DAILY POST.

The Union as it was:
The Constitution as it is!

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 19.

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☞ **Reading matter on every page.**

A SLIGHT REVERSE.

By a telegraphic communication from Colonel David Campbell to the War Department, by order of General McClellan, it will be seen that our gunboat fleet was repulsed at Fort Darling, seven miles below Richmond.

GEN. HUNTER ON SLAVERY.

Extreme Abolitionism has been thrown into a state of ecstasy, by the appearance of a proclamation from Gen. Hunter, giving, as they suppose, freedom by a single dash of the pen, to the slave population of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The following is the General's proclamation:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, HILTON HEAD, S. C., May 9, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11.—The three States of Georgia, Florida and South Carolina, comprising the military department of the South, having deliberately declared themselves no longer under the protection of the United States of America, and having taken up arms against the said United States, it becomes a military necessity to declare them under Martial law. This was accordingly done on the 25th day of April, 1862. *Slavery and Martial law in a free country are altogether incompatable,* the persons in these three States, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina, heretofore held as slaves, are therefore declared forever free.

[Official] DAVID HUNTER,
Major General Commanding.
ED. W. SMITH, Assist. Adjt. General.

This proclamation, like that of Fremont's in Missouri, and Phelps' in Louisiana, is precisely so much nonsense; its authority will extend to his pickets and no further. Its effect, however, like that produced by the manifestos of the Generals alluded to, will be to satisfy the Union men of the South, that the intention of the Government in the prosecution of hostilities against the rebels is, not to restore the Union, but to keep it forever asunder. Hunter's declaration that "slavery and martial law in a free country are altogether incompatible," is quite original. We were, until now, under the impression that some sort of force was necessary to hold slaves in bondage; and nothing renders martial law so easily enforced as the very state of servitude which Hunter declares incompatible with military authority. But it is useless to comment upon a document so glaringly silly and unnecessary.

Will the Administration endorse this absurd proclamation, or will the author of it be requested to withdraw it? We do not believe that President Lincoln will stultify himself by giving countenance to it. He should immediately dismiss Hunter, or at least inform him that he had better wait instructions before taking upon himself the functions of the powers at Washington. The President has given the world his plan for the settlement of the slavery question, and if he permits these restless generals to run counter to his avowed policy, he will exhibit a weakness which will be humiliating, not only in the eyes of his countrymen, but in the estimation of the governments throughout the world. A day or two will decide what action the President will take.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL.

On the 15th a committee of conference agreed upon the Homestead Bill, and both Houses of Congress have adopted their report, thus securing the passage of the bill.

This bill provides "that every person who is the head of a family, or who shall arrived at the age of twenty-one, and is a citizen of the United States, or who shall have filed his declaration of his intention to become a citizen, and who has never borne arms against the United States, or given aid and comfort to the enemy, shall, after January 1, 1863, be entitled to enter one-quarter section (160 acres) of the unappropriated public lands, upon which said person may have filed a pre-emption claim. It is also provided that all commissioned and non-commissioned officers, musicians, privates, &c., in the military or naval service of the United States during the present war, shall be entitled to the right of homestead secured by the act, without any limitation. The other features of the act simply relate to the legal course to be pursued in entering the land.".

This bill now but needs the President's signature to make it a law, which there is no doubt of its receiving.

The account of the passage of this long considered measure of "free homes" closes by saying that "great credit is due to Messrs. Aldrich and Potter, who were on the committee of conference, and who have ever been among the most active laborers in behalf of this measure, which has been pending in Congress so many years."

When any great measure of public concern, is about being consummated, there are, always, an abundance of gentlemen anxious to appropriate to themselves the honor therof. We have no desire to detract from the credit due the gentlemen above mentioned, for their efforts to secure homesteads, but justice to others, not now in the councils of the nation, require that their early efforts for the same purpose should not be forgotten.

When the Homestead principle had but few advocates, outside an association of Land reformers possessing but little influence, the Hon. John W. Dawson, of Fayette County, became its champion in the U. S. House of Representatives, and, with that indomitable energy which characterised his congressional career, he stuck to it until it passed the House in 1852—ten years ago. Although the Homestead principle had been discussed prior to the period alluded to, it never had an earnest and industrious advocate until Mr. Dawson assumed its championship. In the distribution of honors, therefore, for supplying free homes to the homeless, and free lands to the landless, John W. Dawson, of Pennsylvania, is entitled to the largest share.—And, now that he is in retirement, the passage of his darling measure, after so much discussion and procrastination, will be doubly gratifying to him and those who aided his early struggle for Homestead exemption.

THE O'GALLAGHERS AND THE MALONES.

A discussion has recently arisen in Ireland, in relation to the origin of some ancient Celtic clans, which ruled, alternately, in Ireland, prior to the reign of the famous Brien Boriough. Among the names mentioned are two euphonious ones, quite familiar to American ears—we mean the Gallaghers and the Malones. An Irish friend of ours; who devotes nearly all the liesure time he can spare from a pressing business, to the exploration of Irish history, furnishes us the following in relation to the names alluded to:

"GALLAGHER.—The O'Gallaghers are descended from Conal Guiban, son of Nial the Great, of the race of Heremon.—They were lords of the lands of Astragh, county Donegal, and hereditary Marshalls of Ulster."

"MALONE.—The Malones are of the same descent with the O'Hanlyns (*vide Supra*). The Malones are numbered amongst the principal chiefs of Teffia.

Yankee innovation has dispensed with the O' in the name of O'Gallagher, but we are pleased to see that Malone has not been abreviated by our modern lexicographers.

The old Irish families, whose names began with O, have furnished to the world some of its brightest statesmen, and intrepid soldiers. And, after centuries of exile, in foreign lands, the prefix wherever preserved, shows itself worthy of its high descent. Look at Marshall O'Donnel, now the ruling spirit in Spain; see Marshall O'Niel, who, in Italy, led Napoleon's French legions to victory upon the bloody field of Solferino. Irish history is full of achievements by the O's, and by the O'Niels, especially, from whom it will be seen the O'Gallaghers descended.

Should Ireland, at some future day when Napoleon is ready to avenge Waterloo—gain her independence and take her stand among the nations of the earth, and choose a monarchical form of government, a nice point would arise as to the true heir to the Irish throne. That the claim would rest in the O'Neil family is pretty certain; but the branches of that luxuriant tree being so extensive, nothing, we fear, could decide it save the bloody arbitrament of the sword. Should peaceful counsels prevail, however, it is not impossible, in this rapid age, to see Ireland her own mistress and governed by one of our American Gallaghers, or O'Neils. Should that event take place in our day, we shall spend the few remaining years of our life in "that sea-girt Isle," "the gem of the Ocean." We shall probably locate in the ancient city of Dublin, and our first business will be, after examining the castle attacked by the patriots of '98, to commence the writing of that long-deferred document, the epitaph of Robert Emmet; and in it we shall take occasion to frequently allude to that judicial monster, Lord Norbury, who sentenced so many Irish patriots to execution.

IRELAND.

In large sections of Ireland there has been for months a dearth of food, scarce short of famine, with general distress, and even many deaths from pure starvation.—Private charity does what it can, or will, while the Irish papers mourn, and the English "sympathize," but *England proposes no relief.* In the British House of Commons, on May 2d, Mr. Maguire spoke of that distress and those deaths, and asked "what Government proposed doing?"—Sir Robert Peel, in the name of Government, admitted the "existence of some distress, though greatly "exaggerated," and said that "Government *deeply regretted it,* but could not attempt to alleviate it by indiscriminate relief." Thus Government turned a deaf ear to thousands of its starving subjects."

Of course, why should England do anything for starving Ireland. Her budget of sympathy is only for the black man and her money, to gratify her lust for power. Let the poor famished Irish exhibit symptoms of rebellion, the "cold stream guards" soon answer the attempt—just complaints and long suffering are not permitted to form a count in the indictment, but let rebellion with or without cause be initiated in any other quarter of the globe, the evangelical hypocricy of the English policy crops out under the guise of philanthropy or the rights of humanity. We hear much of the rights of nations and peoples to institute their own form of government and make their own laws. The complaints of all nations are listened to by Whigs and torys, ins and outs, always save and except Ireland. How long, oh how long.

The Manassas Gap Railroad Held by Gen. Geary's Command.

Special Dispatch to the Inquirer.

MANASSAS GAP, May 13.—Gen. Geary's command, threatened by large forces of guerrilla cavalry, has put the Manassas Gap Railroad into complete running order to Front Royal, and has guarded thirty-two miles of the mountain passes for five weeks past, and reconstructed all the destroyed bridges. They were attacked by, and had almost daily skirmishes, for twelve successive days, with bodies of guerrilla cavalry, whose object was to obstruct the road. Several of the rebels have been wounded, and a number of prisoners taken.

Guerrillas have crept up at night upon the infantry pickets, under cover of the darkness, and attempted to murder them, but have been foiled by constant watchfulness. Several of these desperaders have been captured and sent to Washington.

The Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers are now in General McDowell's Division. They have explored all the mountain recesses of the Blue Ridge, from Paris to Manassas Gap, and driven the guerrillas, which had threatened destruction to the newly constructed bridges and the railroad, South of Manassas Gap.

The Grave of Abraham.

A correspondent, who met the Prince of Wales while travelling in the East, says: "The Prince was at Hebron while we were there. He and his suite obtained permission to visit the Cave of Mochpelah, Abraham's burial place. They are the first Christians who have been allowed to enter it since the crusades, nearly 700 years ago. Dr. Stanley says everything is kept in the most beautiful order, and nothing could be more satisfactory than the state in which the tombs are preserved. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Sarah, Rebecca, and Leah are buried there.

OUR ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

HEADQUARTERS 31ST REGIMENT, P. V.
CAMP NEAR WEST POINT, May 11.

DEAR POST:—Two days on short rations (caused by our servants getting behind-hand) gave us an appetite to enjoy a sumptuous repast, viz: Fried crackers, fried beef, cold boiled beef, veal and vinegar, a little butter, do. catsup, coffee with sugar, etc, with a gusto. A mug of vinegar and water sweetened, with currant jelly, is carefully stowed in one corner to quench our thirst in the afternoon.

We left Williamsburg on Friday morning, halted here last night and are *waiting for orders.* The most of us have ascertained that a soldier's duty consists in moving when he is ordered, taking no time to get ready and asking no questions. We shall probably move to-morrow morning at daylight. Within a half mile of where we are encamped is a Virginia village, consisting of two houses, about half a mile apart and plenty of room for more houses, not yet laid out into city lots. From some rebel post bills, we ascertained that the post town is known as "Burnt Ordinary." "Hell's swamp," so called by the inhabitants here, is but a short distance.

The country is really most delightful, having wonderfully improved since we crossed the Warwick, (pronounced Warwick) and from the battle ground near Williamsburg hither is truly magnificent. From the Warwick to Hampton once the garden of Virginia, the country is truly God-forsaken in appearance, the soil being a sour clay, the stunted pines and other scrubby timber gradually encroaching upon the cultivated lands.

The weather since Monday last, has been very fine, and our men feel the inspiriting influences of our successes and the balmy atmosphere. We left a low swampy woods at Warwick, where "military necessity" required we should be encamped, and rolling grassy fields which have since been our resting places (with one dreadful exception, to-wit: last Monday night) made a pleasing, cheering and healthful contrast.

Our brigade was not engaged in the battle on Monday last, but Peck's brigade, of our Division, (not Peets', as spelled in the dispatches) was. The 12th Pennsylvania (Rowley's) Regiment was; and from the best information I can obtain, they sustained themselves nobly, being a long time under fire without flinching and doing the work for which others received the credit. I obtain this information from the best authority outside their regiment or brigade. No censure is intended upon any dispatch sent North, because it is almost impossible so soon after such an engagement to ascertain all the facts and give equal and exact praise to those who merit it. I only mention the circumstance, because, as a Pittsburgher, I want our people to receive the praise to which they are justly entitled.

Our General (Graham) is sick at Fortress Monroe, which undoubtedly impairs the efficiency of our brigade, but I know we still stand high at headquarters. I am very anxious that General Graham should be with us, inasmuch as he is cool and experienced. We have become accustomed to him and have every confidence in him. I neglected to say what I suppose is well known to you, that the battle at Williamsburg was only with the rear guard of the rebel army, they having some 10,000 or 15,000 men engaged, posted in strong entrenchments, making them equal to fifty thousand men in an open field. It was unquestionably well managed on their part, and enabled their main army to get well beyond us. Their loss of stores, artillery, &c, was not more than could be reasonably expected of even a well managed retreat, pressed as they were by our troops. We are now within thirty miles of Richmond, and I hear guns to the front which would indicate that the enemy are not far distant. Yours, D.

Extract From a Lotter Dated

BEAUFORT, S. C., May 8, 1862.

DEAR FATHER:—I perceive by some news papers, and other channels, that the "Roundhead Regiment" is reported suffering much from sickness, causing much uneasiness among our friends at home, besides doing us injustice. This you should have corrected. The fact is, we never enjoyed better health, and as evidence of such, have *but three on the sick list,* two of whom could do duty if required. The heat at times is oppressive, but a fine sea breeze sets in towards evening which is quite refreshing. Beaufort is a delightful, healthy place, to which we have just returned, being some time out on severe picket duty. Assure our friends in Pittsburgh and other places that we, as their "*Agents,*" in the "*Grand Drama,*" now being performed, are ready and willing to play our part. "Pray for the success of the 'Roundheads.'"

Affectionately, Yours,
W. R. McC.

Trade to Eastern Virginia.

We trust, says the New York *Times,* the policy of relaxing the blockade of the Southern coast will be extended as speedily as possible to Norfolk. The inhabitants of that section of Virginia, and of the whole Peninsula between the James and York rivers, are actually suffering for the necessaries of life. The rebel armies quartered among them for the winter consumed nearly all their grain and other provisions, and the subsequent passage of the Union troops completed their exhaustion. They need trade more than anything else. They have little money, it is true, that would be available here, but they have valuable property, and could doubtless obtain credit to an amount that would afford them very great relief. Nothing will strengthen the Union feeling more rapidly than a brisk and active trade with the North.

Hollins' Ram Manassas.

It was plated with railroad iron of a small pattern and cheap quality. It had a sharp proboscis, partly under water, and over this opened a trap-door. The lid of the door looked as if it might be propped up strongly and used as a bridge for boarding the enemy after he had received a blow of the iron snout. The whole machine was, perhaps, one hundred and twenty feet long, and thirty feet in the beam. As she floated slowly down the Mississippi, on fire, two boats from our vessels boarded her, and attempted, in vain, to move the hot and sinking mass to the bank. While they were so employed, the machine fired a gun from her iron nose. The shell burst harmless over the marsh.

The Norfolk Navy Yard.

The rebels succeeded in almost completely destroying the Navy Yard when they left. Hundreds of them were busy in setting fire to all the buildings and all the vessels, and next morning little remained but smoking ruins and a dismal desolation. The great eastern and western ship houses, the marine barracks, officer's quarters, smiths' shops, engine houses, &c., were all consumed. The rebels had built and launched two iron vessels, mounting four guns each, and built in water tight compartments, so as to be raised or sunk at pleasure. These were not intended to be propelled, but used as stationary batteries for harbor defence, or else to be towed out to operate against our wooden vessels.—They were burned, but not so seriously injured as to be entirely useless. A number of small vessels and schooners were also burned. Great efforts were made to destroy the dry dock, but they were unsuccessful.

The magnificent naval hospital remains untouched. Even the vandalism which has marked so many of the acts of the rebels during this war shrank from the sacrilege of firing this splendid structure.

First Edition.

LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

LATEST FROM THE ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

Gen. Pope's Division Within Three Miles of Corinth.

REFUGEES COMING NORTH.

DISSATISFACTION AMONG THE REBEL TROOPS.

NEW REBEL RAM AND GUNBOAT.

JEFF. THOMPSON MAKES A DEMONSTRATION.

THE CINCINNATI AFLOAT.

COLONEL PHELAN AND ONE HUNDRED PRISONERS CAPTURED.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Special from Cairo. The steamer Meteor, from Pittsburg, has arrived.

General Pope's Division has again advanced and now rests three miles from Corinth.

Deserters report that a great deal of hard feeling exists between the Missouri and Tennessee troops and those from the Southern States, the former urging that they have nothing to fight for, their States having been restored to the Union, and see no reason why they should be compelled to fight for the independence of the Cotton States.

The steamer Shinghiss, with forty Memphis refugees, arrived. They report that hundreds of others are making their way North as best they can.

A dispatch, from the fleet deserters, state that the rebel flotilla was reinforced by the arrival of a new ram, called Gen. Price, and the iron-clad gunboat Arkansas, from Memphis.

Jeff. Thompson landed part of his forces on the Arkansas shore, and made a demonstration on our land force. On Wednesday night our pickets were driven by the enemy, who now hold part of Point No. 127.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo., May 17.—Dispatches, just received from Col. Daniels' headquarters, near Bloomfield, Mo., contain accounts of the capture of the notorious Col. Phelan, of Jeff. Thompson's gang of marauders and over one hundred of his men; fifty men voluntarily gave themselves up, and expressed a desire to return to a quiet and peaceful life.

NEW YORK, May 18, 1862.

Letters from Port Royal by the steamer Atlantic report that the accession of the negro pilot Small, who ran away from Charleston with a rebel tug boat, is deemed more important than the heavy guns she contained, as Small is thoroughly acquainted with all the intricacies of the navigation in that region.

General Hunter's proclamation had been published in Charleston, and a negro insurrection there was imminent.

Vast preparations are making to bombard Savannah. Our gunboats have proceeded up the river, and our pickets are within four miles of Savannah. Massive batteries, mounting Parrot guns, have been erected all around the city.

Our troops have a portion of the railroad between Charleston and Savannah in their possession.

A negro regiment is being organized by Gen. Hunter, its officers being selected from the Massachusetts regiments, and the movement meets with favor, as they will be able to perform duties which will relieve our troops.

Foreign News.

SANDY HOOK, May 17.—The Great Eastern, from Milford Haven, has passed here on her way to New York.

The Paris Patrie says that the visit of the French Minister to Richmond was entirely political, and its purport was known to President Lincoln.

The following news is obtained from files of foreign papers brought by her:

The London Times, in an editorial on American affairs, says the true test of public feeling in the North will come when the taxes are collected. In the meantime, so long as the Federals are not absolutely winning, they are losers, whereas, so long as the Confederates are not actually subdued, they may regard themselves as winning. These are considerations which counterbalance the superiority of the North.

Captain Wilson, who captured the ship Emily St. Pierre, from a prize crew, has been formally presented by numerous Liverpool merchants with a valuable service of plate and gold chronometer, also with a sextant, from his crew, with two thousand pounds by the owners of the ship.—The Mercantile Marine Association of Liverpool had announced their intention to present him with a gold medal, and his cook and steward with silver medals.—Valuable money presents were also made to the cook and steward. Speeches, eulogistic of the Captain's act, were made on the occasion by several prominent merchants.

Additional arrests had been made at Warsaw for singing prohibited songs.

LONDON, May 7.—Parliament is engaged in discussing the educational question.—The government views are generally accepted.

The Morning Herald argues from the report of M. Mercier's mission to Richmond, that the beginning of the end is not far distant. It says that France and England suffer more than neutrals ever suffered from any contest.

LIVERPOOL, Tuesday, May 5.—The sales of cotton yesterday were 5,000 bales, the market being easier and from ⅛@¼c lower. Breadstuffs are still declining.

LONDON, May 6.—Consols 93⅞@94c.—American securities quiet but steady.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 16.—A recent order appoints Major Richard Nixon, of the 99th New York Volunteers, Assistant Provost Marshal of the District of Virginia, for the city of Norfolk and the surrounding country. Capt. Tallmadge, until recently Chief Quartermaster of this Department, has been ordered to relieve Captain Sawtelle, who has been performing the duties of the office for weeks past.

Captain Sawtille being a member of the staff of General McClellan, and at the request of the Chief Quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac, is relieved, and will report to General Viele.

Thirty-one rank and file, and three officers, taken prisoners by General McClellan, are on board the steamer Jno. Trucks, and will probably leave for Fort Delaware to-morrow morning. The same boat also takes north a number of sick and wounded soldiers.

General Wool visited Norfolk again today. It is in contemplation to remove the General Headquarters of this department to Norfolk.

There is no news from General McClellan's army to-day. He is pushing on as fast as practicable.

SKIRMISH NEAR RICHMOND.

Our Gunboats Galena, Monitor, Aroostook, Naugatuck and Port Royal Repulsed.

THE NUMBER OF KILLED AND WOUNDED NOT MENTIONED

LIEUT. MORRIS WOUNDED.

Skirmish at Linden, Va.

WASHINGTON, May 17, 11 o'clock P. M.—The following dispatch has just been received at the War Department:

To Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War:

WILLIAMSBURG, May 17.—The gunboats Galena, Monitor, Aroostook, Naugatuck and Port Royal, were repulsed from Fort Darling, seven miles below Richmond yesterday. A portion of them have returned to Jamestown Island, near this place, on the James river.

Lieut. Morris, commanding the Port Royal, sent overland to us this morning for intelligence in regard to the forts below the Island, and also to assist in burying the dead, which he brought down with him. Seventeen bodies have been interred on the banks of the river, and there are a number of wounded on board, including Lieut. Morris himself. The 100 pound gun of the Naugatuck exploded at the first fire.

(Signed) DAVID CAMPBELL,
Col. of the 5th Cavalry,
By authority of Gen. G. B. McCLELLAN.

WASHINGTON, May 17, 11 o'clock P. M.—Advices from Gen. Halleck's army, dated yesterday, and from Gen. McClellan's, dated to-day, have been received at the War Department. The former was in close proximity to the enemy, but no engagement had taken place. The latter was concentrating and bringing up supplies, preparatory to a movement.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The following is extracted from a dispatch to the Secretary of War, by General John W. Geary, dated

RECTORTOWN, Va. May 16th.

A company of infantry of my command was yesterday ordered to Linden to remain stationed there. A detachment of seventeen, guarding the company wagon, reached there a short time before the main body of the company, which was on a train, were attacked by a body of cavalry, variously estimated at from 200 to 600, coming upon them from four different directions. Our men resisted them, keeping up a sharp firing, under shelter of the depot, which was riddled with bullets. My men were overpowered, one was killed, and 14 taken prisoners, three of whom were wounded, when the enemy hastily retired under fire and some loss. I have been informed that a portion of Gen. Shields' command had a skirmish with them.

(Signed) JOHN W. GEARY,
Brig.-General Commanding.

RECTORTOWN, Va., May 17, via Washington, 18th.—A detachment of seventeen men of Company O, 28th regiment P. V., who reached Linden, Va., on the 15th, a short time in advance of reinforcements to that place, was attacked by a body of about four hundred and fifty cavalry, who dashed upon them from four directions. The men resisted them with sharp firing, under shelter of a depot, which bears severe marks of the contest. They were overpowered, and lost one killed and fourteen taken prisoners. The balance of the company came up, charged the cavalry, and compelled them to beat a hasty retreat, with some loss. Killed, Corporal Smith; captured, Corporal E. Bosen, and privates W. Glazer, J. Salkeld, T. White, G. Bauersachs, J. M. Funk, W. Cane, G. Snyder, A. Miles, S. Rinard, C. Maxwell, company M, and three privates 1st Michigan Cavalry, companies H and I.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, WHITE HOUSE.

(Signed) GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Maj. Gen. Commanding.

Important from the South.

CAIRO, May 17.—The Diligent, from Hickman, brought up the second load of refugees from Memphis and other points South to-day; all tell the same story of hardships endured in traveling by foot through wood and swamps, and subsisting upon such provisions as could be carried in their pockets. They were almost entirely composed of men in the prime of life. They bring Memphis papers of the 13th. We learn from the telegraphic columns of these papers that Pensacola was evacuated on the 12th. On the morning of that day the batteries of Santa Rosa Island, together with the fleet, commenced shelling the Rebel works, but there was no response.—After a short but vigorous cannonading, a flag of truce was sent ashore to discover the cause. No enemy whatever was found, and the Federal troops were to take possession the following day. No mention is made of the direction taken by the rebels.

Memphis papers contain accounts of the late naval engagement, but deny the loss of any boats, though they confess their fleet was badly cut up. The evacuation of Yorktown and Norfolk is pronounced a strategetical movement, by no means indicating a rebel defeat. Williamsburg is claimed as a rebel victory. According to their accounts, the Yankees were repulsed with great loss.

Refugees say military officers from Corinth, who are frequently in Memphis, complain bitterly of the loss the Southern cause sustains by Halleck's delay in attacking them. Beauregard has been ready for a week, and every day's delay weakens him. He has received all the men it is possible for him to procure all raw levies, while sickness rages through his camp to an alarming extent. Beauregard has placed an imperative embargo on letter writing from his camps. No soldier is permitted to send any written communication to friends. Union people in Memphis are reported sorely disheartened at the delay of our fleets. Anticipations of their arrival have been emboldened the utterance of Union sentiments, which got them into serious trouble. It is asserted that the fleet will have no difficulty after passing Fort Wright and the rebel fleet, while the country for a hundred miles about Corinth can be swept and obtained. The subsistence of the rebel army now is nearly exhausted. Serious embarrassments from this cause is expected.

Another Expedition.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—10:30.

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

A combined navy and army expedition under Capt. Murray, U. S. N., with troops and artillery under Maj. Willard and Capt. Ayers of the army, went some twenty-five miles up the Pomonkey to-day and forced the rebels to destroy two steamers and some twenty schooners. The expedition was admirably managed and all concerned deserve great credit. We have advanced considerably to-day. The roads are now improving. [Signed.]

G. B. M'CLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

Weldon Evacuated.

BALTIMORE, May 18.—The Old Point boat has arrived. No news.

It is rumored that Weldon has been evacuated by the rebels.

Second Edition.

THE VERY LATEST TELEGRAPH.

OUR ANMY NEAR CORINTH.

AN ATTACK EXPECTED ON SUNDAY—YESTERDAY.

SKIRMISHING EVERY DAY.

Beauregard Reported Gone Back to Virginia.

BEFORE CORINTH, May 17.—Latest advices from General Curtis, are that his forces, between Searcy and Little Rock, Arkansas, are rapidly marching on the Capital. General Rector called out the militia and people generally to come out. Large numbers applied to Curtiss for protection and desire to come under the old flag.

A general advance was made along our lines to-day towards Corinth. There was much skirmishing and several severe engagements. Gen. Sherman's Division lost forty-four killed and a considerable number of wounded, in attacking Russell's House, which the rebels occupied for some time past. Worrying pickets, we succeeded in driving the enemy from their position back to their works.—Our men are under arms, expecting an attack on Sunday morning. Among the killed which the rebels left on the field, was one with a sword supposed to be an officer.

Major General Sherman still occupies the Russell House. There was skirmishing with the Eighth Missouri only about three hundred yards from the enemy's breastworks. Several rifles captured in the skirmish on the right perfectly new, marked Breeze and Friemen, Bremen much superior to the rifles used by our sharpshooters, having a range of from twelve to fifteen hundred yards, while ours are only effective about a thousand yards. In all cases the rebels left on the field were shot in the head, the wounded were shot in the neck and breast.

The enemy left on the field about forty killed, and one hundred wounded.

Deserters from Corinth all report an entire absence of chloroform in the medical stores. There is probably none in the Confederacy.

Weather very warm. Roads quite dusty.

BEFORE CORINTH, May 15.—The Memphis Avalanche of the 13th contains the following from Fort Pillow:

On the 12th we fought the enemy, with four of our lightest boats, one hour and a half. We sunk one gunboat and two mortar boats. Our loss is two killed and eight wounded, that of the enemy very heavy, as our Sharpshooters literally mowed them down. We fought side by side with the enemy; not one shot passed through our breastworks; our upper works are riddled, but we are ready to butt again, and will be able to hold the river.

Speaking of the fall of Norfolk the Avalanche says: But worse than all, the Virginia, on which we so confidently rested, was burnt at Craney's Island on Saturday night. Such is the tenor of the brief and painful intelligence flashed over the wires.

There were three cases of yellow fever at New Orleans at last accounts, two at the Charity Hospital and one in the French Hospital.

It also says that it has been formally decided that Savannah will never be surrendered.

The Provost Marshal at Memphis has received instructions from the military authorities to require the banks at Memphis to take Confederate notes as currency and to arrest as disloyal all persons who refuse to receive them in ordinary business transactions.

The gunboats engaged in the late naval attack on Commodore Foote's fleet was commanded by Montgomery, assisted by Jeff. Thompson.

Flour is quoted at $20@$22 per barrel, Bacon at $30@$32, Sides and Sugar Cured Hams, $6@$7½. Molasses, 25 cents per gallon, Tobacco, no sale, for receipts or shipment. Corn, $1,40, Oats, $1,25.

Notwithstanding the Federal progress we have all confidence that Magruder will get to Richmond before M'Clellan advances.

It also thinks that for real and best security urges money holders to invest in real estate.

Arrangements have been effected between Gen's Halleck and Beauregard for exchanging surgeons. One hundred and fourteen prisoners were sent in by Beauregard to-day under a flag of truce, borne by Col. Pegram, of the army of Western Virginia notoriety. These prisoners have been confined at Columbus, Mississippi, some of them were taken in Missouri last summer. Before leaving Corinth one of their number was recognized by one of Price's men as one of the 25th Missouri, who was paroled at Lexington. Beauregard ordered him to be heavily ironed.

Gov. Morton and Adjt. Gen. Noble arrived to-day.

Special to the New York Times.

CAMP 19 MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG, May 11.

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

Without waiting further for official reports which have not yet reached me, I wish to bear testimony to the splendid conduct of Hooker's and Kearney's Divisions, under command of Gen. Heintzelman, in the battle of Williamsburgh. Their bearing was worthy of veterans. Hooker's Division for hours gallantly withstood the attack of greatly superior numbers with very heavy loss. Kearney's arrived in time to restore the fortunes of the day, shall probably have occasion to call attention to other commands, and do not wish to do injustice to them by mentioning them now. If I had had the full information I now have in regard to the troops above named when I first telegraphed, they would have been specially mentioned and commended. I spoke only of what I knew at the time, and I shall rejoice to do full justice to all engaged.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

Federals Taken Prisoners.

NEW YORK, May 18.—A special dispatch to the Tribune from Headquarters Mountain Department, Franklin, Va., dated Baltimore, May 17, says: Dispatches read this afternoon and evening, not official, but considered trustworthy at Headquarters, announce that Princeton, the capital of Mercer county, Va., where Gen. Cox's advance was stationed, were attacked and captured by a rebel force under Humphrey Marshall. This morning the place was recaptured and the rebels defeated by Gen. Cox. No particulars received. Scouts reports that the enemy in front of us have been reinforced.

CAIRO, May 17.—A special dispatch to the Chicago Tribune says that the gunboat Cincinnati has been got off the bottom of the river at Fort Wright. It was supposed that she would leave for Cairo yesterday.

The Memphis Appeal of the 11th states the rebel loss in the late naval engagement to have been eight killed and sixteen wounded.

Run Aground.

LOUISVILLE, May 18.—The steam ram Switzerland got aground in the Canal, preventing the passage of boats. The steamer [illegible] and [illegible], etc., for [illegible] is expected to return to [illegible] there is but two feet [illegible] falls. The Franklin will carry forward her stores.

Confirmation of Gen. Wool to a Major-Generalship—Runaway Fugitives—The President Perplexed about General Hunter's Proclamation.

WASHINGTON, May 16.

The Senate by acclamation, confirmed the nomination to a full Major Generalship of Gen. Wool.

A mother and three small children, alleged fugitives from Prince George's county, Md., were seized in the loyal black's quarters, on Capitol Hill, by Marshal Lamon, who, accompanied by Lawyer Bradley, three slaveholders and five soldiers, searched vainly for others, for whom he held process.

He is said to have held process for sixty or seventy. Already fifty others were returned to-day to Maryland masters.

The President says Hunter's proclamation was issued without his knowledge or authority. He is much exercised in mind about it, and says he not only had no authority to issue proclamations, but was especially enjoined not to meddle with matters political. But some of the most influential members of the Cabinet say it cannot but be endorsed by Government.

Edward Stanley and wife arrived to-night on their way from California.

The Niagara's mails have not yet arrived here.

Neither Mercier nor Lyons has any knowledge of the authenticity of the intervention rumors.

General Hamilton's abrupt dismissal from the command of a division, by McClellan, excites much sympathy here, where he is now.

CAIRO, May 18.—The steamer Swan, from Pittsburg, arrived. The news is unimportant. A picket skirmish had taken place, lasting nearly two days; the rebels were driven back, but not until they had succeeded in burning a bridge over a small stream, four miles from Corinth. Twelve of our men was reported wounded. The deserters continue to report a scarcity of provisions in the rebel camp; many of their cattle are starving for want of forage.

Guerrillas infest the country around Hickman, New Madrid, and other points committing depredations. News from the fleet states that several gunboats came around Craig Head Point yesterday on a reconnoiter. The Benton opened fire as soon as they came in range, when the rebels retired.

The gunboat Mound City having been thoroughly repaired goes down to-night.

Passengers by the Swan gives a current rumor that Bragg is in command at Corinth, Beauregard having returned to Virginia to reorganize the rebel army in the vicinity of Richmond.

Pensacola Navy Yard and Forts Burned.

BEFORE CORINTH, May 18.—The Mobile Advertiser and Register has the following special dispatch:

PENSACOLA May 10.—At twelve o'clock last night the Pensacola Navy Yard and forts were set on fire and destroyed. When the enemy discovered what was going on, Fort Pickens opened a furious bombardment and kept it up during the conflagration, but without doing damage to anybody at Pensacola. All public property, except the Custom House, incapable of being burned was moved, but all moveable Confederate peoperty had been saved. The railroad track leading out of the city towards Montgomery had been torn up this morning.

A Federal vessel with a flag of truce came up to the city today demanding a surrender. Major Bollbee refused to comply with the demand, but said that as all the military forces had left he had no power to oppose. The Federal officer then replied that he would occupy the city to-morrow, but that the inhabitants need not be alarmed.

Rebel Armed Steamer Delivered Up to our Fleet by a Contraband, a Charleston Pilot.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The following interesting report from Commander Parrott has been received at the Navy Department, having been forwarded by Commander Dupont:

UNITED STATES STEAMSHIP AUGUSTA, OFF CHARLESTON, May 13, 1862.

SIR:—I have the honor to inform you that the rebel armed steamer "Planter" was brought out to us this morning, from Charleston, by eight contrabands, and delivered up to the squadron. Five colored women and three children are also on board. She carried one thirty-two pounder and one twenty-four pounder howitzer, and has also on board four larger guns, which she was engaged in transporting. I send her to Port Royal at once, in order to take advantage of the present good weather. I send Charleston papers of the 12th, and the very intelligent contraband who was in charge will give you the information which he has brought off. I have the honor to request you will send back as soon as convenient the officer and crew sent on board.

Commander Dupont in forwarding this dispatch says, in relation to the rebel steamer Planter: She was the armed dispatch and transportation steamer attached to the engineer department at Charleston, under Brigadier General Tripley, whose bark a short time since was brought out to the blockading fleet by several contrabands.

The bringing out of this steamer under all the circumstances would have done credit to any one. At four in the morning, in the absence of the Captain, who was on shore, she left her wharf close to the Government office and headquarters, with the Palmetto and Confederate flags flying, passing the successive forts and saluting as usual by blowing her steam whistle. After getting beyond the range of the last gun, she quickly hauled down the rebel flags and hoisting a white one. The "Onward" was the inside ship of the blockading fleet in the main channel, and was preparing to fire when her commander made out the white flag. The armament of the steamer is thirty-two pounder or pivot gun and a fine 24 pounder howitzer. She has besides on her deck four other guns, one 7 inch, rifled, which was to be taken to the new fort on the middle ground. One of the four belonged to Fort Sumter and had been struck in the rebel attack on the fort, on the muzzle. Robert, the intelligent slave and pilot of the boat who performed this bold feat so skillfully, informed me of this fact, presuming it would be a matter of interest to us to have possession of this gun. This man Robert Small is superior to any who have come into our lines, intelligent as many of them have been. His information has been most interesting and portions of it of the utmost importance. The steamer is quite a valuable acquisition to the squadron by her good machinery and very light draft. The officer in charge brought her through St. Helena Sound, and by the inland passage down Beaufort river, arriving here at ten o'clock last night.

There were on board the steamer when she left Charleston eight men, five women and three children. I shall continue to employ Robert as pilot on board the Planter for the inland waters, with which he appears very familiar. I do not know whether in the views of the Government the vessel will be considered as a prize, but if so I respectfully submit to the Department the claims of this man Robert and his associates.—Very respectfully,

Your Ob't Servant,
S. F. DUPONT,
Flag Officer Commanding.

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Reed's Magnetic Oil cures Spinal Affections;
Reed's Magnetic Oil cures Neuralgia;
Reed's Magnetic Oil cures Weak Joints;
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