Pittsburgh Gazette,

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 6.

CITY AFFAIRS.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

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

	IN RUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	60	68
12 " M.	60	74
3 " P. M.		74
Barometer		29 3-10

Court Reports.

DISTRICT COURT—JUDGE WILLIAMS.

MAY 5TH.—Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Company vs. William A. Hill. Action to recover about $30,000 alleged to have been retained by the defendant as Treasurer of the road. The defense is that the company refused to pay the defendant his salary amounting to $3,500 per annum; to allow him commissions for the sale of a large amount of bonds, and for other services rendered. The case was taken up on Monday, and is still on trial.

The following ten cases are within reach for May 5th.

121 Schmertz & Blakely vs. Jas. Dalzell & Sons.
100 Perkins, Merrick & Co. vs. B. A. Fahnestock & Co.
104 John Hoffman vs. Lower St. Clair township.
124 Ellen Campbell vs. M. Cridge and wife.
76 D. N. White, for use of S. Riddle & Co. vs. Thomas Woods.
80 Stratton vs. City of Allegheny.
41 Wm. T. McClurg, Trustee vs. John Shawhan.
126 R. S. McCock, for use vs. Penna. Ins. Co.
126 Alex. Bradley, assignee, vs. Thompson Bell.
136 Rev. C. Thurn vs. John M. Bowers.

COMMON PLEAS.

MAY 5TH.—*Before Judge Stowe.*—Jas. McGrew, Ex'r of Dorcas McClure, deceased, vs. Walker Reed. Jury out.

West Branch Insurance Company vs. John A. Lippert and others. Verdict for plaintiff, $256 66.

Daniel Negley vs. Wesley Greer. Action of ejectment for half an acre of ground in Collins township. Verdict for plaintiff.

Before Judge Mellon.—Calab Russell vs. William C. Mackey. Verdict for plaintiff, $125.

R. F. Lucas, Esq., vs. James M. Ross. Action for professional services. On trial.

The following ten cases are within reach, before Judges Stowe and Mellon, for May 6th:

No. 4. John B. Guthrie et al. vs. S. S. Jackman.
7. Robert C. Schmertz et al. vs. J. F. Keller et al.
12. Jacob Reese et al. vs. Edward J. Roberts et al.
18. H. Abel vs. Peter Meyrmyer.
38. John G. Connor vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.
67. Robert Duncan et al. vs. Pennsylvania Railroad Company.
49. George Lown vs. Edward Spence et al.
61. Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Company for use vs. William Bagaley et al.
62. Same plaintiff vs. Elizabeth Graff, ex'trix.
63. Henry Williams vs. M. B. Whiteside and Eliza Barker.

Allegheny Board of Controllers.

The Allegheny Board of School Controllers held a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening. Present—Messrs. Barr, Borland, Cooper, Craig, Francis, Gleason, Gormley, Graham, Inham, Johnston, McConnigle, McMillan, Macferron, Nesbitt, Park, Shriver, Slagle, Thompson, and Dr. Brown, President.

Prayer by Mr. Nesbitt. Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

The reports from the several Ward Boards were presented, received, and ordered to be filed, as were also the reports from the several District Institutes.

Mr. Macferron presented the report of the Committee on Rules and Discipline, under a resolution passed by the Board in June, 1862, ordering a new edition of the rules to be printed. The report states: "At the instance of the gentleman then Chairman of the Committee, the publication was suspended until the Committee could have the advantage of suggestions from all the Principals, which in due time were had, but were not reduced to the usual form for reporting in time to receive action from the Board of that year. This subject engaged the attention of your Committee immediately upon their appointment, and they have agreed with great unanimity to submit for the consideration of the Board the following rules, prepared mainly by one of the Principals of the District."

Then followed a new and revised edition of the rules, making numerous alterations and modifications.

The President suggested that the report embraced too much—that it went beyond the powers of the Committee, and embraced matters belonging to the Committee on Grades and Text Books.

Mr. Barr moved that the report be received. Agreed to.

Mr. Shriver moved that the report be adopted.

An animated discussion ensued, particularly in reference to the powers of the Committee.

Mr. Nesbitt offered the following:

Resolved, That the report on Rules and Discipline be committed to the Committees on Rules and Discipline and Grades and Text Books—the President of the Board of Controllers appointing the Chairman, and that the Secretary of this Board have a copy of the report placed in the hands of each member of the Board.

The resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Barr presented a communication from Gen. Bingham, asking that Susan Monks, a girl under his care, be permitted to remain in the Third Ward school, where she now is, although living in the Fourth Ward. Referred to Local Board, with power to act.

Mr. Park offered the following:

Resolved, That such members of the Board as were in attendance at the County Convention on Monday, for the purpose of electing a County Superintendant, be expelled from this Board.

Mr. Macferron asked leave to withdraw the report of the Committee on Rules and Discipline.

Mr. Shriver moved that leave be granted as requested. Not agreed to.

Mr. Francis offered the following:

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to have printed copies of the report of the Committee on Rules and discipline placed in the hands of each member of the Board. Adopted.

On motion, Mr. D. Macferron was unanimously chosen "Receiver of School Taxes," under the late act of Assembly.

The President decided this "severe rub" out of order, and it went under the table.

The question of compensation for the Receiver was discussed and postponed.

Mr. Shriver moved that the Board now proceed to levy a tax for the ensuing school year. Agreed to.

Mr. Park offered the following:

Resolved, That six mills on the county assessment be levied for school purposes for 1863. Adopted.

The Board then adjourned.

FEMALE SPIES SENT TO WASHINGTON.—Three noted rebel female spies were brought to this city yesterday and placed in charge of Captain Wright, Provost Marshal, who sent them on to Washington last night by the Eastern train. Their names are Jane Green, a notorious wire cutter, and rebel mail bag carrier, who has been in prison for two years at Wheeling, and was recently released on parole; Margaret Murphy, a wire cutter, and Miss Jennie De Hart, who served for some months in the rebel army as sergeant. The latter was captured on her return from some service for the rebels.

AUCTION SALES THIS MORNING.—See advertisements of Davis & McIlwaine, auctioneers, 54 Fifth street, for sales this morning, comprising buggies, baroouches and spring wagons, at 11 o'clock; and marbleized slate mantel, hose, sash locks, spice mills, and sundries at 10 o'clock.

We would advise each of our readers afflicted with any disease of the lungs, liver or stomach to bear in mind that Dr. Schenck will be at the drug store of Dr. George H. Keyser to-morrow and next day, May the 7th and 8th, where he can be consulted as regards the above mentioned diseases.

MISS THOMPSON.—Cartes de Visite of this beautiful young actress can be had at Pittock's Book, Stationary and News depot, opposite the postoffice.

AUCTION SALE of French and American Flowers, Fruits, &c., in quantities, this afternoon, at McClelland's Auction House.

UNITED STATES TAX LAW, with all of the amendments, at Pittock's, opposite the postoffice.

CURRENCY HOLDERS and pocket books can be had at Pittock's, opposite the postoffice.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE ADVANCE OF THE ARMY.

CROSSING THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

The Capture of Fredericksburg.

THE BATTLE AT CHANCELLORVILLE.

FULL AND INTERESTING DETAILS.

&c., &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5, 1863.

The New York *Times*, of Tuesday, publishes an elaborate account of the military operations on the Rappahannock up to Sunday night, from which I make the following abstract. The narrative commences on the 27th of April, and says:

It is on Monday morning, and the army is all in motion. The vast area it covers, of miles and miles in extent, is an animated scene of bustle and stir. The camps are broken, and the comfortable log huts and winter quarters, in which the men have been lodged for months, are abandoned. Columns of troops are moving on a dozen different roads, carefully concealing themselves from the enemy's view by marching through the woods and behind the knolls and ridges of the broken ground along the Rappahannock. Long trains of artillery, pack mules and ambulances, add their own features of the imposing and the picturesque to the scene. The army in all its aspects, material and moral, is in splendid condition. It is larger, and the health of the troops is better than it ever was before. From the first day Gen. Hooker took command it was felt that a directing brain animated the mass.

Great mobility has been secured by prodigiously cutting down the amount of transportation, and by employing pack mules, which go anywhere in all weathers, instead of our heavy wagons, which are always stuck in the mud. But two wagons are allowed to a regiment. The army is no longer encumbered with that ponderous *impedimenta* which used to be the marvel of all who beheld it. In fact, we now approximate to the French standard, which enables an army to carry fourteen days' provisions without a wheel behind it.

The moral transformation was not less complete. Nothing in this line of phenomena was more striking than the admirable secrecy that existed in regard to the proposed plan and movements of the opening campaign. It was a new and somewhat tantalising sensation; for any one who has followed the movements of the army will testify that, hitherto, projected operations have always been known and discussed by nearly every body, even the negro servants, in the camps for days and weeks before they took place. In this case, absolute ignorance prevailed. Not even the corps commanders knew what was intended, and had only their specific individual order for the day. In this case the spectators of the great game of chess were blindfolded. The master player alone had his eyes open.

In the great game of war time and space are the elements with which the General has to deal. Celerity, and for that purpose the greatest possible mobility, with secrecy, are the indispensable conditions of all military combinations. The mind of Gen. Hooker is one that will put forth all the resources of these elements.

By Tuesday morning, an acute eye might begin to take in a rough outline of a plan from the dispositions made of the troops. Three of the seven *corps d'armee*, composing the Army of the Potomac, namely: the 1st Corps, Major General Reynolds, the 3d Corps, Major General Sickles, and the 6th Corps, Major Gen. Sedgwick, had been moved from their camps the night before, and had taken up their positions at the same point of the Rappahannock where General Franklin had his crossing at the time of the battle of Fredericksburg, namely: two miles below that city, and covered from the enemy's view by the curtain of hills that fringe the Rappahannock. While these movements are going on, other columns, consisting of the corps of General Meade, the 5th, and General Slocum, the 12th, are moving on different roads, and have taken up positions up the Rappahannock, in the neighborhood of Banks and United States fords, which are respectively eight and eleven miles above Fredericksburg, and are, it will be remembered, the places selected by General Burnside for his crossing on the occasion of the mud campaign. Before dawn of Tuesday the pontoon boats had been taken from the wagons a couple of miles below Fredericksburg, and under cover of a very heavy fog, were carried noiselessly down on men's shoulders to the river's brink and deposited in the water. They were immediately manned by the troops of Russell's Brigade, Brook's Division, 6th Army Corps, and rapidly pushed over. The rebels here, as at every ford for forty miles up and down the river, were posted along the river margin in double lines of rifle pits, containing perhaps a couple of hundred men each. At the town crossing they made but a feeble resistance, and in a few moments our men were in possession of both lines of rifle pits, with the loss of half a dozen men. Indeed, a rebel lieutenant, who was captured here, a disingenuous young man, told us they had been expressly instructed not to offer very serious resistance. This being accomplished the whole of Brooke's division was passed over the three pontoon bridges, which were immediately constructed under charge of Chief Engineer Benham, to hold the position of the bridgehead.

A mile and a half below the position of Gen. Sedgwick's bridges, at an estate called Southfield, Reynolds' command was also instructed to effect a crossing. In doing this, however, they were not quite so lucky as those above them. Daylight had come while the engineers were still endeavoring to get the pontoon boats down to the water, but the fire from the rebel sharpshooters, who were placed in rifle pits which had been thrown up opposite them, also succeeded in delaying operations so much that it was ten o'clock in the forenoon before they could be got in the water.

To silence the fire of the sharpshooters, Col. Warner, commanding the artillery on the extreme left, under the able Chief of Artillery, Gen. Hunt, brought forty guns to bear upon them. This completely corraled them, for they were afraid of leaving their pits, and and exposing themselves to the murderous fire of the artillery. This detained them until a force was able to push over in boats, when, charging up the hill, they captured all the men in the first row of rifle pits, numbering about 150.

Immediately after the crossing of this force, a couple of pontoon bridges were built, and Gen. Wadsworth's Division of Reynold's Corps was thrown over. Gen. Wadsworth himself, however, did not wait for the completion of the bridges, but while his men were crossing in the open boats, plunged in on horseback and swam his horse over to the other side. Thus far but one division of each of the second army corps had been sent across the river. The remaining four divisions stayed on the other side; but they were not idle. They were put in motion on the hill slope on one side of the river, and in plain view of the enemy, were marched along the crest of the ridge, and down as though to the crossing. But, instead of crossing, they were quietly drawn up back through a gully, round the rear of the ridge, and round again on its top. They made the appearance of an army of at least 100,000 men, and must have presented the appearance of a massing on our side preparatory to a passage of the river, under cover of the night. The effect on the rebels was prompt.

Two hours afterwards their columns began moving up the Bowling Green road from down the river. Here a considerable force, including the whole of Gen. Jackson's corps, had been posted as a corps of observation. The Bowling Green road is at this point a sunken road, but we soon began to detect at various points the rebel column moving up, the bayonets glistening in the sun.

We were about a couple of miles distant during Sunday and Monday.

Howard's Corps, the 11th, Slocum's Corps, the 12th, and Gen. Meade's, the 5th, had been moving to the upper fords of the Rappahannock.

On the night of Tuesday, between 10 p. m. and 2 a. m., Howard's entire corps crossed the Rappahannock on the pontoon bridge at Kelly's Ford, 27 miles above Falmouth. At daylight Gen. Slocum's corps followed, and during the forenoon Gen. Meade's corps was then thrown across. This movable column then struck direct for Germania ford, on the Rapidan river—distant 12 miles—one of the main affluents of the Rappahannock, into which it empties. At United States ford, Gen. Meade, however, instead of taking this direction, on passing the river, struck a road diverging eastward, and made Ely's ford, on the Rapidan, 8 miles nearer than Germania ford to the embouchure of that stream into the Rappahannock.

At Germania ford a force of about one hundred and fifty rebel pioneers was discovered building a bridge. These, by a well executed maneuver, were all captured.

Celerity of movement being the chief desideratum, it was resolved immediately to put the troops over by wading, an affair not very easy of execution, for the waters of the Rapidan, even at the ford, come up to a man's shoulder, and the current is very rapid. The men, however, plunged in, many of them stripping and carrying their clothes and cartridge boxes on their bayonets, and waded over. In the meantime a foot bridge had been constructed on the abutments already placed there by the rebels, and during the night the whole remaining force was passed over, the piers being lighted up with huge bonfires. While this was going at Germania ford, Meade's troops were crossing at Ely's ford.

Both columns now moved, as ordered, for Chancellorville, at the junction of the Gordonsville turnpike with the Culpepper and Orange Court House plank road, communication being kept up between the two movable columns by a squad of Pleasanton's cavalry, while another part of the same horsemen moved on the right flank of the outer columns to protect it from rebel cavalry attacks. This maneuvre having uncovered United States Ford, which lies between Kelly's Ford and Falmouth, twelve miles from the latter, Couch's corps, which had for three days been lying at that point, was passed over the Rappahannock by a pontoon bridge on Thursday, without any opposition, or indeed any demonstration more formidable than a brass band playing Hail Columbia. This force also converged toward Chancellorville; and on Thursday night four army corps, viz: Howard's, Stevens', Meade's and Couch's, were massed at this point.

That same night General Hooker and Staff reached Chancellorville, and established his headquarters in the only house here.

Lee's surprise was great when he heard that the Union army was across the river and had turned his flank. A proof of this is the fact that when we were across the Rapid-Ann the enemy was yet picketing the Rappahannock. We also have documentary evidence of Lee's surprise, in a letter which was found in the house at Chancellorville, written by General Lee himself to the rebel officer commanding the post at Chancellorville, and was dated from Lee's headquarters, at 4:29 o'clock P. M. of the day we arrived. It stated in substance that the general had at that moment heard that the Federal force was across Ely's Ford, (we had been across eighteen hours) that Gen. Anderson, who commanded at U. S. Ford with a couple of brigades, knew nothing of our arrival, and asked him to come down immediately and consult with the commanding general.

It will be seen that the position gained at Chancellorville, which is ten miles west by south of Fredericksburg, completely turns the line of rebel defenses on the series of ridges in the rear of Fredericksburg, and in fact there was now but one alternative: the enemy must either retreat along the line of the railroad toward Richmond while that line was yet uncut, (for there was no other line of retreat, the communication with Gordonsville being threatened by our hold on that line,) or else come out and give us battle on our own ground. Lee had been completely out-generaled, and in a strategic point of view had suffered a defeat before we had fired a single shot. It was in this sense, and not in the meaning that they were actually destroyed, that Gen. Hooker, on the night of our arrival at Chancellorville, proudly proclaimed that the rebel army is now the legitimate property of the army of the Potomac. Gen. Lee seems to have felt himself strong enough to pursue the latter alternative, and he took prompt measures to carry his plan into execution. There is very little doubt but that he had been heavily reinforced with troops from the south. We are at the present moment fighting Charleston, for the attack on Fort Donelson, that movement has been made too soon. A month had passed since the attack, and its result had emboldened Lee to call up a great portion of the force in South Carolina.

The troops for the defenses of Charleston numbered 55,000 men, and he could afford to draw on 40,000 of that number. In addition, Longstreet's force had been recalled from North Carolina, and it is the universal testimony of all the prisoners that their army has been heavily reinforced. What that force is, is is, of course, unsafe to estimate at less than 80,000, and there are those having good reasons for knowing who carry it to a 100,000. Occupying, too, the interior line, Lee's facilities for a change of front were, of course, very great, and our army hardly gained its position when a rebel column was marching up to confront it.

On Saturday two prisoners were brought in from the 23d North Carolina, belonging to Hill's Division of Jackson's Corps. Their testimony showed that that division started from below Hamilton's Crossing, in the rear from below Hamilton's Crossing, at three a. m. of Friday, of Fredericksburg, at three a. m. of Friday, and that they were portions of the same column which we saw moving up the Bowling Green road, below Fredericksburg two days before. I mention this circumstance as a slight clue to the great game which was now being played between the two able leaders of the respective armies.

On Thursday night we were massed in the vicinity of Chancellorville, simply covering the approaches.

On Friday morning Gen. Hooker began the strategic disposition of his force. As the enemy has been engaged with us all along this line, and as the disposition has since then been altered, there can be no objection to state that it formed a line of battle of a triangular or redan shape, resting with its wings respectively on the Rappahannock between Bank and United States Ford and Hart's Creek and having its apex at Chancellorville. The day was occupied with operations along the skirmish line and reconnoissances for the purpose of feeling the enemy.

On Friday, at noon, Sykes' division of Meade's corps was sent out on a reconnoissance on the Banks Ford road, and in like manner a portion of Slocum's command was sent out about three miles on the Fredericksburg plank road. These feelers had a two-fold object; first, to cause the enemy to develope his force and also to make topographical surveys to correct errors in existing maps.

The situation of Chancellorville is in the middle of a clearing in the woods, which takes the form of an irregular ellipsis about a mile in length, and half a mile in width. The solitary house that makes up Chancellorville stands almost in the middle of this opening. The ground in the region between here and Fredericksburg is broken and wooded, there being occasional clearings in the forests. It rises as it nears Fredericksburg, when it develops into bold heights. Its strategic importance, as already indicated, is derived from the fact that it covers the Fredericksburg turnpike and the Culpepper and Orange Court House plank-road, and threatens the line of Gordonsville. The military situation on Saturday morning, therefore, stands as follows: Our main force holds the position at Chancellorville, confronting the main rebel army now massed opposite us. Howard's corps has the extreme right, then a division of Sickles' corps, then Slocum, then Couch, then Meade, on the left—Humphrey's division of Meade's corps holding the extreme of the left. During the whole night working parties were employed in throwing up breastworks. The rebels, not half a mile distant, were employed with the same view, and in the morning both parties are well entrenched on the left.

A balloon reconnoissance shows that the enemy have taken their main force from the heights of Fredericksburg, and the line down the Rappahannock, and manned it against us at Chancellorville. They have also removed the greater bulk of their artillery with the same end, and Gen. Sedgwick, who commands the left, thinks himself strong enough to carry the heights. The commanding General assents, if there be a good prospect of success: for it is of the utmost importance not to anticipate the golden moment to strike. To the powerful cavalry expedition, under General Stoneman, is assigned the work of cutting the railroad bridges that cross the two affluents of the Pamunkey, namely: the North and South Anna, less than twenty-five miles from Richmond. The bridge over the North Anna is a hundred and fifty feet long and eighty feet high, and cannot possibly be reconstructed in less than a fortnight. This rapid survey will indicate how colossal is the plan of a campaign which Gen. Hooker has marked out for the army. It contemplates nothing less than the destruction of the entire rebel force in Virginia. It is stupendously daring, but Hooker is a man who thoroughly understands that, in war, to greatly gain one must greatly dare. The early part of Saturday morning was passed in unimportant skirmishing, and in making reconnoissances; but about 3 o'clock the pickets, on the right of Gen. Slocum's front, reported that, from a certain position, wagons had been seen moving in a westerly direction nearly all day.

It was rumored that this might be a retreat; but in order to ascertain what it really was, General Sickles, who was still in reserve, was ordered to make a reconnoissance in heavy force in that direction. Our troops moved rapidly, and soon became more or less engaged, sending in a number of prisoners of the 23d Georgia regiment, who were examined, the result being to show that the wagon train which we had seen moving during the day was composed mainly of ordnance wagons and ambulances, and that Stonewall Jackson and staff were at the head of a column of troops which the wagons followed. Nothing more was needed to convince us that this daring opponent was executing another of his sudden movements, and it was at once resolved to checkmate him. Gen. Sickles was ordered to push on, and Gen. Williams' division of Slocum's column was ordered to co-operate. Birney pushed ahead with great vigor, with Randolph's battery, and soon sent to the rear the entire remnant of the 23d Georgia regiment as prisoners of war, numbering over four hundred officers and men.

The column of the enemy which had been moving up this road was now literally cut in two, and General Williams had commenced a flank movement on the enemy's right which promised the most auspicious results, but at five o'clock the crash of musketry on our extreme right announced that Jackson had commenced his operations. This had been anticipated, but it was supposed that after his column was cut, the corps of Gen. Howard, (formerly General Sigel's) with its supports, would be sufficient to resist his approach, and finding that he was himself assailed in the rear he would turn about and retreat to escape capture. But, to the disgrace of the 11th corps be it said, that the division of General Schurz, which was the first assailed, almost instantly gave way. Threats and entreaties, and orders of commanders were of no avail. Thousands of these cowards threw down their guns, and soon streamed down the road towards headquarters. The enemy pressed his advantage. Gen. Devon's division, disaffected by the demoralization of the forces in front of him, soon followed suit, and the brave general was for the second time severely wounded in the foot while endeavoring to rally his men. Gen. Howard with all his daring and resolution, and vigor, could not stem the tide of the retreating and cowardly poltroons.

The brigades of Cols. Bushbeck and McKean only remained fighting, and maintained themselves nobly as long as possible. But they, too, gave way, though in good order, before vastly superior numbers. Gen. Hooker now sent to the aid of Gen. Howard the choicest division of his army—the creation of his own hand—the famous 3d division of the 3d corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. Berry.

Capt. Best soon moved his batteries on a ridge running across the road, and after a short but sanguinary contest, the farther advance of the enemy was stayed. Of course this disaster compelled the recall of Sickles and Storm, who had been pursuing their work with remarkable vigor. Gen. Williams' division returned only to find a portion of their works filled with the enemy.

Sickles' Division could not communicate with the army by the way they advanced, and only at a great risk by any other route. This was the position at dark, and it did not look very promising. But our energetic commander was more than equal to the emergency. New dispositions to repair this disaster were at once resolved upon. Communication was at once had with Gens. Birney and Whipple, and a night attack was ordered to restore the connection of the lines. Gen. Ward's Brigade of Gen. Birney's Division made the attack at ten at night, aided by Capt. Best's guns massed on the ridge in front of the enemy. Birney's position was on the extreme left of the new line of battle. But Ward's terrific attack was entirely successful. Communication was restored, and in a charge made by the brigade, a portion of the artillery lost by Howard was gallantly retaken by Gen. Hobart Ward.

This night the attack was the most grand and terrific thing in the war. The moon shone bright, and an enemy could be seen at good musket range. The air was very still, and the roar and the reverberation of the musketry and artillery is past all conception.

Malvern Hill was a skirmish compared with this, save in the degree of slaughter. But it was successful. The enemy were driven back half a mile, and our tired men once more slept on their arms. That night's work was ended. It was very evident at daylight this morning that the day would bring forth a terrific battle. We know that the enemy had been reinforcing his line all night at the expense of the strength of his force on our left. His intention was evidently to fight for the possession of the plank road, which it was perfectly apparent he must have. That portion of it, which we then held, was subject to the enemy's assault in the front and both flanks; but the possession of this road was not obtained by the enemy, save at our own time, at his severest cost, and after one of the most desperate, tenacious and bloody conflicts, for its short duration, of the whole war.

At 5 o'clock a. m. the rebels could be plainly seen up the plank road, about a mile and a half from the Chancellor House, which Gen. Hooker still retained as his headquarters, though a shell had gone through it the evening before, and another had cut down a tree directly in front of it.

Our line of battle was formed with General Berry's division on the right, Gen. Birney next on the left, Gens. Whipple and Williams supporting.

At 5:30 a. m. the advance became engaged in the ravine, just beyond the ridge, where Capt. Bert's guns had made their terrific onslaught the night before, and where they still frowned upon the enemy and threatened his destruction.

The rattle of musketry soon became a long continued crash, and in a few moments battalion after battalion became engaged. The roar surpassed all conception, and indicated that the fight would be one of a most terrible nature.

Gen. Berry's division, which had shelled the enemy's advance the night before, engaged him again, and if it were possible for them to add more laurels to their fame, then they did it thrice over again.

The enemy advanced his infantry in overwhelming numbers, and seemed determined to crush our forces; but the brave men of Sickles and Slocum, who fought their columns with dispatch and gallantry, held the rebels in check, and inflicted dreadful slaughter among them.

Gen. French's division was sent in on the right flank of our line, about 7 a. m., and in a short time a horde of ragged-streaming rebels, running down the road, indicated that that portion of the enemy's line had been crushed at 8 o'clock a. m.

Gen. French sent his compliments to Gen. Hooker, with the information that he had charged the enemy, and was driving him before him.

Sickles maintained the attack upon his line with great endurance. The enemy seemed determined to crush him with the immensity of his forces, and as subsequently shown, from the statements of prisoners, five whole divisions of the rebel army were precipitated upon this portion of the line. From these five divisions we took, during the day, an aggregate of over 2,000 prisoners.

The exploits of our gallant troops in this struggle may never be brought to light, but they would fill a hundred volumes.

Mott's brigade made fifteen distinct charges and captured seven stands of colors, the 7th New Jersey, Col. Francis, alone capturing four stands of colors and 500 prisoners.

Gen. Couch's Second Army Corps, though only in part present, did excellent work.

It was Gen. French who charged and drove the enemy on the flank; and it was the indomitable Hancock who gallantly went to the relief of the hard pressed Sickles.

The engagement lasted, without the slightest intermission, from 5:30 a. m. to 8:45 a. m., when there was a temporary cessation on our part, occasioned by getting out of ammunition. We held our position for nearly an hour with the bayonet, and then being re-supplied, an order was given to fall back to the vicinity of the Chancellor House, which we did in good order. Here the conflict was maintained for an hour or more, not as severely as before, but with great havoc to the enemy, and considerable loss to ourselves.

The vicinity of the Chancellor House was now the theatre of the fight, and my visits to that spot became less frequent. Gen. Hooker maintained his headquarters there until 10 a. m., when it was set on fire by the enemy's shots, and is now in ruins. Chancellorville is no longer in existence, having perished with the dames. But Chancellorville is in history, never to be effaced.

Our new line was now so far established as to render it safe to withdraw all our forces on that front, which was accordingly done, and at 11:30 a. m., the musketry firing ceased. The engagement had lasted six hours, but had been the most terrific of the war. Our artillery has literally slaughtered the enemy, and many of the companies had lost heavily in men themselves, but the guns were all saved. The enemy was no longer in our rear, but had been shoved down directly in our front, and is now directly between us and our forces in Fredericksburg, and we are again in an intrenched and formidable fortified position. The enemy has gained some ground, it is true, but at the sacrifice of the flower of his force, five of his seven divisions having been cut to pieces in the effort, and over 2,000 of them have fallen into our hands. Our right wing, under Reynolds and Meade, was not engaged, save the division of General Humphrey's, which went into the woods on the enemy's left flank, and fought valiantly under their brilliant leader, until their ammunition was exhausted. During the afternoon, the enemy has made several attempts to force our lines, particularly at the apex of our position in the Chancellor House, but Capt. Weed has massed a large quantity of artillery in such a position as to repulse with great loss everything placed within its range. The enemy tried several batteries and bayonets at that point at different times during the afternoon, and they were literally destroyed by the fire of our guns. Our terrible guns, nothing can live within their range.

Our present position is impregnable, if our troops continue to fight as they have to-day.

Gen. Lee, the prisoners says, has issued an order that our lines must be broken at all hazards. Let them try it again with what they have left. They can perhaps and will destroy themselves by attacks upon this position. Our troops are perfectly cool and confident. They have fought with great spirit and enthusiasm and will continue to do so.

The rebel prisoners report that Gen. A. P. Hill was killed in the forenoon, during the sanguinary conflict his division had with Gen. Berry's division. Gen. Berry was himself killed while gallantly leading his brave men.

The Washington *Republican*, of Monday night, says the battle was resumed on Sunday, and lasted till four o'clock on Monday forenoon, when the enemy's batteries became silent, and the wildest cheering commenced on our extreme right and ran along the whole line. When our informant left the prevailing opinion was that the enemy's ammunition was exhausted, or that they had been attacked by Hooker's left wing, under Gen. Sedgwick, which crossed below Fredericksburg.

Gen. Fitz Hugh Lee has been taken prisoner, and is now in Washington.

[From the Washington Chronicle, May 5th.]

A gentleman, who left Falmouth early yesterday morning, reports that early on Sunday morning, simultaneously with the commencement of the battle on our right, our batteries on the left opened on the rebel defenses of Fredericksburg. They were supplied so sparingly by the rebels, but their fire gradually slackened off. Our infantry were immediately moved forward, under the direction of Gen. Sedgwick, the commanding officer. The men had their bayonets fixed, presenting a firm front, moved on steadily until they reached within a few hundred yards of the famous stone-wall, which figured so prominently in the first battle of Fredericksburg. Here they met with a most murderous fire of infantry, while grape and canister ploughed through their ranks. Still they pressed onward to within a few feet of the stone-wall, when one or two of the regiments wavered and seemed disposed to turn back. The General and staff-officers rushed to the front and rode along the ranks, begging the men not to turn back now that the prize was so near within their reach, which appeals were not in vain, for with a shout, that was heard simultaneously along the whole line, they rushed on the works, driving the traitorous hordes from them at the point of the bayonet. The wall was cleared and the ridge gained. The brave boys, with a cheer, pressed onward and towards the second line of entrenchments, but an order reached them to return, which was complied with, but not without a great deal of resistance. The opinion gained ground that it was not necessary to drive them further, as this would prevent our forces on the right reaching their rear. So great was the panic of the rebels that they abandoned cannon, arms, knapsacks, and every thing else that would in the least impede them in the flight. The works were held all day without any desperate efforts of the enemy to drive our forces from them. They kept up a pretty sharp skirmish, and occasionally made sallies out of the second and third lines of intrenchments, but they were invariably driven back.

The gentleman who gave us this information was an eye-witness of it from Falmouth, but was unable to learn what regiments participated.

The guard of pickets along the Rappahannock was strong, and would not allow any person to cross unless they intended taking part in the battle in some capacity or other. He understood that Sedgwick's, Sickle's, and Meade's corps took part in the gallant affair. Each endeavored to outdo the other in feats of gallantry. Gen. Sedgwick was particularly commended for his soldierly qualities.

The rebels are said to be under command of A. P. Hill.

Upwards of 1,200 prisoners have been taken in this engagement—a large number of officers included. All have arrived in this city and been provided for.

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, May 5, 1863.

ARRIVAL OF PRISONERS.

Eight hundred and fifty prisoners of war arrived here to-day, and were conveyed to Clifton barracks. Among them were several Lieutenants and one Major. About fifty of them were slightly wounded in the hands, arms and shoulders. They seemed much exhausted, and their haversacks were empty when taken.

APPOINTED COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.—H. McCullough, President of the State Bank of Indiana, has been appointed Comptroller of the currency, under the banking law. He was long connected with the old State Bank of Indiana, and has for many years been President of the new organization, the high standing of which is largely due to his financial ability. He has long held rank as one of the most experienced financiers and popular bank officers in the country. He was not a candidate for this position, and gives up one of greater pecuniary value to accept it. Secretary Chase, some time ago, selected him for the head of the new bureau to inaugurate the national banking system, on account of his eminent qualifications. Notice of his acceptance has but recently been received.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The following is from the editorial of the Washington *Chronicle*, of May 5:

The situation of the Army of the Potomac is almost as mysterious as it was yesterday morning. Nothing reliable has come to hand either from public or private sources. The accounts that we publish elsewhere are sufficient proof of our entire success in capturing the formidable works in the rear of Fredericksburg.

General Hooker's headquarters is supposed to be at Chancellorville, a point south and a little west from Fredericksburg and about ten miles distant.

General Hooker has the rebel army between him and the sea. Hard fighting must do the rest. The work will not be finished in a day. Several battles must probably take place before we know the result. It took McClellan seven days to change his base. It may take still longer to beat or capture the rebel army.

Upwards of 1,400 prisoners arrived here yesterday. The officer in charge informed us that before he left Acquia Creek a dispatch received there announced that 4,000 more were on their way to the creek.

The Pirate Alabama at Work Again—Gen. Sickles Reported Killed—From Gen. Hooker's Army.

NEW YORK, May 5.—The *Express* states that the pirate Alabama has destroyed the ship Pangani at sea. No date or particulars given.

It is reported that General Sickles has been killed in battle, but the rumor is not credited in well-informed circles.

The *Times* sums up the news as follows:

Two of our correspondents with Hooker's army arrived in the city yesterday, bringing the latest intelligence from the field of battle. Mr. Swinton left Gen. Hooker's headquarters at six o'clock on Sunday morning, and reached this city at six o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Crownse left at nine o'clock on Sunday evening, and arrived at ten o'clock last night.

Gen. Hooker had thrown his army across the Rappahannock, taken a position on the left of the rebel intrenchments at Fredericksburg, thus compelling the enemy to leave his defenses and fight on the ground which Hooker himself had chosen, and had fought two of the severest and bloodiest battles of the war without attaining any absolutely decisive result, but achieving such successes as render the enemy's defeat certain.

Recovering himself with masterly promptitude, from what was well nigh a crushing disaster on Saturday night, when Jackson succeeded in turning our right wing, and routing the 11th Corps. The battle was renewed on Sunday, and, though not absolutely decisive, yet has put him decidedly on the winning side. This battle is to the rebels by far the bloodiest they have yet had, while our sacrifice is much less. We have taken four thousand prisoners with the loss on our side of not a tenth of that number. The result of Sunday's operations on the left is still more brilliant. The powerfully defended heights in the rear of Fredericksburg, the attempt to take which cost us so dearly last December, have by the movement on Chancellorville been turned, and after being gallantly assailed by Sedgwick's Corps, are now ours.

The rebel army is now, therefore, between two columns, separated but by an interval of five miles, the one a hundred thousand strong, the other twenty thousand. It will be strange if, between the upper and the nether millstone, the accursed thing is not ground to atoms.

From Suffolk.

Suffolk, Va., May 4.—At nine o'clock yesterday, General Peck sent a force of infantry, cavalry and artillery across the Nansemond river, at Suffolk, to make a reconnoissance. They advanced cautiously up the old Petersburg turnpike, and, when two miles out, met the enemy within their rifle pits, which were well manned. The 89th New York and 103d New Hampshire made a spirited charge, and carried the works. After a heavy resistance the enemy fell back out of range, leaving the dead and some wounded on the field. Colonel Ringold, of the 103d New York, was shot while heading his regiment in front, and died during the night. The Chaplain, of the New Jersey, wounded.

Dr. Smith, of 103d New York, was shot severely by an insane officer, yesterday.

Premature Report—Important Raid by U. S. Troops.

CHICAGO, May 5.—A special dispatch from Cairo, says: The reports that the Federals had occupied Grand Gulf, are premature, the rebels having planted their batteries on a hill and repulsed our troops.

The Jackson (Miss.) *Appeal* of the 29th ult. is giving an account of the raid of the United States troops, under Col. Grierson, says: that unsatisfied by the rebels, but their fire gradually slackened off. Our infantry were immediately moved forward, under the direction of Gen. Sedgwick, the commanding officer. The men had their bayonets fixed, presenting a firm front, moved on steadily until they reached within a few hundred yards of the famous

The Fight for the Championship of America.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—The fight for the championship of America and $2,000 a side was fought to-day between Coburn and McCools, on the ground near Havre de Grace, Md. About 2,000 people were present. Time was called at one o'clock, and both men looked well and confident—Coburn the favorite from the start. Sixty-eight rounds were fought in one hour and ten minutes, when McCools was unable to come to time. Coburn was declared winner. The betting was about even, and a large amount of money changed hands. McCools was punished severely about the head and face, and his friends was compelled to carry him from the field. Coburn's face showed no evidence of injury. He left the field unaided.

Destructive Fire.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., May 5.—A destructive fire took place this morning, consuming a block on Main street. Loss, $30,000—mostly insured.

Markets by Telegraph.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.—Flour dull and prices drooping. There is no shipping demand and the sales are only