PITTSBURGH POST.

MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 10.

CITY MATTERS.

Letters from Rebel Prisoners.

We have been furnished with copies of several letters written by rebel prisoners captured at Fort Donelson, from which we give some extracts:

One, a Surgeon, writing from Dover, Penn., under date of February 22d, says: "I address you as I never have before, a prisoner of war; but do not be alarmed for my safety, as I have fallen into the hands of gentlemen, who treat me as such. There are not the infamous, black-hearted abolitionists of the New England States, but the "bone and sinew" of the North and Northwestern States. General Grant informed me he had no desire to detain Surgeons, but I feel morally bound not to leave my regiment now that the dark cloud of adversity begins to hover around them. You, I think, would lose the love and respect you have felt for me were I to be guilty of such baseness. I know not as yet what our destination may be; when I reach it I will let you know. I am only slightly wounded and trust soon to be with you. Tell Bob that Owen was in the thickest of the fight and fought like a young lion at bay, perfectly regardless of the balls which flew thick and fast around him. The battle was terrific and the hardest fought in the history of American warfare. I send this by a Colonel of the other side, who has treated me with marked kindness."

The next, from Ft. Donelson, is both boastful and despanding. He says: "We were basely surrendered by the cowardly sot, General Pillow, and deserted by Floyd and his command. Therefore our high-minded Buckner and command were sacrificed and are now prisoners of war, guarded by the bristling bayonets of our captors. Our battery immortalized itself, for there was not a place on the field where our death-dealing guns were not belching forth death and destruction among the enemy's columns. We were applauded by our noble commander more than once, for he stuck to us almost through the whole engagement and is yet with us, for by his exertions he obtained transportation for us on the same boat that is to take him to the place of (I fear) a long imprisonment. I am yet ignorant of the place of our permanent incarceration. Some think we will live out the remainder of our days in Cairo; some say in Sandusky city; the Lord only knows the place, for I have not the least idea nor any anxiety to know where. We are to grieve out the balance of our days in a loathsome dungeon, fit only for criminals and not for the brave people who fight for the same principles as our fathers before us.

P. S. Thus far we have been treated well by our captors. Dr. O. is with us; he disdained an offer of release proffered him by General Grant. He is a noble man."

A third, also from Fort Donelson, after describing the battle, says: "Our company behaved most gallantly during the whole fight and we have even the admiration of the enemy, who treat us most courteously and gentlemanly. Several of our company are wounded. * * * * * * * * The Federals have been quite successful in their two victories and have taken over ten thousand prisoners. They are on the way to Nashville and if they take that place I think the Confederate States have "played out."

The letters are full of personalities, but all agree upon the good treatment they receive from our troops.

Arrest of a Confidence Man.

A sharp "confidence" operator, calling himself B. F. Parker, hailing from Rochester, Beaver county, was arrested on Saturday, charged with obtaining goods under false pretences. It appears that he first went to the paper store of E. B. Godfrey, Liberty street, where he purchased $12 worth of paper, saying he would send some other goods to be packed with it. He next visited the hardware stores of S. Fahnestock and Wm. S. Lavely & Co., and bought some hardware and cutlery. The small packages of the latter he ordered to be sent to Godfrey's, remarking that he would call in an hour, pay his bills, and have the heavy goods shipped. He was next seen at Jonas Keefer's hardware store, Allegheny, offering a package of penknives worth $20, for $7,50; but a young man in the stores who had formerly been in the employ of Mr. Fahnestock, recognized his mark and told the man the goods came from there. This he denied and went away without disposing of his goods. The young man, suspecting something wrong, came over and informed Mr. Fahnestock of the circumstance and inquiry was made for Parker at Godfrey's. He had been there and on seeing the packages said there was some mistake, as they were not for him, and carried them off, first purchasing and ordering to be packed $8 worth more paper. Search was now made for the sharper, and he was found, about three o'clock in the afternoon, with the hardware packages in his possession; also some penknives, scissors and razors, not yet identified. He was handed over to officer Bay, of the night police, who took him to the tombs. Information was made against Parker for swindling, and the Mayor committed him for trial in default of $1,000 bail.

SOLDIERS' BEDS.—The best beds for soldiers in camp are those constructed from fir or cedar boughs. Where this can be obtained in sufficient quantity the bed can be formed with little trouble, and removed and burned whenever it is desired to clean the tent, which should be done frequently. Experienced soldiers object to board floors in their tent, insist on rubber blankets, straw, &c, and where they cannot obtain the cedar spray, prefer the bare ground to sleep on. An examination of diseases of of the army indicates that the largest proportion of those of typhoid type occur with soldiers sleeping on rubber blankets, the least with those on cedar boughs; the largest proportion of catarrhal affections from sleeping on wooden floors, the least with those on the ground; the largest of rheumatism with those on wood, the smallest with those on boughs; the largest of malarial diseases with those on the ground, the least with those on boughs. Might not these facts afford some hints worthy of adoption in civic life.

COMPROMISE.—At their last meeting Allegheny Councils passed an ordinance vesting the Trustees of the city with "all the power and authority necessary to carry into full force and effect the terms of compromise of the Railroad Bond indebtedness of this city, as adopted in the ordinance of Councils passed the seventh day of December, 1861, and entitled "An ordinance relative to the Railroad Bonds of Allegheny City," and shall have further power, acting under the directions of the Finance Committee of the Councils of Allegheny City, of altering, changing, modifying, reducing or enlarging the said terms of compromise as may seem to them advantageous to the city; of carrying into effect and force the said terms of compromise, so altered, changed, modified, reduced or enlarged, hereby ratifying and confirming whatever they may lawfully do in the premises."

LARCENY OF NEWSPAPERS.—A lad named James Roney, about thirteen years old, was committed to jail, by Mayor Sawyer, on Saturday, for stealing newspapers. He was caught by Officer McAllister, in the act of drawing a paper from under the door of Mr. Wm S. Lippincott, on Chatham street. Mr. L. had missed his papers for some time, and offered a reward of $5 for the thief.

John P. Hunt, has for sale a new and taught effect, "White and Blue Songster."

WEEKLY OIL REPORT.—The Oil City *Register* furnishes the following report of the oil market: There have been no transactions of note since our last report. We hear of one sale of 300 barrels, delivered at this point, at 68 cents per barrel, but of course no large quantity could be sold at that price, for the reason that speculators would thereby be enabled to buy cheaper here than up the Creek at the wells, the transportation of the oil from the wells to the mouth of the creek costing that sum. It is only once in a while that teams will haul oil from the upper farms for less than 50 cents per barrel. It then costs 18 cents each to transport the empty barrels from the mouth of the creek to the wells. There is a great scarcity of barrels, though but few want to purchase at the present low price of our staple, most of our operators having a sufficient quantity on the way to this place to supply the demand. The prospect for a freshet in the Allegheny, at the commencement of the week, was very flattering. We had a copious rain, commencing on Sunday night and continuing until Monday night, when the weather changed and it blew up cold, with a slight fall of snow. The river and creek raised a little, but are about on a stand now. The weather is more moderate as we go to press. There is one towboat lying at our wharf, the Hawk-Eye. Prices of teaming without change from last week's report, from 10 to 50 cents.—Empty barrels $1 75, and we hear of a sale of 100 barrels at $1 70. But little oil is being shipped to this point now. The following is the amount received at the different warehouses for the week ending Tuesday, March 4th. Abrams, Orr & Co., Received 901 bbls. Mich. Rock Oil Co., received 1,163 bbls. of oil; 1,074 empty bbls. Hanna's warehouse, received, 528 bbls.; shipped 302.

HELD TO BAIL.—John L. Shaplar, postmaster at Rochester, charged with embezzling a money letter, had a hearing before United States Commissioner Bailey, on Saturday, and was held to bail in the sum of $3,000. The letter he is charged with retaining was mailed at Roobester to Ravenna Ohio, on the 19th of December and contained $5, sent by the writer, W. R. Alcorn, to his family. The letter not coming to hand, Deputy United States Marshal A. M. Hackett, of Ravenna, instituted search for it and found it had never been sent from Rochester. The postmaster attempted to account for this by stating that it had been mislaid until the 28i, when it was mailed, but the letter sent on that day was received and contained no money. Mr. Hackett then procured a warrant and sent it to officer Hague, who arrested Shaplar, as stated by us on Saturday.

HOW CAPT. CHAPMAN AND LIEUT. LYSLE WERE KILLED.—The Eastern papers say that the affair in which the officers above named, of the 63d regiment, were killed, occurred on the telegraph road, near Pohick, the scouting party falling into an ambush of Texan Rangers.—A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* says: "A reconnoitering party of 63d Pennsylvania, Heintzelman's Division, was ambushed yesterday morning beyond the Occoquan, two or three miles in advance of our pickets, and received the fire of, as was reckoned, forty concealed rebels. The rebels instantly fled through the wood. Captain Chapman and Lieut. Lysle were killed, and two privates were wounded, one of them mortally."

LIBEL CASE.—M. Swartzwelder, Esq., an attorney of much experience in such cases, has gone to Uniontown, Pa., to appear as counsel in a libel case which comes up this week. The suit is brought by the Commissioners of Fayette county, against Jacob Miller, Esq., brother of A. H. Miller, Esq., of this city, for making a publication charging them with being rebels and conspiring with the Virginia secessionists to destroy the Government. The prosecution is a criminal one and the Commissioners have employed Mr. Swartzwelder to prosecute the case.

MR. NEAFIE.—Mr. J. A. Neafie, the tragedian, appears to-night for the first time this season. The bill is "Hamlet, Prince of Denmark." Mr. Neafie, as Hamlet, and Mrs. Vandeering, a favorite actress here, as Ophelia. Both are good and with the aid of the company the piece will doubtless go off well. "State Secrets," is the after piece. We trust Mr. Neafie may be well patronized while he remains with us.

DISBANDED.—The 66th Pennsylvania regiment has been formally disbanded. Three companies of the regiment have been attached to the regiment of Colonel Kolles, and the remaining two companies to the regiment of Col. Peter Fritz. Previous to the regiment being disbanded the men became very troublesome, and a New Jersey regiment was placed under arms to keep them in subjection.

CONFIRMED.—David L. Smith, of Allegheny, who has been in service in Western Virginia since the beginning of the rebellion, has been confirmed as Commissary of Subsistence, with the rank of Captain. Russell Errett, of the *Gazette*, is also confirmed as Paymaster. Wm J. Kountz is also confirmed as Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain.

THE TONNAGE TAX.—Mr. Scott has offered in the Legislature, a substitute for the bill restoring the tonnage tax, authorizing the Attorney General to institute proceedings in equity, in the name of the Commonwealth, against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of the act repealing the tax.

SUICIDE AT ERIE.—Mr. A. K. Miller, a well known resident of Erie, committed suicide on Tuesday afternoon last, by hanging himself in his barn, on Buffalo street. He had but recently returned from the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, and was supposed to have recovered.

HON. ANDREW JOHNSON, provisional Governor of Tennessee, arrived from the East, on Saturday, and proceeded westward by the next train. His destination is Nashville. He was accompained by his son, Col. Robt. Johnson, Wm. A. Browning, Secretary, &c, Hon. John Horace Maynard and Emerson Etheridge, Clerk of the House.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—William Ralston, aged about 19 years, son of Thos. Ralston, of Boggs township, Clearfield county, lost his life on Thursday last, by the falling of a tree. The accident happened about ten o'clock in the morning, and he expired that night.

THE great billiard match at Cleveland, between Kavanagh, of New York, and Foley, of Cleveland, a carom game of 1,500 points, resulted in the success of the former, who made the 1,500 points while Foley made 1,065. Kavanagh made a run of 118 and one of 114, while Foley's largest run was 102.

OIL REGION RAILROAD.—A surveying party passed through Oil City on Tuesday, locating the line of the Oil Region Railroad. It is said that the road will be finished by September next.

PERRINE'S MILITARY MAP.—Chas. O. Perrine, Indianapolis, has issued a new edition of a military map, illustrating in a comprehension view, the seat of war. It is sold by John P. Hunt, Masonic Hall, at 25 cents.

Rev. Samuel Findley has entered upon his duties as Professor of Rhetoric at the Western University.

ABOUT $40,000 of the stock of the New Castle and Beaver Valley Railroad Co. has been subscribed.

BAD BOYS.—"Boys will be boys," especially in the spring time, when their exuberant spirits will manifest themselves after the long in-door confinement of winter. On Saturday, the Allegheny police arrested a number of boys of the Second and Third Wards, who had been engaged in a pitched battle. Mayor Drum fined them and let them go. Mayor Sawyer's police yesterday arrested some boys who annoyed church-goers by running over the sheds in the rear of the *Gazette* office. They were also discharged on payment of the small fines imposed.

THE "MUD LARKS."—Quite an excitement was occasioned last evening on Wylie street, a passer-by having been wantonly attacked by a crowd congregating at the corner of High and Wylie streets, styling themselves the "Mud Larks." They have made themselves a terror of the neighborhood and many complaints have reached the Mayor, who will ere long cause them to be dispersed.

TAKEN BACK.—Sheriff Landis, of Lucas county, Ohio, started homeward last night, having in custody a young man, arrested here, charged with seducing a young girl at Toledo. We suppress the name of the offender, as he promises to make all the reparation in his power by marrying his victim on his return home.

ARRIVED.—The remains of Capt. Chapman and Lieut. Lyle arrived yesterday from Washington City. Capt. Chapman's body will be interred here. Lieut. Lyle's was to be taken to M'Keesport this morning.

C. M. T. N.—City Councils hold a special meeting this evening.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS

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AND

ALL PRICES,

—ALSO—

DIARIES FOR 1862.

FOR SALE BY

W. S. HAVEN.

no9 CORNER WOOD AND THIRD STREET

JOSEPH MEYER.....ANTHONY MEYER

JOSEPH MEYER & SON,

Manufacturers of

FANCY AND PLAIN

FURNITURE & CHAIRS,

WAREHOUSE, 136 SMITHFIELD STREET,

(between Sixth street and Virgin alley.)

no9 PITTSBURGH.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES

A Slight Cold,

Cough, Hoarseness or Sore Throat, which might be checked with a simple remedy, if neglected, often terminates seriously. Few are aware of the importance of stopping a Cough or Slight Cold in its first stage; that which in the beginning would yield to a mild remedy, if not attended to, soon attacks the lungs.

Brown's Bronchial Troches were first introduced eleven years ago. It has been proved that they are the best article before the public for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, the Hacking Cough in Consumption, and numerous affections of the Throat, giving immediate relief.

Public Speakers & Singers

will find them effectual for clearing and strengthening the voice.

Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Medicine, at 75 cents per box.

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CHEAP COUNTRY HOMES FOR SALE.—A TWO STORY BRICK MANSION, containing eight rooms and hall exclusive of kitchen and pantry, with the grounds attached comprising about 1½ acres and situated in Rochester, Beaver county, Pennsylvania. The house is large, well constructed and in good order, having been recently improved and refitted, and is located upon an eminence in the village, commanding one of the finest views in the country. There is a large orchard and garden attached to the premises, with wood, coal and wash-house, out-oven, stable, etc., the kitchen is furnished with Payne & Bissel's patent cooking ranger.

Rochester is a beautiful and healthy village on the Ohio river, one hour from Pittsburgh by the P. Ft. W. & C., and C., Pittsburgh Railroads, there being three stations in the borough limits, and 16 passenger trains stopping East and West every twenty four hours. This property will be sold at a bargain and is worthy the attention of tax ridden city residents, who desire a pleasant, commodious and Cheap country home.

Also, two lots fronting each 100 feet on the Ohio river and running back to the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago railroad, within five minutes walk of Freedom, and fifteen minutes of Rochester station, and suitable for a small truck farm or for the erection of oil refineries; the large oil refinery of S. M. Kier & Co., is situated within 300 feet of this property.

Also, a tract of land adjoining the above, finely timbered and with an abundance of excellent water; this property would make a splendid country-seat for a gentleman of taste and means, or it would make a fine truck farm. The tract contains about 54 acres, a portion of which is under cultivation.

For further particulars apply to A. P. LACOCK, Freedom, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, or to S. Outhbert & Son, 51 Market street, Pittsburgh.

mar11-3rd

R. L. ALLEN, Agent,

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Keeps constantly on hand the largest stock in the market. Produce and Commission Merchant and dealer in Wines and Liquors.

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CITY FREIGHT

DELIVERY.

The undersigned are now fully prepared to receive orders for paying charges and delivering freight from any of the railway depots to any part of the city, and can assure those who favor them with their orders that they shall receive prompt attention, as we have facilities for prompt delivery of merchandise of all descriptions.

One of the firm will be constantly found at the Duquesne Depot, POST NO. 5.

M'FADEN & HANEY.

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NEW GOODS—

We have just received from the

EASTERN CITIES

a choice selection of

DESIRABLE GOODS,

for the present and approaching season. Buyers are respectfully requested to call and examine our stock.

W. H. McGEE & CO.,

MERCHANT TAILORS, No. 148 Federal street.

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NEW PAPER HANGINGS—

Now receiving at

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$1,50. $1,50. $1,50.

LADIES

LASTING CONGRESS GAITERS,

$1,50. $1,50.

D. S DIFFENBACHER

mh1 17 FIFTH STREET

2D EDITION.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

Last Night's News up to Two O'clock.

The Federal Steamer Cumberland Sunk and Congress taken by the Iron-Clad Steamer Merrimac.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 8.—The dullness of Old Point was startled at 10 o'clock to-day by the announcement that a mysterious vessel, supposed to be the Merrimac, looking like a submerged house, with the roof only above water, was moving down from Norfolk by the channel in front of the Sewell's Point batteries. Signal guns were also fired by the Cumberland and Congress, to notify the Minnesota, St Lawrence and Roanoke of the approaching danger, and all was excitement in and about Fortress Monroe. There was nothing protruding above the water but a flag-staff flying the rebel flag, and a short smoke stack. She moved slowly, and turning into the channel ending to Newport News, steamed direct for the frigate Cumberland and Congress which were flying at the mouth of James river. As soon as she came within range of the Cumberland she opened on her with her heavy guns, but the balls struck and glanced off, having no more effect on her than peas from a popgun. The ports were all closed and she moved on in silence but with a full head of steam. In the meantime as the Merimac was approaching the two frigates on our side, the rebel iron-clad steamers Yorktown and Jamestown, came down James river and engaged our frigates on the other side. The batteries at Newport News also opened on the Jamestown and Yorktown and did all in their power to assist the Cumberland and Congress, which being sailing vessels were at the mercy of the approaching steamers.

The Merrimac in the meantime moved steadily on her course and slowly approached the Cumberland when she and the Congress at the distance of one hundred yards rained full broadsides on the iron clad monster. The shot took no effect, glancing upwards and flying off, having only the effect of checking her for a moment. After receiving the first broadside of the two frigates, she ran on to the Cumberland striking her about midships and literally laying open her sides.

She then drew off, fired broadside after broadside into the disabled ship and again dashed against her with her iron clad plow and knocking in her side, left her to sink while she engaged with the Congress, which laid about a quarter of a mile distant. The crew on board of her seeing the hopelessness of resisting the iron clad steamer at once struck her colors. Her crew had been discharged several days since and three companies of the naval brigade, had been put on board temporarily until she should be relieved by the St Lawrence which was to have gone up on Monday to take her position as our blockading vessels of James river. On the Congress striking her colors, the Jamestown approached and took from on board of her all the officers as prisoners but allowed the crew to escape in boats. The vessel being thus cleared was fired by the rebels. When the Merrimac and her two iron-clad companions opened with shell and shot on the Newpoint News batteries. The firing was briskly returned. Various reports have been received by frightened sutlers' clerks. Some of them represented that the garrison had been compelled to retreat from the batteries to the woods. Another report was that the two smaller rebel steamers had been compelled to retreat from their guns. In the meantime the steam frigate Minnesota, having partly got up steam, was being towed to the relief of the two frigates, but did not get up until too late to assist them. She was also followed up by the frigate St. Lawrence, which was taken in tow by several of the small harbor boats. It is, however, rumored that neither of these vessels had pilots on board them, and after a short engagement both of them seemed to be in the opinion of pilots, both aground. The Minnesota, either intentionally or from necessity, engaged the three steamers at about a mile distance, with only her two bow guns. The St. Lawrence also poured in shot from all the guns she could bear, and it was the impression of the most experienced officers that both had been considerably damaged.

These statements, it must be borne in mind, are all based on what could be seen by the glass at the distance of nearly eight miles, and by a few panic stricken non-combatants, who fled at almost the first gun from Newport News. In the meantime darkness approached, though the moon shone out brightly and nothing but the occasional flashing of guns could be seen. The Merrimac was also believed to be aground, as she remained stationary at the distance of a mile from the Minnesota, making no attempt to attack or molest her.

Previous to the departure of the steamer for Baltimore no guns had been fired for half an hour, the last one being fired from the Minnesota. Some persons declared that immediately after the last gun was fired, a dense volume of vapor was seen to rise from the Merrimac, indicating an explosion of her boiler. Whether this is so or not cannot be known, but it was the universal opinion that the rebel monster was hard aground. Fears of course were entertained for the safety of the Minnesota and St. Lawrence in such an unequal contest, but if the Merrimac was really ashore she could do no harm to her. It was the intention of the Minnesota with her picked and gallant crew to have run into close quarters with the Merrimac, avoid her iron prow and board her. This the Merrimac seemed not inclined to give her an opportunity to do, being afraid that the crew would approach her at close quarters when aground.

At 8 o'clock when the Baltimore boat left, a fleet of steam tugs were being sent up to the relief of the Minnesota and St. Lawrence, and an endeavor was to be made to draw them off from the bar on which they had grounded. In the meantime the firing had been suspended, whether from mutual consent or necessity could not be ascertained. The rebel battery at Pig's Point was also enabled to join in a combined attack on the Minnesota and several guns were fired at her from Sewalls Point as she went up. None of them, however, struck her, but one or two of them passed over her.

The Baltimore boat left Old Point at 8 o'clock last night. About half an hour after she left the wharf the iron-clad Ericsson steamer Monitor passed her going in, towed by a large steamer. The Monitor undoubtedly reached Fortress Monroe by 9 o'clock and may have immediately gone into service. If not she would be ready to take a hand early on Sunday morning.

Federal Vessel Attacked.

WASHINGTON CITY, Mar. 9.—7 o'clock p. m.—Telegram from Fortress Monroe.—The Ericsson arrived at Fortress Monroe last night. Early this morning she was attacked by the three vessels, the Merrimac, Jamestown and Yorktown. After five hours contest they were driven off, the Merrimac in a sinking condition. The above is official.

Leesburg in our Possession!

LEESBURG, VA., March 8.—Col. Geary has taken Leesburg and driven Gen. Hill with his whole command from the town and surrounding forts. The stars and stripes now wave over all the hills, the rebels fell back towards Middleburg last night. Col. Geary left Love taville with his command and marched through Wheatland and Waterford taking prisoners at both places and putting the scattered forces of the enemy to flight. Shortly after sunrise this morning he took possession of Fort Johnson which was re-christened by the officers of Fort Geary. He then entered the town with flags flying and bayonets fixed. The rebel troops who had considered this as one of their greatest strongholds could be discerned through a glass in full retreat. The command took many prisoners and a quantity of army stores and are in possession of the bank, post office and public buildings. Forts Beauregard and Evans are also taken. This brilliant achievement accomplished by a well timed flow and skillful manuvre is of vast importance. The command is well and in good spirits. A detachment of the 1st Michigan Cavalry did much service under the direction of Col. Geary in this movement.

CHARLESTOWN, March 9.—The report of last night that our forces had occupied Leesburg is officially confirmed. The enemy evacuated the town on Friday morning, taking all their supplies and baggage to Middleburg, but it is not known whether the troops retired thither or started towards Winchester. Colonel Geary occuppied the town unresisted yesterday morning, capturing considerable property belonging to the rebel army.

All was quiet on our frontiers last night.

Fox's Official Report.

The following dispatch was also received to-night:—

FORTRESS MONROE, March 9, 6:45 P. M.—To Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:—The Monitor arrived at ten P. M. last night. She went immediately to the protection of the Minnesota lying aground just below Newport News. At 7 A. M. to-day, the Merrimac, with two wooden steamers and several tugs stood out towards the Minnesota and opened fire. The Monitor met them at once and opened fire, when all the enemy's vessels retired, excepting the Merrimac. These two iron clad vessels fought part of time touching each other, from 8 a. m. to noon, when the Merrimac retired. Whether she is injured or not it is impossible to say. Lieut. J. S. Warden who commanded the Monitor, handled her with great skill, assisted by Chief Engineer Stimers. Lieut. Warden was injured by a piece of metal from the pilot house, being driven into his eyes, but we trust not seriously. The Minnesota kept up a con into a fire; she is, herself, somewhat injured; she was removed and considerably repaired to day, and will probably be off to-night. The Monitor is uninjured and ready, at any moment, to repel another attack. (Signed,) G. V. Fox.

Ass't Sec'y. Navy.

General Hooker reports, that all the enemy's batteries in front of his line, were entirely abandoned and their guns spiked. Some guns, of which we have taken possession, appear to be valuable pieces. This is virtually raising the so called blockade.

Late News from the South.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 7.—The steam tug Atlantic and Pendulum from Philadelphia, came into the Roads this morning. The Pendulum sunk while passing the light ship. All hands were saved. The steamer Suwanee, which sailed for Hatteras with stores on Thursday, returned on account of bad weather, but will sail again to-night. The wind is changing to the Northwest.

A flag of truce from Norfolk brought down the commandant of the French steamer. He represents that great excitement exists at Norfolk. The hotels are swarming with officers, mostly from the gulf States, the Virginia troops being all sent away. The people dread the destruction of the city in case of an attack. A strong force is concentrating at Suffolk, to check Gen. Burnside, who was reported to have occupied Winton in force, and to be moving on Norfolk.

The reasons given by the rebels for not returning Col. Corcoran is, that maps and drawings have been found concealed on his person. No further communication has been received as to the release of the Federal prisoners at Richmond.

The Richmond papers of Friday contain no military news except of the arrest of Union men, principally Germans. The detectives broke into the room of the German Turners, and found two American flags, with a portrait on the wall of the Goddess of Liberty, with the words inscribed underneath it: "Hats off!" The painting and flags were confiscated.

The House of Representatives, in session at Richmond, has adopted, by a vote of seventy-one to eleven, a resolution directing the military commanders to destroy all the cotton and tobacco that are in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy. A resolution was adopted asking the President to inform the House what the foreign vessels of war are doing in Hampton Roads.

The Richmond *Dispatch* says that a vessel drawing sixteen feet of water recently passed out of Charleston harbor.

A dispatch from Atlanta, Georgia, says that the Federal troops have occupied Murfreesboro, Tenn., and that Gen. A. Sidney Johnson has retreated to Decatur, Alabama.

The Rev. David Wilmer, late of Philadelphia, was consecrated at Richmond, on Thursday, as Bishop of Alabama.

Bishop Andrews has postponed indefinitely the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which was to meet at New Orleans on the first of April.

The steamer Merrimac was lying near the Navy Yard yesterday morning with her flag flying and crew on board. She draws twenty-three feet of water, and was described to your correspondent as looking like the roof of a sunken house with a smoke stack protruding from the water.

From Charlestown, Va.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., March 8.—To-day, a Mr. Carter, member of Baylor's Cavalry, together with three valuable horses, a carriage and other articles were captured and turned over to the Division Quartermaster. A considerable amount of Confederate scrip was also seized.

Private Whitney, of the Michigan Cavalry, who was accidentally wounded on Friday night, died to-day.

Col. Brodhead, of the Michigan Cavalry, has been appointed Chief of the Cavalry for this division.

During a visit to the residence of Col. Lewis Washington, near Hallstown, your correspondent was informed that subsequent to the departure of the proprietor in August last, the rebels paid a visit to the establishment and appropriated a large collection of the portraits of Gen. Washington and his family, being probably the only collection of the kind extant.

It is to be regretted that previous to the order of General Banks some wanton depredations were committed on private property in this vicinity. But it is probable that the perpetrators will be detected and severely punished.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 9.—The government has recieved information from Fortress Monroe, that yesterday the iron clad steamer Merrimac and the gunboats Jamestown and Yorktown, attacked our fleet, sunk the Cumberland and took the Congress. The Minnesota was aground when the Fortress Monroe boat left.

The Loyal Indians in the West --Order Reigns in Nashville.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Dale, has returned from the West. While in Kansas and Nebraska, the Indian chiefs called upon him and tendered the services of their warriors for military service, but these cannot now be accepted.

Upwards of six thousand loyal Indian refugees, including families from the Cherokee country, are in the lower part of Kansas. In their retreat from the superior forces of the enemy they threw away everything which impeded their stampede.

The panic among them at that time is represented as frightful. These Indians, being in a destitute condition, Gen. Hunter supplied their immediate necessities.

Commissioner Dale telegraphed to the Government authorities, and through his representations Congress promptly passed an act for their relief.

The Post Office Department received a letter to-day from Nashville, dated the 3d inst., in which it is stated that on the special agent, Mr. Markland, taking possession of the Post Office in that city, he found that the rebel Postmaster had stripped it of every article of property, blankets, locks, mail bags, twine, scales, keys, &c. The special agent had managed to get the mails from Nashville to Louisville.

The letter adds that the U. S. officers and troops have agreeably disappointed the secessionists by reason of their good behavior and gentlemanly deportment.—Others are mad because the officers and men will not commit some act of violence or perpetrate an outrage of some kind.

Be it said to the credit of all the officers, soldiers, civilians and camp-followers, that the order in Nashville was never better. I have never known better order. The nomination of Abram Wakeman as postmaster of Nashville, yesterday, has not yet been confirmed.

Late News from Mexico.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Judge Watts the delegate from New Mexico, has advices of an authentic character from Fort Craig to the 14th of February, and Santa Fe to five o'clock, of Sunday the 16th. At that date the advance guard of the U. S. forces 500 strong under Capt. Migrate were on the west side of the Rio Grande, eight miles below Fort Craig, being at Barejas. On the driving in of our pickets, Col. Canby marched in force to that point, and after anxiously awaiting until night without any appearance of the enemy, he returned to Fort Craig, leaving his camp fires burning. Col. Canby's spy Graham has captured the principal spy of Gen. Sibley and from him it was ascertained that the forces under Sibley consisted of 1,500 troops at Alimasi, and 1,500 behind, under Sibley with eight cannon and 300 beeves and that he expected reinforcements soon of 1,100 lancers. Under these circumstances Judge Watts is confident that no general engagement had taken place but perhaps only skirmishing of the advance guard, which resulted in the falling back of our troops on Fort Craig, in order to prevent the Texan cavalry from getting between our forces in the advance, and in the fortifications at Fort Craig. The recent published dispatch from Denver to Julesburg is not on its face, authentic, and must have been verbally communicated through a line of express riders over a distance of 700 miles, and Judge Watts has other information which satisfies him that the account is, to say the least of it, highly exaggerated and some parts of it untrue.

An Order Issued by the President.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The President has issued a war order No. 2, in which he orders that the army of the Potomac be divided into an army corps, to be commanded by the commanders of corps selected according to their seniority in rank as follows: The first *corps de armie*, consisting of four divisions to be commanded by Major General Sumner; the 2d corps is not given in the dispatch; the third corps consisting of three divisions, to be commanded by Brigadier General Heintzelman; the 4th corps consisting of three divisions, to be commanded by Brigadier General Keys; the 5th corps consisting of Gens. Bank's and Shield's, late General Landers' commands, to be commanded by Major General Banks.

Captain Bell of the 3d Penn's Cavalry has been promoted to be Major of the 3d Illinois Cavalry, now in Gen. Halleck's department.

The Stars and Stripes Waving Over Cockpit Point.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 9.—The Stars and Stripes wave over Cockpit Point. About 2 o'clock P. M. to-day the rebels commenced to fire their tents and other property difficult of removal. They also burned the steamer Page, and all the other craft in the Creek. Our gunboats opened fire on the Cockpit Point battery at 3 o'clock P. M., and at half past four ran up the glorious old flag.

ETNA STOVE WORKS.

A. BRADLEY,

NO, 30 WOOD STREET,

(corner Second, Pittsburgh,)

Manufacture an wholesale and retail dealer in all kinds of

Cook, Parlor, and Heating Stoves,

Grate Fronts, Fenders, &c.

In our sample room may be found the CELEBRATED GAS BURNING COOK STOVES,

EUREKA AND TROPIC,

the merits of which have been fully tested by thousands, and the Stoves pronounced unequaled by any in this market; together with a great many other desirable patterns.

We have also a very large assortment of

PARLOR AND HEATING STOVES,

embracing some of the BEST PATTERNS now offered to the public.

FANCY ENAMELED GRATE FRONTS AND FENDERS, of the newest styles. Common Kitchen Bow and Jam Grates, all of which are offered at very low prices.

Special inducements offered to builders in want of GRATE FRONTS no5dtm

SHIRTS.

Fine White, Plain and Fancy Flannel Under and Overshirts on hand, and made to order, on shortest notice, at

R. WILLIAMSON'S,

SHIRT FACTORY,

NO. 47 ST. CLAIR STREET

no21

THE ARDESCO OIL COMPANY

MANUFACTURE AND HAVE FOR sale a superior article of

REFINED ARDESCO OIL,

Non-Explosive. Also,

PURE BENZOLE.

Warehouse, No. 45 Hand Street,

sel5-3m *PITTSBURGH, PA.*

DRY PEACHES—10 sacks received and for sale by

mh8 HENRY H. COLLINS.

FEATHERS—500 pounds prime Geese Feathers received and for sale by

JAMES A. FETERS,

feb5 corner Market and First streets.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION

OF BOARD OF TRADE

FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH:

Wm. McCreery, V. P. J. J. Gillespie,

J. I. Bennett, B. Preston,

James Park, Jr.

RIVER NEWS.

PORT OF PITTSBURGH.

ARRIVED.

Franklin, Bennet, Brownsville.
Gallatin, Clark, do
Col. Bayard, Peebles, Elizabeth
J T M'Combs, Calhoun, Wheeling
Clara, Dean, Dickinson, Portsmouth
Emma Graham, Avery, Zanesville

DEPARTED.

Franklin, Bennet, Brownsville.
Gallatin, Clark, Brownsville.
Col. Bayard, Peebles Elizabeth
Minerva, Gordon, Wheeling
Iowa, Moore, Cincinnati
Undine, Woodburn, Gallipolis
Lizzie Martin, Brown, Zanesville
St Cloud, Dravo, St Louis

The river—last evening at twilight there were 7 feet 6 inches water in the channel and rising. The weather pleasant.

The Wheeling packet for this day is the steamer J. T. M'Combs, Capt. Calhoun. She leaves at noon. We take pleasure in recommending this boat and officers.

Captain T. M. Harten's favorite packet Linden leaves for Cincinnati, Cairo and St. Louis. This boat has the best of accommodations and is in charge of clever officers.

Capt I. M. Mason, is loading the steamer "Fred Lorenz" for the upper Mississippi. She will leave on Tuesday evening, passengers and shippers will bear this in mind. Since her last trip she has undergone thorough and complete repairs.

The punctual steamer Emma Graham will be found at the landing this morning. She will return to Zanesville on Tuesday at 4 p. m.

The Saint Cloud, Captain Dravo, was engaged on Saturday in unloading a portion of her cargo, an order having been received from Washington not to allow boats to carry passengers and cartridges at the same time.

It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that the steamer J. T. McCombs will be sold at auction on Monday, 17th inst at 10 o'clock.

The splendid side wheel steamer Arago, is announced for St. Louis on Thursday.

The fine packet Linden, Capt Harten, leaves this day, positively, for St. Louis.

The Iowa left on Saturday with a slim trip.

For St. Louis and Keokuk,

THURSDAY, 13th,

THE splendid passenger steamer ARAGO, Capt Golding, leaves as above.

For freight or passage apply on board or to

mh10 JOHN FLACK, Agent.

For Upper Mississippi. Saint Louis Keokuk, Burlington, Muscatine, Davenport, Rock Island, Galena, Dubuque, M'Gregor's Landing and St. Paul.

MARCH 10, 4 P. M.

SPLENDID PASSENGER steamer FREDERESE, L. M. Mason, commander, leaves as announced above.

For freight or passage apply on board or to

J. B. LIVINGSTON & CO.,

mh10 and J FLACK, Agents.

For Wheeling, Parkersburg, Marietta, and Zanesville.

THE FINE STEAMER LIZZIE MARTIN, D. T. Brown, commander, will leave this port EVERY SATURDAY at 4 p. m., for the above and intermediate ports. Returning she will leave Zanesville EVERY TUESDAY at 8 a. m.

For freight or passage apply on board or to

H. S. PIERCE & CO., Zanesville,

fe4 or J. B. LIVINGSTON & CO., Pittsburgh.

Regular Tuesday Packet For Marietta and Zanesville.

THE fine passenger steamer EMMA GRAHAM, Captain Munroe Ayers, commander, leaves Pittsburgh every Tuesday, at 4 o'clock p. m., and Z