

A party of speculators are asking of the Legislature the right to bore oil wells in the bottom of the Allegheny river.

The Gault House, a large hotel by Louisville, Kentucky, was destroyed by fire last Wednesday.

Hon Wm Pitt Fessenden, Secretary of the Treasury, has been elected to the United States Senate from Maine, for six years from March 4th 1865.

The Hon James Guthrie was elected United States Senator for six years from March 4th, in place of Lazarus W Powell, of Kentucky.

On the 9th, the rebels made another attack on the picket line of the army of the Potomac, capturing piece of our men and wounding one.

The remnant of Hood's army is reported to be fortifying at Corinth. They are also reported to be repairing the Mobile and Ohio railroad.

A resolution has passed the United States Senate in favor of repealing the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and Canada.

It is reported as from the Richmond papers, that a call is out for a convention of the Confederate States, with a design to depose Jeff Davis and revolutionize the revolution.

A notorious guerrilla, called Sake Sly, was captured by Union scouts in Tennessee, south of the Cumberland river, and was executed, with four of his men in retaliation for the murder of Union prisoners.

A committee of the Pa House of Representatives has gone to Washington to confer with the Provost Marshal General in regard to the quota of Pennsylvania under the last call for troops.

The rebel Senator, Henry S Foote, has been arrested by Jeff Davis for his speech against the rebel authorities, made recently in their Senate. Mrs. Foote succeeded in escaping and has reached our lines.

APPOINTMENT UNDER THE DRAFT.—Heretofore it has been the rule with the Provost Marshal General to appoint only the quotas of different States, thus leaving the appointment of districts to the Assistant Provost Marshal General, by whom in turn the appointment of sub-districts was left to the Provost Marshals and Conscription Boards.

It appears now, that orders have been issued to Assistant Provost Marshal General, not to make their usual appointment to the district, as the Provost Marshal General will discharge this duty. It is deemed that this can be done with a greater degree of justice at head quarters, than by the Assistant Provost Marshals, as all the proper records are on record in the Provost Marshal General's office.

These appointments will be issued as fast as possible to the different conscription boards, by the Marshals of which the appointments, in turn, of sub-districts, will be fixed.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

KENTUCKY.—The recent vote of the Legislature of Kentucky for United States Senator—58 for General Rousseau to 65 for Mr Guthrie—is the best sign yet given by this most indisposed of Border States to heed the lessons of experience.

General Rousseau organized the first Kentucky regiment raised to fight against Secession and Rebellion—organized when the loyalty of that State was so bold blooded that it was deemed advisable to enlist, equip and drill his Union volunteers on the Louisiana side of the Ohio—when even John J. Crittenden discouraged volunteering saying that Kentucky should leave the States North and South of her to fight out their quarrel, if they would fight. Of course, General Rousseau is a hearty immediate Emancipationist, while Mr Guthrie is still a Border State Conservative.

Considering when and under what auspices this Legislature was elected, the fact that Mr Guthrie has so small a majority is most cheering. Kentucky is not more than a year behind Missouri on the road to Universal Freedom.

PEACE is gradually and surely dawning on the country. The military situation is now such as to leave no room to doubt the speedy restoration of the Union on the basis of freedom. The rebellion has neither force on the territory it occupies, nor character among the aristocracy abroad whence it derived its first encouragement of success.

There is no longer any question that the summer campaign will end the war—or rather that the operations of our armies during the coming spring and summer, will be merely to witness the inauguration of the civil power of loyal State governments, and the restoration of the peace necessary to the whole country. The slave States are setting each other the example of the necessity of getting rid of slavery, so that it is fair to presume that in every State where slavery now exists, it will be abolished in addition to the action of Congress, by the action of the people thereof themselves.

From Capt. Johnson.—The following letter has been received by a gentleman of this place, from Capt. Johnson of the 149th who was taken prisoner at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

COLUMBUS, S. C. Dec. 1, 1864. DEAR K.—Received yours of Oct. also just at hand yours of July 29th. I am in no good mood to write you such a letter as I would like but must improve the opportunity to send you such an one as I can by the under ground route.

We have just been visited this morning with one of those terrible scenes with which we have almost become familiar from their occurrence in every prison and on every journey that we have had in the South. An officer, Lieutenant Turpin, 60th N. Y. Vols., was shot and instantly killed in the camp this morning by one of the sentinels. It was heartless murder, of the most cowardly and vindictive character. This is the second killed, and the sixth hit since this camp was established in October. But there is no use of counting perils, hardships, &c. If you could have a picture of our quarters here, and of us as we are busy or idle about them, to day, I suppose you might prize it. Even I would value it for a keepsake. Such, however, it is impossible to have, and I must try and supply the deficiency for you with pen and ink.

Imagine 1200 men huddled with all manner of bundles, tin dishes, iron dishes, etc., etc., clothed in motley suits of rags, in personal appearance worse than the London Beggars; drive them out into our old clover lot, and surround them with Leander S. Jeter's crowd, scatter among the leaders a score or two of Cox boys and you have us and our Confederate guards as we came here. We had absolutely no shelter, and only such miserable clothes and dishes as we could carry on our backs. Give the 1200 men no cooking utensils, only eight axes, make them carry their wood from our "big lot" (nearly half a mile) and supply each with rations in quantity and quality as follows: Every five days, five pints unadulterated corn meal, one and a half pint rice, three pints gists, one pint molasses, and you have our means of subsistence. Leave these men to their own expedients for two months and they will have shelters of all descriptions from holes in the ground like a wood chuck to log huts covered with stakes after the manner of some in old Pater. I am happy to inform you that I with four others enjoy as the fruits of our labors one of the latter, and so we are guarded and fed like a herd of cattle. I can say nothing of the food, for the same reason the farmer wouldn't swear when his load of apples tumbled down the hill—I couldn't do the subject justice. Suffice it to say that we eat and as all we get, and the quantity is not any too great. I suppose in the way of cooking, I could outdo a kitchen full of Confederates. I can ring the changes on grist, rice, meal and molasses in the time of a dozen different dishes and often have bread, soup, pudding and a stew all in one. But to be more confidential with you, I will take you into the house and the secrets of household affairs. The size of our dwelling is eight feet by ten feet inside. It and myself constitute one family, and three "volunteers" another. Make a little curiosity and you can get in the door, face about and take a chair—we have got two of those delectable resin-cases of civilization that we brought out of back from Charleston. Now you are bounded on the right by a box of dishes, number ing sundry old tin plates, knives, forks and cups; on the left by bags containing the wardrobe of the family; in front a fireplace and door, and to the rear by bed of fine straw large enough to accommodate five. On the "nifty" piece of tin pipes and stoves other notions; over that a shelf laden with corn pines the size of a respectable cart wheel and about the thickness and consistency of a two inch henlock plank, such as our aunts granddaughters used to turn out of those old Dutch ovens, the remains of which I used to find a few inches under ground in the floor yard, or a few feet under rubbish in the gullet. The above, with a teapot which is innocent of everything but scorched rice, a very good substitute, and a tin pail, make up house and furniture.

Our domestic duties are amicably performed on the system of a division of labor. We are each cook a week at a time. Our regime is rice, mush or pone for breakfast, and for supper pone, mush or rice, either served with sorghum or molasses. Meals served twice a day and at these varying according to the energy and appetite of the cook. Our dishes some-times mended by a sprinkling of beef soup or a few dozen of sweet potatoes, but beef at \$2 per pound and potatoes at \$20 per bushel have been scarce at our lackless board until within a few days. Recently we have found a man who lets us money at an enormous rate; but it is the straw that saves us and we grasp it.

Now I think I have written all that can interest you and perhaps much more of our way of living. We do not look for a general exchange during the war—special exchanges may be effected. Exchange is possible with some. Have tried my hand at that but this far have failed. Shall not let opportunities pass untied. But if we remain till the end of the war, we hope that is not far off.

The great movement of our armies now is fast solving the problem for the ancient leaders of the revolt. Sherman has again bisected the Confederacy, and by his late move has drawn the troops away from the coast, and the 6th corps

at Potomac bridge seem to have cut Savannah off entirely and laid it at our mercy. That, once in our hands, Augusta will fall and furnish Sherman a base of operation. Lee cringes under this as under the application of a scathing iron. The people have no hopes of success, yet the armies may founder on another year.

Major-General Sickles and staff sailed for California on Friday. General McClellan and family are about to visit Europe.

The quota of this State under the new call for 300,000 men is to be readjusted and reduced.

The House of Representatives have passed the Loan Bill, after some important amendments. The Post-Office Appropriation Bill was also passed.

The London Times of Dec 31st says "In the present state of Northern feeling, there is too much reason to apprehend some outrage which may render a rupture inevitable."

Western papers give currency to a rumor that marriage is likely to take place long between the Hon. Sotaylor Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Mrs. Douglas, the widow of the lamented Illinois Senator.

Senator Wilson of Massachusetts was re-elected yesterday (by the State Senate), having 37 votes to 3 for Gov. Andrew.—The House elected Gen. Wilson about a year ago.

W. D. Snow, Senator from Arkansas, said in Detroit. He says he has information which places the regularity of his election beyond a doubt, more than a quorum of the Legislature being present.

The glorious victories of Sherman and Grant are producing much good in England. The most sceptical critics of the military situation begin to see and to admit that the cause of the South is fast becoming hopeless. The Confederate flag during one week declined 10 percent. Although the news of the capture of Savannah had not then been received.

The Americans neither appreciate the strength of England, nor understand the animosity with which war will be prosecuted if forced upon a reluctant Government and nation. The first result of a war would be the immediate and irrevocable establishment of Southern independence. [Both]

In Huron county, Michigan, a large number of foreigners banded together to resist the draft, and the Sheriff and Provost Marshal were fired on after prisoners had been rescued from them. A law should be passed depriving every deserter and resister of the draft of citizenship.

We learned from Washington that Mr. Blair has again gone to Richmond on the United States steamer Don. The President, it is said, declares that he has no faith that any good will come of his mission; but has no objection to his effort to bring about a peace. He could hardly give stronger evidence of his entire confidence in Mr. Blair's movements than the fact that a United States steamer is put at his disposal. How apprehensive the war party in Richmond is of the influence of this talk of peace upon the popular mind, is shown in the continued depreciation of any discussion of the subject.

Bonnet G. Barley, the Lake Erie raider, who was shot while going on at Toronto before Justice Duggan, has been committed to extradition under the treaty. His counsel immediately applied for a writ of habeas corpus. The decision of Justice Duggan had a depressing effect upon the Southerners present, whose little plans of robbery and arson will be readily interfered with if this is the way in which they are to be dealt with.

The Secretary of the Navy in response to a call from the House from the facts relative to the burning of the Parrot tided guns at Fort Fisher, says that the number destroyed was five, on board the Ticonderoga, Junonia, Mackinaw, Quaker City and Yantic, and that forty-five persons were thereby killed and wounded. The cause of their burning, it is declared, cannot be determined for want of future data. None of these guns were entirely of wrought iron. They were of cast iron band.

The best order is maintained in Savannah by the military authorities, and but few soldiers are visible on the streets. Trade is limited, but prices are now regulated by law. Just before leaving Atlanta the army was paid about eight millions of dollars, and the soldiers spent their money freely at the first opportunity. It is said that the suffering among the citizens of Savannah is not so great as has been represented.

RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT ACCIDENTS.—There were more people killed and wounded by railroad accidents last year than in any preceding year since 1854.—One hundred and forty accidents occurred; four hundred and four lives were lost, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six persons were wounded. The transportation of troops does not account for this increase; railroads transported quite as many soldiers in 1863, and yet the number of killed and wounded were nearly double those of that year. The steamboat accidents in 1864 were less frequent and fatal. They did not exceed the average for the last ten years; but were more numerous than in 1863.

Fort Fisher.—The history of this war does not afford a parallel to the successful assault on Fort Fisher—and of course no other war does, for in no war till the Crimean had the present system of earthwork defenses been tested, and in the Crimea there is no instance of a successful assault upon any work till it had been regularly approached by elaborate and protracted siege operations. Now for the first time is a really formidable earthwork carried by a direct assault, and in a military point of view, therefore, the storming of Fort Fisher is probably entitled to be reckoned the most brilliant, as it surely is the most remarkable, victory of the war.

Fort Fisher was the strongest fort in the South. With its extensive system of outworks, constructed at leisure by the best engineering talent of the Confederacy, relied on for the sure defence of the sole remaining port into which blockade runners regularly attempted to enter, immeasurably important to the external support of the Rebellion, it was deemed, and within a fortnight has been proclaimed by the Rebel forces, absolutely impregnable. We possess as yet no exact account of this work, but its intrinsic strength may be judged from the fact that it has remained uninjured after the most tremendous naval bombardment which any fort has endured, that its parapet and stockade were fifteen feet high, and that after a portion of the parapet was in possession of the assaulting column, the remainder of the fort defied their efforts for seven hours and until reinforcements had been brought up. The carrying by storm of such a work is an epoch in military history. As the Monitor-Merrimack fight was to naval warfare, as the breaching of Malakoff by light guns at eighteen hundred yards was to casemated forts on land, so may the storming of Fort Fisher be to the newly vaulted earthwork defenses. The ever oscillating superiority of attack and defense which for three years has been supposed to be with the latter, rest to day with the former. Heroism is better than dirt. The masonry of Vauban defied the weak artillery of the first half of the century, and when that system fell the earthworks of Tullibee again restored the odds to defensive warfare, but the genius and the resolute will of one commander aided by the unequalled valor of his troops have neutralized and overpowered the best engineering science of the day, and at this moment no fortification is secure against assault.

ALFRED H. TERRY, Brevet Major General United States Volunteers, is the hero of this new success. Educated a lawyer; never within fifty miles of West Point, a child of the people and a soldier in this war from the beginning for science sake—the man who has won in a single day a national fame and a professional military renown not inferior to the proudest. Gen Terry has one of the few men who before the war saw the necessity of preparation for it, who helped to put the S. A. (Connecticut) in preparation for it, and who devoted his own energies to its approaching demands. He was among the first in the field; has served steadily and with ever increasing distinction since, and now at a bound reaches the highest place among the soldiers of the Republic.

The practical value of this success is two fold. The port of Wilmington is closed absolutely against blockade running, and the town itself is immediately threatened. The former is by far the most important, but the capture of Wilmington is a success to which we may look forward as extremely valuable as closing an important line of railway.—Whether it can be immediately attempted will depend on the strength of Gen Terry's force.

Our special correspondent sends very full and excellent accounts of the operations down to Saturday—the day before the final assault. The landing of the troops and the subsequent movements on shore were conducted by Gen Terry with singular coolness, good judgement, and determination. There was no hurry, no eagerness—though the circumstances might have excused it—but a quiet purpose to do the whole work thoroughly. Everything south of Fort Fisher on Federal Point is ours, and the works on the right bank of the river may be expected to follow speedily. So far there is nothing to mar the fullness and completeness of the victory save the inevitable heavy losses attending it. We grieve to find among them the names of Porter and S. Preston of the Navy. The latter was one of the youngest and most promising officers in that service, who fought with great distinction at Port Royal and Charleston was captured in the attack on Fort Sumpter, exchanged and has been recently a volunteer on picket duty. The Rebel loss in the assault was 500 killed beside the wounded, our own about 900 killed and wounded.—Tribune.

Mr Stanton's telegram to the President gives some interesting particulars of the assault on Fort Fisher, and full details will be found in the letters of our correspondent, who himself shared in the perils of the attack he describes, narrowly escaping death from a grape shot which struck him in the shoulder. This account and those which we published yesterday present a complete and connected history of the expedition and the victory.

The assault by the sailors and Marines on the sea front of the fort, which was most exposed and may be presumed to have been most weakened by the bombardment, failed so totally that the column of attack, comprising fourteen hundred men was withdrawn from contact with the enemy, and sent to the rear to hold the intrenchments toward Wilmington. Yet their loss was slight; not exceeding, by Mr. Stanton's account, a hundred in killed and wounded.

All the more brilliant by contrast with this failure is the success of the army.—The face of the fort against which the troops of Gen Terry were sent, was the most strongly protected. It is remarkable that the Rebel General Whiting, at half-past six, three hours after the beginning of the attack, reported that it had been successfully repulsed. From our side there appears no warrant for such a statement. The first rush had carried a portion of the exterior defenses of the fort—which indeed constituted a part of the fort proper—and Gen Curtis's Brigade was actually in possession of one end of the parapet. That position never was relinquished, and Gen Whiting must be understood to have meant that for a while the further advance of our men was arrested. Very possibly that is what Whiting did say, as we have not his original dispatch, but so much of it as Lee saw fit to filter through his own cautious statement. We know at all events that there were long and anxious pauses in this terrible fight. From half past three in the afternoon till ten at night the struggle went on. The defense was maintained with heroic pertinacity, and the admirable construction of the fort gave every advantage to its garrison. Its five traverses were so many separate works, each capable of defense by itself, and defended to the last. Not till a fresh brigade had been brought up from the intrenched line far to the north was the stubborn garrison expelled from its last stronghold.—But from beginning to end of that struggle there never was a moment when Gen Terry thought of abandoning it; or when the resolution of his brave men faltered.

This fort was defended by twenty-three hundred men. Five hundred of them were killed and wounded; eighteen hundred surrendered unconditionally to Gen Terry. Seventy-two guns were taken; among them an Armstrong gun, a sort of cannon the manufacture of which is controlled by the British Government.

The Rebel fort on the south side of New Inlet was evacuated on Monday morning. The entrance to Cape Fear River therefore is open to the ships of war, and we cannot suppose that torpedoes or anything else will long detain them from reaping the fruits of the capture of Fort Fisher. We are entitled to consider whatever floats on the river as legitimately belonging to the Union if the success of our army is rapidly and decisively followed up. And it is inconceivable that there should be any further toleration of blockade running. The guns of Fisher itself command and though at long range the channel of the river, but if there be any doubt that they could close it, the expected entrance of the navy into the river ought at once to settle the question.

The movement of Gen Sherman, which Mr. Stanton reports, becomes doubly important by the present success. The right wing of Sherman's army, under Gen. Howard, was sent round from Savannah to Beaufort, S. C., and crossing from Port Royal Island to the main land, moved up to the railroad of Port Charles, and occupied it without resistance. Our forces, therefore, are firmly established on the railway between Savannah and Charleston, and in a position to move with certainty either upon that city, or if that be first intended—upon Beaufortville. The direct and purpose of the new campaign cannot much longer be kept secret. Should Wilmington hold out against the forces now in its vicinity it will become the easy prey of Sherman, while if it surrenders before he approaches it, there is no longer a temptation for him to turn aside in his march to Raleigh.—Tribune Jan. 10.

The following is Admiral Porter's official report, dated Jan. 16:

Sir: We have all the forts. The army has captured 1,860 men and a large number of officers, including Gen Whiting and Col Lamb.

The gunboats are now in the river and Wilmington is hermetically sealed against blockade runners.

The Rebels have destroyed the works on Smith's Island, and if they don't destroy Fort Caswell it is of no use to them. We will get that after a little while. You must not expect too much of us at one time.

These works are tremendous. I was in Fort Mifflin a few days after its surrender to the French and English. The combined armies of these two nations were many months capturing that stronghold, and it won't compare either in size or strength to Fort Fisher. The fort contained 75 guns, and many of them were heavy ones.

I have not yet learned what our casualties are in killed and wounded, but I think 300 will cover them all. We had a bad explosion in the fort this morning which killed and wounded, a number of men—about 100. Some of our seamen were blown up, and Acting Assistant Paymaster R. J. Gillet of the Gettysburg was killed.

I will send a detailed report as soon as I can get off the wounded and arrange matters generally. The world never saw such fighting as our soldiers did. I am very respectfully, your obedient servant.

D. D. PORTER, Rear Admiral. Hon. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

Rebel deserters and contrabands continue to come into the army of the Potomac.

Major-General Sickles and staff sailed for California on Friday. General McClellan and family are about to visit Europe.

The quota of this State under the new call for 300,000 men is to be readjusted and reduced.

The House of Representatives have passed the Loan Bill, after some important amendments. The Post-Office Appropriation Bill was also passed.

The London Times of Dec 31st says "In the present state of Northern feeling, there is too much reason to apprehend some outrage which may render a rupture inevitable."

Western papers give currency to a rumor that marriage is likely to take place long between the Hon. Sotaylor Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Mrs. Douglas, the widow of the lamented Illinois Senator.

Senator Wilson of Massachusetts was re-elected yesterday (by the State Senate), having 37 votes to 3 for Gov. Andrew.—The House elected Gen. Wilson about a year ago.

W. D. Snow, Senator from Arkansas, said in Detroit. He says he has information which places the regularity of his election beyond a doubt, more than a quorum of the Legislature being present.

The glorious victories of Sherman and Grant are producing much good in England. The most sceptical critics of the military situation begin to see and to admit that the cause of the South is fast becoming hopeless. The Confederate flag during one week declined 10 percent. Although the news of the capture of Savannah had not then been received.

The Americans neither appreciate the strength of England, nor understand the animosity with which war will be prosecuted if forced upon a reluctant Government and nation. The first result of a war would be the immediate and irrevocable establishment of Southern independence. [Both]

In Huron county, Michigan, a large number of foreigners banded together to resist the draft, and the Sheriff and Provost Marshal were fired on after prisoners had been rescued from them. A law should be passed depriving every deserter and resister of the draft of citizenship.

We learned from Washington that Mr. Blair has again gone to Richmond on the United States steamer Don. The President, it is said, declares that he has no faith that any good will come of his mission; but has no objection to his effort to bring about a peace. He could hardly give stronger evidence of his entire confidence in Mr. Blair's movements than the fact that a United States steamer is put at his disposal. How apprehensive the war party in Richmond is of the influence of this talk of peace upon the popular mind, is shown in the continued depreciation of any discussion of the subject.

Bonnet G. Barley, the Lake Erie raider, who was shot while going on at Toronto before Justice Duggan, has been committed to extradition under the treaty. His counsel immediately applied for a writ of habeas corpus. The decision of Justice Duggan had a depressing effect upon the Southerners present, whose little plans of robbery and arson will be readily interfered with if this is the way in which they are to be dealt with.

The Secretary of the Navy in response to a call from the House from the facts relative to the burning of the Parrot tided guns at Fort Fisher, says that the number destroyed was five, on board the Ticonderoga, Junonia, Mackinaw, Quaker City and Yantic, and that forty-five persons were thereby killed and wounded. The cause of their burning, it is declared, cannot be determined for want of future data. None of these guns were entirely of wrought iron. They were of cast iron band.

The best order is maintained in Savannah by the military authorities, and but few soldiers are visible on the streets. Trade is limited, but prices are now regulated by law. Just before leaving Atlanta the army was paid about eight millions of dollars, and the soldiers spent their money freely at the first opportunity. It is said that the suffering among the citizens of Savannah is not so great as has been represented.

RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT ACCIDENTS.—There were more people killed and wounded by railroad accidents last year than in any preceding year since 1854.—One hundred and forty accidents occurred; four hundred and four lives were lost, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six persons were wounded. The transportation of troops does not account for this increase; railroads transported quite as many soldiers in 1863, and yet the number of killed and wounded were nearly double those of that year. The steamboat accidents in 1864 were less frequent and fatal. They did not exceed the average for the last ten years; but were more numerous than in 1863.

The history of this war does not afford a parallel to the successful assault on Fort Fisher—and of course no other war does, for in no war till the Crimean had the present system of earthwork defenses been tested, and in the Crimea there is no instance of a successful assault upon any work till it had been regularly approached by elaborate and protracted siege operations. Now for the first time is a really formidable earthwork carried by a direct assault, and in a military point of view, therefore, the storming of Fort Fisher is probably entitled to be reckoned the most brilliant, as it surely is the most remarkable, victory of the war.

Fort Fisher was the strongest fort in the South. With its extensive system of outworks, constructed at leisure by the best engineering talent of the Confederacy, relied on for the sure defence of the sole remaining port into which blockade runners regularly attempted to enter, immeasurably important to the external support of the Rebellion, it was deemed, and within a fortnight has been proclaimed by the Rebel forces, absolutely impregnable. We possess as yet no exact account of this work, but its intrinsic strength may be judged from the fact that it has remained uninjured after the most tremendous naval bombardment which any fort has endured, that its parapet and stockade were fifteen feet high, and that after a portion of the parapet was in possession of the assaulting column, the remainder of the fort defied their efforts for seven hours and until reinforcements had been brought up. The carrying by storm of such a work is an epoch in military history. As the Monitor-Merrimack fight was to naval warfare, as the breaching of Malakoff by light guns at eighteen hundred yards was to casemated forts on land, so may the storming of Fort Fisher be to the newly vaulted earthwork defenses. The ever oscillating superiority of attack and defense which for three years has been supposed to be with the latter, rest to day with the former. Heroism is better than dirt. The masonry of Vauban defied the weak artillery of the first half of the century, and when that system fell the earthworks of Tullibee again restored the odds to defensive warfare, but the genius and the resolute will of one commander aided by the unequalled valor of his troops have neutralized and overpowered the best engineering science of the day, and at this moment no fortification is secure against assault.

ALFRED H. TERRY, Brevet Major General United States Volunteers, is the hero of this new success. Educated a lawyer; never within fifty miles of West Point, a child of the people and a soldier in this war from the beginning for science sake—the man who has won in a single day a national fame and a professional military renown not inferior to the proudest. Gen Terry has one of the few men who before the war saw the necessity of preparation for it, who helped to put the S. A. (Connecticut) in preparation for it, and who devoted his own energies to its approaching demands. He was among the first in the field; has served steadily and with ever increasing distinction since, and now at a bound reaches the highest place among the soldiers of the Republic.

The practical value of this success is two fold. The port of Wilmington is closed absolutely against blockade running, and the town itself is immediately threatened. The former is by far the most important, but the capture of Wilmington is a success to which we may look forward as extremely valuable as closing an important line of railway.—Whether it can be immediately attempted will depend on the strength of Gen Terry's force.

Our special correspondent sends very full and excellent accounts of the operations down to Saturday—the day before the final assault. The landing of the troops and the subsequent movements on shore were conducted by Gen Terry with singular coolness, good judgement, and determination. There was no hurry, no eagerness—though the circumstances might have excused it—but a quiet purpose to do the whole work thoroughly. Everything south of Fort Fisher on Federal Point is ours, and the works on the right bank of the river may be expected to follow speedily. So far there is nothing to mar the fullness and completeness of the victory save the inevitable heavy losses attending it. We grieve to find among them the names of Porter and S. Preston of the Navy. The latter was one of the youngest and most promising officers in that service, who fought with great distinction at Port Royal and Charleston was captured in the attack on Fort Sumpter, exchanged and has been recently a volunteer on picket duty. The Rebel loss in the assault was 500 killed beside the wounded, our own about 900 killed and wounded.—Tribune.

Mr Stanton's telegram to the President gives some interesting particulars of the assault on Fort Fisher, and full details will be found in the letters of our correspondent, who himself shared in the perils of the attack he describes, narrowly escaping death from a grape shot which struck him in the shoulder. This account and those which we published yesterday present a complete and connected history of the expedition and the victory.

The assault by the sailors and Marines on the sea front of the fort, which was most exposed and may be presumed to have been most weakened by the bombardment, failed so totally that the column of attack, comprising fourteen hundred men was withdrawn from contact with the enemy, and sent to the rear to hold the intrenchments toward Wilmington. Yet their loss was slight; not exceeding, by Mr. Stanton's account, a hundred in killed and wounded.

All the more brilliant by contrast with this failure is the success of the army.—The face of the fort against which the troops of Gen Terry were sent, was the most strongly protected. It is remarkable that the Rebel General Whiting, at half-past six, three hours after the beginning of the attack, reported that it had been successfully repulsed. From our side there appears no warrant for such a statement. The first rush had carried a portion of the exterior defenses of the fort—which indeed constituted a part of the fort proper—and Gen Curtis's Brigade was actually in possession of one end of the parapet. That position never was relinquished, and Gen Whiting must be understood to have meant that for a while the further advance of our men was arrested. Very possibly that is what Whiting did say, as we have not his original dispatch, but so much of it as Lee saw fit to filter through his own cautious statement. We know at all events that there were long and anxious pauses in this terrible fight. From half past three in the afternoon till ten at night the struggle went on. The defense was maintained with heroic pertinacity, and the admirable construction of the fort gave every advantage to its garrison. Its five traverses were so many separate works, each capable of defense by itself, and defended to the last. Not till a fresh brigade had been brought up from the intrenched line far to the north was the stubborn garrison expelled from its last stronghold.—But from beginning to end of that struggle there never was a moment when Gen Terry thought of abandoning it; or when the resolution of his brave men faltered.

PA. STATE NORMAL SCHOOL. MANSFIELD, TIOGA CO, PA. THIS INSTITUTION WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE AUTHORITIES, IN DECEMBER, 1862.

AS A State Normal School, and formally opened as such in September 1863.

The School is at length placed upon a secure basis—the State appropriation of the current year enabling the Trustees to extinguish the greater portion of the outstanding liabilities, and to make extensive improvements upon the buildings and grounds.

The Spring Term will commence about March 10, 1865.

Prof. F. A. ALLEN, for the past six years in charge of the Chester County (Pa.) Normal School, has been elected Principal, and Prof. J. S. Strait, of the Edinboro State Normal School, has been appointed to the Professorship of Languages and Mathematics.

Prof. Allen is well known throughout the State as a gentleman of accurate scholarship, possessing a practical experience of fifteen years as an educator of teachers, and a thorough acquaintance with their educational wants, acquired from his connection with County Institutes in every section of Pennsylvania, as well as in other States.

Competent and thorough instructors will be provided for the other departments of the School.

The building has been refitted throughout and provided with furniture of the most approved style, together with an extensive collection of maps, charts, and works of reference. Excellent Chemical and Physical apparatus will be in readiness at the opening of the School.

To keep pace with the improvements in education, a gymnasium will be erected, for which a valuable apparatus for the heavier and lighter exercises has already been secured. The school year is divided into three terms of thirteen weeks each, with no vacation, except the week of Christmas Holidays.

It is desirable that students should enter at the commencement of a term, and for a period of not less than thirteen weeks. Tuition, in advance per term, \$6.00. No extra charges for the languages or the higher mathematics. Text books rented at reasonable rates. Vocal and instrumental music at teachers' prices. Boarding in the hall, \$3.00 per term; wood for winter, \$3.00 per term; washing, \$3.25; room rent, \$1.50.

The arrangements now made are of such a nature as to warrant the Trustees in saying that no other institution in the State affords better facilities for the Education of Teachers, or for the preparation of students for college, or for general business.

For further particulars address the Principal, at Mansfield, Tioga County, Pa. W. C. RIPLEY, Pres. Board of Trustees. ALBERT CLARK, Secretary. Mansfield, Dec. 20, 1864.

Notice. GERMANIA, Potter Co., Pa., Aug. 1, 1863. NOTICE is hereby given that Charles Bushor, now or late of this county, holding the following described property, has not yet paid any consideration whatever for the same, and all persons who have or may hereafter purchase any said property of the said Charles Bushor, or of any person claiming to be the owner thereof, are notified that the said Charles Bushor has paid to me the consideration money therefor.

The following is the property: 1st. A certain tract of land near the Germania Mill, in warrant 5675, Abbott township, Potter county, Pa., containing 100 acres.—Also 25 acres in warrant 5678 and adjoining the above.

2nd. A certain tract of land, with Mill and improvements thereon, near Kettle Creek, in warrant 5813, in Stearns township, Potter county, Pa., containing about 200 acres. C. Bushor holds also in trust warrant no. 2501, in Gaines township, Tioga county, Pa., on the road leading from Germania to Gaines, containing 830 acres.

WM. RADEDE. TO PROFESSORS OF MUSIC, AMATEURS, AND THE MEDICAL PUBLIC GENERALLY.

P. A. WUNDERMANN, Foreign & American Music Warehouse, 824 Broadway.

Having on hand the largest stock of Foreign Music in New York, which he imports from Europe expressly to meet the taste and requirements of the American lovers of Music, respectfully calls attention to the fact, that he is now supplying Music of Every Style at a reduction of twenty-five to fifty per cent, less than any other house in the United States.

Private Families can be supplied (post free) by forwarding the cash to the above address. Should the amount of cash forwarded exceed the cost of the Music, the balance will be promptly returned in postage currency.

Dealers and Professors should not neglect this opportunity; they will be liberally dealt with.

N. B.—Any