THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE
AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

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For sale by KAY & CO., 55 Wood st.

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mh6

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These Chimnies are intended for the use of flat Wicks, which heating all parts of the glass equally, does not expose it to cracking.
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Our stock comprises all articles in our line, of the best quality, and will be sold low for cash, wholesale or retail. au16

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NOTICE TO OIL REFINERS AND OTHERS.—The Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Co. having completed their arrangements for the manufacture of CONCENTRATED OIL OF VITRIOL, are now prepared to supply the trade therewith. Their Platform still having a capacity of 1,000 BBLS. per day, they will be enabled to fill orders to large quantities without delay.
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DR. CHARLES H. STOWE,
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(Opposite Colonnade Row, near Suspension Bridge)
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jy16:1y

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JOHN D. SCULLY, Cashier.

Pittsburgh Gazette.

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ADVERTISING AT REASONABLE RATES.

MONDAY MORNING, SEPT. 8.

The Late Battles in Virginia.

A correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, writing from camp, near Chain Bridge, September 3, says:

It is needless now to explain the constantly changing disposition of forces during the days which followed the defeat of Saturday. Three corps at least remained at Centreville on Monday, and were scattered over the broad slopes of the hill on either side of the road in unmilitary disorder. They had never been in order—no more had the rest of the army since the retreat. There was no head to put them in order. There was no order in any department of the service. There was not ammunition in the batteries or in the cartridge-boxes of the infantry enough for another battle, yet no one knew where the ammunition trains were to be found. In the first five minutes I met three ordnance officers riding in search of the trains. No fault of theirs that the trains could not be found. They are able officers, but no control was in their hands—no means of doing their duty. Orderlies had just been sent in all directions in search of the wagons—and it was already 10 o'clock, and a battle hourly expected since daylight.

The camps are inextricably entangled—not to my eye or judgment only, though I have seen enough to know something about it, but I heard a General commanding a corps d'armee say he did not know, and could not ascertain—the relative position of our corps. Another General, a regular officer of engineers, and famous for topographical clearness and skill, said to me that one glance at the hill-side was enough to show that there was no General at the head of the army encamped there.

It was no better with the supplies of food. The troops were half fed, or fed irregularly. Regimental wagons were unloaded and ordered to Alexandria for food and forage. Then the order was countermanded, and they were reloaded and ordered to the rear. Brigades without supplies were sent out on the flanks and in front, and left there without wagons to shift for themselves—I suppose to subsist on the country; and from the country they might have gathered scanty grass and, if it were ripe, leaves for their horses—for the men, nothing. But if a General on the eve of a battle cannot supply his troops with powder, it is useless to expect they shall be fed. I need not multiply instances. There was mismanagement everywhere, because at headquarters there was incompetence, confusion, no settled plan, no head.

The army was not so much disheartened as enraged—willing to fight, but not willing to be sacrificed—denouncing, with a unanimity that had no exception, the incapacity which had caused their defeat. No one believed that the combined force of the rebels were in front; and as for the battle of Saturday, the men, the officers, the Generals who fought it, confess with shame and anger that they were beaten by half their number. The army was not defeated, its commander was out-generaled. He neither knew where his enemy was, nor would suffer himself to be informed. He was warned that the enemy was massing on his left—every soldier knew it, but he disbelieved and denied it; sent batteries and troops to the right, to the center, to the rear everywhere but where they were wanted—then, in a moment, found himself surrounded, enveloped, crushed and defeated.

McDowell was censured not less severely than Pope. With the latter his advice was said to have undue controlling influence. "The only order Pope gave was the order to retreat." McDowell fought the battle. Pope issued only on his advice—yielded him command throughout. It was a blunder from the beginning. It is useless, said an officer, to fight under McDowell. I shall do my duty as an officer, but we shall lose every battle to which he commands. I did not know whether I have heard treachery or imbecility most frequently imputed to McDowell. Perhaps of-tenest he is given the benefit of the alternative. I did not hear one suggestion in his favor—no excuses nor palliation.

No order of battle was communicated to Generals of any rank. Generals of corps were not told who supported them, who was on their right or left, what movements concerned their own commands or position, or on what plan the battle was fought. I asked a question about the plan. Sir, there was no plan. We knew nothing but what we discovered for ourselves. I do not know to this hour who was on my right. I asked, "Is it not usual to inform Generals of corps or divisions on such points?" "Usual! The General who neglects to do it is an imbecile."

A commanding hill in our possession was threatened by a hostile movement in force. General Pope was informed, was asked to send another battery to hold it. "If you do not, in fifteen minutes the enemy will be in possession of the hill." He refused to send it. In ten minutes, rebel artillery was playing from that hill on our troops.

Generals who fought with the most heroic courage and the most soldierly ability, whose praises are in every one's mouth, speak of the battles in which they have just won, honest fame with chagrin and dishonor. Their own efforts became futile from the incompetence of their Commanding General.

Said one to me, "I must ask to be relieved, unless Gen. Pope is removed. I cannot see my men murdered."

I met a General who had led his division in the hottest of the fight with heroic courage and veteran skill. He said, "I have lost a thousand men; I dare not go into the hospital and look in the faces of those wounded men who, I know, have shed the blood bravely and for us." It was Carl Schurz.

The successful movement of the rebels upon the flank and rear of Gen. Pope must be traced not to his want of proper means of information but to his refusal to regard the intelligence that was sent him. He was officially informed of it, but would not believe it, would not even take reasonable precautions against its possibility. He actually withdrew Sigel's corps from his exposed flank while the enemy were turning that point. Officers stationed in front on the Rappahannock line saw for three days the constant clouds of dust which announced the moving columns of the enemy, but to the eye of the General they gave no sign. He persisted in regarding their success at Catlett's as a mere cavalry dash, and was hardly convinced by Manassas that the enemy had gained his rear in force. From that hour his movements have been followed by nothing but disaster.

But it is needless, and I have no time to accumulate evidence on such points. Half the strength of an army is confidence in its commander. That confidence is not given to Gen. Pope. The opinion of his troops is unanimously against him. I saw numerous officers of all ranks in almost every corps of the army. There is no dissent or disagreement. They will not, cannot, fight again under under Pope with confidence. The army of Virginia demands a General.

I state these facts as I find them, expressing no other opinion than what molds itself out of the facts. Heretofore I have praised Gen. Pope—some friends of mine thought too liberally. I do not think so. It is still my opinion that down to the time when he arrived on the Rappahannock his campaign was pursued with ability, and was deservedly successful. But from the moment he set his foot this side the river there have been only delay, disasters, and retreat. That his army has lost confidence in him is a fact I am bound to record. If I state it strongly it is because the impression suddenly received was equally strong.

Washington News.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4, 1862.

THE UNDUE FOR DRAFTING.

As the General Government cannot draft except through the State Governments, it is unable to enforce its orders on the subject. Those States which are ready to draft are doubtless drafting, or preparing to draft this week. Those in which the enrollment is not completed have fixed a later day for the carrying out of the order.

It is extremely doubtful whether there will be any draft for the old regiments, notwithstanding the admitted fact that it is extremely desirable to fill them up. Among the reasons which lead to this conclusion is the circumstances that by the Federal Constitution the States appoint officers for the militia, and that by the constitutions of several of the States these officers are elected by the men. This presents a serious practical difficulty when the question is of filling up regiments already offered.

THE KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE RECENT BATTLES.

The first accurate report was made at the Surgeon-General's Office to-day of the number of men killed in the recent battles in Virginia. The report includes the wounded from the fight of Wednesday night, at Bristow's Station, up to the fight beyond Fairfax Court House on Monday evening. The whole number reported wounded thus far is 4,592.

Eighteen hundred are still upon the battle-field. As the wounded in the recent battles falls below the estimate, the Capitol and Patent-Office, now fitted up as army hospitals, will not be used at present. Georgetown College will be fitted up as an hospital.

HOW A REGIMENT WAS SAVED.

A report having reached the interior of Pennsylvania that a certain regiment had been almost annihilated, a committee came hither to-day to render assistance to the supposed wounded; but they were delightfully surprised to learn that the regiment had not even been in the battle.

JUDGE ADVOCATE OF THE ARMY.

Hon. Joseph Holt has been appointed judge advocate general of the army, with the rank of colonel.

GEN. BLENKER RETIRED TO HIS FARM.

Gen. Blenker has received the orders for which he was waiting when he denied our statement to the effect that he had forsaken a military for an agricultural life, and has returned to his farm. He has been given an indefinite leave of absence, and his staff have been mustered out of the service. It is noteworthy that some of those who were most influential in bringing about the confirmation of Gen. Blenker by the Senate on the eve of the adjournment, were urgent to have him retired from active service.

THE CLERICAL REGIMENT.

Gen. Spinner, Treasurer, has been chosen Captain of fifth company of the regiment of clerks.

PROPRIETARY STAMPS.

Samples of the proprietary stamps under the Tax law have been received by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. They are engraved exceedingly well, and are much handsomer than the postage stamps or the postage currency.

There are between eighty and ninety varieties, but all are made from the dies, and the design for all is the same, viz: the head of Washington looking out of a frame of scroll work. The different denominations, from one to fifteen dollars, differ in color and size.

THE POSTAGE CURRENCY.

The Treasury Department is receiving only $15,000 worth of postage currency a day, on the average.

REPORTS FROM THE BATTLE FIELD.

Surgeons Coolidge, Howard, Page, and Webster have just returned from the Bull Run battle-field. They report the wounded well cared for. As they were coming away, Surgeon Moore, with thirty-five physicians and a team loaded with soft bread, crackers, sardines, beef soup, wines, &c., arrived under a flag of truce. Surgeon Burr also arrived a little later with ambulances and mule litters.

DISMISSAL OF VOLUNTEER SURGEONS.

The Surgeon-General has sent away over 2,000 volunteer Surgeons. Some of them objected to do duty in the Washington hospitals, and were thereupon ordered to their homes, and others on the battle-field. They all have their return transportation paid by the Government.

THE SEARCH FOR RELATIVES.

No passes are given from the Surgeon-General's office now except for physicians, and persons who authenticate themselves in search of killed and wounded relatives.

Baton Rouge.

A letter from Baton Rouge, dated Aug. 21st, which appears in the New Orleans *Delta* of the 24th ult., gives a reliable account of the actual position of affairs at that point. The writer says:

Shortly after the battle of Baton Rouge it began to be whispered about that the land forces of the United States were to be withdrawn, inasmuch as they were needed elsewhere, and that the gunboats were deemed amply sufficient to hold the place, as unquestionably they are. This report, which was really founded on fact, reached the ears of the Confederate General. He accordingly sent a detachment to annoy the forces during their embarkation. The attempt did not succeed, however, for a few shells from one of the gunboats quickly dispersed them; and the land forces, to the number of 5,000, more or less, quietly embarked and sailed down the broad bosom of the Mississippi, leaving the defence of the town to the all-sufficient gunboats.

Before the departure of the troops the citizens were expressly warned and notified to inform the Confederate General that any attempt on the part of the Confederate soldiers to fortify the place would lead to its immediate destruction. It is to be hoped that no such attempt will be made.

—Hence it appears that the stories of the destruction of the town, recently circulated in some quarters, and the stories of the capture and re-occupation of it by the rebels, which have been put forth in the Southern papers, are equally inaccurate.

LATER.—The news by the steamer just arrived from New Orleans we find in the New York papers of Friday evening, and learn that Baton Rouge was finally evacuated about the 23d ult. To enable the gunboats to obtain a clear range to points beyond the town, some forty buildings were destroyed. This was done to prevent the rebels from approaching the town under cover; but the owners of the buildings were previously notified that the demolition would be a military necessity, and that full compensation would be paid for the property destroyed. The rebel falsehood of the burning of the town was based on the facts we have given.

Firing Heard in Chambersburg.

By private advices and telegraphic dispatches received in Harrisburg, we learn that the citizens of Chambersburg, on Thursday, could distinctly hear firing in that vicinity. This fact has created the most intense excitement in that locality, and as the people of Chambersburg have heard the sound of firing heretofore, and after developments proved that they were correct in their impressions of such sounds, it is fair to suppose that they are not deceived at present. This firing was probably shelling at Harper's Ferry.

The Hon. Thaddeus Stevens has just been re-nominated for Congress by the Republican Unionists of Lancaster county, Penna. He is perhaps the ablest member of the present House, and its Chairman of Ways and Means. Owing to the large preponderance of Republicans among the 5,413 volunteers whom his district has sent to the war, his majority may be reduced this time to 5,000, but it will still be ample, though there is a credible report that the Old Public Functionary declines to swell it by his vote.

REBEL RAID IN MARYLAND!

Crossing of Cavalry and Artillery at Nolands' Ferry.

RUMORED MOVEMENTS TOWARD BERLIN,

We learn that there has been great excitement during the past night along the line of the Potomac, from the Monocacy to Harper's Ferry, in consequence of the most wild and improbable rumors that prevailed to the effect that the rebel Gen. Hill, with 30,000 troops, had crossed at Edward's Ferry, and were encamped on the soil of Maryland.

Everybody along the line believed the rumor, but no one could be found who had seen them cross the river, or who had met them after they had crossed. These rumors came to Mr. Smith, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, by telegraph during the night, and from so many different sources, that he was almost inclined to believe that Maryland was really invaded by an immense rebel force.

Matters thus continued until 4 o'clock this morning, when the rumor changed its aspect, and it was again asserted that a small rebel force was actually in Maryland, but in such small force as to be considered no more than a rebel raid. They were said to have effected their crossing at a ford called Noland' Ferry, a few miles above the mouth of the Monocacy, about midnight, fully ten miles this side of the Point of Rocks, and took up a line of march westward, crossing the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad a distance of ten miles from the ferry at four o'clock this morning.

The force, according to this last announcement, consisted only of a battalion of Cavalry, about four hundred strong, and a battery of two brass field pieces. They are said not to have injured the railroad, or interrupted the telegraph, but proceeded in a westerly direction, as if attempting to flank the Federal forces stationed at Point of Rocks. The road they are alleged to have taken would bring them out on the railroad again in the vicinity of Berlin, a few miles above the Point of Rocks, where, if the force was not surprised, they would probably have a warm reception.

If this statement is true, their purpose in striking so far alone may probably have been to destroy the bridge over Catoctin creek, and thus cut off the force at Point of Rocks from receiving assistance from the troops at Harper's Ferry.

At ten o'clock a telegram from Frederick Junction announced that firing could be heard in the direction which the rebel forces took, and it was thought that they had met with opposition, and that a fight was progressing.

The town of Leesburg is also said, on the same authority, to be occupied by a considerable force, which is about ten miles inland from the point at which the crossing is reported to have been effected.

Orders were sent up last evening to Martinsburg to send all the locomotives and cars at station West, to prepare for any emergency, as there was a rumor that a party of guerrillas were seen in the vicinity of the bridge, three miles this side of Martinsburg. Up to the time of going to press this afternoon, however, the telegraph is working to all the stations on the road, and none of the bridges have been destroyed as far as known.

THE LATEST.

Half-past one, o'clock —We learn just as we go to press that a dispatch has been received from Mr. Diffey, stating that the rebel cavalry are positively in Maryland, and that they crossed the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, about two miles this side of the Point of Rocks.—*Balt. American, of Friday evening.*

OUR ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

From Gen. Buell's Army.

CAMP, NEAR BATTLE CREEK, TENN.,
August 19, 1862.

I think I told you in my last that the forces at this point enjoyed excellent health. In looking over some odd regiment, I find they average about thirty per day on the Surgeon's list; but, as a general rule, the list seldom runs over fifteen, and that in regiments numbering eight and nine hundred men. The weather is very favorable to good health, cool but dry. A little rain would be hailed with joy. The continual dry weather is producing a visibly bad effect on the corn crop, and should *that* fail I see nothing but starvation for the people in this country. The traveler sees little else than corn between here and Huntsville—judge how the failure of the crop will affect the people.

Ere this you are aware of our ill-luck—bad news travels fast, and you are doubtless saying to yourself, "Why *don't* those Kentuckians drive those horse-thieves and railroad-lifters out of the country?" Why don't Gen. Buell look closer to the communication between such important points? It's a crying shame!" Just so. It is a crying shame that the road over which we receive our provisions, ammunition, clothing—everything, in fact; down or up to our letters, should be at the mercy of a handful of daring guerrillas. How often have I heard this repeated by patient, long-suffering soldiers, who have been in the trasce fifteen months, and who cannot be made to believe that these things *cannot* be prevented. At the present juncture, the army is so fortunate as to be independent of the road in the matter of supplies of all kinds—we will not be compelled to live on half rations, as they did some two months ago when the communication was cut off between Nashville and Huntsville.

The mail arrangements are wretched. I have not received a copy of the *Gazette*, nor a single letter, since I arrived here. I am told that the mail is *supposed* to be under the charge of a Lieutenant, who is detailed *for that special duty.*

Now, I would respectfully inquire how it happens that during the last four days this portion of the army has not received so much as a single paper or letter? The army growl; but they are used to it, they say, and of course no steps are taken to remedy the glaringly inexcusable evil. Even when the mail is brought to Stevenson from Nashville, although the distance from the first mentioned to this point is less than sixteen miles, and the roads very good, still the mail *invariably* lies over another day at Stevenson, simply because the person whose *duty* it is to attend to this matter fails to do it, or else the person detailed from this Division as Post Master, is totally unfit to occupy the position. Surely the *unavoidable* mishaps of an army mail are enough without the addition of culpable negligence on the part of men detailed to attend solely to the mail. If letters are precious to *any* one, they are precious, doubly precious, to the soldier. They are the connecting link between the camp and the fireside; anything that interferes with this last resource of communication should be looked to *at once.* The astonishment is great at the listless apathy of men who, did they but remonstrate against the postal arrangements (or, rather the total lack of any definite understanding,) would secure to themselves and those under them, at least a *degree* of regularity in the receipt of mail matter.

O! hang it! What the deuce can a fellow do? You'll get used to it by and by. I felt just as you do once; I don't half like it now; but pshaw! One can't have any regularity in these things. You see, nobody will start the ball; there's the rub. Now, if the General—but *he* is in the same fix. I heard him growl at the delay myself. "If the General"—but the "if" is still in the way, and there let it be.

One other matter I will allude to, now that I am in the growling mood. It is a *momentous* question. I take it now that we are about to launch half a million of fresh men into the field. How is it that many of our best men when disabled by the common diseases of camp are permitted to languish and *die* in camp, while thousands are discharged and furloughed on the most trivial excuses? Nearly two hundred thousand soldiers are now absent from their regiments, and yet the camps are full of disabled men, who are only so much expense to the government; so much trouble and annoyance to the medical department. Many good men have perished in camp who might have saved to their country and friends had they been allowed a change of diet, associations, etc. Had *they* been furloughed at the proper time, they would now be at their posts. But so long as the present system prevails, men taken down with severe and malignant diseases, have no hope of salvation by a furlough, because the man dies before the application can run the gauntlet of officers and return. If by any means or *accident* the disease is conquered, a man is permitted to leave his post with a piece of paper literally covered with certificates and approvals, although he is now as well fitted to perform duty as ever. Thus in *nineteen cases out of twenty* the "papers" arrive *after the man has died or recovered.* This is no doubt inexplicable to those uninitiated in the "art of war." But those who are skilled (?) in the art *discovered* that the exigencies of the service demanded Brigade Surgeons, whose "duty" appears to consist of *watching* over and commenting on the performances of the Regimental Surgeons. Thus, a Brigade Surgeon becomes *almost* infallible, omnipotent; but to prevent the least chance of a mistake, it was found necessary to create *Division* Surgeons to watch over Brigade Surgeons. But here again poor human nature "fell short," and there must needs be Corps Surgeons to attend to the shortcomings of those beneath *them.* And then comes the Department Surgeons Generals, and Surgeons-Generals-in-Chief!

Now, an obscure and *overworked* surgeon of regiment, stationed in some obscure cave, or pestilential swamp of the Tennessee or Chickahominy, finds that he is not able to cope with the miasmas, scurvy, typhus, and the cholera collectively, unless his *superiors* will allow him *some* stimulus, tonics, &c. Superior surgeon magnanimously looks over the 'ignorance' and 'impudence' of the regimental surgeon, and in his great wisdom and power "orders" said regimental surgeon to give his men a decoction of Dogwood Bark! Regimental surgeon also discovers that when men become reduced, exhausted by disease, exposure and improper diet, that the only chance to save their lives is by sending them where the necessary articles may be had.

Corps Surgeon (who at that time happens to be at Saratoga or Niagara for a few days to recuperate from the "exhausting labors of his Department,") flies into a passion, and reprimands the imbecile R. Surgeon as he deserves, for invading his retreat and robbing him of his rest with such "*paltry requests!*" R. Surgeon, having a number of men, who are disabled by chronic diseases—therefore, an expense to the Government—hospitals are full of them; ambulances on the march are full of them; they are *always* in the road, and never *will* be of any use to the service. R. Surgeon resolves to rid himself of the annoyance, and save the pay and expense to the Government. He certifies *on oath* that A has inguinal hernia on both sides—has been unfit for duty for six months; B has synovitis anchylosis and necrosis—has been unfit for service four months, etc. C has chronic rheumatism and mental imbecility, etc.; D has amaurosis and acites, etc.; he humbly requests that his superiors will *approve* his action in the matter. Brigade Surgeon scrutinizes the certificates with an expression that says "I were my merits appreciated. I would be a Division Surgeon at least." He magnanimously approves the cases of hernia, synovitis and amaurosis; but, in his wisdom, decides that the other shall be returned, that the man has not got rheumatism nor mental imbecility, and orders the regimental surgeon to "examine such cases a little closer." The papers "referred" go to the division surgeon; *he* must needs refuse at least *one*, and *his* superiors the same, consequently *none of the persons were discharged. This is a fact.* Seriously, it is an outrage; a ludicrous *humbug!* Either the regimental surgeon is fit to decide who are entitled to a discharge or furlough, or he is NOT. *He* knows the case—*his superiors* never see them. He is in constant practice; has every opportunity to test who are sick and who are feigning. Brigade and division surgeons *cannot* know anything about particular cases. I put it on record, that the abuse of this department is more injurious to the army than even that of the Quartermaster's. Nor is there any way to prevent it but by throwing the responsibility upon the regimental surgeons