactly in that light, put on steam, and started toward the bar, passing the rebel batteries with the Governor on deck, earnestly conversing on the prowess of the Confederate soldiers, and the advantages of capturing the vessels then in the harbor, bestowing especial praise upon the Owasco. He wanted to know how much the vessel cost. He walked from gun to gun, asked the calibre, and many other questions, until he suddenly awoke to the fact that the ship was gradually slipping out of rebel power. power. "I wish to go ashore now, captain, if you please, "The weather," replied the captain, "is exceed-ingly fine to-day. Governor, do you always get so pleasant a New Year's day as this in Galveston! It

"This is not right," said the Governor; "I wish ow to go ashore."
"By the way, Governor," replied the captain, the "By the way, Governor," replied the captain, the Owasco meantime pushing on with good speed."), the way, Governor, you are the successor of oid Sam Houston in the gubernatorial chair. Houston was quite popular North at one time; but he seems to have gone over to the rebels. Do you know where he is now?"

"Sir," said the Governor, "this is all wrong. I came here under a flag of truce, and I now demand that you stop this vessel and put me ashore."

"Houston was a singular man," replied the captain, "a very singular man, indeed," speaking in apparent unconsciousness of the Governor's dearest thoughts. "He won a great reputation as the chamapparent unconsciousness of the Governor's dearest thoughts. "He won a great reputation as the champion of Texan independence, and was regarded as one of the firmest Union men in the whole South." The Governor discovered, when too late, that, having allowed the flag of truce to depart without accompanying it, he could no longer claim its protection, and he now began to fear not only that the Owasco would slip off, which she was all the time doing, but that he would be carried off as a prisoner. However, the captain kept him on beard only until he had passed all the rebel batteries in safety, when he obligingly sent him ashore. the nat passed at the reper batteries in safety, when he obligingly sent him ashore.

There is little doubt that the shot fired through the Harriet Lane saved her from getting out to sea, and that, if not retaken by us, she will at least be destroyed.

The rebel officers who boarded the Owasco with the flag of truce boasted that the Confederates had killed nearly all the men on the Harriet Lane, and stated that only Acting Master Hannum and eleven men were left alive. DEPARTURE OF THE FLEET. After the death of Commodore Renshaw, the command of the fleet devolved upon Commander Law, o the guilboat Olifton, the senior surviving officer. Commander Law immediately ordered the whole fleet to sail for New Orleans. INVESTIGATION IN PROGRESS. Admiral Farragut has ordered an investigation of the whole affair, and it is now in progress on board his flagship, the Hartford, which is now stationed

ere. The Admiral promptly sent off a fieet sufficient to lemolish the whole city of Galveston and everything lse on the coast.—Herald.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

The Rebel Raid into Holly Springs-Rebel Account of the Affair-A Graphic Misstate-VAN DORN'S BRILLIANT CAVALRY RAID-INTERESTING PARTICULARS. The recent cavalry raid of General Van Dorn in the West was one of the most brilliant feats of the war, not falling short of any that have been made by the renowned Stuart or ubiquitous Morgan. A correspondent of the Mobile Register gives the following interesting particulars of his brilliant achievements in the vicinity of Holly Springs, Misa: liant achievements in the vicinity of Holly Springs, Miss.:

Van Dorn took a by-way and meandering route through the swamp, and came within eight miles of Holly Springs in the evening, where he bivouacked his force until two hours before day, when he moved cautiously into town, leaving the Texas brigade upon the heights outside as a reserve. As our forces dashed in from all sides the entrance proved a complete surprise, the breaking streaks of daylight showing the Yankee tents, with their yet undisturbed slumberers. A charge was ordered upon them, and the torch applied to the canvas which covered them. To paraphrase "Belgum's" picture—

cture— "Ah, then and there was hurrying to and fro,

"Ah, then and there was hurrying to and fro,
And running in hot haste,
And cheeks all pale and blanched with woe,
Exhibiting Yankee cowardice."
The rapidity with which the tents of the enemy
were vacated was marvellous; and, impelled by
burning torches and rapid discharges of side-arms,
the Yankees took no time to prepare their tollets,
but rushed out into the cool air of a December morning clothed very similarly to Joseph when the lady
Potiphar attempted to detain him. The scene was
wild, exciting, tumultuous. Yankees running, tents
burning, torches flaming, Confederates shouting,
guns popping, sabres clanking, Abolitionists begging
for mercy, "rebels" shouting exultingly, women, en
dishabille, clapping their hands, frantic with joy,
crying "Kill them! kill them!"—a heterogeneous
mass of excited, frantic, frightened human beings—
presented an indescribable picture, more adapted for
the pencil of Hogarth than the pen of a newspaper
correspondent. the pencil of Hogarth than the pen of a newspaper correspondent.

The surprised camp surrendered 1,800 men and 150 commissioned officers, who were immediately paroled. And then commenced the work of destruction. The extensive buildings of the Mississippi Central depot—the station-house, the engine houses, and immense store houses—were filled with supplies of clothing and commissary stores. Outside of the depot the barrels of flour were estimated to be half a mile in length, one hundred and fifty feet through, and aftern set high. Turpentine was thrown over this, and the whole amount destroyed. Up-town, the court house and the public buildings, livery stables, and all capacious establishments, were filled, ceiling high, with medical and ordnance stores. These were all fired, and the explosion of one of the buildings, in which were stored one hundred barrels of powder, knocked down nearly all the houses on the south side of the square. Surely such a scene of devastation was never before presented to the eye of man. Glance at the gigantic estimates:

1,809,000 fixed cartridges and other ordnance stores, valued at \$1,500,000, including 5,000 rifles and 2,000 revolvers. valued at \$1,500,000, including 5,000 rifles and 2,000 revolvers.

100,000 suits of clothing and other quartermaster's stores, valued at \$500,000 ; 5,000 barrels of flour and other commissary stores, valued at \$500,000.

\$1,000,000 worth of medical stores, for which invoices to that amount were exhibited, and 1,000 bales of cotton and \$600,000 worth of sutler's stores. While the capture of the camp, paroling of the prisoners, and destroying of the stores was going on, the Texan Rangers, comprising the Ninth, Sixth, and Third legions, became engaged with the Michigan cavalry, and drove them pell mell through town and run them off north, with a considerable loss to the Abolitionists, and a loss of thirty in killed and wounded on our part. the Abolitionists, and a loss of thirty in killed and wounded on our part.

The ladies rushed out from the houses, wild with joy, crying out: "There's some at the Fair Grounds, chase them, kill them, for God's sake." One lady said, "the Federal commandant of the post is in my house; come and catch him;" and a search was instituted, but without success, when the noble woble insisted that he was there, concealed; and finally, after much ado, the gallant (save the mark) Col. Murphy, the intrepid Yankee commandant of Holly Springs, was pulled out from under his bed, and presented himself in his nocturnal habiliments to his captors. captors.

The provost marshal was also taken, and, addressing Gen. Van Dorn, said: "Well, General, you've got us fairly this time. I knowed it. I was in bed with my wife when I heard the firing, and I at once said, 'Well, wife, it's no use closing our eyes or hiding under the cover; we've gone up."

Our attention was given to Grant's headquarters, which he had left twenty-four hours before. All his papers, charts, maps, &c., were captured, together with his splendid carriage, which was burned. Among his papers was found a pass to pass the bearer over all railroads and steamboats in the United States at Government expense; to pass all pickets and guards, and other papers, at once interesting and valuable. Mrs. Grant was also captured, but no indignity was offered to her.

and other papers, at once interesting and valuable. Mrs. Grant was also captured, but no indignity was offered to her.

Nearly every store on the public square was filled with sulfer stores, and, after our men had helped themselves, the balance of the goods were burned. When our forces first reached the depot, there was a train about leaving. The engineer jumped off and ran away, and one of our men took his place, shut the throttle valve, and stopped the train. Sixty cars and two locomotives were then fired and destroyed. After the complete destruction of all public property about the place, and after each man had supplied himself with a suitable quantity of clothing and boots, at six o'clock in the morning the march was renewed, and Davis' Mill was the next place attacked. Here the enemy were entrenched, and sheltered themselves in a block house and fort formed of cotton bales. The cavalry were commanded to charge, and attempted to do so; but the swamp and intricate lagoons breaking off in front of the enemy's position would not permit it. The Yankees opened fire with some effect from their fort, and were supported by a nine-pound rifled gun, mounted on an iron-clad railroad car, forming a railroad battery. The Texans were again ordered to charge, and Major Dillon, of Van Dorn's staff, whose gallantry during the expedition was particularly conspicuous, attempted to lead them to the attack, but the men refused to follow, believing the way impassable and the position too strong for cavalry demonstration alone. Colonel McCullough, of the Mississippi cavalry, was ordered to get in the rear of the railroad battery, the track to prevent its escape, and capture it. I believe he succeeded in cutting the road, but our forces were compelled to willdraw, and the steam battery was not taken. The force then pushed on to Middleburg and Bolivar, and attacked both places, but found them too strongly, defended

and garrisoned to succeed in taking either of the when the command turned back after its unsue cessful attack upon Bolivar, the enemy sent a force of 10,000, comprising the three branches of the service, out after Van Dorn, and made great efforts to flank and cut off his force; but this dashing officer was too wary for them, and succeeded in returning with 400 head of captared horses and mules, laden with spoils taken from the great was too

THREE CENTS.

head of captured horses and mules, laden with spoils taken from the enemy.

The people of Tennessee are represented as having been almost frantic with joy at the appearance of our forcessonce more upon their borders. They fed our soldiers with a beautiful hand, and wept for joy. "Thank God, you have come at last!" one and all exclaimed. Their hospitality was not a little surprising to our soldiers, who have been so uniformly swindled and extorted from in Mississippi. The people of Tennessee had been induced to believe that General Grant's headquarters were at Jackson, Miss, and that our whole army had been captured. Judge, then, of the surprise, when they were visited by Van Dorn's command.

The entire number of prisoners captured and paroled during the raid is two thousand one hundred paroled during the raid is two thousand one hundred privates, and one handred and seventy-five commis-sioned officers.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Preparations for Another Advance—The Rebels Apparently Ready to Meet Us—Change of Army Cerps Commanders.

LEFT GRAND DIVISION.

NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Jan. 16, 1863.
The ominous quiet of the past few days proves to have been the calm which precedes the atom. The tempest has not yet broken forth with the thunder of artillery and the surging roar of musketry; yet the signs of the heavens are too apparent to doubt that they presage a speedy renewal of the unsuccessful attempt of December 13. The heavy rumbling of the pontoon trains is again heard at night, and red signal fires which blaze out in the darkness suggest that important movements are on foot. The point or points on which the forthcoming efforts are to be made must not, of course, be mentioned. A few days will, however, tell the story of success or defeat in another attempt at crossing the Rappahannock. Preparations for Another Advance—The nock.

Everything has been, thus far, auspicious. The roads are hard and dry, and the recent rain has, fortunately, not interfered with the success of the un-

roads are hard and dry, and the recent rain has, fortunately, not interfered with the success of the undertaking. A strong south wind has also favored
us for two nights past, concealing from the enemy
the rumbling of the pontoon trains, which was so
clearly revealed by the still and frosty air of the
night in which it was last attempted.

Wednesday, when darkness had insured secrecy,
the boats which had been at Belle Plain were moved
up to the neighborhood of headquarters, where a
guide was furnished to conduct them to their destination. So secretly has the movement thus far progressed, that few in the army are aware of the important events which are close at hand.

It is to be feared, however, that the enemy, who
are so frequently in the secret of our operations,
have too much knowledge of what is impending.
Activity is too plainly visible on the other side of the
river to permit the hope that they will be unprepared
for the present movement. Counter movements are
observable, and it seems more than probable that the
enemy are at present watching to see how they may
bestcheckmate us in our undertaking. The rebels are
to-day known to be extending their lines. Rebel
pickets to-day shouted to our own pickets across the
Rappahannock, "We know what you are at; we
are ready for you." It is to be feared that some of
the inhabitants have made their way into the rebel
lines with valuable information in respect to recent lines with valuable information in respect to recent operations.

It is much to be regretted that the Army of the Potomac could not have been paid before the present movement had been commenced. It is useless to deny that, during the inactivity of the past month, a universal murmur has gone forth from the soldiers, who have been—many for six months, most of them for four months—without a penny of their hard-earned wages. earned wages.

Thousands of letters have been sent to the men from their half-starved and destitute families, depicting their needy condition, which have made the inactivity of camp almost intolerable. Had not the Potomac been in their rear, we should have heard of hourands of desertions, from the simple fact that the men have been unable to send money to their families at home. The program families at home. The prospect of a movement may possibly dispel all discontent and despondency; but certainly Gen. Burnside is the most courageous of

men to lead this army against the enemy in its present condition.—Tribune CAMPAIGN ON THE PENINSULA.

before the McDowell court of inquiry at Washing-PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL OF GENERALS.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, March 13, 1862. A council of the generals commanding army corps at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac were of the opinion—

First, That the enemy, having retreated from Manassas to Gordonsville, behind the Rappahannock and Rapidan, it is the opinion of the generals commanding army corps that the operations to be carried on will be best undertaken from Old Point carried on will be best undertaken from Old Point Comfort, between the York and James rivers, upon Richmond; provided, first, that the enemy's vessel, the Merrimac, can be neutralized; second, that the means of transportation sufficient for an immediate transfer of the force to its new base can be ready at Washington and Alexandria, to move down the Potomac; third, that a naval auxiliary force can be had to silence or aid in silencing the enemy's batteries in York river; fourth, that the force to be left to cover Washington shall be such as to give an entire feeling of security for its safety from menace. to cover Washington shall be such as to give an entire feeling of security for its safety from menace. Unanimous.

Second. If the foregoing cannot be, the army should then be moved against the enemy behind the Rappahannock at the earliest possible moment; and the means for reconstructing bridges, repairing railroads and stocking them with material sufficient for supand stocking them with material sufficient tor sup-plying the army, should at once be collected for both the Orange and Alexandria and the Acquia and Richmond Railroads. Unanimous.

Note—That with the forts on the right bank of the Potomac fully garrisoned, and those on the left bank of the Potomac fully garrisoned, and those on the left bank occupied, a covering force in front of the Virginia line of 25,000 men would suffice Keyes, Heintzelman, McDowell. A total of 40,000 men for the defence of the city would suffice Sumner. SECRETARY STANTON TO GENERAL Mc-CLELLAN.

CLELLAN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, March 13, 1862.

To Major General George B. McClellan:

The President having considered the plan of operations agreed upon by yourself and the commanders of army corps, makes no objection to the same, but gives the following directions as to its execution:

First. Leave such force at Manassas Junction as shall make it entirely certain that the enemy shall not repossess himself of that position and line of communication.

Second. Leave Washington entirely secure.

Third. Move the remainder of the force down the Potomac, choosing a new base at Fortress Monroe. Second. Leave washing.

Third. Move the remainder of the force down the Potomac, choosing a new base at Fortress Monroe, or anywhere between here and there, or, at all events, move such remainder of the army at once in pursuit of the enemy by some route.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

Forty minutes past seven o'clock.

Secretary of War.
REPORT OF GENERALS THOMAS AND
HITCHCOCK. Washington, D. C., April 2, 1862.

In compliance with your instructions, I have examined the papers submitted to me, and have the honor to make the following report:

First. The President's war order No. 3, dated March 8, requires that on taking up any new base of operations the city of Washington shall be left entirely secure. The other points of the order it is unnecessary to consider, as the enemy since its date have abandoned their positions and batteries on the Potomac and retired behind the Rappahannock. Second. The council of general officers held at Fairfax Court House, March 13, took place after the enemy had retired from Manassas and destroyed the railroad in their rear. The council decided unanimously to take up a new base of operations from Fort Monroe, and three of the generals—a majority—decided that the force necessary to be left should be sufficient to fully garrison the forts on the right bank of the Potomac, and "to occupy" those on the left WASHINGTON, D. C., April 2, 1862. of the Potomac, and "to occupy" those on the left bank with a covering force of 25,000. It is, we think, the judgment of officers, that some 30,000 men would be necessary thus to man these forts, which, with the number of the covering force, would make a total of Third. The President's directions of March 13, to Gen. McOlellan, direct: First, to leave such a force at Manassas Junction as shall make it entirely certain that the enemy may not repossess it; second, that Washington shall be left entirely secure; third, that the remainder of the army move down the Potomac or move in pursuit of the enemy. In regard to occupying Manassas Junction, as the enemy have destroyed the railroads leading to it, it may be fair to assume that they have no intention of returning for the reoccupation of their interposition, and, therefore, no very large force would be necessary to hold that position. that position.

Fourth. Major General McClellan's report to the Fourth. Major General McClellan's report to the Adjutant General of April 1, after giving the several positions of the troops proposed to be left for the defence of Washington, gives a representation as follows: At Warrenton there is to be 7,780; at Manassassay 10,859; in the valley of the Shenandoah, 35,467; on the Lower Potomac, 1,350. Total in all, 55,456. And there would be left for the garrisons and the front of Washington, under Gen. Wadsworth, some 18,000. In the above enumeration Gen. Banks' army corpus is included, but whather this corpus corrective. corps is included; but whether this corps, operating in the Shenandoah valley, should be regarded as a part of the force available for the protection of the immediate front of Washington, the undersigned express no opinion.

Fifth. Gen. Wadsworth's report of April 2d gives his force as follows: Infantry, 15,835; artillery, 4,404; cavalry, 858—six companies only mounted. Total, 20,477.

Deduct sick, in arrest and confinement, 1,455. Total for duty, 19,022.

From this force General Wadsworth is directed to detach two good regiments to Richardson's division, Sumner's corps, which should be deducted from to detach two good regiments to Richardson's division, Sumner's corps, which should be deducted from his command, one regiment to replace the 37th New York, in Heintzelman's old division, and one regiment to relieve a regiment of Hooker's division at Budd's Ferry; total, four regiments. He is also ordered to send four thousand men to relieve Sumner at Manassas and Warrenton. General Wadsworth represents that he has no mounted light artillery under his command; states that there were several companies of reserve artillery still here, but not under his command or fit for service.

General Wadsworth further reports that nearly all the force is new and imperfectly disciplined; that several of the regiments are in a very disorganized condition, some of them having been relieved from brigades which have gone into the field in consequence of their unfitness for service, the best regiments remaining having been selected to take their places, two heavy artillery regiments and one infantry regiment, which had been drilled for months in artillery service, having been withdrawn from the forts on the south side of the Potomac, and their places supplied with new infantry regiments entirely unacquainted with the duties of that arm, and of little or no value in their present position. If there was need of a military force for the safety of the city of Washington within its own limits, that referred to in the report of Gen. Wadsworth would seem to be entirely inadequate.

In view of the opinion expressed by the council of the commanders of army corps of the force necessary for the defence of the capital, though not numerically stated, and of the force represented by General McClellan as left for that purpose, we are of the opinion that the requirements of the President, that this city shall be left "entirely secure," not only in the opinion of the General-in-Chief, but that of the "commanders of the army corps," also has not been fully compiled with. All of which is respectfully submitted:

L. THOMAS, Adjutant General.

L. THOMAS, Adjutant General. E. A. HITCHCOCK, Major Gen. U. S. A. REPORT OF GENERAL HITCHCOCK TO THE PRESIDENT. REPORT OF GENERAL HITCHCOCK TO THE PRESIDENT.

The following is a copy of a paper handel to the President by General Hitchcock:

MARCH 30, 1862.—The main line of the enemy extends from Richmond through Chattanooga and Corinth to Memphis, and at Corinth there is a connection south. Gen. Halleck, at St. Louis, is acting west of this line, with Gen. Buell as his immediate commander, having Corinth in view as one object, and some point at or near the Cumberland Gap as another object. Gen. McOlellan, before Yorktown, has Richmond for his object, with Washington under his safe-keeping. The immediate interest of this war is connected with the above indications, and all adjacent operations are incidental. It is necessary to break the line of communication between Corinth and Richmond. This may be done by Buell, and if he should occupy the Cumberland Gap, near the railroad, this object will be sufficiently accomplished. If some point east of the Gap be also made an object, as proposed by the President, it will re-

THE WAR PRESS.

quire a large force to reach and maintain it, or that force might be destroyed by the enemy. Instead, therefore, of employing a force necessary for seizing a point east of the Gap, it might be better to employ a less force in the protection of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad—the duty assigned to Gen. Fremont. From present inclustions it might be better, instead of sending to the mountain department all of the force desired by its commander, to divide that force, one part to go to him for the protection of the Baltimore and Ohio railwood, and the country immediately south of it, and the other part to strengthen McClellan's right, now occupied by Shields; the route to Richmond in that directions being open to the enemy, who, though not likely to take it, might be invited by its weakness to make some desperate attempts similar to one already made by Jackson upon Shields. A movement from McClellan's left is known to the enemy. Hence nothing is more natural than a blow on McClellan's right. Nothing has intervened since that made a few days since to prevent a repetition of it with a larger force. If McClellan shall fail at Yorktown—not likely to happen—but if he should fail, what would be the movement of the enemy? It might be re desperate attempt to turn the right of the Army of the Potomac—the Shenandoah valley. This should be guarded against by a part of the force called for by Fremont, instead of sending that force to cut the Richmond and Knoxville railroad, the success of which might even aid in forcing the enemy to make some desperate attempt on the right of washington.

OUR IRON-CLAD NAVY.

Departure of an Important Iron-Clad Expedition from New York—Description of the Vessels and their Commanders: On Sunday last a fleet of men-of-war, two of them iron-elads, took their departure from New York, bound on active and important service. Annexed is a brief account of each vessel:

Nahant, 2, iron clad Ericsson battery, left the Navy Yard on Saturday, and anchored off Bedice's island, where she took her powder on board: On her arrival here a most awkward blunder was discovered by the authorities in connection with the arrival here a most awkward blunder was discovered by the authorities in connection with the turret. The port-holes in all the iron-clads have been purposely left colorless, in order that they should not present a shining mark to the enemy. The Boston people, however, painted them black, thus rendering them exceedingly conspicuous. The officers of the Brooklyn yard were then obliged to paint an entire black band around the turret, which covers the ports. Thus the Nahant will easily be known from all the craft of her class. She is said to be one-of the most successful of the lot. Her armament consists of the regulation battery, one eleven and one fifteen-inch gun. Although her commander has not had much experience in working iron-clads, he is known to be

experience in working iron-clads, he is known to be brave and competent. The officers of the Nahant re: Commander—John Downes. First Lieutenant and Executive Officer—David D. Harmony.

Acting Master—William Carter.

Acting Engineers—Charles C. Rutter and Charles

Chark.
Assistant Surgeon—Charles E. Stedman.
Assistant Paymasler.—Edward Putnam.
Second and Third Assistant Engineers—T. H. Bordley Assistant Paymaster—Edward Putnam.

Second and Third Assistant Engineers—T. H. Bordley and Abram Michener.

Weehawken, 2, iron-clad, accompanied the Nahant, which took her powder on board, and is at sea. Captain Rodgers, the commander of this vessel, worked night and day to get her off, but two accidents delayed him. First, a sort of fire broke out on board, and then, through carelessness, a part of the machinery became deranged. When these matters were put right the weather became foggy and suspicious, a fact which, in view of recent events, made it advisable not to send the ferry craft away until the wind changed. Upon the top of the Weehawken's turret a railing for rifemen has been placed, from which the crew can fire on the enemy's troops when ascending rivers, and which secures them in a great measure from returning balls. Of course there is nothing impregnable about this affair, which a discharge of two-pound grape would destroy. Captain Ericsson, as already stated, has introduced an additional improvement in the gun apparatus, which enables the hands to work it with great ease. On her late trial trip its usefulness was demonstrated in the most satisfactory manner. The commander of the Weehawken, Captain Rodgers, is called in the navy the fighting Rodgers." His conduct under fire at Fort Darling, while in command of the Galena, elicited warm commendations from the Secretary. The following is a list of the Weehawken's officers:

Commander—John Rodgers.

Lieutenant Commanding, and Executive Officer—L.

Master—B. W. Lorin.

Master-B. W. Lorin.

Engineers—Acting Chief, J. H. Bailey; Assistants,
— Hardy, Henry J. Marion, and — Mitchell.
Lackawana, 9, serew frigate or corvette, outward bound on her first cruise, has just been completed at this station. She is one of the most symmetrical chiefs in the control of the most symmetric chiefs in the control of the most symmetric chiefs in the control of th pleted at this station. She is one of the most symmetrical ships in the service, was launched on the 9th of August last, and is in every respect a regular navy-built craft. She is a single-banked corvette, two hundred and sixty-two feet long, thirty-two feet wide, seventeen feet ten inches deep, and measures about 1,000 tons. Her machinery was constructed in New York; and is believed to be serviceable. It consists of two horizontal back-acting engines, with cylinders forty-two inches in diameter, and thirty inches stroke. The propellor is a fixed brassone, fully fifteen feet in diameter. Her officers are as follows:

Captain—John B. Marchand.

llows: Captain—John B. Marchand. Lieutenant Commander—E. E. Potter. Lieutenant—Stephen A. McCarty.

Incucrant—Stephen A. McCarty.
Swygeon—Thomas W. Leach.
Paymaster—James Fulton.
Acting Ensign—Barker Van Vorhis.
Gunner—John G. Vosser.
Engineers—Edward Marblane (first assistant); H. Gunnel, A. H. Fisher, Orleans Longave, F. H. Seymen, George W. Roche. Iroquois, 9, sorew gunboat, is also a regular navy-built man-of-war. She is the factest of her class, and built man-of-war. She is the fastest of her class, and when some convoy business is performed, will be sent to reinforce the fleet chasing the Alabama. Her first service was performed in the Mediterranean, where she became somewhat seriously damaged on a

She subsequently put into Genoa for repairs. When the rebellion broke out she was called home to serve on the blockade, which she did most efficiently. Since her last arrival at this port she has been thoroughly overhauled, and is now as good as new. The Iroquois is 1,010 tons burden, and is rated for nine guns. We subjoin a list of her officers: officers:

Commander—— Case,
Lieutenant Commander—H. R. Mullan. Surgeon—W. E. Taylor.

Assistant Paymaster—John A. Bates, Jr.

Acting Ensigns—Joseph Avant, J. D. Deyber, Thos. Engineers—J. W. Storm, (1st assistant); W. J. Howard. (acting 2d assistant); Warren Ewen, Jos. H. Mathews, (3d assistants); W. J. Barrington, Hugh

Short.
Gunner—John C. Clapman.
Boatswain—John H. Downes.

THE REBEL NAVY. Its Condition, as Viewed by an ex-United States Commodore—Politics Worse in the Southern Confederacy than in the Old Among the private letters captured off Charleston by our sailors was the following, supposed to have

peen written by ex-Commander Arthur Sinclair, formerly of the Federal navy: formerly of the Federal navy:

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A., BUREAU OF
ORDERS AND DETAIL, Oct. 29, 1862.

"MY DEAR BROTHER: Sanders leaves in the
moining, and has kindly offered to take charge of
letters. I am as busy as possible, but cannot let so
good a chance slip without a line. I have written
you several times since your departure, and trust
you may have gotten some of them at least. The
last was by Captain Lawson, who has a contract
with the Government. Lelia is with me and very
well, having run the blockade, and will leave for
home again on the 10th of November, by flag-oftruce. "Little Terry has just left us to rejoin his ship in Mobile, now the Florida. He has been very ill with yellow fever, which he contracted at Havana, and Buchanan, who now commands at Mobile, sent him on here to see us and recruit.

"Maffitt has behaved in the noblest manner, and still no notice has been taken of his conduct by the "Maifitt has behaved in the noblest manner, and still no notice has been taken of his conduct by the Government, and such fellows as Mercer Brook promoted for 'gallant conduct.' Indeed, Terry, I fear we are gone in the navy; politics worse than in the old Government. But we are raising heaven and earth (that, is Commodore Forrest and myself, for earth (that, is Commodore Forrest and mysell, for no one else appears to be interested in the matter). The 'gallant Pegram' is very quiet. Terry, he had a noble chance to have immortalized himself by refusing his commission, which, at best, is only for the war, and below some of his juniors, and said to the honorable Secretary, 'I have suffered myself too much to be willing to inflict the same sting upon my much to be willing to inflict the same sting upon my brother officers.

"But I could not get him up to the scratch, and he accepted, under a protest, which amounts to nothing, and acknowledged the compliment. Oh! that I could have had his chance. I have refused active service until justice is done me, and told the Secretary that I want nothing but my rank, and that I will die in the gutter before I will suffer myself to be degraded.

"I have mentioned all these cases of injustice to members of Congress and the Governor, and they say justice shall be done us the next session. I told them of Captain Semmes having only eleven years of sea service in the old navy, and lost the two only vessels he commanded; also, of Brooks' and Bullock's cases—in fact, all. We have also given them a reorganization bill, which provides for admirals—three of each—six commodores, &c., and a voluntary retired list after forty years in service. All, I think, will be right the next session.

"The Commodore says the button, sword, and cap ornament were adopted, except the flag in the latter, which will certainly be changed very soon. He wishes you to send over one hundred gross of the large—that is, the frock-coat—size, lifty of the small, and twenty of the jacket, or medium. I want you to send me a piece of steel-gray cloth, and two pairs of good walking-boots. No. 5, but for feer

THE ISTHMUS.

Further Details of the Fire at Aspinwall-Total Damage \$300,00 The brig Costa Rica, which has arrived at New York, brings the following details of the destructive fire which took place on the night of the 26th December last, in the ship chandlery establishment of Messrs. Lansbog & Blandenon, in Front street, in that town, destroying some three blocks of buildings. on Front street. Among other edifices burned down we find mentioned.

on Front street. Among other edifices burned down we find mentioned:

The office of the Panama Railroad Company; the Howard House; the St. Charles Hotel; the Aspinwall House; beshles a number of other fine new buildings. The total loss is estimated at \$300,000.

This fire will naturally be the cause of serious loss to American citizens, who are largely interested in this rising city, which has been named after an American merchant. It was formerly known by the general name of Chagres; but since American enterprise infused a new-life into the place, its name was changed to that which it now bears. The old Chagres is now but a mere collection of hats, with Asjinwall eight or nine miles to the northeast. Aspinwall is an important port of Central America, on the Atlantic side of the 1sthmus of Panama, forty-nine miles from Panama on the Pacific, about two thousand miles from New York, and nearly equidistant from San Francisco and Valparaiso. The harbor is one of the best on the coast, having an anchorage sufficient to accommodate one-half the commerce of the United States. It is the principal entrepot between the Atlantic States and California. It has semi-monthly communication with New York and San Francisco. A railroad forty nine miles in length, connecting Aspinwall with Panama (on the opposite side of the Isthmus, on the backs of mules. Aspinwall is well supplied with hotels, one of which has accommodations for six hundred visitors. A newspaper also exists there. The town was founded about the year 1850 by the well known, enterprising merchant whose name it bears; and in 1855 it was estimated to contain 2,500 inhabitants. The place has been gradually increasing in importance.

THE WAR PRESS. (PUBLISHED WEEKLY.) THE WAR PRESS will be sent to enbecribers by

Larger Clubs than Twenty will be charged at the

same rate, \$1.60 per copy.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from, as the

To the getter-up of a Club of ten or twenty, an extra copy of the Paper will be given.

afford very little more than the cost of the paper. Postmasters are requested to act as Agents for

want you to send me a piece of steel-gray cloth, and two pairs of good walking-boots, No. 5, but for fear their 5, may not be the same as ours, I send you the length of the foot. Lelia will add a line and tell you about Norfolk and Norfolk's doings, and what things she wants.

'God bless you.

ARTHUR."

SOUTHERN FUNDS.—It is stated, on the authority of a letter from Paris, that Messrs Baring, of London, have five million dollars on deposit belonging to citizens of the South, who are either now in Europe or on the way thither.