The Press.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1863.

THE INVASION.

Our latest advices pretty clearly establish the fact that General LEE has made a sudden retrograde movement from the line of the Susquehanna, and that he is concentrating his army in the Cumberland Valley, somewhere between Chambersburg and Gettysburg. Of the movements of our own army we are permitted to know very little; but it is not difficult to surmise that they are in keeping with the pressing exigencies of the situation, and the acknowledged abilities of General MEADE. The latest accounts credit General LEE with from seventy-five to one hundred thousand men; and judging from the circumspection of his movements, it seems probable that the former estimate is most nearly correct. General MEADE should have a force equally as large, if not larger; not that this would inevitably be necessary to attain success in the coming battle, but that it would be necessary according to the plainest dictates of prudence. We do not believe the rebel army is superior in spirit or discipline to ours. A correspondent, whose letter we publish in another column, assures us that the Army of the Potomac was never in a finer condition, or more anxious to meet the enemy, than at present. On the other hand, the rebel army, besides having the advantage of the initiative, is flushed with victory, and the hope of capturing Philadelphia or Washington is a temptation too glittering to be resisted. That hope, we know by the boasts of rebel newspapers, and the admissions of rebel prisoners, has seriously been entertained; and we further know that, in spite of this retrograde movement, it has not been abandoned, but still animates the ragged battalions of LEE.

A desperate and fearful, and undoubtedly decisive battle, must therefore be fought in Southern Pennsylvania or Maryland before many days have elapsed. We do not anticipate that it will take place during the present week. However, General MEADE will most probably be the assailant, and as we have little definite information of his whereabouts, we may at any moment hear startling intelligence from him. For obvious reasons the struggle will be very desperate, and it may be the most hotly contested of the war. General LEE cannot afford to sustain another defeat, or to gain a doubtful victory. If he cannot crush the Army of the Potomac, he must himself be crushed. The life or death struggle of the rebellion would seem to have really come at last. If LEE can succeed, Baltimore and Washington must fall. Philadelphia will share their fate, and the whole North will be overrun, devastated, and laid under tribute. This is the deliberate programme of the rebel leaders. The Army of the Potomac once placed *hors de combat*, the Richmond *Enquirer* tells us that LEE will "throw the whole Confederate army into Pennsylvania, wide-winged, far-stretching, in one vast, combined movement, enveloping Washington on the one side, Harrisburg on the other, and so forward, forward, till our red battle-flag reflects itself in the Delaware." Conscious of the vast responsibility that rests upon it, we are confident that the Army of the Potomac, true to the glory of its past achievements, true to its well-earned fame, and to the honor and interests of the nation, will not be found unequal to the coming fearful trial. The gallant men who stormed the heights of Fredericksburg, and bore the shock of Chancellorville unfalteringly, cannot falter now, when the safety of their capital depends upon their valor, and the reliance of the North is based upon their heroism.

Advices that come to us as we are writing indicate that the theory we ventured yesterday, in reference to a battle near Gettysburg, is confirmed. We think, from our Harrisburg despatch, that an action was progressing beyond Carlisle, and it seems probable that General MEADE has succeeded in attacking LEE and forcing him to a general engagement. Perhaps the news is premature; but it is certain that we are on the eve of the great battle of the war. Such a conflict will give the North its opportunity. LEE will fight desperately, for defeat would be annihilation; and if we are true to ourselves and act like men, such must be his fate.

The Speech of the Governor.

When we say that his Excellency the Governor made to an assemblage of citizens last evening one of the ablest speeches of his life, we do not speak a compliment, but simply that the occasion was one of sublimity, and that he was equal to it. Gov. CURTIN came from Harrisburg to see the people of Philadelphia, and to tell them with his own lips of the danger of the State—the great duty of the hour—the necessity for energy and devotion. Although he made no reproaches to Philadelphia, still we can see that the great city has still a part of her work to do. He tells us very truly that the defences of the city are upon the banks of the Susquehanna, and that there Philadelphia should be defended. To this defence Pennsylvania must contribute 60,000 men, and the quota of that city must be furnished to-day. That quota is 7,800 men, and we feel assured that they will be sent at once. We must do this at once—for this is a time of danger. As the Governor says, if disaster befals General MEADE, the whole tide of rebel invasion will sweep over our State with resistless and devastating sway. Pennsylvania would then be compelled to assume the brunt of the battle for the Union—our cities and towns would be pillaged, and this hungry and fierce body of armed rebels would grow rich and fat among our abundance. We have three millions of people in this State; we have more than half a million in this city; and if we permit the invader to wanton and riot with our substance, slaying our brethren, and destroying our homes, we are unworthy of our manhood. Pennsylvania has done much to aid this war. She has been munificent in her contributions of money and magnificent in her contributions of men. She does not deserve this harsh fate. "Let us not forget," says his Excellency, "that in this struggle the rebels have struck at Pennsylvania because she is loyal to the National Government." We can surely do all that is asked, and far more, for a cause so precious and dear.

An Opinion from General Lee.

The Richmond correspondent of the London *Times* seems to be a perfect specimen of what we are accustomed to call "a toady." His accounts of the Chancellorville battles have evidently been written to order, with a moderate degree of ability, and the most immoderate terms of praise. According to this writer, the Union army was like so many sheep, and merely stood up to be shot down by the audacious and fiery rebels. We read of such feats in Oriental romances, but it is too much to ask us to accept as truth these rambling and impossible fictions. We dismiss them with the remark that the great organ of English opinion has fallen very far from its high station when it permits an enemy of the North in New York, and an enemy in Richmond, to ridicule and disparage this nation. Our present reference is to draw attention to an opinion which General LEE is said to have expressed in reference to the battle of Chancellorville and its effect upon the war. It seems that the correspondent met LEE after the first conflict, and was riding with him to the battle-field, and with characteristic taste details the conversation that passed between them. We should have supposed that a man as frank and generous as the admirers of the rebel chieftain profess to regard him, would have found a word of sympathy or compliment, or even justice, for the soldiers of the Union army. According to this writer, however, the rebel General improved the hours of conversation in absurd and foolish words like these: "Conceive the glee of the contractors when a new call for everything wanted for 100,000 men, from caps down to shoes, is received at Washington, all the profits going into the pockets of the Republican party," and so on. When partisan writers and orators in the North use such language as this, we look upon it as ribaldry and treat it with contempt. In the columns of the Richmond *Enquirer* it would be regarded as misrepresentation calculated to sustain the spirits of the friends of the rebellion; but that General LEE should find no other words for an enemy that had just met him in open battle; that he should not acknowledge any noble or honest feeling of patriotism and love of country among men who are his fellow-countrymen, is to us an evidence of malignity or ignorance that never can accompany greatness of mind. For the sake of General LEE, we trust that this correspondent has misrepresented him as recklessly as he has misrepresented the soldiers of the North.

Cavalry for City Defence.

The formation of cavalry companies should not be neglected in the organization of volunteers for the defence of the city. Infantry, unaided by cavalry, even with the assistance of artillery, is insufficient for complete offensive or defensive movements. The value of cavalry must not be underrated. Philadelphia can easily furnish one thousand horses, and as many good riders, for temporary service, and we are glad that a fine troop will probably be soon recruited. Mr. Postmaster WALDORN has taken active measures to organize a cavalry company, and all citizens who possess horses and patriotism, who know their duty and how to ride, should at once enroll their names upon books now open at the post office. The Government will supply arms, equipments, and instruction; the people are asked only for what we are sure they will give—horses and enterprise.

Cavalry must be obtained, or the defences of the city will be imperfect. General DANA is anxious that this arm of the service should be strengthened. PLEASANTON has taught us the lesson which we failed to learn from STUART, and the brilliant victories recently won by him in Virginia have given the cavalry service thrice the popularity it had one year ago. General ROSECRANS, we know, has now an entire corps of cavalry, and still considers the force insufficient. To argue of the value of cavalry would, however, be superfluous. We hope it will be equally unnecessary to urge upon the many excellent horsemen of Philadelphia the importance of at once putting that equestrian knowledge, which hitherto has been but a source of pleasure, to practical use in the defence of the honor and safety of the city.

THE DIRECTORS OF GIRARD COLLEGE have passed resolutions of high compliment to MR. H. W. AREY, so long the secretary of that institution, and lately its acting president. From the retirement of President ALLEN to the installation of Mr SMITH, Mr. AREY has filled the important position with fidelity and ability, and the testimony which he has received is fully merited. We take pleasure in acknowledging the services which Mr. AREY has, in a very brief time, rendered one of our most important institutions. His care and control have been kindly, liberal, and systematic, and he has left to his successor a trust unimpaired.

MR. JAY COOKE announces that he is authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury to continue the sale of the five-twenty loan, and that subscriptions will be received at par, as heretofore, until further notice. The extension of the opportunity for investment in this popular loan will give general satisfaction.

FORWARDING TROOPS.—Colonel R. B. ROBERTS, special aid to Governor CURTIN, has been detailed to Philadelphia for the purpose of forwarding rapidly the troops now being raised to defend the State. His office will be at the Commonwealth Building, Chestnut street, above Sixth.

WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, July 1, 1863.

Army of the Potomac.

Official advices from the Army of the Potomac state that a portion of our cavalry, under General KILPATRICK, had a handsome fight yesterday, with the enemy's cavalry, at Hanover. We captured a battle-flag, a lieutenant colonel, one captain, and forty-five privates. Fifteen or twenty of the enemy were killed.

Nothing in the general belief that there is no force of the enemy between that city (Frederick) and Hagerstown, the stage proprietor this morning sent out his team from the former for the latter place. This fact is stated to show that the intervening distance is now believed to be safe to travellers.

A portion of our force surrounded Emmettsburg on Monday, and captured, without a conflict, a battery, which was the only rebel force there.

Notwithstanding the various reports to the contrary, our pontoon bridges at Edwards' Ferry have been taken up and safely secured by the engineer corps.

General Stahl was relieved from his cavalry command by General Hooker on Saturday, and General Kilpatrick appointed in his place. Brig. General Farnsworth has been assigned to other duty, and his late command reorganized.

The very best spirit prevails in the army, and the hope of an early and decisive battle is the prevailing sentiment of the troops. The portion of Maryland occupied by our army is teeming with rich agricultural products, affording them large supplies. The most friendly disposition is evinced towards us by the inhabitants generally, and every precaution is taken to prevent wanton destruction of property.

ADDRESS TO THE SOLDIERS.

The following circular has been issued:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, June 30.—The commanding general requests that, previous to the engagement soon expected with the enemy, corps and other commanding officers address their troops, explaining to them the immense issue involved in the struggle.

The enemy are now on our soil. The whole country looks anxiously to this army to deliver it from the presence of the foe. Our failure to do so will leave us no such welcome as the swelling of a million of hearts with pride and joy as our success would give to every soldier of the army. Our homes, firesides, and domestic altars are involved. The army has fought well heretofore. It is believed that it will fight more desperately and bravely than ever if it is addressed in fitting terms.

Corps and other commanders are authorized to order the instant death of any soldier who fails to do his duty at this hour. By command of Major General Meade. S. WILLIAMS, A. A. Gen.

Our cavalry is actively scouting in every direction, and no fears of a surprise are, for an instant, entertained by any one.

Letters of to-day's date have been received from the Army of the Potomac. They contain the following particulars:

Our last movements have been characterized by a marked willingness on the part of the soldiers to undergo any fatigue susceptible of human endurance.

The rebels recently sent out a small reconnoitering party to the vicinity of Frederick.

No Rebels Near Washington.

It was ascertained yesterday by our scouts, who completed a circuit extending ten miles from the city, that there was not a single rebel soldier to be seen. They are confident that one of them is anywhere between Frederick and the Potomac. Washington this morning is remarkably quiet.

Our Generals—The Question of Rank Decided.

The question of rank between the major generals of the army has been decided by a board of officers to which it has been submitted, and the following order of precedence determined:

Major General GEO. B. MCCLELLAN, appointed May 14, 1861, to take rank from the same date.

Major General FREMONT, appointed July 1st, to take rank from May 14, 1861.

Major General BANKS, appointed June 5th, to take rank from May 16, 1861.

Major General DIX, appointed June 14th, to take rank from May 16th, 1861.

Major General BUTLER, appointed May 16th, to take rank from May 16th, 1861.

The decision is made upon two grounds: First, that an appointment may be ante-dated by the President, as in General FREMONT'S case; and second, that the order in which the names stood in the list sent into the Senate determine the rank between Generals BANKS, DIX, and BUTLER, without regard to the actual date of appointment by the President.

REFRESHMENT FOR THE VOLUNTEERS.—By an advertisement in our columns to-day, it will be seen that the Ladies of Philadelphia, always foremost in all good works, have already organized a Refreshment Saloon in Harrisburg for our volunteers, under the auspices of the Union League of Philadelphia. The success of the Refreshment Saloons of our own city has been such as to win for Philadelphia a world-wide reputation, and we have no doubt that the same success awaits the noble efforts of the ladies who have embarked in this new enterprise. We hope their efforts will receive the most liberal support of our citizens.

THE INVASION.

The Cavalry Battle near Hanover Junction.

A BATTLE BETWEEN MEADE AND LEE, NEAR GETTYSBURG.

A FIGHT NEAR CARLISLE.

A LARGE FIRE RAGING.

GENERAL LEE'S HEADQUARTERS AT DOVER

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

HARRISBURG, July 1.—A strong force, under command of General Knipe, was marched up the valley to-day towards Carlisle.

The supply train encountered the enemy on the route and withdrew to Harrisburg.

Heavy firing has been heard in the direction of Carlisle, and no doubt a considerable engagement has taken place.

The fight, I learn, has taken place near Mechanicsburg.

It is still important that Harrisburg should be reinforced to the utmost. The danger has not passed.

HARRISBURG, July 1—10 o'clock P. M.—A battle took place yesterday afternoon at Hanover Junction between Gen. Pleasanton's force and the rebel cavalry. It lasted nearly the whole afternoon, and the enemy lost 400 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners, besides six pieces of artillery. Our loss is reported at 200.

It is believed that the main body of Gen. Lee's army is between Gettysburg and Chambersburg. The indications are that a battle has been fought to-day between Lee and Meade, but to what extent, or with what result is not known, nor is it likely to be to-night.

Heavy firing has been heard here during the entire evening in the direction of Carlisle. It is a long way, but at times very rapid. The river banks are lined with people listening to the cannonading, and discussing the possible results.

HARRISBURG, July 1 — Midnight. — The heavy firing heard in the direction of Carlisle has now ceased.

It is believed that the rebels have made an attack on the forces belonging to this Department, between Mechanicsburg and Carlisle. The result is not known at this writing.

A large fire is now seen in the direction of Carlisle. What is burning is not known.

It is believed here that Gen. Lee's headquarters are at Dover, in York county.

The Invasion of Maryland.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.]

HAGERSTOWN, June 28, 1863.

South Mountain has recovered from the terrible effect of the battle of last fall. I crossed it to-day, and saw very little to remind me of the deadly conflict waged there. Even Antietam is so changed by the gentle hand of peace, that McClellan would scarcely recognize the once bloody grounds, and, like Wellington when he gazed on Waterloo, might remark, "They have changed my battle-field!"

The first sight which meets our eye on emerging from the dark, narrow, steep, and rugged mountain pass is Boonsboro, a place remarkable for nothing. Its single street is longer than the one in Middletown, but it cannot boast a single steeple nor a Corinthian pillar. Here I heard some reports of the rebels in Hagerstown, and their misdeeds, which made me tremble, but with a fascinating feeling of curiosity, I determined to enter Africa, if but to examine their Angola cats. I turned my face towards Hagerstown. Before reaching the last-named place, I rode through Funkstown, and felt an irrepressible desire to inquire for the venerable and sagacious Peter Funk, wholesale dealer in cheap jewelry and watches. But I was a stray Yankee in the aristocratic town of Funk, where the first salute, in Maryland, was fired in honor of the traitor Davis, after the fall of Sumpter. Fear got the better of my folly, and I rode through this respectable town with an air of deep dejection. Though told of rebel forces still in Hagerstown, I pushed boldly on, and, when I reached the place, saw the great excited crowds of all sexes and sizes in the streets, and felt their curious eyes upon me; anxiety for the liberty of locomotion filled my breast. I continued to march meekly on ward, thinking how like a lamb I was going to the shambles, before I had a chance to write to *The Press* how its faithful correspondent reached Hagerstown.

True, I was much daunted at the sight of half a dozen rebel cavalry, but they had no horses and no weapons. I passed them without a question, and reached the hotel. I am thus enabled to give to our readers a true account of the rebels since they began to cross the Potomac at Williamsport, this day two weeks, until they passed from view. Five miles from here the facts are fearfully distorted, and at the distance of ten miles we can recognize no feature of truth in the current reports. On this day two weeks ago the rebels began to cross the Potomac at Williamsport, and two and a half miles above. The only opposition met was Captain Fiery, who, with a handful of men, threw in their pickets on the Clearspring road. He was fired on by three hundred mounted infantry, himself slightly wounded and Lieutenant Metz killed. This was the remnant of the Washington county company, twenty-seven men, who joined Fiery's Battalion at Harrisburg. Raised in the neighborhood of Hagerstown, they knew every footpath in the mountains, which facilitated their escape. Here they fought individually, and the Captain ons day succeeded in picking off a lieutenant colonel. Jenkins' command crossed with two numbered two thousand mounted infantry, all told. General Rhodes' brigade of Ewell's corps next followed. This *corps d'armée* consisted of 27,000 men. A. P. Hill's corps crossed the Potomac at Shepherdstown and Falling Waters. Longstreet crossed yesterday week—on Sunday—at Falling Waters, and remained here four days. On Thursday they had all disappeared. At this time Generals Lee, Longstreet, and Pendicton came through the town, stopping but a few minutes in front of the Washington House. The reception of Lee was cold, frigid, icy. A Miss Brown took from the gardens of her Union neighbors sufficient flowers to make a wreath withal. This was placed in a bungling manner on his horse's neck, and a large secession flag waved in his hand. This *entente cordiale* was the only demonstration accorded the rebel invader. Lee looked red, ruddy, and robust. He came not in a carriage, as he did last September, but rode a splendid horse. Ewell was ghastly pale, fearfully worn and emaciated. On Friday, three hundred and fifty of Stuart's cavalry passed through Hagerstown, and were followed by four hundred more on Saturday. They were more loquacious than any of the soldiers who had passed before, telling the citizens, who eagerly inquired what cavalry was passing, that it was "Stuart's, what was left of them." They had three hundred and fifty empty saddles with them, the horses having all been killed. Stuart's men, old and worn, with same stamp. Sick, weak, and dispirited, horses lame, themselves wounded, they hated to go into Pennsylvania. Some men led three horses. But soldiers and contrabands all told the same tale of woeful suffering sustained during the past two weeks. Several ladies waved handkerchiefs, and at Dr. McGill's a large rebel flag was thrown to the breeze. Dr. Charles McGill and brother joined the rebels, and have gone with them. The rebels have plenty of artillery; all they captured at Winchester is with them, 275 pieces in all—brass howitzers, Napoleon, and rifled Parrotts. Many are 12 and some 16-pounders, drawn by eight horses. The whole army of invaders is not less than 85,000 men, some positive say 100,000. If there was a trifle over 100,000 crossed the Potomac, to their knowledge. Jenkins' and part of Hill's command took the road to Waynesboro, which place they reached some time ago. The remainder took the turnpike to Chambersburg. Lee, with his whole army, must now be thundering at the portals of Harrisburg. While here they opened two recruiting offices, but succeeded in getting only ten men in the county. The former editor of the *Free Press*, of this place, who had been sent South, Geo. A. Boyd, issued a placard from his old office, calling on "Marylanders to fall in;" but they did not. In this office were printed two-orders, one signed by Jewell, the other by Lee. I succeeded in tearing a copy of each from a dry-goods box, which you will find herewith.

Little distinction was made between the goods of the Union man and the Secessionist. Whatever they fancied was appropriated. I stepped into Mr. Cook's store, on whose door was posted the following notice:

"I here Buy certify that I have purchased all the goods suitible for the Us of the army in the store of John H. Cook.

P. COOPER, Capt., A. Q. M., 4th Miss. Brigade."

Molasses was floating over the floor, sugar scattered over the shelves, and everything of value gone. Mr. Updegraff's hat store had a similar certificate on the door. He lost $1,000 worth of hats. Of all these stolen articles none were distributed among the soldier, but were all boxed up and sent through Williamsport into Virginia, and from thence to Richmond. Rebel officers said they had Maryland now and would keep her. Even the almshouse was not spared; they robbed it of liquor, cows of their calves, and hens of their eggs.

Simon Lechrone told the rebels he resided near Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, and was a good rebel. He had voted for Breckinridge, and now loved Jeff Davis, while he detested Lincoln and Abolitionists. They listened attentively, and at the close took 12 horses, and brought Simon to Hagerstown, where they insisted on his joining the army. Mr. Beard, of the same place, a devout Davis-worshipper, told them the same story. He owned but one horse. Two scouts took the animal, but said that inasmuch as Mr. B. was a good Confederate, they would restore the horse upon receipt of ten dollars in greenbacks. He gave the money, and received the halter of the horse in his own hands. But another scout rode up, and claimed a ten dollar interest in the horse. He was about to take him along, when Mr. B. handed him the money, with a groan, and received his quadruped from the hands of scout number two. Ere five minutes had elapsed another rebel rode the animal away.

One man inquired of an officer what reason he had to know the rest of his property was safe. They had robbed him of almost everything, and he wished to retain the small remainder. "Two hundred dollars," was the laconic response. The money was handed over, but the goods were not saved.

Harrisburg seems to be the point they expected to reach. Officers and men refused to purchase anything as they passed along, saying they would wait till they got to Harrisburg. Baltimore was seldom mentioned, except in connection with Washington. These latter cities they expected to plunder, after New York and Philadelphia had been left desolate. Secessionists in this place knew the rebels were coming two weeks ago, at which time they predicted "Philadelphia would suffer." The whole rebel army passed through by Friday, on their way to Waynesboro, with the exception of a few thousand stragglers. On Sunday, about noon, the rebel mail arrived from Richmond, in the charge of a plethoric old gentleman, with red cheeks and black beaver. A news boy was lustily crying, "Late Richmond papers—*Express, Enquirer, Dispatch*—only twenty-five cent apiece!" in front of the Washington House. Nine of our cavalry had stealthily approached the town, and were now charging madly down the street. The venerable Waddilove urged his horse into a gallop, and begged the boys to show him a safe retreat. "Go up that lane, and you'll come out into a safe place," bawled an excited urchin. The mail agent went in, but found his way disputed by a solid wall. No hope of retiring could be seen; the mail bag was thrown into an adjoining yard; but a fierce-looking trooper came along, and pricked him with his sword till he climbed the fence and had safely delivered the mail."

Let me mention the boys of Hagerstown. In the Revolution, we know that school-boys drilling with sticks on the ramparts of an old fort frightened away over 1,000 British. In our own Wissahickon a boat-load of Hessians were sunk by boys hurling large rocks on them from the heights. At Hagerstown, the boys were the means of discomfiting some sixty rebel soldiers. One youth of sixteen was very prominent in his activity to have the rebels captured. He seized a gun, and pointing it at the breast of a cavalryman, said "Come down from that horse, you infernal rebel," and he came down. As many of the officers who permitted them to ride their horses to the water found their holsters empty when examined. I was shown upwards of fifty revolvers thus taken from the rebels. Our nine men, with the aid of three boys, captured fifty-three men and the mail-bags.

Next evening (Monday), a tall sergeant and four other rebels rode up in front of the Washington House. They halted, drew their pistols, and deliberately gazed all around. I thought my time had come, and momentarily expected to see a finger pointed toward me, and hear the exclamation of "There's a Yankee!" Soon they left, and I straightway grew courageous—I feel so now. One of these soldiers said Hooker had done more than any of the Yankee officers to accomplish the wishes of the people. "Why, how so?" was breathlessly asked. "Well, hasn't he driven us into the Union, and wasn't that what you have been trying to do for the last two years?" was the knowing response, while he still shaded one eye with its wrinkled lid, and looked ludicrously from the other. The joke, for such he evidently meant it to be, was not well received, so he laughed alone at his wit.

[Special Correspondence of The Press.]

WILLIAMSPORT, Md., June 29, 1863.

When the rebels entered Williamsport the inhabitants were astonished. Not having time to close their stores, they suffered more than the people of Hagerstown, who had timely warning of their approach. Everything of any value is gone. It is difficult to get enough to eat. The voracious rebels left little for strangers. At the hardware store they helped themselves generally without a thank you. One is apt to wonder what they could do with all the articles taking in a hardware store. They seemed to think nothing worth leaving. Knives, forks, and well-buckets were packed up and sent home. Pocket-knives, horse-shoes, and nails they took with them; and scythes, cradles, rakes, and forks, were loaded in the wagons, to be used, they said, in "harvesting the grain in Pennsylvania."

No period of returning has been fixed. It is their intention to remain in Pennsylvania a long time. Will they be permitted so to do?—I hope not. The destruction of the aqueduct was a ruffianly action, resulting in no good to them, and being as injurious to the interests of the people of Maryland and Virginia as to our Government.

I was told that strangers came to the ford to-day and refused to cross into Maryland, saying they would not leave Virginia. "The truth is, they feared to go in such small force, the main body of the army being so far northward. But Gen. Fitz Hugh Lee's cavalry is said to be coming, with the residue of Stuart's command, and the diffident stragglers will be marched onward. I converse with a gentleman who has just arrived from Richmond. He has resided in Columbia, S. C., for the last three years. The war coming on so abruptly, his short business visit was prolonged into a forced stay of three years. This gentleman visited Gen. Corcoran when he was imprisoned there, and received for his kindness a white ivory ring, with this inscription cut on the inside: "Michael Corcoran to R. K. N." A number of gentlemen beside himself expected to be liberated by the attack on Charleston. Two holes, large enough to drive a wagon through, were battered in the walls of Sumpter, yet they had to suffer the mortification of seeing their friends withdraw.

Mr. K—— was in Richmond when Gov. Letcher issued the proclamation, which the *Enquirer* characterizes as "inflammable." One of their papers describes with what fierce enthusiasm 15,000 men gathered in the public square, and begged for arms. This is all false; the rebel editors have once more taken to drawing a long bow. Richmond at this time has not 5,000 troops to defend it, if General Beauregard has not yet arrived. Every available man has been taken on the great plundering expedition into Pennsylvania, and it is generally believed in Richmond that Beauregard, with 50,000 men, is on highway to Maryland, and forty-two miles from this place is being prepared a substantial pontoon bridge, on which I presume they will cross into Maryland.

He was not permitted to approach Thoroughfare Gap, till the dead were interred or concealed. But for ten miles, at least, he saw the road strewed with dead men and horses. The rebel army is now in what their officers would call excellent condition; and they are much better provided for than last September. You seldom see one without shoes now, but then those who were barefooted and bareheaded, had the majority. Seeing no hope of foreign assistance, they are determined to make one desperate, offensive effort to reach our heart; and if they fail, then we will find that with General Lee

"Past hope or safety, 'tis his latest care,
Like falling Cæsar, decently to die."

Boonsboro.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

BOONSBORO, Md., June 29.—A small squadron of our cavalry dashed through Hagerstown last evening. The consternation was great among Secessionists and rebel stragglers. Every one fled in confusion. Having no definite idea of the magnitude of the danger which menaced them, they imagined the worst. The oppressed Unionists hailed their coming with tears of joy, and devoutly thanked God that the time of rebel soldiers in their town was growing to an end. Traitors ground their teeth in rage, and fearfully thought of the morrow.

Boys from fifteen to twenty years of age old pelted the retreating plunderers with all sorts of missiles, and so worried a fat old gentleman, acting provost marshal, who was fleeing with the mail, which was prepared to be sent to Winchester, and from the wrath to come, that he dropped the bag containing the rebel mail, which is now in our possession, and being driven with speed to Frederick. Sixteen prisoners were captured in the gallant charge through the town. Capt. White, of the Loudoun Rangers, known in the neighborhood for his rapacity, is reported captured, but I did not see him pass through Boonsboro with the other prisoners.

A considerable portion of Stuart's cavalry is said to be at Williamsport, superintending the shipping of stolen goods into Virginia. I am told he is there in person. The remainder of his cavalry passed through Hagerstown, as I reported yesterday. Men who saw them say they are badly cut up, and curse the Yankees for their valor and intrepidity of last week.

BERMUDA.

Arrival of the Rebel Steamer Lady Davis—Vallandigham a Passenger.

NEW YORK, July 1.—Bermuda papers of the 25th ult. have been received.

The rebel steamer Lady Davis arrived at St. George's on the 22d, from Wilmington, N. C. She is reported to belong to the rebel Government, and brought important despatches from them to the British.

There were twelve blockade-runners at Wilmington on the 16th. Two of them left in company with the Lady Davis, which passed close to the blockading squadron on her way out. The Lady Davis was formerly named the Cornubia.

The steamer Harriet Pinckney had arrived from England, and the Lord Clyde cleared for Nassau. The steamer Marion, from Nassau, bound to England, called for coal, but not being able to get a supply, proceeded to Halifax.

A line of steamers are about to be established between Bermuda and Liverpool.

Vallandigham arrived at Bermuda in the steamer Lady Davis. The *Royal Gazette* says he is on the way to Canada, there to await coming events.

The Diplomatic Relations of the Rebels.

NEW YORK, July 1.—A copy of the rebel Secretary Benjamin's communication to Commissioner Mason, at London, on the subject of the revocation of the exequatur of Consul Moore, at Richmond, has been published in the London papers. It partially rests on the ground that he denounced the Confederate Government as being indifferent to cases of the most atrocious cruelty. It appears that two persons who were enrolled as conscripts claimed exemption as British subjects. The facts were investigated, and it was proved that they had exercised the right of suffrage.

The document proceeds to argue that "the British and other ministers at Washington assume to exercise authority over the consuls residing in the Confederate States, thus ignoring the existence of this Government. Under these circumstances President Davis felt it his duty to order that no direct communication be permitted between the Confederacy and of those nations residing within the enemy's country.

EUROPE.

The Steamship China at Sandy Hook.

The Liverpool *Post* says: "The steamer Southerner, about which so much has been said and done at Havre, has arrived in the Mersey. Externally, she fully bears out the rakish character that was given her there, being a low, sharp vessel, and one built apparently for speed. She has come round here to load for Nassau. The fact of her name, in the first place; her owners (Messrs. Fraser, Trenholm, & Co.), in the second; and her captain (Bullock), as an old Confederate, in the third, is quite sufficient to transfer the vigilance with which she was watched in the Tees to the Mersey."

The London *Times* has an editorial on the peace meeting recently held in New York, under the auspices of Fernando Wood and others. The *Times* remarks that if the meeting should prove influential enough to liberate opinion, we may, perhaps, wonder six weeks hence where the strength of the war party could ever have lain; just as in France, after the fall of Robespierre, people asked each other who could have been the Jacobins. There is everything, except the uncertainty of American politics, to make us regard such an event as probable. It would almost seem that the President himself would have no objection to peace if he knew how to reach it. Perhaps this meeting may show him the way. If an armistice were proclaimed, we believe that neither party would be in a hurry to renew the war, and the desire of peace would supply the two Governments with the strongest motive for coming to reasonable terms of separation.

FRANCE.

The rumor that M. Sartiges, the French ambassador at Turin, and M. de Talleyrand, ambassador at Brussels, are about to request leave of absence from their diplomatic posts, is unfounded.

The harvest in the extreme south of France had commenced under favorable conditions. The French corn markets were generally advancing.

AUSTRIA.

The Council of the Empire was opened on the 18th. The following is a summary of the speech from the throne: The Emperor makes a satisfactory retrospect of the activity of the Reichsrath, and expresses a hope that Transylvania will also shortly take part in its deliberations. His Majesty continues: "The Reichsrath closed its first session under the blessings of peace, which the Government will endeavor to maintain undisturbed. Thanks to the liberal institutions of the Empire, its material and intellectual life is everywhere being rapidly developed, and its influence and position as a great power continually becoming more and more satisfactory. The credit of the State and the public currency have most decidedly improved. It has been unnecessary to apply for any extraordinary credit during the current year. The budget which will be submitted has been prepared with a view to the greatest possible economy." The speech concludes by enumerating the various measures of local reforms which are to be brought forward.

ITALY.

The Italian Parliament had been engaged in debating the general policy of the Government. Parliamentarial explanations were given, and confidence was expressed in the Emperor Napoleon's course, notwithstanding the continued occupation of Rome by France.

Gen. Bixio advised the interruption of relations with France, on account of occupying Rome, does not prevent the organization of brigandage.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SANDY HOOK, July 1.—The steamship China passed here at noon to-day.

LIVERPOOL, June 30—Saturday Evening.—The steamer Asia arrived here to-day.

COTTON.—Sales to-day of 4,000 bales, including 2,500 bales to speculators and for export. The market is dull and unchanged.

Breadstuffs are flat, but more steady. Provisions are dull.

LONDON, Saturday Evening.—Consols closed at 92@92¼.

American stocks dull; Illinois Central 29@33 per cent. discount; Erie 59@60.

MONTREAL, July 1.—The steamship North American passed Farther Point, at six o'clock this morning. Her news was anticipated by the City of Baltimore.

LIVERPOOL, June 27.—The sales of the week amount to 48,000 bales, including 5,500 bales to speculators, and 3,500 bales for export. The market opened steady, but closed dull. The sales on Friday are estimated at 4,000 bales, including 1,500 bales to speculators and for export. The market closed flat at the following quotations:

	Fair.	Middling.
Orleans	24d	22¼
Mobile	23¾d	21¾d
Uplands	23d	21d

The stock in port is estimated at 360,000 bales, including 60,000 bales of American.

Breadstuffs are inactive, with a downward tendency. Provisions quiet but steady. Lard is firmer.

LONDON, June 29.—Consols close at 92@92¾ for money, and 92¾ for account.

The bullion in the Bank of England has advanced £274,000.

AMERICAN STOCKS.—Illinois Central Railroad 29 per cent. discount. Erie Railroad 61.

THE LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.

LIVERPOOL, June 30—Evening.—The markets are all dull, awaiting the action of the news by the Africa.

LONDON, June 24.—Consols, after official hours yesterday, closed at 92¾@92¾ for money.

PARIS, June 20.—The Rentes opened to-day at 68f. 45c.

MEXICO.

The Capital Evacuated—The French Policy.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—Advices from the city of Mexico, from the 30th of May to the 6th of June, have been received. The news is of the highest importance.

President Juarez and his Cabinet have concluded to evacuate the city of Mexico.

They have taken this action believing that the most effectual resistance to the French army could be made outside of the walls.

On the 31st of May, the Government moved to San Louis Potosi, taking all the movable fire arms and munitions of war. They also took with them two millions of dollars from the treasury.

The force that garrisoned the city, said to number over 20,000, was withdrawn to Guernovaca Plaza, and the intermediate points around the city, for the purpose of carrying on a guerilla warfare.

On June 1st, a meeting was held in the city, at which the principal leaders of the Church party were present. They sent a commission to Gen. Forey to offer their allegiance to the Emperor Napoleon.

On June 5th a division of the French army occupied the main entrance to the city, and afforded the Church party protection against the excited populace.

The whole French army was expected to occupy the capital on the 8th of June.

Three newspapers have been established favoring the policy of the French. One of these papers says:

"The occupation of this city settles with absolute certainty that it is necessary to extirpate by the root the Democratic principle, and no longer need there be even a dream of popular sovereignty."

It also advises the confiscation of the property of all parties who have been or are in arms against the French.

This news is derived from letters received here from high Mexican officials.

Naval Movements.

NEW YORK, July 1.—It is reported that the steamers Susquehanna, Niagara, and Shamrock are to replace our sailing squadron in the Mediterranean.

The monitor Passaic is to remain here for the defence of the harbor.

The U. S. steamer United States arrived here to-day from a cruise.

NIXON'S CREMORNE AND MADAME MACARTE'S Combination Circus and Syro Arabic Troupe, we are pleased to announce, will commence a short season of entertainments in this city to-morrow. The location selected is most excellent, adjoining the Academy of Music, Broad street, and convenient to all parts of the city. The company embraces the finest equestrian performers in the country, as also a Syro-Arabic troupe of male and female artistes, the first, we believe, who have ever appeared in this country. Madame Macarte, some years since, we remember at Welsh's Amphitheatre, where the Continental Hotel now stands, and for weeks she drew crowds of admirers. Since then she has travelled Europe, and returns with fresh laurels, having had a most successful tour through Great Britain. Mr. Eaton Stone is also well known among us. He is a dashing, daring rider; rides without saddle or bridle, and is quite a prince of equestrians. His raids in the circus are famous. Mr. Cook, the English clown, is spoken of as a most excellent and gentlemanly wit, and Jimmey Reynolds is well known to the patrons of the arena. The company surely is composed of merited talent, and, we doubt not, will receive liberal patronage from our citizens.

SECOND EDITION.

FIVE O'CLOCK A. M.

THE INVASION.

THE FIRST BATTLE ON PENNSYLVANIA SOIL.

Gens. Longstreet, Hill, Reynolds, and Meade, Engaged near Gettysburg.

THE FIGHT VERY SEVERE.

HEAVY LOSS.

GENERAL REYNOLDS KILLED.

IMPORTANT FROM HARRISBURG.

STRENGTH OF THE REBEL ARMY.

Lee has over 98,000 Men and 240 Pieces of Artillery.

Stuart's Cavalry not Included.

Movements of the Rebel Generals.

Heavy Firing in the Direction of Dillsburg.

A Fierce Engagement at Hanover.

1,800 CONTEND WITH 6,000.

CAPTURE OF A SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT AND THREE GUNS.

NEW YORK, July 2—4 o'clock A. M.—The New York *Times* has just received the following important despatch, dated near

GETTYSBURG, Pa., July 1.—The first heavy engagement on Pennsylvania soil was commenced at 9 o'clock this morning, between the rebels under Generals Longstreet