# Pittsburgh Gazette.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 14.


## CITY AFFAIRS.

☞ OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the Gazette, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, No. 55 Fifth street—corrected daily:

| | IN SUN. | IN SHADE. |
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| 9 o'clock, A. M. | 00 | 40 |
| 12 " M. | 00 | 35 |
| 6 " P. M. | | 38 |
| Barometer | | 29 6-10 |

### Skillful Surgical Operations.

On Wednesday last we visited the office of Dr. Johannes Jones, at the St. Charles Hotel, to witness the operation of straightening a crooked eye. The subject was a son of Mr. John Siphard, of Blairsville, Indiana county, whose right eye was badly drawn towards the inner angle. The boy was perhaps not over six years of age, and the deformity had only existed for fourteen months, having been caused by fright. The contracted muscle was severed, and the eye made perfectly straight, in an incredibly short space of time, and the father seemed both delighted and astonished at the result. Before we left the office, a young man named John McElwain, belonging to Sewickley, entered to consult the doctor in reference to his eyes, both of which were crooked, and had been so for many years. The doctor informed him that he could staighten them both in a few minutes, and without the slightest danger of injuring them. The operation was at once performed, and in the most expert and skillful manner—both eyes being left in a perfectly natural position. The young man was very much gratified at the result. The next operation was for cataract—the subject being an elderly lady named Mrs. Hill, from Fredericktown, Washington county. We did not witness this operation, but we saw the woman immediately after. The eye had been totally blind for some time, but as soon as a portion of the cataract had been removed she began to notice the returning vision, and when the cause was wholly removed the vision was of course restored. In operations of this character, however, the eye cannot be subjected to the rays of light immediately, but gradually, under the direction of the physician. When crooked eyes are made straight, the patient is able to go about the ordinary affairs of life, without inconvenience—as in the case of the young man above mentioned, who returned to Sewickley on the train immediately after.

In reference to operations for cross-eyes, we wish to correct a popular delusion—that the eye must be removed in order to have it restored to its natural position. This is very absurd, yet many persons are firmly impressed with the belief. The operation requires great skill, and a thorough knowledge of the anatomy of the eye, yet it is much more simple and much less painful than most persons imagine. When so serious a deformity can be so speedily and safely removed, it is strange that all who have the means do not avail themselves of the remedy.

Dr. Jones has also been very successful in the cure of deafness. In addition to cases already reported, we may mention that of Mr. Wm. Reise, of the Etna Iron Works. He certifies that he was so deaf he could not hear his clock ticking, with his ear close to it. After being treated by Dr. Jones, he was enabled to hear as well as any person could desire. He could distinctly hear the clock ticking at the distance of over twenty feet. He had been deaf for about fifteen years. There are other cases which we might mention, but these will suffice.

In conclusion, we would urge all who are afflicted in any way—and particularly these suffering from affections of the eye and ear—to call upon the doctor at once. He will charge nothing for consultation, and will attempt nothing that he cannot perform in a scientific and satisfactory manner. His stay is limited to the 22d inst., so that those who would avail themselves of his services must do so within the next ten days.

### Opening of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad.

The first passenger train on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad went through last Tuesday, from Meadville to Ravenna. The train contained the Directors of the road with several invited guests. At Warren public notice had been given of the coming of the train, and a crowd of people assembled to greet its arrival. A salute of cannon was fired and demonstrations of rejoicing made as the train arrived. A short stop was made and the train passed on to Ravenna, where it was again received with demonstrations of welcome. An accommodation train will be run between Meadville and Ravenna every other day for the present. The opening of the line was celebrated in Ravenna by a supper, ball, and a jollification generally.

GRADUATED AT DUFF'S MERCANTILE COLLEGE, PITTSBURGH.—Charles B. Smith, Parkersburg, West Virginia, Samuel Carlisle, Merrietsville, Pa., E. Slaughenhoupt, West Freedom, Pa., J. B. Howe, West Freedom, Pa., T. P. Kramer, Johnstown, Pa., Joseph Stokely, Allegheny City, M. J. Russell, Massillon, Ohio, all of whom passed an honorable examination, were awarded the elegant diploma of the college, printed upon parchment, and were presented by the Faculty with copies of the College Gems of Penmanship as testimonials of their exemplary deportment and application during their attendance.

HELD TO BAIL.—Thomas D. Coghlin made oath before Alderman Taylor that a certain Patrick Martin came upon his premises, and used violent language, threatening to knock him down, lay him out, break every bone in his body, and other expressions more forcible than elegant. A warrant having been issued, Patrick was accordingly arrested, and placed under bonds to the amount of $300, for his appearance at Court, and to keep the peace towards all persons in this commonwealth, and more especially towards Thomas D. Coghlin.

ASSAULT UPON A WOMAN.—Mrs. Alice Keenan, of Lawrenceville, has made an information before Alderman Taylor, charging Frederick Winche with assault and battery. She alleges that Winche forced himself into her house, and pushed and kicked her in a violent manner. He was arrested and held to bail in the sum of $300. Mrs. Keenan is the wife of Thomas B. Keenan, now under conviction of the murder of John A. Obey, and Frederick Winche was one of those tried and acquitted of the same offence.

THEATRE.—Matilda Heron will appear at the Theatre to-night for the last time. In accordance with the general wish, Miss H. will repeat her great part of Camille, and the company will conclude the entertainment by producing the old Irish drama of "Norah Creina." On Monday Mr. Mordaunt has a benefit, and on Tuesday evening the much-talked of "Seven Sisters" will be placed upon the "boards" for the first time in Pittsburgh. The management seem to understand that first class entertainments are sure to meet with a hearty support from our citizens.

RICHARD H. MUNTER, of Co. H, 27th Indiana Regiment, who was badly injured by the accident on the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad on Wednesday, near Sewickley, died on Thursday, at the Military Hospital, and was buried in the Allegheny Cemetery.

David Brooks, of Co. I, Tennessee Union Volunteers, died on the same day, at the same place, and was also buried in the Allegheny Cemetery.

WHO says that Pittsburgh does not patronise amusements? Last night scores were turned away from the Old Folks' concert, being unable to get in, and at the theatre there was no less a jam, a card being posted at the entrance as early as half-past seven o'clock, stating that there was standing room only. Verily, we are an amusement-loving people.

GRAND BALL.—The members of the Neptune Fire Company will give a grand ball at Mozart Hall, on the night of the 23d instant. The affair has been placed in excellent hands, and will be gotten up in a manner calculated to reflect credit upon the company, and to render the highest degree of pleasure to their guests.

DEATH OF NICHOLAS LONGWORTH.—Nicholas Longworth, one of the pioneer citizens of Cincinnati, and the wealthiest man in the State, died at his residence in that city on the 10th of February, aged 81 years.

CAPT. J. H. FOSTER, of Gen. ———'s staff, is at home on leave of absence.

Cy. Townsend, of the 149th Regiment, is home on furlough.

### Five Weeks in the Confederacy.

*Editors Gazette*:—A journey of nearly two thousand miles through the South as a prisoner, and a detention for a considerable time in Richmond, has enabled the writer to see and hear much that may be new and interesting to your readers.

Immediately after being taken in the engagement of December 31st, at Stone's River, the prisoners were marched into Murfreesboro, and hastily sworn not to serve against the South until exchanged. We were kept strongly guarded in the public square, whence we could see the rebels constantly hurrying in the fruits of their partial victory—long trains of wagons, loaded with supplies and equipage, several batteries, and the colors of some of our regiments—apparently indicating the rout of our entire army.

Early next morning eight hundred prisoners, including myself, were sent *en route* for Vicksburg, on the Chattanooga Railroad. On account of the scarcity of rolling stock, we were crowded in freight and cattle cars, sixty or seventy in each car. On this, as on all other Southern roads, we made very slow progress; not over eight miles an hour. Although raining most of the time, I preferred riding on top, to being crowded in the cars, besides it afforded a better chance of seeing the country.

From Murfreesboro to the mountains, in the vicinity of Chattanooga, is a fine productive region, with no remarkable natural features. Its constant occupation by the forces of both sides has rendered it almost utterly bare of provisions, so that neither army could subsist without its railroad communication. The destruction of the bridges over the Tennessee would render the rebel army's position untenable, and probably make it impossible to escape from Tennessee.

Next morning we arrived at Chattanooga, where we remained twenty-four hours. Until just before starting we received no rations, and, of course, suffered no little from hunger; tho' not so much as some days afterward, when we got nothing. The rebel officers did the best they could for us, but often there were no supplies on hand. Some of them spent their own money freely to supply the wants of our men, and Southern soldiers often divided their rations with the prisoners. Here and at most other places we were allowed to go where we pleased, no guard being with us on the route.

Chattanooga is a brisk commercial and manufacturing place, with a population of about 3,000. Three of the most important lines of railroad in the South intersect there. The approach by a military force is rendered very difficult by several ranges of mountains, traversed by narrow passes, easy to be defended. Once possessed, however, it will give us the command, not only of important railroads, among which is the main line of communication between Richmond and the Gulf States, but of East Tennessee, and an extensive mining and agricultural region to the southward, from which our enemies draw large supplies.

Our next run of 140 miles brought us to Atlanta, the principal place in Northern Georgia, a new city, mainly built within a few years. Here, too, new factories of various kinds, mostly for the production of army supplies, were being vigorously undertaken. Most articles were roughly made, but substantial and lasting. The surrounding country is level, but not very productive. Toward the Western border of the State it becomes more fertile, and after entering Alabama most of the land is of excellent character. Immense plantations are almost wholy devoted to raising corn, and I often saw gangs of dozens of negroes ploughing for this spring's crop.

Montgomery, the first capital of rebeldom, is the only place of note through which we passed in Alabama. It is finely situated on the high banks of the Alabama river, and covers nearly four square miles. The capitol is much like our court house, and is the only building worth notice in the place. The war has destroyed the business of this city, and it looks extremely dull. Two daily papers, however, superior in size and appearance to those of Richmond, still manage to live.

From Montgomery, we took the Pensacola Railroad for Mobile, which we had nearly reached, when we were ordered to Richmond, owing to the attack then made on Vicksburg. That part of Alabama through which we thus passed, was low, flat, and interspersed with extensive swamps, but, generally, the land was of a character similar to the Ohio bottoms—a splendid cotton country now turned entirely to the production of food. The people are of the most exagerated type of the Southern character, yet now making it a matter of pride to dress and live in the plainest and most economical style—the daughters of rich planters dressing in coarse homespun.

We returned by the same road as far as Dalton, Ga., thence through East Tennessee. Until we reached Knoxville, we found few of the people loyal, but from that city to the Virginia line the majority of those we saw were openly for the Union. Most of those who have been hung, or driven from their homes, were acting as partisan fighters. Where the Unionists took no part in the war, they were not interfered with.

Passing through the southern part of Virginia, I saw little worth relating, other than the marked change in the character of the people. Compared with the Virginians, those of the extreme South are honorable, generous and humane. It was the same at Richmond, where for the first time we were closely confined, and kept on half rations of the worst quality. Regardless of our health and comfort, we were allowed no facilities for keeping ourselves clean. The Libby Prison, to which we were transferred a few days after our arrival, was in a most filthy condition, and swarming with vermin. Here we managed to spend nearly three weeks before we were turned over to our own Government.

I wish, to-morrow, to say some things of a more general nature relating to Southern affairs. Yours truly, JOSIAH COPLEY, JR.

LEAD PIPE.—We call the attention of plumbers and others to the advertisement, in another column, of McCormick & Gibson, Cincinnati, manufacturers of lead pipe, sheet and bar lead, and dealers in pig lead, block tin, and patent shot. As Messrs. McCormick & Gibson are engaged exclusively in the lead trade, and purchase all their stock for cash, they can furnish the above articles to plumbers and others on better terms than almost any other house. They manufacture reels of lead pipe to convey water from springs, in lengths varying from one thousand to fifteen hundred feet. We have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the members of this wealthy and respectable firm, and can vouch for the faithful fulfilment of any contract which they may make. Competent judges acknowledge that they furnish the best pipe that is offered in the Pittsburgh market.

THE OLD FOLKS.—The Continental Old Folks will repeat this evening the excellent programme of Wednesday, which gave so much delight to the audience. The old "Judgment Anthem" will be executed in their inimitable style, together with other grand pieces. On Saturday afternoon, a matinee for families, to which children will be admitted at ten cents each. Saturday evening will positively close their concerts here, so that all who wish to hear them must embrace the present opportunity.

THE Silver Cloud, which was to have left last evening, is still at the landing. The stevedores who were employed to load the boat knocked off at dark, and positively refused to work any longer. Having quite a large quantity of freight on the wharf, she was obliged to remain, but will leave this morning, positively.

LAST OPPORTUNITY.—To-night Miss Heron closes her engagement at the theatre. The play of "Camille" will be repeated, together with the afterpiece of Norah Creina. Those who have not had an opportunity of witnessing Camille will do well to attend to-night.

POCKET BOOKS for postal currency and treasury notes, at Pittock's, opposite the Postoffice.

FOURTEENTH OF FEBRUARY, St. Valentine's day. Valentines of all kinds at Pittock's, opposite the Postoffice.

CARTE DE VISITES, of all the Generals, at Pittock's, opposite the Postoffice.

VALENTINES, at Pittock's, opposite the Postoffice.

ATTENTION, COMPANY!—Volunteers, who expect to retain their health unimpaired during the campaign, must see to it themselves, do not trust to the Army Surgeons, supply yourselves with Holloway's Pills and Ointment. Every English soldier's knapsack contains them. Only 25 cents per box or lot. 212

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 445 Liberty street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance. 6m

# THE LATEST NEWS

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

### OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13, 1863.

Gov. Curtin's recent message, together with his other movements in the same direction, are interpreted as bad for the Democratic vote at the ensuing election, and as the first developments of Thurlow Weed's plan for the reorganization of the Republican party on a conservative basis. It was foreshadowed by Gov. Curtin's recent reconsideration with Mr. Seward. The earnest Republicans here are very indignant at what they call his betrayal of their principles and trust.

MR. SEWARD AND COUNT MERCIER.

The personal relations between Mr. Seward and Count Mercier continue friendly. They dined together last night. The apparent flat contradiction of Count Mercier's statement about his visit to Richmond in Mr. Seward's recent reply to the Senate's inquiry, is all explained away by Mr. Seward's friends. They say that Mr. Seward merely denies that, as Secretary of State, he made any such remarks, as Count Mercier quotes. What he may have done in a private and unofficial capacity is another matter, of course. This way of escaping the responsibility favors rather of the trickster than that of the statesman, but it seems the only way of reconciling their otherwise flatly contradictory statements.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Senator Wilson reported from the Military Committee, to-day, adversely to the House bill for the organization of a negro army, on the ground that the law of last session confers all the power given by this bill. The same ground was repeatedly taken by the Republicans during the House debate on the subject, and if the Democrats had not so persistently called the attention of the country to the measure, and sought to make party capital out of it, it is very doubtful whether the House would have passed it. The bill, indeed, diminishes the power the President already had for employing negroes.

The Judiciary Committee was discharged from the consideration of the memorial of Pierce & Bacon, concerning the Floyd acceptances, by the House to-day. The Attorney General's opinion, that the Government is not liable for these acceptances, is left to stand as law.

Senator Richardson announced in course of the debate to-day, that he should next week make an attack upon Secretary Stanton, whom he stigmatized as one of Buchanan's Cabinet and one of his most trusted friends.

The passage at arms and reconciliation between Richardson and Jim Lane, in the Senate to-day, amused everybody. It was very Pickwickean throughout.

The Senate, by four majority, voted to tax banks one per cent. on their average circulation till April 1st, 1865, and two per cent. thereafter. This comprises the sole amendment made by the Senate to the bill as reported from the Finance Committee. The purpose of it, as stated upon the floor, is to kill off local banks gradually. The bill was finally passed by a vote of 30 to 4—Carlile, Powell, Wall and Richardson alone voting "no."

The French Minister was on the floor of the Senate, to-day, and was in most cordial intercourse with Mr. Sumner and the leading Republican Senators.

The galleries were unusually crowded to-day, and the closest attention paid to the interesting debate.

Senator Fessenden's admirable reproof to Mr. Powell was keenly appreciated, and Mr. Chandler's response to the personal attack of Mr. Richardson was received with frequent outbursts of applause.

THE DUTY ON PAPER.

The paper manufacturers before the Ways and Means Committee, to-day, denied any combination to keep up the price, asserting that their association were for the purpose of improving the art. They asserted that the high price was owing to the cost and scarcity of rags, and the business was so profitless that seven-eighths of the manufacturers failed and seventy-five to one hundred engines were stationary. They called the duty a necessity to them. The Committee were evidently somewhat impressed.

Commissioner Boutwell was before the Committee of Ways and Means to-day, concerning the tax bill. The amended bill will probably be reported on Monday. The opposition has prevented the banking bill from being referred to the Ways and Means Committee, where its fate is doubtful. It is not certain whether the Committee will be called again this session, and the bill can't be reported out of its course. If reported the provisions conferring extensive powers on the Secretary of the Treasury will probably be stricken out. The tenor of the House is uncertain.

INTERCEPTED LETTERS.

Among recently intercepted letters is one from a prominent rebel in London to a prominent rebel in Richmond. The writer says that from Great Britain the South can hope for nothing; that she is a low, mean and treacherous nation, and hates the South as much as the North, hoping for nothing but the destruction of both; but, continues the letter, our noble friend, Napoleon, will help and is helping us.

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF SLAVES IN MISSOURI.

Senator Pomeroy received a dispatch from Springfield, Missouri, yesterday, stating that at an auction sale, just finished, the best slaves brought ten dollars a head. Some consider this an argument for reducing the amount of appropriation in the Missouri emancipation bill.

THE PAPER DEALERS

Have presented a memorial to Congress against the reduction of the duty, which they have laid on every members desk this morning. One of them, at the publisher's meeting last night, told a publisher that the paper dealers had them (the publishers) where they would have them, and would hold them there.

RECEPTION OF TOM THUMB AND WIFE AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

The reception of Tom Thumb and wife at the White House, to-night, was the grandest affair of the kind since Mrs. Lincoln's great party, enlivened, as it was, with humorous guests, and concluding with a sumptuous entertainment.

CORNELL JEWETT GIVING ADVICE.

Cornell Jewett says that he advised the French minister, to-day, that his own honor and that of his nation required him to challenge Mr. Seward. Jewett offered to carry the challenge.

SECRETARY SEWARD.

The *National Intelligencer*, to-day, defends Seward, and bewails the indication, which it professes to see, of another concerted attempt to get him ejected from the Cabinet.

CASSIUS M. CLAY

Stated to-day that he would speedily return to Russia, and that Bayard Taylor will return to this country in a couple of months.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The following able letter concludes the correspondence between Mr. Seward and our French Minister, regarding the proposition of France. Mr. Seward in a letter to Mr. Dayton, Feb. 6, 1863, says:

"This government, if required, does not hesitate to submit its achievements to the test of comparison, and it maintains that in no part of the world, and in no times ancient or modern, had a nation, when rendered all unready for combat by the enjoyment of eighty years of almost unbroken peace, so quickly awakened at the alarm of sedition, put forth energies so vigorous and achieved success so signal and effective as those which have marked the progress of this contest on the part of the nation. M. Druyn De L'Huys, I fear, has taken other light than the correspondence of this government for his guidance in ascertaining its temper and firmness. He has probably read of the divisions of sentiment among those who hold themselves forth as organs of public opinion here, and has given to them an undue importance. What M. Druyn De L'Huys suggests is, that this government shall appoint commissioners to meet on neutral ground commissioners of the insurgents. He supposes that in the conferences to be thus held, reciprocal complaint could be discussed, and in place of the accusations which the North and South now mutually cast upon each other, the conference would be engaged with the discussion of the interests which divide them. If it were possible for the government of the United States to compromise national authority so far as to enter into such debates, it is not easy to perceive what good results could be obtained by them. The commissioners must agree in recommending either that the Union shall stand or it shall be voluntarily dissolved, or else they must leave the vital question unsettled, to abide at last the fortunes of war.

The Government has not shut out the knowledge of the present temper any more than of the past purposes of the insurgents. There is not the least ground to suppose that the controlling actors would be persuaded at this moment by any arguments which national commissioners could offer to forego the ambition that impelled them to the disloyal position they now occupy. Any Commissioners who should be appointed by those actors, or through their influence, must enter the conferences imbued with the spirit and pledged to the personal fortunes of an insurgent chief. The loyal people in the insurrectionary States would be unheard, and any offer of peace by this Government on condition of the maintenance of the Union would necessarily be rejected.

On the other hand, this Government has not the least thought of relinquishing the trust which has been confided to it by the nation under the most solemn of all political sanction; and if it had any such thought, it would have still abundant reason to know that peace procured at the cost of dissolution, would be immediately, universally and indignantly rejected by the American people.

It is a great mistake that European statesmen make, if they suppose this people demoralized.

M. Druyn De L'Huys draws to his aid conferences which took place between the Colonies and Great Britain in our Revolutionary war. He will allow me to answer, that action in the crisis of a nation must accord with its necessities, and therefore can be seldom compared to precedents. Great Britain, when entering on that negotiation, had manifestly come to entertain doubts of her ultimate success; and it is certain that the Councils of the Colonies could not fail to take new courage, if not gain other advantages, when the parent State compromised so far as to treat of peace on the terms of conceding their independence.

It is true, indeed, that peace must come at some day, and that conferences must attend, if they are not allowed to precede, the pacification. The Congress of the United States furnishes the constitutional forum for debates between alienated parties. Senators and representatives from the loyal portion of the people, are there already fully empowered to confer, and seats also vacant, and inviting Senators and Representatives of the discontented party, who may be constitutionally sent there, from States involved in insurrection. Moreover, conferences which can thus be held in Congress, have this great advantage over any that could be organized upon the plan of De L'Huys, viz: That the Congress, if it were thought wise, could call a national convention to adopt his recommendations and give them all the solemnity and binding force of organic law. Such conferences between alienated parties may be said to have begun already. Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri, States which are claimed by the insurgents, are already represented in Congress, and submitting with perfect freedom and, in a proper spirit their advice upon the best course to bring about a firm, lasting and honorable peace. Representatives have also been sent from Louisiana, and others are understood to be coming from Arkansas.

There is a preponderating argument in favor of the Congressional form of conference over that which is suggested by M. Druyn De L'Huys, viz: That, whereas, an accession to the latter would bring the government into concurrence with the insurgents, in disregarding and setting aside an important part of the Constitution of the United States, and so would be of pernicious example; the Congressional conference, on the contrary, preserves and gives new strength to that sacred instrument which must continue through future ages the sheet anchor of the Republic.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—From the tenor of the dispatches by the last foreign steamer it is thought the feeling in regard to the American question is slightly improving, not merely in Great Britain but on the continent.

There has been a ministerial crisis in Turkey in consequence of the irascible and ungovernable temper of the Sultan. This, it is said, is causing much concern and apprehension of grave political danger in the East.

Ordered—That a Court of Inquiry, consisting of three competent officers and a recorder, be organized to inquire and report,

First—Whether any and what officers in the service have been engaged, directly or indirectly, in participation in the traffic in cotton and other produce on the Mississippi or its tributaries, to what extent, under what circumstances, and with all the particulars of the transaction.

Second—Whether any, or what military officers have granted licenses or permits for trade, to whom—at what time—and with all the particulars thereof.

Third—Whether any, and what military officer have used, or permitted the use of the Government transportation or other public property for private purposes.

Fourth—And also to inquire and report upon such other matters as may be directed.

The court will meet and organize with all convenient dispatch at Cairo, and hold their sessions at such places as may be most convenient for investigation. They will prosecute with diligence the inquiry, and make a speedy report. By order of the Secretary of War. (Signed) E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant General.

The Navy Department has received information of a Captain, by the United States schooner Hope, of the schooner Emma Tuttle, flying the English flag, on the 27th January, off Charleston. She purported to be from Nassau, and bound for Baltimore, though, at the time she was captured, she was steering South-east. This vessel has been pronounced unseaworthy, but her cargo, most of which was contraband, consisting of a number of bags of saltpetre, and with the greater portion of her crew, has been sent to Philadelphia.

This schooner was taken once before, but her crew succeeded in recapturing her.

The Department has also received news of the capture of the English bark Springbok, while cruising at sea in lat. 35° 35', long. 73° 40'. She is one of the vessels designated by Rear Admiral Wilkes as a contraband trader. She carried no manifest showing the character of her cargo. She has been sent to New York.

### News from Memphis.

CAIRO, Feb. 13.—Memphis papers of the 11th have been received.

The rebel advance in Mississippi is said to be at Okolona, trying to repair the railroad destroyed by Gen. Grant. The inclemency of the weather delays their movements by way of Columbia.

It is reported that the enemy moved a large part of the Army of Virginia to Vicksburg, and had also taken all the garrison of Mobile except 4,000, which force was left for police duty.

The railroad from Selma to Meridian has been completed, thus enabling the rebels to concentrate their forces at Vicksburg.

The enforcement of the conscription act is driving many citizens from Alabama and Mississippi to the North.

In consequence of the frequent violation of the regulation against carrying contraband articles to the South more vigorous measures have been resorted to. All downward bound boats are stopped at Island No. 10, and the cargo and passengers' baggage examined.

A steamer which arrived from Vicksburg on Monday reports that a barge loaded with coal ran the blockade on Sunday last.

## FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 13, 1863.

HOUSE.—Mr. Pershing offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary (General) Committee to inquire what legislation is expedient and proper to carry out the recommendation of the Governor in his annual message, relative to the protection of workmen and laborers in some parts of the State, who have their wages paid in orders on store-keepers for merchandise and other articles. Passed.

Mr. Kaine offered a resolution requesting the Auditor General to furnish the House with the names of the counties that have paid into the State Treasury the militia tax, under the act of 1858, and how much was paid by each county, and for what year. Passed.

Mr. Bell, introduced a bill to prevent the obstruction of crossings of railroads by engines and cars. Passed. The penalty is $25.

The joint resolution instructing our Senators in Congress to oppose the passage of a law appropriating twenty millions to compensate the owners of emancipated slaves in Missouri, was taken up.

Mr. Kaine resumed his remarks. When a question similar to this was before Congress, in 1791, it was declared in one of the series of resolutions passed by that body "that Congress should have no power to interfere in the emancipation of slaves, or in the treatment of them. It remains with the several States alone to provide any regulation which humanity and true policy may require.

At the commencement of the rebellion, Congress declared that the war was prosecuted for the restoration of the Union, but now it is for the abolition of slavery. When the people discover the extent and magnitude of the corruption practiced upon them, they will rise up in their might and put men in office who will conduct the affairs of the Government under the Constitution. When Pennsylvania agrees to such doctrines as those of the General Government, I don't want any longer to be a citizen of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Rowland quoted the language of Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, in Congress, on the 11th of February, 1861, that neither Congress nor the people of non-slaveholding States have any right to legislate upon slavery in any of the slaveholding States of this Union.

The present proposition is the same as the General Government bribing Missouri into emancipation. In 1860 Missouri had 114,931 slaves. He thought the Democratic party did not bring about the present state of affairs. It is because we wished to preserve the Constitution that we, the Democrats, opposed the admission of the State of West Virginia, without the consent of the Legislature of that State.

The argument for the abolition of slavery in Missouri is, because slavery is an evil. The evil should be abolished. Therefore, we should abolish slavery from that State. He held that slavery is not *per se* an evil, neither socially, politically, nor morally. He thought that very few white people would condescend to walk the streets with sable neighbors. The negro race is a race of different wants, and different capacities from the white; and the sooner the American people recognize that fact the better will it be for all concerned. He quoted part of the remarks of Edgar Cowan on the Confiscation bill, last winter. The negro race shows itself incapable of keeping up its existence. Is there any philanthropy in turning the poor creatures out to die? The slave negroes prove they are happier than free negroes from the fact that they multiply in numbers. Since the emancipation in Jamaica the products of that island have dwindled down. Cuba, where slavery is, has increased in prosperity.

The House adjourned till half-past seven o'clock on Monday evening.

SENATE.—Mr. White, from the Select Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Governor's message relating to the Reserve Corps, reported a bill to change the mode of selecting field and company officers in the Reserve Volunteer Corps. All vacancies of commissioned officers in regiments of the Reserve Volunteer Corps shall be filled in the same manner as the like vacancies in other volunteer regiments from the State. The Governor shall commission all such officers and designate their rank, for present and future vacancies, in like manner as he at present does in Pennsylvania volunteer regiments now in the field. So much of the act of the 15th of May, 1861, as conflicts with this is to be repealed. Passed.

Mr. Graham's bill in relation to grading and paving in the borough of Manchester, and Mr. McCandless' bill relative to bounties of nine months' volunteers of Beaver county, were passed.

Mr. Penney reported a bill to change the venue in a certain case, with an amendment to refer the subject of the change of venue from Beaver to Fayette county to the Court of Oyer and Terminer of Beaver county.

Mr. Lowry's bill, authorizing certain military officers to take proof and acknowledgments of deeds, passed.

Adjourned to Monday evening.

FROM WASHINGTON.

A special dispatch to the N. Y. *Times* states that instructions were issued yesterday to our cruisers in conformity with the provisions of the treaty for suppressing the slave trade.

Arrangements for the Texas expedition will be completed, it is thought, this week. Gov. Andrew, of Mass., is expected in Washington to urge the Administration to appoint Gen. Butler to command it.

Prisoners from Richmond say that the rebel prisons in that city are filled with loyal citizens from Eastern Tennessee, and Northwestern Virginia. They are treated ten times worse than prisoners of war.

About two hundred civilian prisoners from Richmond arrived at Annapolis yesterday.

Eleven white men, who, on Monday night last, attempted to cross the Lower Potomac from Maryland, were captured by one of our gunboats. They had twenty-five thousand dollars in gold. R.

### From Harper's Ferry.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 13.—A dispatch from Brig. Gen. Kelly, of Harper's Ferry, to-day, to Lieut. Col. Cheeseborough, A. A. G., says: Yesterday about one o'clock a squad of Bayler's rebel cavalry attacked a small scouting party of the 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, from Kearneysville; killing one, wounding two and capturing four men and several horses.

About 4 o'clock, p. m., my scouts from here fell in with the same party a few miles south of Charleston, and after a running fight for several miles, recaptured our men and horses, and captured Lieut. Bayler, two of his men and several horses.

### The Canal Improvement Bill.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Feb. 13.—A resolution was passed by the House to-day setting forth that as the canal improvement bill has been defeated in Congress, the Governor be authorized to appoint Commissioners to visit the Parliament of Canada to apply for the adoption of measures looking to the improvement of the facilities for transportation to the Atlantic.

### The Pirate Alabama.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—Capt. Curtis, of the brig Samuel Churchman, from Miragoane, reports that, on February 4th, in latitude 34°, longitude 75', She saw a large steamer painted black, steering west. She stood toward us, but night coming on, with a very heavy rain and thick weather, we lost sight of her. We supposed her to be the pirate Alabama.

### Bark Ashore--Arrivals.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The bark ashore at Barnegat is the Camilius, (British) from Martinique, for New York, in ballast.

Arrived—The brigs Stromners, from Matanzas, and Richmond, from New Orleans.

## FROM MURFREESBORO.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

MURFREESBORO, Feb. 13, 1863.

Last night an earnest and enthusiastic meeting of Ohio officers was held for the purpose of taking some measures to show the sentiment that exists in the army with regard to the prosecution of the war, the adoption of dishonorable compromises, and the incipient treason which has developed itself in the North. The utmost unanimity prevailed, and a committee was appointed to draft an address to be presented to all the Ohio regiments for their adoption or rejection. The following persons constitute the committee: Col. M. B. Walker, 31st; Col. E. H. Phelps, 38th; Col. J. M. Connell, 17th, and Lieut. Col. F. W. Fisher, 17th Ohio. Col. Connell, a life long Democrat, drew up the address, which was heard and endorsed by all the members of the committee, Democrats and Republicans. It has already been presented to a half dozen regiments, and not a single man has as yet failed to endorse it. The distinguished Durbin Ward has given the address his heartiest approval, and took an active part in the preliminaries leading to its adoption. The cheers with which the address was received by the Ohio regiments this evening would have sent a thrill of joy to the heart of every loyal man in the country.

The address begins by ignoring all party politics, and declaring only for the Government of the United States. It asks, with earnest emphasis, why any but a traitor should desire the severance of the Republic, or to throw obstacles in the way of the earnest prosecution of this war, whose sole object is the preservation of the Republic from those who, by armed force, are seeking to destroy it. Can any portion of the people consent to a dismemberment of the Nation? Assuredly, no! Why, then, manifest factious opposition, which can only encourage the common enemy? The war must be prosecuted, or all that it is waged for be given up. All evils can be remedied at the ballot box, save the rebellion of men in arms; this can be suppressed only by bayonets. Can compromise avail anything, when the rebels disdainfully fling back in our faces all our propositions for compromise and declare that nothing will suit them but the acknowledgment of their bastard nationality? They look upon their northern friends as allies, in the war which they are prosecuting against the Union, and will regard them in no other light. The speeches and resolutions of these sympathizers in the north are quoted in the south only to prove to the deluded people of that section that there is a large party in the north who think that this infernal rebellion is right, and are willing to submit to disunion. People of the north, you must either acknowledge this rebellion to be right, and that your nationality is a sham, or you must, as one man, sustain the government against traitors. We intend to protect you—you must not desert us. We have suffered now too much to be willing to agree to anything save the absolute, unconditional restoration of the Union, without compromise or consultation with traitors. Arms have been invoked to destroy the government. Arms can only save it. Your enemies ask for no cessation of hostilities. Shame upon you, if you anticipate them. You are right. They are wrong. Shame upon you, if you are willing for your holy right to submit to their foul wrong. Spare your sympathies for the miserable traitors justly confined in prisons at home, and give them to your friends, your relatives and your brothers, who are sacrificing their lives—their all—for you on many a bloody battle field. If some miserable demagogues amongst you must vomit forth their treason, let them keep it at home. We want none of their vile letters, speeches or papers here. We know for what we fight. Tell us not that we are engaged in an abolition war. We have sunk all party considerations in devoted loyalty to our country, and whatever names unholy traitors may apply to us, we will, by every means that Providence puts in our hands, sustain the Union, so help us God.

The Army of the West is in terrible earnest—earnest to conquer and destroy armed rebels, earnest to meet force with force, earnest in its hearty detestation of cowardly traitors at home, earnest in will and power to overcome all who desire the nation's ruin. Ohio's one hundred thousand soldiers in the field, citizens at home, potent in either capacity, ask their fathers, brothers and friends, by their firesides, and in their peaceful homes to hear and heed this appeal, and to put an end to covert treason at home, more dangerous now to our national existence than the presence of armed hosts of misguided rebels at home.

Col. M. B. Walker, of the 31st Ohio, then presented a resolution embodying the above sentiments, which was unanimously adopted.

The address and resolutions have so far been presented to about a dozen Ohio regiments, and adopted without a dissenting voice.

Gen. Jeff. C. Davis returned to-night from his expedition to intercept Forrest. After his attack upon Fort Donelson, he marched to within a few miles of Charlotte, and although he did not succeed in the main object of his expedition, he captured two hundred and fifty prisoners.

Approved by order of GEN. ROSECRANS.
O. GODDARD, Chief of Staff.

### Markets by Telegraph.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13—Noon.—Flour 5@10c. higher; sales 13,500 bbls., at $6 75@6 90 for State, $7 60@7 75 for Ohio and $7 60@80 for Southern. Wheat advanced 1c.; sales 60,000 bush., at $1 55@1 55 for Chicago Spring, $1 58@1 61 for Milwaukee Club and $1 63@1 68 for Red Western. Corn firm; sales 60,000 bush. at 92@93c. Beef steady. Pork firm at $14 62½@14 75. Lard firm at 10¼@11½c. Whisky dull at 55c.

American Gold, 155⅞.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13.—Breadstuffs market continues excessively dull, and prices drooping; sales of 1,000 bbls Flour at $6,50 for superfine; $7,79 for extra family; supplies come in slowly. Rye-flour dull at $4,50. Corn-meal scarce; worth $4. Wheat drooping, but offerings light; sales 5,000 bushels red at $1,67@1,70; small lots white at $1,80@1,90, and 10,000 bushels Kentucky do. at $1,90. Rye is selling at 97 for Pennsylvania. Corn dull and declined 1c; sales 5,000 bushels yellow at 84½@85c. Oats active, and 6,000 bushels Pennsylvania sold at 64c. No change in Barley or Malt. Coffee firm; sales Rio at 30@33c. No change in Provisions. Whisky lower; sales of Eastern at 60c.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 13—Evening.—Flour firmer and prices higher: superfine up to $6, and extra $6,10@6,15, the market closing buoyant. Wheat $1,20@1,30 for prime red and white. Corn declined to 66@68c. Oats firm at 70c in bulk. Barley unchanged and firm at $1,40@1,50 for spring and fall. Whisky dull at 54c, speculators holding back. Provisions are quiet; not much done. Lard is wanted at 9¾c; but none but country could be had at this rate; city is held at 10c, and is out of the market. Mess Pork is held firmly. Nothing done bulk meats; clear do inod to 6c, but at this rate there was a speculative demand for shipment. Groceries firm and unchanged. Gold advanced to 153; Demand Notes 151; Exchange very firm at par.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—Cotton quiet at 82. Flour advanced 5 and 10c.; sales at $6 65@6 85 for State; $7 00@7 75 for Ohio; and $7 60@7 85 for Southern. Wheat advanced 1 and 2c.; sales 120,000 bush. at $1 35@$1 55 for Chicago Spring; $1 55@1 61 for Milwaukee Club; $1 63@1 68 for Red Western. Corn firm; sales 90,000 bush. at 92@93. Lard firm at 10¼@11½. Whisky steady at 55@58.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 13.—Breadstuffs are dull and unchanged. Whisky steady at 65. Provisions dull. Western Lard sells at 11c. Groceries quiet but unchanged.

### Soldiers' Pensions and Bounties.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1863.

*To the Editors of the Pittsburgh Gazette:*

GENTLEMEN—An article appeared in your valuable paper a few days since which, however complimentary to us and our very efficient "Branch," in your city, contained a sentence or two calculated to do manifest injustice, as also to mislead the public mind, although no such intention could possibly have been in the mind of the writer.

The paragraph in question reads thus: "Or of sending their claims for bounty, pension and arrears of pay by mail, to the department direct, when they are laid aside and neglected, no one being there to bring them before the officers of the departments, and, although you give your claims into the hands of an attorney it will be of no more avail than sending it in yourself, unless the attorney has a regularly authorized agent in Washington to present the claim and attend it to a final settlement."

This is a severe and entirely unwarranted reflection upon Hon. Ezra B. French, 2d Auditor of the Treasury, as also upon the Hon. Joseph H. Barrett, Commissioner of Pensions. Both of these gentlemen are using all means at their command to adjudicate speedily and promptly all claims coming before their respective departments. Whenever any cause—no matter by whom presented—is entered upon the files of the department, there it remains until taken up in its regular order, and this is done, as quickly as the record evidence—the Rolls—are placed at their command.

If, however, a cause is found, upon examination to be defective or deficient, the party filing it is promptly notified—the claim suspended—in which condition it remains until the cause of suspension shall have been removed.

We have never discovered the slightest disposition to "lay aside or neglect" claims. On the contrary, it is utterly impossible to induce either of the gentlemen named to make "*special cases*" in favor of any applicant, no matter what the circumstances, or the character of the influence brought to bear.

If we have won anything individually in the "friendship and confidence of the different governmental officers," it is solely due to the character of our "Branches," our constant, untiring efforts to remove all suspensions, and the success which has attended us—not that we have an freer "entree" to the executive departments than is accorded to all respectable practitioners—but in just such degree as attorneys are proficient, the business of claimants and the departments are alike advanced.

We respectfully request you to give this as conspicuous publication as was given to your own flattering complimentary notice, as it will be but just to two gentlemen having keenly at heart the best interests of claimants, whether high or low, rich or poor.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servants,
T. WALTER DAY,
103 Fifth street, Pittsburgh, Pa.,
In connection with
HARVEY, COLLINS & BEACH,
Managers of "National Claim Agency,"
Washington, D. C.

### Indications that the Rebels are Evacuating Fredericksburg.

The Falmouth (Va.) correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, under date of the 9th, says:

This morning early there appeared to be unusual activity on the part of the rebels, on the line of railroad leading from Fredericksburg to Richmond. Persons on this side the river, familiar with railroading, observed, by the signals of the locomotive whistle, that five trains arrived at Fredericksburg and departed before eight o'clock in the morning.

Whether the rebels are reinforcing or evacuating, is a matter of conjecture; but, from the indications around us, the latter movement is believed to be the most probable. Ever since the battle of Fredericksburg the rebels have made no display whatever of the strength of their forces, no troops being kept in sight of us except a moderate picket guard along the river bank, and a few sentinels who paced leisurely in front of their earthworks back of the town. The only evidence presented to our view that they had any considerable body of troops posted in the vicinity was their camp fires, which were plainly visible near dark, every day for weeks past, on the ridge about a mile back of the town. But within a few days these fires have not been, or very few of them compared with what was visible previously. Either they are withdrawing their forces, or the greater part of them, entirely from our front, or are moving them further back, to get a better supply of wood, which must be getting as scarce with them as it is with us.

Certain movements have taken place on our side of the river, within a few days past, which I do not feel at liberty to particularize, which may have induced corresponding movements on the other side, with a view to checkmate us. Large bodies of troops have been moved, on our side, over the hills, in full view of the rebels, and they could not have failed to have observed considerable activity within our lines, which must have exercised them considerably to ascertain what it meant. They will know it in good time; and in the meanwhile let us wait and hope that success may crown the effort.

### DIED:

M'KEE—On Friday morning, February 13th, at the residence of Mrs. F. Lorenz, on Penn street, HELEN E. M'KEE, daughter of Alexander and Eleanor M'Kee.

The funeral will take place on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at 2 o'clock, from the residence of her father, at M'Kee's Rocks. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend. Carriages will leave A. Jachman's Livery Stable, Penn street, at 1 o'clock p. m. same day.


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### AUCTION SALES.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, MIRRORS, &c., AT AUCTION.—On THURSDAY, Feb. 19th, at 10 o'clock, at No. 71 Liberty street, will be sold, a quantity of Household Furniture belonging to a family leaving the city, comprising Hair Seat Chairs; 2 do do Divans; 2 sets Sofa Seat Mahogany Chairs; Walnut What-Not; Mahogany Dressing Bureau; 2 Marble Top Pier Tables, Wardrobe; Oak Hat Rack; large Sofa Seat Chair; Reception Chairs; Mahogany Rocking do; Rocking, Cane-Seat and Chamber Chairs; Ancased and Plain Wash Stands; Lounge; French Bigs and Low Post Bedsteads; Tables, Clocks, Work Stands, Parlor and Chamber Fenders, Mattresses, Venitian and Buff Blinds, Kitchen Furniture, Utensils, &c.

Also, 3 Gilt Frame French Plate Mirrors.
fe13 T. A. McCLELLAND, Auct.

FISH, LIQUORS, &C., AT AUCTION.—On SATURDAY MORNING, Feb. 14th, at 10 o'clock, will be sold, at the Commercial Auction House, 54 Fifth street—
25 bbls. No. 1 Herring;
4 cases Scotch Whisky;
2 do Sperm Candles;
1 do Castile Soap;
5 do Cognac Brandy;
1 half barrel Bourbon Whisky;
1 do do Santa Cruz Rum;
10 dozen prepared Indigo Blue;
150 assorted sizes Wood Bowls.
fe13 J. G. DAVIS, Auct.

UNDERWRITER'S SALE OF CHEWING TOBACCO.—On TUESDAY, Feb. 17th, at 11 o'clock, at Masonic Hall Auction House, will be sold, by order of Underwriters—
1,0.0 pounds Chewing Tobacco.
fe14 T. A. McCLELLAND, Auct.

HOODS, NUBIAS, COMFORTS, MUFFLERS, LADIES' AND GENT'S HOSIERY, &c., at Auction, THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING, at Masonic Hall Auction House.
fe14 T. A. McCLELLAND, Auct.

MEN'S, BOYS' AND YOUTH'S BOOTS closing out at a great sacrifice, to make room for new goods, at McCLELLAND'S, 55 Fifth street, Masonic Hall. fe14

GUNNY BAGS AT AUCTION.—On SATURDAY MORNING, Feb. 14th, at 10 o'clock, will be sold, at Davis' Auction, 54 Fifth street, 100 Gunny Bags. J. G. DAVIS, Auct.

LADIES' CLOAKS, at one-half the cost of making, at McCLELLAND'S AUCTION, 55 Fifth street. fe11

TELESCOPES, OFFICERS' DOUBLE FIELD GLASSES, MICROSCOPES FOR ARMY HOSPITALS, in great variety, made by JAMES W. QUEEN & CO., Manufacturing Opticians, 924 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

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IMPORTANT TO THE LADIES!
THE GREAT FRENCH PREVENTIVE PILL.

Invented and prepared by an eminent FRENCH PHYSICAIN,

A graduate of the COLLEGE LES FEMMES DE DYONS, And practitioner in the ROYAL HOSPITALS OF FRANCE AND GERMANY.

This Pill contains no injurious drugs, but is compounded of PURELY VEGETABLE EXTRACTS, By a process known only to the inventor, Prof. M. DEYROYS.

The effect on the person is only on the Generative Organs, and does not effect the ordinary routine of the business of the one using them; they reunite the organs and leave them in a state of perfect health.

This pill is, as its name implies, a preventive of gravidity or conception (but produces no abortion, remember that) and can be taken with the most perfect safety.

The inventor has used this Pill in his extensive practice in over 3,000 cases, and always with the desired result.

For further information send your address to

R. FRANCIS ET CIE, Chemists et Pharmacie, 83 and 87 Rue St. Anne, Paris, or, H. FRANCIS, P. O. Box 1309, Pittsburgh, Pa.

These Pills sent by mail in a secure and safe manner, prepaid, on receipt of one dollar for single box, or six for five dollars.

Communications strictly confidential. fe12:1yd

SALT—1,000 bbls. on consignment, for sale by WM. P. BECK & CO., fe11 185 Liberty street.