THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Reconnoissance Near the Rebel Stronghold.

Return of Col. Wilder's Expedition.

Railroad Track and Bridge in Rear of Tullahoma Destroyed.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND, MANCHESTER, Tuesday, June 30, 1863.

Headquarters remain at Manchester up to the present time. Gen. B. Thomas's corps has moved to the front, and is in position about four miles from Tullahoma. The dreadful condition of the roads, which embargoes troops and trains, has greatly retarded our forward movement.

Gen. Stanley, Chief of Cavalry, with Gen. Mitchell and his division of horse, have just arrived here from their brigade expedition to Shelbyville, the capture of which place I telegraphed on Sunday. Our force advanced by the Shelbyville pike, driving the enemy from Guy's Gap, and riding down fifty of them. Col. Mentz's brigade then followed them up and drove them into their fortifications at Shelbyville. Mitchell's whole division then charged through and pushed rapidly into town.

The Rebels took position in the public square with artillery, and a charge was then made by the 7th and 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry into the teeth of their guns, which were captured. At the same time the 4th Regulars and the 3d Indiana galloped into their flank near the upper bridge of Duck River. The enemy was completely routed and driven into the river, where a hundred of them were drowned. The Rebel Gen. Wheeler escaped on foot. Sixty or seventy officers and 700 prisoners were taken. Our loss was 6 killed and 30 or 40 wounded. Lieut. Rhodes of the 7th Pennsylvania was killed.

Col. Wilder's cavalry expedition to the rear of Bragg's army at Tullahoma has also just returned, bringing reports of equally successful work. With his brigade of mounted infantry he started on Sunday the 28th inst., went to Hillsboro, thence to Dechard, swam Elk River and crossed with his howitzers on a raft, making 50 miles the same day. He tore up the track, burnt the cars, and the depot full of stores, and destroyed the trestle-work. At daylight of Monday he started up to the Southern University, where he divided his force.

One portion was sent to strike the railroad at Tantalon, while Wilder went to strike it at Anderson. There he found Buckner's whole division on a train of cars going up from Knoxville to Tullahoma, and fell back, in the meanwhile tearing up the railroad from Cowan to Tracy City. The Rebels meanwhile having sent a powerful force to intercept him, he struck through the mountain and returned to Manchester, which he reached to-day. He took and paroled a number of prisoners and captured a lot of mules. The damage done to the railroad is very serious, but would have been more so if the rivers had not been so high.

The expedition made 126 miles in two days and a half.

[The following dispatch appeared in only a portion of yesterday morning's paper.]

To the Associated Press.
COLCORD CHURCH, (FIVE MILES FROM TULLAHOMA), Tuesday, June 30, 1863.

The situation here is not materially changed. A reconnoissance to day was made within three miles and a half of the Rebel stronghold.

The rain has continued for the last forty-eight hours, and has been unusually heavy. The roads are in a terrible condition; movements are almost prevented thereby. But with his unparalleled perseverance and persistence, Gen. Rosecrans has pushed on.

Col. Wilder's expedition returned to-day. He burned the bridge at Decherd, and destroyed a large part of the railroad track. He found only a small garrison at Decherd, whom he whipped and drove out; but immediately after he burned the bridge a large force of the enemy came in. Decherd is only 12 miles in the rear of Tullahoma.

The whistling of locomotives at Tullahoma was distinctly heard yesterday, this is the only foundation for the rumor that the Rebels are retreating to Chattanooga.

Little doubt is entertained but that the enemy will fight us in the forts here; but their silence is very strange. The country is very difficult to operate in, being, low, level, marshy, and overgrown with underbrush.

Steadman's brigade made a reconnoisance to-day to within three miles and a-half of Tullahoma. Two regiments of the enemy were encountered and an engagement ensued, in which the enemy gave way without serious resistance or much reluctance. The skirmishers of the 10th Indiana and 4th Kentucky Regiments were principally engaged.

The following casualties are reported: Lieut. Jenkins, 2d Cavalry, killed; Orderly Sergeant Newhouse, Private Sedden, Co. I; Corporal Bier, Privates Dinsmore, Pennintory, Boyle, Kellogg, Clark, Javerty, and Corp. Dowerty, Co. I, 10th Indiana, slightly; Private Sarberout, seriously; and Privates Bennett, Sennest, Gilbert, and Virgil, Co. I, 4th Kentucky, slightly.

The Chattanooga Rebel of the 27th and 28th June is received. It says:

"100 wounded of Stewart's division have arrived from the field of Beech Grove."

It also says:

"Two divisions are engaged at Liberty and Hoover Gaps; meantime reenforcements are being hurried forward.'

"Five brigades passed up yesterday, and John R. Jackson has been dispatched to hold himself in readiness."

Among the killed at Beech Grove *The Rebel* mentions Adjutant Thomas, 20th Tennessee. The Rebel loss was 100 killed and 400 or 500 wounded.

The Rebel of the 27th has the following:

RICHMOND, June 25.—Ten transports approached the White House this morning, and a small force landed. It is reported their pickets have advanced to Tunstall's Station. No apprehensions are felt in official circles.

The Rebel of the 28th ult., on the situation, says:

"There is no question but that the enemy is approaching, and a great battle is to be fought. Every preparation is being made to give him a warm reception. Baggage and sick are being sent to the rear, and re-enforcements to the front.

Another brigade from Western Virginia passed up yesterday, chiefly Virginia troops in their first campaign. The Tennessee portion of Buckner's command passed up last evening, and Jackson's will probably follow in the morning. We learn that Breckenridge's division did not reach Montgomery, having been recalled by Gen. Johnston to Jackson.

We overestimated the loss in killed and wounded. The number will not exceed 200, not 75 of whom were killed.

It was reported last evening that 3,000 or 4,000 of the enemy's cavalry had occupied Manchester, and that they had burned one or two residences this side of Hoover's Gap. This story is not believed here.

COLCORD CHURCH, June 30—8 p. m.

A reconnoissance by Gen. Steadman, this afternoon, was pushed within two miles of Tullahoma. Gen. Thomas accompanied the column, and reports the enemy in force in their works, with videttes thrown out a short distance from their front.

It is thought by some that a mere shell of the Rebel army remains in Tennessee, which is doubtless a mistake. We found four brigades at Hoover's Gap, four at Liberty Gap, and our friends at Shelbyville reports 18,000 men of Polk's corps as passing through that place.

Cheatham's division is reported as having moved to Elk River Bridge.

Dechard bridge, which was destroyed, can hardly be rebuilt in six days, when all will be decideded. While the loss of this bridge will not prevent reenforcements coming, the Rebels cannot carry off their stores or heavy munitions os war.

FROM CORINTH.

Activity in the Department—Successful Expeditions—Speech of an Old Line War Democrat in Arms.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.
CORINTH, Miss., June 20, 1863.

Since the siege of Vicksburg and the abandonment of the port at Jackson, Gen. Dodge and officers here have grown more sanguinary in conducting the campaign. Col. Cornyn, with his brigade of cavalry has been most active and successful. This afternoon he returned with over 200 horses and mules, with buggies, wagons, and negro recruits in profusion.

Soon after his arrival, a large body of officers and soldiers congregated at the appointed hour to "Camp Dodge," 1st Colored Alabama Regiment, Col. Alexander, to hear the speeches and witness the presentation of a fine stand of colors. Col. Bane addressed the regiment and the numerous white soldiers present, in his bold and most effective style. Having been an old line Democrat—as far at least as his favorite candidate, Judge Douglas, ever went, he claimed the more candid attention of his Democratic auditors. The negro, he said, had been oppressed through the sufferance, if not the sanction of the Federal Constitution, by reason of an unfortunate compromise. In the same way had Slavery embolstered, yea, grown fat and insolent up to the breaking out of this infernal Rebellion. Such compromises, however, having borne no good fruits it was time to cut down the tree. Slavery must now give up the ghost—not so much by the intent of the North or South, but by the inscrutable and most righteous providences of God. The Republican party never proposed to free the first slave, nor ever to relax the enforcement of the fugitive act, whereby all who could be caught were returned to their chains, but only to restrain it from cursing new soil. When the war commenced, the avowed purpose of the Administration was to free no slaves, yea, even to suppress every effort put forth by the oppressed to be free. For more than a tedious year the pledge was but too well kept. Fremont's proclamation in Missouri, and Hunter's in his more eastern district, aiming to free the slaves of Rebels were promptly reversed! And, yet, circumstances, or rather Providence finally obliged the President to do the same thing on a large scale—with his own hand. Many object that it is unconstitutional thus to emancipate. How preposterous to talk of constitutional rights for Rebels tearing the sacred document into piecemeal! What consummate folly, too, to be quibbling in such technicalities, and at the same time holding hundreds of cannon, all charged ready to blow the whole kin and crew of slaveholders to the devil! In the name of common sense if you make war, make it in earnest, and let it stay made until the end is attained. If, however, the slaveholding tribe and their Northern apologizers insist on the Constitution, let them have it to their heart's content. Thousands of prisoners, found in rebellion to what would have been the best Government on earth, but for Slavery, have first and last been brought to this post. What disposition, if strictly enforced, would our Constitution make of such. Being no less than traitors, every last man of them would have to swing, and Gen. Dodge need a re-enforcement to erect gallows and adjust ropes. The Government has been remarkably lenient, especially to such as clamor for the enforcement of the Constitution.

In presenting the colors, Col. Bane was eloquent and pathetic, urging the regiment to defend them to the last extremity, and promising their rich folds to enshroud their bodies in honorable and peaceful graves. Two colored soldiers responded, fixing the attention of all who could hear. One had made his way over 200 miles but a few weeks ago. Among other most appropriate and witty remarks he said to his colored friends that they had often heard of the old banner, and longed for the freedom it promised. And although they could not deny having had plenty of "stripes," they certainly had never before received the "stars." These he exhorted his fellow soldiers to bear aloft, never allowing their rebellious masters to trail them in the dust.

Col. Weaver followed in a few manly remarks, telling the colored soldiers that since their masters had given them the "stripes," it had now come their turn to make them see "stars,' and he hoped that they would lose no time in doing it. This speaker, as well as Col. Bane, rejoiced that the dark cloud of American Slavery was dispersing so healthfully in flashes of lightning and thunder. In this way let the musketry and cannon, wielded by the hands of the down-trodden and oppressed, clear our sky, and the rays of justice give us future serenity and peace.

The old 7th Illinois is now about mounting, and under its brave dashing Col. Rowet, will soon add to the efficiency of Cornyn's cavalry force. Rumors have prevailed that Cornish is threatened by a large force, but there is no good evidence that more than one or two bands of guerrillas are near us. They are abusing the poor loyal citizens most cruelly, and hundreds are almost daily seeking refuge in our lines, and we sending them on North. W. P.

COLORED TROOPS IN KENTUCKY.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.
LOUISVILLE, Ky., June 17, 1863.

All the "Contrabands" have been turned out of jail here. Their history reveals deep measures and wickedness on the part of a portion of the people. Last Fall, when Buel's army was here, hundreds of ex-slaves came with it, and were picked up by the police and thrown into jail. According to Kentucky law they could not be sold until they had been in prison eight months, but the jail being full they were sent to jails in different parts of the State. To meet the emergency the Legislature last Winter changed the term of imprisonment from eight months to 30 days before sales could take place, thus profiting the State at the expense of other States.

While in prison more than a hundred of the poor creatures died. The water they had to drink was so filthy that it become their poison. Many of the survivors were sold out, and went abroad to tell this story of sufferings, and it had its effect. The military authorities took the matter up. They cleaned the jail of the poor ex-slaves, and liberated many that had been sold. The friends of liberty have exerted themselves on their behalf. They proceed as follows: After finding the "contraband," and taking down his story, four soldiers are sent, with fixed bayonets, to bring him to camp. The claimant can follow if he chooses and have a fair trial. If from another State the "contraband" is released.

We set them to work on our fortifications. Most of them are willing to do anything for us we ask. They work faithfully ten hours a day, and do more digging than a much greater number of our white boys. They also want to fight, and are quite willing to enlist for three years. They say: "Life is nothing to us unless we can have our freedom, and to go North for our own safety while needed here, we can't think of it." They talk with great enthusiasm about fighting their way to their families in the South.

I have 20 now that I drill once a day. They are very apt, and in shooting at a target even beat some of the white soldiers. Three months ago, many of our soldiers here said they would not fight with a negro, but on our getting word the other day that the Rebels were about to attack us, a team was dispatched for guns for our 20 "contrabands," who took their places by the side of our white boys, who felt glad that they could avail themselves of their aid.

—Brig.-Gen. Frederick S. Washburn of the Iowa 9th Infantry, died at his home in Waterloo on Tuesday the 16th. Capt. W. was wounded at Vicksburg on the 22d of May, and just before he left for home was promoted from Captain to rank of Brig.-Gen. On his arrival home he was very much exhausted and died soon after.

THE SIEGE OF VICKSBURG.

The Work Still Progressing Favorably.

Defeat of a Squadron of our Cavalry.

Johnston Unable to Muster over 35,000 Troops.

Attempts to Blockade the Mississippi.

Jeff. Davis Calls for 70,000 Troops from Alabama

[The following dispatch appeared in only a portion of yesterday morning's paper.]

MEMPHIS, June 28, 1863.

Official advices from Grant's army to noon on the 25th, say everything was working favorably, and the siege was being pushed vigorously.

Three hundred of the 4th Iowa cavalry, on a scout near Bridgeport, Miss., had a fight with 500 Rebel cavalry.

Our forces lost about 50 killed, wounded and missing, and one howitzer.

Gen. Sherman advanced on the 22d to meet Johnston, but could not find him or any considerable number of his forces.

It is ascertained with certainty that Johnston cannot muster over 35,000 men all told.

At last accounts most of these troops were between Canton and Bridgeport.

The Rebels are making desperate efforts to interrupt the navigation of the Mississippi below Memphis. They have a battery of six guns at Catfish Point, opposite Greenville. Marmaduke is also using all his efforts to blockade the river.

These matters are receiving the prompt attention of the proper military authorities.

Scouts from Central Mississippi and Alabama report that the feeling in regard to Vicksburg is very despondent; and reports of the repulse of Grant's army were frequently circulated to cheer the people up.

Jackson papers say that Grant lost 10,000 men in his assault on the 20th; and that Johnston was gaining advantages on Grant's rear.

The Rebel Gen. Gobison was endeavoring to organize the State militia in Central Mississippi, but with very poor success.

The people begin to believe that the Union forces will soon occupy the entire State.

Jeff. Davis has called upon Alabama for 70,000 additional troops to defend the State from invasion, and the Alabama papers are discussing the advantages of Tombigbee River for a line of defensive works.

Roddy in front of Corinth, had been re-enforced by two brigades, and Thrall's artillery from Alabama was sent up to check our raiders.

All quiet along our lines.

HEADQUARTERS, WALNUT HILLS, NEAR VICKSBURG, Friday, June 26.

Yesterday afternoon Gen. Logan exploded a mine under the Rebel fort on his front, blowing one side and one angle away. A struggle then took place for its possession, which has not yet terminated. We are endeavoring to mount cannon which they resist.

Gen. McPherson thinks he will be able to plant a battery in our portion of the fort.

A heavy fire of artillery and musketry was kept up during the night, to prevent the Rebels from concentrating on that point. Our loss in the affair up to this time may reach 300, killed and wounded. The enemy's loss must have been severe.

RIGHT WING, ARMY OF VICKSBURG, June 28—Evening.

Col. Wood's pickets captured a messenger this morning bearing letters from Vicksburg. Also the following verbal message to Johnston: "Can hold out ten days; if not sooner relieved, be obliged to surrender."

A letter from Gen. Withers to his wife speaks of the probability of going North, and of a speedy exchange.

One from W. L. Smith speaks disparagingly; and another gives a list of 54 killed and wounded in an Alabama regiment.

As some of the letters bear marks of being intended for our eyes, they are not implicitly believed. But there is abundant concurrent testimony to sustain the story of general disasters.

CAIRO, Wednesday, July 1, 1863.

The steamer Belle of Memphis, brings Vicksburg dates to the 26th ult.

The recent battle in Grant's rear, is said to have been severe; but no particulars have been received.

There is no doubt that the Rebels have been making preparations to cross the river and escape into Louisiana, as quite a number of skiffs and flatboats have been discovered.

The 20th, 30th, and 45th Illinois regiments are among those who rushed into the breach made in the foot of the hill by the explosion of the mine in Gen. Logan's front, on the 25th.

This fort is on the highest ground in the vicinity, and completely commands most of the Rebel works. Our troops are mounting 32-pounder Parrots and 9-inch Dahlgrens in it.

"JACKSON, June 26.—A Staff officer, who left Vicksburg on Monday, reports the garrison closely beseiged. The enemy kept up a constant fire, much severer than formerly, as they have the range of the town. An entire block of buildings was destroyed on Washington-street, by incendiaries. Every means has been taken to to discover them, but without success. The sappers and miners on both sides are hard at work, and so close together that they can hear the sound of each others picks.

The Missouri State Convention—Passage of the Ordinance of Emancipation.

JEFFERSON CITY, Wednesday, July 1, 1863.

The following ordinance of Emancipation was passed by the Convention, this morning, by a vote of 51 Yeas against 39 Nays:

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Wednesday, July 1, 1863.

SECTION 1. The first and second clauses of the 26th section of the 3d article of the Constitution are hereby abrogated.

SEC. 2. That Slavery, or involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, shall cease to exist in Missouri on the 4th of July, 1870, and all slaves within the State on that day are hereby declared to be free. Provided, however, that all persons emancipated by this ordinance shall remain under the control of and be subject to their late owners, or their legal representatives, as servants during the following period, to wit: Those over 40 years of age for and during their lives; those under 12 until they arrive at the age of 23; and those of all other ages until the Fourth of July, 1876. The persons, or their legal representatives, who up to the moment of Emancipation were owners of slaves hereby freed, shall, during the period for which the service of such freedmen are reserved to them, have the same authority and control over the said freedmen for the purpose of receiving the possessions and services of the same that are now held by the master in respect of his slaves; Provided, however, that after the said 4th of July, 1870, no person so held to service shall be sold to non-residents or removed from the State by authority of his late owner, or his legal representative.

SEC. 3. All slaves hereafter brought into the State, and not now belonging to citizens of the State, shall thereupon be free.

SEC. 4. All slaves removed by consent of their owners to any seceded State after the passage by such State of an act or ordinance of secession, and thereafter brought into this State by their owners, shall thereupon be free.

SEC. 5. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws to emancipate slaves without the consent of their owners.

SEC. 6. After the passage of this ordinance no slave in this State shall be subject to State, county, or municipal taxes.

Gov. Gamble announced the withdrawal of his resignation. He will therefore continue to serve as Governor until the election of his successor on the 18th of August, 1864.

The Convention then adjourned sine die.

—The true name of the late rebel General Jackson was not Thomas Jefferson Jackson, as given almost everywhere, but Thomas *Jonathan* Jackson.

The International Postal Convention.

[Continued from THE TRIBUNE of June 24.]

Saturday, May 30, 1863.—The Conference met at 1 o'clock. It was decided to take up the question of transit, which had already been the central point of so much debate.

The French delegates stated at some length their reasons for not entering upon the question, and abstained from taking part in the debate.

Mr. Kern, the Chairman of the Committee, read an exhibit of the reasons why the Conference should take jurisdiction of the question. Other members expressed their opinions.

The United States delegate stated that the question of transit could not be separated from the other questions submitted, especially from the question of international rates and accounts, and that the rule proposed embraced the element of reciprocity so far as it went. That it also gave to foreign countries a certain kind of protection against excessive charges, by giving them the benefit of whatever responsibility existed in respect to like charges from a government to its own subjects or citizens.

At the conclusion of the preliminary debate, Mr. Vandal vacated the chair, and requested Monsieur Kern to occupy it during the discussion of this question. This was done accordingly.

The delegate from the Sandwich Islands opened the main debate with a proposition of this purport: that the transit charge ought to be moderate, in view of its small cost.

Portugal followed it, by one of a similar character, adding that for the purpose of transit there should be a progression of 40 grammes for letters, and 50 grammes for matter under bands.

Denmark proposed a maximum transit of letters of 10 centimes.

England proposed a general declaration that high rates of transit presented obstacles to international correspondence, and that it was very desirable to reduce them; and added a recommendation that the subject be remitted for the consideration of England, France and Prussia, who were to recommend thereafter some system for their reduction.

Italy proposed the entire abolition of transit charges over ordinary mail routes, and a uniform ocean rate; and that, until such abolition should be effected, the transit charge should have for basis the actual cost of transportation.

They gave as a reason for this proposition that it was the only mode for securing uniformity of rates, and the abolition of accounts.

Spain proposed the full interior rate as a maximum, instead of half that rate.

The propositions of the Hawaiian Kingdom, of Portugal, of Denmark, of Spain, and of Italy were voted down. The Italian proposition, however, carried six votes.

The Conference adopted the first clause only, of the new English propositions, as a preliminary motive for the resolutions of the Committee; and the English delegate, finding so much opposition, withdrew the remainder of his proposition.

The vote was finally taken on the Committee's propositions respecting overland and ocean rates, and they were adopted, Spain and Belgium only dissenting. The Spanish delegate did so under instructions received by telegraph from his Government.

The President (M. Vandal) then resumed the chair, and the Conference adjourned to Tuesday, at 1 o'clock.

The new delegate from Denmark, Mr. Sick (in place of Mr. Levy, who returned to Denmark) appeared and took his seat.

Mr. Lafont, delegate from Costa Rica, appeared for the first time and also took his seat.

Tuesday, June 2.—The Conference met at 1 o'clock, and took up the question of the standard weight of letters (No. 9.) Spain, Portugal, France, and Belgium were for 10 grammes; Switzerland was for 15, if it would establish uniformity, otherwise would abstain from voting. After a long discussion, 15 grammes was adopted by a decided majority.

The next questions taken up were the 10th and 11th, which gave rise to a prolonged debate. The answer to the 10th, in favor of uniformity for mail-matter, under bands, was adopted almost unanimously.

Finding that, if one standard was adopted for all matter under bands, that standard would be siloser too low for newspapers, the United States delegate endeavored, first to apply the standard of 40 grammes only to the fourth category, which approached most nearly to the character of letters. Mr. Kasson, ascertaining that the vote of the Convention would be in favor of confining the 5th category also to the same proposition, amended his first proposition so as to embrace the 4th and 5th categories under the progression of 40 grammes or nearly 1½ ounces. This was adopted, so that the vote stood in favor of a progression of 40 grammes for all except printed matter.

The United States delegate moved that the arrangement of standard for the 6th category should be deferred to treaty stipulations between each two countries, the Convention having first voted against 60 grammes for that category.

This motion was defeated by a majority of one.

The Convention then voted directly upon the proposition to include the 6th category with the 4th and 5th. This was also defeated, which was in fact the same result contemplated by Mr. Kasson's first motion. The President so announced it, and the Convention then again voted directly in favor of deferring it to the adjustment of any two countries.

The Convention then adjourned to Friday, June 5, at 12½ o'clock.

The Fourth of July.

One of the main features in the celebration of the Anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence in years gone by has been the imposing parade of our State Militia; but this year they are not with us—regiment upon regiment having gone forth in response to the call of the President of the United States to unite with our brave volunteers in driving an army of rebellious invaders from the peaceful soil of the Keystone State of the Union. In their absence the municipal authorities have taken the matter entirely in hand, and have made extensive arrangements for commemorating the event.

A salute will be fired in Union Square at sunrise, and at the Battery at noon and sunset.

The military display will be made by that part of the First Division remaining in the city, twelve regiments being at the seat of war. The Division Line will be formed at 8 o'clock in the morning in Fourteenth street, the right resting on Fifth-avenue, and the parade will be under the command of Gen. Spicer. The honors of a marching salute will be paid to the Mayor and Corporation at the City Hall at 10 o'clock.

The day will conclude with pyrotechnic exhibitions in nearly twenty places, for particulars of which the reader will refer to the official programme. The chief display will be at the City Hall.

Naval salutes will be fired at noon by the North Carolina, by Castle William, and by the French and Spanish frigates.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Under the auspices of the Young Men's Democratic Association, it is expected that Gov. Seymour of New-York, Gov. Seymour of Connecticut, and Gov. Parker of New-Jersey, will deliver addresses at the Academy of Music.

TAMMANY HALL.

The usual Tammany Society celebration will take place at 1 o'clock, with the exercises peculiar to the Columbian Order.

MURRAY HILL CELEBRATION.

Under the auspices of the Loyal National League of the Twenty-second Ward, there will be speaking and music at the Hall, corner of Broadway and Forty-seventh street.

SCHOOL-BOY SOLDIERS.

The Cosmopolitan Institute cadets from New-Hamburg, New-York, will arrive in town to-day, and parade on the Fourth.

FESTIVAL AT HARLEM.

The ladies of Harlem will hold a festival at Mount Morris to-day and on the Fourth, for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers. Refreshments, music and fireworks will be provided, and families, pleasure parties and pic-nics are invited to visit those beautiful grounds on the occasion named.

EXCURSIONS.

We refer those desirous of leaving the city on excursions which promise to be pleasant, to our advertising columns:

The steamboat Commonwealth leaves the foot of Cortlandt street at 10 a. m. for a trip down the bay to Sandy Hook. The steamboat Commodore will make an excursion round Staten Island. The Francis Skiddy will make a trip to West Point and Newburgh. The trains of the New-York and Flushing Railroad will be run during the day at excursion rates. The Ocean Wave will make a trip to Oyster Bay, &c. The steamboat Bridgeport will leave in the morning for Bridgeport and return in the evening. The steamboat Minna will make several trips to Fort Lee.

BROOKLYN CELEBRATIONS.

The City of Brooklyn will have a civic celebration and displays of fireworks in two places—one at Fort Green and the other in the Union Base Ball Grounds. Salutes will be fired at morning, noon, and sunset in each District, and the church bells will be rung.

The Long Island Historical Society will hold appropriate exercises at the Academy of Music, in Montague place, where Grenville T. Jenks, esq. will deliver an address.

The Young Men's Catholic Association will have a picnic at Myrtle-avenue Park. Edwin James, esq., is expected to deliver an oration.

The Nineteenth Ward Union League will hold a meeting at Union Hall, Broadway, and will form a procession to march through the chief streets of the ward.

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Canal Convention.

Yesterday there was a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Canal Convention at the St. Nicholas Hotel, held in accordance with the following resolution passed at the National Convention recently held in the city of Chicago:

Resolved, That an Executive Committee of one from each State be appointed by the President of this Convention, to prepare a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, presenting the views of this Convention and urging the passage of the laws necessary to carry them into full effect, with power to open such correspondence as may be expedient and, in their discretion, to call any further Convention. Five of the members of said Convention at any meeting, duly notified by the Chairman, shall constitute a quorum.

The Committee consisted of the following gentlemen:

Illinois, I. N. Arnold, Chicago; Indiana, Geo. W. Julien, Centreville; Kentucky, Saml. L. Casey, Caseyville; Massachusetts, Henry L. Dawes, N. Adams; Maine, F. C. Hersey, Portland; New-Hampshire, Thomas M. Edwards, Keene; Vermont, Justin L. Morrill, Strafford; Michigan, D. Stewart, Detroit; Rhode Island, R. J. Arnold, Newport; Connecticut, C. E. Day, Hartford; Missouri, T. J. Homer, St. Louis; Ohio, P. Chamberlin, Cleveland; Iowa, Richard B. Hills, Davenport; New-Jersey, Ezra Nye, Newark; New-York, A. A. Low, New-York; Minnesota, Robert Blakely, St. Paul; California, A. A. McDougall, San Francisco; Kansas, D. R. Anthony, Leavenworth; Wisconsin, James I. Lewis, Madison.

The meeting organized by electing I. N. Arnold, Chairman, and Fred. Foster, Secretary. An election for permanent officers was then held, and the following gentlemen were chosen: Hon. Isaac N. Arnold, of Chicago, President; A. A. Low, of New-York, Vice President; Colonel Foster of Illinois, Secretary.

Remarks were made by Messrs. Arnold, Hersey, Hills, Foster, Edward, and A. A. Low, and others.

The CHAIRMAN stated that many of the members of the Committee had been heard from, and would be ready to cooperate with those present.

Mr. HERSEY of Maine suggested that the Executive Committee be first put in possession of facts, such as the nature of the bed of the Illinois River, and he thought it well to ask the various States for surveys.

Mr. HILLS of Iowa thought the duty of the Committee was defined in the resolution, and he would move for the appointment of a committee to draft a memorial.

Mr. FOSTER of Illinois stated that an accurate survey of the Illinois and Michigan Central had been made; also, one of the Des Moines Rapids, Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. The Ship Canal around Niagara River had been surveyed in 1860, and was not sufficient, but that of New-York Canals could be easily obtained.

Mr. CHAMBERLIN amended the resolution of Mr. Hills by making the number of that committee five members, to include the President and Vice-President.

Mr. A. P. GRANT of Oswego said, that a reexamination of the Niagara Ship Canal was in contemplation, and the result would be forwarded to the Committees.

Mr. ARNOLD said, the Government had expended hundreds of millions on the defense of the Atlantic coast, while the northern frontier was almost defenseless. A comparatively small outlay could place the gunboats and war vessels on the lakes, and thus offer a sufficient defense.

Mr. EDWARD of New-Haven, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That an enlargement of the channels of water communication between the West and the East, necessary to the protection of commerce of the lakes, and the cities and villages on their borders, is no less important to the business interests of the East than to those of the West, and that the East by the almost undivided votes of its delegates in Congress, has pledged itself to co-operate in securing the aid of the General Government to any proper measures for accomplishing this great national object.

The following gentlemen were appointed a sub-committee for the transaction of important business. R. B. Hills, Iowa; H. S. Dawes, Mass.; V. F. Homer, St. Louis; P. Chamberlin, Ohio; T. S. Edward, N. H. The President, I. Arnold and Vice-President, A. A. Low, were added to the committee.

The meeting was poorly attended, there being not more than half a dozen members of the committee present. The proceedings of the Chicago Convention will be published in pamphlet form in a short time—the manuscript is now in the hands of the printer.

Chamber of Commerce.

The regular monthly meeting of this body took place yesterday afternoon, President A. A. Low, in the chair. Notwithstanding the announcement that the Harbor Defenses of New-York would be considered, the attendance of members was meager. After the election of new members, a letter was read from Pelatiah Perit, returning thanks to the Chamber for the resolutions which were adopted at the meeting in June relative to his resignation as President of the Chamber.

Capt. C. H. MARSHALL presented the following resolutions relative to the death of Rear-Admiral Foote:

WHEREAS, Since our last meeting the nation has been called to mourn the loss of one of her noblest sons, in the death of Rear-Admiral Andrew H. Foote, and it is fitting that this body, representing the commercial interests of the city and State of New-York, to whose prosperity and stability his patriotic services so largely contributed, should unite in the universal expression of respect for his honored memory and sympathy for his bereaved family.

Resolved, That, in common with all our loyal fellow-citizens, we deplore the death of this gallant and faithful officer, whose long and eminent career in the navy of the United States placed him in the front rank of our naval commanders, and whose brilliant services in the defense of the Union since the breaking out of the Rebellion have made his name a household word wherever unflinching loyalty, heroic devotion to duty, and Christian patriotism are loved and honored.

Resolved, That while mourning his loss at this critical juncture of our national affairs, we congratulate the country that in its hour of need it had the benefit of his wise counsels and his daring courage, and that his noble and pure example survives as a beacon light to guide and cheer those who are struggling for the defense of the flag under which he fought and the Union for which he gave up his life.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, under the seal of the Chamber, and attested by its officers, be transmitted to the family of Admiral Foote.

Mr. PERIT, in seconding the resolutions, said that he had been on terms of intimacy with Admiral Foote for many years past. He had always impressed him as one of the most perfect and symmetrical characters he ever knew, all of his acts being performed under a prevailing sense of his responsibility to God and man. His gallantry and courage were beyond question. Mr PERIT reviewed at some length the excellent qualities of the lamented and honored dead, and was listened to with earnest attention.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The PRESIDENT, having addressed a letter to Secretary Welles relative to memorializing the Navy Department to provide a convoy for all American vessels bound to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope and to the westward of Cape Horn and such as may be bound for Brazil, presented to the Chamber the following answer from Mr. Welles:

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, June 30, 1863.

"SIR: I am in receipt of your communication of the 24th inst., in reference to a convoy to merchant vessels from New-York to the British channel.

"As soon as the Department receives the memorial stating the views and wishes of the Chamber of Commerce it will take measures to afford such aid as the exigencies demand, and the best interest of the commercial marine of the country requires.

"Very respectfully, &c.,

"GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

"A. A. Low, esq., President Chamber of Commerce, New-York City."

Mr. STEVENS then read a memorial which had been prepared, embodying the views of the Chamber. It set forth the injury to commerce by the piratical vessels of the Confederates, and that the American flag no longer afforded protection to our merchant ships, and asked that an armed convoy should be granted twice each month to vessels sailing from this port, and for energetic measures to expel the pirates from the ocean. A list of all the vessels destroyed accompanied the memorial, making an aggregate of *seventy thousand tons of shipping, amounting in value to over five millions of dollars.*

Mr. L. BIERWITH, in the course of a few remarks, said that there was no need of alarm, and that the depredations on our vessels were but about two per cent. He hoped the memorial would not be published. The PRESIDENT joined in the request, and the memorial was referred to the following Committee, with power: A. A. Low, L. Bierwith, E. E. Morgan, C. H. Marshall, John A. Stephens, John H. Earle, George Griswold.

After some other business of an unimportant public character, the meeting adjourned.

POST-OFFICE REFORM.—Holbrook's *U. S. Mail* states that the Post-Offices at Yorkville, Harlem, Harsenville, Manhattanville, Washington Hights, Kingsbridge Park, and Kingsbridge—all in the upper part of Manhattan Island, and within the chartered limits of our city—have been discontinued, and all letters through them will henceforth be received at and distributed through our City Post-Office, whose operations are thus extended over the entire length and breadth of Manhattan Island. There will henceforth be five deliveries each day by carriers, from the General Post-Office and most of the thirteen stations, and six collections from the lamp post boxes, 866 in number. On Sundays only one collection will be made, and that at 9:15 p. m.

The whole Island is thus brought within the purview of the Free Delivery and Collection of Letters by Carriers, which must immensely increase the business and receipts of the Post Office. Its convenience and utility will be increased in still greater proportion.

Great step as this is, it is but a beginning. Brooklyn, East and West, Jersey City, Hoboken, &c., should likewise be annexed for Post-Office purposes to our City, and be served with their letters five times a day directly from our Post-Office. But we will be thankful for the improvement already achieved, which reflects credit on the Department, on Postmaster Wakeman, and on his able Superintendent of Stations and Carriers, John H. Hallett, esq.

Passengers Sailed

In steamship Scotia, for Liverpool—Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Frey, Jas. Mitchell, Herbert Taylor, M. Major, John Negroponte, A. Fabricotte and servant, Mrs. Irvine and daughter, New-York; Leon Pierre, Paris; F. L. Hilberg, Balt.; Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Lippincott and daughter; Jas. Dundas and servant, Mrs. and Miss Bohler and servant, N. Perelli, Phlad.; Mrs. R. G. Moulton; A. J. and E. T. Moulton, Darmstadt; Miss Holdeman and servant, Pa.; Mrs. L. K. Sys, N. Y.; J. M. Markay; Mrs. Thos. Waller, Eng.; W. Benjamin, Ed. Marshall; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. De Hautetile; A. Perez, Panama; Alex. Henschel; J. P. Gilbert, St. John, N. B.; Alex'r Duncan, Scotland; P. Fashtri, W. Young; Mrs. Alice Brown, Balt.; W. M. Ellis, London; Henry Van Wart, jr., & daughter; Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Barter, Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. W. M. Barlow, Camden, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Y. Gonzales, Spain; J. Young, H. C. R. Becker, Canada; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Cameron, Ed. Lane, Lewis Scott, A. Duperquier, Mrs. Dieden, N. Y.; Mr. Gunn, Robt. Walker; P. M. Tait, Eng.; Wm. Ferguson, W. Kennedy, Toronto; Geo. Lockhart; S. Rendrew, S. A. Colmer, Cuba; Jos. Cotado, Havana; Thos Cringan, Montreal; Mrs. Grove, Eng.; Mr. and Mrs. Hy Hoyt and servant, Mrs. F. Worden, 2 sons, child and nurse, N. Y.; J. Castel, Venezuela; C. Garcia, Havana; M. Solis, Mrs. R. Henry, F. Bazetty, Le Grand Lockwood, jr., John T. Farish, H. W. Field, Geo. Moore, Geo. Jones, A. Smith, Mrs. E. L. Corning, C. R. Robert, E. W. Jones, Chas. E. Milnor, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Goldmen, 5 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. Strauss and child, Phlad.; Mr. and Mrs. J. Tinker, 3 children, and 2 servants, Mrs. A. P. Aspinwall and daughter, Pittsburgh; M. Gemmell, Balt.; Mr. and Mrs. R. Davis, Eng.; A. B. McCreery, S. Fr.; Mr. and Mrs. J. Middleton, Brooklyn; Mr. and Mrs. J. Phelon, Miss Phelon, Paris; Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Cox, Jersey City; R. C. Gurney and child, Eng.; Chas. E. Milnor, E. R. Beadle, P. H. Wallace, C. Holland, C. A. Bulkley, Geo. Buckham, Mrs. G.