The Press.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1863.

Flag Presentation to A. G. Cattell, Esq.

A presentation of a peculiarly interesting character was made on Tuesday afternoon at the residence of Alexander G. Cattell, Esq., Merchantville, four miles beyond Camden, on the part of the members of the Corn Exchange Association. It cannot be forgotten, and never ought to be forgotten, that this Association, at once patriotic, energetic, and wealthy, has raised, equipped, and sent to the field, in defence of the Union, two fine regiments. Mr. Cattell was Chairman of the Committee to whom were entrusted the details of this loyal organization. Each regiment was in camp in this city while being prepared for duty, and the immortal "stars and stripes" floated proudly over their tents from a lofty flag-staff,

"To equal which the tallest pine,
Hewn on Norwegian hills to be the mast
Of some great ammiral were but a wand."

This flag-staff, removed from the place of encampment, and erected in the lawn in front of the residence of Mr. Cattell, was the object of presentation, accompanied by a splendid flag, about 25 feet by 15. Flags and staff are what is called "full garrison size," and can be seen from a considerable distance, on the flat land of "the Jerseys." The cost was defrayed by a select few belonging to the Corn Exchange—the difficulty being to limit the number and the subscription; and the design being to give Mr. Cattell a permanent and patriotic memorial of his great services to the Union. At half past two on Tuesday afternoon a party of between thirty and forty gentlemen, nearly all belonging to the Corn Exchange, arrived at Mr. Cattell's residence, marshalled by Samuel L. Ward, Esq., treasurer of the Corn Exchange Association. They had been preceded by Reeb's Philadelphia Brass Band, which "did discourse most excellent music," at intervals during the afternoon.

At three o'clock, a goodly company, including several of the fairer sex, assembled before the house to witness the hauling up of the flag, which was done in a minute or so, followed by hearty cheers, the band playing the "Star-Spangled Banner." This done, Joseph W. Miller, Esq., addressed the company to the effect that after performing the agreeable duty of raising the flag of the Union to the summit of the pole which lifted its height to the heavens, they would now have the pleasure of witnessing the presentation, which Henry Budd, Esq., had been deputed to make.

Mr. Budd then came forward, and spoke as follows:

Alexander G. Cattell, Esq. SIR: The changes ever marking human events are continuously surrounding man with varied and unexpected circumstances; and as the individual conducts himself in new and responsable positions, so will the world estimate his integrity and capacity. The hallowed calm of peaceful life, its joy-awakening nature, may monitise and reflecting eye, charming the soul to grateful acknowledgment, is nature's primal gift to man. In this holy state, the career of any person affords but little attraction for special notice. The unvaried pursuit of happiness alone demands the efforts of every one; but eminently deserving would be he, who foremost in the promotion of that great object.

We are living, sir, in times less barren in opportunities for virluous distinction. Rebellion rages amid the fairest portion of our country, and lovely treason, rejecting the tenders of brotherly affection; indifferent to the slaughter of millions of human beings, each of whom is the centre of a circle of loving, mourning, suffering friends and relatives; callous to the horrors, and unspeakably shocking demoralization pervading almost every sphere of society; offering no good return for all this evil, but, prompted by the foulest ambition that ever polluted the human heart; forebearing its despotic sway for a time, and compelling its forced and deluded victims; the wretched plotters, demagogues, and leaders of this tremendous outrage upon humanity, DARING BUT TO PLACE THEMSELVES IN AN UNNATURAL AND self-destructive malice against the General Government and laws, leaving to the patriots of the land no choice but to be arm-ed, polished and manslaughtered, or to crush this rebellious usurpation of power, and be forever free. When this sad day lowered upon us, we had recourse to the last fatal argument of civilized man.

And may God forgive and protect us in this extremity! The nation flew to arms; in torrents rolled the legions of the Republic, destined to overwhelm rebellion. An organization of merchants and traders of Philadelphia, unswerved by political creeds, unknown in political fame, offered their service to aid the General Government, and placed, at different periods, at least two regiments of soldiers in the field. The achievement—the greater for being unskilled—devolved upon a committee of gentlemen. Of this committee, sir, you were created chairman, and in that position all public accord is loud in pronouncing that you have every duty was nobly and faithfully accomplished. The concentration of all that this people held dear to them—their guiding stars, their Constitution and their laws, their freedom and power—was expressed in the flag of their country. It had fostered their birth, sheltered and prospered their manhood, and they were willing to trust its protection in the darkest adversity.

Beneath its glorious folds, glancing in the sun's brightness, or streaming to the tempest's roar, the heart swelled with inspiration, and freedom's burning emotions choked the utterance of the voice, and moistened the eyes of patriotism. Your and our sympathies are too well known, sir, to suppose you indifferent to the sentiments with which this visit is made to you. The latter brigade had the hardest place to take, and marched up amid a perfect storm of leaden hail. After getting on the hill they drove the enemy before them down the hill, pouring in a terrific fire at every step.

AN INSTRUMENT called a *bathoricomitre* has been invented by Messrs. Ludwig & Kronmyer, depending on the principle of closing an electric circuit by means of a substance interposed between the electrodes, by which thickness of substances, such as hair, spiders' webs, &c., may be determined with exactness to the twelve millionth part of an inch.

FUNERAL OF COLONEL CREIGHTON.—The remains of the brave young Colonel Wm. R. Creighton arrived in Cleveland on Sabbath morning, at ten o'clock, and the funeral obsequies, which will be of the most imposing description, will take place today, at noon. On hearing of the death of Colonel Creighton and Lieutenant Colonel Crane, General Hooker is said to have exclaimed, "My God! are they dead! They are two of the best men in the army."

DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

Letter from General Geary's Division.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

HEADQUARTERS 29TH REGIMENT, P. V.
WAUHATCHIE, Tenn., Nov. 29, 1863.

I take Sunday morning, the very first leisure moment of this most eventful week, to again write to you, and give the particulars of our week's operations. On Tuesday morning our division was ordered under arms, without anything but one day's rations, and at break of day we found ourselves at Lookout creek, at the side and base of Lookout Mountain, about four miles below the point, or Knob, as it is termed. General Geary then informed us that preparations had been made to assault, and our business was to take this mountain. Our brigade, or two regiments of our brigade, the 29th and 111th, had the advance or right of the movement. We crossed the creek, pushed up the side of the mountain, and then formed in line of battle; the 29th on the extreme right, then the 111th, then the 3d Brigade, then a portion of the 1st Brigade. After getting our lines fixed, we threw out skirmishers, and thus moved our forces forward, in the shape of a half-moon, along the entire western side of the mountain, and soon engaged the enemy. On we pushed over rocks and precipices, the enemy not dividing the true character of the movement until too late to give a successful fight. On and onward we pushed, heedless of the fallen dead or wounded until the colors of our good old regiment were planted on almost the highest pinnacle of Lookout mountain. The enemy at length becoming totally demoralized, we captured them by hundreds, and our regiment took over six hundred prisoners alone, and the division over two thousand, two pieces of artillery, and three stand of colors. Our loss in the 29th, in killed, is Michael Farris, of Company K; Sergeant Douglass, of Company H, and William Vandegraft, or Billy Lively, as he was called, of Company E. Wounded—George Kockersperger, in the thigh, slightly; William Dunn, in the jaw, slightly, and Private John Kelley, of Company C, flesh wound in the arm; James Burns, Company F, hand; Oliver Wallace, Company I, left leg, and Captain Millinist, slight flesh wound in the arm. We occupied Lookout Mountain until Wednesday noon, when we were ordered to Mission Ridge. Sherman's and Thomas' forces having been engaged all day, we got up in good time, and by night had completely routed them from their stronghold and captured them by thousands. We slept in their camps, and on Thursday moved towards Ringgold, twenty miles in an easterly direction. We captured several hundred of the enemy's retreating forces, and on Thursday night captured four pieces of artillery, and many more prisoners. Friday morning, by 10 o'clock, we arrived at Ringgold, and found the enemy in considerable force on Taylor's Ridge, named after the celebrated Indian "Chief Taylor." Here we had a severe engagement, and our division particularly the 1st brigade, lost heavily. Our wounded were Capt. Johnson, Company B, slightly. Private Robinson, Company C, leg, since amputated. After a contest of three hours, the enemy fled. A rain storm set in, and the remainder of the day was spent in burying the dead, and caring for the wounded. Yesterday our regiment was ordered to take up line of march for camp, and bring in the captured artillery. I came in very sick, expecting to get a letter from home. What the Post Department does I do not know, but our soldiers complain of not getting letters, when many are sent to them, hoping the week will bring a large mail.

Yours, truly, WHITE STAR.

How Gen. Grant Deals with Rebel Sympathizers.

The following order of Gen. Grant shows his way of dealing with rebels and rebel sympathizers:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIV. OF THE MISS., IN THE FIELD, CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 6, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4.—The habit of raiding parties of rebel cavalry visiting towns, villages and farms where there are no Federal forces, and pillaging Union families, having become prevalent, department commanders will take immediate steps to abate the evil, or make the loss by such raids fall on the Secessionists and Secession sympathizers of the neighborhood where such acts are committed. For every act of violence to the person of an unarmed Union citizen, a Secessionist will be arrested and held as hostage for the delivery of the offender. For every dollar's worth of property taken from such citizens and destroyed by raiders, an assessment will be made upon Secessionists of the neighborhood and collected by the nearest military forces, under the supervision of the commander thereof, and the amount thus collected paid over to the sufferer. When such assessments cannot be collected in money, property useful to the Government may be taken at a fair valuation, and the amount paid in money by a disbursing officer of the Government who will take such property up on his returns. Wealthy Secessionist citizens will be assessed in money and provisions for the support of Union refugees who have been and may be driven from their homes and into our lines by the acts of those with whom these Secession citizens are in sympathy. All collections and payments under this order will be through disbursing officers of the Government, whose accounts must show all money and property received under it, and how disposed of.

By order of Major General U. S. GRANT.
T. S. BOWERS, Assistant Adjutant General.

THE SITUATION AT CHATTANOOGA.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—According to the latest official advices from Chattanooga, the work of perfecting the lines of communication of Gen. Grant's army, by repairing the railroad from Bridgeport, and increasing the steamboat facilities, is being pushed forward with great energy. The railroad, however, is not expected to be in running order for weeks. The troops are receiving their much-needed outfits of clothing and blankets for the winter. Gen. Elliott now commands the cavalry corps of the Department of the Cumberland.—*Tribune.*

GEN. SHERMAN IN COMMAND OF EAST TENNESSEE.—Upon marching from Chattanooga Gen. Sherman was placed in command of all the Union forces in East Tennessee, by order of Major General Grant. The order has been approved by the War Department. Gen. Sherman's headquarters will be at Knoxville. Gen. Foster will retain command of the troops which were in East Tennessee previous to the arrival of Gen. Sherman. Gen. Burbut will probably succeed the latter in command of the Department of East Tennessee.

BRAGG'S LOSSES.

The extent to which Bragg has suffered—the completeness of the rout—may be inferred from a few figures. After Lookout fell, and Chattanooga was free, Bragg had probably 35,000 men. This force, after Lookout Mountain was taken, he concentrated on and about Missionary Ridge. He lost by bands 6,000 prisoners; his killed and wounded are at least 4,000; the stragglers cannot be less than 5,000—making his loss substantially 15,000, beside nearly or quite 60 pieces of artillery. Prisoners say that the Tennesseans are all determined not to return to Georgia, but to desert whenever they can. From what the prisoners say, I have no doubt a dozen of stragglers at too low a figure, as I believe I have the killed and wounded. In fact, Bragg's remaining forces are little else than stragglers. As all intents and purposes, as something on which the Confederacy may depend, either for offensive or defensive operations, that great army of Bragg, from which so much was promised—the army that Davis so recently rebaptised and consecrated, and bade repossess Tennessee and Kentucky, is virtually wiped out—gone!

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Charges Against General Humphreys.

A pamphlet containing charges and specifications preferred against Brig. Gen. A. A. Humphreys, formerly commanding 3d Division, 5th Corps, Army of the Potomac, and now chief of staff to Gen. Meade, by Jacob G. Frick, colonel of the 129th Pennsylvania Volunteers, has been distributed among the members of the Senate. The charges were made April 14, 1863, and are, "uttering disloyal and treasonable sentiments," "violation of fifth article of war," "conduct subversive of good order and military discipline, and tending to mutiny and sedition," "tyrannical conduct, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," and "drunkenness." It is alleged that these charges were at the time suppressed, and that copies were subsequently forwarded to the President, Gen. Halleck, and Col. Holt, Judge Advocate General. The object now is to provoke inquiry.

As a specimen of the charges, we give the specification of the first charge:

In this, that he, Brigadier General A. A. Humphreys, commanding, etc., did say, "By G—d! I wish some one would ask the army to follow him (meaning Major General McClellan) to Washington, and hurl the whole d—d pack into the Potomac, and place General McClellan at the head of affairs. I believe the army would willingly go." This at camp near Warrenton, on or about the 10th day of November, A. D. 1862.

A NEW COMMANDER.

SAYS the *Providence Post*:

"We have reason to believe that it is the intention of the President to look beyond the army for a commander; and if this is the fact, we ask leave to name *the right man in the right place.* Give the Army of the Potomac to William Sprague, and in ninety days, mud or no mud, he will plant the stars and stripes in Richmond. He is a military man by instinct. He can do twenty things at once, and do them well, and do them quicker than lightning. A lazy man cannot breathe easy within thirty miles of his camp—a stalwart man breathe at all within rifle-shot of his camp—and a blustering brow-beater or fawning parasite could make no more impression upon this iron woodpecker could make upon Bunker Hill Monument. He would make old mother earth echo and scream under his tread. The army, and all Virginia would realize that the devil was to pay before he had been ten days in the saddle. * * * But we know what we are talking when we say that if a civilian is to command the Army of the Potomac, William Sprague is the right man for the place.