THE RUINS OF CHAMBERSBURG.

Visit to McConnellsburg—What Gilmer Thinks of the Copperheads—Soldiers Disgusted at the Conduct of their Leaders.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CHAMBERSBURG, Aug. 2, 1864.

Mere words are inadequate to depict the scene of desolation that reigns on every side at this place. And the visitor, as he carefully threads his way through the main and cross streets, at many points confronting the heaped-up debris of scores of fallen buildings, cannot fail to give the fullest expression of condemnation regarding the act of vandalism on the part of the Rebels in thus laying in ruins the beautiful village of Chambersburg, while his heart goes out in involuntary sympathy for the hundreds of women and children who have not only been for the time rendered houseless and homeless, but in many instances bereft of all their earthly possessions. To-night I groped my way through the smoldering ruins, and paused in sad dismay at the fearful picture of destruction and desolation that surrounded me, imagination summoning to my "mind's eye" the many peaceful firesides from whose home altars the Lares and Penates had so lately fled, affrighted by the rude glare of those flaming brands suddenly and pitilessly assaulting their happy domain. In the center of the town, on the main street, is an open space called "the Diamond," on one side of which stand four marble columns, all that remains of the bank building. Opposite appear the bare and blackened walls of the County Court-House, with its heavy white columns and portico. On every side are the ruins of stores, warehouses, and elegant mansions, the greater portion of their stone and brick walls still standing, while heaps of ashes, with a few charred timbers, alone mark the sites of less pretentious dwellings. The rich and the poor suffered alike at the hands of the filthy horde led by that prince of modern freebooters, McCausland, and that aristocratic but degenerate clon of Maryland's soil, Harry Gilmor.

Much has already been said respecting the destruction of this picturesque valley town, and much remains to be recorded. The people and press of the North generally who have so freely condemned the citizens of Chambersburg, reflecting upon their non-resistance of the armed force which sacked and burned their very houses, would, I believe, modify this verdict, and, it may be, retract their injurious insinuations, could they in this quiet burg, tenfold eloquent itself in the "abomination of desolation" which reigns around, hearken to the tales of the sufferers. Dr. Richards, a prominent resident of the town, who with his family escaped as they "stood," saving nothing, stated to me the fact that the entire valley had been completely sifted as wheat to give its best to the Army of the Republic, and that Chambersburg had not a score of able-bodied fighting men. To till the fields even the women had been forced to work. No military organization existed there, no leader to command, no men to rally around his standard had a head been formed; no arms were at hand, except those in private possession; we were ignorant of the forces to confront; all was confusion; we knew too well the ferocious character of the Rebel band and those who led them, and any show of resistance on our part would have only resulted in our being slaughtered indiscriminately, thereby tightening the catastrophe. The few troops that had been here had been ordered away on Friday night in search of the Rebels. Two pieces of cannon were left. These were taken out at an early hour on Saturday morning and fired at the advancing foe twice, and then removed to a place of safety. This firing was done more with a view of giving Averill, should he be in the vicinity, notice of the approach of the enemy than with a view of repulsing them. When McCausland and Gilmor, with their detachments, numbering altogether 400 or 500 men, came into the town, we could plainly see their main column in line of battle on the hill beyond, with two pieces of cannon. We were powerless in their hands. "I indignantly refused," he said, "to comply with their demand for money, and told them they might sack and burn my property, but I would not give them a cent." Dr. Richards told Gilmor, whom he knew by sight, that the demand for money was a mere farce, and made only as an apparent pretext. Gilmor's reply was "I tell you what it is, we come here out of our regular route with the sole purpose of burning your d——d town in retaliation for Hunter's raid in the Shenandoah Valley."

From conversations with a few other prominent citizens who still remained in the place, I learned that rumors had prevailed for several days that the Rebels were crossing the Potomac in force, but no one seemed to know where they were. About 4 o'clock on Saturday morning it was reported that they were approaching, when Lieut. McLain, with one piece of artillery, took a position on New-England Hill, and commenced shelling the enemy. As subsequently learned, the few shots that he fired were very effective, one officer being killed and five men wounded. Having no infantry support, he was obliged to retire. The Rebels advanced, however, cautiously, their skirmishers entering the town by the side streets about 6 o'clock, and scattering in every direction. McCausland and Gilmor presently rode in and went to the Franklin House, where they ordered breakfast. The mutinous meal hastily disposed of, and the quality of the landlord's Bourbon freely discussed, they sallied forth, and after riding through several of the streets, drew rein in front of the County Court House, McCausland ordering the bell to be rung for a town meeting. There was no general response to the call, but to the few persons who were gathered in knots near by, anxiously watching the movements of the Rebels, McCausland read the following order:

(No place or date.)

"A demand is hereby made upon the citizens of Chambersburg, Pa., for $100,000 in U. S. Treasury Notes or $300,000 in coin. Gen. McCausland is authorized, on behalf of the Southern Confederacy, to receive the amount named. Should the demand not be complied with the town will be destroyed.

"JUBAL EARLY, General Commanding."

One of the citizens asked McCausland if he had any positive orders to burn the town, when he replied that he had, and at the same time pulled from his pocket a dirty slip of paper—part of which was subsequently picked up in the street—and read as follows:

"IN THE FIELD (no date).

"GENERAL ORDERS.—Gen. McCausland is hereby ordered to burn the town of Chambersburg, Pa., in retaliation for Hunter's raid in the Shenandoah Valley.

"By order. JUBAL EARLY, General Commanding."

While this farce was being enacted, the men who accompanied McCausland and Gilmor were sacking private houses and stores, taking only money, jewelry, and such valuables as they could carry in their pockets. Dr. Richards, and a few other citizens who had been arrested, were discharged upon peremptorily refusing to give the freebooters any money. Orders were then issued by McCausland and Gilmor to burn the "d——d town." The torch was first applied to the Bank and County Court-House, and in a few minutes both buildings were enveloped in flames. The Rebel soldiers, maddened by frequent potations of whisky and other liquors which they had found in the hotels and saloons, entered upon the work of desecration with evident delight. In some instances women were driven out of their houses before the premises were fired, and in others no notice whatever was given. Many persons lived over their stores, and were only made aware of their peril by the smoke and crackling flames beneath their feet. The prominent public buildings destroyed were the Court-House, Bank, German Reformed Church (where *The German Reformed Messenger* and another German paper were printed), office of *The Franklin Repository*, owned by McClure and Stoner; office of *The Valley Spirit* (Copperhead), Franklin House, and other hotels. Fires were kindled in over fifty different places, and the total number of houses laid in ruins is calculated at 268. Women were ordered by the drunken soldiers to throw away small packages of clothing.

The residence of Col. Alex. K. McClure, half a mile from the town, was visited by a Rebel guard, and fired on several places. His barn and outhouses were also destroyed, and the place left desolate. Mrs. McClure, though sick, was driven from the house, and not permitted to save any of her clothing. Gilmor, who was attired in citizen's dress, rode carelessly about the town, switching from side to side a long carriage whip. He bore no mark to designate his so-called rank of Major. A gentleman who knew him said that he was much bloated, and to use his own expression, "both Gilmor and McCausland looked as if they had been soaked in whisky. I could not say they were drunk—only soaked."

Dr. J. L. Suesserott, a prominent and wealthy citizen of the place, succeeded by his individual exertions in saving not only his dwelling, office, and stable, but that portion of the town lying south and west of Main and Washington streets. Twice the Rebels effected an entrance to his house, and were burying themselves in breaking open case of amputating instruments, when one of the officers with whom the Doctor had been talking came up and drove them away. Money was demanded from the Doctor, but he refused to give a cent to the soldiers, and several times drove them away from his stable and fences, which they tried to scale. Each time his friend, whose name he did not know and whom he had never before seen, came to the rescue and ordered them to leave.

I am credibly informed that in addition to the work of pillaging and burning the houses, outrages of a worse nature were attempted by the Rebel brutes.

No estimate has yet been made of the loss, though it is believed over a million of dollars will be required to replace the buildings. The loss on household property and the contents of stores will not fall short of a million and a half. As I passed through the town this morning I saw several persons putting up temporary structures and preparing to recommence business. I give you here the statements of several gentlemen in regard to the sacking and burning of the town.

STATEMENT OF DR. RICHARDS.

Soon after the Rebels had entered the town, I was standing outside of my door, when a Mr. Doup came up and said that he had just seen McCausland, who had told him to call some of the prominent citizens of the village together. He had demanded $200,000 in "greenbacks" or $600,000 in coin, and said if it wasn't paid he'd burn the place. I was perfectly indignant at such a demand, and said I would not give a cent if they sacked and burned my property. Doupler remarked: "They'll put the thumbscrews to us Doctor. McCausland's in earnest, for I saw it in his face." I paid no more attention to the matter, but set out to see my patients. Between 7 and 8 o'clock I met Mr. Thomas Kennedy, and while talking with him was arrested. They also arrested J. McDowell Sharp, Wm. H. McDowell, Wm. McClellan, and Mr. Kennedy.

At this moment Harry Gilmor rode up and said: "Gentlemen, you are my prisoners, and I shall take you to Libby Prison, as you've made no response to the call for $500,000 levied by Gen. Early." He then called for a guard to conduct us to the Court-House. Knowing him by sight, I said: "Gilmor, I wish you to understand that we are gentlemen, and that our word is as good as your guards. We'll go with you without a guard." He said he supposed it was, but a guard was customary. We accompanied him to the Court-House, and there he was joined by McCausland, who received the order of Early demanding $500,000 in greenbacks, or $600,000 in coin. Some of the citizens had previously, I understand, asked to see the order, when McCausland read it, and also another order to burn the town. I did not see them nor hear them read.

After a short parley between McCausland and Gilmor, the latter said, gentlemen you are released. Walking up to him, I put my hand on his horse's mane, and said: "Gilmor, you know that your demand for money is ridiculous nonsense. The county alone couldn't pay it, let alone this village." Straightening himself in his saddle he said with an ostentatious air, "*I'll tell you what it is, we come out of our regular route with the sole purpose of burning your d——d town in retaliation for what Hunter did in the Shenandoah Valley.*" He then galloped off and superintended the firing of the Court-House and bank. My daughter escaped with only one change of clothing, and I saved only what I had on my back. Everybody in the place would have gladly joined in resisting the Rebels, but we could have done nothing against such an armed band of cut-throats and thieves. The country has been so literally drained of young men, that women and children have to go into the fields. We had no arms, and even if we had we would have been indiscriminately slaughtered and our families left to the mercy of the brutal horde.

The town was fired in at least 50 places, and it is my belief that they designed burning the village whether or not the demand for money was complied with. I never before saw men act with such fiendishness, and gloat over the misfortunes of the women and children rendered houseless and homeless by their vandalism. The entire scene was the most horrible that I have ever witnessed. The screams of women and children, the yells of the drunken soldiers, and the roaring and crackling of the burning buildings, were terrible. In many instances, women were compelled to throw down small bundles containing only clothing, and several of these packages I saw the Rebels toss into the flames, swearing that nothing should be taken away.

STATEMENT OF MR. CHAS. H. TAYLOR.

I resided on Main street, and am connected with the Bank. About 5 o'clock on Saturday morning the Rebels threw out a skirmish line about the town, and, while advancing, complimented us with a few shells, which happily did no damage. Upon entering, McCausland or Gilmor, who led the party, which was between 400 and 500 strong, caused the town bell to be rung, but the citizens failed to respond. They then arrested Dr. Richards and several other prominent citizens, and read to them a requisition signed by Jubal Early, demanding $100,000 in greenbacks or $300,000 in coin. They refused to comply, whereupon another order was produced to burn the town, both being signed by Early. I believe it was their intention to burn the town whether the money was paid or not, as while they were reading the orders many of their men were gathering material to burn the buildings. Soon after this the town was fired in upward of fifty different places. On the main streets many families lived over their stores, but received no intimation whatever of the burning except in finding fires kindled on the lower floor, and the upper part of their premises filled with smoke. Women, while escaping with their children, were ordered by the brutal soldiers to lay down little packages containing only clothing. Men were robbed in the streets of watches, money, pocketknives, and other small articles. All were compelled to empty their pockets. I remained until 9 o'clock, and assisted some ladies in removing their clothing. The scene was terrible.

STATEMENT OF SAMUEL SHIBERT.

Mr. Sehbert says they first heard of the Rebels at Clear Spring and at another point on Friday. Next heard of them at Shimpstown, and then at Mercersburg, whence they came, as we subsequently learned, via Bridgeport and St. Thomas. About 2 o'clock on Saturday morning we got word that they were advancing upon us. Some of our men went out with two cannon on the hill, and fired twice, killing one and wounding five of the invaders. In two hours thereafter the Rebels entered the town about 500 strong. McCausland inquired for the Town Council, but none of them were to be found. The bell was rung for a meeting, but the citizens made no response. An order from Early was read to several citizens demanding $500,000 in U. S. notes or $100,000 in coin, and in the event of its not being paid the town was to be burned. They would not allow anybody that I could see to put out the fire.

In my opinion it will take from a million to a million and a half of dollars to replace the buildings that have been destroyed. Three were, as near as can be calculated, 293 houses, stores and dwellings laid in ruins. While standing at the gate, between my house and the carpenter shop, a fellow rode up and demanded $100. I told him I hadn't got it, when he asked for $50, then $20, then $10, and $5, and compelled me to turn my pockets inside out. He finally asked me for a box of matches, at the same time looking toward my shop, and upon being again refused, rode off. There is no doubt but that they intended burning the town, money or no money, for I know several men whose houses were fired after they had paid from $50 to $100 to have them saved harmless.

INCIDENTS.

Many instances of individual bravery occurred during the raging of the conflagration, a few of which I narrate.

Miss Mary Black, daughter of Judge Black, a fine girl of 18 Summers, having packed up a bundle of clothing, threw it over her shoulder and left the house. A few steps distant she was confronted by a fellow who presented a pistol and told her to lay down her load as it was too heavy for her to carry. Looking at the man an instant she said, "What's that to you," and quickly drawing a revolver from the folds of her dress, she knocked his pistol from his hand and passed on without further molestation.

Mr. A. J. Miller, keeping a drug store on the main street, was engaged putting some valuable drugs in the vault in his cellar, and had just laid away his watch and money, when a Rebel confronted him and demanded his valuables. Seeing the property lying on the shelf, the fellow helped himself without further parley, and marched off. Mr. Miller then repaired to his garret with the intention of roosting, if possible, a dog which he highly prized, the affrighted animal having fled thither. Being unsuccessful he returned to his store, taking with him a double-barrel shot gun, heavily loaded. Upon entering he saw two fellows who had accidentally locked themselves in and dropped the key. Without ado he fired upon one who was groping about the floor for the key, killing him instantly. The other Rebel ran for the back door, and was about escaping when Miller gave him the contents of the second barrel, and left him bleeding upon the floor. The building was soon after fired, and the bodies of both the Rebels were consumed in the flames. Mr. Miller, in effecting his escape, came near being crushed by a falling wall.

A young lady, whose name I could not learn, wrapped an American flag about her person, and, pistol in hand, defied any man to enter her house. By her determination she saved the building in which she resided and the adjoining property.

Mrs. Watson, after extinguishing two fires which had been kindled in her house, drove the Rebels out with a broom-stick. Presently, however, they returned, and pursuing her to an upper room, secured her between a bedstead and the wall, then, locking the door after them, they again fired the building. Some women, hearing Mrs. Miller's screams, broke open the door, and with great difficulty rescued her from her perilous position.

Shearer Howser, a returned soldier, and one who had frequently been employed as a Union scout, ran up to one of the Rebels, and with a "How are you?" grasped the fellow's hand, but before he responded to the salutation, Howser had secured his carbine and ordered him to dismount. The fellow, not caring to have his head blown off so unceremoniously, exchanged places with Howser, and was driven off a prisoner to a neighboring village. Howser returned in the afternoon, with horse, carbine, the Rebel's clothes, which were new, and a large roll of greenbacks, much elated at his success.

Not the least active among the incendiaries was Capt. Smith, son of ex-Gov. Smith, better known as Extra Billy Smith. He was observed by many people going from house to house applying the match, and scoffing at the defenseless and homeless women as they passed him in search of a retreat from the flames. It will be remembered that his father's property has always been protected by the Union troops.

After the departure of the main body of the Rebels in the afternoon, a Major with seven men returned to the town, the officer swearing that not a house should be left, and that he would carry out Gen. Early's order to the letter. He did n't care for McCausland or Gilmor, and should finish their incompleted work. The party was attacked by a number of citizens and the men captured. The Major, whose name, from some papers found in his pocket, is supposed to be Cook, was shot in twenty-five different places about the body before he fell. The infuriated people trampled him to death, and could scarce be restrained from executing in a summary manner the seven privates in their hands. The prisoners were taken to Harrisburg under a strong guard.

One of the Rebel soldiers was so incensed at the outrageous conduct of his companions that he resolved to escape, and, with the aid of a gentleman to whom he made known his desire, succeeded in getting away. He took no part with them in the burning of the buildings. Other honorable exceptions of a like character I heard of, one man saying "the Yanks had never committed so mean an act, and that it would damn the Confederacy."

VISIT TO M'CONNELLSBURG.

From Dr. Trout I learn that the Rebels, after leaving Chambersburg, visited McConnellsburg, arriving between 4 and 5 p. m., and remaining until the next day. Here they committed numerous outrages, stripping men naked in the streets, taking others out to hang them for not telling where their horses were, and robbing every one they met. There was evidently some trouble between McCausland and that eminent shystering lawyer of Frederick City, Gen. Bradley Johnson, as they took different roads. Dr. Trout heard many expressions of indignation among the soldiers at the burning of Chambersburg, and one man said he'd never draw trigger again for the Confederacy if they burned another town. Gilmor frequently expressed his contempt of the Copperheads, and remarked, as he picked up *The Pulton Democrat*, that such a paper would n't be allowed to exist a minute down South.

Since my advent here I have heard many expressions of opinion in regard to Gen. Couch, some declaring him incompetent to command the department and condemning him for not having sufficient force at hand to save the town, while others say that he did everything in his power to protect the place. Reports and rumors of a conflicting character as to the whereabout of the Rebels reach here to-night, but it is my belief that they have left this section and will soon visit it again. DR.

Archbishop McCloskey.

From The Albany Argus.

There have been many testimonials of respect rendered to the newly-chosen Archbishop of New-York, by his clergy and the congregations of his diocese.

Others of our fellow-citizens, who have appreciated his rare virtues and accomplishments, have also wished to give some testimonial of their good will to the distinguished Prelate, and this feeling has sought expression in the following letter of invitation. Though not accepted, the response of the Archbishop shows how gratefully it is appreciated:

ALBANY, July 30, 1864.

To the Most Rev. JOHN McCLOSKEY, Archbishop of New-York.

SIR: We learn that the time approaches when, called by the authority of your Church to a wider sphere of Episcopal duty, you are about to leave this city.

Permit us to say that your residence of seventeen years with us has taught us to appreciate a character elevated by noble sentiments and inspired by Christian charity. It is for others to bear witness to the results of your Episcopal labors, the reflected light of which we see in the elevated condition of your people. It is for us to recognize the successful mission of one who has united in his person the character of a learned prelate and a Christian gentleman, and whose influence in society has been exerted to soothe and tranquilize, to elevate and instruct.

In the newer and higher position to which you have been called, your labors, no doubt, will be equally meritorious; and the regrets we feel at parting with you are restrained by this conviction, and by a sense of gratification at this mark of the high appreciation in which you are held by your own church.

Actuated by these feelings, we cordially invite you to meet us at dinner, on such day before your departure as you may please to designate.

With feelings of sincere respect and esteem, we are your friends and well-wishers.

Hamilton Seymour, Peter Gansevoort, S. Van Rensselaer, Erastus Corning, Gideon Hawley, Amasa J. Parker, John V. L. Pruyn, Theodore Weed, Lucius Robinson, Thomas W. Olcott, John H. Van Antwerp, John Taylor Cooper, R. L. Banks, Harry D. Palmer, James Rodd, Chas. B. Lansing, S. Corey Vanderpoel, Edward Townsend, Isaac Vanderpoel, E. F. Pastoe, Ira Harris, Thomas Hun, John Tweedie, C. Comstock, S. W. Peckham, James Edwards, Amasa Trevor, Freeman Townsend, Rufus H. King, Dexter Reynolds, G. Pomeroy, John K. Porter, H. H. Martin, John D. Van Buren, Hamilton Harris, Chas. Van Benthuysen.

ALBANY, Aug. 3, 1864.

HON. HORATIO SEYMOUR, PETER GANSEVOORT, STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, ERASTUS CORNING, and others.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your much valued favor of the 30th ult., in which, with many expressions of courtesy and kindness, you invite me to meet you at dinner, on such day before my departure as I may please to designate. It is exceedingly grateful to me, in a moment so full of painful regrets, to receive this testimonial of esteem from so many of my fellow-citizens, who are not only known to me by the high and honorable places which they hold in society, but who have also so long merited and received my sincerest respect for their great personal and private worth, and whose good opinion I have a right to prize.

Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to be able to accept your flattering invitation—but the time remaining to me here is so brief, and my occupations so urgent, that with much reluctance I must beg to decline.

You will allow me, however, to profit by the occasion which thus opportunely presents itself, of making my warmest acknowledgements, for all the courtesy and kindness, for all the tokens of generosity and esteem, which I have so amply received from my fellow-citizens of Albany, without distinction of party or creed, from the first moment of my coming among them, until now. And be assured that the sentiments of gratitude which all this inspires, are fully shared by the Catholic community—clergy as well as laity, of whom I have been the honored, though unworthy representative.

The relations of harmony and good will which I have sought ever to cultivate and promote, and which so happily exist between us, will continue, I trust, to grow and strengthen, even as the grateful remembrance of them will by me be only the more warmly cherished, by reason of the separation which has to take place.

Be pleased, gentlemen, to receive, collectively and individually, my best wishes for both your temporal and eternal welfare, and the assurances of highest regard and esteem, with which

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,
JOHN McCLOSKEY, Bishop of Albany,
Archbishop elect of New-York.

INCIDENT IN THE LIFE OF THE LATE REV. DR. GOULDEN WINSLOW.—When the sun of Antietam had set, and the cries of anguish filled the air from thousands of sufferers, Dr. Winslow was dispatched to look after the dead and wounded. Anxious to do his utmost, and desirous of ascertaining the number of the killed and wounded, he penetrated the lines of the enemy, and, with a prominent Rebel General, rode some seven miles through their confederate lines, and over places where the battle had raged the hottest. After parting with his friend of the moment, the Chaplain turned his course campward, when lo! behold! he found himself surrounded on all sides by "graybacks," cleaning the fields of dead and wounded, by the uncertain light of the evening skies. Assuming a *rebellious* air, he *ordered* them, in his gradual ride toward the Union lines, to attend to this and that wounded case. Thus he played the role of a Confederate officer (in make-believe, however), till near the pickets, when a dash of the spurs safely returned him, bringing much valuable information concerning the wounded. [Christian Witness.

TURK'S ISLAND SALT.—*The Standard* of the 24 ult. says: "Notwithstanding the rain which has fallen since our last report, a considerable quantity of salt has been gathered, particularly at this island and Cockburn Harbor. With favorable weather, the gatherings will continue without intermission, and before the end of the present month there will be a large quantity of salt on hand. The price, at present, is nominal, the demand of late being too limited to enable proprietors to decide on a fixed rate. Government market price, on which a Crown duty of 10 per cent ad valorem is payable by the salt proprietor, has been fixed for July at 12 cents per bushel. Export duty, one cent. The bushel measure for salt contains 35 Imperial quarts."

The cluster of buildings at Centerville, Conn., known as Candee's Rubber Works, was destroyed by fire on July 31. Aggregate loss, $22,000.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

The St. Scholastique, C. W., jail was burned a few days since, it is said, by a prisoner waiting trial for three distinct charges of rape. Three prisoners were saved with the utmost difficulty, but three females—a mother and her two daughters—in a story above, were burned. These were not confined in cells, and they had full access to the windows, at one of which was one of the unfortunate victims, piteously imploring, "*Mon Dieu, sauver nous! sauver nous!*" To relieve her was beyond the power of man. At the topmost step of a fragile ladder stood the Rev. M. Barnabe, who gave the dying creature the last consolation of his church. Before he had concluded, the black smoke had become red, and in it the poor girl fell back to be neither heard nor seen again. These three women had been confined for destroying a new-born infant.

A young man laboring under "panophobia" has been dismissed from the French Army. He could not swallow bread, nor indeed any farinaceous food, which, if forcibly or secretly administered, produced the effect of poison. He lived on rations of meat and potatoes, but the army doctors declared he was "afflicted with an involuntary intolerance of the organs incompatible with military service," and so he got his discharge.

The French artillerists in Mexico have a sort of field guns to which a barometer is attached for the regulation of accurate aim. The gunners were surprised at the deviation of range in those latitudes, contrary to what their experience at Vincennes had led them to count on; but the difference of result has been found to be caused by the diminution of atmospheric pressure on the lofty table land of Central America.

Extraordinary News from the Chaudiere Mines.

The *Journal de Quebec* is responsible for the following:

A resident of this city who arrived yesterday from the mines situated on the River Gilbert, which is a tributary of the Chaudiere River, has communicated to us a few particulars respecting these mines, which he visited in the course of Saturday. These mines promise much to those who, being possessed of a good amount of courage and physical strength, are disposed to handle the pickax and shovel. The claims are situated in the bed of this little river, which passes through a forest intercepting all refreshing air, and the works are carried on from eight to fifteen feet below the level of the soil, in the mud, clay, and rock. Nevertheless, it is pleasing to state that in these labors, arduous though they be, the workmen are fully encouraged by the discoveries of gold which they have made.

On Friday last, the 22d inst., the firm of Robert & Langtot found a nugget of pure gold, at a depth of ten feet, shaped like a small potato, and of the value of $200. On the same day, in a neighboring claim, the firm of Langtier & Lebrage also found a nugget of the value of ten dollars.

A man named Macloire Marauda, of Point Levi, who has spent several years with success in California, went to the Chaudiere mines on the 15th of May, with the necessary funds and his experience. He opened a claim alone. For the first fifteen days his toil was utterly fruitless; but from the 1st of June until Saturday last, the result of his labors, which he was enabled to show to our informant, amounted to thirty-two ounces of gold, part of which was in dust, and part in small pieces—the value of the latter varying from two dollars and a half to twenty dollars each. The total value of his discoveries amounts to $650.

A fact which proves that perseverance is good in all things, and that, in the matter of mining enterprise, pecuniary means are necessary for a commencement, is the following: Three young Canadians had purchased a claim, and worked it with courage and activity for six or seven days, but without success. Want of means discouraged them, they sold their claim to five other young men who had just arrived, for $5. We believe the claim had cost $100, inasmuch as this is the usual price of claims. The five young men continued the excavations commenced by their three predecessors. They found gold on the first day of their labors, and on Saturday last, the sixth day of working the claim, they were able to show gold of the value of $400, and their claim promises still more.

The discoveries of Friday last have infused great courage into the breasts of the miners on this river. It must be stated that the great drouth has had the effect of lowering the water and facilitating working. Generally, each claim produces $30 per day.

The gold is usually found at a depth of not less than four to six feet.

Those who go to the mines to work on their own account should, in all necessity, have some funds, and be able to stand hard work. It is necessary also to possess some experience on the subject, or at least to be guided by the advice of an experienced person. There are at present upward of 500 persons working at the Gilbert River mines. There are many Americans.

The Hon. Ignatius Donnelly has been renominated by the Unionists of the IId District of Minnesota, as their candidate for Congress.

Work on the new Fort Preble, at Portland, Me., has been suspended. the Government considering that a fortification near the Cape Lights will better protect the harbor.

CITY GOVERNMENT.

Board of Aldermen.

OFFICIAL.] STATED SESSION, Monday, Aug. 8, 1864.
Present—John T. Hardy, esq., President; Aldermen Fox, McMahon, Chipp, McKnight, Ryers, Jeremiah, Hardy, Masterson.

The minutes of July eighteenth, twenty-eighth, and August third, were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By Alderman McCOOL—
Petition of the Street Inspector for an increase of salary.
Which was laid over.
By Alderman MASTERSON—
Petition of property owners for a sewer in Forty-sixth street, Tenth and Eleventh avenues.
Which was referred to Committee on Sewers.

RESOLUTION.

By Alderman FOX—
Whereas, Hook and Ladder Company Number Four has been running for the last six months without a vacation, and as they are the only hook and ladder company in the lower part of the city; therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Comptroller be authorized and directed to purchase or lease a location for said company, at his earliest convenience, to be within the following boundaries, viz: Broadway on the east, West street on the west, Cortlandt street on the north, and Albany street on the south.
Which was laid over.

PAPER FROM BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

Resolution to pay the same amount of relief to the families of the New-York City Militia as is paid to the New-York City Volunteers.
Which was adopted by the following vote:
Affirmative—Aldermen Fox, The President, McMahon, Chipp, McKnight, Ryers, Hardy, Masterson, Farley—13.

RESOLUTIONS RESUMED.

By Alderman FARLEY—
Whereas, This Board has learned with feelings of profound sorrow of the decease of Ann E., wife of our esteemed and valued associate and friend, Jacob M. Long, the representative of the Seventeenth Aldermanic District in this Board; and whereas, in this afflicting dispensation of Almighty God, which deprives our associate and friend of her who occupied the first place in his affections, who was his companion, his counselor, his confidant; the chosen object of his unchanging sympathies and love that filled together the kind, indulgent and loving husband and father, and the affectionate, prudent and devoted wife and mother, we ask to be permitted to extend to him in his affliction our sympathy and condolence; be it therefore
Resolved, That this Board of Aldermen attend the funeral obsequies in a body, and that, as a further evidence of our regard for her decease, and of sympathy for our colleague in his bereavement, the Board do now adjourn.
Which was adopted.

D. T. VALENTINE, Clerk.

Board of Councilmen.

OFFICIAL.] STATED SESSION, Thursday, Aug. 4, 1864. 7 o'clock p. m.

The Board met, pursuant to adjournment, in their Chamber, No. 16 City Hall.

A quorum not answering to their names on roll-call, the Board was declared adjourned until Monday, 8th inst., at 2 o'clock p. m. JAMES M. SWEENY, Clerk.

Board of Councilmen.

OFFICIAL.] STATED SESSION, Monday, Aug. 8, 1864. 2 o'clock p. m.

The Board met, pursuant to adjournment, in their Chamber, No. 16 City Hall.

Present—James Hayes, esq., President, in the chair, and the following members:

Councilmen Healy Keenan, Riley, Webster, Heffernan, Repper, Koster, Houghtalin, Haviland, Meteroth, Jaques, Schneider, Cook, Brandon, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald and Joyce—19.

The minutes of meetings held July 28 and August 1 were read and approved.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Councilman JOYCE—
Resolved, That a sewer, with the necessary receiving basins and culverts, be built in Forty-sixth street, between the Eighth and Ninth avenues.
Which was referred to the Committee on Sewers.
By Councilman REPPER—
Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby given, to Ignatz Scheerer to keep a paper-stand on the south-west corner of Avenue D and Second street, the same to remain only during the pleasure of the Common Council.
Which was adopted.
By the PRESIDENT—
Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby given, to Nelson Samuels to receive and deliver goods in front of his premises number one hundred and sixty-two Grand street, corner of Centre, to remain only during the pleasure of the Common Council.
Which was adopted.
By Councilman HEALY—
Resolved, That permission be and is hereby given to William Williams to erect a tent in the Park, for recruiting purposes, the same to continue during the pleasure of the Common Council.
Which was adopted.
By Councilman BRANDON—
Resolved, That the Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized and directed to pay the families of men serving in the New-York City Militia Regiments for one hundred days, under the last call of the President, from the Volunteer Family Aid Fund, the same amount of relief, under the same rules and regulations, as is now being paid to the New-York City Volunteer Regiments.
Which was adopted.
By Councilman BRICE—
Resolved, That the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby authorized and directed to erect a temporary location for the use of Hook and Ladder Company number Two, on the lot formerly used by said Company.
Which was laid over.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A communication was received from the Comptroller, with statement of Treasury balance to August 6, 1864.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with draft of ordinance making additional appropriations for the year 1864.
Which was received and laid over.

INVITATION.

An invitation was received from the Plumbers' Protective Society to attend excursion to Biddle's Grove on August 11th.
Which was accepted.

MOTIONS.

Councilman KEENAN moved that the Committee on Salaries and Offices be discharged from the further consideration of petition of laborers under Croton Board for increase of pay, with resolution that the pay of the laborers in the Croton Aqueduct Department be fixed at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per day, the same to take effect from the passage of this resolution.
Which was carried.
And the same was laid over.
Councilman KEENAN moved that the Committee on Salaries and Offices be discharged from the further consideration of petition of Board of Commissioners of Appeals New-York Fire Department, to have David Theal paid for services to said Commission, with resolution that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of David Theal for the sum of three hundred dollars, being for services rendered as Acting Messenger to the Appeal Commissioners of the New-York Fire Department, and charge to any unexpended appropriation.
Which was carried.
And the same was laid over.
Councilman REPPER moved that the Committee on Wharves, Piers and Slips be discharged from the further consideration of resolution of Board of Aldermen, that permission be given to John P. Acker to erect sheds on the bulkhead and pier between Watts and Hoboken streets, the work to be done entirely at his own cost and expense, and under the direction of the Street Commissioner.
Which was carried.
Councilman BRANDON moved that said resolution be recommitted to the Committee on Wharves, Piers and Slips.
Which was carried.
Councilman REPPER moved that the Committee, on Wharves, Piers, and Slips be discharged from the further consideration of resolution of Board of Aldermen, that the Street Commissioner be directed to advertise for proposals to rebuild and widen the pier at the foot of Bright street.
Which was carried.
And the same was laid over.
Councilman JOYCE moved that the Committee on National Affairs be discharged from the further consideration of resolution of Board of Aldermen, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of Joel W. Mason, for the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars, amount paid by him for meals furnished the Sixth Regiment National Guard, on the occasion of the reception of the naval officers.
Which was lost.
Councilman KEENAN moved that said vote be reconsidered.
Which was carried.
The motion to discharge the Committee was then carried, and the paper was laid over.

RESOLUTION RESUMED.

By Councilman HEFFERNAN—
Resolved, That the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for proposals forthwith to build a new truck for the use of Marion Hook and Ladder Company No. 13, the present truck being entirely worn out by service.
Which was referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

REPORTS.

Report of the Committee on Repairs and Supplies, in favor of erecting a temporary tower in Twenty-second street, between First and Second avenues, and placing the bell now on Government Street Market upon the said temporary tower.
Which was laid over.
Report of the Committee on Belgian Pavement, with resolution that Avenue B, from Houston to Fourteenth street, be paved with Belgian pavement, one-half at the expense of the property owners, and one-half at the expense of the city.
Which was laid over.
Report of the Committee on Sewers, for the construction of a receiving basin and culvert on the northeast corner of Second avenue and Fifty-ninth street.
Which was laid over.

PAPERS FROM BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

An ordinance entitled "An ordinance to provide for the continuance of the aid heretofore granted to the families of volunteer soldiers from the City of New-York serving in the armies of the Union."
Councilman BRICE, by unanimous consent, moved that said ordinance be concurred in at this time.
Which was carried by the following vote:
Affirmative—Councilmen Healy, Keenan, Riley, Hayes, Webster, Heffernan, Repper, Koster, Houghtalin, Haviland, Meteroth, Jaques, Schneider, Cook, Brandon, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, and Joyce—19.

MOTIONS RESUMED.

Councilman KEENAN moved that the Committee on Salaries and Offices be discharged from the further consideration of resignation of Justin D. White as a Commissioner of Deeds, with resolution that Edgar Williams be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds for the City and County of New-York, in place of Justin D. White resigned.
(By Board of Aldermen, resignation accepted and resolution adopted.)
Which was carried.
The paper was then concurred in.
Councilman KEENAN moved that the Board do now adjourn.
Which was carried.
Whereupon, the President declared that the Board stood adjourned to Thursday next, 11th inst., at 2 o'clock, p. m.
JAMES M. SWEENY, Clerk.

Mails Close at the Post-Office.

For Liverpool, by the steamer Scotia, Aug. 10, ...at 9½ a. m.
For Havana, by the steamer Liberty, Aug. 10, ... 2 p. m.
For California, Oregon, Washington Territory, and the Sandwich Islands, daily (Sundays excepted) ... 4½ p. m.
For Nassau, N. P., and Cuba, ... 3 p. m. and 3½ p. m.
North and West West Mail, ... 2 p. m.
Western Mail, via Erie Railroad, ... 2 p. m. and 5½ p. m.
Southern and South-Western Mails, ... 2 p. m. and 10½ p. m.
Eastern Mail, ... 2 p. m. and 5½ p. m.
Newport and Fall River, ... 4 p. m.
The Long Island Mail closes at ... 3 p. m. and 1 p. m.
Sunday Mails—On Sunday all mails close at ... 1½ p. m.

Travelers' Guide.

To Albany, by Hudson R. R., 4th Warren-st., 7, 10 a.m., and 4, 6, and 10:40 p. m. Sunday train from 30th-st. ... 6:22 p. m.
To Albany, by Harlem R. R., 30th-st., 8 a.m., 10½ a. m. and 4 p. m. Sunday train ... 4 p. m.
To Albany, by Cornwall's Hotel Dock, West Point, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, Catskill, and Hudson, by steamers Day's Draw and C. Vibbard, leaving Berdsey-street, (landing at 30th-st.) at ... 7 a. m.
To Baltimore, by the New-Jersey R. R., foot of Cortland