LATE NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

General Evans Reconnoiters North Edisto Island.

HE FINDS OUR FORCES TOO STRONG FOR HIM.

The Rebels Perform a Masterly Retreat.

THE INVESTMENT OF FORT PULASKI.

$30,000 Offered to Release the Rebels.

A GOOD CHANCE FOR A YANKEE SPECULATOR.

EVACUATION OF FORT THUNDERBOLT.

PROBABLE FALL OF SAVANNAH.

The Attack on Fort Jackson Commenced.

FURTHER REPORTS ABOUT THE MERRIMAC

THE OPERATIONS AGAINST NEW-ORLEANS.

FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, April 1, via Baltimore, Wednesday, April 2, 1862.

A flag of truce from Norfolk to-day brought down letters from the Union prisoners, and a dispatch from Gen. Huger to Gen. Wool.

Norfolk papers notice that large military movements are going on at Old Point. They say that large reinforcements are landing there, and that at least a hundred large steamers and transports are at the wharves and in the channel. They also notice that Vice-President Hamlin, with a party of ladies, visited Fortress Monroe on Monday and had a great jollification, which, they say, was the cause of the salute.

A dispatch from Charleston says that Gen. Evans advanced on Saturday on North Edisto Island with 2,000 troops, but finding the Unionists there at least 6,000 strong, he retired in a masterly manner. The dispatch does not say whether there was any fight or not.

The gunboat Seminole arrived here this afternoon from Port Royal, bringing dates to Saturday last. Fort Pulaski had been thoroughly invested for thirty days, and was momentarily expected to surrender. It was said that about 500 Rebels were in Pulaski, and that they had offered to go out with the honors of war, but that Gen. Sherman demanded an unconditional surrender, and would, on the 1st of April, open fire on the fort if they still refused to yield it.

The Rebels had withdrawn their forces from the coast of Georgia, and had abandoned the works at Thunderbolt, taking all their guns to Savannah.

The Seminole landed a force and destroyed Thunderbolt fort, which is within five miles of Savannah, over a good shell road.

Refugees from Savannah say that the friends of the troops inside of Fort Pulaski had offered $30,000 to any one who would rescue them.

A refugee from Charleston represents that there is a great panic there since the capture of Newbern. Women and children were leaving, and the general expectation was that a terrible blow would be struck there.

From Florida the intelligence is most gratifying. The Union sentiment was strongly developing itself.

A dispatch from Norfolk in this morning's Richmond papers mentions the arrival of Vice-President Hamlin and a large party of ladies and gentlemen here, and the firing of salutes on the occasion, and in the same paragraph says, "there has been no communication by flag of truce with Fortress Monroe for several days."

There appears to be but little doubt that all our movements here are faithfully reported to the Rebel authorities.

The Richmond papers also state that nearly a hundred transports and other vessels are in Hampton Roads, and that a large number of Union troops have recently landed here.

The Richmond Dispatch of this morning says:

"The Grand Army of the Unionists seems to have been transferred from the neighborhood of Washington to the Peninsula, which they have probably concluded is a shorter and easier road to Richmond than that via Manassas, which we have courteously placed at their disposal."

The Dispatch also states that the roads here are as bad as those on the Potomac, and refers to Gen. Magruder as a man not likely to be caught napping.

There was a rumor in Richmond yesterday that a severe fight had taken place on the Peninsula. It was probably caused by the fact of our making a strong reconnoissance toward Yorktown on Saturday.

A dispatch from Augusta, Ga., dated March 31, says:

"The Charleston papers of to-day contain a dispatch dated New-Orleans, March 29, stating that two Union gun-boats, on the 28th, commenced an attack on Fort Jackson, at the mouth of the Mississippi. Up to that time nobody had been hurt."

The New-Orleans papers of the 27th of March report the loss of the Rebel steamer Vanderbilt. The captain, crew, and eight passengers are safe on the Florida coast. One boat with 17 men on board, had not been heard from.

The Rebel Ordnance Bureau has issued an order for all the balls that can be obtained to be recast for light artillery.

Rebel troops are gathering in large numbers at Jacksonville and Pocahontas, Arkansas.

Gens. Van Dorn and Jeff. Thompson are preparing for an early movement at some point on the Mississippi River. With this force it is considered that the Mississippi Valley is safe from the enemy.

The Memphis Avalanche says that of March 29 the force of the enemy in attempting to take Island No. 10 have been throwing shot and shell for 24 hours, without doing any damage to our works or guns, and up to this time only one Confederate soldier has been killed.

A small tug came down the James River yesterday afternoon and at long range threw some shells into the Newport News camp. No damage was done, and the distance was so great that it was useless with our guns to make any reply.

There is a rumor current here that Yorktown has been abandoned by the enemy, but it is not believed by the highest military authorities.

Notwithstanding the great delay in the reappearance of the Merrimac, she is hourly expected, and the naval and military commanders are prepared to receive her at any moment.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, April 2, 1862.

The following intelligence is from the special correspondent, at Fortress Monroe, of *The Baltimore American*:

A dispatch in *The Norfolk Day-Book* says that Gen. Evans, with a force of 2,000 men, advanced on the Union force on North Edisto Island, supposed to number 1,000, but they were soon discovered to be not less than 6,000 in number, when Gen. Evans retreated in good order. Whether any fighting was done is not stated.

The City of Savannah is understood to be very strongly fortified, and all the approaches to it. The forces there are variously estimated by refugees at from 20,000 to 50,000 men. Probably 20,000 is more nearly correct.

The greatest despondency existed among the people and troops at Charleston. The fall of Newbern created the greatest consternation. The fire-eaters ridiculed the North Carolina troops, charging them with cowardice. The shopkeepers and bakers of Charleston also refused to receive North Carolina money, and there being two North Carolina regiments there at the time, a revolt was the consequence, and the shops were broken open and the troops helped themselves. These regiments refused to serve any longer, and were allowed to return home.

No direct information of the abandonment of Pensacola by the Rebels has yet been received, but it was generally believed that our troops had crossed over from Santa Rosa Island, and occupied the place.

The latest advices received from Norfolk by the under-ground railroad, leaves no room to doubt that the Merrimac is thoroughly repaired, and in commission, and ready for another expedition against the wooden walls of the Union Navy and river transports laying in the Roads.

The delay of the Merrimac in coming out is believed to be that she is waiting for some ammunition for the heavy guns that have been placed on board of her, and also for some infernal machines being constructed by Bombastes Maury.

The Rebel steamers Jamestown and Yorktown are also getting strengthened, and more thoroughly clad with iron, to accompany the Merrimac.

There is also a rumor that two other steamers are being clad with iron at Richmond, to join in the expedition of the Merrimac.

As to the loss of life on the Merrimac in her conflict with the Monitor, we have now what is claimed to be positive information that it was pretty heavy. One of the recently arrived contrabands states that he was a nurse in the general hospital at Norfolk, and that up to the time of his departure he had helped to shroud thirty-two of the crew of the Merrimac, and that both Commander Buchanan and Lieut. Miner are dead. There were still a number of the wounded surviving. Contrabands also state that the last two shots of the Monitor were represented to be the only ones that seriously injured the Merrimac. These shots were thrown under her shield at the moment she attempted to run the Monitor down.

The military stationed at Norfolk from the Gulf States have been very severe on the Virginia chivalry since their defeat at Roanoke Island. Even the Richmond Blues, the very pink of chivalry, have fallen in the public estimation. All award bravery to O. Jennings Wise, but his father has so fallen in public estimation that he is proclaimed on the streets of Norfolk a coward and paltroon. In his escape from Nag's Head he rode 30 miles on horseback, notwithstanding he had previously reported himself too ill to remain at Roanoke Island at the head of his command.

Wise and Floyd now rank together as the "fleet footed." My informant says that Wise would be hooted if he were to appear in the streets of Norfolk or Richmond. He has retired to his farm in Princess Ann.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, April 2, 1862.

A private letter, dated from on board the Seminole, says that the Seminole, Wyandotte, and Norwich, under the command of Capt. Gillis, senior officer, proceeded up Wilmington River, and upon arriving within a mile of the Skidaway batteries, dispersed the Rebel cavalry stationed there, by shell, and then destroyed the batteries. The Rebel force fled, leaving everything behind them, even their dinners. Capt. Gillis landed, and hoisted the American flag on the ramparts. Another flag was hoisted over the Rebel headquarters by Acting-Master Steel.

The Rebel batteries were entirely destroyed, but the dwellings were spared. The dwellings were afterwards burned by the Rebels.

The batteries mounted ten guns, and were well built.

The squadron has returned to Wassaw Inlet.

Fort Pulaski has not surrendered yet, but it must do so shortly.

THE OPERATIONS AGAINST NEW-ORLEANS.

The Key West correspondent of *The Boston Journal*, under date of March 24, says:

"I hasten to announce the fact that the initiatory steps have been taken by our naval fleet for the reduction of the defenses on the Mississippi River, upon which the Rebels rely for the protection of New-Orleans against the Union forces in the Gulf. The Union fleet, which had not entered the Mississippi since its disgraceful exit in September last, was on the 18th represented at the head of the passes by the sloops-of-war Hartford and Brooklyn, and a large portion of Commander Porter's mortar flotilla. On the evening of the 17th and the morning of the 18th, heavy and continuous firing was heard up the river, our ships evidently being engaged with the enemy.

"When the Cora, which brought this intelligence, left Pass a l'Outre, the gunboat Penola and two bomb schooners were inside the bar, two were in tow of the steamer Harriet Lane going up the pass, and two other gunboats were engaged in towing the rest of the mortar fleet up to the delta.

"When the Hartford left Key West she carried as little coal, water, and provisions as possible, in order to be able to cross the bar, and her success in entering the river shows the wisdom of the measure. The ship also took from this point a number of anchor buoys to mark out channels at the point of operations.

"Flag Officer Farragut has transferred his pennant to the gunboat Sciota, for the nonce, and left Pass a l'Outre on the morning of the 18th for Ship Island, to expedite movements at that point.

"The prize steamer Calhoun, which went on a reconnoissance up the river on the 4th inst., proceeded as far as Fort Jackson, but saw no signs of the enemy."

SITUATION OF SAVANNAH AND ITS DEFENSES.

Fort Thunderbolt is five miles to the eastward of Savannah, on Augustine Creek, and commands the approach to the Savannah River by that creek. Here is a battery of four guns. Our gunboats, drawing nine feet of water, can steam from that point to the City of Savannah.

Fort Jackson is a small work, built on a low marsh, four miles from Savannah, on a site near the bend of the Savannah River, and commands important points on the channel, and the interior line of fortifications. It is built of heavy brick masonry. Its armament consists of ten 24-pounders (iron guns), three field pieces, five 8-inch howitzers, one 10-inch mortar and one 8-inch mortar. It cost the Government $80,000.

Skidaway Battery is on Skidaway Island and commands the approach by the Augustin River.

Skidaway is a large island, lying parallel with the main, is about twelve miles from the city, and is connected with the main land by bridges.

Fort Pulaski is a strong casemated work. According to information furnished by a deserter, the caliber of the ordnance in this fort was as follows: One rifled cannon, five 10-inch columbiads, thirty-four heavy 8-inch and 32s, four 10-inch mortars, and one 12-inch. The latter is posted near the wharf to the southward of the fort. A supply of 100 tuns of powder and shell is stored in the magazine. The troops, of whom there were said to be 500 in the works, are armed with smooth-bore muskets.

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF TENNESSEE

FELLOW-CITIZENS: Tennessee assumed the form of a body politic, as one of the United States of America, in the year 1796, at once entitled to all the privileges of the Federal Constitution, and bound by all its obligations. For nearly sixty-five years she continued in the enjoyment of all her rights, and in the performance of all her duties, one of the most loyal and devoted of the sisterhood of States. She had been honored by the elevation of two of her citizens to the highest place in the gift of the American people, and a third had been nominated for the same high office, who received a liberal though ineffective support. Her population had rapidly and largely increased, and their moral and material interests correspondingly advanced. Never was a people more prosperous, contented and happy than the people of Tennessee under the Government of the United States, and none less burdened for the support of the authority by which they were protected. They felt their Government only in the conscious enjoyment of the benefits it conferred and the blessings it bestowed.

Such was our enviable condition until within the year just past, when, under what baneful influences it is not my purpose now to inquire, the authority of the Government was set at defiance, and the Constitution and laws contemned, by a rebellious, armed force. Men who, in addition to the ordinary privileges and duties of the citizen, had enjoyed largely the bounty and official patronage of the Government, and had, by repeated oaths, obligated themselves to its support, with sudden ingratitude for the bounty and disregard of their solemn obligation, engaged, deliberately and ostentatiously in the accomplishment of its overthrow. Many, accustomed to defer to their opinions and to accept their guidance, and others, carried away by excitement or overawed by seditious clamor, arrayed themselves under their banners, thus organizing a treasonable power, which, for the time being, stifled and suppressed the authority of the Federal Government.

In this condition of affairs it devolved upon the President, bound by his official oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, and charged by the law with the duty of suppressing insurrection and domestic violence, to resist and repel this rebellious force by the military arm of the Government, and thus to re-establish the Federal authority. Congress, assembled at an early day, found him engaged in the active discharge of this momentous and responsible trust. That body came promptly to his aid, and while supplying him with treasure and arms to an extent that would previously have been considered fabulous, they, at the same time, with almost absolute unanimity declared "that this war is not waged on their part in any spirit of oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of these States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as these objects are accomplished, the war ought to cease." In this spirit, and by such co-operation, has the President conducted this mighty contest, until, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, he has caused the National flag again to float undisputed over the capitol of our State. Meanwhile the State Government has disappeared. The Executive has abdicated, the Legislature has dissolved, the Judiciary is in abeyance. The great ship of state, freighted with its precious cargo of human interests and human hopes, its sails all set, and its glorious old flag unfurled, has been suddenly abandoned by its officers and mutinous crew, and left to float at the mercy of the winds, and to be plundered by every rover upon the deep. Indeed the work of plunder has already commenced. The archives have been desecrated; the public property stolen and destroyed; the vaults of the State Bank violated, and its treasures robbed, including the funds carefully gathered and consecrated for all time to the instruction of our children.

In such a lamentable crisis, the Government of the United States could not be unmindful of its high constitutional obligation to guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government, an obligation which every State has a direct and immediate interest in having observed toward every other State; and from which, by no action on the part of the people in any State, can the Federal Government be absolved. A republican form of government, in consonance with the Constitution of the United States, is one of the fundamental conditions of our political existence, by which every part of the country is alike bound, and from which no part can escape. This obligation the National Government is now attempting to discharge. I have been appointed, in the absence of the regular and established State authorities, as Military Governor for the time being, to preserve the public property of the State, to give the protection of law actively enforced to her citizens, and, as speedily as may be, to restore her government to the same condition as before the existing rebellion.

In this grateful but arduous undertaking, I shall avail myself of all the aid that may be afforded by my fellow-citizens. And for this purpose, I respectfully, but earnestly invite all the people of Tennessee, desirous or willing to see a restoration of her ancient Government, without distinction of party affiliations or past political opinions or action to unite with me, by counsel and cooperative agency, to accomplish this great end. I find most, if not all of the offices, both State and Federal, vacated, either by actual abandonment, or by the action of the incumbents in attempting to subordinate their functions to a power in hostility to the fundamental law of the State, and subversive of her National allegiance. These offices must be filled temporarily, until the State shall be restored so far to its accustomed quiet, that the people can peaceably assemble at the ballot-box and select agents of their own choice. Otherwise anarchy would prevail, and no man's life or property would be safe from the desperate and unprincipled.

I shall, therefore, as early as practicable, designate for various positions under the State and County governments, from among my fellow-citizens, persons of probity and intelligence, and bearing true allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, who will execute the functions of their respective offices, until their places can be filled by the action of the people. Their authority, when their appointments shall have been made, will be accordingly respected and observed.

To the people themselves the protection of the Government is extended. All their rights will be duly respected, and their wrongs redressed when made known. Those who through the dark and weary night of rebellion have maintained their allegiance to the Federal Government will be honored. The erring and misguided will be welcomed on their return. And while it may become necessary, in vindicating the violated majesty of the law, and in reasserting its imperial sway, to punish intelligent and conscious treason in high places, no merely retaliatory or vindictive policy will be adopted. To those especially who in a private, unofficial capacity have assumed an attitude of hostility to the Government, a full and complete amnesty for all past acts and declarations is offered, upon the one condition of their again yielding themselves peaceful citizens to the just supremacy of the laws. This I advise them to do for their own good and for the peace and welfare of our beloved State, endeared to me by the associations of long and active years, and by the enjoyment of her highest honors.

And, appealing to my fellow-citizens of Tennessee, I point you to my long public life as a pledge for the sincerity of my motives and an earnest for the performance of my present and future duties.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Executive Office, March 18, 1862.

DISLOYAL CLERGYMEN IN WASHINGTON.

The National Intelligencer of Monday has the following statement:

"As an item of local news, we may mention that two of the Protestant Episcopal Churches of this city—the Church of the Ascension, Rev. Dr. Pinkney, and Christ Church, Rev. Mr. Morsell—were closed yesterday by order of the Provost Marshal. This step, we understand, grew out of the refusal of these two reverend gentlemen to read a special prayer which the Bishop of the Diocese not long since prescribed for the churches of this city, to be read as a part of the Sunday services of the church, and of disorderly or riotous proceedings apprehended in consequence of that refusal."

The case of the Rev. E. W. Syle, Rector of Trinity Church, has excited a great deal of comment. On the 24th of March the Vestry adopted the following printed resolutions:

Resolved, That the omission on the part of our temporary Rector, Rev. E. W. Syle, to read with the services of the sanctuary the prayer of thanksgiving for the victories vouchsafed to the Union armies, and also for the preservation of the national capital from the terrors of blockade and siege, recently prescribed by the Bishop of this diocese, is offensive to the loyal feelings of the Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church, and if allowed to pass unrebuked, the said omission is justly calculated to excite suspicion as to their loyalty as citizens of the congregation worshiping in said church, while it would also show that they are wanting in a proper respect for ecclesiastical propriety.

Resolved, That the highest and best interests of Trinity Church require that the connexion with it of Rev. E. W. Syle should be immediately severed.

The Washington Star having alluded to the action of Mr. Syle, he has addressed to that journal the following epistle.

To the Editor of The Washington Evening Star.

SIR: Allow me, through your columns, to ask the writer of a paragraph in your issue of yesterday what is meant by the word "disloyalty," as applied to myself.

I beg that this question may be answered promptly, fully, and distinctly—without reference to other persons or other topics—as a matter concerning myself personally, and one in which I have a right to ask for a clear explanation.

So long as communications to the public papers confine themselves to the region of fact, or even of fiction—avowedly such—concerning the conduct of individuals, no one need complain of journalism; it is respectable. But when enemy-made writers travel off into the wilderness of falsehood, and would draw others away with them, it may be worth while to call them back and give them a word of warning.

To the first article—that of March 24—in which my course was referred to, there was no exception to be taken, as far as I myself was concerned; other people's affairs I leave to be cared for by themselves. But in the paragraph of yesterday, I find a statement in which the truth concerning myself is involved; hence my question to which I again request that a clear and simple answer may be given.

Let me also ask the writer to be good enough to spell my name correctly whenever he may have occasion to use it.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

E. W. SYLE, No. 21 Indiana avenue.

Saturday, 29th March, 1862.

The Star rejoins:

"Mr. Syle voluntarily places himself among those preachers of this city and elsewhere, upon whom suspicion has been drawn by their persistent refusal to read the prayer of thanksgiving, ordered by their church authorities, for the success of the arms of the United States against the traitors now in hostile array against the Government; and now he has the assurance to ask us what we have to say about his loyalty. It strikes us, that under the circumstances, he is the person to set himself right upon the record. We know nothing of him personally, and he may be the best Union man living, for aught we know, beyond the fact of his refusing to offer the prayer for the Union arms prescribed by Bishop Whittingham. But if he is a Union man we venture to suggest that it is due to himself that he should explain how it is that he is found disobeying the orders of his Bishop and violating his Union convictions!

"It is stated that the Rev. Mr. Syle denies the authority of the Vestry, and has given them formal notice that he will submit the question to the membership. He officiated in Trinity Church yesterday."

THE CAPTURE OF NEW-MADRID.

GEN. POPE'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE MISSISSIPPI, NEW-MADRID, March 14, 1862.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the General commanding the Department, the following report of the operations which resulted in the capture of this place.

I arrived before this town with the forces under my command on Monday, the 3d inst. I found the place occupied by five regiments of infantry and several companies of artillery. One, instead of earth work, mounting fourteen heavy guns, about half a mile below the town, and another irregular work at the upper end of the town, mounting seven pieces of heavy artillery, together with lines of intrenchments between them, constituted the defensive works. Six gunboats, carrying from four to eight heavy guns each, were anchored along the shore, between the upper and lower redoubts.

The country is perfectly level for miles around the place, and as the river is so high that the guns of the gunboats looked directly over the banks, the approaches to the town for several miles were commanded by direct and cross fire from at least sixty guns of heavy caliber.

It would not have been difficult to carry the intrenchments, but it would have been attended with heavy loss, and we should not have been able to hold the place half an hour, exposed to the destructive fire of the gunboats. As there seemed no immediate hope of the appearance of our own gunboats, it became necessary to bring down a few heavy guns by land to operate against those of the enemy. They were accordingly sent for, and meantime, forced reconnoissances were pushed over the whole ground and into several parts of the town. Some brisk skirmishes resulted, in which the enemy invariably retreated precipitately. It was found impossible to induce them to trust any considerable force of their infantry outside of their intrenchments. As soon as I found that it would be necessary to await the arrival of our heavy guns, I determined to occupy some point on the river below, and establish our small guns, if possible, in such position as to blockade the river so far as transports were concerned, and to cut off supplies and reinforcements for the enemy from below.

Point Pleasant, twelve miles below, was selected, as being in a rich agricultural region, and being the terminus of the Plank Road from the interior of Arkansas. I accordingly threw forward Col. Plummer, 11th Missouri, to that point, with three regiments of infantry, three companies of cavalry, and a field battery (Hopkins' Parrott and rifled guns), with orders to make a lodgement on the river bank, to line the bank with rifle pits for a thousand men, and to establish his artillery in some batteries of single pieces between the rifle pits. This arrangement was made to present as small a mark as possible to the shells of the gunboats, and to render futile the use of round shot from their heavy guns. Col. Plummer marched with all speed, and after some cannonading from gunboats which he found there, succeeded in making a lodgement, constructing his batteries and rifle pits, and occupying them in sufficient force to maintain them against any open assault.

After repeated and persistent cannonading from the gunboats, the enemy found it impossible to dislodge him, and he maintained unchallenged his position, and the blockade of the river to transports during the whole of our operations. Meantime the enemy continued every day to reinforce New-Madrid from Island No. 10, until, on the 12th, they had 2,000 infantry, beside a considerable force of artillery and the gunboats. The fleet was commanded by Commodore Hollins, the land forces by Generals McCown, Stewart, and Gantt. On the 11th, the siege guns were delivered to Col. Bissell's Engineer Regiment, who had been sent to Cairo for the purpose. They were at once shipped to Sikeston, reached there at sunset on the 12th, were placed in battery during the same night, within 800 yards of the enemy's main work, so as to command that and the river above it, and opened fire at daylight on the 13th, just 34 hours after they were received at Cairo. One brigade, consisting of the 16th and 18th Illinois, under Col. Morgan, of the 16th, was detailed to cover the construction of the battery, and to work in the trenches. They were supported by Stanley's Division, consisting of the 27th and 39th Ohio, under Col. Groesbeck, and the 43d and 63d Ohio, under Col. Smith. Capt. Mower, 1st United States Infantry, with Companies A and H of his regiment, was placed in charge of the siege guns. The enemy's pickets and grand guards were driven in by Col. Morgan, from the ground selected for the battery, without firing a shot, although the enemy fired several volleys of musketry.

The work was prosecuted in silence, and with the utmost rapidity, until at 3 p. m. two small redoubts, connected by a curtain, and mounting the four heavy guns which had been sent me, were completed, together with rifle pits in front and on the flanks for two regiments of infantry. Our batteries opened as soon as the day dawned, and were replied to in front and on the flanks by the whole of the enemy's heavy artillery on the land and water. As our supply of ammunition for heavy artillery was very limited, I directed Capt. Mower to fire only occasionally at the enemy's land batteries, and to concentrate all his fire upon the gunboats. Our guns were served by Capt. Mower with vigor and skill, and in a few hours disabled several of the gunboats, and dismounted three of the heavy guns in the enemy's main work. Shortly after our batteries opened, one of the 24-pound guns was struck in the muzzle by a round shot from the enemy's batteries and disabled.

The cannonading was continued furiously all day by the gunboats and land batteries of the enemy, but without producing any impression upon us. Meantime, during the whole day, our trenches were being extended and advanced, as it was my purpose to push forward our heavy batteries in the course of the night to the bank of the river. While the cannonading was thus going on, on our right, I instructed Gen. Paine to make a demonstration against intrenchments on our left, and supported his movement by Palmer's Division. The enemy's pickets and grand guards were driven into his intrenchments, and the skirmishers forced their way close to the main ditch.

A furious thunder-storm began to rage about 11 o'clock that night, and continued almost without intermission until morning. Just before daylight, Gen. Stanley was relieved in the trenches with his division by Gen. Hamilton. A few minutes after daylight, a flag of truce approached our batteries with information that the enemy had evacuated his works. Small parties were at once advanced by Gen. Hamilton to ascertain whether such was the fact, and Capt. Mower, 1st U. S. Infantry, with Companies A and H of that regiment, was sent forward to plant the United States flag over the abandoned works.

A brief examination of them disclosed how hasty and precipitate had been the flight of the enemy. Their dead were found unburied, their suppers untouched standing on the tables, candles burning in the tents, and every other evidence of a disgraceful panic. Private baggage of officers, and knapsacks of men were left behind. Neither provisions nor ammunition were carried off. Some attempt was made to carry ammunition, as boxes without number were found on the bank of the river where the steamers had been landed.

It is almost impossible to give any exact account of the immense quantities of property and supplies left in our hands. All their artillery, field batteries and siege guns, amounting to 31 pieces; magazines full of fixed ammunition of the best character; several thousand stand of inferior small-arms, with hundreds of boxes of musket cartridges, tents for an army of 10,000 men, horses, mules, wagons, intrenching tools, &c., are among the spoils. Nothing except the men escaped, and they only with what they were. They landed on the opposite side of the river, and are scattered in the wide bottoms. I immediately advanced Hamilton's division into the place, and had the guns of the enemy turned upon the river, which they completely command.

The flight of the enemy was so hasty that they abandoned their pickets, and gave no intimation to the forces at Island No. 10. The consequence is that one gunboat and ten large steamers, which were there, are cut off from below, and must either be destroyed or fall into our hands. Island No. 10 must necessarily be evacuated, as it can neither be re-enforced nor supplied from below.

During the operations here, the whole of the forces were at different times brought under the fire of the enemy, and behaved themselves with great gallantry and coolness. It seems proper, however, that I should make special mention of those more directly concerned in the final operations against the place.

The 19th and 16th Illinois, commanded respectively by Cols. Morgan and J. R. Smith, were detailed as guards to the proposed trenches, and to aid in constructing them. They marched from camp at sunset on the 12th, and drove in the pickets and grand guards of the enemy, as they were ordered, at shouldered arms, and without returning a shot; covered the front of the intrenching parties, and occupied the trenches and rifle-pits during the whole day and night of the 12th, under furious and incessant cannonading from sixty pieces of heavy artillery. At the earnest request of their Colonels, their regimental flags were kept flying over our trenches, though they offered a conspicuous mark to the enemy. The coolness, courage, and cheerfulness of these troops, exposed for two nights and a day to the furious fire of the enemy at short range, and to the severe storm which raged during the whole night of the 12th, are beyond all praise, and delighted and astonished every officer who witnessed them. The division of Gen. Stanley, consisting of the 27th, 39th, 43d and 63d Ohio Regiments, supported the battery from 2 o'clock a. m. on the 13th, to daylight on the 14th, exposed to the full fury of the cannonade without being able to return a shot, and the severe storm of that night, and displayed coolness, courage and fortitude worthy of all praise. In fact, the conduct of the troops of this command so far exceeded my expectations, that I was astonished and delighted, and feel very safe in predicting for them a brilliant career in arms.

To General Stanley, who commanded in the trenches on the 13th, and to General Hamilton, who relieved him on the morning of the 14th, I am specially indebted, not only for their efficient aid on the last days of the operations here, but for their uniform zeal and cooperation during the whole of the operations near this place.

Brigadier-General Plummer, commanding at Point Pleasant, is entitled to special commendation for the bold and skillful manner in which he effected a lodgement at that place, under fire of the enemy's gunboats, and for the determined perseverance with which he maintained himself and the blockade of the river for days under heavy fire of the enemy.

Captain Mower, 1st United States Infantry, who, with two companies of his regiment (A and H), had charge of the batteries and served the guns, I desire to present to your special notice. A more gallant and efficient officer is not to be found with this command, and his eminent services during the reduction of this place entitle him to special notice. Col. J. W. Bissell, Engineer Regiment, rendered me most valuable service both before and during the bombardment of the place. He conducted the erection of the heavy batteries, and remained in them until the enemy evacuated the place. Major Lothrop, Chief of Artillery, has distinguished himself throughout the operations.

My personal staff, Major Butler, Assistant Adjutant-General, Major C. A. Morgan, and Capt. L. H. Marshall, Aide-de-Camp, and Major Corse, Inspector General, were prompt and efficient in conveying my orders under fire of the enemy.

I transmit, inclosed, the reports of Division and Brigade Commanders immediately concerned in the final operations. Major-General Stanley, commanding in the trenches, and of Major Lothrop, Chief of Artillery, Col. J. W. Bissell, Engineers, has been too incessantly occupied to make a written report, but desires to mention the following officers of this regiment who displayed unusual gallantry: Lieut.-Col. Adams, Captains Davis, Hill and Tweseddale, and Lieuts. Odenbaugh, Randolph and Bester.

Our whole loss during the operations was fifty-one killed and wounded. A detailed list will be transmitted as soon as it can be made. The enemy's loss cannot be ascertained. A number of his dead were left unburied, and more than a hundred new graves attested that he must have suffered severely.

I am, General, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN POPE, Brigadier-General Commanding.

Brig.-Gen. G. W. CULLUM, Chief of Staff and of Engineers, Department of the Mississippi, St. Louis.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GEN. POPE AND REBEL OFFICERS.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE MISSISSIPPI, NEW-MADRID, March 17, 1862.

CAPTAIN: I transmit the enclosed correspondence between Major-Gen. McCown, commanding the Confederate Forces, and myself for the information of the General commanding the Department.

Respectfully, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN POPE,

Brig.-Gen. Commanding.

Capt. A. H. McLean, Assistant Adj.-Gen. Department of the Mississippi.

HEADQUARTERS MADRID BEND, March 17, 1862.

GENERAL: I have many sick. Humanity demands that they should be placed where they should receive treatment away from the conflict of arms. Dr. Yandall, Medical Director, is commissioned to propose measures for their relief.

Your obedient servant,

J. P. McCOWN,

Major-Gen. Commanding Confederate Forces.

General Commanding Federal Forces at New-Madrid, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS NEW-MADRID, March 17, 1862.

Brigadier-Gen. SCHUYLER HAMILTON, *U. S. A.*

You will please repair to the upper redoubt and ascertain from Dr. Yandall, who brought me the inclosed letter, what measures he proposes in regard to the sick, and obtain from him such other information as will enable me to act understandingly.

Respectfully, General, your obedient servant,

JOHN POPE,

Brigadier-General Commanding.

NEW-MADRID, March 17, 1862.

At my request Gen. McCown allowed me to take the present step for the sake of removing some of our sick from Madrid Bend. I wish only to remove those who are too sick to bear transportation by wagon, and also if it be allowed, to remove the women and children from Madrid Bend. No army stores or private property will be carried on the boat, save provisions for the persons on board. Madrid Bend is the same port as Island No. 10. SANFORD P. YANDALL, JR., Medical Director, Gen. McCown's Division, C. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, NEW-MADRID, March 17, 1862.

SIR: Your note of this date, sent through Dr. Yandall, is before me. It is proposed to me that the sick of your command be permitted to pass down on the river to some place of safety.

This seems to me a singular request, under the circumstances. After a successful reduction of this place for the simple purpose of blockading the river, I am asked to suspend the blockade in order that you may disembarrass yourself of the sick and disabled of your command during an attack which you must have anticipated long enough to remove them in advance.

I do not feel justified in acceding to your request, as I do not propose to suspend the blockade, under any circumstances, until the operations above me are concluded.

I am, Sir, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN POPE, Brigadier-General Commanding.

Major-Gen. J. P. McCown, Commanding C. S. A., etc.

FROM HATTERAS.

The steamship Marion, Capt. James D. Phillips, from Hatteras Inlet March 31, 6 p. m., in ballast to United States Quartermaster, arrived on Wednesday morning. She left Annapolis March 28 in company with steamships Fulton, Ericsson and Star of the South. Arrived at Hatteras Inlet March 30, 1 p. m. No especial news from Newbern.

The 8th Connecticut and 4th Rhode Island had advanced within four miles of Beaufort, N. C. Fort Macon would be stormed as soon as re-enforcements arrived. The town of Goldsborough had been strongly fortified. Left the steamships Fulton and Ericsson at the Inlet.

Passengers.—Major Binney, United States Paymaster; Geo. E. Bayles, Division Sutler.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.—The United States transport Star of the South arrived on Wednesday morning from Hatteras Inlet on the 31st March. She reports nothing new from North Carolina.

UNION OCCUPATION OF PARIS, TENN.—*The Memphis Appeal* of the 20th says:

Scouts who arrived at Humboldt on Friday report the occupation of Paris by a Union force, 10,000 strong, on Monday evening last. No resistance was made by the Confederate troops in the vicinity, as the force of the Unionists was known to be overwhelming.

The Memphis Appeal of the 20th says the New-Orleans Vigilance Committee have passed a resolution denouncing all who trade in money to the injury of the Confederate notes as traitors; and such a course is urged on the Mobile Committee of Safety also. The effect in New-Orleans was to check the demand for coin, and the last sale was at 20 per cent less than a week previous.

THE FLAG OF THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.

ADDITIONAL VERSES TO AN OLD SONG.

BY THE REV. J. G. FORMAN.

I.

BLEST banner of Freedom! thy pinion
Floats wide o'er the land and the sea;
The emblem of peaceful dominion,
Our eyes turn with rapture to thee.
Though war-clouds and dangers are o'er us,
Thy folds are still dear to our view;
With the flag of our country before us,
We march to the Red, White and Blue,
We march to the Red, White and Blue,
We march to the Red, White and Blue;
With the flag of our country before us,
We march to the Red, White and Blue.

II.

The glorious ensign ne'er sever,
Let it float in the ether above,
Its stars the bright symbol, forever,
Of Union and Freedom and Love.
May they never grow dim in their shining,
Nor fade from their colors so true,
The stars and the stripes still entwining,
Hurrah for the Red, White and Blue.

Though traitors shall meet and dissemble,
And armies of Rebels shall rise,
Our banner shall cause them to tremble
As it waves in the bright Southern skies;
And millions of patriot voices
Shall the chorus of Freedom renew,
And shout as the nation rejoices,
Hurrah for the Red, White and Blue.

Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Feb., 1862.

AID TO THE CONTRABANDS.

The Herald and *The Express* and a correspondent of *The N. Y. Times* having taken occasion within a day or two to attack the societies which have been formed to render aid to the colored people of the South who have been abandoned by their masters on the approach of our armies, it is due to those societies and to the public that a statement should be made in refutation.

Hitherto the action of those societies has been confined to Port Royal, in the County of Beaufort, South Carolina, where, according to the census of 1860, 89 per cent of the population were slaves; where, according to the report of the Government agent, there were, in February last, over 15,000 without employment or means of gaining a livelihood; where Government is issuing to the negroes some 20,000 rations a day to keep them from starving; where their clothing was wearing out, where medical aid had been withdrawn and disease was spreading, and where prompt action was necessary in order to prevent greater suffering in the future, and perhaps disorder and insurrection.

Therefore three societies have been formed in Boston, New-York, and Philadelphia, to appeal to the humane for aid. Such appeal has been readily responded to, and the societies have already sent out to Port Royal some 60 persons, and over 100 cases or boxes of clothing, beside provisions and agricultural implements.

The object in view, and the mode of attaining it, are clearly expressed in the following extracts from the New-York organization:

"I. They must be treated as Freemen.

"II. As such they must earn their livelihood as we do, and not be dependent on charity.

"III. Their labor must be performed under a well-organized superintendence.

"IV. They will receive compensation for their labor in the shape of daily wages, reserving thereout a sufficient per centage to defray the cost of superintendence.

"V. As soon as their labor shall be organized they will be required to provide their own support.

"VI. In the meanwhile, and until their earnings shall provide the means of their support, they will be aided with food, clothing, and sh