THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1786. PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1861. VOLUME LXXIV---NUMBER 35.

Commission, &c.

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CHOICE GOLDEN RUSSETS—160 bbls. Just rec'd for sale by de21 FRANK VAN GORDER, 114 Second st.

POTATOES—100 bus. choice Neshannock Potatoes, just rec'd for sale by JAS. A. FETZER, de6 corner Market and First sts.

REDUCED PRICES FOR CHRISTMAS. have reduced the prices of their entire stock of EMBROIDERIES, DRESS GOODS, CLOAKS and SHAWLS. de8

EGGS—18 bbls. fresh packed for sale by de13 L. G. GRAFF, 253 Liberty st.

Pittsburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED DAILY & WEEKLY BY S. RIDDLE & CO., FIFTH STREET, ADJ'T SMITHFIELD. PITTSBURGH: THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 10.

A Gloomy Letter from Charleston. [Extracts from Correspondence of the Phila. Inquirer]

CHARLESTON, DECEMBER 31, 1860.

If the same anxiety prevails at the North as here, I am sure my letter will be welcome, even if it should not contain any facts of which you are informed. The effect of this madness of secession is fearfully apparent in the aspect of the city. Trade is almost entirely stopped, and money scarce enough to alarm the most sanguine. The market is badly provided, and already serious fears are entertained as to the possibility of a famine. As I pass from my hotel down Meeting street, and thence to King, as far as the Battery, I am struck with the woe-begone appearance of the city. The same is observable at the wharves. Broad street has no longer that sterling look about it, although the Palmetto flag waves so beautifully over it. The post office looks more rickety than ever, and the only one bright prospect is to be had out on the Bay from the southeast corner of the Battery. Anxiety is depicted on the faces of those whose interests are so seriously involved, and there is no longer that brisk, dapper air for which many of the inhabitants were wont to be distinguished. All the bars are doing a brisk business; bad rum and inflammatory talk seem to go well together. The railroads suffer less than other industrial speculations, as there is a good deal of freight necessarily in transitu over the Wilmington and Manchester and the South Carolina roads. How long this frightful condition of things will last is more than the wisest of us know.

Some grumbling has already been heard from those who have the hard work, and more still from those taxed for the expenses of this political game. The upper classes are so dignified and secret that it is only on an occasion like the present that one discovers that they ever feel the money pressure. The most seriously compromised parties are the merchants and those whose relations are with places and persons outside. They see only bankruptcy and ruin before them, and it will require more than Southern oratory to put their balance on the credit side for them. They and all who now suffer must be prepared to discover that to cowed and selfish politicians, struggling for the votes of the poorer people, the most suitable nearly is the noisy. Blindly rushing into a contest ruinous from the first, they have, by flattery and cajolery, raised the wildest excitement, and now a furious and maddened mob will be their ruin. A gentleman informed me the other day that he was in despair for the prospect ahead, unless the whole action of the State would bring speedy relief to commerce and to private means—a hope at once vague and useless. I have no doubt that if the real sentiments of the wealthy could be obtained, which is almost an impossibility, that they would be but the precipitancy and want of judgment of the leaders have destroyed the State. The hope of the other States following the same course is dashed at the very outset, though strongly urged; and this is another cause of trouble. They have sown the wind and are about to reap the whirlwind. There is a great deal of talk about the support expected from outside; but it is as yet all talk. The excitement has been considerably augmented by the want of success of the Commissioners, which was received with all impatience. It surely was hoping against hope to anticipate victory. The whole hope and struggle of the powers here is to create a Confederacy of the Southern States, strengthening that Confederacy by the acquisition of Federal arms. Every effort, both by the press and the people, is to reason this to a successful issue.

MAJOR ANDERSON.—We heard nothing in saying that Major Anderson is now about the most popular man in the United States; even in South Carolina they admire his boldness and faithfulness, while decoupling him for the brilliant *coup* by which he crossed the designs of the revolutionists. All over the Northern and central states guns are blazing to his honor. He is regarded as the Absalot of the day, "faithful among the faithless found." The service rendered by the worthy Paulding in capturing Walker, or the brave feat of Ingraham in taking Kossta from the Austrian corvette, did not awaken any thing like so lively responses throughout the country as the timely evacuation of Fort Moultrie, on the night of the 26th ult. Major Anderson has already been named for the office of secretary of War, and but for the intervention of four years, would stand a good chance of being run *nolens volens*, into the White House itself. The enthusiasm he has kindled is not due solely to his lucky surroundings, to capricious fortune affording him a favorable opportunity. It is evident that Anderson had always great qualities, however these may have lain obscured in an out of the way garrison. Private letters from his men show that they have all long reposed the utmost confidence in their commander's judgment, courage and integrity. If further testimony were required it might be found in his own correspondence and reports. We were very favorably impressed, a few days ago, on reading one of his letters which narrated the affairs connected with the evacuation in such a modest, unpretending manner that none but a brave and true man could have written it. He remarked that the step taken had been such only as common prudence would have dictated to almost any person in his situation, and that the plaudits which it received at the hands of the press had been out of all proportion to its deserts.

In the present age, when every one is striving to blaze in his services, if he has any to boast of, before the world, it is gratifying to find such words condensed with so much modesty as this excellent officer has evinced. A crisis of a far different description found a Havelock ready to deal with it. If the United States should require the services of a Havelock, we opine they will not have to go far from the principal port of the state of South Carolina. The forbearance he has since manifested, now that Fort Moultrie and even the city of Charleston are under his control, is as worthy of praise as the getting quiet possession of Fort Sumter. The country will not forget the timely services rendered by Major Anderson. Coste will also in due time receive his reward.—*N. Y. Commercial.*

TWO SLAVES CAPTURED.—A letter dated at Key West on the 26th of December says:

"The United States steamer Mohawk, Lieut. Craven, from this port, fell in with the brig Toccoa, Capt. Stranburg, off the Moro, and suspecting her to be a slaver sent an officer on board. She proved to be completely fitted for the Slave trade. Lieut. Carpenter, with a prize crew, was placed on board and ordered to take her to this place. Lieut. Carpenter arrived with his prize on the 21st. She has been turned over to the United States Marshal. The Mohawk proceeded to Havana, where she remained a day or two, and again went to sea and soon fell in with another suspicious looking craft, the barque Mary I. Kimball, of New Orleans, which also, from the nature of her cargo, justified Lieut. Craven in seizing her. She was taken in tow by the steamer and brought into this harbor on the morning of the 22d; she has also been delivered to the United States marshal, and the proper measures have been taken for her condemnation. The Mary I. Kimball is the fifth slaver which Lieut. Craven has captured since he has been engaged in the suppression of the slave trade, a period of little over twelve months."

HOW TO SPELL SUMTER.—There has been not a little diversity of practice in spelling the name of the Fort now occupied by Maj. Anderson. The papers are about equally divided on the question. In Sparks's Correspondence of the Revolution, in Marshall's Life of Washington, in Ramsay's South Carolina, in Gordon's History of Independence, in Lee's History of the War in the Southern Department, and in the edition of Webster's works, the "p" is used; but in the United States Statutes at Large, in the American Almanac, and in Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution the "p" is omitted; and the authority of the latter work seems to settle the question, for therein we find an autograph of General Sumter, in which the "p" does not occur. The General probably knew how to spell his own name, and consequently, we say "Sumter without the "p."

SUFFERINGS OF A CATHOLIC PRIEST IN A STORM. —A priest who was journeying from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Pembina, was on the 2nd ult., when within a day's journey of his destination, overtaken by a fearful snow storm, and losing his way, wandered into an extensive swamp near Pembina. His horse being in a very poor condition was unable to get through the swamp