The Press.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1863.

THE NEWS.

OUR LATEST DESPATCHES inform us that the rebels under Gen. Rhodes, 10,000 strong, were moving on Greencastle; 5,000 more had entered Downesville. Chambersburg is now occupied by the rebels in force, and fugitives report that the whole country in that neighborhood is full of the enemy, who is robbing property on every side. Our Chambersburg forces are retreating towards Harrisburg, though Carlisle and Gettysburg are for the time held by our troops. The rebels, it is reported, declare their intention to be in Harrisburg by Saturday night.

OUR despatches from Baltimore report that Gen. Halleck arrived in that city yesterday. The alarm in the neighborhood of Baltimore had subsided. It seems quite certain that the whole force in Maryland at any one rendezvous is not more than 6,000. Our scouts extend beyond Monocacy, and have as yet found no enemy. Mails have been undisturbed between Gettysburg and Westminster. A special despatch from Monocacy Junction gives new particulars of the rebel exodus from Frederick. Ewell's forces are scattered from Shepherdstown to Williamsport, Hagerstown, and Middletown. Our correspondent writes that it is important for all the fords from Harper's Ferry to the mouth of Monocacy Junction to be closely guarded.

THE siege of Vicksburg, at latest dates, was still carried on with vigor. Grant's forces are active in that vicinity. An expedition from Milliken's Bend, under Colonel Mower, surprised a rebel camp at Richmond, La., and made excellent captures. Col. Mower affirms that, in the recent fight at the Bend, the rebels displayed a black flag and death's-head.

THE siege of Port Hudson was progressing favorably up to the 16th. Our siege batteries were day and night pouring shot and shell into the rebel works, and several of their buildings, supposed to contain commissary stores, have been destroyed, and they are known to be suffering some in killed and wounded. Deserters from the enemy come into our lines nearly every night.

A LETTER from Murfreesboro has the curious statement that a Chattanooga paper, lately received, had written upon its margin that the Confederates were victorious at Port Hudson, and had captured four thousand prisoners, and all the Federal siege guns. The same rebel paper reports that the Federals were repulsed twenty-seven times. This story is, of course, incredible.

AN error of the types made us speak of Mr. Brough, the candidate of the Union party for Governor of Ohio, as a soldier. The paragraph had reference to Col. Stone, the Union nominee as Governor of Iowa, a gallant gentleman and an officer of distinction; and the error consisted in making any reference whatever to the name of Mr. Brough.

CHIEF JUSTICE TANEY has decided the regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, August 28, 1862, founded on the acts of Congress of July 13, 1861, and May 20, 1862, which provide that no goods, &c., shall be transported to any place on the north side of the Potomac river, south of the Washington and Annapolis railroad, nor to any place on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake, without a permit of a duly authorized officer of the Treasury Department, to be unconstitutional and void.

SECRETARY CHASE addressed a letter to the Union Convention of Ohio, in which he counselled all to let every matter, great or small, not necessarily belonging to the one great work, bide its time, and give their country and its cause their whole zeal and power.

MAJOR GENERAL MILROY, who has made fierce enemies among the rebels, is threatened with revenge upon his wife. Rebel papers, which claim that Mrs. Milroy has been captured, accuse this respected lady of theft from rebel houses at Winchester, and recommend her close imprisonment.

THE Richmond *Dispatch* of the 20th confirms the statement that it was Ewell's corps by which advanced up the Shenandoah, captured Winchester, and crossed into Maryland. A despatch from General Lee has announced the capture of Martinsburg by Gen. Rhodes.

GEN. WINDER, commanding in Richmond, recently came to the Libby Prison and abused Col. Straight, a well-known Union prisoner, in a very violent manner, probably for his raid in Georgia. Col. Straight, from self-respect, refused to answer this termagant general.

THE committee on a plan for emancipation have reported to the Missouri Convention resolutions to the effect that, on the 4th of July, 1876, slavery shall cease to exist in Missouri.

INFORMATION was received, last evening, at the headquarters of Gen. Schenck, and corroborated from various sources, that the rebels, 40,000 strong, are in Boonboro Valley.

OUR news from Europe contains few matters of conspicuous importance. The Emperor of France had received the congratulations of Austria and Prussia on the surrender of Puebla.

A SPECIAL despatch to *The Press* gives some satisfactory details of the cavalry affair at Summit, Pa., near Gettysburg, in which the First City Troop of this city took an active part. The rebels were defeated with loss, and driven back to the South Mountains, without loss to the national troops.

A TAMPICO LETTER to the New Orleans *Era* says that vessels laden with cotton are constantly arriving there from rebel ports. In nearly every instance they are consigned to the only English house in Tampico.

THE enrolment has been resisted in Ulster county, New York. Mr. Samuel Williams, enroller, an aged gentleman of Ponkhonckie, N. Y., was set upon by a party of men, women, and children, armed with various implements, threatening his life.

ADJ. GEN. THOMAS has been brought to Washington from the West, literally saved from death, and yet but a convalescent. He has organized twenty-five regiments in Lower Mississippi, put under culture sixty abandoned plantations, and has awakened a liberal and earnest feeling in the army of the West for the cause of the negro as identical with the white man.

TO PREVENT its capture by the rebels, the bankers and others of Pittsburg transferred to Cleveland, Ohio, on the 15th inst., $15,000,000 in gold, and on the succeeding day $650,000.

ADMIRAL FOOTE is still alive, but in very low health.

The Impending Battle.

There can no longer be a doubt as to the situation of the main body of the rebel army in Virginia. The impression generally entertained for upwards of a week past, that the enemy were in the Upper Shenandoah Valley, is strengthened by a despatch from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, where it is regarded as almost certain that they are in force between Snicker's Gap and Winchester. It is doubtful, in our opinion, whether any considerable number of them is east of the Blue Ridge, and rather improbable that they hold Thoroughfare Gap, as was reported yesterday. What LEE actually intends, and what he is waiting for, are still open questions. It is to be taken for granted, of course, that he will make no movement likely to subject Richmond to capture, unless the safety of his army should demand it. SZABAD, in his work on *Modern War*, observes: "It may, indeed, happen that a general will purposely abandon his line of operation to gain that of the enemy, but this is only done from particular considerations, viz: if by so doing one gets in possession of some strategic point of great importance." The same authority, however, adds in the same paragraph: "That an army subsisting on requisitions may easier abandon its own line, in order to try to possess itself of that of the enemy is evident enough." Undoubtedly, if General LEE chose to throw his army into Maryland, the certainty of subsisting it by "requisitions," would, so far as the mere question of supplies is concerned, render the abandonment of his communications comparatively easy. But the "particular consideration" for such a venture is not so apparent. Washington, even if it could be taken, is not a "strategic point of great importance," while Richmond, which certainly could be taken by a comparatively small army, if LEE should abandon his present line, *is* a strategic position of vital importance. Indeed, it would be greatly to General HOOKER's advantage if LEE were to enter Maryland with his entire army; but it is most unlikely that he will offer the Army of the Potomac such a splendid opportunity for gaining a decisive victory. He means to operate against Washington without uncovering Richmond, and the following despatch, from a Richmond paper of June 19, is probably meant to deceive us: "Richmond is about to be deprived of the defence afforded by the proximity of General LEE's army, a part of which is already in the Valley of Virginia, and threatening in Maryland, and the rest will probably follow on, whence they cannot be brought instantly to our assistance, if assistance we should need."

If LEE does not expect to take Washington without first defeating the Army of the Potomac, and intends to make Northern Virginia the decisive battle-ground, it may be asked why does he distribute a considerable portion of his forces through Maryland and Pennsylvania, instead of concentrating them and striking a vigorous blow at once? The answer is very evident. "The great art," says NAPOLEON, "consists in knowing how to separate in order to subsist, and how to concentrate to fight." General LEE, by the apparently inexplicable and purposeless movements of the past week, has evinced his appreciation of this truth; whether he possesses the practical ability to carry his knowledge into effect, remains to be determined by the result of the approaching battle. When he is prepared to strike, he will endeavor to concentrate his forces, unless, indeed, he is so confident of his ability to defeat General HOOKER, unaided by EWELL's corps, as to detach the latter for independent operations. Still, whatever may be his strength or plans, we have no fears for Washington, or for the brave Army of the Potomac. In the present situation of affairs, so far as we are competent to judge from the scanty intelligence of military operations that reaches us, the most important advantages rest with us. DECKEN, in his treatise on strategy, remarks: "If the enemy's base is similar and parallel to ours, then two things are to be considered: first, when both parties intend to take the offensive, in which case the advantages and disadvantages would be equally balanced; second, when the enemy advances, and we withdraw within our subjective points. In the latter case, the enemy labors under the disadvantage of removing from his basis, and, consequently, his supplies, besides being obliged to detach troops to guard the points abandoned by us; but, on the other hand, he has the advantage of the initiative. We may, indeed, in this case, have the means of injuring him, by cutting off his communications; but these are mere palliatives, by which we may imperil our very existence."

Hence, it will be seen, that if General HOOKER should choose the offensive, he would at least have as great a chance of success as his antagonist. But it is possible that he may not; he may, and, perhaps, to some extent, already has withdrawn within his subjective points. In such a case, he places LEE's army under the material disadvantage of removing from its basis, and has an opportunity of injuring it, by cutting off its communications, *without* imperilling the Army of the Potomac; for, if the worst should happen, the impregnable fortifications of Washington would still remain. It seems immaterial, therefore, whether General HOOKER acts upon the offensive or the defensive; in either case, Washington is secure from capture, and the Army of the Potomac may reasonably expect to be victorious, although, perhaps, contending with superior numbers.

The Record of Mr. Justice Woodward.

It is not without a degree of hesitation that we find ourselves called upon to criticise the course of a gentleman seated on the Supreme Bench of Pennsylvania. We have an instinctive respect for the ermine, which prevents us from saying anything that may tend to weaken the confidence of the people in the most sacred office that a citizen can hold. If we do otherwise now, it is our *misfortune* and the fault of Mr. Justice WOODWARD. If that gentleman so far forgets the dignity of the jurist as to enter into an exciting political canvass without relieving himself of the responsibility of his judicial station; if, in other words, he comes before the people in a position demanding criticism and investigation, and looks to the bench to give him immunity, he shirks his own duty and makes ours unpleasant but imperative. Many years' seclusion on the bench render it difficult for Judge WOODWARD to have a record; for his position entailed silence in every time of doubt, and freed him from the necessity that all brave men must sometimes meet—of speaking with boldness and decision. The country has been for two years in an agony of war, and although patriotic and good jurists elsewhere have given their influence to the cause without at all disparaging their dignity, Mr. Justice WOODWARD has been so devoted to the law and its etiquette, that he has not found it proper to avow his patriotism, or to utter a single word of sympathy with the people. If his Gubernatorial candidature has no other effect, it will give him this opportunity; for there are words and speeches of this gentleman which must be explained before he can assume to be the chief executive officer of the loyal State of Pennsylvania.

After the election of Mr. LINCOLN to the Presidency, and before the treason of Mr. BUCHANAN had ripened into war, a demonstration of the citizens of Philadelphia took place in behalf of the Union. Many good men of all parties participated, and there seemed to be a sincere and earnest desire to assure the people of the South that Philadelphia was without hatred to them or their institutions. It was one of those lingering evidences of peace and love which marked the opening of the war, and showed how much a free people could suffer before accepting the arbitrament of blood. Mr. Justice WOODWARD took part, and made a speech that contained evidences of care and study. He was so much pleased with it as a declaration of his faith, or, what is more probable, as an inducement for the nomination he then sought and subsequently obtained, that he printed it as a pamphlet and gave it general circulation. His subject was the troubles of the country, and in showing how the country had wronged the South he said these remarkable words: "*It seems to me that there must be a time when slaveholders may fall back on their natural rights and employ, in defence of their slave property, whatever means of protection they possess or can command.*" For using language like this JEFFERSON DAVIS and his friends were called Secessionists; for obeying the opinion of this judge of a Northern Supreme Court the world has called them traitors. These words were spoken in December, 1860. The Southern States were then taking up arms; Fort Sumpter was being invested, and all over the South angry words and threats were heard. There were men here base enough, as all will remember, to give the traitors of the South comfort and encouragement, and we now see that prominent among these was the Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. How sincerely the slaveholders of the South have followed the advice thus given by a Pennsylvania judge two years of weary war have shown.

As we wish to deal fairly with Mr. Justice WOODWARD, we shall more particularly define his position. He might have innocently held the opinions now on record, for such sentiments were frequently uttered by good men, who had been betrayed into their advocacy by the false philosophy that then controlled the Democratic party. When they saw, however, their fearful effects; when they saw that war and treason formed the only logic that followed them, they spurned the belief, and atoned for the past by persistent and conscientious loyalty. General BUTLER, Mr. DICKINSON, and others, are illustrious examples. But Mr. Justice WOODWARD was careful then, and has been careful since, to prevent any misapprehension of his true position. None can say of him that he ever changed the opinions thus boldly expressed. Since the slaveholders of the South began the war he has been silent. Amid danger, defeat, and death, when the community was oppressed with grief and shame, when every loyal man felt it a religious duty to make profession of his devotion to the country, this cold, unsympathetic, and selfish man has held his peace. He had made himself the champion of human slavery. "The world," he said, "cannot live without cotton, and cotton can only be raised under the eye of a master or an overseer." And then we have the following enthusiastic laudation of a system that has always been a disgrace to our age, and which Southern men themselves hesitate to defend: "And thus it has ever happened," says Mr. Justice WOODWARD, "that the providence of that good Being who has ever watched over us from the beginning, and saved us from external foes, has so ordered our internal relations as to make negro slavery *an incalculable blessing* to us, and to the people of Great Britain. Do you not see and feel how good it was for us to hand over our slaves *to our friends at the South?* How good it was that they have employed them in raising a staple for our manufactures? How wise it was so to adjust the compromises of the Constitution that we could live in union with them, and reap the signal advantages to which I have adverted?" After this degrading exhibition, the Democratic candidate says: "It is said, let the South go peaceably. *I say, let her go peaceably.*"

Here, then, we have the creed of the candidate of the Democratic party for the Gubernatorial chair. It would certainly be impossible for any public man to present a record more favorable to the South. He is the panegyrist of slavery; he calls upon the slaveholders to defend their system by the force of arms; he commands the North to submit peaceably to slaveholding violence. If we were requested to present the record of a Northern sympathizer, we should take this of Mr. Justice WOODWARD. It is complete. It not only urges the South to war, but the North to peace. No wonder Mr. WOODWARD shrinks from a canvass by remaining upon the bench, for, if there is a test that a man with such opinions would dread, it is the scrutiny of a great, free, and loyal people.

The Prospect in the Southwest.

In the continual state of anxiety and excitement in which the public mind has been kept for several weeks past by rebel raids and rumors of invasion, Vicksburg has been almost forgotten, and but little attention has been paid to the important operations of Generals BANKS and GRANT and Commodore PORTER. Although we are not yet as secure from rebel inroads as we should be, and the enemy are still menacing Harrisburg and Pittsburg, equanimity and confidence have nevertheless, in a great degree, been restored to the community, and we once more feel at leisure to watch the progress of events in the Southwest. We have advices from Vicksburg to the 14th instant, at which time the prospect of a speedy reduction of the rebel stronghold was so cheering that it has possibly fallen ere this. The Chattanooga *Rebel*, of the 13th instant, apprehends not only the loss of Vicksburg, but the entire State of Mississippi. It says: "From Memphis and other points, above and below Vicksburg, Federal troops will advance into the interior. JOHNSTON's position will be turned, and he must again retreat. Thus we shall be compelled to retire from the river, and then the Federal Government hopes to reopen trade with New Orleans." That these will be the legitimate and necessary fruits of General GRANT's operations, should they prove successful, there cannot be a question. In the absence of official advices, however, it is well not to be too sanguine of speedy success. A correspondent of the Missouri *Republican* states that there is a force of rebels, estimated to number fifteen thousand, at Milliken's Bend, opposite Vicksburg, and that men, ammunition, and provisions, are carried across the river during the night in canoes. Possibly such is the case; but, at most, it could only prolong the siege for a few weeks, and ultimately make our victory more complete.

The latest news from Port Hudson is without special interest, and probably no material change has taken place in the situation of affairs. Our siege guns continue to bombard the rebel works with vigor. The rebels are stated by deserters to number ten thousand, and to be suffering from lack of supplies. The rebel report that a great battle was fought on the 12th instant, and that "the Confederates are victorious, and have captured four thousand prisoners and all the Federal siege guns," is about as worthy of credence as the report of two weeks ago, that the garrison had been reinforced, and General BANKS defeated by KIRBY SMITH. If any serious engagement had taken place, our New Orleans files would have contained some mention of the affair. The rebel telegram, via Mobile, stating that our troops have been repulsed twenty-seven times, and that rebel reinforcements were close at hand, likewise bears upon its face the evidence of fabrication. In fact, both Vicksburg and Port Hudson are now so closely invested, by land and water, that their fall would seem to be inevitable, unless JOHNSTON can make a successful movement in their behalf. We do not think he can, for the simple reason that he has not a sufficient force at his disposal. According to the most reliable knowledge attainable of the rebels, there are 5,000 of them at Jackson, under LORING, and 5,000 at Yazoo City, under WALKER, in addition to JOHNSTON's force of 15,000 at Canton. A force like this, within the Vicksburg fortifications, might be of some service to the rebel cause; at present they are almost useless; the most they can accomplish will be to consume supplies, and add still further to the devastation which the war has visited upon Mississippi. If they could reach Port Hudson it is possible that they might succeed in placing General BANKS in a critical position; but, General GRANT having entered on a siege, and being assured at all times of the co-operation of the gunboats, could, doubtless, detach a sufficient force to hold JOHNSTON in check should the latter attempt to execute such a design. We see no reason to alter the opinion we expressed several weeks ago, that nothing but the heavy reinforcement of JOHNSTON could prevent the capture of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, and the fact that he has not since received any material accessions to his command is sufficient evidence that no more troops can be spared from other States, to send him.

THE Women's Pennsylvania Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission, requests the women of Philadelphia to bear in mind the pending battle. Stimulants and nourishing articles of diet are needed, that every thing may be in readiness for the coming emergency. Donations of oranges, lemons, pickles, and tamarinds, are solicited. Also drawers and cotton socks; and linen rags not torn into bandages. Let housekeepers send in their spare jellies and preserves. We do not know but that the supplies that we send may minister to the necessities of our own husbands, sons, and brothers.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Gen. Pleasanton's Battle with Stuart.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, June 23, 1863.

General Pleasanton had the greatest cavalry fight, on the 21st, that has yet taken place. Early on Sunday morning he advanced on the enemy at a point beyond Middleburg, being supported by Gen. Barre's division of infantry. A fight ensued, which was kept up all day, Stuart being driven steadily with heavy loss, clear into Ashby's Gap, beyond Upperville, a distance of twelve miles.

General Pleasanton captured two guns, one a Blakely, three caissons, and blew up another caisson; also, upwards of a hundred prisoners, including one lieutenant colonel, one major, and five other officers. The enemy left their dead and wounded on the field, and in the town of Upperville a large number of wounded rebels were found. General Pleasanton describes it as a most disastrous day to the rebel cavalry. Our cavalry behaved with the greatest intrepidity, and, as usual, did great execution with the sabre.

Stuart has fortified Ashby's Gap with artillery, and will probably hold it against our advance. Considering the extensive nature of the fight, our loss is light, and will not exceed, in killed, wounded, and missing, 175.

The enemy left a ten-pound Parrott gun carriage on the field. They probably threw the gun into Goose creek after it was dismounted.

Two rebel colonels are known to have been killed. Col. Vincent's infantry brigade (Butterfield's old brigade) was actively engaged, and behaved with great courage.

General Buford's cavalry column opened on the right, and successfully drove a large force of the enemy before them, capturing a number of prisoners, including two lieutenant colonels.

The cavalry justly feel gleeful over their large exploits, and the infantry partake of the same spirit, and are now ready to back up the cavalry in their achievements.

Four hundred wagon loads of wounded are reported by the citizens to have been taken through the gap. This is believed to be an exaggeration.

DEATH OF A CORRESPONDENT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, June 23.—Mr. L. A. Buckingham, correspondent of the New York *Herald*, was yesterday killed under the following circumstances: He was coming from Aldie with news of the cavalry fight, and when five miles below that point was chased by guerillas. He put spurs to his horse, which stumbled and threw him off, breaking his neck, and killing him instantly. His body and effects were taken charge of by Mr. Ward, the artist.

WHEREABOUTS OF LEE.

NEW YORK, June 23.—A despatch from General Hooker's headquarters, dated yesterday, says it is beyond a doubt that the enemy's main infantry force, including the corps of A. P. Hill, is on the immediate western slope of the Blue Ridge, between Snicker's Gap and Winchester.

The Blackwater Expedition.

NEW YORK, June 23.—A letter from Suffolk, Va., dated the 18th instant, states that General Corcoran's expedition had returned, having searched the whole country from Carrsville to the Blackwater.

Gen. Wistar's brigade left last night for Norfolk, and an unknown destination.

Col. Foster, of the 13th Indiana, has been appointed a brigadier by the President.

The Indian Territory.

ST. LOUIS, June 23.—Gen. Blunt left Leavenworth on Friday last for Fort Scott, and will soon take the field in the Indian Territory with an adequate force for active offensive operations. He will fight to achieve victories and endeavor to reach Texas.

THE INVASION.

General Halleck in Baltimore.

REBEL EXIT FROM FREDERICK.

THE ENEMY IN BOONSBORO VALLEY 40,000 STRONG.

THE SKIRMISH AT SUMMIT, PA.

AFFAIRS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The First City Troop in Action—Affair at Summit, Pa.—Defeat of the Rebels.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

HARRISBURG, June 23.

A despatch received here from Gettysburg this evening says that a portion of the First City Troop of Philadelphia and Captain Betts' cavalry company have had a fight with the rebels, near Millersburg. A body of eighty-four rebel cavalry advanced to a point where our infantry forces were engaged in erecting barricades, at a place called Summit, near Newman's. A portion of our forces were withdrawn, but have taken up another position. About a dozen rebel cavalrymen remained at Newman's, and thirty advanced to Munshower, ten miles from Gettysburg.

A skirmish took place, when one rebel was mortally wounded, and the enemy fled to the mountains, their infantry supporting force retreating at the same time. L. A. W.

A Large Rebel Force at Boonsboro and Antietam.

BALTIMORE, June 23.—Information was received at headquarters, by Gen. Schenck, to-night, and corroborated by other sources, to the effect that Gen. Ewell's forces, to the number of 35,000 to 40,000 men, are now in Maryland, in Boonsboro valley. They have a large quantity of artillery, cavalry, and infantry. They are building bridges across the canal, and actively engaged in foraging the country, collecting supplies, &c. They crossed at the Antietam ford and Shepherdstown.

General Kelly telegraphs that Imboden's cavalry, about 3,000 strong, are at the Big Cacapaw.

General Halleck visited Baltimore to-day, and inspected the fortifications and other defensive works in progress here. He expressed great satisfaction at the rapidity with which they were prepared, and admiration of the zealous loyalty of the Union Leagues in arming for the city's defence.

General Halleck in Baltimore—The City Entirely Safe from Attack—Affairs in Western Maryland.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

BALTIMORE, June 23.—Gen. Halleck arrived here to-day, and has been during the entire morning in consultation at headquarters. He is gratified with the vigorous and effective manner with which General Schenck has pushed on the completion of the city defences. The fortifications are not yet entirely completed, but they are so far advanced as to defy any attack or siege. With Forts Marshall, McHenry, and Federal Hill, it might be presumed that it were useless to erect other bulwarks. Now that "assurance is doubly sure," the citizens of Baltimore have much cause for gratitude towards General Schenck and the men under his immediate command. If any attack were made upon the city, it would be unless we credit the rebels for stupidity that they have seldom shown—take the form of a sudden, sharp, and secret movement. The idea that the place would be subjected to a siege is not entertained; for, with the possession of the Patapsco and Chesapeake Bay, which the rebels cannot now nor ever again, it is hoped, be able to obstruct, supplies of ordnance and provisions could be continued indefinitely.

The barricades, consisting of hogsheads of tobacco, old drays, wagons, carts, planks, and old lumber generally, which have so effectually blocked travel in the lower part of the town for a week past, were removed to-day, much to the gratification of every citizen of Baltimore. They were intended, nobody appeared to know for what. If it were designed that they should prevent the ingress of rebel cavalry or infantry, it showed a small estimate of rebel intrepidity. The ease with which they were dislodged to-day, was evidence sufficient that they could have offered very little resistance to infuriated soldiers. It is hardly necessary to repeat that Baltimore is now safe, and that its Secession inhabitants are denied the anticipation of an early greeting to their Southern friends.

Ex-Governor Hicks is also in town to-day. He has been waited upon by prominent Union men, of various portions of the State, who all speak hopefully of national affairs.

Our scouts extended to-day many miles beyond Monocacy. No skirmishes with the enemy have as yet taken place, as far as can be ascertained.

The trains on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad commenced running again to-day as far as Frederick, the rebels having retired from that town.

The mails have been undisturbed between Gettysburg and Westminster, and this is taken as evidence that there have been no rebels at either of these places.

A scouting party of rebels made a short visit yesterday morning to Mount Airy, about forty miles distant from Baltimore, on the railroad to Monocacy. They remained long enough to frighten the inhabitants, but the dreaded approach of the Union cavalry caused them to skedaddle without any plunder.

Advices from General Tyler are encouraging. He is fully able to hold Maryland Heights. No enemy has yet appeared in the vicinity.

The rebel movements are yet enshrouded in mystery. Their real design is thus far impenetrable. It is now quite certain that their whole force in Maryland at any one place, unless reinforced within a day or two, is not more than six thousand. They are believed to be still at Williamsport and Sharpsburg.

I have no information direct from Frederick today. The passenger train, if it come at all, will not reach here till this evening.

Refugees from various portions of the State are flocking to Baltimore, and the hotels are filling rapidly.

The national enrollers have commenced their labors in earnest. It is believed that Maryland will not be able to raise its quota under the last call, and conscription is unavoidable. D.

The Rebels Driven Out of Frederick by Couch's Cavalry.

BALTIMORE, June 23.—The *American* of this morning contains the following:

A gentleman who left Gettysburg at 7 o'clock yesterday morning informs us that there is no truth in the telegraph report from Harrisburg of a rebel advance on that place.

The nearest approach of the rebel cavalry to Gettysburg was the arrival of a small cavalry scout at Monterey, fifteen miles distant, where they stole a few horses, and beat a rapid retreat, evidently fearful of capture.

The only forces that have crossed the Maryland line, beyond Greencastle, have been small cavalry scouts in search of horses and cattle, of which they have received a very small supply.

Captain Irwin, president of the Western Maryland Railroad, left Union Bridge yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock. He spent a short time in Westminster and passed over the entire line of road.

He reports no rebels, not even their pickets had been seen anywhere in the vicinity of Union Bridge, Westminster, or along the route, since the reported raid.

The following is the latest information derived last night from the military authorities:

The rebel force at Frederick, yesterday, were attacked and driven out by a force of cavalry from General Couch's command in Pennsylvania.

Several troopers now occupy the place, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is clear between here and Frederick and Sandy Hook. Up to this time, there are no rebels reported nearer Frederick than South Mountain.

BALTIMORE, June 23.—The train from Frederick arrived here safely this evening. The city was still occupied by the National troops, and there were no signs of rebels in that vicinity.

Exodus of the Rebels at Frederick.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

MONOCACY JUNCTION, THREE MILES FROM FREDERICK, June 22.

Three hundred rebel cavalry are at Frederick City, three miles from here. A large force is reported at Middletown, but I think it must necessarily be very small. They have committed a few depredations, and many of the Union people have taken their hegira. These rebels all lived in this neighborhood at one time, and are now scattered over the country, looking up their friends, for they have friends here. I heard some ladies speaking triumphantly of the way "fifteen Confederates put fifty Yankees to flight." It is the opinion of these people that the rebels have come to hold and protect Maryland. Yesterday, fifty of Major Coles' Maryland cavalry rode through the main street of Frederick City, while they met one hundred and fifty rebel cavalry drawn across the road. The charge was sounded, and the brave Marylanders threw themselves like a whirlwind against their foe, who, unable to resist such impetuosity, fled in confusion, our men hotly pursuing. The women came to their windows, clapped their hands, and cried: "Give it to the vile rebels! Drive them from our State!" In this gallant encounter one rebel was killed and two severely wounded, one of the latter being a new recruit, who received a ball which will make his saddle feel uncomfortable for a short time. Our men had one horse killed. They have two pieces of cannon, and threaten to come here, occupy the Junction, and hold the bridges. Yesterday such an attempt would have been easy to-day, hazardous and fatal for them. Till to-day we had but one company of the 14th New Jersey here, who were stationed in two blockhouses overlooking both the bridges which span the Monocacy.

2 A. M.—A few rebel cavalry aroused from his slumbers the superintendent of that division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Mount Airy, forty-five miles from here. They compelled him to procure from his shop all necessary tools for tearing up the track, and before they left him, they, with his assistance, destroyed a portion of the track, and severed the telegraph wires in one or two places, and cut down a few poles.

SECOND DESPATCH.

A number of cavalry rode into Frederick City this P. M. and found the rebels had all left upon hearing of our reinforcements at Monocacy Junction. As I rode on a hand-car past Mount Airy, about 4 P. M. I saw two rebel officers sunning themselves on the piazza of a house, nestled away down in the valley. I jumped from the car, exclaiming "There are two rebels!" when they hastily ran a short distance into the brush, and found their horses, which they spurred madly away. These men are well known in the neighborhood, and are officers in the rebel army. I have no doubt these men cut the wires at Mount Airy. I immediately telegraphed to Monocacy Junction, where and under what circumstances I had seen them, and hope they will be intercepted on their return. These two officers with their servants are the only rebel cavalry this side of the Junction.

All the fords, from Harper's Ferry to the mouth of the Monocacy Junction, should be closely guarded—particularly Nolan's Ferry, where they always love to cross the Potomac. I was at Nolan's Ferry and White's Ford, yesterday, and the troops there seemed to expect the rebels along that way pretty soon. It is a wonder the firing of Sunday did not bring them over. At night I could see the glare of the rebel signal lights, on the top of the mountains. Ewell's forces are scattered from Shepherdstown to Williamsport and Hagerstown, down to Middletown They can be easily concentrated, and marched to Nolan's Ford, or through Frederick City, by the same road pursued by Stonewall Jackson, to the mouth of the Monocacy. B.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT PITTSBURG.

HARRISBURG, June 23.—The news from Pittsburg shows that there is great excitement in that city.

The rebels are reported to be at Uniontown, forty miles distant.

Business is entirely suspended.

The citizens are making extensive preparations to receive them.

Our troops still hold Chambersburg.

CHAMBERSBURG REOCCUPIED BY THE REBELS.

HARRISBURG, June 23—1 o'clock P. M.—The rebels reoccupied Chambersburg, about 11 o'clock this morning. Our cavalry pickets are now five miles this side.

The troops under General Knipe, which were at Chambersburg, have safely fallen back to the mainboro.

The authorities believe that the rebels are in considerable force in Chambersburg.

Much indignation is felt here towards some of the citizens for the exorbitant prices they charge for everything. The soldiers who have turned out for the defence of the capital complain that while they have left their homes, sacrificing all business interests, the citizens here are remaining at home, robbing them of whatever small change they may have. Some of the citizens residing near the encampments have been mean enough to demand payment for water.

LATER FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, June 23.—There is nothing new this evening at Shippensburg, the last telegraphic station up the valley. The operator at Chambersburg, and some newspaper correspondents who were there when the rebels entered, have not as yet been heard from.

A skirmish took place to-day about ten miles from Gettysburg between some of our troops and about eighty rebels. The enemy retreated, losing one man.

What preparations are being made by Gen. Couch and the State authorities to clear the Cumberland Valley of the enemy would not be proper to give. Those who know the true position of affairs feel satisfied that the enemy will not remain long in the State unless heavily reinforced.

HARRISBURG, June 23.—The meeting of the Republican State Convention, which was to have been held on the 1st of July, at Pittsburg, will probably be postponed. The condition of affairs in the State at the present time would warrant such a course. Gen. Couch declines to grant furloughs to the delegates now in the service in his department.

The Pittsburg Defences.

PITTSBURG, June 23.—Business has been suspended here for the past week, the citizens *en masse* being engaged in digging entrenchments on the surrounding hills, for miles out. The city is now encircled with the works, which are so nearly finished as to secure our safety from attack.

WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1863.

Admiral Dupont's Despatches.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington:

[DESPATCH NO. 316, 1863.]

FLAGSHIP WABASH, PORT ROYAL HARBOR, S. C., June 17, 1863.

SIR: Having reason to believe that the Atlanta, and other rebel iron-clads at Savannah, were about attempting to enter Warsaw Sound, by Wilmington river, for the purpose of attacking the blockading squadron there, and in the sounds further south, I despatched, some days ago, the Weehawken, Captain John Rodgers, from this port, and the Nahant, Commander J. Downs, from North Edisto, to Warsaw, where Commander Drake was maintaining the inside blockade.

I have the satisfaction to report to the Department this morning that the Atlanta came down by Wilmington river into Warsaw sound, and was captured. This information has just been receive in a despatch from Fort Pulaski, sent by Captain John Rodgers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. F. DUPONT, Rear Admiral, South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

[DESPATCH NO. 317.]

FLAG SHIP WABASH, PORT ROYAL HARBOR, S. C., June 17, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department that since mailing my despatch, No. 316, I have received further details of the capture of the Atlanta, through the kindness of Colonel Barton, by telegraph from Fort Pulaski. The Atlanta, Capt. William Webb, came down this morning, through Wilmington river, to attack our vessels at Warsaw, accompanied by two wooden steamers, filled, it says, with persons as spectators.

The Weehawken, Captain John Rodgers, at once engaged her, firing only five shots, three of which took effect, penetrating her armor, and killing and wounding the crews of two guns. The pilot was also badly wounded and the pilot house broken up; whereupon the vessel grounded and immediately after surrendered. The Weehawken was not hit.

The armament of the Atlanta was two 7-inch and two 6-inch guns. She is but slightly injured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. F. DUPONT, Rear Admiral commanding S. A. Blockading Squadron.

P. S.—The officers and crew of the Atlanta numbered one hundred and sixty-five persons.

S. F. DUPONT.

NEWPORT NEWS, June 22.—*Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy*—Your despatch has just been received. Admiral Dupont sent the Weehawken, Capt. Rodgers, and Nahant, down to Warsaw Sound, to look out for the Atlanta. On June 17th, at 6 A. M., the Atlanta came down, accompanied by two gunboats. The engagement was exclusively between the Weehawken and Atlanta. The latter, mounted four of the Brooke rifles, two of seven (one bow and stern), pivots, and two of six inches, one on each side. She could fight two of the former, and one of the latter on a side. Rodgers engaged at close quarters. The first 15-inch shot, fired by himself, took off the top of the Atlanta's pilot-house, and wounded 2 of her 3 pilots. Another 15-inch shot struck half way up the roof, which was iron-plated four inches thick, killing one and wounding seventeen men. Eleven shots were fired in all—five by the Weehawken and six by the Atlanta. The Atlanta ran aground and surrendered. The fight was short and the victory signal. The Weehawken sustained no injury of any sort. The Atlanta steers well, and made her way without difficulty to sea going to Port Royal. She was completely provided with instruments and stores for a regular cruise. She had a ram, a saw, and a torpedo on her bow. Ex-Lieut. W. A. Webb commanded her. Her complement was one hundred and forty-five souls. Her wounded men were left at Port Royal. The Atlanta is said to have come down confident of capturing the monitors easily, and her consorts, filled with spectators, were prepared to tow them to Savannah. She will soon be ready for service under the flag of the Union.

S. P. LEE, A. Rear Admiral.

THE BATTLE OF THE IRON-CLADS.

WASHINGTON, June 23.—Captain John Rodgers circumstantially relates the gallant proceeding attending the capture of the Atlanta. On examination it was found that the enemy had been struck four times. First on the inclined side by a 15-inch cored shot, which, although fired at an angle of fifty degrees with her keel, broke through the armor and wood backing, strewing her deck with splinters, prostrating about forty men by the concussion, and wounding several by broken pieces of armor and splinters. One man has since died. The second shot, 11-inch solid, struck the edge of the overhung knuckle, doing no damage except breaking a plate or two. The third shot, a 15-inch cored, struck the top of the pilot house, knocking it off, wounding two pilots, and stunning the men at the wheel. The fourth shot, supposed to be 11-inch, struck a port stopper in the centre, breaking it in two and shattering it very much, driving many fragments in through the port. There were on board at the time of capture, as per muster roll, 21 officers and 124 men, including 23 marines.

The captured Confederate officers told Captain Rodgers they thought they should find the speed of the Atlanta reach ten knots. They believed her to be the strongest iron-clad in the Confederacy, and confidently anticipated taking both the Nahant and Weehawken. The behavior of the officers and crew was admirable. The following, among her officers, were late of the United States Navy: Wm. A. Webb, commander; J. Alexander, 1st lieutenant; Alfonso Barbot, 2d lieutenant; A. L. Freeman, surgeon, and G. H. Johnson, 1st assistant engineer.

Admiral Dupont, in his despatch, says: The Fingal, in a dense fog, ran the blockade of Savannah a few days after the Port Royal forts were taken, in November, 1861. She has been closely watched ever since, and, as in the case of the Nashville, the long