Pittsburgh Gazette.

TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 21, 1862.

CITY AFFAIRS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth street,—corrected daily:

	IN SUN	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	39
12 " M.	00	48
6 " P. M.	00	34
Barometer,		29 4-10

Meeting of the Firemen's Association.

A special meeting of the Firemen's Association was held last evening, for the purpose of considering a proposed ordinance for the better organization of the Fire Department.

Members present, Messrs. Hare, White, Darlington, Montgomery, Mackey, Newhouse, Laughlin, Little, Leonard, Komp, Hall, Graham, Kaye, Cupples, Thompson, Sarber, Sawyer, Sr., Warden, Tibby, Rosewell, Littell, and Swint.

In the absence of the President, B. C. Sawyer, Mr. John H. Sarber was called to the Chair.

The resignation of Thos. F. Wilson, Esq., of the Duquesne, was presented and accepted, and the credentials of Mr. James Vick, elected to fill his place, were presented, and Mr. Vick admitted to a seat in the Association.

The object of the meeting was stated by the President, whereupon Mr. Montgomery suggested that the proposed ordinance entitled "a supplement to an ordinance making certain regulations in cases of fire, and to prevent fires from breaking out," (passed September 21st, 1816,) be taken up and read.

The Secretary read the ordinance in full, after which a motion was made to consider the sections *seriatim*.

[Mr. Sawyer here appeared and took his seat.]

Mr. Hare, of the Eagle, moved that the ordinance be referred to the several companies.

Mr. Sarber was opposed to postponing the subject. If the ordinance was not approved now, it could not be acted upon during the present year, as the City Councils would make their annual appropriations before the next meeting of the Association.

The motion to refer was then withdrawn.

The first section of the ordinance was read, which provides that the Directing Officers of the Fire Department shall consist of a Chief Engineer and two Assistant Engineers, to be elected annually by the Association.

Mr. Swint moved to amend this section, by providing for an Investigating Committee, to be one from each company, in addition to the Chief Engineer and Assistants. Not agreed to.

The first section was then adopted as read.

Section second was then read. It provides that the Chief Engineer shall have sole control of the Fire Department, and that his commands and decisions shall be final.

Mr. Little moved to amend, by adding a provision that the commands of the Chief Engineer shall conform to the rules and regulations of the Association.

The amendment was agreed to, and the yeas and nays were called upon the motion to adopt the section as amended: yeas, 17 nays, 7.

The third section was adopted as read. It grants to the Assistant Engineers the powers of the Chief, during his absence from a fire.

The fourth section provides for the suspension of any company or companies acting in a riotous or disorderly manner, or refusing to obey the orders of the Chief or Assistant Engineers, until a meeting of the Association shall investigate the charges—and prescribes a penalty in case the charges are sustained.

This section gave rise to some discussion, and Mr. Hare moved to strike it out entirely.

Mr. Sarber remarked that if this section was stricken out, the whole ordinance would fall to the ground as useless.

The yeas and nays were called upon the motion to strike out, and resulted as follows: Yeas, 16; Nays, 8.

Section fifth, relating to the same subject, was also stricken out.

Section sixth was read, providing that no company shall place their apparatus out of service, without a written permit from the Chief Engineer.

Mr. Hall moved to amend, by striking out the words "a written permit from," and inserting "giving notice to," &c.

The amendment was agreed to, and the section adopted as amended.

Section seven makes it the duty of the Chief Engineer to keep a true and correct list of alarms, fires, losses, insurance, etc., and report quarterly to the Association; also, that he shall report annually to Councils the nature and condition of the Fire Department, with the losses, etc., incurred by fire. This section was adopted.

Section eight provides that the compensation of the Chief Engineer shall be $600 per annum, payable monthly out of the City Treasury.

Considerable opposition was manifested to this section, but Mr. Sarber and the President both urged its adoption.

Mr. Sarber moved to amend by adding, "that in the absence of the Chief Engineer, the acting Assistant shall receive a *pro rata* amount of the compensation." Disagreed to, by a vote of 10 yeas to 12 nays.

The yeas and nays were called upon the adoption of the eighth section, which was lost by a vote of 9 yeas to 15 nays.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment, "that the Chief Engineer shall receive as compensation $500 per annum, and each Assistant Engineer $300 per annum.

Mr. Kaye offered an additional amendment, that the Chief Engineer be paid $600 per annum, and the Assistants $200 each per annum, which was accepted by Mr. Hall, and adopted by a vote of 14 yeas to 10 nays.

Mr. White moved that the Captain of each company receive as compensation $200 per annum. Laid on the table.

Section ninth was then read. It prescribes a penalty not exceeding $50, or one month's imprisonment, for creating a false alarm, without reasonable cause.

Mr. Gregg moved that the section be amended, limiting the fine to $10, and the imprisonment to five days in the county jail—and the fines to be paid over to the Association. Adopted—and the section as amended passed.

Section tenth, requiring the Mayor to cause his day police to attend all fires, assist in preserving the peace and prevent the wanton destruction of property, was adopted as read.

Mr. Swint offered an additional section, relative to the investigation of charges against the several companies and the Chief and Assistant Engineers, which was laid upon the table.

Mr. Sarber moved that the ordinance, as amended, be approved, and that a Committee of three be appointed to lay the same before the City Councils.

Mr. Little offered the following amendment:

Resolved, That a copy of the ordinance, as amended, signed by the President and Secretary, be presented to Councils for their immediate consideration.

Accepted by Mr. Sarber, and adopted by a vote of 14 to 10.

Mr. Mackay offered the following:

WHEREAS, We have understood that a petition will be offered at the next meeting of Councils, praying for the passage of a resolution disbanding a number of our Fire Companies:

Resolved, That this Association would respectfully request that no such action be taken, and that we deem the measure ill-timed and inexpedient.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

An animated discussion here sprung up on the question of "number," as pertaining to the several steam engines, but the President ruled the whole matter out of order, as each company was at liberty to put what number it pleased on its engine, with the understanding that they could only be known in the Association, and on parade, according to seniority.

On motion, adjourned.

PASSENGER RAILWAY ELECTION.—At a meeting of the Pittsburgh and East Liberty Passenger Railway Company, held at Oakland yesterday, the following named gentlemen were chosen as Directors for the ensuing year: Jas. S. Craft, W. O. Leslie, A. S. Bell, James Johnston, Jr., and Wm. Church.

THE Miasma and Foul Vapors generated by the hot sun, will be far more deadly to our volunteers than the enemy's bayonets. In the Indian and Crimean campaigns, Holloway's Pills were used in enormous quantities. They kept the troops in perfect health: Only 25 cents per box. Soldiers, supply yourselves. 21:

Business Change.

We would direct the attention of our business firms to the card of Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Burnap & Co., of No. 39 Wood street, opposite the St. Charles Hotel. The Lamp and Oil trade of the city and surrounding country are already sufficiently well acquainted with Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Kier, of the old firm of J. C. Kirkpatrick & Co. These gentlemen have recently associated with themselves Mr. S. L. Burnap, for several years the accomplished salesman of Messrs. Fahnestock & Co.—the extensive and well-known druggists. During Mr. Burnap's connection with this house, he made hosts of friends throughout the circle of a very extended trade, who will doubtless be pleased to learn that he has become a proprietor in an extensive and enterprising house, whose leading business is to supply the "rest of mankind" with lamps and oil.

Mr. S. M. Kier, also a member of this firm, was the first to introduce carbon oil as an illuminator, and the first to make use of the name of "carbon" oil; Mr. K. still claims to be in advance of all competition as a manufacturer of illuminating oil.

The new firm manufacture a very superior article of carbon oil lamps, of various styles, and are wholesale agents for "Kier's celebrated Illuminating Carbon Oil"—this being their trade mark.

We invite the attention of the trade to the card of this house in another column, and bespeak for it a share of the public attention.

The Flood.

The rivers, which at noon yesterday exhibited a depth of 28 feet, continued to rise very slowly during the afternoon, and at midnight they were regarded as about at a stand, having reached a depth of 28 feet 9 inches by the Monongahela pier mark. For two hours previous to 10 o'clock the swell was only about half an inch, and it was thought that the water would soon begin to recede.

We give below the height of water at each of the principal freshets since 1810:

Nov. 10, 1810	32 ft.
Feb. 10, 1832	35 "
Feb. —, 1840	26 " 9 in.
April 19, 1852	31 " 9 "
April 12, 1860	29 " 7 "
Sept. 29, 1861	30 " 9½ "
Nov. 1, 1861	18 " 6 "
Dec. 1, 1861	13 " 10 "
Jan 20, 1862	28 " 9 "

AMERICAN HOUSE, BOSTON.—We take pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of this house in to-day's paper. It has won a reputation as a hotel, under the direction of its landlord, Mr. Rice, which has secured it popularity with the travelling public not surpassed by any similar house in the United States. It is spacious, conveniently arranged, well superintended in all its departments, and presents as many comforts for the enjoyment of its lodgers as can be found between the four walls of any dwelling for the wayfarer.

NOTICE.—Those persons who may have contributions which they wish to give to our soldiers, will please to leave them at Mr. George Heyman & Son's store, corner of Smithfield street and Diamond alley. From the press of business I shall have to decline receiving any more. The Subsistence Committee have kindly agreed to relieve me of any further care in the matter. They will feel gratified for any donations of hospital goods which a generous public may see proper to entrust them with. JACOB GLOSSER.

A PRETTY GOOD APPETITE.—The New Lisbon (O.) *Patriot* states that in the Scotch settlement near Wellsville, a dinner was recently given to one Capt. Scott. The gallant Captain according to the *Patriot* "drank twelve cups of coffee and ate one turkey, two chickens, one ham, three loaves of bread, two heads of cabbage, five pickled beets, two pound-cakes and five minced pies," and apologized besides, for the want of his usual appetite, as he was not very well.

OHIO SOLDIERS KILLED.—The Wheeling *Intelligencer* says: "Three Ohio regiments crossed the river at Benwood, on Saturday night and Sunday, and left for Patterson's creek." The same paper adds: "We learn that an accident occurred on the Central Ohio Railroad, on Saturday, by which three or four soldiers of one of the Ohio regiments, on route for Patterson's creek, were killed. We have no particulars."

THE PEAK FAMILY.—This celebrated troupe of Vocalists and Bell Ringers will give a series of entertainments in this city, at Concert Hall, commencing on Wednesday evening next. This is the original troupe of Bell Ringers, whose concerts have been so successful throughout the country, and who come to us with the highest recommendations for excellence. Our readers, old and young, will be on tip-toe to hear them.

THEATRE.—Miss Dora Shaw commenced her engagement last evening at the Theatre, and personated her really great character of "Camille," in Alexander Dumas' sensation five act play of that name. She was well supported by the company, and the piece was performed in admirable style. The same programme will be repeated this evening.

NEW MUSIC.—Horace Waters, 481 Broadway, New York, has just published two popular songs, set to music, to wit: "*The Song of the Contrabands*," "*O Let, Let my People Go*." Words and music obtained through Rev. C. C. Lockwood, Chaplain of the contrabands, at Fortress Monroe. "*A Penny for your Thoughts*," written and composed by Stephen C. Foster, the well known popular composer.

EVERETT'S LECTURE TO-NIGHT.—We are requested to state that the Committee have provided some extra seats in the body of the Hall, and on the platform, which will be offered for sale at the Library Rooms, corner of Penn and St. Clair streets, at two o'clock this afternoon. Call early if you wish to secure a seat to hear the distinguished orator and statesman. The doors will open at seven; lecture commences at eight o'clock.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

Another Flood in Our Rivers--Destruction of Property.

The mild weather and heavy showers of the past few days have had the effect to swell our rivers to flood height—an event unprecedented when we consider that we are now in the middle of January. At the present writing there are twenty-eight feet of water in the channel, by the Monongahela pier mark, and the river continues to rise at the rate of five inches per hour. As we had heavy rains last night, and the weather is still moderate and lowering, the probabilities are that the rivers will continue to swell for eight or ten hours to come. The freshet is now within three feet of the height attained at the last flood, which inundated hundreds of houses in the lower part of the two cities and surrounding boroughs, and even now the work of removal has commenced.

The rise was gradual, however, and the destruction of property, therefore, has not been so great as last fall. On Sunday afternoon, workmen commenced to remove the piles of freight on the wharf, and very little of it was damaged.

Oil merchants, as usual, have suffered considerable loss. Hundreds of barrels, part empty and part full, have already floated down the stream, and to-day the river is dotted with "wreckers" securing the oil. A gentleman who came up on the Accommodation train, from Sewickley, this morning, estimates that at least a thousand barrels floated down the Ohio river from the time the train left Sewickley until it reached Allegheny. A large proportion of these barrels was lost from the Ardesco Oil Works, near Woods' Run.

The steamer Emma Graham, which came up this morning, landed about fifty empty barrels at the wharf, which had been taken from the water by her crew.

The loss of oil along the Allegheny river, and particularly Oil creek and French creek, will doubtless be very heavy, as the sudden breaking up of the ice will render it very difficult to save this species of property.

The hull of a new steamer building at Speer's yards, passed the city this morning. It was built for Capt. Willoughby's new boat. It was last seen near Sewickley, nearly filled with water. The probability is that it will be caught and secured.

—Since writing the above we learn that a dispatch has been received from Franklin, stating that the river there had risen but thirty inches. If this be so, the water here may soon begin to subside.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Bill, No. 246 Penn st., attends to all branches of the Dental profession. 3

Serious Accident to a Fireman.

After the alarm of fire on Sunday afternoon, mentioned elsewhere, a singular and very painful accident happened to Mr. William Hanlin, painter, who is a member of the Vigilant Fire Company. It seems that a considerable amount of phosphorus had been left on the ground, where the jar was thrown, and Mr. Hanlin, not knowing the nature of the article, picked up a piece and put it into his pocket. He soon after rushed into the engine house, holding the pocket, on the outside, to keep the burning chemical off his thigh. His screams were terrible, and before he could be relieved his thigh and hand were badly burnt. His pantaloons had to be cut off, and in putting the fire out Samuel Evans and Daniel Pender had their fingers severely burnt. An application of cotton and molasses was speedily made, until a physician could be called, but unfortunately the combustible substance still adhering to the skin ignited the cotton and inflicted the most excruciating pain upon the sufferer. All his clothing was thrown off as speedily as possible, but not until he had been deeply burnt about the lower part of the abdomen. He was then placed upon a settee, with proper bedding, and conveyed to the residence of his family on Penn street, where he now lies in care of a physician. Mr. Hanlin held on so long to his pocket, that his fingers' ends were burnt half-way through the length of the nail! His injuries are altogether of a very serious and painful character, although they are not calculated to endanger his life. This is one of the most singular accidents that ever came under our observation.

Juvenile Thieves in Allegheny.

Mayor Drum had before him this morning two small boys, charged with stealing a dozen pair of socks, valued at three dollars, from the store of Messrs. Dunlap & Luker, Federal street. The theft was committed on Saturday evening—Mr. Luker having detected them in the act. The boys ran, and dropped the socks on the street. Their names were ascertained in the meantime, and they were arrested. One of them is a son of a man named Platt, whose wife died recently in the most wretched and pitiable condition, having no other attention than that afforded her by a drunken and debased husband. Since her death, Platt has been doing no good, and the children are left to struggle alone with the world and its temptations. The other boy is the son of a worthy widow, who exhibited the deepest distress and mortification at the situation of her son. He was finally discharged, after promising faithfully that he would never again offend in that way. The boy Platt, having no home, and no protector, will most likely be sent to the House of Refuge.

There is an immense amount of pilfering, by small boys, in Allegheny, but men dislike very much to prosecute under such circumstances. The guilty boys are generally those who are suffered to run about the streets at night, and parents who wish to see their sons grow up honestly should guard against this evil practice.

Complimentary Supper.

On Saturday evening, a number of the friends of Colonel C. F. Jackson, of the Ninth Pennsylvania Reserves—citizens and railroad men—met in Segrist's Saloon, at a complimentary supper, tendered to the gallant Colonel as a token of esteem and appreciation of his worth as a man and his services as an officer. The supper was gotton up in the best style, and on assembling about the well-filled board, the company organized by choosing a President and Secretary, and proceeded to the enjoyment of the repast. When the table had been cleared the lighter business of the evening commenced, toasts were drunk and a general exchange of good fellowship filled up the time until the company dispersed. The occasion was one worthy of special remembrance, as a voluntary tender to one who has endeared himself to every one with whom he was thrown into contact in civil life, and who has already earned distinction in the "tented field." The affair was well arranged and passed off in a style reflecting credit on all connected with it.

Brakeman Killed.

On Tuesday, a brakeman named Alfred Rall met his death on the Cleveland and Erie Railroad at Connenut, by falling from a freight car. The train had been divided in order to leave a car behind, and Rall was climbing up the detached car, in order to reach the brake, when he was seen by the conductor in the car, turning a complete somerset and falling with his legs across the track. Four cars passed over the lower portion of his body. When taken up he breathed once or twice and immediately expired.

Rall lived in Girard, on the line of the Cleveland and Mahoning Railroad, on which road he had been for some time a brakeman. Being thrown out of employ on that road, he had obtained a situation on the Cleveland and Erie Railroad, and was in his second day's work on that road when he met his death. He leaves a widowed mother and two sisters in Girard. The body was sent home in charge of depot officer Clark Warren.

Hon. Thos. Williams on the War.

The Harrisburg correspondent of the Philadelphia *North American and United States Gazette*, thus speaks of a letter written by our able representative, Hon. Thomas Williams, on the subject of the rebellion, and published in London:

"Copies of the London *Americus*, brought over by the steamer, have been passing about the House and have been very eagerly read. They contain a letter written by Thomas Williams, of Pittsburgh, to Captain Schenley, of the English army. It has been very generally read and commanded high encomiums for the remarkable clearness of style and the force of its statements. It is a *resume* of the history of the leading events, both military and civil, which have occurred since the breaking out of the rebellion up to just before the meeting of Congress. He was most heartily congratulated upon all sides by his fellow members of the House."

The School Master Abroad.

The annexed elegant notice was served on a young gentleman, one of the best graduates of the Reading High School, who had been teaching in Maidencreek township, Berks county, during the past season, and who kept an excellent school:

"Please took an opprtuity of these few lines that the peoples fr the district of the school of you are not acquainted with you & we had no other way to touch it in motion of the board and it is carried to discharged you & it closed with thr order

"Rec'd you money by ——"

FIRED.—Three small boys, whose names we withhold, were arrested on Sunday, and taken before Mayor Drum, for congregating in the "old mill" on Mill alley, and acting in a disorderly manner. Their parents were fined seventy-five cents each, which they paid. Great complaints have been made against boys collecting at that place, and the owner or agent of the mill should be compelled to close it up.

CAPT. SAHL'S FUNERAL.—The Three Months Volunteers will meet at Wilkins Hall this evening, at half past seven o'clock, to make arrangements for attending the funeral of Capt. Leopold Sahl, Jr. Capt. J. H. Elliott, Lieut. Wm. Lloyd, and Lieut. T. Maxwell have been designated as a Committee on behalf of the Three Months Volunteers, and the meeting is called at their request.

BIBLE ANNIVERSARY.—The twenty-second anniversary of the Allegheny Bible Society will be held in Dr. Plumer's church, on Tuesday evening, the 21st inst. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. Charles A. Dickey and Rev. Henry Reck. The reports of the Society will also be read, after which the election of Managers for the ensuing year will be held. The exercises commence at 7 o'clock.

LARCENY OF EATABLES.—On Sunday night, the cellar of Robert Williams, Robinson street, Allegheny, was entered and robbed of a large quantity of eatables. No effort was made to get into the dwelling apartments.

DIED:

McLAIN—On Monday, January 20, 1862, LIZZIE S. CAMPBELL, wife of J. W. S. McLain, aged 23 years and 9 months.

The funeral will take place from the residence of her father-in-law, B. McLain, Esq., No. 22 Federal street, Pittsburgh, on TUESDAY, Jan. 21, 1862, at 2 o'clock, p. m. The friends of the family are invited to attend without further notice.

SAHL—At Cumberland, Md., Capt. LEOPOLD SAHL, Jr., in the 26th year of his age, from the effects of his wounds received in the battle at Slippery Creek, Western Virginia.

The remains were brought here, and the funeral will take place from the residence of his parents, corner of Second and Market streets, THIS DAY, at 3½ o'clock.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

GREAT BATTLE AT SOMERSET!

GEN. ZOLLICOFFER KILLED!

LOSS VERY HEAVY.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. THOMAS.

&c., &c., &c.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—There was a battle at Somerset, Ky., on Saturday, between Schoepff and Zollicoffer's forces, lasting from early morning until dark. Zollicoffer was killed, and his army entirely defeated. Loss heavy on both sides.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 20.—General Thomas telegraphs to headquarters, that on Friday night, Zollicoffer came up to his encampment and attacked him, at six o'clock Saturday morning, near Webb's Cross Roads, in the vicinity of Somerset. At 3½ o'clock, Saturday afternoon, Zollicoffer and Baillie Peyton had been killed, and the rebels were in full retreat to their intrenchments, at Mill Springs. The federals were in hot pursuit. No further particulars respecting losses on either side.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 20.—The recent fight took place on Sunday, instead of Saturday morning. Gen. Thomas, on Sunday afternoon, followed up the rebels to their intrenchments, 16 miles from his own camp, and when about to attack them this morning, he found their intrenchments deserted, the rebels having left all their cannon, Quartermasters stores, tents, tithers and wagons, which fell into our hands. The rebels dispersing had crossed the Cumberland in a steamboat and nine barges, at White Oak Creek, opposite their encampment at Mill Spring. Two hundred and seventy-five rebels were killed and wounded, including Zollicoffer and Peyton. The dead were found on the field.

The 10th Indiana lost 75 killed and wounded. Nothing further of the federal loss has yet reached here.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—A combined attack was made to-day on Zollicoffer's intrenchments, by Schoepff and Thomas, resulting in a complete victory. The Stars and Stripes now float over the rebel intrenchments. We have captured all their camp property and a large quantity of provisions. The loss is heavy. Zollicoffer's dead body is in the hands of our friends.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 20.—The Ballie Peyton killed in the recent engagement proves to be Ballie Peyton, jr., attached to Zollicoffer's staff, and not Ballie Peyton, sr., as at first reported.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—The Lexington correspondent of the *Commercial* gives the following account of Saturday's battle:

Zollicoffer, learning that the Federal force had appeared in his rear, marched out of his intrenchments at three o'clock on Saturday morning, and attacked Schoepff in his camp, whose pickets were driven in at an early hour, and the attack was made before daylight. The battle is reported to have raged with great fury until three in the afternoon, when, Zollicoffer having been killed, the whole rebel force fled in confusion to their camp. Their loss is not stated, but it is thought to be heavy. The Bailey Peyton killed is a son of ex-member of Congress from Tennessee. Our victory has been very decisive, and will result in the rout of the whole force defending the right flank of Bowling Green.

[Special Dispatch from Cairo.]

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—Gen. Grant and staff arrived in town yesterday morning. General Paine's brigade reached Fort Jefferson on Saturday night. Gen. McClernand's brigade will arrive to-morrow. The object of the expedition was a reconnoissance in force of all that part of Kentucky, upon which a portion of the operations against Columbus will necessarily be performed, and in the demonstration to aid Gen. Buell's right wing, our forces have been eminently successful. The engineer corps, under Col. Webster, have full and accurate knowledge of the country. It is understood that General Smith has taken camp equipage and whatever was left in Camp Beauregard. The rebels fled to Columbus. McClernand's brigade went to within seven miles of Columbus, encamped on Thursday night within sight of the rebel watch fires, and afterwards visited the towns of Milburn, Lovelaceville and Blandville, surveying all the roads as they went. Part of Gen. Smith's command will return to Paducah to-day.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 19—*Via Baltimore, Jan. 20.*—A flag of truce went to Craney Island to-day with two persons who came down from Baltimore last night, to go South.

The following is all the news contained in the Southern papers that have been received:

Ex-President Tyler is very sick at Richmond.

Dispatches, dated Macon, Georgia, say that accounts from the wheat region are very favorable, and that the crops never appeared more promising thus early.

The following Brigadier-Generals have been confirmed: Henry Heth, Va., Johnson R. Duncan, Louisiana, and S. Wood, Ala.

Dates from Havana, to the 9th instant, have been received at New Orleans; the French fleet, consisting of a line-of-battle ships, three first class frigates, and three propellors, left for Vera Cruz on the 2d. It was reported at Havana that Vera Cruz was abandoned by the Mexicans on the arrival of the Spanish fleet.

The combined land forces are under command of Gen. Prim.

The Confederate steamer Calhoun arrived at Havana on the 6th, making the number of 101 Confederate vessels that have arrived there since the blockade. Business was extremely dull on the Island.

The Norfolk *Day Book* gives a rumor that the Secretaries of the Federal Navy and Interior have resigned, and that Messrs. Colfax, of Indiana, and Holt, of Kentucky, will succeed them.

The papers contain nothing in relation to the Burnside expedition.

The U. S. steamer Sumter arrived here yesterday afternoon.

The troops on board of the steamer Constitution will come ashore to-morrow morning for exercise.

Cheering News from Washington--A Forward Movement of our Army This Week.

PHILADELPHIA Jan. 20.—The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, this morning, says that an eminent Banker at Washington, on business with the Secretary of the Treasury, writes under date of yesterday, that an event will take place at Washington, next (this week,) which will wake up the country. As Gen. McClellan's health is sufficiently recovered to enable him to mount the saddle again, you may guess what that event will be. The period of masterly inactivity on the line of the Potomac is at an end, and if all the signs do not terribly deceive, the rebel strong-hold at Manassas, and the rebel blockade of the Potomac by this day week, will be among the things that were. I give you this for what it is worth, and if it is worth as much as the writer's name is on blank paper, it has the highest sort of value. He has lately been in close communication with the Secretary of the Treasury, the President and Gen. McClellan, and we reasonably conclude, therefore, that he speaks by the card.

From California--Sacramento City Under Water.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17.—The Legislature has adjourned to the 21st, to allow the water to subside from Sacramento. The whole city has been under water from two to eleven feet deep. The people are driven to their second stories, and are unable to build fires and cook their food. Cooked provisions in large quantities were sent from San Francisco by two steamers, on Sunday. The water has materially subsided since, but the weather is still unfavorable. The whole of the valley portions of the State have suffered severely from this unprecedented inundation, and many millions of property have been destroyed.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The Hon. Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War, entered upon his duties to-day. A large number of army officers, in full uniform, paid their respects to him.

Preparations are being made at the Navy Yard to test the new rifled guns finished there. One of them, a 32-pounder, has been enclosed with heavy timber, and will be fired with constantly increasing charges, until it bursts.

The report that Gen. Wool has sent a notification to Norfolk to move the women and children out of that city, is not confirmed by official intelligence.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs left today for the West.

XXXVIIth CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1862.

HOUSE.—Mr. Dunn, of Indiana, introduced a bill for the repeal of fishing bounties. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Holman, of Indiana, from the Government Contract Committee, reported a resolution directing the Sergeant-at-arms to bring before the bar of the House Benj. Hickley, for an leged contempt of authority in not appearing before the Committee as a witness at the time they held a meeting in Cincinnati.

On motion of Mr. Lovejoy, of Illinois, a resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Judiciary to enquire into the expediency of reporting a bill making void all sales, transfers, and disposition of property of every kind by persons engaged in the insurrection against the United States. Other resolutions on a variety of subjects were introduced and referred. The House then, in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, proceeded to the consideration of a bill making appropriations for Legislative, Executive and Judicial expenses.

Mr. Fessenden, of Maine, spoke of the rebellion in the aspect it presents itself to his constituents. It should be put down, and the Government, as speedily as possible, bring into operation its mighty machinery for this purpose. Now, if in prosecution of hostilities, the slaves offered aid to the rebellion, was it not the part of wisdom to deprive the insurgents of this advantage of slavery? Should it be terminated by this war, it would be the greatest triumph mortal ever won over the greatest crime ever committed.

Mr. Wright remarked that he was returned here as a representative by both political parties, who agreed on a common platform. He was elected as a Union man, and as such was ready to stand or fall. He was not an advocate of slavery, but was willing to take the Constitution as our forefathers gave it to us. He was not one of those who would attempt to present any of its provisions, or lay down a line of policy which would not cover all its guarantees. He was for maintaining the war upon the sole issue on which it was inaugurated. Any member who would change this principle was not following the rules of propriety which conscience, reason and judgment dictate. The President, in his Inaugural, stated the true ground; it is not a war of conquest or subjugation, but to put down rebellion and respect the rights of property. If we hold to this, our government is safe; but if we make it a war of slavery emancipation, our government is irretrievably gone. Mr. Lincoln has a patriotic heart, and not only means well but acts well.

Mr. Bingham, of Michigan, made an explanation, remarking that in his recent speech he confined his proposition to the emancipation of slaves held by rebels, their aiders and abettors, but would now say that whenever, in his judgment, it may become essential to common defense to shiver every fetter, the power ought to be exercised.

Mr. Divens obtained the floor, when the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Fessenden, of Me., the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was taken up. Several amendments proposed by the Committee on Finance were adopted. The bill was then passed.

A communication was received from the President, transmitting instructions received by the Prussian Minister from his government. Referred.

The report of the Judiciary Committee on the resolution to expel Senator Bright, to wit: "That there was no sufficient cause for such expulsion," was taken up.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Minn., said that on presenting the resolution his regard for Mr. Bright was influenced by no personal feeling, but the exigencies of the times imposed on us painful duties. He believed that Congress must act up to its duty and save the country, for every other department of the Government had signally failed to act with sufficient courage and heroism. He referred to the letter of Mr. Bright addressed to His Excellency Jeff. Davis, on the 1st of March, 1861, introducing a friend to Davis who had a valuable improvement in fire arms to dispose of, and asked if that was such a letter as an honest and loyal Senator should write.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, of Mass., the bill to amend certain articles of war was taken up. The bill provides the penalty of death to spies and persons forcing the safe-guard of the army. The further consideration was postponed till to-morrow.

Messrs. Wilkinson, Morrill, of Me., and Trumbull, of Ill., argued to show that the latter of Mr. Bright was treasonable.

Adjourned.

Reply of Mr. Seward to the Prussian Minister.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The Prussian Government, through its Minister here, having endorsed the course of England in the Trent affair, Secretary Seward in response, while transmitting to him a copy of the printed documents bearing upon the subjects, asks to be allowed the liberty of suggesting to the consideration of the Prussian Government the expediency of improving the occasion which has justly excited so many apprehensions, to recommend the general policy relative to neutral rights, as suggested by our Government to the consideration of European States, adding, it is only a spirit of the utmost respect and deference, that I take leave to remark that the periods when the United States will have occasion to act the part of a belligerent, will probably be few and brief, while, judging from past experience, we cannot yet hope for so constant a preservation of peace among the nations of the Eastern continent.

Some days ago the House of Representatives adopted a resolution, calling upon Secretary Cameron, to inform them what surveys are in progress for a railway from Washington to New York, to intersect the Northern Central Railway, at a point outside the limits of Baltimore, &c. A reply was received to-day, in which it was stated that no such surveys has been undertaken or directed, and the Department has no knowledge of any such survey being in progress.

From Cairo.

CAIRO, Jan. 20.—A gentleman from New Orleans reports that when he left there, the citizens were daily expecting that Fort White, commanding the entrance of Lake Ponchatrain, would be attacked and captured by the federals, at Ship Island. There are not over 5,000 volunteers in the city, and not exceeding 2,000 more could be raised in case of emergency. There are no batteries above or below the city, and the only defense against attack from the gulf, are two forts on opposite sides of the river, towards the mouth. He thinks that the city could very easily be captured by a small force.

Gen. McClernand's brigade has returned from the expedition, and taken the old quarters of the 20th Ill., which has been encamped at the mouth of Mayfield creek, since the expedition started. He will be up to-night.

From Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 20.—John B. Henderson, Douglas Democrat, a member of the State Convention, and an uncompromising Union man, and Brigadier General in the State service, has been appointed by Lieut. Gov. Hall to fill Trusten Polk's seat in the U. S. Senate.

A passage was made through the ice, opposite the city, yesterday, and the ferry boats are now running. Two days more mild weather will probably break the gorge below and entirely clear the harbor of ice.

Reported Evacuation of Manassas Junction.

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 20.—Information has been received by parties direct from Manassas that the rebel forces have evacuated that point and are falling back to a position further South, not known, but the object is supposed to be to counteract an apprehended movement of our troops from the seaboard.

The Flood at Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 30; *Evening.*—The river is rising three inches per hour, covering the levee and overflowing cellars on the river bank.

Arrival of the Arabia.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The steamer Arabia arrived at two o'clock this morning. Her advices were received via Cape Race.

Markets by Telegraph.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 20.—Breadstuffs are very dull but without change in prices. The sales of Flour comprise 5,000 bbls extra at $5 50@5 75, 2,000 bbls extra family at $6 75@6 00. The receipts are small, and stocks very moderate. Small sales of Rye Flour at $3. There is a moderate demand for Wheat, and 4,000 bush red sold at $1 32@1 33; 1,000 bush of Rye brought 73@73c. Corn is coming forward slowly, and held firmly; sales of 9,000 bush at at 56@58c for new yellow, and old at 62c. Oats unchanged; 5,000 bush sold at 38½c. Groceries are very quiet; small sales of Rio coffee at 19@21c. Provisions are quiet; sales of 3,000 bbls mess pork, and 2,000 bbls mess beef for Government use. Whisky unsettled, with sales at 24@25c.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—NOON.—Flour heavy; sales of 7000 bbls. Wheat dull and nominally unchanged. Corn dull and nominally at 64@65c. Pork unchanged. Lard unchanged. Whisky sold at 25c.

Receipts of Flour 13,000 bbls; Wheat 18,877 bush; Corn 5,000 bush.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—Evening.—Flour is in good demand at $4 for superfine, but it was held at $4 05@$4 10 at the close. There is an active demand for Wheat 85@86c for red, and 90@92c for white. Rye has advanced to 57@58c, and is in good demand; receipts very light. Corn and Oats are firm at 28 cents. Whisky has advanced to 17c, and is in good demand. Hogs are held firmly at $3 35@3 50, but as regards buyers the market was dull and heavy, and not much demand; 500 country dressed, averaging 170 bbls, were sold at $3 28, and 606, averaging 200 bbls, were sold at $3 35; 250, averaging 350 lbs, were sold at $4 45; the receipts were 5,000 head. Mess pork firm at $9 50@9 62½, but it is held higher, therefore, not much done. There is good demand for bulk sides at 4c; they are held ½@½c higher. Lard firm at 6½c for head, and 6c for gut. There is no change in Groceries.

Exchange is firmer ½@¾c premium.

The river is still rising at the rate of 3 inches per hour. The present stage is 50 feet in the channel, and 5 feet on the first floors of the buildings fronting the river. There is light rain, but the weather is colder.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—Evening.—Cotton is dull at 32@32c. Flour quiet; sales 13,000 bbls at $5 45@5 55 for State, $5 50@6 00 for Ohio, and $3 80@5 50, for Southern. Wheat heavy; sales 26,000 bush at $1 30@$1 33 for Milwaukee Club, and $1 33 for Canadian. Corn dull; sales unimportant at 64@65c. Provisions quiet. Whisky steady at 25@25½c.

The Fight at Prestonburg--How Col. Garfield Got Excited and Fought in his Shirt-Sleeves.

Capt. Willard of Co., F, 42d Regiment, arrived here last night on his way home to Ravenna. He was not in the Prestonburg fight, being detained by sickness a few miles back of Paintville, but obtained many incidents of the battle from those who were in it.

Prestonburg is about twelve miles beyond Paintville. After the cavalry skirmish at the latter place, Col. Garfield pushed on with the advance of his Brigade for Prestonburg. Before reaching that place he found the enemy posted on and behind a range of hills. The Federal force forming the advance was less than seven hundred, but Col. Garfield at once prepared to make an attack.

A body of the enemy was posted on a commanding hill, and it became necessary to dislodge them. The 14th Kentucky, volunteered for the service, as they knew the nature of the ground. Said Col. Garfield, "Go in boys; give them.—*Hall Columbia!*"

The hill was cleared, and soon the reserve of the Brigade came in at a double quick. As soon as he saw them Col. Garfield pulled off his coat and flung it up in the air, where it lodged in a tree, out of reach. The men threw up their caps with a wild shout, and rushed at the enemy, Col. Garfield in his *shirt sleeves*, leading the way.

As the Federal troops reached the top of the hill a rebel officer shouted in surprise, "Why, how many of you are there?" "25,000 men, d—n you," yelled a Kentucky Union officer, rushing at the rebel. In an instant the rebels broke and ran in utter confusion.

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