FROM GEN. HALLECK'S ARMY.

The Expulsion of the Press.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CAIRO, Wednesday, May 21, 1862.

Gen. Halleck has already conducted a vigorous campaign against the negroes—a purely one-sided conflict, for

"Bondage is here and may not speak aloud."

He now opens a war upon the members of the Press, who will perhaps be allowed to reply for themselves. The correspondents join in a statement of the facts concerning their expulsion from his army; but some further details are essential to a full understanding of the case.

GEN. HALLECK'S FORMER POLICY.

Until recently, Gen. Halleck tolerated journalists in his camps, and they remained, in spite of the supercilious treatment of his two Provost-Marshals, with whom they were necessarily brought in contact. Gen. Grant threw no obstructions in their way, in his corps. Gen. Buell, as usual, attempted to exclude them from his, but three or four remained without his knowledge. Gen. Pope, with his entire staff, and Col. Thos. A. Scott, Assistant Secretary of War, who accompanies him, treated them with uniform courtesy, recognized their presence as legitimate, and afforded them every facility for observing and writing intelligently.

TWO MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF.

On the 16th inst., Major J. F. Key, Provost-Marshal-General of the army in the field, stated to Mr. Colburn of *The N. Y. World* that correspondents had been paid to speak favorably of certain officers. The next day the journalists waited upon him in a body, and demanded, in justice to themselves, the name of any correspondent who had done this, that they might expose and denounce him. At first, Maj. Key seemed having made the statement; then attempted to evade the question; finally admitted it, but could give no name whatever and sought to excuse the charge by vague generalities. Capt. W. Willard Smith, Assistant Provost-Marshal, also subjected the Press to special indignities. He comes from Dubuque, Iowa, is represented to be a relative of Gen. Halleck, and presented him with a valuable horse before his appointment on the staff.

THE ORDER EXCLUDING CORRESPONDENTS.

As there was an important interpolation in the order aimed at the members of the Press, as it was sent by telegraph, I give the text of the clause relating to it as follows:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI, MONTEREY, TENN., May 18, 1862.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 46.—

Corinth will be placed along Chambers Creek, and no officer or soldier will be permitted to pass to the rear, and no citizen to the front of that line, without special authority. Commanders of Army Corps and Divisions will see that their camps are cleared of all unauthorized dangerous, and any one attempting to evade this order will be compelled to work on the intrenchments and batteries, or in constructing roads. The Provost-Marshal of the army will report to these headquarters any officer or whatever rank who may neglect to enforce this order, or connive at its violation.

By order of Maj.-Gen. HALLECK.

J. C. KELTON, Asst Adjutant-General.

Notwithstanding the different reason which Gen. Halleck alleged for issuing the Order, its primary purpose was doubtless to remove the members of the Press. Several weeks ago he announced in conversation that he should exclude them when the army moved forward. A day or two before, when the issue had not yet been raised, he stated that he was about to order the correspondents out of the lines.

THE REAL DIFFICULTY.

In spite of his repeated statement to us that he cared nothing whatever about anything published in the newspapers, it is well known that he has made the correspondence from his army the subject of serious complaint, on the ground that it often misrepresented facts, and was partial and unjust in its treatment of officers. Doubtless there is some valid reason for complaint in both respects. But neither Gen. Halleck nor any other military officer can appreciate the *extreme* difficulty which the most conscientious and impartial journalists, even when the largest facilities are extended to them, experience in arriving at the truth, especially in regard to a battle. When they have hunted down every rumor, by going to the highest authority in all cases, and attempted to sift the exact truth from the wretched jealousies which army life so largely engenders, there are always direct and positive contradictions, upon material points, between officers of high rank, about occurrences which they both witnessed.

But admit the evil of which Gen. Halleck complains, does his remedy remove, or aggravate it? He ought to know that the manner in which correspondents were treated, even prior to their expulsion, tends to repel the best class of journalists from the army. Those accustomed to associate with gentlemen at home are not disposed to subject themselves to insult from any sub-marshal, or other petty officer, who may chance to wear shoulder-straps. They have little temptation to go where they have no recognized position, and are regarded as "*unauthorized hangers-on.*" And which were the more likely to do justice to Gen. Halleck's army—the thirty correspondents, representing all the leading journals, with free access to the camps, where they could ask information from all sources, and judge for themselves, or the three or four who now remain, disguised in soldiers' clothing, or hiding from detection—their fields of observation restricted—themselves indignant at the injustice which hunts them down, and grateful to the officers who aid them in evading it?

THE INTERVIEWS WITH GEN. HALLECK.

We endeavored, as a body, to treat Gen. Halleck with entire respect, as the language of the memorial and resolution will show. At our first interview, he seemed to try to be courteous; at the second his deportment was unmistakably rude and insulting. He offered to *send* us news, if we would remain just outside the lines, and said he had no objection to our coming in to witness any general battle which might occur. Both these propositions were impracticable and frivolous. The operations are a long series of skirmishes along the lines, instead of a general engagement. Even within the camps, several miles nearer than his proposed line, engagements have frequently lasted four or five hours before we could learn their exact locality and reach them.

The upshot is simply this. The members of the Press do not write to please Gen. Halleck, and though they are ready to submit to all wholesome regulations, and hold themselves amenable to severe punishment if they infract them, he decides that they shall not remain with his army. How different was the conduct of his predecessor! With Gen. Fremont's army in the field, even correspondents who were subjecting the conduct of the commander to the most bitter criticism and censure, were not merely tolerated, but furnished, like their co-laborers, with transportation, camp equipage, horses, and the same facilities for transmitting letters which were enjoyed by the General himself!

The journalists have left the army, in the midst of its important operations, with extreme regret. They do not wish to obtrude their individual or collective grievances upon the public, except so far as they relate to a grave and weighty issue between the Military Power and the rights of the Press and the People. R.

UNITED PROTEST OF THE EXCLUDED REPORTERS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CAIRO, May 21, 1862.

The members of the press compelled to retire from Halleck's army unite in the following statement:

On the 13th inst. Gen. Halleck issued an order expelling all unauthorized hangers-on from the army line, threatening to compel every one attempting to evade it to work on the intrenchments, and instructing the Provost-Marshal to report for summary punishment any officer of whatever rank neglecting to enforce the order, or conniving at its violation.

In reply to an official inquiry from Major-Gen. Pope, Gen. Halleck stated he included newspaper correspondents among the "unauthorized hangers on." All the journalists who could be notified then met, and, with a single exception, united in presenting this memorial to Major-Gen. Halleck:

GENERAL: The undersigned, loyal citizens and accredited representatives of loyal journals, respectfully represent that they come in compliance with the order of Secretary Stanton, authorizing journalists to go with the army, some of them bearing passes issued by his authority, and have remained here several weeks for the sole and exclusive purpose of recording the pending battle. They are now informed that Field Order No. 54 requires them to leave the army lines.

While they will not attempt to remain unless they can do so openly, with the permission of Maj.-Gen. Halleck, there are many newspaper letter-writers attached to the army in fictitious capacities, who, notwithstanding any precautions that may be taken, will succeed in evading Field Order No. 54, and remaining with the army, while the duly accredited and responsible representatives of the press are excluded, is manifest injustice to themselves and the journals which they represent.

While desirous of avoiding everything injurious to the army or any portion of it, they represent that their exclusion, just on the eve of a battle which they came here especially to record, will be unjust to the loyal journals, and to the country which looks to them for information, and they respectfully ask whether, as has been suggested by Col. Scott, Assistant Secretary of War, there are any conditions on which they will be permitted to remain.

To this memorial we tried to secure a written answer, but failed. Gen. Halleck replied verbally, that he knew nothing of our loyalty, that the enemy had spies in our camps, and that to make sure of excluding them, he had resolved to exclude all civilians, and would make no exceptions. If we could suggest any way of obviating this difficulty in our case, he had no objection to our remaining. He alleged no offense against any of us as journalists, and said, repeatedly, "I have no objections to what you may write. I care nothing about what the newspapers publish."

After further conference held at his suggestion, we unitedly presented the following resolution:

That we will all present to Gen. Halleck satisfactory proofs of our loyalty, give him our whereabouts in the army, that he may know where to find us at all times, and give the exact parole of honor which the Secretary of War has announced will be required of journalists as a condition precedent to their passing within the army lines, under his order, which is now in force in all the other military departments of the United States.

Upon receiving the resolution, Gen. Halleck replied abruptly, "It will not do at all;" repeated that he would take no proofs of our loyalty, and turned his back upon the Committee, who at once withdrew.

The order, in its general application, is not rigidly enforced. Many civilians remain in the camp; others pass in daily from the rear without encountering any obstacles. On the day before our conference, civilians passed directly from Gen. Halleck's headquarters on the most traveled road through the camps, and outside all our pickets, toward Corinth, without interruption. We ourselves might have remained, as the regimental and general officers freely tendered us non-usual military positions or offered to assist otherwise in evading the order, but self-respect forbade us to assume borrowed robes or dodge Provost Marshals, by skulking like criminals in places of concealment. But one honorable course was left us—our immediate withdrawal.

Two of our number had passes authorizing them to pass within the lines of any United States forces, issued at the War Department "by order of the Secretary of War," and signed by Col. Anson Stager. Gen. Halleck said he had no official knowledge of the issue of such passes, and if he had he should not respect them. Gen. Halleck suggested that if we would remain in the rear of the army he would furnish the news. Inquiry, however, showed that he meant merely to give us access to a bulletin-board at Pittsburg Landing, 17 miles in the rear, on which are posted abstracts of the dispatches to the Associated Press.

Thus far the Associated Press dispatches have been just and trustworthy, but Gen. Halleck only permits them so long as they are prepared under his supervision by a member of his staff.

The matter amounts, therefore, simply to this, that Gen. Halleck, for the alleged purpose of ridding the camp of "spies," determines that the people of the United States shall have no information in the public press (unless smuggled through) concerning the condition of his army, the treatment and conduct of its soldiers, or the management of battles and other movements, save such as comes from himself or some officer of the army whom he shall designate.

THOS. W. KNOX, New-York Herald.
A. D. RICHARDSON, New-York Tribune.
C. C. COFFIN, Boston Journal.
J. WHITTON REED, Cincinnati Gazette.
F. G. CHAPMAN, New-York Herald.
W. E. WELLS, Missouri Republican.
G. W. BERAN, St. Louis Democrat.
RICHARD J. HINTON, Chicago Tribune.
S. S. WILKIE, New-York Times.
JOSEPH A. WARE, Philadelphia Press.
J. A. FOST, St. Louis Democrat.
JAS. B. MCCULLOUGH, Cincinnati Commercial.
P. FITZPATRICK, New-York Herald.
J. J. GILBERT, Cincinnati Gazette.

Seven others have concurred in our course, but are not present to affix their signatures.

FROM BEAUREGARD'S ARMY DIRECT.

Our correspondent sends us a copy of *The Missouri Army Argus* of the 13th inst., published at Camp Churchill Clark, near Corinth, from which we make the following interesting extracts:

NAPOLEONIC.

We call attention to the letter of Gen. Beauregard, addressed to Gen. Van Dorn and published elsewhere, requiring the names of all officers and privates who distinguish themselves to be reported to him, as well as the names of all those who misbehave or abandon their colors.

This step inaugurates a new era in the army of the South. It has long been a complaint that once in the ranks always in the ranks. No matter how gallant a private might behave, it is argued that he never was promoted. Now we cannot say whether this be true or not. But one thing is certain, that in the future the rule of Napoleon, which made his army the best the world ever saw, is to be the rule of our army. Several of Napoleon's Field Marshals rose from the ranks. Undoubtedly there are many men in the ranks who are worthy of being made officers, and there are many officers who ought to be in the ranks. This order, if steadily followed out, will do justice to the service. Let every man recollect that the road to distinction is now open to every soldier, whether private or officer. All experience attests that a brave army suffers less in killed and wounded than a hesitating, laggard army. Whenever it is necessary to charge, charge impetuously. No Federal regiment can withstand a bold and fearless bayonet charge. We believe that when every ounce of powder and lead is shot away, our army, if properly drilled, will really be stronger than it ever was. The greatest minds in the South are coming to the conclusion that our liberties are to be won by the bayonet. Those regiments or companies that most distinguish themselves in bayonet charges will march on the true road to honor and preferment.

We trust that all regimental commanders will faithfully execute this order of Gen. Beauregard. Let our men see that great merit will not be overlooked. Let them feel that if they dare and suffer, their gallantry will be acknowledged and rewarded.

Men of the Army of the West! Here is a chance for you. By unexampled bravery write your names high on the roll of fame. If we succeed in this war—and we cannot doubt our final success—the Southern Confederacy is obliged to become a military people—ten times more military than we ever have been. Every boy must have a military as well as a common-school education. You who distinguish yourselves now will be the future military directors of our country, to say nothing of the fact that your names will be repeated in song as the deliverers of our race from the thraldom of Federal cruelty and oppression.

BEAUREGARD'S ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE MISSISSIPPI, CORINTH, MISS., May 10, 1862.

The following communication, from the Commander of the Forces is published for the information and guidance of this army. Let it respond to this emphatic command of "Forward, and always Forward," and the Northern horde, now approaching us, will fly as "chaff before the wind."

HEADQUARTERS, WESTERN DEPARTMENT, CORINTH, MISS., May 10, 1862.

Immediately after any engagement with the enemy, you will require each regimental commander to forward to these Headquarters, for publication in orders, the names of those officers and privates of his regiment who shall have most distinguished themselves; as well as those who have misbehaved or abandoned their colors on the field of battle. Regiments whose gallantry and bravery shall have been most conspicuous, will be allowed to inscribe on their banners the name of the battle-field on which they were engaged, but regiments misbehaving in action will be deprived of their colors until they may have shown themselves worthy of defending them.

From the difficulty of communicating orders in the country in which we are operating, it is necessary that each Division, Brigade, and Regimental Commander should clearly understand that, when without orders, or at a loss to know what to do in action, they must rapidly advance in the direction of the heaviest firing; for the art of war consists in concentration of masses. Moreover, our motto should be "Forward, and always forward!" until victory may perch decisively upon our banners. The more rapid the attack, the weaker, habitually, the resistance.

Respectfully, General, your ob't serv't,
G. T. BEAUREGARD, General Com'g.

To Major Gen. BRAXTON BRAGG, Com'g Army of the Miss.
By command of Gen. Bragg.
(Signed.) GEO. G. GARDNER, Ass't Adj.-Gen.

GENERAL ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE FORCES, CORINTH, MISS., May 6, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 37.—I. Gen. Braxton Bragg, C. S. A., is assigned to the command of that part of the forces known as the Army of the Mississippi.

II. The following officers are announced as Chiefs in their respective Departments of the General Staff of the Forces; they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Brig.-Gen. Thos. Jordan—Chief of Staff, and of Adjutant-General's Department.

Brig.-Gen. J. E. Slaughter—Inspector-General's Department.

Major Eugene E. McLean—Quartermaster's Department. C. S. A., in Department of Supplies and Means of Transportation.

Major A. J. Smith—Chief in Pay Department.
Lieut.-Col. R. B. Lee—Chief of Subsistence Department.
Surgeon R. S. Brodie—Medical Director.
Col. John Pegram, C. S. A.—Chief of Engineers.
Col. W. G. Gill—Chief of Ordnance and Artillery.
By command of Gen. Beauregard.
THOS JORDAN, A. A. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE WEST, CAMP CHURCHILL CLARK, May 10, 1862.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 18.—The following orders are republished and will be strictly enforced:

I. There will be at once organized in each brigade a Provost Guard, under an active, efficient officer, whose duty it will be to maintain good order and discipline; to have charge of prisoners; to execute punishments when awarded by proper authority; to protect the persons and property of citizens against molestation or depredation by the troops; and to prevent straggling and disorder on the march.

II. There will be in each brigade a Pioneer Party of five commissioned officers and one hundred men. This party will march at the head of the brigade, and when necessary, precede it on the march, so as to enable it to pass obstacles in the road with as little delay as possible. The officers in command should have some experience as practical engineers, and the men of the party should be able-bodied and active laborers. There will be one wagon and team allowed to the pioneer company for the purpose of conveying the necessary tools. This wagon should always be with the company. Felling axes, pick axes, mattocks, spades, and shovels will be provided for the Pioneers, and the officer in command will receipt and account for them. The pioneer company will be exempted from detail for guard, fatigue duty of detachment, except such as may be necessary for its own duties, efficiency and recreation.

III. The Inspector-General will be present daily at the recitation in tactics of the officers, and at all drills, parades, and reviews or inspections. He will render to these Headquarters a weekly report, in which he will note the failures of any officers to attend or properly discharge their prescribed duties. He will report the condition of every encampment with respect to police, discipline, and the progress of the troops in instruction. When necessary he will conduct the recitation in tactics. He will also exercise a scrutiny over the manner in which the correspondence and returns are conducted and rendered. Should he find any commissioned officer incompetent for an intelligent discharge of his duties, he will make a special report of the case in order that an examination may be made into the fitness of said officer, with a view to his removal. It will also be the duty of Inspector-Generals to select and lay out the encampments of their respective Brigades.

The Brigade Commanders will be required to encamp with their Brigades.

By order of Major-Gen. Earl Van Dorn.
DABNEY H. MAURY, A. A. G.

The editor writes in condemnation of the profanity of the army, and urges that at such a solemn time, they ought to seek to propitiate the Deity. He says:

The Confederates are God's chosen people. * * * God has often fought battles for his people. In the commencement of the revolution, God evidently was with us. A causeless panic at Manassas made our enemies, whose force was double, and whose equipments were far superior to ours, turn their backs and flee in wild disorder. This great victory made us vain. We boasted we were the greatest fighting people in the world, and that it was no trouble to whip the Yankees. Doubtless, the Almighty just stepped aside to let us see how great we were without Him. Since then, how many battles have we won? All of us know. Hilton Head, Port Royal, Henry, Donelson, Island No. 10, Nashville, and New-Orleans have fallen. Our people are beginning to see that vain is the strength of man. They are taking to sackcloth and ashes. God is being entreated to turn away his wrath and look kindly on us again. Our loved mothers, wives, daughters, and sisters, our aged men and young men, morning, noon, and night, in closets and assemblies, offer up earnest prayers for deliverance from our foes. And earnest are these supplications; for if our enemies succeed, we lose life, liberty, and property—we are enslaved, we and our children, for all time to come. Now, under such circumstances, ought men in the army to take God's name in vain?

This is followed by an article headed, "Who wins the battle?" which asserts that unless God be with them they cannot succeed.

BRILLIANT EXPLOIT.

Lt.-Col. Woodson of the 3d Kentucky Cavalry, with a detachment of 90 Texas Rangers, attacked the enemy near the point where the Decatur and Nashville Railroad crosses Elk River, on the 9th inst., killing several and capturing two captains, two lieutenants, 45 non-commissioned officers and privates, and 8 negroes. Confederate loss, four killed, including Capt. Harris of the Rangers, and seven wounded.

GOOD MARKSMANSHIP.

At the battle of Shiloh, it is estimated there were discharged on the Confederate side one million balls from small arms. The official report of the Federal loss in killed and wounded is 11,000. Allowing that the true number was much greater, say 20,000; still it leaves 980,000 shots thrown away by our soldiers! That is, our boys succeeded one time out of fifty shots in doing some execution! Forty nine misses and one hit! Now, wouldn't it be better to save the powder and lead, do less shooting and more execution?

It is known that most guns overshoot. The aim, therefore, should not be above the knee. Better shoot at the feet than fall of effect. An enemy wounded is better than an enemy killed, since to bear off and care for the wounded abstracts one or more effective men from the lines. Don't shoot wildly. You might as well not shoot at all. If you are confronted by 100,000 foes, a discharge of 300,000 balls against their lines, judiciously and coolly directed, within proper range, would decide the battle. You go out to fight and to be fought. It is a mercy to win the battle and end the war. The more execution you do, the more you have effected toward putting an end to this strife, and winning peace, liberty, and home again. Shoot close!

THE GUNBOAT FIGHT AT FORT PILLOW.

Special to Col. Coleman.

FORT PILLOW, May 12.

We fought the enemy with four of our lightest boats one hour and thirty minutes. They had eight gun and twelve mortar-boats. We sunk two gunboats and one mortar. Our loss was two killed and eight wounded; that of the enemy very heavy, as our sharpshooters literally mowed them down. We fought side by side with the enemy, and not one shot passed through our cotton breastworks. But, although our upper works are riddled, we are ready to butt again. We will be able to hold the river. W. C. C.

LATE FROM THE SOUTH.

AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION FROM JEFF. DAVIS.

On the 15th inst. a Joint Committee, appointed by the Legislature of Virginia to communicate with Jeff. Davis in relation to the defense of Richmond, made the following report:

"The Joint Committee appointed by the two Houses to communicate to the President of the Confederate States the joint resolutions of General Assembly in relation to the defense of the city, have discharged the duty confided to them, and respectfully report that their interview with the President was in the highest degree satisfactory, and his views, as communicated with entire frankness to the Committee, were well calculated to inspire them with confidence and to reassure the public mind.

"After reading the resolutions, he desired us to say to the General Assembly that he had received the communication of those resolutions with feelings of lively gratification, and instructed us to assure the Houses that it would be the effort of his life to defend the soil of Virginia, and to cover her capital.

"He further stated that he had never entertained the thought of withdrawing the army from Virginia, and abandoning the State; that it, in the course of events, the capital should fall, the necessity of which he did not see or anticipate, that would be no reason for withdrawing the army from Virginia. The war could still be successfully maintained on Virginia soil for twenty years.

"All which is respectfully submitted.
"JOHN ROBINSON, Chairman Senate Committee.
"WOOD BOULDIN, Chairman House Committee.
"A copy—Teste:
"WM. F. GORDON, jr., Clerk House of Delegates.
"By JOHN T. COWAN, Deputy."

PROCLAMATION OF GOV. LETCHER.

On the 15th, Gov. Letcher issued the following proclamation, declaring that "the Capital must not be surrendered," and calling a meeting to provide for the public defense:

"*By the Governor of Virginia—A Proclamation.*

"The General Assembly of this Commonwealth having resolved that 'the Capital of the State shall be defended to the last extremity, if such defense is in accordance with the views of the President of the Confederate States, and having declared that whatever destruction and loss of property of the State or individuals shall thereby result will be cheerfully submitted to,' and this action being warmly approved and seconded by the Executive, therefore, I do hereby request all officers who are out of service, from any cause, and all others who may be willing to unite in defending the Capital of this State, to assemble this evening at the City Hall, at 5 o'clock, and proceed forthwith to organize a force to cooperate with the Tredegar Battalion, and any other force which may be detailed for the purpose indicated. The organization, upon being reported to the Executive, will be recognized and properly officered, as prescribed by law, and be subject to the orders of the Governor for local defense, under regulations to be hereafter prescribed.

"Prompt and efficient action is absolutely necessary. We have a gallant army in the field, upon whom we fully and confidently rely; but no effort should be spared which can contribute to the noble object. The capital of Virginia must not be surrendered. Virginians must rally to the rescue.

"Given under my hand and under the seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 15th day of May, 1862, and in the 86th year of the Commonwealth. "JOHN LETCHER."

FROM NEWBERN.

The U. S. steam transport Albany, Capt. Lewis, arrived on Saturday morning, with the mails and passengers.

Nothing of importance had taken place.

The steamship Oriental, ashore 25 miles north of Hatteras, lies in the same position as when she went on. One wrecking schooner has been to her assistance, and another had been sent from Newbern. As she was not leaking at last accounts, hopes are entertained that, should the weather prove favorable, she would be got off without damage. One-half of her cargo had been thrown overboard; the balance was being lightered off. There were thrown overboard 100 tuns of hay, 1,000 boxes of hard bread, 10,000 bushels of oats, and 200 boxes of cartridges.

The express matter was lightered off, and will be probably saved.

The Albany brings back the following passengers from her:

Capt. J. G. Atwood, Vol. Eng.; Capt. J. Price, 9th Pa.; Capt. Proudit, 8th Mich.; Dr. J. D. Mitchell, Dr. W. S. Byerle, Lieut. D. C. Brow, Vol. Eng.; Lieut. E. L. Granville, 47th N. Y.; Sergt. L. Brooks, Vol. Eng.; Sergt. Massey, 47th N. Y.; Sergt. R. P. Fithian, 97th Pa.; Lieut. Babcock, 50th N. Y.; Capt. H. Wayne, 76th Pa.; Dr. H. M. Field, Lieut. F. C. Withers, Vol. Eng.; Lieut. S. Morton, 97th Pa.; Sergt. F. G. Trowbridge, Vol. Eng.; Sergt. H. Finch, Vol. Eng.; Sergt Brubaker, 97th Pa.; Sergt. W. H. Moore, 76th Pa.; E. L. Bull, Gen. Hunter's Clerk; Corp. James Cole, 45th Pa.; F. Coolie, Commissary's Clerk, and five privates 97th Pa. Also, as passengers from Newbern, Acting Major M. Hazard, 51st N. Y.; Capt. Wheeler, 5th R. I.; Lieut. Chapman, Adj. 5th R. I.; George Ridgley, Captain of transport; H. McIntyre, Mate of do.; Asm. H. Berry and fifteen men discharged from transport; Capt. Noyes, 5th R. I.; Lieut. Fischer, Signal Corps; Lieut. Geddeneck, 103d N. Y., wounded; Wm. Hunt, Captain of transport; Wm. H. Hunt, mate of do; three soldiers on sick list; two privates of 8th Conn., on furlough; one Corporal 51st N. Y., do.; one private of Battery F, R. I., do.; from Hatteras, five privates of 9th N. Y. Regt.

REPULSE OF OUR GUNBOATS ON THE JAMES RIVER.

The following is the official Rebel report of the repulse:

"DRURY'S BLUFF, 11 A. M., May 15, 1862.

"SIR: We have engaged the enemy's five gunboats for two and a half hours. We fired the Galena (iron-clad). She has withdrawn, going down the river, accompanied by the three wooden vessels.

"Our loss in killed and wounded small.

"Respectfully, your obedient servant,
"E. FARRAND."

"*To the Hon.* S. R. MALLORY, *Secretary of the Navy.*"

Following this dispatch is this cry for victuals:

"The citizens of Richmond are earnestly appealed to, to prepare cooked provisions to be sent to the men at the fort, as they have no time to prepare food for themselves. We presume the Mayor can give information as to the manner in which such supplies can be sent to them."

The Dispatch comments upon the fight thus:

"Though late in commencing our preparations for the defense of the approach to this city by the James River, and though the enemy's 'infernal gunboats' caught our obstructions in readiness, we have the satisfaction at least of having repelled his first assault. He went away yesterday, we have reason to hope, smartly damaged, after two hours and a half of fearful cannonading of our batteries. His withdrawal gives time for further preparation for his next essay, which will certainly be made.

"Our loss is slight; but more than in some instances where important positions have been surrendered. We trust that this beginning is an earnest of the determination to keep the tide beginning in an earnest of the determination to keep the gunboats back. They have been felt by our artillerists, and some idea may be formed of their real capacity and power for evil. The men who man our guns are somewhat more trustworthy than the militia who have been entrusted with guns at some points where it was most important we should make good our defense. Seamen are the best of gunners, and it has been a great mistake to leave them nothing to do while the cannonearing in many cases has been left to men who were not at all to compare with them.

"The public spirit here is the best imaginable. The people are ready to make any sacrifice to defend the place, and are entirely averse to surrendering it at all to the gunboats. They will cheerfully submit it to destruction first, according to the disposition of both the governments."

TRADE WITH SOUTHERN PORTS.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued the following instructions to the Collector of the Port:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 22, 1862.

SIR: You will refuse a clearance to any vessel to any of the ports under recent insurrectionary control, opened to general trade under the proclamation of the President of the 12th instant, having on board any articles contraband of war, as indicated below; and you will also refuse a clearance to any vessels to any foreign ports laden with such articles, if you have satisfactory reason to believe that such goods, wares, or merchandise are intended for ports or places in possession or under control of insurgents against the United States—viz: cannons, mortars, firearms, pistols, bombs, grenades, firelocks, flints, matches, powder, saltpeter, balls, bullets, pikes, swords, sulphur, helmets, or boarding caps, sword-belts, saddles and bridles (always excepting the quantity of the said articles which may be necessary for the defense of the ship or of those who comprise the crew), cartridge-bag material, percussion and other caps, clothing adapted for uniforms, rosin, sail-cloth of all kinds, hemp and cordage, masts, ship timber, tar, and pitch.

Military persons in the service of the enemy. Dispatches of the enemy. You will also refuse clearance to any vessel with a cargo consisting in whole or in part of the following named articles, viz: Corals, iron, lead, copper, tin, brass, telegraphic instruments, wire, porous caps, platina, sulphuric acid, zinc, and all other telegraphic materials, marine engines, screw propellers, paddle wheels, cylinders, cranks, shafts, boilers, tubes for boilers, fire bars, and every article or any other component part of any engine or boiler, or any article whatever which can or may become applicable for the manufacture of marine machinery, or for the armor of vessels; and liquors of all kinds. I am very respectfully,

S. P. CHASE, Secretary of the Treasury.

HIRAM BARNEY, esq., Collector, New-York.

The following is a copy of instructions just transmitted to the various Collectors of Customs:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Friday, May 23, 1862.

SIR: In pursuance of the provisions of the proclamation of the President modifying the blockade of the Ports of Beaufort, Port Royal, and New-Orleans, and of the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury relating to trade with those ports, no articles contraband of war will be permitted to enter at either of said ports, and you will accordingly refuse clearance to vessels bound for those ports, or either of them, with any such articles on board. Until further instructed, you will regard as contraband of war the following articles, viz: Common mortars, fire-arms, pistols, bombs, grenades, firelocks, flints, matches, powder, saltpeter, balls, bullets, pikes, swords, sulphur, helmets, or boarding caps, sword belts, saddles and bridles (always excepting the quantity of said articles, which may be necessary for the defense of the ship, and of those who compose the crew), cartridge-bag material, percussion and other caps, clothing adapted for uniforms, sail-cloth of all kinds, hemp and cordage masts, ship timber, tar and pitch, ardent spirits, military persons in the service of the enemy, dispatches of the enemy, and articles of like character with those specially enumerated. You will also refuse clearances to all vessels which, whatever the ostensible destination, are believed by you on satisfactory grounds to be intended for ports and places in possession or under control of the insurgents against the United States, or that there is imminent danger that the goods, wares, or merchandise of whatever description laden on such vessels will fall into the possession or under the control of such insurgents, and in all cases where, in your judgment, there is ground for apprehension that any goods, wares, or merchandise shipped at your port will be used in any way for the aid of the insurgents, or the insurrection. You will require substantial security to be given that such goods, wares, or merchandise shall not be transported to any place under insurrectionary control, and shall not in any way be used to give aid and comfort to such insurgents.

You will be especially careful, on applications for clearances, to receive bonds with sufficient sureties, conditioned for fulfilling faithfully all the conditions imposed by law or departmental regulations from shippers of the following articles to the ports opened, or to any other ports from which they may easily and are probably intended to be reshipped in aid of the existing Rebellion, viz: Liquors of all kinds, coals, iron, lead, copper, tin, brass, telegraph instruments, wire, porous caps, platina, sulphuric acid, zinc, and all other telegraphic materials, marine engines, screw propellers, paddle wheels, cylinders, cranks, shafts, boilers, tubes for boilers, fire bars, and every article or any other component part of an engine, or boiler, or any article whatever which is, can, or may become applicable to the manufacture of marine machinery or for the armor of vessels.

I am, very respectfully,
S. P. CHASE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

THE IRISH RELIEF SOCIETY.

A second meeting of this Society was held on Friday afternoon at the Astor House, Judge DALY in the chair.

After the meeting had been call to order,

The CHAIRMAN rose and made a statement, the purport of which is as follows: In February, 1847, during the distress then prevalent in Ireland, a meeting was called which numbered among its members Myndert Van Schaick, Robert L. Minturn, L. Sloan, and A. T. Stewart & Co., who each subscribed $500. By the 12th of that month, or in a few days after the meeting was called, they added sixty-one to their list of collaborateurs, comprising many of the leading citizens of New-York. At that time an appeal was made over the signatures of those gentlemen—that appeal containing a statement of the nature of the distress existing in Ireland at the time, and the necessity of immediate relief.

This was responded to on the 23d of that month, by subscriptions to the amount of $35,341 41; and on the same day a public meeting was called at the Tabernacle, at which Mr. Van Schaick presided, assisted by a large concourse of Vice-Presidents, at the head of whom were Wm. B. Astor and Moses H. Grinnell. By that meeting a Permanent Committee was appointed. After addresses by the Right Rev. Dr. Wainright, Mr. George Griffin, President King of Columbia College, the Rev. Dr. Adams, and Mr. Philip Hone, a general Standing Committee of 61 was appointed, with unlimited powers. By the 3d of February, 1848, these gentlemen, by their personal exertions, had raised the sum of $171,374 24 in money, and provisions and clothing to the value of $70,000—making in all $241,000 24 of contributions from this city and State alone.

Those contributions were mostly all made by individual efforts, and made without religious distinction. The Presbyterians and Episcopalians were quite as liberal in their advances as on other occasions where their charity was invoked. All denominations, in fact, were instrumental in the effort. Moneys derived from various parts of the United States were sent to this Central Committee, and it was to be remarked that this was only a very small part, comparatively, of the funds altogether collected. One hundred and thirty-three vessels laden with relief were sent to Ireland, of which number thirty-four were sent from the City of New-York—in other words, more were sent from New-York than from the whole Southern country put together.

It would be readily seen that this was irrespective of the amount of provisions sent out by the Macedonian from Boston. In view of the circumstances that these moneys were raised by the leading merchants of that time, he (the Chairman) had been largely governed by that circumstance in selecting the names of the gentlemen to whom it had been proposed the matter should be entirely confided, and that selection, he would state, was entirely his own, made with entire independence and according to his own best judgment.

The names of the Committee were read by Mr. O'Conor, the Secretary, as follows: Joseph Stuart, Felix Ingoldsby, Wm. Watson, Daniel Devlin, Samuel Sloan, Charles M. Connolly, Wm. Redmond, Eugene Kelly, John Barbour, John Bryant, and Wm. H. Hegner.

That, continued the Chairman, discharge the particular duty imposed upon him, and it would be perceived from the nature of this selection that it was made almost exclusively from members of the mercantile class, as it was from that class that the most efficient aid was rendered on the occasion of the previous appeal on behalf of Ireland to the charity of the New-York public.

If the meeting thought it advisable or wiser to have a different or more diversified selection of gentlemen, he should be most happy to have the list changed. What, (said he, in conclusion) is your opinion in regard to this?

Mr. HOUGHT was of the opinion that the meeting would do better by dropping the last name on that list (his own), and adopting that of some better man.

The PRESIDENT thought it had better stand where it was.

Mr. DANIEL DEVLIN suggested that it was not generally known, except in some particular localities, that the people in Ireland were suffering.

The PRESIDENT: At the time the provision for the formation of this Committee was made, it was understood that it should be empowered to inform the public of all the facts. Mr. O'Gorman was here, and made a statement, based on the authority of private correspondents, that the distress was proportionally in excess of that in 1846, and gave us the undisputed fact that a Member of Parliament had shown, in the body to which he was elected, that there were thirty coroners' inquests in cases arising out of death from starvation.

Mr. O'GORMAN repeated his previous statement, and added, among other things, that he had recently received authentic intelligence that even in the County Kilkenny, which is regarded as one of the richest in the kingdom, much distress was felt, and he was satisfied that in the South and West the famine was as great now as in 1846, though less in extent because of the decrease in the population. He believed this was a case in which the aid of the Irishmen in America was necessary. It was true that $6,000 in all had been collected for this purpose, and sent to the Mansion-House Committee in Dublin, but he believed that a large portion of that had been sent from the servant girls and the laboring classes here, to help their friends in Ireland. He hoped, however, that the generosity required by this Committee would not be confined to any particular locality.

Mr. DEVLIN proposed that, as the readiest way of meeting the emergency, another Committee be appointed to wait on the Vicar-General, and ask of him that a particular Sunday be appointed, at which the collections in all the Catholic Churches in the city be appropriated for the Irish Relief Fund. Approved, seconded, and carried.

The SECRETARY understood that the Executive Committee was appointed, to save the Society the necessity of thinking. Occasionally, as the Society might deem it desirable, they might make suggestions, but the Committee was to do and devise the carrying out of the work.

Mr. O'GORMAN moved that a Committee of one be appointed for the purpose of preparing a statement giving reliable information of the actual condition of the Irish people, the extent of their need, and the nature of their suffering at the present time. He suggested the propriety of confiding the task to Mr. John Savage.

Carried unanimously.

Despite their remonstrance, Judge Daly and Judge O'Conor were added to the Committee as ex-officio members.

A list of members who had attended at this and previous meetings, was then put on record.

On motion of Mr. O'GORMAN, the Secretary was requested to call attention through the papers to the fact that Mr. Joseph Stuart was Treasurer.

Mr. JOHN HENNESSY said that as the famine would be daily increasing in intensity during the summer months and as he himself was aware of the fact that the means formerly sent from this country had been diverted, he thought the best way would be to go to work at once and send the money to the Archbishop of Tuam.

After some remarks from Senator CONNOLLY and others, the meeting adjourned till Wednesday next, in order to give Mr. Savage time to prepare his statement.

THE SOLDIER'S NURSE.

[The other day, Col. Howe was conducting Prof. Hitchcock of the Union Theological Seminary, through the Relief-Rooms on Broadway, when they found an accomplished young lady belonging to a distinguished family in this city reading the Scriptures to a sick and wounded soldier.]

Our sweet-faced Florence Nightingale,
Who watches 'till the stars grow pale,
Sits like a guardian angel near
To bind the wound and dry the tear.
On pillows where her shadow falls,
And there the wounded soldier seems
Near angels that come down in dreams.
Her voice is low, and soft and sweet,
Her