The Franklin Repository.

BY M'CLURE & STONER. CHAMBERSBURG, PA., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1864. VOL. 71...WHOLE NO. 3,668.

Franklin Repository.

Gen. M'Causland in Chambersburg!

HIGH CARNIVAL OF REBEL FIENDS!

$500,000 TRIBUTE DEMANDED AND REFUSED!

THE TOWN SACKED AND BURNED!

Indiscriminate Robbery of the Citizens!

Fifty Houses Fired in Ten Minutes!

Aged, Infirm, and Even the Dead Disregarded!

GOV. SMITH'S SON ONE OF THE THIEVING AND VANDAL CHIEFS!

GEN. JOHNSTON AND MAJ. GILMORE PRESENT!

Humane Exceptions Among the Rebels!

A BOISTEROUS COUNCIL OF WAR!

Rebel Officers Disobey M'Causland's Atrocious Commands!

Gen. Earley Author of the Order to Burn the Town!

LIST OF BUILDINGS DESTROYED!

Loss Nearly Three Millions!

INTERESTING INCIDENTS, &c.

We have given in our previous issues a full account of the movement of Gen. McCausland to Hagerstown, where $20,000 tribute was demanded, and paid, and the town saved. The rebel commander of the invading force, Gen. Jubal A. Earley, having moved rapidly toward Washington, the plundering parties of McCausland, Bradley Johnston and Gilmore, were ordered to move from Hagerstown to Frederick with all possible celerity, and we thus escaped at that time. Gen. Couch then had less than three hundred men in Chambersburg to defend it; but he called upon the citizens to aid him, and they responded very generally. Two companies of citizens were formed in a few hours, armed, uniformed with blouses, and sent out on the various roads, and all who could get possession of a weapon and ammuniton, had themselves in readiness to join in the defence of Chambersburg, had an ordinary cavalry raid been made at that time. The mounted commands of McCausland and Johnston were not half so strong as after their raid to Washington, as several thousand infantry were supplied with stolen horses, and added to the raiding force of the insurgents.

PRELIMINARY MOVEMENTS OF THE ARMY.

The defeat of Crooks and Averill near Winchester, when pursuing the retreating rebels, was the first intimation given the border of another invasion; and even then little danger was apprehended, as Hunter's army was known to have been brought to Martinsburg, and rested and re-organized, and the 6th and 19th corps were also known to be on the line of the Potomac. On Wednesday the 27th ult., it was known at headquarters here that our entire force was north of the Potomac, and the line from Hancock to Harper's Ferry was well picketed. *Gen. Couch had no troops—not even an organized battalion on the border.* He had organized six or seven regiments of one hundred days men; but as fast as they were officered and armed they were forwarded to Washington, in obedience to orders from the authorities. He was left, therefore, with no force whatever to defend the border. The national authorities had persistently refused to uniform the citizens of the border, and thus enable them to organize for their own defence without exposing themselves to certain butchery in case of capture; and the border was thus entirely defenceless. Gen. Averill was still between us and the enemy, and it was hoped that in case of an advance, he could, with the aid of citizens, successfully defend Chambersburg, which was known to be a place in which McCausland longed to glut his infernal vengeance. Hunter was compelled to manœuvre so as to prevent Earley from getting between him and Washington, and therefore could not devote his attention to defence against raids. Had Earley drawn him up the Potomac and then hastily moved upon Washington, it would have been defenceless, and must have fallen.

THE REBELS RECROSS THE POTOMAC.

On Thursday the 28th ult., the rebels recrossed the Potomac at three different points—McCausland, Johnston and Gilmore, with three thousand mounted men and two batteries, below Hancock, and moved towards Mercersburg.—They reached Mercersburg at 6, P. M., where they met Lieut. McLean, a most gallant young officer in the regular service, with about twenty men. His entire command numbered forty-five and he had to detach for scouting and picket duty more than half his force. So suddenly did they dash into Mercersburg that they cut the telegraph wire before their movement could be telegraphed, and it was not until ten o'clock that night that Lieut. McLean got a courier through to General Couch with the information. In the meantime, two other columns crossed the same morning—Generals Vaughn and Jackson with over 3,000 mounted men at Williamsport, and moved toward Hagerstown. Gen. Averill fell back to Greencastle during the day, and a small column of the enemy advanced five miles this side of Hagerstown, where they encamped that night. Another column crossed at Shepperdstown the same morning and appeared near Leitersburg on Gen. Averill's left in the course of the evening, but advanced no further. Gen. Averill was thus threatened in front and on both flanks by three columns, each larger than his own; was isolated from Hunter, his chief officer, and his whole reserve in case he fell back upon Chambersburg, was Gen. Couch and staff, Lieut. McLean's little command of less than fifty men, some sixty infantry and a section of artillery. It must be remembered too, that his command was utterly exhausted; having been on duty almost day and night for a week, and previously broken down by the movement of Gen. Hunter upon Lynchburg and his retreat to Charleston. While it seems clear that Gen. Averill could have saved Chambersburg had he fallen back to this point instead of halting at Greencastle, we are unwilling to censure him, or to hold him responsible for the sad record that M'Causland has given to the history of our town. If but one column had threatened him, or had reinforcements been in his rear, he would doubtless have met every expectation of our people. He is a brave and gallant officer—has well earned his fame, and it should not be hastily tarnished.

Gen. Couch, as we have stated, had no troops either here, or within reach of this point, with which to oppose the rebel advance. A few companies of infantry, but half organized one hundred day men, were thrown forward from Harrisburg to Averill on the morning before the Mercersburg movement was known, and they remained there under his orders. All the troops General Couch had were on picket duty, or with Lieut. M'Lean, who gallantly embarrassed M'Causland's advance at every step. He had not even a guard to spare to arrest the stream of stragglers and deserters from Hunter's army—chiefly one hundred days' men. Scores of them passed through, mostly without arms, and had they been arrested they would probably have been valueless.

GEN. AVERILL'S MOVEMENTS.

Gen. Averill was under orders from General Hunter, *and not subject to the order of General Couch.* He was advised by Gen. Couch by telegraph of the rebel occupation of Mercersburg, and the movement toward this point, which turned Averill's right flank and rear, and urged to fall back if possible and cover this point and save his flanks; but for reasons, which we believe will yet be satisfactorily explained, Gen. Averill did not move from Greencastle until morning, and then he made a circuit by Mount Hope, doubtless to protect his left and save his command from a combined attack by the several columns which had advanced from the river. His trains were sent here about 6 P. M., with a strong guard, and squads of disabled and demoralized men; but they were moved toward Shippensburg at 1 A. M. on Friday morning, and the guard, of course, went with them. Gen. Averill did not reach here until about 3 P. M. on Saturday—nearly five hours after the rebels had burned the town and retreated Westward.

MOVEMENTS AT COUCH'S HEADQUARTERS.

Gen. Couch was troopless and therefore helpless as a commander. His failure to secure the aid of Gen. Averill, and the steady advance of the rebels, made it evident that he could not hold the town, even if every citizen in it had fought resolutely by his side; and as the sequel shows, he apprehended that an unsuccessful resistance in which citizens were engaged, against a fiendish foe like M'Causland, would but swell the measure of rebel vengeance. Lieut. M'Lean was driven to the western turnpike at St. Thomas by 1 A. M. on Friday morning, and resolved to retard the advance of the enemy as long as possible to enable the stores and trains to be sent off.—All the government stores, railroad trains, &c., were ordered to be ready for immediate removal, and they were all saved—the last train leaving the depot when the rebels were on the hill west of town. At 3 A. M. Lieut. M'Lean reported that he had been driven into the town at the western toll-gate, and urged the immediate movement of the trains. As the stores were not yet all ready for shipment, Major Maneely, of Gen. Couch's staff took one gun, with a squad of men, and planted it on the hill a short distance west of the Fair Ground. As it was yet dark his force could not be reconnoitered by the enemy, and when he opened on them they halted until daylight enabled them to see that they had no adequate force to oppose them. By this gallant exploit the rebels were delayed outside of the town until the stores were all saved, and Gen. Couch left the depot as the rebels entered the western part of the town. Lieut. M'Lean and his command and Maj. Maneely being well mounted, escaped before the rebels got into the main part of the town. Major Maneely killed one rebel and wounded five by the first fire of his gun.

WHY GEN. COUCH HAD NO TROOPS.

It seems inexplicable to persons and journals at a distance that Gen. Couch, a Major General commanding a Department, with his border repeatedly invaded, should have no troops. The natural inclination is to blame the commander, for it is reasonable to suppose that he would endeavor to have an adequate command, and also that ample authority would be given him to have sufficient force. Just where the blame belongs, we do not choose now to discuss; but we do know that it was no fault of Gen. Couch that he was unable to defend Chambersburg. He organized a Provost Guard Regiment some 1200 strong, expressly for duty in his department—the men were enlisted under a positive assurance, based on the order organizing the organization, that they were to be kept on duty in the Department. They were ordered to Gen. Grant after the battles of the Wilderness. He organized six regiments of one hundred days' men before the advent of McCausland. They were ordered to Washington as soon as they were ready to move. We are assured that Gov. Curtin, fully two weeks before the burning of Chambersburg, formally pledged the State to make provision for arming, organizing, and paying the entire militia force of the border for home defence, if the general government would simply give the uniforms; and we believe that Gen. Couch pressed it upon the Washington authorities to uniform the entire force of the southern counties—assuring them that the people were willing to defend themselves if encouraged by granting them uniforms, so as to save them from inhuman butchery, but it was denied. We do not speak advisedly as to Gen. Couch's correspondence with the Washington authorities—we give no statements at his instance or based upon information received from him or his officers; but we do write whereof we know, when we say that every effort was made to carry these measures into effect, and that they were not sanctioned at Washington. While we do not assume to fix the responsibility of this terrible disaster, we do mean that it shall not fall upon a commander who was shorn of his strength and left helpless with his people.

THE REBELS ENTER CHAMBERSBURG.

The rebels having been interrupted in their entrance into town until daylight, they employed their time in planting two batteries in commanding positions and getting up their whole column, fully 3,000 strong. About 6 A. M. on Saturday morning they opened with their batteries and fired some half a dozen shots into the town, but they did no damage. Immediately thereafter their skirmishers entered by almost every street and alley running to west and south-west; and finding the way clear, their cavalry, to the number of about 450 came under the immediate command of Gen. M'Causland. General Bradley Johnston was with him, and also the notorious Maj. Harry Gilmore.

PLUNDERING PROMPTLY COMMENCED.

While M'Causland and Gilmore were reconnoitering around to get a deal with the citizens for tribute, his soldiers exhibited the proficiency of their training by immediate and almost indiscriminate robbery. Hats, caps, boots, watches, silver-ware, and everything of value were appropriated from individuals in the streets without ceremony; and when a man was met whose appearance indicated a plethoric purse, a pistol would be presented to his head with the order to "deliver," with a dexterity that would have done credit to the free-booting accomplishments of an Italian brigand.

TRIBUTE DEMANDED.

Gen. M'Causland rode up to a number of citizens and gave notice that unless $500,000 in greenbacks, or $100,000 in gold was paid in half an hour, the town would be burned; but no one responded to his call. He was promptly answered that Chambersburg could not and would not pay any ransom. No committee was appointed, and no individuals attempted to deal with the arch-fiend who had come at once to rob and destroy. He had the Court House bell rung to convene the citizens, hoping to frighten them into the payment of a large sum of money; but no one attended. No effort of effort was made either by individuals singly or in organized capacities to make terms—all had resolved that the free-booter should fulfil his threat rather than pay tribute. Infuriated at the determination of our people, Major Gilmore rode up to a group of citizens, consisting of Thomas B. Kennedy, William M'Lellan, J. M'Dowell Sharpe, Dr. J. C. Richards, Wm. H. M'Dowell, W. S. Everett, Edward Etter and M. A. Foltz, and ordered them under arrest. He said that they would be held for the payment of the money, and if not paid he would take them to Richmond as hostages and also burn every house in town. While he was endeavoring to force them into an effort to raise the money, his men commenced the work of firing, and they were discharged when it was found that intimidation would effect nothing.

BURNING OF CHAMBERSBURG.

The main part of the town was enveloped in flames in ten minutes. No time was given to remove women or children, or sick, or even the dead. No notice of the kind was communicated to any one; but like infuriated fiends from hell itself the work of destruction was commenced. They did not have anything to learn in the horrid trade—they proved themselves experts in their calling. They divided into squads, and fired every other house, and often every house, if they presented any prospect of plunder. They would beat in the door with iron bars or heavy plank, smash up any furniture with an ax, throw fluid or oil upon it, and ply the match. They almost invariably entered every room of each house, rifled the drawers of every bureau, appropriating money, jewelry, watches and any other valuables, and often would present pistols to the heads of inmates, men and women, and demand money or their lives. In nearly half the instances they demanded owners to ransom their property, and in a few cases it was done and the property burned. Although we have learned of a number of persons, mostly widows, who paid them sums from $25 to $200, we know of but one case where the property was saved thereby. Mr. James Kennedy, near town, saved his buildings by the payment of $200. The main object of the men seemed to be plunder. Not a house escaped rifling—all were plundered of everything that could be carried away. In most cases houses were entered in the rudest manner, and no time whatever allowed even for the families to escape, much less to save anything. Many families had the utmost difficulty to get themselves and children out in time and not one-half had so much as a change of clothing with them. They would rush from story to story to rob, and always fire the building at once in order to keep the family from detecting their robberies. Feeble and helpless women and children were treated like brutes—told insolently to get out or burn; and even the sick were not spared. Several invalids had to be carried out as the red flames licked their couches. Thus the work of desolation continued for two hours; more than half of the town on fire at once, and the wild glare of the flames; the shrieks of women and children, and often louder than all the terrible blasphemy of the rebels, conspired to present such a scene of horror as has never been witnessed by the present generation. No one was spared save by accident. The widow and the fatherless cried and plead in vain that they would be homeless and helpless. A rude oath would close all hope of mercy, and they would fly to save their lives. The old and infirm who tottered before them were thrust aside and the torch applied in their presence to hasten their departure. So thoroughly were all of them master of the trade of destruction that there is scarcely a house standing in Chambersburg to-day that they attempted to burn, although their stay did not exceed two hours. In that brief period, the major portion of Chambersburg—its chief wealth and business—its capital and elegance, were devoured by a barbarous foe; three millions of property sacrificed; three thousand human beings homeless and many penniless; and all without so much as a pretence that the citizens of the doomed village, or any of them, had violated any accepted rule of civilized warfare. Such is the deliberate, voluntary record made by Gen. Earley, a corps commander in the insurgent army. The government may not take summary vengeance, although it has abundant power to do so; but there is One whose voice is most terrible in wrath, who has declared—"Vengeance is Mine—I will repay!"

INCIDENTS OF THE BURNING.

We find it impossible to make room for all the many touching incidents which occurred in the burning of the town. The house of Mr. James Watson—an old and feeble man of over eighty, was entered, and because his wife earnestly remonstrated against the burning they fired the room, hurled her into it and locked the door on the outside. Her daughters rescued her by bursting in the door before her clothing took fire. Mrs. Conner, the widow of a Union soldier, who has no means of support, got on her knees and begged to save her and her little ones from the fury of rebel wrath; but while she was thus pleading for mercy, they fired her little home, and stole $10 from her—the only money she had in the world. Mr. Wolfkill, a very old citizen, and prostrated by sickness so that he was utterly unable to be out of bed, plead in vain to be spared a horrible death in the flames of his own house; but they laughed at his terror and fired the building. Through the superhuman efforts of some friends he was carried away safely. Mrs. Lindsey, a very feeble lady of nearly eighty, fainted when they fired her house, and was left by the fiends to be devoured in the flames; but fortunately a relative reached the house in time, and lifting her in a buggy in the stable pulled her away while the flames were kissing each other over their heads on the street. Mrs. Kuss, wife of the Jeweller on Main Street, lay dead; and although they were shown the dead body, they plied the torch and burned the house. Mrs. J. K. Shryock was there with Mrs. Kuss's dying babe in her arms, and plead for the sake of the dead mother and dying child to spare that house, but it was unavailing. The body of Mrs. Kuss was hurriedly buried in the garden, and the work of destruction went on. The next day it was taken up and interred in the Catholic graveyard. When the flames drove Mrs. Shryock out with the child, she went to one of the men and presenting the dying babe, asked—"*Is this revenge sweet?*" A tender chord was touched, and without speaking he burst into tears. He afterwards followed Mrs. Shryock, and asked whether he could do anything for her; but it was then too late. The babe has ceased to be motherless, for it shares a mother's sepulchre. The houses of Messrs. M'Lellan, Sharpe and Nixon were saved miraculously. They are situated east of the railroad, and out of the business part of the town. They were not reached until the rest of the town was in flames, and the roads were streaming with homeless women and children. Mr. M'Lellan's residence was the first one entered, and he was notified that the house must be burned. Mrs. M'Lellan immediately stepped to the door, and laying one hand on the rebel officer, and pointing with the other to the frantic fugitive women and children passing by, said to him—"*Sir, is not your vengeance glutted? We have a home and can get another: but can you spare no homes for those poor, helpless people and their children? When you and I and all of us shall meet before the Great Judge, can you justify this act?*" He made no reply, but ordered his command away, and that part of the town was saved. Mrs. Louis Shoemaker rushed up stairs when they fired her house to save some valuables, and returned with some silver spoons in her hand. She found the rebels quarreling over a valuable breast-pin of hers—several claiming it by right of discovery, and the dispute was ended, for the time at least, by one rudely taking the spoons from Mrs. Shoemaker and dividing them among the squad. Mrs. Denig escaped by wetting blankets and throwing them around her, thus enabling her to get out through the burning buildings in the rear of her house. The residence of Mr. M'Elwaine was burned by a squad of rebels, who first demanded and procured their breakfast from him, because he was guilty of teaching colored children, and he was fired at as he made his escape. S. M Royston, bar-keeper at Montgomery's Hotel, was robbed on his way down stairs of $700—all the savings of his life. He was met by a squad of rebels, and dexterously relieved of his money and all valuables. Mr. Holmes Crawford was taken into an alley while his house was burning, and his pockets rifled. All he had about him was $1.60, and that was appropriated. He was thus detained until it was impossible for him to get out by the street, and he had to take his feeble wife and sit in the rear of his lot until the buildings burned around him. Father M'Cullom, Catholic Priest of this place, was robbed of his watch. He was sitting on his porch, and a party of rebels came up and peremptorily demanded his watch, which he delivered. He was also robbed of his watch last year by Jenkins' men—the same command that burned Chambersburg. Col. Stumbaugh was arrested near his home early in the morning, and with pistol presented to his head ordered to procure some whisky. He refused, for the very good reason that he had none and could get none. He was released, but afterwards re-arrested by another squad, the officer naming him, and was insulted in every possible way. He informed the officer that he had been in the service, and that if Gen. Battles was present, they would not dare to insult him. When asked why, he answered—"I captured him at Shiloh, and treated him like a soldier." A rebel Major present, who had been under Battles, upon inquiry, was satisfied that Col. Stumbaugh's statement was correct; ordered his prompt release, and withdrew the entire rebel force from that part of Second Street, and no buildings were burned. Col. Boyd's residence—"Federal Hill," was also put under guard, when Mrs. Boyd informed them who lived there. They had some recollections of Col. Boyd occasionally penetrating the Shenandoah Valley, and it was not deemed wholesome to burn his property. Mr. John Treher, of Loudon, was robbed by the rebels of $200 in gold and silver, and $100 in currency. The money was in a bureau drawer, but it was most dexterously appropriated by the scienced light-fingered gentry of M'Causland. They also stole all his liquors. Mr. D. R. Knight, an Artist, started out to the residence of Mr. McClure when he saw Norland on fire, and on his way he was robbed of all his money by a squad of rebels. He reached the house in time to aid in getting the women away. Rebel officers had begged of him before he started to get the women out of town as fast as possible, as many rebel soldiers were intoxicated and they feared the worst consequences.

BURNING OF NORLAND.

Soon after the work of destruction had commenced, a squad was detailed to burn "Norland," the residence of A. K. M'Clure. It is situated a mile from the centre of the town, and no other building was fired within half a mile of it, although fifty houses stand between it and the burnt portion of Chambersburg. The squad was commanded by Capt. Smith, son of Gov. Smith, (Extra Billy) of Virginia, whose beautiful residence near Warrenton has ever been carefully guarded by Union troops when within our lines. The mother and sisters of the officer who fired "Norland" have lived in peace and safety in their home, under federal guards, since the war commenced. With the cry of "retaliation," Captain Smith preceeded to Mr M'Clure's residence. Passing the beautiful mansion of Mr. Eyster, he supposed he had reached the object of his vengeance and he alighted and met Mr. Eyster at the door. "Col. M'Clure, I presume," said the chivalrous son of Virginia. "No sir—my name is Eyster," was the reply. "Where is M'Clure's house?" was the next interrogatory. As the property was evidently doomed, and in sight, Mr. Eyster could only answer that it was farther out the road, and the noble warrior passed on. He found Mrs. M'Clure quite ill—having been confined to her bed for ten days previous. He informed her that the house must be burned by way of retaliation—for what particular wrong, he did not seem anxious to explain. He magnanimously stated that she should have ten minutes to get the family out of the house and away; and to prove his sincerity, he at once fired the house on each story. To convince Mrs. M'Clure that he was a chivalrous foe, he ordered her to open her Secretary while the house was in flames around her and, evidently ambitious to show his literary taste and acquirements he commenced to read her private letters. Mrs. M'Clure informed him that he would doubtless be disappointed in her assortment of literature, as her husband had no papers or letters in the house; but as he seemed desirous to read something, she would commend to him a letter she had just received the day before from a rebel prisoner, invoking the blessing of Heaven upon her and hers for kind ministrations to a foe. The writer had been here with Lee, in June, 1863, and was on guard at the house, and was of course treated kindly. The sick of the same command, as well those of M'Causland's forces—then under Jenkins—were all humanely cared for by Mrs. M'Clure; and the author of the letter, having since been captured, and suffering from sickness and destitution, wrote her some time before stating his condition. That she had not turned a deaf ear even to a foe when suffering, is evidenced by the acknowledgement presented to Capt. Smith, which was as follows:

PRISONER'S CAMP, PT. LOOKOUT, Md., July 20, 1864.

MRS. M. S. M'CLURE.

Madam:—It is with feelings of intense gratitude I acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date of 21st June, enclosing —— dollars. Words are inadequate to express my gratitude for so kind, so benevolent and unexpected a favor. I can only simply say—many thanks, and may God bless you. I have a mother and sisters; and your letter I shall retain and convey to them in order that they may see the christian kindness of one who is against us, and urge that they may emulate your example, and never be backward when an opportunity is offered in giving aid to a needy Federal soldier.

As it may never be in my power to reciprocate the favor received at your hands, my prayer is that God may reward you for it. * * * With best wishes for your health and happiness, and trusting that this dark war cloud may soon be dispelled and peace and happiness and prosperity once more smile upon us,

I am, Madam with much Respect,
Your Obedient Servant,
JAMES B. STAMP,
Co. C, 9th Division.

Such a letter was not just the entertainment to which the imperious son of the South considered himself invited. Instead of retaliating for wrongs done, he found himself about to apply the torch where friend and foe had found solace in distress—even his own men having been mercifully ministered to there by the one over whose aching head and enfeebled limbs he was inviting the fury of the flames. He read the letter and answered—"*This is awful—it is awful to burn this house!*" and in vindication of his contrition, he left Mrs. M'Clure to escape from the fire while he proceeded to the adjoining room and, in a fit of remorse, stole Mr. M'Clure's gold watch and other articles of value which might adorn the elegant mansion of the Governor of Virginia at Warrenton. Fortunately Mrs. M'Clure had some of her own clothing in a trunk, and one of the squad kindly aided her in getting it out of the house, and it was saved, but nothing belonging to Mr. McClure was allowed to be removed. Mrs. Rev. Niccolls, who had rushed to the house, was caught on the stairs with a coat on her arms, and it was rudely taken from her with the remark—"saving anything belonging to *him* is expressly forbidden." In five minutes the house was enveloped in flames, and Mrs. M'Clure, and the other members of the family at home, started on foot, in the heat of the day, to escape the vengeance of the chivalry. The torch was thrust into the large, well-filled barn, and in half an hour a few charred walls was all that remained of "Norland." Capt. Smith could conceal the watch and other articles he purloined at "Norland" as trophies of his valor, but the silver pitcher was unwieldy, and could not be secreted from profane eyes as he rode back through town from the scene of his triumph. He resolved therefore to give a public display of his generosity. He stopped at Rev. Mr. Kennedy's, and handed the pitcher to his wife, with the request—"please deliver this to Mrs. Col. M'Clure with the compliments of Capt. Smith." The goblets were strapped to the saddle of one of his squad, and the watch could be pocketed to prevent the tell-tale qualities of the pitcher, and they were borne off to the land of heroic warriors and noble blood. The watch stolen by Capt. Smith was presented to Mr. M'Clure by some friends as a testimonial for his services as Chairman of the State Committee in 1860; bears an engraving to that effect, and is worth $500.

CORRECTION.

The following card explains itself fully:

To the Editor of the New York Times:

Your correspondent writing from the southern border of Pennsylvania, says in the *Times* of the 4th inst:

"I was informed by a gentleman on the train that Col. M'Clure paid $5,000 as a ransom for his threatened property, and after all the scoundrels set the torch to his house, and it now stands a smoking ruin."

The foregoing statement has not the shadow of truth. I paid no sum of money to ransom my property, nor did any one for me; and although my loss is scarcely less than $50,000, not one dollar of tribute would have been paid to barbarous freebooters to save it. I was not present, but no member of my family would have entertained a proposition of any kind to ransom anything belonging to them or me.
A. K. M'CLURE.
CHAMBERSBURG, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

CAPT. SMITH'S IDENTITY.

Capt. Smith, the worthy son of a noble Virginia sire, now Governor of what treason has left of the Old Dominion, gave his name and parentage at "Norland," and also at Rev. James F. Kennedy's. It seems that the residences of ministers were not to be burned, and he gave the following order to Mr. Kennedy:

CHAMBERSBURG, July 30, 1864.
Rev. James F. Kennedy's house is not to be burned—positively prohibited. By order of Brig. Gen. M'Causland.
F. W. SMITH, A. A. D. C.

The order was hastily written with lead pencil, but in a very legible hand, while he was delivering Mrs. M'Clure's pitcher to Mrs. Kennedy, and declaring by way of justification of his conduct, that his father's house had been burned by our troops—a statement he knew to be false.

HUMANE REBEL OFFICERS.

Fiendish and relentless as were M'Causland and most of his command, there were notable exceptions who bravely maintained the humanities of war in the midst of the infuriated free-booters who were plying the torch and securing plunder. Surgeon Budd was conversing with several citizens when the demand for tribute was made, and he assured all present that the rebel commander would not burn Chambersburg. In the midst of his assurances, the flames burst forth almost simultaneously in every part of the town. When he saw the fire break out, he wept like a child, and publicly denounced the atrocities of his commander. He took no part in it whatever, save to aid some unfortunate ones in escaping from the flames. Capt. Baxter, formerly of Baltimore, peremptorily refused to participate in the burning; but aided many people to get some clothing and other articles out of the houses. He asked a citizen as a special favor to write to his friends in Baltimore and acquit him of the hellish work. Surgeon Richardson, another Baltimorean, gave his horse to a lady to get some articles out of the burning town, and publicly deplored the sad work of M'Causland. When asked who his commanding officer was, he answered—"Madam, I am ashamed to say that Gen. M'Causland is my commander!" Capt. Watts manfully saved all of Second street south of Queen, and with his command aided to arrest the flames. He said that he would lose his commission rather than burn out defenceless people, and other officers and a number of privates displayed every possible evidence of their humanity. One whole company was kept by its Captain—name unknown—from burning and pillaging, and the South-eastern portion of Chambersburg stands to-day solely because an officer detailed there kept his men employed in aiding people out of their burning houses, and did not apply the torch at all. After the rebels had left, the following note was received by Rev. S. J. Niccolls, Presbyterian Pastor, written on an envelope with a pencil:

REV. MR. NICCOLLS: Please write my father and give him my love. Tell him, too, as Mrs. Shoemaker will tell you, that I was most strenuously opposed to the burning of the town.
B. B. BLAIR,
Chaplain and son of Thos. P. Blair, Shippensburg, Pa.

That there was a most formidable opposition to burning the town in McCausland's command was manifested in various ways. In the morning before daylight, when McCausland was at Greenawalt's on the turnpike west of Chambersburg, a most boisterous council was held there at which there were earnest protests made to McCausland against burning anything but public property. McCausland was greatly incensed at some of his officers, and threatened them with most summary vengeance if they refused to obey orders. Many, however, did openly disobey, and went even so far as to give the utmost publicity to their disobedience.

THE ORDER TO BURN CHAMBERSBURG.

Capt. Fitzhugh exhibited to J. W. Douglas, Esq., an Attorney of this place, a written order with the name of Jubal A. Early to it, directing that Chambersburg should be burned in retaliation for the burning of six houses in Virginia by Hunter. The burning of Chambersburg was therefore by order of one of the Corps Commanders of Gen. Lee's army, instead of the work of a guerilla chief, thus placing the responsibility squarely upon the shoulders of Gen. Lee. We have in support of this the statement of Rev. Mr. Edwards, Episcopal clergyman of Hagerstown, who was taken as a hostage after Chambersburg had been destroyed. He was brought to Gen. Early's Headquarters at Williamsport, and there paroled to effect his exchange. Gen. Early there informed him that he had directed Chambersburg to be burned in retaliation for the destruction of property in Virginia by Grant, Meade and Hunter, and that the account was now squared. There may be two parties to the auditing of that account.

RETRIBUTION.

A number of the thieves who participated in burning Chambersburg, were sent suddenly to their last account. An officer, whose papers identify him as Major Bowen, 8th Virginia cavalry, was conspicuous for his brutality and robberies. He got too far south of the firing parties to be covered by them, and in his desire to glut his thieving propensities, he was isolated. He was captured by several citizens, in the midst of his brutal work, and was dispatched promptly.—When he was fired at and slightly wounded, he took refuge in the burning cellar of one of the houses, and there with the intense heat blistering him, he begged them to spare his life; but it was in vain. Half the town was still burning, and it was taxing humanity rather too much to save a man who had added the boldest robbery to atrocious arson. He was shot dead and now sleeps near the Falling Spring, nearly opposite the Depot. He was about five feet five inches in heighth, very stoutly built, with sandy hair, goatee and moustach, sandy complexion, full face and from 35 to 40 years of age.

Two men entered the Drug Store of Mr. Miller, and in their haste and confusion got the front door locked, and could not escape speedily after they had fired the store. Mr. Miller was standing in the hall of his house, which communicates with the store, and with his double-barreled shot gun he brought both down to find sepulchres in the ashes of his house. We do not learn that they blessed the name of McCausland as their bronzed skin blistered and withered beneath the flames he had ordered. Mr. Thomas H. Doyle, of Loudon, who had served in Easton's battery, followed the retreating rebels toward Loudon, to capture stragglers. When beyond St. Thomas he caught Capt. Cochran, Quater Master of 11th Va. cavalry, and as he recognized him as one who had participated in the destruction of Chambersburg, he gave him just fifteen minutes to live. Cochran was armed with sword and pistols, but he was taken so suddenly by Mr. Doyle that he had no chance to use them. He begged piteously for his life, but Mr. Doyle was inexorable—the foe who burns and robs must die, and he so informed him peremptorily. At the very second he shot the whining thief dead, and found on his person $815 of greenbacks, all stolen from our citizens, and $1,750 of rebel currency. His sword, belt and pistols were brought to this place by Mr. Doyle. He did not lisp the name of McCausland with reverence or pride as he begged to be spared the just doom his deeds merited. Scores of McCausland's command were killed on the retreat by Gen. Averill's forces. Many of them were intoxicated, and all demoralized by plunder, and they became an easy prey to the vengeance of our troops who passed through the burning town in the pursuit of the barbarians.

THE ACCUSING SPIRIT.

The fiends in human shape who passed to their final account in the midst of their own infernal work, did not reach the Great Judge without an accuser. Daniel Parker, once a "thing," a "chattel," a "slave," in the parlance and by the laws of the superior race who teach nobility and chivalry by making the widow and fatherless homeless and penniless, was the only victim unto death of rebel brutality. He had seen the North star in his earlier days, and although untutored, in obedience to the statutes which enslaved him, he followed the beacon light of heaven to freedom. He had lived quietly, soberly and industriously in our midst until he had filled the measure of patriarchal years, respected by all who knew him. He was enfeebled by age and infirmities, and his humble home excited the vengeance of the lordly sons of the South. They fired his house, and he was so injured by the flames before he could escape that he died the same night, and his spirit, cleansed of the stain of color and caste as stamped by man, passed with his murderers, who found resting places amidst the ashes of their own desolation, to the bar of Him who judges only in righteousness. Despite the wicked war they have thrown like a pall over a great and free people on the pretext of equality of races, *they* found a tribunal from which there is no appeal, where chattel and master, slave and lord, meet equal justice, and equal mercy. Murderers and accuser bid a final farewell to the same waning sun, and thenceforth forever became equals!

GEN. M'CAUSLAND'S NATIVITY.

A correspondent sends us the following as to the nativity of the vandal chief M'Causland: Frequent inquiries are daily made regarding the nativity of the fiend M'Causland. Some allege that he was born in New York State, while others think that he must certainly have first seen the light in the South. The matter seems to be important inasmuch as the individual will have a very prominent and interesting page in the history of the rebellion; but he has settled the question himself and removed cause for further dispute. In a conversation with Rev. Mr. Edwards, of Hagerstown, M'Causland said *he was from hell.* For a verification of his statement witness Chambersburg in ruins.

BUILDINGS BURNED.

The following is a correct list of the buildings burned by the rebels in Chambersburg:

SOUTH SIDE OF MARKET.

Jacob Wolfkill—Two story Frame front and one story Brick back building.......... $700
Patrick Campbell's heir—Two story Brick front and one story Frame back building.......... 700
Peter M'Gaffigan—Two story Log front and one story Brick back building.......... 600
James C. Austin—Two story Brick front and back building, new.......... 5,000
R. Austin—Two story Brick front and back building and wash house.......... 3,000
Wm. H. M'Dowell—Two story Stone front and brick back building, wash house and Brick stable.......... 3,000
James M. Brown—Two story Stone front and Brick back building, wash house and Frame stable.......... 3,300
Jacob Sellers—Two story Brick front and Frame back building, Brick and Frame Stab esland Ice House.......... 4,000
J. W. Douglas—One story Frame front and back building.......... 600
Martin Brown—One and a-half story Frame front and one story Log back building.......... 1,000
J. Allison & Jas. C. Eyster—Two story Log front (cased with Brick) and one and a-half story Log back building.......... 1,000
Mrs. Jordan—Two story Brick front and back building.......... 5,000
L. S. Clark—Two story Frame front, two story back building, and Frame stable.......... 1200
C. M. Duncan—Two story Brick front and back building, Frame Law Office, and Frame stable.......... 2000
Edmund Culbertson—Two story Brick front and back building, Brick Law Office, and two story Stone barn.......... 6000
Mrs. Bard—Two story Brick front and back building, two story Brick Law Office, and row Frame Law Offices.......... 6,500
Gehr & Denny—Three story Brick front and two story back building, one three story Brick front and one tewo story front building.......... 5,500
C. M. Duncan—Three story Brick front and back building, three story Brick Arcade, two two story Brick stables, and one two story Frame stable.......... 15,000
Aug. Duncan—Three story Brick front building.......... 1,500
Henry Monks—Three story Brick front building.......... 1,500
Edward Aughinbaugh—Three story Brick front building.......... 1,500
Dr. Wm. H. Boyle—Three story Brick front building.......... 2,000
Mary Gillan—Three story Brick front building.......... 1,500
T. J. Wright—Three story Brick front and one story back building.......... 1,800
Samuel F. Greenawalt—Two story Brick front and back building, Frame wash house, Brick smoke house and Frame stable.......... 3,000
A. H. McCulloh—Two story Brick front and back building, Stone stable.......... 2,000
Rev. Mr. Nelson—Two story Brick front and back building, Frame building and Stone stable.......... 2,000
John P. Culbertson—Three two story Brick front and one back building and wash house.......... 5,000
Mrs. Riddle—Two story Brick front and back building, wash house and Frame stable.......... 3,500
E. Finefrock—Two story front and back building, Brick wash house, Frame wash house and Frame stable.......... 2,000
W. F. Eyster & Bro.—Foundry—Two two story Brick front and back buildings and stable.......... 4,000
Robert E. Tolbert—Two story Brick front and back building and Brick stable.......... 2,000
Matthew Gillan's heirs—Two three story Brick fronts and two two story back buildings, log house, wash house and Brick stable.......... 6,000
Alex. Fritz—Two story Brick front and one story Frame and Log back building.......... 1,000
Mrs. Frederick Smith—Two story front Brick and back building.......... 1,200
John Burkholder's heirs—Two story Brick front and back building, and log barn.......... 2,000
Hunter Robison—Two story Brick front and log back building, and log stable.......... 12,00
Jacob B. Miller—Two story Brick front building.......... 4,00
John Bigley—One and half story Frame and two one story Log buildings.......... 500
Thomas Cook—Two story Log front and two one one story Frame back buildings.......... 600
Nathan Pierce—Two story Log front (rough cased) and two story Brick back building and wash house.......... 1,000
Barnet Wolff—Two story Frame building.......... 600
J. M. Wolfkill—Two story Brick front and two two story back buildings.......... 2,500
Jacob Shafer—Two story Brick front and one story Brick back building and Frame shop.......... 1,000
Richard Woods—Two story Brick front and one and half story Log back building and Brick wash house.......... 800
John King—Two story Log and one story Brick buildings.......... 400
Christ. Pisle—Two story Brick building.......... 500
Mrs. Elizabeth Stouffer—Two story Brick front and one story Brick back building.......... 1,800
Andrew Banker—One story Brick shop, two story Brick house and Frame barn.......... 2,000
Mrs. Butler—Two story Log building and Frame stable.......... 400
Mary Rapp—Two story Log building.......... 400
James Nill's Heirs—Two story Brick front and shed.......... 300
Josiah Allen—Two story Brick, and one story Frame building.......... 1,000

NORTH SIDE MARKET STREET.

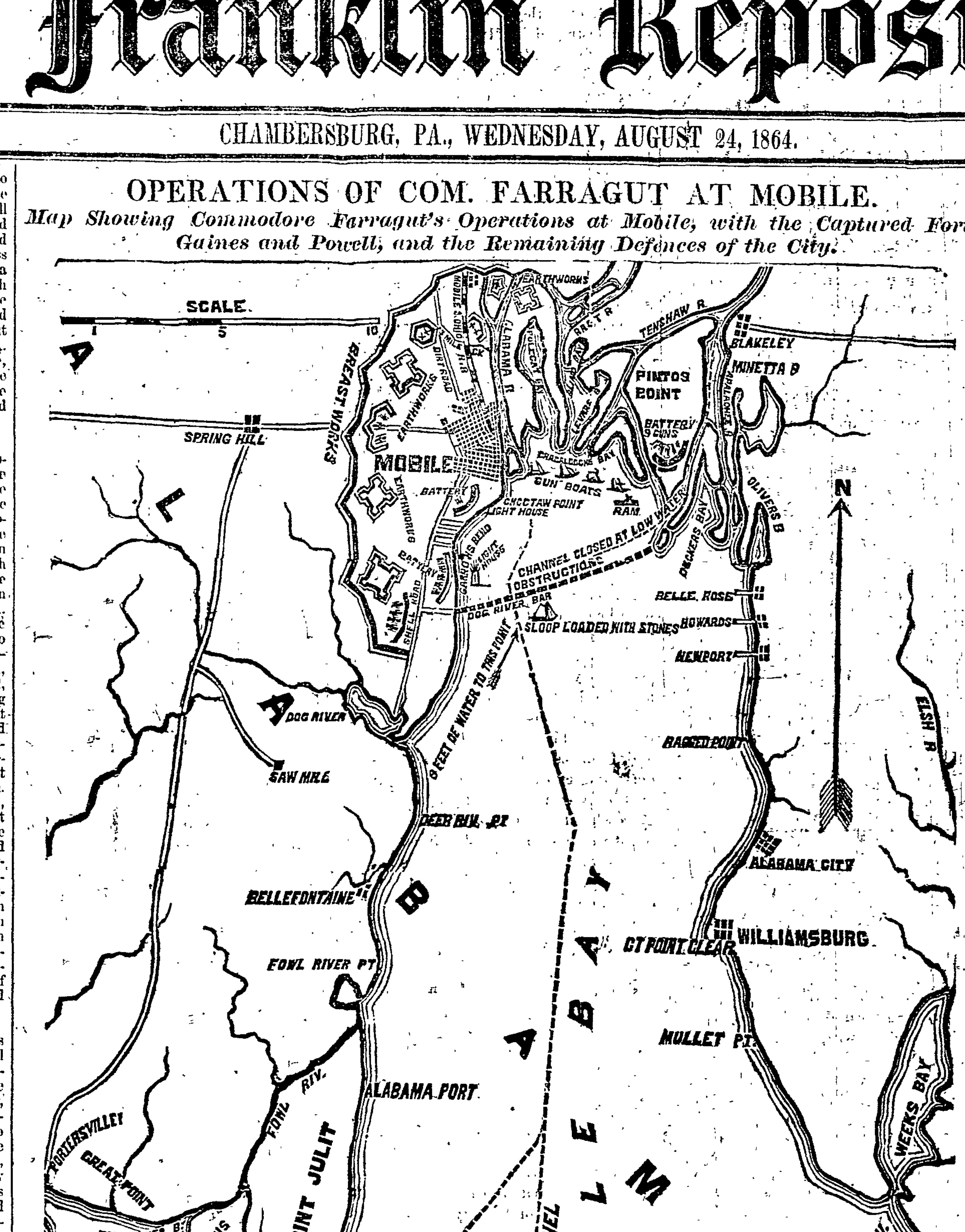
C. Stout—Two two story Log buildings and Wood Shed.......... 600
Sam'l Brandt—Two story Brick building.......... 800
John M. McDowell—Two story Brick front and one story back building, two story Brick front building, Log and Frame barn, hog pen, wagon maker shop and blacksmith shop, and hay scales.......... 3,500
Daniel Trostle—Two story Brick front and back building, and two story Brick barn.......... 1,500
Mrs. Radebough—Stone and Frame barn.......... 800
Mrs. Jos. Chambers—Two story Brick front and back building, and Brick stable.......... 5,500
Geo. W. Brewer—Two story Brick front and back building, two story Brick office, spring and smoke house, Brick and Stone barn.......... 5,500
Mrs. Jacob Smith—Log stable.......... 100
John Miller (Inn-keeper)—Two story Brick front and back building, two story Brick Hotel, wash house, 1 Brick and 2 Frame stables, Brick wagon maker and blacksmith shops.......... 8,000
John B. Cook—Two story Stone (rough cased) and two story Frame buildings, bark house and grinding mill, Bark shed, and Brick stable.......... 5,000
C. W. Eyster—Two three story Brick Mills, and two story Brick building.......... 15,000
Lambert & Huber—Four story Stone and Frame paper mill and steam house.......... 15,000
C. W. Eyster—Two story Brick front and back building and Brick stable.......... 3,000
S. M. Shillito—Two story Brick building.......... 1,500
James King—Two story Brick building, Frame shop and shed.......... 1,200
Peter Brough—Three story Brick front and one story back building (unfinished).......... 3,000
John Noel—Three story Stone front and back building and Stone stable.......... 8,000
Court House—Three story Brick.......... 45,000
Engine House—Two story Brick.......... 1,000
D. O. Gehr—Two story Brick front and back building, smoke house, Brick stable, Frame wagon shed.......... 5,500
B. F. Nead—Two story Brick front and back building, spring and smoke house, Brick stable.......... 5,000
A. D. Caufman—Three story Brick front and back building, and log stable.......... 4,000
Mrs. Goettman—Two story Brick front and back building, two story Log front (rough cased) and Brick back building, bake house, Brick wash house, Brick stable.......... 5,500
Peiffer's heirs—Two story Stone house, Frame smith shop, two story Frame shop, one and a half story Frame front and one story Brick back building, frame stable.......... 2,600
T. B. Kennedy—Two story Brick front and back building, smoke and wash house.......... 8,000
Rev. R. S. Schenck—Two story Stone front and Brick back building, and wash house.......... 3,000
Levi Humelshine—Two story Log front and Frame back building, and Frame shed.......... 600
Samuel Etter—Two story Brick front and back building, and Frame bake house.......... 3,000
Rev. N. Schlosser—Two story Log front and frame back building and shed.......... 1,000
Sebastian Eckert—Two story Stone front and Brick back building.......... 1,000

WEST SIDE MAIN TO SQUARE.

Benj. Chambers—Two story Brick Cottage and two story Brick back building.......... 5,000
William G. Reed—Two story Brick front and back building and Frame and Brick Stable.......... 5,000
Mrs. C. Snyder—Two story Brick front and back building.......... 3,000
Allen Smith—Two story Brick front and back building, small Frame stable.......... 1,600
Christian Flack—Two story Log and Weather-boarded front and one story Frame back building, small Frame stable.......... 1,000
Jno. Schofield—Two story Log Weatherboarded front and one story back building, Brick shop, and small Frame stable.......... 1,600
Matthew P. Welsh—Two story Brick front and back building, Brick wash house.......... 2,500
Christian Stouffer (Machinist)—Two story Brick front and back building, Frame stable.......... 3,000
Geo. Chambers' Residence—Two story Brick front and back building, one story Brick smoke house, two story Stone stable.......... 7,000
George Chambers (Seminary)—Three story Stone front and three story Stone and Brick back building, smoke house.......... 5,000
George Chambers (Millinery Shop)—Two story Brick front and back building.......... 2,000
A. J. Miller—Two story Stone front and Brick back building, one story Brick back building, wash and smoke house.......... 4,500
James Watson—Two story Brick front and back building.......... 4,500
R. Austin—Two story Brick front and two story Brick back building.......... 2500

EAST SIDE MAIN FROM SQUARE TO KING.

Franklin Hall—Three story Brick building.......... 20,000

OPERATIONS OF COM. FARRAGUT AT MOBILE.

Map Showing Commodore Farragut's Operations at Mobile, with the Captured Forts Gaines and Powell, and the Remaining Defences of the City.