Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 25.

CITY AFFAIRS.

THE 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	49
6 " P. M.	00	50
Barometer,		27 7-10

To the Public.

The undersigned, Committee appointed at a meeting of the citizens to take charge of, and make arrangements for the sick and wounded soldiers, now on their way from Gen. Halleck's army, take this method of requesting the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny to leave contributions in the shape of shirts, drawers, sheets, (single and double) socks, pillow-cases, slippers, etc., at the drug store of J. P. Fleming, in Allegheny, and at the office of C. W. Batchelor, Custom House. Shirts, drawers and slippers are most needed, as the sick are without a change of clothing:

F. R. BRUNOT,
JAMES I. BENNETT,
J. R. HUNTER,
R. C. LOOMIS,
C. W. BATCHELOR.

The above Committee will meet at the Custom House, at 4 o'clock p. m. to-day.

The Wounded from Pittsburgh Landing—Public Meeting.

Pursuant to call, a meeting of citizens was held in the Board of Trade Rooms, at three o'clock Thursday afternoon, to make arrangements for the sick and wounded soldiers who are expected to arrive in this city, by the steamers "Hailman" and "Marengo," on Saturday. Joshua Hanna, Esq., presided, and Messrs. H. H. Smith and W. M. Hartzell acted as Secretaries.

On motion, the Committee, consisting of Messrs. F. R. Brunot, James I. Bennett and J. R. Hunter, (previously appointed) was increased by the addition of the names of Messrs. C. W. Batchelor and C. R. Loomis, and were instructed to procure suitable quarters for the reception of the disabled soldiers.

Dr. Reiter, who went with the expedition to Pittsburgh Landing, stated to the meeting that the number of wounded soldiers now on the way here would be between seventy and one hundred, and that they would all require careful hospital treatment.

Capt. Batchelor stated that he had written to the Secretary of the Treasury in reference to the use of the unoccupied portion of the Marine Hospital at this point for the reception of a portion of the wounded. Secretary Chase tendered the hospital to the Secretary of War, whereupon Maj. Montgomery wrote to Secretary Stanton, asking him to designate a person to take charge of it, but no reply had up to that time been received.

Capt. Batchelor tendered five large rooms in the Custom House for hospital purposes, which had been properly renovated for that purpose, having received permission of the Secretary of the Treasury to use the same.

The Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee tendered thirty beds and bedding, and offered to take charge of ten of the wounded, supplying all their wants.

A dispatch was read from Hon. J. K. Moorhead, tendering the use of his private residence for hospital purposes. The meeting then adjourned.

What Was Done for the Triplets.

A few days ago we mentioned the birth of three children at Harrisburg, in the family of one Smith—Mr. George Smith, carpenter, and employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Recently his fellow workmen, seeing his necessities, collected some twenty odd dollars, with which they ordered a crib, large enough for three children. It was made of walnut, with beautifully turned posts, and large head and foot-boards carved and panelled. Accompanying the crib was a hair mattrass, small feather bed and pillows, and the ladies procured a suitable outfit of quilts, blankets, sheets, pillow-cases, etc. The articles were taken to Mr. Smith's residence, and the three little Smiths were "cribbed," to the infinite delight and satisfaction of pa and ma, who returned proper acknowledgements for the handsome present.

P. S.—The three babes are in a healthy and thriving condition.

THE RESPONSIBILITY UPON ONE MAN.—One can hardly conceive the tremendous amount of responsibility resting upon one man in great military operations. Look at the present position of Gen. McClellan, one miss step on his part would hurl to destruction thousands of brave men, and perhaps would throw back a peace for a year. In this community, the responsibility of being shabbily dressed, rests with each man, so long as there are such model establishments as Carnaghan's Clothing and Merchant Tailoring establishment on Federal street, near the Diamond, Allegheny City. Let all who would be seasonably attired, and who deal for cash, call and see this stock. It is unequaled in variety. Mr Carnaghan's taste as a costumer has been well established.

SINGULAR DEATH.—A child of Mr. Bradbury, of Ten Mile, Washington county, died last week, aged three or four years. Two years ago while eating a piece of bread he choked almost fatally, as children of that age are apt to. From that time symptoms of lung disease have been constant, with severe paroxysms of coughing, baffling all medical skill. A post mortem examination disclosed a piece of rye head, an inch and a half long, in the lower part of the lung, and attached to one of the ribs. The supposition is that the rye was in the mouth, and caused the choking mentioned—was then drawn into the lung and gradually worked down until the ribs checked its progress.

OFF TO STAUNTON.—All the Federal troops about Cheat Mountain Summit and Huttonsville have advanced to Monterey, leaving only one company to watch some supplies and a few disabled soldiers. The boys bade farewell to the cold blasts and the rude huts of the Summit with little regret. The secesh did not destroy their deserted quarters at Allegheny Summit. Our boys put up there one night on their way to Monterey, and found quarters large enough to accommodate eight thousand troops, and much superior in point of comfort to that of our own.

DROWNED.—During a late trip up of the Wheeling and Pittsburgh packet Marmora, a soldier named Parsons fell overboard and was drowned. Every effort was made to save him but proved unavailing.

ON Saturday evening last, while five little boys were amusing themselves in a skiff in the river, near Warrenton, the skiff was accidentally capsized, and one of the boys drowned. The other four were fortunately rescued by a young lady who witnessed the disaster. The youth drowned was six years old, and a son of Thomas Pope, of Warrenton.

GENERAL TOM THUMB.—We would remind our citizens that to-day the above distinguished "General," with his forces, invades our city, and holds his levees at Masonic Hall, afternoon and evening. From all accounts, he has been reaping golden opinions in the west, and comes laden with fresh honors from fields of honor. The musical staff accompanying him is of the highest talent, which renders the entertainment interesting and amusing to all classes, both great and small.

GEN. FREMONT.—The Wheeling *Intelligencer* says: "We presume that General Fremont and staff will take the field some time this week or early next, although we have no official knowledge of the fact. Preparations which seem to indicate such a movement have been going on for some days back."

THEATRE.—Senorita Isabel Cubas has a benefit to-night, and concludes her Pittsburgh engagement to-morrow evening. On Monday Miss Adah I. Menken makes her first appearance here since her successful tour through the West.

HERMANN drew a large and fashionable audience at Concert Hall last evening, and interested them with new and startling tricks. He appears for two nights longer, beyond which time he cannot remain.

THE SUBSCRIPTION Books of the People's Insurance Company will be open to-day, at the Merchants' Exchange, from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., for subscriptions to the stock.

FURNITURE at auction, this afternoon, at Masonic Hall Auction House.

Our Tennessee Expedition.

It is announced that on Saturday morning the "Hailman" and "Marengo" will arrive here, with the sick and wounded soldiers from Pittsburgh Landing. As our citizens began the good and humane work with the foremost, and have already had the attention of the country directed towards them, by the steamboats sent forth, we feel assurred that they will only need to be reminded that the hour has now come when final preparations must be made and all necessary arrangements perfected to receive as we ought, and adequately provide for those brave fellows, whose sufferings we have undertaken to mitigate as some acknowledgment of the debt we owe them. We trust, therefore, that the call of the Finance Committee, elsewhere given, will be promptly and liberally responded to. We regret to state that, as yet, but one of the Ward Committees has reported the amount collected by them. Now, these committees should either attend to the business for which they were appointed, or signify their *unwillingness* to do so. Money *must* be collected, and a good deal of it will be required. Let us hope that the sub-committees of the several wards will report to Mr. Miller, at the office of the Western Insurance Company, immediately, that the state of their finances may be ascertained.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

Hospital Supplies for the Army at Yorktown.

The Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee still continue their efforts in behalf of the sick and wounded soldiers. The Pennsylvania soldiers in the army of the Potomac, are now the recipients of the liberality of our citizens, through this Committee, and in view of the approaching struggle at Yorktown, where thousands of soldiers from our State will be engaged, it behooves our citizens to contribute promptly and largely, that the supplies may be on hand when needed. The battle *will* come, and it may occur soon. Then let us be up and doing. The following is an extract of a letter received from Dr. McCoy, at Fortress Monroe:

"The five boxes of hospital supplies sent by the Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee, I received yesterday. They will prove of much service to us, as we have now a large number of Pennsylvania troops in our hospitals—mostly from the Western counties, Armstrong, Westmoreland, Mercer, &c. We have had 750 patients this month, at this place, and are straining every nerve to prepare for a much greater number, in anticipation of the battle at Yorktown. The medical director of Eastern Virginia directs me to inform you to send hospital supplies at once. Three of our most faithful female attendants are from your city, and one from East Liberty, and to them the soldiers owe much gratitude for their kindness to them in the hospitals."

From the above extract it will be seen that there is no danger of our "overdoing matters" in the way of contributing money and goods for the unfortunate soldiers. Hundreds now suffer for want of proper supplies, and should the battle of Yorktown be fought within a week, many of our own soldiers may not only suffer, but *die* through our neglect. Having put the largest number of men in the field, let us not be behind other States in furnishing them with hospital stores.

The Committee have also received late advices from St. Louis, where they have two thousand wounded soldiers from Pittsburgh, Tenn. They are much in need of supplies there, and every dollar contributed will be honestly and judiciously expended.

Any contributions left at Weyman & Son's, Smithfield street, or at Geo. Albree, Son & Co.'s, Wood street, will be forwarded at once.

Consumption and its Treatment.

The series of letters published in our columns by Dr. Robert Hunter, must have awakened a lively interest upon the important subject of consumption, and how it should be treated. The method of medical inhalation is not new to our readers, although the system is not generally adopted by the profession. Hence there is a great diversity of opinion as to whether the insidious malady may be more successfully treated by means of drugs and medicines administered through the stomach, or by direct application to the organs affected through inhalation. The point at issue can only be definitely settled through scientific investigation, and by experiment conducted upon physiological principles.

The growth of new principles in medical science is generally slow, and all innovations upon old systems are regarded with much suspicion. It is nevertheless true that the doctrine of inhalation, of which Dr. Hunter is the father as well as the advocate, is rapidly gaining ground, from the large degree of success which has attended his career as a practitioner, and also, from the fact that his system commends itself to the understanding of mankind. If diseases of the throat and lungs can be reached and removed directly by inhalation, then why should the organs of the stomach be disturbed and nauseated by drugs?

This question has been ably discussed by Dr. Hunter, in his admirable letters, and those suffering from asthma, bronchitis, or consumption, are invited to test the soundness of his doctrine by practical experience. He is now in the city, at the Monongahela House, where he will remain, until Tuesday next, at which time his engagements elsewhere will compel him to leave. Those, therefore, who would enjoy a personal interview with him, should call at once, as after that time he can only be consulted by letter, or by the patient incurring the expense of a trip to see him. We must not be understood as endorsing his system in what we have said, but a physician of such large experience and enlightened views is certainly worthy the confidence and patronage of the public.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, Merchant Tailor, would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that he has removed to No. 54, Market street, one door from 3d street, where he is now opening a large and well selected stock of spring and summer goods, direct from New York. Having purchased for cash, is prepared to offer inducements in both price and quality to all who may favor him with their patronage.

GIFTS.—Go to the branch of the New York Gift Book House, No. 118 Wood street, one door from the corner of Fifth, for your books, where you can buy them at the publisher's lowest prices. They are giving away silver plated Tea Sets, Gold and Silver Watches, Table Spoons, Tea Spoons, Silver Plated Cake Baskets, or some other article of silver-plated ware or jewelry, with every book. The ladies are invited to call.

THE PLACE TO GET THEM.—If any of our readers desire Spring Clothing, fashionable, and well made, at prices accordingly low, they can procure them by calling on Messrs. W. H. McGee & Co., corner of Federal street and Diamond square, Allegheny. They have lately received their new Spring stock, and a better selection we have never seen.

STARTLING, BUT TRUE.—The volunteers are braving the dangers of fever, scurvy, wounds and cholera. Many a gallant fellow will leave his bones to bleach, who by the aid of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, would have returned to his family strong and healthy. Soldiers, try them; only 25 cents per box or pot. 226

WE would call attention to an advertisement of the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company, which intends running a special train from Allegheny to Economy, on Friday evening, 25th inst., for the special accommodation of those wishing to attend the performances of Mr. Herrmann and Senorita Cubas.

WM. FORREST, Carpenter and Joiner, Jobbing Shop Virgin alley, between Smithfield street and Cherry alley. All kinds of House Repairing done on short notice and in workmanlike manner. Charges moderate. Leave your orders. All orders promptly attended to. ‡

COUNTRY MERCHANTS will find an unrivalled assortment of dress goods in lengths to suit their trade, at eastern cash prices, at Barker & Co.'s, 59 Market street. ‡

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at Hunt's Book Store, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, and at the Omnibus office, No. 409, Liberty street. Day or night, all orders left in either the two places will be promptly attended to. ‡

DOCTOR C. BEALS, Water Cure and Homœpathic Physician; also agent for Bainbow's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. Corner of Penn and Wayne streets. ‡

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

Dr. Robert Hunter, of New York, on Chronic Consumption.

LETTER NO. V.

To the Editors of the Pittsburgh Gazette:

Chronic consumption, or the common form of consumption, generally begins with a slight *dry cough*. It was probably the frequency of the cough preceding the disease that led the ancients to believe that cough was the *cause* rather than the *effect* of Consumption. This cough may continue several months or years without any other symptom. It is scarcely a cough, but rather a "*hack*." Now the cause of this light cough is the presence of *tubercles* in the lungs; and if the patient were to die suddenly of any other disease, or from an injury, we should find the lungs studded or filled with fine tubercles. It is common, on examination after death, to find the lungs of persons dying with fevers and inflammations stuffed with tubercles, and this, too, when in health the existence of Consumption had not even been suspected. Many of those friends, with whom we are in daily intercourse, and whom we regard as really healthy, are thus carrying about in their lungs the elements of their own destruction.

The form of Consumption begins differently in different cases. A man, apparently in perfect health, has an attack of catarrh or sore throat, and when this subsides it leaves the dry, hacking cough before alluded to. Not unfrequently the spitting of blood is the first symptom; and, indeed, it almost invariably marks the commencement of the disease; this may be only a slight streak in the mucous, or it may be considerable, and a bright red color. In many cases Consumption sets in after "*chills and fever*," and these occur almost with the regularity of *ague*. In others we have a sense of heat in the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, or a *flush* on the cheek; cold feet and hands are also frequently observed. Many persons mistake the fever and chilliness which occur in the early stage of Consumption for intermittent fever. As the disease progresses *perspirations* occur, generally towards morning, and are often so profuse as to drench the sheets and even the bed.

The *stomach* is not much disturbed in the early stage of Chronic Consumption. It is by no means uncommon for the appetite to continue *unusually good* until *after Diarrhea* sets in, when it generally becomes capricious and poor. In females, after fever occurs, the monthly sickness is always suppressed, and it is common for the Cough and Disease of the Lungs to be ascribed to this *irregularity*, while in reality, it is only the result depending upon the debility of the constitution, induced by the disease. After the fevers and perspirations have become established, the wasting of the flesh and strength goes on so rapidly that the body may be truly said to *consume away*. The joints soon appear larger than natural, from the wasting of the fleshy parts, the chest contracted, the features sharpened, and the eyes attain a peculiar wildness and brilliancy.

The matter expectorated changes with the progress of the disease. In the commencement, the cough is *dry*; but after a time a *watery* or slightly *frothy* secretion follows. As the disease approaches the second stage, this gradually changes to a sticky, jelly-like or gluey substance, often dark in color, but more commonly inclining to a *greenish*, with now and then streaks of a *yellow* color.

When tubercles soften, the expectoration becomes still more yellow and pus like. The matter expectorated from a cavity in the lungs is peculiar. It is of a whitish-yellow color, with a rugged or wooly surface. The celebrated Professor Forbes used to describe this sputa as looking "*almost like little balls of cotton or wool.*" At times the matter expelled is very offensive, but more commonly it is without the least smell. Sometimes it has a *sweetish* at others a *saltish* taste.

Frequently the patient complains of pain, and sometimes can place his hand over the very seat of his disease; but more frequently there is no pain beyond a sense of *oppression* or an occasional *stitch in the side*, and it is by no means uncommon for the patient to point out as the *seat* of his disease the least healthy part of his lungs.

In this form of Consumption, the patient is always *getting better*, and yet is steadily growing worse—that is, he appears to improve for a while, and then relapses into a worse condition than before, each succeeding attack leaving him more feeble than the preceding one. He spits pus for a time, has *fever, night sweats, loss appetite, flesh and strength*, coughs incessantly, and can scarcely sleep at night. Gradually the cough abates, the expectoration becomes less, and nearly disappears, the fever and sweats vanish, and he imagines himself rapidly getting well. He gains several pounds in weight, and his physician point to it as an evidence of improvement from treatment, or Cod Liver Oil. But soon all the old symptoms return—the hectic fever and night sweats, the cough and expectoration of pus, increased frequency of the piles, and pulse of the newly recovered flesh and strength.

Now, you would ask why is this? The reason is easily understood—Consumption is caused by tubercles—these are produced by Catarrh, or Sore Throat, or Bronchitis—by impure air, or dust, or irritation of some kind in the air tubes of the lungs. The irritation is kept up a long time before tubercles begin to form; but sooner or later, a fresh cold, or some irritation greater than usual, causes their rapid deposition. Soon the cold disappears, or the irritation is withdrawn, and tubercles cease to form. Those formed, however, remain, and gradually develop themselves. After a few months the lungs are again exposed in some manner to irritation, when a further deposit of tubercles take place, and in another part of the lungs.

As all the tubercles are not deposited at the same time, they do not soften all at the same period, but in successive crops as they were formed. When they have softened down into matter, and are being expelled, the patient has fever and perspiration; his appetite becomes poor and he loses flesh and strength. But as soon as the first crop is thrown off, these symptoms vanish, and he continues to improve until the second crop is ready for expulsion, when he again relapses. Now, at every softening of tubercles, a part of the lung is broken down into the cavity; hence the lungs become gradually wasted, each attack leaving the poor invalid weaker than the one which preceded it. During these periodic improvements, nostrums and villainous compounds of every description obtain credit for effecting the change which takes place, while, in reality, they but interfere with the proper action of nature. The poor patient is, by such means, "cured" from day to day, he becomes an invalid to the day is laid in his grave.

I am not going to speak of treatment, but I cannot refrain from making one practical observation on the injudiciousness of the usual course recommended by most physicians. It is no unusual thing for intelligent men to advise the consumptive to "*take good care of himself*," or to "*exercise in the open air*," or to "*live well*," but to "*take very little medicine*." Now, what does all this mean, but to advise that he shall wait for the tubercles to soften in the lungs, and thereby destroy him instead of striving earnestly, determinedly, perseveringly, to prevent that change from taking place? Left to nature alone, death is the almost inevitable issue. The aim of the physician, then, should be to cause the *absorption* of the tubercles—in other words, to make the system take them up and throw them out by the *bowels*, the *kidneys*, or the *skin*. It is by absorption that *scrofulous glands* are removed—that *swelling* and *tumors* vanish—that *dropsies* disappear; and by making this the chief aim and object of my treatment, I am able through the instrumentality of inhalation to effect the cure of consumption, by causing the absorption and removal of the tubercles from the lungs, thus preventing ulceration and destruction of their substance.

Invalids are very liable to fall into the error of supposing that because they have not *all* these symptoms, therefore they cannot have consumption. Now, it rarely happens that we find *all*, or even a majority of the symptoms described, in any one case. This is a malady of infinite variety, and also, too frequently so silent and unmarked in its progress as to be far advanced before any positive symptom gives us warning of its presence. It is like an enemy in ambush: we are often on the eve of destruction before becoming aware that we are in the least danger.

My next letter will be on Spitting of Blood and Hemorrhage from the Lungs.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT HUNTER, M. D.,
Physician for Pulmonary Diseases, Monongahela House, Pittsburgh, April 16, 1862.

THE FROST AND THE FRUIT.—On Wednesday nigh the atmosphere was quite cold, and the thermometer indicated a temperature of from ten to twelve degrees below the freezing point. The frost was consequently severe, but as the morning opened cloudy and cold the effect upon the fruit buds is not definitely known. The injury may prove very slight.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

RUMORED CHANGE IN THE CABINET.

THE MERRIMAC.

BOASTING OF A REBEL CAPTAIN.

A Line of Retreat from Yorktown Prepared.

NEW GUNBOATS AT RICHMOND.

Dread of the Monitor.

SHERMAN'S CONFISCATION BILL.

EMANCIPATION COMMISSIONER.

&c., &c., &c.

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—The *Inquirer's* correspondent says it has been definitely settled by the President to re-arrange the Cabinet by transferring Wellos to the mission to Spain, made vacant by the appointment of Carl Schurz as Brigadier General, and the appointment of a new Secretary of the Navy. Several names are mentioned for the latter post. Among them are Gen. Banks, Governor Sprague, Senators Hale and Wilson, and Gen. Walbridge.

It is rumored at Norfolk that the Merrimac would soon visit the Roads again.

Capt. A. Catesby Jones made a speech at Norfolk, on Friday evening, and said that in a few days he would be ready to go down into Egypt with the "Virginia," and give the Yankees h—ll. He would first capture all vessels in Mother Hawkins' Hole, and then pay his respects to Newport News.

The rebels are very anxious about our new iron vessel, the "Galena."

Every conceivable means of transportation has been seized by the rebels for sending men to Yorktown, and they are preparing to make a desperate stand there. Their line of retreat has not been neglected in case of disaster. The turnpike road to Richmond has been repaired, and a new road laid out, where troops may be ferried across and taken to Parkersburgh, at which point, they say, another stand is to be made. Works are being erected to command every approach to that city.

The visit of the French Minister to Norfolk, in an armed vessel of his own nationality, created the greatest surprise among the people. It was rumored that he had come to protest against the continuance of the war in the name of the Emperor.

At Yorktown the weather was warm and pleasant yesterday. The roads are rapidly drying up.

Men are working day and night at Richmond on four iron-clad gun boats, which it is said will be completed in a few days, and will come down the James river to shell the advancing columns of the Union army, and do other great things.

Notwithstanding the fame of the Merrimac, it is with difficulty that a crew can be got to work her, as men have been killed on board by shot from Union vessels. They are afraid of the Monitor too, and do not want to get into close quarters with her.

In the Republican caucus last night, the debate showed a tendency to adopt Sherman's confiscation bill, which deprives of property and slaves the leading rebels, such as army and navy officers, and persons who have taken the oath to the Confederacy, and which declares all who continue in arms for sixty days after its passage infamous and ineligible to office, and authorizes the President to arm slaves in rebellious regions, after proclamation and sixty days notice.

Horace Maynard, who recently returned from Tennessee, declares himself in favor of a stringent confiscation act. Several other border State members will support one.

Horace King, Buchanan's Postmaster General, is now nominated as emancipation commissioner in place of ex-Mayor Berrett, declined.

D.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, April 24, 1862.

HOUSE.—Owing to the protracted ill-health of Mr. Bailey, of Mass., he was excused from service on the Committee on Territories.

Mr. Vallandigham, of Ohio, offered a resolution requesting the President to transmit to the House, if not incompatible with the public interests, copies of such correspondence between the French and the United States Governments, as may have been received within the last two months, relative to the present troubles in America. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Aldrich, of Minn., from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill authorising a treaty to be made with the Indians of Utah, with the view of purchasing their lands; a bill authorising another with the Navajoes, of New Mexico, defining their limits, and extinguishing their titles to lands outside of the United States. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. Fenton, of N. Y., introduced a bill to settle the accounts of New York for advances made by that State during the war with Great Britain, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

The House resumed the consideration of the confiscation bill from yesterday.

Mr. Lovejoy said that while the government is engaged in a serious war to put down the rebellion, it was seen that this unnatural and parricidal insurrection has sympathisers and advocates on this floor. Those who defend slavery are the defenders of the rebellion—for slavery and rebellion are synonymous. They are unchangable terms. The arch fiend sent forth with treason marked on his brow, is represented by the great British poet, as roaming over the world, exclaiming:

"Me miserable, which way shall I fly?
Where'er I go, I carry hell."

It is precisely the same with his progeny and first born, namely, the system of American slavery. Wherever slavery is, there is rebellion—it is itself rebellion, its corner-stone, pillars and support. He took the position that either slavery or the republic must perish. He would tell the gentleman from Kentucky, (Mr. Crittenden,) and all other advocates and defenders of the system, and those who are themselves hoarse in attempting to throw the protection of the Constitution around this destroyer of the republic, that there is no city of refuge. Like an infernal assassin, it has its knife drawn, and is endeavoring to drive it to the heart of the republic. We are bound to strike the monster, and gentlemen need not cry out the Constitution for its defence. It shall, he said, be slain in the name of my country and my God. He denied that slavery has any guarantee or recognition in the Constitution. He urged that it was their right and duty to destroy slavery, because slavery is destroying, or will destroy, the Republic. He was in favor of a restoration of the Union, with the right to stand on American soil anywhere and proclaim his sentiments. He wanted to stand anywhere on American soil without the enforcement of despotism to hold his tongue. He wanted to speak in South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, without the threat of being lynched or served with a coat of tar and feathers.

The gentleman from Kentucky, Mr. Crittenden, yesterday, asked, what would the four millions of slaves do if turned loose? Turned loose! This term was used as if the slaves were wild beasts. Now, he had this to say: At present, he would let them alone, to take care of themselves, which they were abundantly able to do. Slaveholders had better turn their attention to another point, viz: what will they do when they cease to live on the unrequited sweat and toil of the slaves. He denied that he and his friends want to make this an anti-slavery war, but they believed that the only way to put down rebellion and restore peace and union, was to destroy slavery.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling expressed himself in favor of the confiscation bill to amplify the punishment of treason, punish the ring-leaders, and reimburse the expenses incurred in the suppression of the rebellion. The subject of confiscation was referred to a Select Committee of seven.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on this bill, making an appropriation for bounties to the widows and legal heirs of volunteers called into service under the law of July, 1861.

Mr. Rollins, of Missouri, made a speech against the rebellion. He complimented Lincoln in his efforts in behalf of the Union. He considered the insurrection causeless and infamous. He was opposed to any and all extreme measures, and for prosecuting the war on the principle laid down at the extra session; that when the supremacy of the constitution and the laws were re-established, the war ought to cease.

Mr. Vallandigham, of Ohio, said that in a speech, delivered in this city the other day, not in this House, certainly, nor in the Senate, for no such speech would have been tolerated there, the following appeared: "I accuse them (the Democratic party) of a deliberate purpose to assail, through the judicial tribunal, and through the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, and everywhere else, and to overawe, intimidate and trample under foot, if they can, the men who boldly stand forth in the defence of their country, now imperiled by this gigantic rebellion. I have watched it long; I have seen it in secret; I have seen its movements ever since that party go together, with a colleague of mine in the other House as Chairman of the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions—a man who never had any sympathy with this Republic, but whose every breath is devoted to its destruction just as far as his heart dare permit him to go."

Mr. Vallandigham—Here in my place in this House and as a representative I do denounce, and I speak it advisedly, the author of that speech as a liar, a scoundrel and a coward! His name is Benjamin F. Wade.

This produced a personal discussion between Mr. Blake and Mr. Vallandigham. The latter calling his declaration false.

Mr. Hutchins offered a resolution characterizing Vallandigham's language as a violation of the rules of the House, and declaring him deserving of the censure of the House. Pending which the House adjourned.

SENATE.—A communication was received from the War Department transmitting copies of the contracts made by the Department for the year 1861.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, presented 420 petitions from beer and malt liquor manufacturers, asking a reduction in the proposed tax on beer and malt liquors.

Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, presented similar petitions.

Mr. Powell, of Ky., moved to take up the resolution offered by him concerning the arrests of citizens of Kentucky, etc.

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., opposed taking up the resolution, as inexpedient at this time.

Mr. Powell did not see why the Senator should make any opposition. It was simply asking how many citizens of a Free State had been dragged from their homes without law, and calling on the tyrants and usurpers to know where they are and what are their names. These were free white men. If they had been negroes, the Senator from Massachusetts would have made no opposition; but he ever is eternally prating about the wrongs of the negro. But white men had some rights, and he wanted the Secretary to tell us why and wherefore these men had been thus unlawfully dragged to prison without charge or crime.

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., said the Senator from Kentucky had made an inflamed speech, and called a high officer of the government a tyrant and usurper. It was evident that if the resolution was taken up the whole question must be gone into. If the Secretary of War was a tyrant and usurper there were men arrested who were traitors.

Mr. Powell, in his seat—Who are they; name them?

Mr. Sumner continued, arguing that it was not best to go into an inquiry at present.

Mr. Powell said that some of the men who were arrested were as loyal as the Senator from Massachusetts. He defied the Senator to point out any law by which the Secretary of State can carry off the citizens of Kentucky and imprison them in the forts at Masachusetts and New York.

The bill for the recognition of Hayti and Liberia, being the special order of the day, was taken up.

Mr. Davis, of Ky., moved a substitute, authorizing the President to appoint a Consul to Liberia and a Consul General to Hayti, with power to negotiate treaties, &c.

Mr. Collamer spoke against the original confiscation bill and in favor of his substitute.

The question then recurred on Mr. Sherman's amendment to the original bill, limiting confiscation to persons who held certain offices under the rebel government.

Mr. King moved to amend so as to include all persons levying war against the United States, or giving aid or comfort to the rebels.

Mr. King's amendment was disagreed to.

Mr. Sherman's amendment was adopted—yeas 27, nays 11.

On motion, Mr. Browning's bill was postponed till to-morrow, on motion of Mr. Sumner's bill for the recognition of Hayti and Liberia was taken up.

Mr. Davis' substitute was rejected—yeas 8, nays 30.

Mr. Saulsbury wanted the country to know that if this bill passes, within twelve months some negro would come on the floor of the Senate, as a foreign minister, and take his negro family into the Diplomatic Gallery.

The bill passed—yeas 32, nays 7.

The Senate went into executive session and subsequently adjourned.

From Fort Union.

[Correspondence of the Missouri Democrat.]

FORT UNION, N. M., April 13.—Col. Slough, after the battle at Apache Canon, fell back and took possession at Bernal Springs, 45 miles south of Fort Union. This was deemed the strategical point, being within supporting distance of Fort Union, a position to harrass the enemy, and to form a junction with Canby when he should leave Fort Craig, 300 miles south. We had been there one day when Col. Canby sent from Fort Craig his Assistant Adjutant General with peremptory orders for Col. Slough to fall back with his column to Fort Union, which was immediately obeyed.

It would seem that we crippled the enemy in the fight at Apache Canon, more than was believed at first.

We have reliable information that we killed over 100 men, including six officers, and wounded over 200.

We have now prisoners at Fort Union 21 officers and 82 privates.

The enemy immediately fell back to Santa Fe, and are, it is believed, concentrating in their old position at Albuquerque.

Yesterday an express arrived from Colonel Canby, stating that he would leave Fort Craig on the 31st of March. If the enemy is in the vicinity of Albuquerque, with ordinary traveling Col. Canby is in their immediate vicinity; and as our column, 180 miles from Albuquerque, will only leave this morning, he will be unsupported by this column, and, with 900 regulars, he will have to encounter their forces, unless he can slip by and join the column which leaves here this morning.

It is understood that Kit Carson, with a regiment of New Mexican volunteers, 700 strong, will remain and garrison Fort Craig.

It is rumored that Cols. Steele and Bailor, of the rebel army, are advancing into New Mexico with 800 additional men. Important events will probably occur before the next express leaves for the States.

A well authenticated report has just reached here that the Texan forces, 2,000 strong, are intrenching themselves at Santa Fe, and that Col. Canby having strengthened his command up to 1,200, is fifty miles south of Santa Fe. This may enable our two columns to act together, and make us 2,400 strong. If this is the case, we will have one of the bloodiest battles on record. The enemy's artillery numbers about eighteen pieces, while ours is twelve pieces.

From the Potomac.

NEAR YORKTOWN, April 24.—The weather is again pleasant, and the roads are begining to improve.

The preparation for carrying out the plans of the Commander-in-Chief are being rapidly pushed forward to completion.

Two deserters, from the 6th Alabama regiment, came within our lines yesterday. They were from Pennsylvania. They represent the Confederate forces at 100,000, and that they are busily engaged in constructing works in the rear of their present lines. They had no knowledge of the arrival of Jeff. Davis.

On Tuesday, the rebels came out from their rifle pits, in front of Lee's Mills, killing one of our pickets. After he was dead, about 30 of them fired their pieces into his head, completely riddling it with bullets. The officer commanding the reserve then ordered his men to charge bayonets on the rebels, which was willingly responded to, resulting in several of them being killed, and one taken prisoner. Two men were killed on our side, and two mortally wounded.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed the nomination of Martin Metcalf, of Michigan, as Consul at Aguas Calientes, Mexico, and of Horatio King, ex-Postmaster General, as one of the Commissioners under the act abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia. The Board will at once organize.

The Senate to-day, by a unanimous vote, ratified Secretary Seward and Lord Lyons' treaty, recently negotiated here for the suppression of the African slave trade. This is deemed a most important treaty, which will probably sweep the last vestige of the piratical traffic from the face of the seas.

The French Minister, M. Henri Mercier, returned to-day in the frigate Cassandra, from Richmond. Soon after his arrival he visited the State Department, and had a long and doubtless interesting interview with Secretary Seward.

The Secretary of War has observed with some surprise, that commanders of one or two military depots, conceiving themselves empowered to do so, have undertaken to accept resignations of, and otherwise discharge from the service of the United States, officers commissioned or appointed by the President in the volunteer staff of the army—all such discharges are irregular, and unless confirmed by the President, are void. None but the President can discharge an officer appointed by himself, and as he has not delegated this power to any General, no General must attempt to exercise it.

By direction of the President, Brigade Surgeon J. H. Thompson, of the United States volunteers, is dismissed from the service as an alarmist, on the recommendation of his commanding General, Maj. Gen. Burnside.

Major Von Steinhaus, Capt. Botticher and Capt. Camp, of the 68th Ill., Lieut. Lombard, battalion Adjutant of the 7th Illinois cavalry, and Assistant Surgeon Williams, of the first artillery, are, by the direction of the President, stricken from the army rolls for being captured by the enemy while straggling without authority beyond the outposts of the army on March 29th 1862.

Col. Wm. Hoffman, commanding General of prisoners, is transferred from New York City to Detroit, Mich.

The following dispatch has been received at the War Department:

WHEELING, VA., April 24, 1862.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

A telegram from Gen. Schenck states that a squad of 25 infantry, sent from Romney, by Lieut. Col. Downey, to look after guerrillas, was attacked, yesterday morning, on Grass Lick, between Lost river and Cacapon, by the rebels, 40 in number. Our force lost three killed, but drove the rebels, who took refuge in the house of one Polland. Col. Downey went with reinforcements, but the rebels fled at his approach, carrying off several killed and wounded. Among the latter was Col. Parsons, their leader, and Polland, the owner of the house. Colonel Downey reports the interior of the house covered with blood. He burnt the house, and pursued the flying enemy, taking five prisoners.

Gen. Schenck sent a reinforcement of 160 cavalry, and one piece of DeBeck's artillery, to come on the enemy in the rear. These must have reached the place about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Our messengers passing to and fro between Grass Lick and Romney, were fired upon one, four, six and seven miles from Romney, by guerrillas. [Signed] J. C. FREMONT,
Maj. Gen. Commanding.

From Cairo.

CHICAGO, April 24.—A special dispatch from Cairo to the *Tribune* says:

The rise in the Tennessee river has reached here. The Ohio has risen one inch, and is still rising.

Dispatches from Cumberland represent that the river is rapidly rising. The country between here and Mound city is inundated. The entire track of the Cairo and Fulton railroad, between Bird's Point and Charleston, has been washed away and destroyed.

General Bragg has transferred the command of Fort Pillow to General Price.

From Pittsburgh, we have the intelligence of a skirmish with the enemy, in which Gen. Granger, with five hundred cavalry, participated. About two miles from our pickets, they came in contact with the rebel pickets, drove them in, and encountered a strong force of the rebel cavalry. After fighting for an hour, both sides retired with an inconsiderable loss.

A tri-weekly packet is now running from Cairo to Tiptonville with the mails.

Passengers, from Fort Pillow yesterday afternoon, reports no changes in affairs.

From Mexico.

NEW YORK, April 24.—Vera Cruz advices, brought by the Spanish steamer Isabel, state that after an unsatisfactory conference between the allied commanders, the French General had decided to march his division against the city of Mexico, taking upon himself the responsibility. The English and Spanish plenipotentiaries thereupon decided to withdraw their troops.

It is stated that the Juarez government had consented to give every satisfaction to the allies in the matter of claims, but refused to listen to the idea of establishing a monarchy, and that in case the allies advanced to the capital they