FROM CHATTANOOGA.

Rosecrans's Inaction—History of his Campaign subsequently to Chickamauga—Mistakes and Omissions—Supplies for the Army.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 22, 1863.

The History of Rosecrans's campaign, ending with the defeat at Chickamauga, published in THE TRIBUNE on the 5th, and the Report of Gen. Halleck, have been read here with unusual interest. Neither, however, for obvious reasons, refers particularly to what occurred subsequently to the defeat at Chickamauga, down to the time Rosecrans was relieved, nor to the influence of that month of singular inaction and apparent oblivionsness to the utter ruin to which the Army of the Cumberland was drifting, or its capabilities for active operations, and the subsequent conduct of the war in this quarter, up to this time. That month's history, being negative, does not necessarily go upon the record of any of the Departments; but it is too important in itself, and has excited too potent and too adverse an influence, to be omitted from the record, claiming to be impartial and connected, of the most important things and events in the south-west, at the most interesting period of the war.

I do not suppose the world ever will know all of the history of that single month succeeding the battle of Chickamauga; how near the army came to retreating back into Tennessee, giving up the ground over which it had so valorously advanced; how near the country came to being sickened by another renegade movement, resembling in some out at least, that of Buell; how much the army endured that this might not be, or how certainly it would have been had Rosecrans's sole management continued, as he had been going on, many days longer.

Although Bragg, with his victorious legions, confronted us from Lookout and Missionary Ridge; although this numerous and flushed enemy was in front, there was an enemy more to be dreaded in the rear. I mean an insufficient and disheartening supply of all that an army needs to feed its stock and sustain the men. When Rosecrans had fairly collected his broken army into Chattanooga he had not more than 10 days' supply. That was bad enough, but when he gave up Lookout Mountain, which he did in the next few days, and thereby surrendered the only practicable route for getting supplies, he did the very thing least invited the worst of consequences. It may be conceded on his part that Lookout and the river could not have been held. I have not heard so many or so good men admit as deep this. Be this as it may; the brand sewer, he once given up, one would suppose to an General alive to his situation would not have lost a single moment on possibility of a change of some alternative for supplying his army. The river gone, there was but one other possible route which man or beast could travel between Chattanooga and Stevenson, the nearest point for obtaining supplies, and that was over Waldron's Ridge and through Sequatchie Valley. This route presented the two topographical extremes, ordinarily the best and the worst physical features, but in the end it came to be difficult to determine which was best and which was worst, for both mountain and valley presented obstacles absolutely insurmountable.

This was Rosecrans's only route for supplying his army at Chattanooga. He knew it the moment he gave up the river, just as well as he did a month after, when, with his men on less than quarter rations of hard bread, bacon and coffee, and his animals dying daily by hundreds, it came to be impossible, and no other built as good had been found.

It, at the outset, proper steps had been taken, the Waldron Ridge route might have been made to serve a far better purpose than it did, though no man in his senses would have made it a permanent reliance. Ten thousand men, who then might easily have been spared, should have been put at work improving it, providing against the rainy season then at hand, and, in some degree at least, modifying some of the worst features. But Rosecrans did nothing of the sort. He did not even place the necessary military guard to protect the trains, and a valuable one of more than five hundred wagons was destroyed by the enemy. He seemed to comprehend neither the present safety of his troops nor the ultimate condition of his army, although his attention was urgently called to both of these grave features in his then situation.

Time went on; the men were reduced to less than *one-fourth rations of three articles, and not less than ten thousand animals died of starvation, while the prospect was everywhere growing worse.*

A retreat was talked about. It seemed to be the inevitable step. And here let me allude to the recent telegram, which, though subsequently corrected, nevertheless had its origin and intent—that the recent splendid operations of Grant were in accordance with his plans and suggestions of Rosecrans before he was relieved. So far from Grant being in his plans or the intent or faintest possibility of a movement to drive back Bragg being then dreamed of, Rosecrans talked about *retreating across the river from Chattanooga*, which would have restored to Bragg all the advantages which the reoccupation of set place would give him, and *Rosecrans actually did draw on a map the line to which he proposed to fall back on each.* The only peculiarity of that line was, that while it did not in the slightest manner afford a solution of the critical question of supplies, it gave up to the enemy everything the Rebels could desire, and drew a dark curtain over the future.

But the army could not have retreated. Things had come to such a pass, that had the enemy been given the artillery and other property could not have been removed. The army was practically without transportation. The animals could not have taken off either artillery or wagons. Of this state of things Rosecrans had been duly informed. To stay was seemingly to starve; to go was to entail a disaster, compared with which Chickamauga would be a triumph. And yet, but for an event which, though almost bloodless, in reality rises to the dignity of one of the most important, as it was one of the most complete successes of the war, because it solved the whole question in our favor, *the army would have been compelled to retreat as best it could within the next few days.* I refer to the taking of Brown's Ferry, an enterprise planned by and executed under the immediate direction of Brig.-Gen. Wm. F. Smith, to whom Gen. Hooker does ample justice by giving him proper credit for an splendid achievement, as have Gen. Grant, and Gen. Thomas. In the language of the Rebel press, Lookout Mountain, hitherto the grim sentinel that forbade the Union Army the use of the river, slid from under the enemy so suddenly, and so completely, that they did not know precisely when or how it happened. It is true we did not take Lookout, but for all purposes, at least so far as the question of supplies and the fate of the army was concerned, it became practically valueless to the enemy. That splendid stroke gave us the river to within two miles of Chattanooga, and in less than 36 hours the army was receiving supplies by boats, and has continued to do so ever since. That stroke not only saved the army and the country from all the dread consequences to which we were running with the certainty of late, but it placed the army on its legs, and from that day sets its improved condition, and the state of things, of which the late brilliant achievements are the legitimate consequences. Compare the condition of things in this quarter to-day with what it would have been had not the question of supplies been solved—when it was solved, and you have the measure of importance to us attaches to the seizing of Brown's Ferry. The credit of it belongs in no manner to Rosecrans, but to any one except the officer to whom unstinted credit is awarded. He gave it his sanction, it is true, as did Grant and Thomas also came into their present places just after the plan had been proposed. Before it was consummated Rosecrans was relieved.

I have referred to the adverse influence down to the present day of the month of inaction subsequent to the battle of Chickamauga. Although the army was rescued from retreat, that month contained a legacy of reduced transportation and an insufficient store of supplies, to which the late misportunate affair at Chattanooga referable. The intelligent reader need not be told that animals reduced a month to the starvation point require more than a month's moderate or even full allowance to place them in condition again. The army is yet staggering under the legacy of that month of inaction and inexplicable oblivionsness by Rosecrans to the consequences that others saw must create and that have ensued.

These are outlines of what must be leaves to the impartial history of the war, and may bring as much to the present as they will to the future.

The rise in the river occasioned by the late rains has proved a real blessing. There is a point in the channel, between Chattanooga and Bridgeport, known as "the Sack," where, beside the fall, there is more water than there is room for. The consequence is, the water, which is always deep enough, rushes through like a mill race, and either or even ordinary stages of the river, boats experience great difficulty in coming up,—a difficulty which is remedied by a rise in the river. The late rise has given us an increased number of arrivals, and a corresponding increase in our warehouses for man and beast. It was among the things done by the Rebels to tumble down huge rocks into the "Sack" to obstruct the always narrow channel. They succeeded but partially. The rocks have been blasted away and the place is not as much of a sack as it was, though even now, and under the most favorable circumstances, few who have occasion to travel the route—especially if detained there a day or a night, or both, are disposed to question that the place is rightly named.

The principal difficulty in supplying Chattanooga is experienced on the railroad from Nashville to Bridgeport. If the Southern roads generally are no better than this, then we know precisely how badly off the Rebels are. That their roads are much better, there is no reason to suppose. Instead of saying that a thing is worn out, or gone in, we have a shorter way of expressing the idea, be side intensifying it as no ordinary language can, by simply pronouncing the name of this road. The listener then knows that its case is about as bad as it well can be.

The severe cold weather with which we have been pinched the last few days has given place to a milder sort, which, on account of the scarcity and high price of wood, the only fuel, is little less than a positive blessing. Wood, as sold, ranges in prices between ten and fifteen dollars per cord; and, from the way residences are constructed, usually with large fireplaces, and open at all points, a cord will last but a few days; so that warmth is an expensive luxury, as is a sufficiency of most things possible to be obtained. As a general thing, so scarce are provisions, resident families are supplied by the post commissary—a double drain. For this and other reasons, a large per centage of citizens have been given tickets of leave. Many have gone south, but mostly the outgoers have set their faces toward the North. G. D. B.

Brutal and Cold-Blooded Murder by Guerrillas—Remarkable Escape of a Lieutenant—Interesting Details—Righteous Order of Assessment by Major-Gen. Thomas.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CHATTANOOGA, Jan. 7, 1864.

On the 23d ult., Col. Colgrove of the 27th Indiana Regiment sent a forage train out into the neighborhood—Mulberry Village, Lincoln County, Tennessee—accompanied by a guard of 70 men, under the command of 1st Lieut. Porter, Co. A, 27th Indiana Volunteers. At or near that village, Lieut. Porter divided his train into four detachments, and sent them upon different plantations, with an equal guard with each. About 7 o'clock in the evening, that portion of the train under the immediate command of Lieut. Porter, having loaded, started for camp. Lieut. P. stopped in a house to receipt for the forage, and the train started ahead, leaving three wagons in the rear with Lieut. P., the distance to camp being about two miles. He had with him a guard of 15 men. When about half a mile from camp, he discovered that the foremost wagon had get about 300 yards ahead of the other two, when he went ahead to halt it. As he approached it, two men rode up to him, and presented a pistol at his head, and demanded his surrender. With this wagon were the teamster and wagon master, belonging to the 9th Ohio Battery, and two men who had helped to load the wagons, all unarmed except Lieut. Porter. The guerrillas, four in number, were armed. Lieut. P., the wagon-master, and the three men were immediately mounted and taken into a corn-field, thence hurried forward, avoiding roads, &c., until 1 o'clock in the morning, when they were halted on the bank of Elk River, about one mile below where the Mulberry empties into it. A fire was built, and the captives were informed that they were going into camp for the night. Their hands were tied behind them, and everything of value was taken from them. They were then drawn up in line, four or five steps in front of their captors, one of whom acted as leader. The word "ready" was given, and the whole party immediately fired. One of the men was shot through the head, and, as is supposed, killed instantly. Three were wounded, but Lieut. Porter was not hit. He immediately ran, followed by one of the party, who fired at him three times. Seeing that he would be overtaken, he changed his course, ran to the river, and threw himself over a precipice into the water. Having extricated his hands, he swam to the opposite shore, being fired at five or six times while in the water, and secreted himself under the bank of the river. His captors swam their horses across the river, and made search, but failed to find him. He afterward made his way up the river about three-fourths of a mile, and swam across again, and lay in the woods the remainder of the night and the next day. On the night of the 24th he traveled about a mile, and reached a house, where he was found by a party sent out by Col. Colgrove to search for him. They brought him into camp, where he lay in a critical condition for some days from exposure and fatigue.

The men who were shot were thrown into the river—one supposed to have been dead, and one, though wounded, is supposed to have been drowned. The other two succeeded in extricating their hands and swam ashore. One has since died; the other is in the hospital at Mulberry, wounded, though it is thought not mortally. The names of the men are John W. Drought, 2d Wisconsin Vols.; George W. Jacobs, do. (both temporarily attached to the 9th Ohio Battery); Newell R. Orcutt, 9th Ohio Battery (wounded, and since dead); James W. Foley, 9th Ohio Battery (wounded, now in hospital). The three first are men of families in destitute circumstances; the latter has an aged mother depending on him for support.

In forwarding a report of this cold-blooded murder, Gen. Sheridan recommended "that the property of Rebel citizens near where these murders were committed be assessed for the benefit of the families of the deceased soldiers."

In accordance with this suggestion, Gen. Thomas immediately issued the following order, assessing the sum of $30,000 on the property of all Rebel citizens within the circuit of ten miles, for the benefit of the families of the murdered men, and declaring the murderers outlaws, liable to be shot by anybody, anywhere, at any time.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 6, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6.—It having been reported to these headquarters that, between 7 and 8 o'clock on the evening of the 23d ult., within one and one-half miles of the village of Mulberry, Lincoln County, Tenn., a wagon which had become detached from a foraging train belonging to the United States, was attacked by guerrillas, and the officer in command of the foraging party, 1st Lieut. Porter, Co. A, 27th Indiana Volunteers, the teamster, wagon-master, and two other soldiers who had been sent to load the train (the latter four unarmed), captured. They were immediately mounted and hurried off, the guerrillas avoiding the roads until their party was halted about 1 o'clock in the morning, on the bank of Elk River, where for form a guard they were going into camp for the night.

The hands of the prisoners were then tied behind them, and they were robbed of everything of value about their persons. They were drawn up in line, about five paces in front of their captors, and one of the latter, who acted as leader, commanded "Ready," and the whole party immediately fired upon them. One of the prisoners was shot through the head and killed instantly, and three were wounded. Lieut. Porter was not hit. He immediately ran, was followed and fired upon three times by one of the party, and, feeling that he was about to be overtaken, threw himself over a precipice into the river, and succeeding in getting his hands loose, came to the opposite side, and although pursued to that side and several times fired upon, he, after 36 hours of extraordinary exertions and great exposure, reached a house, whence he was taken to Tullahoma, where he now lies in a critical situation. The others, after being tied, were immediately thrown into the river—thus the murder of three men, Newell R. Orcutt, 9th Independent Battery, Ohio Vol. Artillery; John W. Drought, Co. H, 2d Wisconsin Volunteers, and George W. Jacobs, Co. D, 2d Wisconsin Volunteers, was accomplished by shooting and drowning. The fourth, James W. Foley, 9th Independent Battery, Ohio Vol. Artillery, is now lying in hospital, having escaped by getting his hands free while in the water.

For these atrocious and cold-blooded murders, equalling in savage ferocity any ever committed by the most barbarous tribes on the continent, committed by Rebel citizens of Tennessee, it is ordered that the property of all other Rebel citizens living within a circuit of ten miles of the place where these men were captured, be assessed, each in his due proportion, according to his wealth, to make up the sum of $30,000, to be divided among the families who were dependent upon the murdered men for support, as follows:

Ten thousand dollars to be paid to the widow of John W. Drought of North Cape, Racine County, Wisconsin, for the support of herself and two children.

Ten thousand dollars to be paid the widow of George W. Jacobs of Delavan, Walworth County, Wisconsin, for the support of herself and one child.

Ten thousand dollars to be divided between the aged mother and sister of Newell R. Orcutt of Burton, Geauga County, Ohio.

Should the persons assessed fail within one week after notice shall have been served upon them, to pay in the amount of their tax in money, sufficient of their personal property shall be seized and sold at public auction to make up the amount.

Brig.-Gen. H. W. Slocum, U. S. Volunteers, commanding 12th Army Corps, is charged with the execution of this order.

The men who committed these murders, if caught, will be summarily executed, and any person executing them will be held guiltless and will receive the protection of this army, and all persons who are suspected of having aided, abetted or harbored these guerrillas will be immediately arrested and tried by Military Commission. By command of Maj.-Gen. THOMAS.

WM. D. WHIPPLE, Assistant Adjutant-General.

This severe and summary proceeding will no doubt be attended with the best of results. The lesson was not only needed, but the measure is in itself strictly just.

Gen. Grant has returned from Knoxville, and will proceed at once to his headquarters in Nashville. Every thing is quiet, cold, and gloomy. C. D. B.

VALUE OF DOGS.—On the 25th of November, 1863, a band of dogs got among the flocks of fine merino sheep belonging to J. D. Patterson, and killed many of them. Mr. Patterson estimates his loss at full $2,000. That is not the only loss. The fact that such sheep are liable to be destroyed by dogs, deters people from bringing them into the State. We have no doubt that every pound of mutton eaten in New-York costs the consumer a cent a pound more than it would if every farmer could keep sheep without risk of loss by dogs. Every man who wears a woolen coat pays a dog tax of 10 per cent to enable some worthless cur to keep a sheep-killing cur. Who says dogs are not valuable, and should be taxed and protected by law? That is the wisdom of New-York State legislation. A wiser thing would be to declare every dog an outlaw, and offer a bounty for his scalp, unless protected by a collar and his owner's name. Then require every dog to be registered to be allowed to live, and make all dog-owners responsible for all sheep killed by any one of the canine race. Then we should have low priced mutton and wool. Now we have dogs. What is their value?

A SUGGESTION TO FERNANDO WOOD.—A lady correspondent of *The Evening Post* suggest that if Mr. Fernando Wood had added the following to his resolution for an investigation, it would have received a more general consent from the House:

And, whereas, by delay to investigate, a delinquent has sometimes been enabled to plead the statute of limitations, and thus to escape justice, &c.

WELL PUT.—*The Paterson Press* says: The other evening, while a train was about to leave Long Dock, Jersey City, the car for Hackensack being well filled, a young negro recruit passed through, whereupon he became a subject for all the stale wit that Jeff's political guerrillas could master up. Nothing one who had taken part in these remarks at his expense, the young soldier in the direliest possible manner stepped up, took off his cap, bowed, and with a, "Will you allow me to kill a Rebel for you, Sah?" produced an outburst of laughter all over the car.

FROM MISSOURI.

The Extraordinary Cold Weather—Gen. Schofield's Case — Leniency Toward Rebels—Horrible Massacre of Union Men — Infamous Practices — Political and Personal.

From Our Special Correspondent.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8, 1864.

Nothing like the present cold snap was ever known in this vicinity. Each morning since the new year commenced the mercury has marked the temperature below zero, and the highest point reached under the balmiest of Winter sun is fifteen degrees above zero. The river continues frozen hard from shore to shore, and there is no prospect of a thaw sufficient even for the ferry-boats for a month to come. Wooden bridges have been built in four or five places to admit of the passage of trains from the levee to the ice, and all kinds of vehicles from the light running sleigh to the heavily laden five ton coal wagon, with four horses attached, are crossing from shore to shore in perfect safety. It is a novel sight to witness long strings of Government wagons passing over the ice, while midway between the two landings tents and booths have been erected and whisky bars opened to tempt foot travelers, with the extraordinary inducement of drinking poor liquor, sold over the Father of Waters in mid-winter. Sleighing is excellent and has lasted longer than for many successive years, though the livery stables in charging $3 per hour for a one horse cutter, place the amusement out of the reach of common people. The dark side of the picture has many cases of suffering among the poor and many distressing incidents of the loss of life. Many thousand cattle have frozen to death, and great damage to live stock and fruit trees and crops has been reported. In short the severity of this extraordinary weather has produced suffering unparalleled in the history of Missouri.

Our people are still on the tiptoe of expectation concerning the removal of Gen. Schofield, and still wondering why the order is delayed. If Schofield is unfit to command this Department, he is unfit to be confirmed as Major-General. That is so plain that nobody can successfully gainsay it. Schofield has no military record whatever; he has never been in battle as a commander of so much as a company, and his administrative abilities are unquestionably of a very inferior order. He is commonly spoken of in St. Louis as lazy, and has shown himself a victim to the superior wiles and artifices of the Pro-Slavery faction governing the State. Every day's delay in his removal is injuring the cause of the Government, and strengthening the hands of its enemies. What is the cause of the delay?

Nothing further need be added to the exposure in THE TRIBUNE'S correspondence of Dec. 22, in relation to the failure of Gen. Schofield's subordinates, and particularly his Provost-Marshals, to go to work heartily and energetically in favor of negro enlistments. A regular fine-and-feathers effort is in progress to show that these enlistments are flourishing, but too most liberal allowances cannot make out more than 1,500 negroes arrived in St. Louis up to date, and of those many have been rejected on the score of physical disability. Now there is another feature in this matter which deserves attention. Some of the Provost-Marshals in the interior gobble up all negroes who have left their masters very quickly and enroll them as soldiers. Nominally they have no right to enlist any negro against his will, but means are found to persuade the negro into volunteering. It is seriously believed that the true object of this proceeding is to place the negro where he can be found and identified by his master and compensation be claimed for him from the Government. A clean sweep of the officers of the present Provost-Marshals ought to be made immediately upon the removal of Gen. Schofield.

The military situation is as quiet as could be desired; in fact, save it not for the returned Rebels who lurk about their old homes in the country, invariable at present of mischief, but wicked in intention hereafter, it might be written there was no military situation here any more than in New-York. During the present snow, many infamous characters who have belonged to guerrilla gangs will be hunted out in the interior by our soldiers, and, if they offer resistance, killed. The summary method of treating bush-whackers has the merit of ridding the State of the victims [illegible], and is much more efficacious than swearing them to abstain from disloyal acts. Possibly some Copperhead may object to this proceeding, but let them visit the deserted counties of Missouri, and count the graves of Union men murdered by Secession guerrillas and then talk of conciliating Rebel bush-whackers by mild treatment such as has been favored by Gov. Gamble and ex-Gov. King, who prounced the removal of Gen. Ben. Loan, because he was too severe on Rebel sympathizers.

A case of Rebel barbarity, just reported, will illustrate the conciliation policy: On the 9th ult., the house of Daniel Critze, near Dallas, in Bollinger County, was attacked by eleven Rebels. Four Union men were in the house—one of them, Mr. Frazier, Sheriff of Bollinger County. They all defended themselves bravely, until two were killed and a third wounded, when they overpowered the fourth. The only object of this brutal murder was revenge on the Sheriff for causing the arrest of sundry Rebels for stealing horses for Rebel cavalrymen. This is only one instance of what is going on all the time in the interior of the State, and the amount of bloodshed justly chargeable to this miserable conciliation policy is enough to make one shudder.

A nice little conspiracy has been discovered in the vicinity of Lexington, in this State, to defraud the Government. The plan was for pretended bush-whackers to steal horses indiscriminately and turn them over to so-called Union men engaged in selling horses to the Government. After the sale, the original owners were to come forward and reclaim them, leaving the Government the stench. The Treasury has suffered several smart in the stench. The Treasury has suffered several hundred thousand dollars by this practice, and a number of arrests have been made. Scarcely a day passes in St. Louis without stolen horses are found in cavalry or Quartermaster's service, which, on proof being produced, are restored to the owners, but no case has yet been heard of where the party who sold the horse to the Government has been forced to disgorge the value of the animal restored.

The State canvassers have at length declared the official result of the late election. The Conservative majority is 681, and the total vote of the State about 87,000—the largest poll since the war, and what a pitiable victory for the Conservatives, with all the Copperheads, sore-headed Emancipationists, returned Rebels, and Blair office-holders combined unable to beat the most divided Radicals, without rejecting at least 1,000 soldiers' votes to achieve even this result. The details of this gross misconduct will shortly be unfolded in an official manner, and will prove the rottenness of Pro-Slavery integrity. The intelligent politician who would deny the Radicals a legitimate claim to Missouri as their State must be blind indeed.

The interest felt in the Missouri question abroad should not be suffered to subside with the removal of Gen. Schofield. It must be remembered that the Union office-holders in this State, all the Postmasters, all the Internal Revenue Agents, all the Custom-House officials, and all the subordinate Marshals, are quite as devoted to the Gamble dynasty as Schofield, and that they sustain an organ by official patronage and by the subscriptions of Government contractors to assail radical men and radical measures. The entire purification of the State cannot be effected without their removal; but we are content to see one reform at a time. Their turn after awhile.

There is a report in town that the Postmaster-General, Col. James O. Broadhead, has ceased to be relieved. It is ought to come under the head "Important, if True," in connection with Missouri affairs, for Col. B. has been the chief among the Pro-slavery officials of this Department.

The Legislature has taken a recess to-day to celebrate Gen. Jackson's victory at New-Orleans, and the repulse of the Rebels at Springfield, Mo., one year ago. The Copperheads have lately taken a fancy to Gen. Jackson, and it is not surprising they were opposed to celebrate the day.

General Fisk has done a good work in this city by breaking up the gambling establishments. He has recovered $4,000, won from a Government officer, and given the gamblers notice to leave town in forty-eight hours, on penalty of being sent to Benton Barracks to chop wood *for the use of negro soldiers!* These soft-headed scoundrels have too long disgraced humanity with their presence, and it is extremely gratifying to observe we have an officer who is equal to the emergency of driving them out of town.

A few days ago 135 Rebel prisoners, captured in Ripley County, were marched through the city, and even secessionists were compelled to admit that a more miserable and ragamuffin collection of men they never met before. The officer who sent them here added to his official indorsement, "These rebows deserve death as outlaws." AMICUS.

According to the last census, there were in Massachusetts 1,450 gentlemen, 1 etymologist, 1 lexicographer, 1 hunter, 27 organ-grinders, 1 pentographist, only 1 philanthropist, but 1 poet, and, strangest of all, only 3 politicians; they also have 7 rag-gatherers, 3 shepherds, 1 tourist, 17 sculptors—a fact which speaks well for the Old Bay State—1 hang-driver, 1 "fancy," 2 gentlemen's sons, 2 "excavating Dungeon Rock," 2 "anything that pays," 5 "Jacks-at-all-trades," 1 "little of everything," 6 loafers, 2 cruisers, only 1 practical Christian, 1 restorationer, only 1 scientific man, but 1 sporting man, 2 wild men of Borneo, and 1 "working around."

A deserter from the Union army lately visited Kingsville, Canada, fell in love with a girl there, and married her. He sent her to Detroit to buy clothes; she wrote to him to come and choose for himself, which he unsuspectingly did, and was given up as a deserter by his charmer, who also received the $30 reward without a murmur, and went back home.

FROM MEMPHIS.

A Night Alarm—Shelling Guerrillas—Execution of the Draft—Change of Position by Forrest.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 26, 1863.

It is not to be expected that in a city situated like Memphis, on the edge of debatable ground, we should not be afflicted with frequent but irregular attacks of exciting anticipations, irritated to fever heat by authentic, but impossible rumors, with once in a while a real tangible episode to keep us from despairing of the city's future history amounting to anything more than that of a Quaker village. Such an episode occurred the other night.

It was near the hour when honest men quit the streets and rogues commence their prowling, that the city was startled from its propriety by the jarring boom of a cannon, followed by the gradually diminishing scream of a departing shell. Scarcely had the explosion of the flying missile echoed back the thunder of the gun, before another and another followed. Quicker than it can be written, the streets were filled with wonder-struck citizens, each inquiring of the other what was coming to pass. The male contents of residences rushed out upon the sidewalks to propound impossible inquiries to every one to be seen, while discreet feminility listened anxiously at half-opened doors or betrayed their snowy night-garments between cautiously parted window-curtains.

Well, there could be no doubt about it this time. The long-expected attack by the Confederates had been made, and as people listened to each other's conjectures their thoughts flashed anxiously in search of deep cellars and dry cisterns, and other places of refuge from the anticipated messengers of death that were soon to make the streets uninhabitable for all but those who took glory even at the cannon's mouth. A crowd of excited individuals had congregated at the foot of Jefferson street listening for the next gun, when they were approached by a soldier—one of the picket guard—who came walking leisurely and with provoking nonchalance no Front Row. "Soldier, do you know what this means?" inquired several voices. "What what means?" said he, looking around him to find the subject of their inquiry. "Who is it that's firing those guns?" asked a wiry little man, edging through the crowd, and volunteering to become spokesman for the party. "Well," replied the soldier, speaking very slowly, and never smiling, "it was a man or a boy, one of the two; I knew from the way the gun went off." The little man began looking cautiously for some person, and the soldier came to a "right shoulder shift," and walked on.

The guard order strictly laid us all to know and so far as he was concerned we had to be satisfied. The result of our further inquiries was the development of the fact that a party of guerrillas had been discovered making suspicious movements in the vicinity of a camp of negroes just outside the lines, who were chopping wood for the Government, and "the man or boy," which over it was, was shelling them from the gunboats.

Business begins to look up again. The excitement caused by the drafting order has about subsided. All those who did not comply with its requisitions have been or are being arrested. Most of these have paid the fine assessed upon them, and then joined companies. Some few, but very few indeed, have accepted the alternative of a residence outside of our lines. A man so inexorably solicited with the Secession magnet that he would relinquish all the protection and benefits guaranteed by the Government not a line so the Rebel Government would hardly know the difference if his malady should change to hydrophobia.

Forrest, it is reported, got scared day before yesterday, and changed his position from Jackson to some point north-east of that place. What frightened him is not known. If the report is true, it would seem that he has adopted the tactics of a former Senator from Mississippi, and is "advancing backward." What may have been the cause of this movement, which is by no means unimportant, does not seem to be understood. Whether it was for the purpose of meeting certain contingencies that may arise from the disposition of our forces, or whether it was an aggressive demonstration upon some point in Kentucky, remains to be seen. He, with Faulkner, Lee and Chalmers, has nearly 20,000 men. Which one of the Rebel generals served is to command is not known. They seem, however, to act together or separate as occasion demands. The result of their last movement is looked for with much interest, but in all probability it will amount to nothing more than a fig hunt after something to eat. M. M.

FROM NEW-MEXICO.

Condition of its Landed Property—Claim of Land Proprietors for Exemption from Taxation — Absorption of the Lands — Educational Needs — Free Slavery.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ALBUQUERQUE, New-Mexico, Dec. 3, 1863.

Being detained here a few days awaiting the arrival of a Government train bound to "Fort Whipple" with supplies, I have continued my "gleanings into New-Mexican affairs.

In a former letter I mentioned that the real estate of this Territory had never been taxed for any purpose. In conversation with an intelligent American who has become Mexicanized on that subject, he informs me that the landlords maintain as a hard, vested right to continue and occupy their lands perpetually, free from any taxation whatever. They insist that this is the true construction of the treaty; that as Mexico never failed to impose any taxes upon these lands, the condition carried with it freedom from taxation for all time to come, and in this sentiment I find too manifest interest almost unanimously center. The proposition is a most startling one. The treaty makes no such exemption, yet they claim it by "construction," and having the political power, practically carry out that view of the subject. It is needless to say that this is contrary to our whole American policy, and is not laying the foundation to supplant every other interest in these new territories by that of the landed proprietor on the arable lands and the speculator, gambler and bandit on the rich mineral lands. The little revenue collected is from merchants and business men and the collection of fines and penalties, while the true source of revenue, recognized by our system of supporting the Government is repudiated and designed to have no binding force whatever. If a system like this obtains it requires no great foresight to "see the end from the beginning" in its effects upon this country. It is vain that we talk of "Indian skies," inexhaustible mineral wealth and a healthy climate, while its political and social system contains the gangrene that will eat out its vitality, and that either indirect or sanctioned by the very guardian care that should seek its best interests and development. Is the fatal policy, pursued toward these territories, in placing their wealth in the hands of a few persons longer to be kept from the public view?

By a well digested and equitable system, the surfeited regions of the West could pay the interest on our public debt in coin, and that without injustice to anyone, but longer pursue the present system in New-Mexico, and any attempt to accomplish that object must fail for want of uniformity, as the wealth of these Territories will pay with a few hands, and add nothing to the Government as repudiated under the plausible pretext of "vested rights."

I have said New-Mexico had no educational system. This is true, and I give you the key to this, in the following extract from Gov. Arny's Message to the Legislature of New-Mexico, in 1862:

"And I would further suggest to your honorable body to memorialize the Congress of the United States to grant to this Territory, in lieu of the lands denied for an industrial College, the sum of $30,000 in money, and in lieu of the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections, for common school purposes, $50,000, to be invested in good securities, and the interest to be appropriated annually for the purposes specified. As you are well acquainted with the fact that necessarily all the land of any value in the settled portions of this Territory are already in the possession of private persons, and that a grant of land here would serve for you a be of little or no value, you will see the propriety of urging this change upon the attention of Congress to make it at once available."

The one-eighteenth part of one hundred and twenty thousand square miles offered to Congress for one hundred thousand dollars! The interest on this sum would be seven thousand dollars a year, on the basis of an educational system of a State containing an area three times as large as Ohio. But the extract tells the secret. The lands are absorbed, and this alone should put Congress on the inquiry.

By the organic law, Arizona is placed under the laws of New-Mexico until altered or repealed by her Legislature, and for this reason, I discuss the subject of the two Territories together.

Contrary to the expressed will of Congress Peon Slavery exists here by force where positive law fails. New-Mexico has made no progress to rid herself of this odious feature in her social system. Under the pretense that the servitude is *voluntary*, New-Mexico has the following provisions on her statute books, which I also take from the same message of Gov. Arny to her Legislature:

"That no court of this Territory shall have jurisdiction, nor shall take cognizance of any cause for the correction that masters may give their servants for neglect of their duties as servants, for they are considered as domestic servants to their masters, and they should correct their neglects, faults, &c.

"That the contract may be entered into before Probate Judges or Justices of the Peace who shall authenticate, or attest the same as they may, accounts between the parties."

With this I dismiss the subject of New-Mexico for the present, and shall only speak of it hereafter as may be connected with the affairs of Arizona.

The Government train has arrived, and we expect to leave to-morrow. No rain since we left Leavenworth on the 26th September, and we are having the pleasant October weather of the Middle States. H.

A pyramid similar to those of Egypt, but smaller, has been discovered in California. The courses are of stones six feet long and from one to three feet thick.

An Eastern company has purchased the Rockport, Ind., coal mines for $45,000, and will at once increase the facilities for mining and transporting the produce.

Message of Gov. Parker of New-Jersey.

The following is a synopsis:

The Treasury accounts are in three classes—the State fund, war fund, and school fund. The State account is:

RECEIPTS.

From the usual sources during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1863	$254,345 91
Cash balance on hand Jan. 1, 1863	92,091 23
Total	$346,430 16
DISBURSEMENTS.	
For ordinary expenses of State	$184,126 73
For Special appropriations and extraordinary expenses	57,647 41
	$241,775 14
Cash balance on hand Nov. 30, 1863	$104,654 02

At the close of the fiscal year the indebtedness of the State was as follows, viz:

To Bank of Savings, New-York City, for loans in 1858, 1859, and 1861	$35,000 00
To Trenton Banking Company, for warrants given for appropriation to Lunatic Asylum, March, 1857	9,000 00
Balance of appropriation of 1863 to Normal school	500 00
Its appropriation of 1864, to Counties, for Public Schools	30,000 00
Total	$134,500 00
Credit by cash in hand, as before stated, to liquidate debt	104,654 02
Leaving amount of debt, Nov. 30, 1863	$29,845 98
On the 1st day of January, 1863, the debt was	76,420 37
On the 30th of November, 1863, the debt, as before stated, was	29,845 04
Reduction	$46,575 33

During this month $166,000 of the tax levied in 1863 will be paid on State account, liquidating the debt and leaving a balance of $19,154 96. The receipts of the coming year are estimated at $290,000, which will probably exceed the expenses, and it will not be necessary to raise any money by taxation. The School fund amounts to $801,084. Receipts last year (11 months) were $118,578 30, disbursements, $95,912 02. Balance Jan. 1, 1863, $17,645 46; balance Nov. 30, $22,309 75. The schools are not in a flourishing condition, but some of them are not entirely *free*. The whole amount raised for schools in 1863 was $617,166 69, which was $13,142 59 in excess of 1862. Whole number of pupils, 143,325, being the increase of 10,236 over 1862. The Normal School is sustained by an appropriation soon to expire. It should be continued, having been hitherto of great benefit to the State, at an expense of less than $5,000 for nine years. The Governor has received from the General Land Office 1,312 pieces of scrip, each for a quarter section, and amounting in all to 210,000 acres, being the complement of New-Jersey under the act of Congress donating lands in aid of an Agricultural college.

An appropriation is recommended to build a new wing of the capitol for the State Library and Executive Department.—The State Lunatic Asylum is in good condition. Number of patients under treatment since its opening in 1848, 2,216; last year, 460. Of the whole number, 976 have been discharged cured.—The State Prison has been well managed, and, excepting officers' salaries, has more than paid its expenses.—The militia system of the State is defective, and such a reform in the laws is suggested as will enroll, organize, arm, equip and drill a militia force of from two to four thousand men. All the present available force consists of a few companies in different parts of the State.

The receipts of the war fund last year were $1,803,[illegible]; disbursements, $1,668,[illegible]; balance on hand, $[illegible]. State bonds to the amount of $730,000, which sold for $737,097 50, were issued, and their proceeds applied for equipping the troops, aid to their families, &c. Whole amount of bonds from beginning of the war to Nov. 30, 1863, is $1,[illegible], due to banks for loans, $[illegible]—total liabilities, $2,000,404 88. The balance due from the United States is $[illegible]. If all claims were paid, the war debt would remain $[illegible]. Amount paid and advanced for the United States last year was $283,[illegible]; amount received, $[illegible].

The Treasurer has made the following estimate of expenses incident to the war for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1864, viz:

To pay interest on State bonds now issued, and on loans from banks	$100,000
Amount required for the payment of families of volunteers	550,000
For payment of discharged volunteers and representatives of deceased	150,000
Other expenses incident to the war	250,000
Total	$1,050,000

The finances of the war fund, therefore, at the end of this year will probably be about $3,000,000, and an additional loan of $1,000,000 is recommended. A sinking fund should be established to pay the State bonds.

The history of the efforts to raise by volunteering the quota of New-Jersey under the draft is given, and it appears that nearly two-thirds of the whole sum have been obtained, and no draft has ever taken place. Under the call of Oct. 17 for volunteers the State quota was [illegible], and every means has been used to raise them. The legislation of municipal localities is urged. Part of one regiment from New-Jersey and a considerable number of thirty-days' volunteers shared in the defense of Pennsylvania during the July invasion. A State agency has been opened at Washington in aid of the soldiers in the field, to facilitate transfers and discharges, and for other purposes. The soldiers have sent home $[illegible] to their families since Jan. 1, 1863. The construction of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg and the share of New-Jersey in the same are briefly described.

On National affairs the Governor avows that time has strengthened his previously expressed opinions. The condition of the Rebell