The Press.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1864.

FORNEY'S WAR PRESS,

For the week ending April 23d, 1864.

I. POETRY.—"The Priests of Baal in Congress"—"An Ideal"—"Ulric Dahigren"—"Zephyrand Rose"—"Dragoon's Song."

II. "JESSIE AND MAUD," an original novelette, by Mrs. Emma Bretton Chester XVI.

III. EDITORIALS.—The Massacre at Fort Pillow—The War in the South west—Injustice to Colored Soldiers—The Great Fair Fund—Freedom of Speech—Friends and Foes Abroad—Garibaldi in England—Harrisburg and Philadelphia—The Penn Mansion—The Throne of Mexico—Admiral Dupont—General Grant's Report—Queen Victoria—Concerning Prices

IV. LETTERS OF OCCASIONAL.

V. CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

VI. PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

VII. OUR FLORIDA LETTER—St. Augustine Threatened—Seminole Ranch and Gilmore—The Rebel Troops.

VIII. LETTERS FROM CORRESPONDENTS.—The Returned Prisoners at Annapolis—Letter from the 25th Colored Regiment—The Late Sam Cabanne—What to send the Freedmen—The Trade in Petroleum—Not less Christian for being Sanitary.

IX. WAR NEWS.—Capture of Fort Pillow by the Rebels—A General Massacre of Union Troops—Battle of Red River—General Steinwehr's Command Defeated—Fortress Monroe, North Carolina &c.

X. ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN AT THE MARYLAND SANITARY FAIR.

XI. TERRIBLE MARINE DISASTER IN NEW YORK BAY.

XII. THE EFFICIENCY OF IRON CLAD VESSELS—Admiral Dupont's Attack—GRANT'S REPORT OF THE CHATTANOOGA CAMPAIGN.

XIV. THE NEW TAX BILL.

XV. OBITUARY NOTICE.—The Late Geo. W. Pearce.

XVI. THE SANITARY FAIR—Appeal from Governor Curtin.

XVII. NEW PUBLICATIONS.

XVIII. RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

XIX. CITY INTELLIGENCE—Grace Greenwood's Lecture—Preparations for the Sanitary Fair—The United States Mint—Rev. J. Walker Jackson's Lecture—Meeting of Working Women. &c.

XX. UNIFORM NATIONAL CURRENCY.

XXI. SCRAPS OF SINGED SENSE.—No. 1. That Whistle: No 2. Brass-Band Music.

XXII. CHESS DEPARTMENT—Problems and Games.

XXIII. THE MONEY MARKET.

XXIV. PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

☞ Specimens of the "WAR PRESS" will be forwarded when requested. The subscription rate for single copies is ☞ per year. A deduction from these terms will be allowed when club are formed. Single copies, put up in wrappers, ready for mailing, may be obtained at the counter. Price five cents.

THE WAR.

From the conflicting reports of the battle on the Red River it is impossible to form a correct opinion of the result. It is probable that the Union forces were defeated, but unlikely that the rebel advantage was decisive.

A Cairo telegram states, upon the authority of letters from officers with the expedition, that, after SMITH was defeated, FRANKLIN turned the day against the enemy. We trust this may be found true, but no one has reason to be surprised or disheartened by news of a repulse in Northwestern Louisiana. Victory there would indeed be great gain, but it does not follow that defeat would be great loss, for this capital reason—the rebel stake is much greater than our own.

The war is in Virginia, and all defeats or successes out of that State are but secondary. There are the main armies, and there will be the great battle. No triumphs elsewhere, now that we hold the Mississippi, could compensate the country for the defeat of the Army of the Potomac in the spring of 1864; no victory at present possible in the West could prevent the sudden fall of the rebellion if General GRANT should break its power in the East. Every man that the enemy could detach from points not threatened by our arms has doubtless been hurried up to the reinforcement of LEE, and we know that the whole weight of the war now rests upon the Army of the Potomac. If this mighty host enters Richmond, even if it fights a battle every day for months to do it, all failures elsewhere will be redeemed, and all other successes made comparatively insignificant. Until that great campaign is decided, elation and depression are equally unwise.

The Freedmen in South Carolina.

The valuable and interesting letter of Mr. REUBEN TOMLINSON, which we publish today, exhibits some of the results of emancipation, which indicate how great will yet be its practical value to the country. This letter was evidently hastily written, and not intended for publication, but that its statements are literally correct is not to be doubted. Mr. TOMLINSON is an impartial and unusually intelligent observer, and his authority is unquestionable. Emancipation, vindicated first of all by justice, is also vindicated by its usefulness. The whole colored population of the Port Royal district, South Carolina, is self-supporting, having raised itself from absolute dependence on the charities of the Government in less than two years. The freedmen are purchasing plantations, and making them profitable. The sudden change from slavery to freedom has not made them less industrious, but, to the contrary, has increased their energy and application. Their material condition has been remarkably improved, and Mr. MCKIM, in his introductory letter, has suggested an argument based on the brisk trade these freedmen have begun with the North, by which the reader can easily see what a great market may be opened. It needs no logic to prove that this rapid advance in material civilization must be attended by commensurate moral and intellectual progress, and we commend Mr. TOMLINSON'S statement of facts to those who are not yet convinced that emancipation has ceased to be an experiment.

The Ladies and the Sanitary Fair.

Few, perhaps, are aware of the great and untiring exertions which have been made by the ladies of our city in behalf of the Sanitary Fair, to be held here in June next, or of the wonderful success which has crowned their efforts. The individual labors of each are of course known to her own circle of friends, but the public would be astonished if a knowledge of the vast total could be given. It is in such works of charity as this that the noble nature of woman shines forth pre-eminent. Through the whole progress of the war the cheering assistance of the gentler sex has smoothed the rugged path and raised the drooping spirits of the tired soldier, who, lying sick or wounded in the hospital far from home, has found a kind hand to perform a hundred soothing offices, and to console him for the absence of the wife, the mother, or the sister for whom his heart yearns.

The various committees which have been organized for the purpose of collecting donations of all sorts have been and still are hard at work, and have met with the most cheering encouragement in the prosecution of their labors. Our citizens have responded liberally to the appeals of the ladies, and contributions of all sorts have been made with lavish generosity. Money has been poured into their laps as if its only value were the benefit it would be to the suffering soldier, and with a confidence that in the hands of the Sanitary Commission its mission could not fail.

It is well that the public should know of the exertions which are being made, so that all may be encouraged to add their portion to the great cause. Our Fair cannot fail to be a great success; its course is marked out, and its destinies entrusted to those who are heart and soul in the work. We may anticipate a financial result which will astonish even the most sanguine friends of the Commission, if the generosity which has been evinced so far is continued until the end. Let all the men and women of the community join with those who have so industriously forwarded the cause of our soldiers, and the Philadelphia Fair will be a triumph.

The President's Address at Baltimore.

The remarks of the President at the great Maryland Fair, in Baltimore, on the evening of Monday last, having been sent forth with some imperfections, we now print and publish a corrected copy. It is unnecessary that we should attempt to interpret that which so aptly and characteristically explains itself. But he who reads these forcible sentences must summon to his recollection the place in which they were delivered, the events to which they so appositely refer, and the great questions with which they deal and almost decide.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: Calling to mind that we are in Baltimore, we cannot fail to note that the world moves. Looking upon these many people assembled here to serve, as they best may, the soldiers of the Union, it occurs at once that three years ago the same soldiers could not so much as pass through Baltimore. The chance from then till now is both great and gratifying. Blessings on the brave men who have wrought the change, and the fair women who strive to reward them for it.

But Baltimore suggests more than could happen within Baltimore. The change within Baltimore is part only of a far wider change. When the war began, three years ago, neither party, nor any man, expected it would last till now. Each looked for the end, in some way, long ere to-day. Neither did any anticipate that domestic slavery would be much affected by the war. But here we are; the war has not ended, and slavery has been much affected—how much needs not now to be recounted. So true is it that man proposes and God disposes.

But we are not here past though, we may not claim to have directed it; and seeing it, in this case, we feel more hopeful and confident for the future.

The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people just now are much in want of one. We all declare for liberty; but in using the same *word* we do not all mean the same *thing*. With some, the word liberty may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself and the product of his labor, while with others the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men and the product of other men's labor. Here are two, not only different, but incompatible things, called by the same name, liberty. And it follows that each of the things is, by the respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names—liberty and tyranny.

The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as a *liberator*, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty, especially as the sheep was a black one. Plainly, the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon a definition of the word liberty; and precisely the same difference prevails to-day among us human creatures, even in the North, and all professing to love liberty. Hence, we behold the processes by which thousands are daily passing from under the yoke of bondage, hailed by some as the advance of liberty, and dreaded by others as the destruction of all liberty. Recently, as it seems, the people of Maryland have been doing something to define liberty; and thanks to them that, in what they have done, the wolf's disciples have been repudiated.

It is not very becoming for one in my position to make speeches at great length; but there is another subject upon which I feel that I ought to say a word. A painful rumor, true, I fear, has reached us of the massacre, by the rebel forces at Fort Pillow, in the west end of Tennessee, on the Mississippi river, of some three hundred colored soldiers and white officers, who had just been overpowered by their assailants. That there is to be some searching of heart in mind whether the Government is doing its duty to the colored soldier, and to the service, at this point, is of the highest propriety. At the beginning of the war, and for some time, the use of colored troops was not contemplated; and how the change of purpose was wrought I will not now take time to explain. Upon a clear conviction of duty, I resolved to treat the element of strength to account; and I am responsible for it to the American people, to the christian world, to history, and on my final account to God. Having determined to use the negro as a soldier, there is no way but to give him all the protection given to any other soldier. The difficulty is not in stating the principle, but in practically applying it. It is a mistake to suppose the Government is indifferent to this matter, or is not doing the best it can in regard to it. We do not to day *know* that a colored soldier, or white officer commanding colored soldiers, has been massacred by the rebels when made a prisoner. We fear it, believe it, I may say, but we do not *know* it. To take the life of one of their soldiers, on the assumption that this murder occurs, when it is short of certainty that they do murder *ours*, might be too serious, too cruel a mistake. If we find the report to be true, and thoroughly investigated; and such investigation will probably show conclusively how the truth is. If, after all, it should be found, as I hope it will be, that there has been no massacre at Fort Pillow, it will be almost safe to say there has been none, and will be none elsewhere. If there has been the massacre of three hundred there, or even the tenth part of three hundred, it will be conclusively proven; and being so proven, the retribution shall as surely come. It will be matter of grave consideration in what exact course to apply the retribution; but in the supposed case, it must come.—*Wash. Chronicle.*

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 20, 1864.

The Army.

Brigadier General PRINCE, who commanded a division in the former corps of General FRENCH, has been ordered to the military district of Paducah, Columbus, and Cairo. General RICKETTS takes his place. The 2d Army Corps, Major General HANCOCK, was reviewed by General GRANT yesterday. The army is maturing for exercise.

Adverse Report on Bounties to Nine-Months Men.

The report from the Senate Military Committee by Mr. LANE, of Indiana, adverse to the House bill for paying a bounty of $25 to nine months militia, represents that the Governor of Pennsylvania exceeded his authority in promising bounties to men enlisted under the call of the President of August 4, 1862, for 300,000 militia for nine months. That the War Department ordered the discontinuance of further enlistments on learning of the Governor's action. That by mistake of the mustering officers and paymasters, 3,934 men of Vermont regiments were allowed the State bounty, in addition to $33 of the Pennsylvania militia. It would require, to pay the remaining 61,487 militia, the sum of $100 637,175, the payment of which is required as a gratuity, no such bounty having been promised. It is held that the Government should not repeat its own wrongful acts to its injury and loss, and it is also claimed that no hardship can result because higher bounty bounties were given than Government has ever offered.

Gen. Slough's Administration in Alexandria.

Senator CHANDLER to-day reported from the Committee on the Conduct of the War, upon the resolution of inquiry into the truth of the charges affecting the administration of General SLOUGH, the military governor of Alexandria, with particular reference to the alleged cruelty practiced upon the soldiers in the slave-pen of that city, that, after a canvass of the facts, they came to the conclusion that "the administration of General SLOUGH has been characterized by every discretion and a careful regard for the peace and good order of the community over which he was appointed, and deserves, as it has received, the commendation of the military and civil authorities of our Government."

Requests are daily received by the Committee on the Conduct of the War for copies of their printed reports, much to their annoyance, as the edition has long ago been exhausted.

The State of Nebraska.

The President has approved the act authorizing the people of Nebraska to form a Constitution and State Government. It is, therefore, a law.

The Wilkes Court Martial—Admiral Dupont.

Commodore WILKES' counsel commenced an argument in his defence this morning.

Admiral DUPONT'S friends are preparing a reply to the report of the Secretary of the Navy of his attack on Charleston.

The Congressional Naval Committee.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs have now under consideration the subject of marine engines and of a site for a navy yard for the repair of ironclads.

The Disaster to the "Chenango."

The investigation into the cause of the disaster to the gunboat Chenango, as reported to the Navy Department, shows that it resulted from a general giving way of the braces—more probably worthlessness of the iron. The safety-valve was weighed for 39½ pounds, and the gauge showed 31. A court of inquiry will be ordered.

The President's Reception.

The President's reception last night was one of the largest ever held in the White House. Near five thousand people attended during the evening, and at one time the interior was one densely crowded mass of living humanity, and a thousand people on the outside waiting to get in. An exit through the windows was finally obtained by the insiders, and towards 11 o'clock the crowd thinned out so that egress was obtained without much difficulty. This is the last reception of the season.

The Indian Disturbances in Arizona.

Major WILLIS, in an official despatch dated Fort Whipple, Arizona, says: "The people of this section are very much excited with regard to the Indian disturbances; so much so that, during a visit to the mines, I noticed men working with arms beside them, and it is not considered safe to leave their dwellings without them. Unless immediate steps are taken to quell these Indians, it will be of serious detriment to the Territory."

The Recruiting and Crediting of New Regiments.

The Secretary of War has ordered that any new regiments of heavy artillery that may be organized and filled up to the legal standard of 1,738 officers and men, within the period of twenty days from this date, will be received and credited. If regiments are not full on or before the 10th of May, the recruits will be put into the artillery or infantry organizations. This order will not postpone the draft, but such troops as may be raised prior to the draft will be deducted from the quota for draft.

Prize Cases.

The Secretary of the Navy sent to the House to-day the report of the Solicitor of the Treasury relative to the disposition of prize cases. The report, which is very voluminous, details a history of the investigation requested by the counsel for the captors in the case of the prize ANNE, regarding the conduct of the officers of the District Court and other persons alleged to be guilty of irregularities in the custody and disposition of prize property and the proceeds thereof. The Solicitor refrains, in summing up the results of the testimony, from any judgment upon the acts of the two gentlemen—one in a judicial and the other in a legislative position—whose conduct has been the subject of some animadversion on the part of witnesses, and also by counsel, and concludes, with regard to the general results of the investigation, that "the Navy Department of the country forfeits their judgment; but for my own part I think it would have been unreasonable to expect of public officers the display of more activity and zeal and capacity than have been exhibited by those connected with the prize proceedings; and that although there have been delays and irregularities, yet, on the whole, these proceedings will compare favorably in point of integrity, economy, and despatch with like proceedings in any country at any time."

Senate Confirmations.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations: Brigadier General James B. Stedman, United States Volunteers, to be major general; Colonel Alexander Shaler, 65th New York Volunteers, to be brigadier general from May 26, 1863; Colonel Jasper A. Maltby, 45th Illinois, to be brigadier general from Aug. 4, 1863; Jos. J. Bartlett, of New York, to be brigadier general from April 2, 1864; Colonel Joshua T. Owen, 69th Pennsylvania, to be brigadier general from April 2, 1864; John M. Muscott and John O. Mott, of New York, were confirmed as additional paymasters, and the following as assistant adjutant generals, namely: First Lieutenant Wm. R. Driver, 19th Massachusetts; First Lieutenant Charles Dodd, 1st New Jersey; Lieut. Jas. A. Sayles, 5th Vermont; First Lieutenant A. E. Dana, 8th Illinois; Captain H. Cowdrey, 95th New York; Captain John T. Fisk, 121st New York; Captain James W. Latta, 112th Pennsylvania; Captain Charles H. Miller, 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry; Sergeant Augustus F. Hayden, 6th New York Cavalry; Captain G. A. Andrews, 4th New York Artillery; Joseph J. Stewart, to be collector of internal revenue for the Second district of Maryland; Thomas A. Osborne, to be marshal of the United States for the District of Kansas; John Wilson, to be medical inspector in the army of the United States, with the rank of lieutenant colonel; Captain Elisha H. Ludington, 79th United States Infantry, to be assistant inspector, with rank of major; Commander David McDougall to be captain in the navy, vice Captain S. C. Rowan, promoted; Assistant Paymaster William Williams to be paymaster, vice J. Marston Taylor, retired.

The Sanitary Fair in Maryland.

BALTIMORE, April 20.—The Maryland Fair proves to be successful far beyond the most sanguine expectations. Notwithstanding the price of admission was double to-day, so great has been the rush that to-night crowds were unable to gain admittance. A gentleman who visited the New York Fair last night says the Maryland Fair in some respects excels that far-famed exhibition, both as regards the richness and variety of goods, and the rare taste of the decorations.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

DEFEAT OF THE REBELS IN EASTERN KENTUCKY.

CAPTURE OF THE REBEL COL. MAY.

A STEAMER ATTACKED BY GUERILLAS.

Guerilla Outrages on the Mississippi.

A WHITE MAN BURIED ALIVE.

CINCINNATI, April 20.—A despatch to the *Commercial*, dated Catlettsburg, April 19th, says:

Captain Patrick has arrived with over one hundred prisoners captured at the battles of Paintsville and Half Mountain, on the Licking river.

Hedge's rebel brigade attacked Colonel Gillespie's force at Paintsville, on Tuesday, but was repulsed. Gillespie pursued the retreating rebels with eight hundred men of the 14th and 39th Kentucky, and surprised them on the 14th instant, in camp, at Half Mountain, capturing many prisoners, two hundred horses, four hundred saddles, three hundred stand of small arms, and all their camp equipage.

A painful rumor, true, I fear, has reached us of the massacre, by the rebel forces at Fort Pillow, in the west end of Tennessee, on the Mississippi river, of some three hundred colored soldiers and white officers, who had just been overpowered by their assailants. That there is to be some searching of heart in mind whether the Government is doing its duty to the colored soldier, and to the service, at this point. At the beginning of the war, and for some time, the use of colored troops was not contemplated; and how the change of purpose was wrought I will not now take time to explain. Upon a clear conviction of duty, I resolved to treat the element of strength to account; and I am responsible for it to the American people, to the christian world, to history, and on my final account to God. Having determined to use the negro as a soldier, there is no way but to give him all the protection given to any other soldier. The difficulty is not in stating the principle, but in practically applying it. It is a mistake to suppose the Government is indifferent to this matter, or is not doing the best it can in regard to it. We do not to day *know* that a colored soldier, or white officer commanding colored soldiers, has been massacred by the rebels when made a prisoner. We fear it, believe it, I may say, but we do not *know* it. To take the life of one of their soldiers, on the assumption that they murder ours, when it is short of certainty that they do murder ours, might be too serious, too cruel a mistake. If we find the report to be true, and thoroughly investigated; and such investigation will probably show conclusively how the truth is. If, after all, it should be found, as I hope it will be, that there has been no massacre at Fort Pillow, it will be almost safe to say there has been none, and will be none elsewhere. If there has been the massacre of three hundred there, or even the tenth part of three hundred, it will be conclusively proven; and being so proven, the retribution shall as surely come. It will be matter of grave consideration in what exact course to apply the retribution; but in the supposed case, it must come.—*Wash. Chronicle.*

MEMPHIS, April 15.—Mississippi river advices from different points report great battles between Kirby Smith and Banks, near Shreveport, in which Banks was defeated with the loss of *four thousand men* killed, wounded, and captured.

Baton Rouge and other hospitals are full of the Yankee wounded.

GEN. JOHNSTON'S ARMY.

DALTON, April 14.—Artillery firing was heard in the direction of Cleveland this evening, supposed to be the enemy practising. It is reported that McPherson's corps has arrived at Huntsville.

The weather is cloudy and threatening rain.

CAIRO, April 19.—Ten more murdered men from Fort Pillow came to-day to Cairo, from hiding places, where they have been suffering since the battle, and were brought up to the Mound City Hospital. The guerillas made a raid recently on the cotton plantation at Tensas, La., forty miles below Vicksburg, capturing a number of mules and negroes, and carried off Mr. Allison, of Malpico, Ill. After getting to a safe distance, they compelled him to dig his own grave, and made the negroes bury him. This statement is derived from the superintendent of the plantation, who arrived here, and can be relied on. The guerillas along the river are determined the abandoned plantations shall not be worked by Northern men. The steamer Malpico, from Cincinnati, reported seeing about two hundred guerillas at Hurricane Island, about forty miles above Smithland, where she was fired into. No damage was done.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.

GEN. BANKS' HEADQUARTERS AT NATCHITOCHES.

Important Rebel Reports.

A Rebel Victory at Shreveport Claimed.

CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS.

The Enemy Reported Finally Beaten.

Later from General Banks' Expedition.

A UNION VICTORY.

Capture of 2,000 Rebels and Twenty Cannon.

OFFICIAL DESPATCH RECEIVED.

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO.

NEW ORLEANS.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The steamer Liberty has arrived, with New Orleans papers of the 13th. The *True Delta* has dates from Grand Ecore to the 7th, and Alexandria to the 9th inst.

Gen. Banks' headquarters were at Natchitoches.

Captain J. F. Conthony, of the gunboat Chillicothe, was killed by the guerillas on the 5th. A slight skirmish took place at Campti on the 31, 8 miles above Grand Ecore, between the rebel General Marmaduke's forces, numbering about 4,000, and the advance of Col. Dudley's cavalry, in which we lost 10 mortally wounded and 7 slightly, including 4 officers. The loss of the enemy was much greater.

All was quiet at Alexandria. The river was still falling.

There is no news of the battle reported via Chicago in the New Orleans papers. (The battle is said to have occurred on the 8th, *one* day later than the above advices from Grand Ecore.)

The steamer Evening Star arrived at New Orleans on the 16th inst., from New York.

The steamer Star of the South, from Portland, with the 1st and 2d Maine cavalry aboard, has also arrived. She left Portland with the ship Northampton, but on account of the severity of the weather she had to leave her southeast of Nantucket.

The steamer Cassandra, from Portland, with another detachment of the same cavalry, had also arrived. She had cast off the ship Westmoreland from the same cause.

The Merrimac, from Portland, had also arrived.

The quarantine regulations are to be rigidly enforced below New Orleans on and after the 1st of May.

The New Orleans *Times* contains a letter from Alexandria, dated the 8th instant, stating that no special military news had transpired. The army was in fine spirits, and moving steadily upon Shreveport.

The crop prospects in Northern Louisiana and Arkansas were improving, excepting the wheat and corn crops, which are said to have been destroyed.

At New Orleans the weather was warm and musquitoes plenty.

A letter from Alexandria, La., dated the 9th inst., says the rebels were burning all the cotton on the Red and Ouachita rivers. It was reported that the waters of the Red river had been turned down the Bayou Pierre and the old channel for a hundred miles. Also, that two brigades of Texas troops had got up and had a couple of skirmishes.

The United States troops continued to advance beyond Natchitoches on the 8th.

The New Orleans *Times'* letter from Baton Rouge, on the 10th, says: "On Wednesday last our advance cavalry had a small skirmish at Pleasant Hill, within five miles of Shreveport, in which we had a few men wounded and the enemy about the same number.

"Again, on Thursday morning, another fight took place, about five miles above Natchitoches. Our troops were driven, but rallied, when the enemy had to retreat with a small loss. Our loss was thirty killed and wounded."

The Free-State Convention is fully organized for business.

Some thirty refugees from Red river had arrived at New Orleans.

The schooner Mattie, from Matamoros for New York, put into New Orleans leaky. Arrived at New Orleans on the 11th, barks Cephas Stewart and Texas, from Philadelphia.

12th—Steamer Daniel Webster, from New York; ships Sandusky and Mountaineer, from Alexandria, Va., with troops; brig Oriole, from Philadelphia. Below, brig Julia, from Philadelphia. Gold is quoted at 40½@41. Cotton firm; inclines to be nominal, owing to scarcity. Sugar firm at 15½@16c. Molasses firm at 8c for good.

FURTHER SEMI OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The military authorities here have received the following despatch, dated

CAIRO, April 19, [illegible].—Two letters arrived here this afternoon, [illegible] from naval officers, one from Grand Ecore, [illegible] between Natchitoches and Shreveport, date[illegible] 8th inst., and the other from Alexandria, dated the 12th.

The battle was near the place first named. Gen. Smith appears to have been worsted, and also the 13th Corps, which came to his aid.

Gen. Franklin then took part in the engagement, and the enemy were beaten.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The following despatch was received at the Navy Department to-day, at noon:

CAIRO, Ill, April 19.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

I have received private letters from Red river, one dated Grand Ecore, La., April 10, and one dated Alexandria, April 12th, stating that the army under Gen. Banks met with reverses on the 8th, near Mansfield. Our army fell back to Pleasant Hill, and the next day the rebels attacked them and were handsomely whipped. The loss is heavy on both sides. The Admiral, when last heard from, was forty miles above Grand Ecore. The river was low.

A. M. PENNOCK, Fleet Captain.

THE REBEL LOSS.

CHICAGO, April 20.—The *Evening Journal* publishes extracts from private letters, from members of the Chicago Mercantile Battery, dated April 12th, to the effect that on the day after the recent disaster to the 13th Army Corps, General A. T. Smith, with the 19th Army Corps, engaged the enemy and defeated them, capturing 2,000 prisoners and twenty cannon.

FRENCH OPERATIONS IN MEXICO.

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—The French Commander-in-Chief has ordered Admiral Borat to make an effective demonstration against Cortinas.

Santa Anna has returned to St. Thomas.

Prominent Frenchmen in New Orleans predict a treaty of friendship between the Confederates and Maximilian, backed by Napoleon.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Regimental Movements—The Weather.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Advices from the Army of the Potomac state that the 93d New York Volunteers, Colonel Crocker commanding, have been relieved as guard of the headquarters of the army, and ordered to report to General Birney, who commands the 3d Division, 2d Corps. The 66th Pennsylvania take their place at headquarters.

The weather is quite cold, the thermometer standing at 42 this morning. Snow still lies on the Blue Ridge.

Destructive Fire at Lowell, Mass.

BOSTON, April 20.—A large wooden building, in Lowell, Mass., known as the Wamiset Mill, and occupied for mechanical purposes, was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss was probably $30,000.

The 5th New Hampshire Regiment.

BOSTON, April 20.—The 5th New Hampshire, organizing in Concord, N. H., numbering 650 men, has received peremptory orders to proceed to Washington, and will probably leave on Saturday morning.

Robbery of a U. S. Express Company's Office.

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—The United States Express Company's office, at St. Joseph, was robbed yesterday of $30,000.

NON-ARRIVAL OF A STEAMER.

PORTLAND, Me., April 20.—There are no signs of the Nova Scotian, now due from Liverpool.

Markets by Telegraph.

MEMPHIS, April 16, via ST. LOUIS, April 19.—Cotton to-day is firm and unusually active. The prices are unchanged. Receipts of 3,000 bales from the interior.

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—Receipts of Cotton 759 bales. Flour drooping. Wheat buoyant. Corn and Oats firm.

EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

SONDERBURG AND DUPPEL BOMBARDED.

Capture of a Dutch Vessel by the Danes.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION SETTLED.

Maximilian to Sail for Mexico on the 12th.

GREAT PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE GARIBALDI IN LONDON.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The steamship Australasian arrived at this port to-night, from Liverpool on the 9th, via Queenstown on the 10th.

The steamer City of Baltimore arrived at Liverpool on the 7th inst.

The bombardment of Sonderburg and Duppel continued vigorously.

The Mexican question has been settled. Maximilian will accept the crown on the 10th, and sail a day or two after.

Gladstone's budget is favorable, as it reduces the income tax and the sugar-cane and insurance duties.

The efforts to float the steamer City of New York, on the 7th and 8th instant, were unsuccessful. Her position is unchanged, and a renewed effort is preparing.

The captain of the United States steamer Kearsarge, in a letter to Marquis Clanricarde, denies the truth of the statements made by the Marquis in Parliament, and denies that he ever enlisted men, but says, on the contrary, the Kearsage has more than her complement.

Mr. Gladstone presented a favorable budget to Parliament. The expenditure was more than £1 000 000 under the estimates. The surplus is over £2,250 000. The estimated surplus next year is £2,000 000, notwithstanding a reduction of income from 1s. per quarter to 3d. a hundred weight, the income tax by 1d. on the pound, the duty on high-class sugars to 15s. 4d., and one-half the duty on insurance of stocks in trade from 3s. to 1s. 6d. These propositions were generally favorably received, but there was some grumbling in the sugar trade.

Mr. Layard, in reply to inquiries, said the English consulate confirmed the accounts of kidnapping Irishmen in Montevideo. The Emperor of Austria and Mr. Lyons had made representations to the American Government, and an answer was shortly expected. The Austrian Emperor made explanations as to the commission sent to Egypt to take evidence as to Laird's rams, and the commission was returnable on the 12th of April. The Emperor of Austria and Maximilian, and the latter will very shortly proceed to Mexico.

La Patrie says the Archduke was expected to receive the Mexican deputation at Miramar, on the 7th.

The boundary settlement of Somerset was recommenced on the afternoon of the 4th inst.

The Alabama has not sustained no injury whatever.

On the night of the 6th, the Prussians before Duppel drove in the Danish outposts and took up a position of two hundred yards beyond the Danish entrenchments.

Three Austrian war vessels had left Lisbon for the Baltic.

The London *Globe* hopes that one of the first acts of the Congress will be to compel the belligerents to desist.

The Australian news is immaterial.

Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—Sales for the week amount to 100,000 bales, including 8,000 to speculators, and 7 000 for export. The market is quiet, at a decline of ⅛ of a penny. Middling and lower grades have declined ⅛ day are estimated at 6 000 bales, the market closing quiet, but unchanged. Sales to speculators and exporters amount to 500 bales. The following are the closing authorized quotations:

	Fair.	Middlings.
New Orleans	..	26½d
Mobile	..	26½d
Texas	..	26 d
Uplands	..	26 d

Stock of cotton in port amounts to 30,500 bales, including 20,000 bales of American.

STATE OF TRADE.—The advices from Manchester are not very favorable to the market for shirtings, and downward tendency.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS MARKET.—Breadstuffs are generally dull, and wheat is easier. Messrs. Wakefield, Pash, & Co., Bigland, Albaya, & Co., report Flour dull and Wheat nominally lower. Corn is quiet, but firmer, with a partial decline in all qualities. Winter red Sc. 8d. Mixed Corn is quiet and steady; sales at 28s 6d; white 1 ells at 32s.

THE LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.

LIVERPOOL, April 9.—Cotton sales for the week amounted to 15,000 bales, the market closing buoyant at an advance of ⅛@¼d. Sales to speculators and for export amounted to 8 000 bales.

Breadstuffs are inactive but the prices are steady. Provisions are dull.

PRODUCE.—Sugar is active and has advanced 1s 6d since the Europa's date at 45s@50s for Havana, and 42s for French.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.—The funds are somewhat dull, with a tendency to depression. The discount demand has become comparatively moderate. Satterthwaite's Circular reports transactions in American securities as new and unimportant. The tendency is downward, owing to an advance of gold in New York.

LONDON, April 9—P. M.—Consols are quoted at 91⅝@91¾.

AMERICAN STOCKS.—Illinois Central shares 18¼@18½ discount; Erie Railroad 69@69¼.

LONDON MARKETS.—Sugar continues to have an upward tendency.

Arrived from New York, ship Stella, at Deal; Breasting, at Plymouth; Mary, at Leghorn. The steamer Jesse, for Palermo, was spoken on the 23d of March, dismasted, and was supplied with water.

MISS DICKINSON'S address at the Academy of Music this evening will not be forgotten by those who think truth more than less valuable because it is spoken by a woman, and who can appreciate especially when uttered with the eloquence for which this lady is famous. Of "Reconstruction," much that is new and good may be said; and Miss Dickinson, who never deals superficially with a subject, will not disappoint her auditors.

REV. DR. R. S. STORRS, of Brooklyn, is to give his great oration on "The Nation after its Ordeal of Battle," at Concert Hall, to-night. Dr. Storrs is one of the most accomplished historians of America, as well as one of the very first of our orators. He is devotedly patriotic, and has given his broad learning and his graceful oratory to the service of his country. Beyond the gloom of the present, he points the American people to that magnificent *future* for which the stern discipline of the prolonged war is preparing us. We trust that he will receive that testimony of appreciation to-night which his theme and himself deserve.

MR. LAWRENCE'S READINGS.—On Saturday evening, by special invitation of Bishop Potter, and other citizens, who desire to honor the Shakespearian anniversary in an intellectual manner, Mr. Philip Lawrence, the well-known teacher of elocution, will give readings, by himself and selected pupils, at Musical Fund Hall. Of course, on such an occasion, the writings of the world's poet will be drawn upon, but the programme includes a well selected variety of pieces from American and English writers of high reputation. Mr. Lawrence deserves public support for his endeavors to teach our young folks how to read, and this exhibition will show their and his success.

REV. MR. LORD will deliver the last of his lectures in Philadelphia on Friday evening, closing with one of the best and most interesting of the series.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS---1st SESSION.

WASHINGTON, April 20, 1864.

SENATE.

Mr. HARRIS introduced a joint resolution requesting the State Legislatures to cause a census of the industrial interests to be taken in June, 1865, and a copy of the original returns to be sent to the Secretary of the Interior, who is directed by its provisions to furnish the necessary schedules and instructions for that purpose.

On motion of Mr MORRILL it was ordered that the vote on the bill to amend the act of 1820 incorporating the inhabitants of Washington city be reconsidered.

Mr. TRUMBULL, from the Judiciary Committee, reported adversely on Mr Davis' bill prohibiting trials by court-martial of civilians, and favorably on the bill to amend the act to punish frauds on the Treasury.

Mr CHANDLER, from the Committee on the Conduct of the War, who were instructed to inquire into the administration of Gen. Slough at Alexandria, Va., made a report with voluminous testimony.

The report was ordered to be printed.

Railroad Grant to Kansas.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, called up the bill making an additional grant of lands to the State of Kansas, to aid in the construction of railroad and telegraph lines. An amendment, offered by Mr. Lane, requiring the road from Leavenworth to go by way of Lawrence to Emporia, and to carry one line by Fort Riley, was adopted, and the bill passed.

Mr. HALE, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the classification of paymasters' clerks, which proposes to give twelve hundred dollars to clerks of stations in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, and one thousand dollars to all others; $1,200 to clerks and inspectors in the places named, and $1,000 to others. The same classification is made of clerks on receiving ships. The clerks in second-class ships receive $900.

The VICE PRESIDENT submitted a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting with accompanying returns of fees and emoluments of attorney, marshals and clerks of several Courts of the District of Columbia, from which it appears that the marshals' allowances during the year 1863 for the food of prisoners in their jail amounted to $52 726; and that the cost of transporting rebel convicts to the Albany Penitentiary has been $6 900.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill to amend section eight of an act entitled "an act to establish a Treasury Department," for the protection of the revenue and of persons employed in the service of the United States, approved March 3, 1863. It was referred to the Committee of Finance.

Mr. WILKINSON presented the petition of Lewis T. Moore, executor of the Robert and Fayette Keepers' society, for the passage of a law making an additional class of $25 tavern licenses of Philadelphia.

Mr. CONNESS moved that the Greenwood Coal and Iron Company was passed.

The Senate then took Butler Railroad bill was reconsidered and postponed. The bill was opposed by Messrs. Hopkins, Smith, Saulsbury, and others.

An act changing the time of the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company was passed.

Mr. BARGER called up an act incorporating the Workingmen's Protective Beneficial Association of Philadelphia. Passed. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House resumed the consideration of the State Apportionment bill, and continued the discussion until the hour of adjournment.

Public Entertainments.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—"The Star Combination Trio" (consisting of Messrs. Wallack and Davenport and Mrs. Farren) are now closing a very successful engagement here, and have the merit of playing effectively, under the disadvantage of being supported—not being unsupported—by a very inferior company. Mr. Wallack and Mr. Davenport are established favorites here, but Mrs. Farren is not