THE FIGHT AT BALL'S BLUFF.

OUR POOLESVILLE CORRESPONDENCE.

POOLESVILLE, Md., Oct. 23, 1861.

The Slaughter of the California Regiment—Another Account of the Action of October 21—The Companies Engaged, and Those Absent on Other Duty—Their Officers, &c., &c.

The California regiment is cut to pieces. Colonel Baker is killed. Two or three hundred brave men, more or less, have been murdered by the fratricidal hands of treason, or drowned in a daring attempt to swim across the river. Thirteen officers are killed, missing or prisoners; those who have returned are nearly all wounded. Among the severely wounded is Lieutenant Colonel Wistar, a most brave and daring officer, who received a bullet in the sword arm.

Be it known that this was no Bull run affair. The bereaved and unhappy families, whose sons and brothers have been slaughtered in the ranks of the California regiment, need not blush for their conduct in that hopeless and murderous encounter. They fought with Spartan courage against ten times their number, and fought with deadly effect.

The current at the ferry is rapid, and at the time of this expedition had been swollen by rains, so that in the most shallow place the water was seven feet deep; in others seventeen. On the Virginia side is a precipitous bank, covered with dense woods, except a narrow opening cut through as a road. Up this steep bank, after crossing, the troops had to make their way, and nature never provided a more perfect place of ambuscade.

The transportation consisted of three scows, which would carry about fifty men each, and this is all the preparation that I am aware of for this portion of "General Stone's advance," as I have already seen it termed by the newspapers in flaming capitals. In these wretched boats a portion of the battalion was transported to a small island, the process occupying several hours, and thence they crossed to the mainland, scrambling up the steep bank as best they could. They reached the top and deployed two companies as skirmishers, when, suddenly they were attacked in front and on both flanks by an overpowering concealed foe. The forest swarmed with rebel cavalry and infantry. The were concealed behind trees, and scores of marksmen had even climbed the trees, and there, hidden by the branches, poured down a storm of bullets upon the officers, every one of whom they seemed determined to kill. Thousands of Union troops on the Maryland shore watched the bloody spectacle eager to go to the rescue of their brave comrades; but transportation was not to be had, and they could only look on, powerless witnesses of the slaughter.

While this deadly work was going on with those who had succeeded in crossing, the remainder of the battalion were going over as rapidly as the boats would carry them; but now the enemy, concealed on the brow of the bank, poured volley after volley into these boats, which, at every return, were loaded with the dead and wounded. Before the last of the battalion could get across the advance portion of it had been completely cut to pieces, and its officers disabled, killed or captured. Could Colonel Baker have had his entire brigade with him there is no doubt he would have driven everything before him. As it was the case was hopeless.

THE DEATH OF COLONEL BAKER.

Colonel Baker was killed early in the fight. In full uniform, with a "regulation" hat and feather, and mounted on his horse, he was a conspicuous mark for the bloodthirsty traitors. He was one of the finest appearing men in full uniform and mounted that I have seen in the service. Entirely regardless of personal safety, he led and cheered on his men. He remarked to those around him: "A rascal up in that tree has fired at me five or six times;" and the rascal in the tree was speedily brought down by a well directed ball. Shortly after this Colonel Baker was surrounded by a body of rebel cavalry and taken prisoner; but the right wing of the battalion charged with the bayonet, routed the cavalry, killed numbers of them and recaptured their colonel.

But a few minutes had elapsed, however, before a tall, ferocious Virginian, with red hair and whiskers, came rushing from behind a tree, with a huge revolver in his hand, and, placing the weapon almost against the Colonel's head, inflicted a mortal wound. Not satisfied with his deadly work, he fired the second ball, while simultaneously the body was pierced with four bullets from the tops of trees, and the brave Colonel fell lifeless from his horse.

GALLANT CONDUCT OF A NEW YORK CAPTAIN—HE AVENGES THE COLONEL'S DEATH, AND RESCUES THE BODY.

Captain Louis Berial, of New York city, commanding Company G, seeing the assassination of Colonel Baker, rushed upon the ruffian, seized him by the throat, and shot him dead on the spot with his revolver. No sooner had the brave Colonel fallen than the body was surrounded and seized by the traitors, who were dragging it to the woods to be robbed, when Captain Berial stepped out and exclaimed: "I am going after Colonel Baker's body. Who will go with me? Come on, boys!" Then about twenty men, a portion from his own and a portion from other companies, followed the gallant captain, and a most desperate hand-to-hand fight resulted in the victory of Berial. The body of the Colonel was rescued, and, as tenderly as circumstances would permit, was sent across the stream. The men around it had faced death without flinching; but when they beheld the bleeding corpse of their brave and beloved colonel their eyes were suffused, and their bronzed faces wet with tears. It was taken to Poolesville, the headquarters of General Stone, and on Wednesday was sent to Washington under escort.

REPORTED DEATH OF GENERAL JOHNSTON.

Before Col. Baker fell a singular incident occurred, and the belief is prevalent here that the rebel General Johnston was killed. A man with a red horse came riding from the woods and exclaimed, "Rally on me, boys!" Knowing that other Union regiments were to cross another ferry, some of our men were deceived and followed the horseman, but they were led as sheep to the slaughter, for they had proceeded but a few rods when a deadly volley was poured into them, killing many and hastily dispersing the rest. In a few minutes the same man appeared again, to try the same game. Col. Baker chanced to see him and exclaimed, "Good heaven! there is Johnston, what is he doing there?"

Immediately a half dozen muskets were levelled at the person thus pointed out, and he fell from his horse as they were discharged. Johnston was personally known to Col. Baker, and it is believed here that the person brought down was none other than the distinguished rebel general. This report requires confirmation; but if such is the case, the incident reflects little credit on the generalship of the rebel, who, instead of devoting himself to the movements of his troops, would thus needlessly expose his life in playing a small trick to deceive a few men to their death.

THE FIGHT.

The fight lasted for several hours. It commenced about two o'clock P. M., and continued until after dark. Any systematic retreat was rendered impossible, as there was no transportation. The boats were filled with the dead and wounded. The groans of the poor sufferers were heartrending to the stout-hearted soldiers on the Maryland side, who were utterly unable to do anything in their behalf.

The officers being nearly all disabled, killed or captured, the men were left to fight as best they could, without orders. Lieutenant Colonel Wistar was disabled before the fall of Colonel Baker, and the Major was absent. Colonel Cogswell, of the Tammany regiment, took command, but was soon shot; still the men stood their ground, contending against the most fearful odds. Regiment after regiment of fresh rebel troops came rushing upon them down the hill, yelling like fiends, and pouring in deadly volleys, while the trees still swarmed with riflemen, who made the air black with bullets aimed at our devoted little band. At times the contending parties were within four or five feet of each other, still our men stood steadily, returning their fire or plunging at them with the bayonet. So near were they at one time that our men actually caught

A REBEL LIEUTENANT PRISONER,

by seizing him from the ranks and dragging him off. They kept him, too, and sent him over the river, and that night he was kept at our camp. He is a rather slender built and delicate appearing man—in fact, almost "a love of a man"—about twenty-five years old. His features are classical, and he exhibits much intelligence. His hands are so small that no handcuffs could be found which he would not slip immediately. He was very much alarmed, and evidently entertained most horrible ideas of the ferocity of his custodians. We have it from rebel pickets that the belief prevails among their troops that the California regiment carry revolvers and huge bowie knives in addition to their rifles, and the delicate young prisoner in question probably supposed he had fallen into the hands of man eaters. Major Parrish visited him and asked him if he was annoyed by the crowd of soldiers that surrounded his tent. He appeared to be quite nervous, and replied that "he did not know what they would do with him."

"Oh," replied the Major, "you need feel no fears for your personal safety. The men have no disposition to harm you, and would not be allowed to do so if they had. They only feel the same curiosity that your men would probably exhibit should I chance to fall into your hands." The lieutenant seemed to be greatly relieved by this assurance. He was soon after sent to headquarters. He had on a complete federal uniform, which he had evidently taken from the body of some dead officer. Indeed, our men were stripped and robbed as fast as their dead bodies fell into the hands of the enemy.

A HORRIBLE SCENE.

Just after sunset a horrible scene occurred in this tragedy of blood. The only boat now available was filled with wounded, who endeavored to gain the friendly shore of Maryland; but the enemy fired volley after volley upon these poor, miserable men, until the boat was perforated with balls, and midway in the rapid current it sunk, with all on board, every one of whom was drowned. I should have mentioned previously that, notwithstanding the great depth of water, the boats were not furnished with oars, and had to be pushed with poles, a very difficult process in so swift a current.

GALLANT CONDUCT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Captain Frederick Harvie, Assistant Adjutant General of the brigade, was among the last to cross, and when he did so the black woods on the other side showered a tempest of bullets upon him, but he arrived uninjured. The battalion had taken over two mountain howitzers and a 32-pounder, but the horses and gunners were shot down on the first fire, so that the pieces were of no service. Our men, however, had gallantly defended them from the enemy, and still held them in possession. Captain Harvie loaded one of them twice, and fired into the enemy, with his own hands. Finding it impossible to save the guns, and being a man of great physical strength, he took the howitzers, one after the other, and pitched them down the bank. They rolled over and over along the steep descent, and plunged into the rapid current, where they will be of very little service to the Southern oligarchy. I suppose they got the 32-pounder.

Finding further resistance impossible, Captain Harvie called the little band around him and proposed to send a flag of truce and surrender as prisoners of war. This was assented to, when Captain Harvie added, "I cannot swim; if I could I would not surrender. While the flag of truce goes out, all who prefer the chances of swimming the Potomac to becoming prisoners can do so." He then fixed a white handkerchief on a bayonet and sent it up to the rebels, and became a prisoner, with a few others. But the greater part of the brave fellows concluded to try the water. They threw their muskets, accoutrements, and, in some cases, all their clothing, into the river, to prevent them falling into the hands of the traitors, and plunged in. Many succeeded in reaching the shore and went to camp, in some cases entirely naked. Others were shot in the river, and some were drowned. The night was very cold and the water exceedingly chilly.

THE SECOND BATTALION.

The California regiment was divided into two battalions. The Second battalion, under command of Major R. A. Parrish, was, about ten days since, detailed to guard a certain position of the Potomac with picket guards, and was several miles from the scene of the engagement of the First battalion. In order to remove doubts among your readers as to the safety of friends in this part of the command, I give a list of the companies and officers of the Second battalion, not engaged:—

Company E—Captain, Charles Cochesberger; First Lieutenant, E. P. Smith; Second Lieutenant, C. A. Schaffer.

Company I—Captain, William P. Tomlinson; First Lieutenant, Wm. H. Dull; Second Lieutenant, Thomas R. Rush.

Company K—Captain, E. E. Lewis; First Lieutenant, P. J. Phillips; Second Lieutenant, T. J. Blakeny.

Company M—Captain, Alfred C. Hills; First Lieutenant, S. D. Beekman; Second Lieutenant, Samuel J. Murphy.

Company E—Captain, Isaac J. Neal; First Lieutenant, Wm. J. Simpson; Second Lieutenant, C. C. White.

Company B—Captain, John Beenkin; First Lieutenant, ——; Second Lieutenant, —— Hines.

Company R—Captain, —— Waugh; First Lieutenant, M. Smith; Second Lieutenant, Chas. E. Tucker.

The following is a list of the companies engaged, with the fate of the officers, as far as known at the time of this writing:—

Company A—Captain, John Markoe, missing, and believed to have been taken prisoner after he was wounded; First Lieutenant, —— Williams, killed, body recovered; Second Lieutenant, —— Packer, missing.

Company C—Captain, Wm. Otter, missing, and supposed to be a prisoner; First Lieutenant, —— Todd, staid in camp, and is safe; Second Lieutenant, Wm. Kerns, missing.

Company D—Captain Ritman was ordered by the Colonel to remain until he had seen the last man embark. Before this occurred the battalion was cut in pieces, and Captain Ritman only reached the island. He was greeted with a volley of rifles, but returned unharmed. First Lieutenant Greth, under orders and not present. Second Lieutenant Wade, slightly wounded in the shoulder; returned safely.

Company G—Captain Bieral, knocked down by a horse and slightly disabled; returned safely. First Lieutenant Hagan, absent on furlough. Second Lieutenant Templeton, killed.

Company H—Captain Garrick Mallery, severely ill for some weeks, and not sufficiently recovered to accompany the expedition. First Lieutenant William C. Harris, missing.

Company L—Capt. E. Woodward, seriously ill for some time, not sufficiently recovered to go with his company. First Lieutenant Frank J. Uri, slightly wounded in the right hand; returned safely. Second Lieutenant Fish, missing.

Company N—Captain Charles Keffer, missing. First Lieutenant Johnson, swam the river after dark and escaped unharmed. Second Lieutenant Hooper, missing.

Company P—Captain Hicks, wounded in the shoulder; escaped. First Lieutenant Kelley, missing. Second Lieutenant Smith, missing.

It would be impossible to give any list of the killed or missing of the privates, or even of the non-commissioned officers. The Sergeant Major, Huber Basilon, received a bullet in his right arm and escaped. At last advices less than four hundred had returned out of the whole eight hundred, making the loss—unless others come in—over three hundred and fifty. It is probable, however, that others will make their appearance, and that the loss, all told, will not exceed three hundred.

The colors were not lost. A sergeant, whose name I have not heard, fought with great bravery to preserve them, and, finally tearing the ensign of freedom from the staff, he swam the river with the glorious flag in his mouth.

Two other regiments—the Second and Thirty-fourth New York—I am informed, were sent across at another point near by, and were driven back with great slaughter, but I have not heard the particulars.

OUR FREDERICK CORRESPONDENCE.

FREDERICK CITY, Oct. 24, 1861.

The First Crossing of the Potomac—The Advance Towards Leesburg—First Encounter with the Enemy—Gen. Baker in the Van—The Shock of Conflict—The Union Force Attacked in Front and Flank with Rifled Cannon—Death of Gen. Baker and Capture of Cogswell—Heroic Conduct of Baker—"Forward! for McClellan and Our Country!"—Falling Back on the Potomac—The Night Crossing—Incidents, &c., &c.

By examining the map it would appear, that important to the success of the movements of our army on the Potomac is the occupation by our forces of the town of Leesburg, and it seems impossible to resist the conviction that the capturing of that place accordingly formed a portion of the plans of the Commander-in-Chief. That part of Major General Banks' corps d'armee, of which Gen. Stone's formed a part, was already posted on the left bank of the Potomac, holding Edwards' Ferry, within five miles of Leesburg, and was therefore the proper corps to take possession of that place. For several days previously the brigades on the right bank of the Potomac, above the Chain Bridge and the Falls of the Potomac, had been pushed up in the direction of Leesburg. These brigades, however, commanded by General McCall, did not advance further than Drainesville, twelve miles southeast of Leesburg, although their scouts were pushed forward to Goose creek, four miles from that place. On Saturday and Sunday Gen. McCall made two reconnoissances towards Leesburg, and could find no trace of the enemy. The country people declared that the rebels had abandoned that place some days before.

It had been generally believed for some days previously that Leesburg had been evacuated by the rebels and that they had retired from that place to Aldie, ten miles southwest, where they were fortifying. Aldie is a much stronger position than Leesburg. At Aldie the rebels could place Goose creek between themselves and the advancing Union troops. Goose creek is a stream about the size of Bull run, but it has high and steep banks and it cannot be crossed by artillery, except by bridges. On the right bank of the creek are some high hills admirably calculated for defence, and these, it was understood, the rebels were fortifying. These facts, or rather, these reports, were current in the army and in Washington. Believing them to be true, General Stone advanced in the direction of Leesburg. Before he did so, however, he sent Major Mix, with a company of cavalry, to make a reconnoissance of Leesburg and ascertain whether it had been abandoned. Major Mix crossed at Edwards' Ferry and proceeded towards Leesburg at daybreak on Monday morning. The order of the General commanding at this point was to cross the Potomac at two places; with his left wing, 5,000 strong, at Edwards' Ferry, and his right wing, under Brigadier General Baker, at Harrison's Island, between Conrad's Ford and Edwards' Ferry, and only four miles from Leesburg. General Baker's brigade consisted of five regiments—namely, his own (California regiment), 1,500 strong; the New York Tammany regiment, 1,000 men, Colonel Cogswell; the Fifteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth Massachusetts regiments, commanded respectively by Colonels Devens, Hincks and Lee—making in all about 5,000 men, of whom less than 2,500 were in the action. A reconnoissance had been made on Sunday night, and another at daybreak on Monday morning, by Colonel Devens, to Leesburg, who reported to Gen. Stone that no enemy was in sight. Gen. Stone then ordered Gen. Baker to advance with his brigade to Leesburg, to occupy and hold it, and to report for further orders. General Baker immediately proceeded to execute this order. The Fifteenth Massachusetts regiment was already across the river. The Twentieth was crossing. Ordering the Tammany regiment and the Nineteenth Massachusetts to cross immediately, General Baker placed himself at the head of his own (California) regiment, and, crossing the river, took command of the advance movement. The column then moved forward towards Leesburg, Colonel Devens on the right, Colonel Lee following at some distance, and the California regiment next. The apparent desertion of Leesburg was only a ruse on the part of the enemy, who had drawn their forces out of the town, and were posted in strength in such positions between Leesburg and the river, that they could enfilade our advancing columns, and attack them not only in front and in the flanks, but in the rear also. Skirmishers were thrown out as the column advanced, but no signs of an enemy were seen until the brigade had advanced fully half way to their destination. The first intimation of the presence of the enemy was the simultaneous discharge of about a hundred rifles from a thicket on the top of an eminence. The fire was received by the right wing of the Fifteenth Massachusetts, who were in the advance. A lieutenant and six or eight men were killed, and eighteen severely wounded. Three companies, however, immediately dashed up the slope in the direction of the fire, and, on reaching the spot, found themselves confronted with a regiment of Mississippi riflemen, who, reserving their fire till our brave fellows were within thirty yards, poured into them another volley. A captain, a lieutenant, and twelve or thirteen men were killed by this discharge. Our men, however, nothing daunted, delivered their fire with good effect, and then charged with the bayonet. The enemy did not wait for the latter, but cut and ran towards Leesburg in disorder. Colonel Devens did not think it prudent to pursue them, as a body of rebel cavalry just then made its appearance in the direction of Leesburg, but retired with his regiment to the ground occupied by the Twentieth regiment. Sending word then to General Baker of the position of affairs, Colonel Devens advanced again with his own and Colonel Lee's regiment. Before the two regiments had reached the scene of the first engagement, however, they were attacked on both flanks at once by riflemen and rifled cannon. A severe skirmish here took place, but the enemy were in superior force, and the two regiments were compelled to retreat to the river. This movement was effected in good order, but with some loss, the enemy's rifled cannon being admirably served. The whole brigade, being by this time across the river, was formed in order of battle and advanced against the enemy. The latter retired slowly, disputing every inch of ground, so that the path of our advance was over the bodies of many of our brave fellows. Not a whit disheartened, however, Gen. Baker made a desperate effort to drive the enemy from their position. A battery of field artillery and two small brass howitzers were all the guns he had, but of these the best possible use was made. He ordered these up, and when at one time the wheel of one of the guns got stuck in the mud, he dismounted and assisted in pushing it forward. Then, remounting his horse, he galloped to the right, waving his hat and shouting, "Forward, my brave men, forward, for McClellan and our country!" This cry seemed to electrify the whole brigade. The men responded with shouts, and advanced with the determination to conquer or die. Never did veteran troops behave with more coolness and steadiness. They charged up in the solid squares of the rebel brigades with the bayonet, and a hand to hand conflict took place in one part of the field that must have left scores of wounded and many dead upon the ground. But the enemy had the choice of position, and had chosen a spot where it was found impossible to dislodge them.

At one time the California regiment, after delivering a tremendous volley at a regiment opposed to them, charged on them at double quick time. The rebels broke and fled in disorder, leaving their flag in our hands. But no sooner had they got away than two fresh regiments of rebels advanced to take their places, fired at the brave Californians and forced them in turn to retreat. It was in this melee that General Baker received his death wound. It is true that he was pierced with six balls, but he was not the only one so honored. A sergeant, just behind him, had two balls in his head. A private, within six feet of him, had a ball in his right arm and one in the breast. Several soldiers in his vicinity had two balls. A dozen of his brave soldiers fell dead around him. He was on horseback at the time and his horse was wounded. As soon as Colonel Coggswell knew that General Baker was killed he assumed the command and conducted himself with great coolness and gallantry. He was convinced that by this time the day was lost. He ordered the brigade, therefore, to retire to Edwards' Ferry, and this movement commenced. He sent an aid to General Stone, who was on the Maryland side of the river, desiring him to send General Gorman to his assistance and to cover his retreat with some fresh troops. He then exerted himself in repelling the enemy, who were by this time pressing hard upon our retreating columns. The men behaved with great steadiness, firing wherever possible, and nothing like a rout took place.

Colonel Coggswell, regardless of his personal safety, refused to leave the post of danger, and was surrounded, cut off and taken prisoner, with five of his men, who did their best to save him. The men became somewhat dispirited after this occurrence, but maintained good order and continued their retreat to the river. They reached the river about sundown.

Here commenced a really terrific scene. Whatever scenes of disorder here took place among the men, they cannot be greatly blamed for them. They had fought bravely all day against an overwhelming force of the enemy, and had only retreated when their General and many of their officers had been slain and when their ammunition had become exhausted. The enemy, flushed with success, were close upon them, pouring volleys into them every few minutes. The boats were crowded to excess in a moment, and all of them were swamped and rendered useless. The men, then seeing no other mode of escape, plunged into the stream and attempted to cross. Most of them threw their muskets into the river, but some retained them and brought them over safely. Many of the men could not swim, and these, of course, were drowned. Their cries for help were dreadful; but as it was after nightfall but little if any aid could be rendered them. Many who were afraid to venture in the water were taken prisoners by the rebels. A few escaped this fate by running into the woods. Thus ended the fight at Leesburg, so disastrous in the death of the gallant Baker and so many of his heroic command, but at the same time so honorable to the brave defenders of the Union engaged therein.

FREDERICK, Md., Oct. 25, 1861.

The Movement Unauthorized by General McClellan—Our Troops, Their Bravery and Their Sufferings, &c. &c.

Since General McClellan's return to Washington it turns out that the whole movement on the part of General Stone was entirely unauthorized by him, and that he is greatly displeased with General Stone for making such an important movement without his express orders. It will be remembered that General Stone attempted to take Leesburg by a force of men to be thrown across the Potomac in a canal boat and two old scows, each one of which required an hour to make one trip, and could only carry fifty men. When General McClellan is ready to take Leesburg he will have such means of transportation ready that the whole of General Banks' division can be thrown across, and no movement will be made until suitable reconnoissances have been effected. The result of this blunder on the part of General Stone is that all attempts on Leesburg have been abandoned, and those troops that had been transported across to the Virginia side on Wednesday had to be brought back to the Maryland side on Thursday.

On Tuesday the enemy showed no disposition to renew the battle. They were seen all day scouring the woods in search of the fugitives who had sought that means of escape on the previous evening. Many were found, nearly perished from cold and hunger, and were taken prisoners without resistance. The bodies of those who were drowned continued to drift ashore on both sides of the river all day. Those that reached the Maryland side were carefully removed and properly disposed of. They will undoubtedly be recognized, and a list made of them. I have been promised a copy of the list as soon as it is made out, but I doubt whether I will ever get it. Up to this time over a hundred bodies have been taken up. Those that are washed ashore on the Maryland side have probably been interred.

During the whole of Wednesday there was some skirmishing between our forces on the Virginia side and the rebels, but without important results. Our men behaved heroically, but were not numerically strong enough to make any forward movement, and acted strictly on the defensive. They held their ground till evening, when the fire of the rebels ceased, and our troops were withdrawn to the Maryland side of the river.

The statement was circulated in Washington on Thursday that General McClellan, on consulting with Banks, on Wednesday, had expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the result, and had said also that there was enough of Banks' division then across, on the Virginia side, to repel any force that the enemy could possibly bring against us. This statement has found its way into some of the papers; but it is incorrect from beginning to end. What General McClellan did say on his return to Washington was that he was more than satisfied with our soldiers, and with all the officers that were engaged in the action (and he emphasized the words "engaged" and "action"); that they had all behaved nobly, had fought like veteran soldiers, and the officers had shown themselves to be what he thought they were, and just such officers as he wanted to serve under him. But he did not say that he was satisfied with the result. On the other hand, I know that he is deeply grieved at the result, and that he considers the lives of the officers and men who fell as needlessly thrown away. He has not expressed, so far as I know, any opinion about General Stone's conduct. But the accountability of the disaster must rest somewhere; and if I am not much mistaken it will rest upon him. And so far from saying that we had enough men on the right bank, at Edwards' Ferry, to hold the position, he gave orders to have those who were there brought back to this side. If this had not been done they would have been cut to pieces.

THE NAVY.

The United States sloop-of-war Cyane was safe when last heard from, by the mail steamer Uncle Sam, at Panama, after her arrival at that place on the 15th inst. The Cyane was cruising off the lower or southern coast of California, and was supplied with potatoes.

ACCIDENT TO THE UNITED STATES GUN-BOAT SHAWSHEEN.

BARNEGAT, Oct. 24, 1861.

The United States gunboat Shawsheen, Lieut. Calhoun commanding, when off this place yesterday, became disabled in one of her wheels, and set a signal for a pilot. Captains Israel J. Merritt, Isaac Herbert and John A. Brown, with a surfboat and crew belonging to the wrecking schooner John S. Haven, boarded her, although there was a bad surf. There was not a sufficient depth of water on the bar at that time, it being low water and nearly dark, so they brought her into the old south channel as far as the bulkhead. At high water they brought her over, and at ten P. M. anchored her in the harbor. She was to repair damage and sail the next day. In coming over the bar the surfboat was stove and completely lost.

NAVAL APPOINTMENTS.

The following is a list of gentlemen who have been appointed to positions in the navy on the endorsement of the Examining Board that was held in this city. Some have been appointed Lieutenants and others Acting Masters in the Volunteer Navy. Many are well known in the merchant service, and are highly respected.

Richard Olmsted,	Washington Godfrey,
Robert E. Little,	Francis P. Allen,
George H. Brown,	James H. Buxton,
John G. Dorry,	John Caleb,
Thomas Marroni,	Henry F. Coffin,
Allen Baxter,	Lemuel Gage,
John C. Whittelsey,	John D. Ingraham,
Ezra Lee Robins,	Benjamin D. Manton,
Charles T. H. Behm,	John West,
Henry E. Williams,	James H. Rogers,
Isaac D. Seyburn,	George Arthur Trundy,
John Johnston,	Wm. E. Welch,
David P. Heath,	Ford. Crocker,
Henry Dennison,	Joshua Couillard,
Charles C. Sisson,	Charles G. Baker,
Silas P. Martin,	John N. Giess.
Thadeus Brown,	

THE WORKMEN AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.

A LETTER EXPLAINING THE LATE TROUBLE—A FIXED PAY DAY WANTED BY THE MEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

BROOKLYN, Oct. 26, 1861.

In reading the matter contained in your journal of this day we are pained to see a misstatement of the feeling existing among the employes in the United States Navy Yard at this city, as well as the statement that the movement made by them met with the approval of but few of the men employed. We feel assured that you would not willingly misrepresent the facts, and therefore are confident that you will give due attention to these facts. At a meeting of the workmen, to the number of one thousand and more, held on the 23d inst., between twelve M. and one P. M., they authorized a committee of three to proceed to Washington and endeavor, by and through the influence of the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, to have some day established by him as a regular pay day. At that meeting, nor at any meeting previous, was no desire or threats to cease from labor, nor has one individual said or caused to be said at any time that he or they would stop work, knowing, as we all do, the fault of non payment lies not in the government. And we wish further to correct your published statement by saying that there has been no talk of a strike nor any threatening as to any strike made by any man employed in any of the departments in this yard; on the contrary, we are desirous and determined, in any way or manner in which our services can be of utility or advantage to the present administration in its endeavors to restore our country, to give it. We are satisfied that you will not knowingly misrepresent so large a body of the producers of wealth; and we feel assured, in justice to us, as men, and to our cause, that you will give this an insertion.

W. T.

CORRECTION.

Our list of the officers of the steamer Connecticut, published yesterday, was not altogether correct; and, for the sake of the friends of the officers, we again publish the list, as handed us by one of the officers. It is as follows:—

Commander—Maxwell Woodhull.

Lieutenant and Executive Officer—J. G. Walker.

Acting Masters—C. P. Marshman, Thomas J. Limekin, George E. Hill.

Acting Assistant Paymaster—Pelham W. Ames.

Assistant Surgeon—S. D. Flagg.

Engineers—First Assistant, P. L. Mars; Third Assistants, J. H. Ames, W. W. Shipman, S. Crolius, E. Harsen.

Acting Carpenter—J. Carter.

Acting Master's Mates—J. P. Jones, J. Daly, A. B. Langworthy, J. Roberts.

THE REVENUE SERVICE.

The cutter James Campbell, Lieutenant Kellam commanding, is at present stationed at Throgg's Neck, where she is employed doing active service for the government, the Boarding Officers, Messrs. Kentish and Mitchell, having in one day boarded as many as two hundred and twenty outward bound vessels. This station is a very important one for a revenue cutter, from the fact that an average of a hundred and fifty vessels are daily passing, whose papers are thoroughly examined, and, if not correct, are immediately sent back to New York. No vessel whatever is allowed to pass at night without a permit from the Surveyor of the Port.

The following officers are attached to the James Campbell:—

Captain Hunter, on shore, President of the Examining Board; Lieutenant Kellam, in command; Lieutenant Bond, Executive Officer; Lieutenant King, Lieutenant Shoemaker, Chas. A. Kentish and John Mitchell, Boarding Officers.

ARREST OF A SOUTHERNER AT JERSEY CITY.

Yesterday afternoon Detective Pevoe arrested at Jersey City a young man named Moore, a resident of Mobile, who in company with three ladies were about taking their departure in the five o'clock train by the Erie Railroad, *en route* for Mobile. It appears that the above officer had suspicion that Moore was in some way connected with the Southern traitors, and from his movement while here in the city concluded to keep a close watch on him. It seems he has made no less than three trips South during the past two months, and intended to take on with him three ladies, among them a Mrs. Hallett, of Mobile. The party had with them some eight or ten large trunks, which were filled with goods, but by the prompt action of the officer were promptly stopped before the train left. The ladies were compelled to return to the city and Moore was conveyed to the police headquarters, where he was searched together with his baggage, but no nothing was found that indicated that he was acting any way as a spy, or was engaged in aiding the rebels, he was discharged by the United States Marshal, Mr. Murray.

The trunks mostly belonged to the ladies, and will be overhauled, by the United States Marshal, this morning.

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

The Endorsement of Brown by the Republican Committee—its Effect upon the Political Slates—Union Ratification Meeting at the Cooper Institute—Cornell Still in the Field, &c., &c.

The Republican Convention on Saturday evening received Mr. Stewart's resignation, and endorsed Josiah W. Brown, the nominee of the Marshall organization, for Sheriff. In this move the friends of Stewart lead off, showing plainly that they nor their candidate did not desire to stand in the way of the people in their desire to accord an emphatic rebuke to all parties and organizations that had the impudence to put forth a man that had deserted his country in a trying hour. This action leaves only four candidates in the field for Sheriff, and by election day we shall probably have but three. The real and precise effect of this change of candidates it is impossible to tell, and we shall have to wait until the party lines are drawn and the privates fall into rank before we can predict the precise result of the Sheriffalty battle. Although skill and discipline tell in recruiting the force in the several political armies, yet numbers invariably tell, and that leader that has one man the most in his army wins the day, unless there is cheating. The arguments and understanding that has brought about the endorsement of Brown in the Republican Convention has broken up several well matured plans, extending away into the Mayoralty, and not only disarranges the plans of Opdyke and the Custom House, or Daniel Lord's private parlor arrangement, but it has, on the other hand, upset the bargains of the Ring party, and will make it extremely doubtful about Oakey Hall's carrying out his side of the bargain, as well as render certain extension of office salaries by the next Legislature somewhat doubtful. It has, in fact, upset the apple carts of several political apple women, and it will take several days for them to pick up the ruins.

Opdyke's friends originally went for the nomination of Stewart for Sheriff in the Republican Convention for the purpose of placing Stewart where there would be no possibility of his turning up for Mayor, and would have the coast clear for him (Opdyke); but this new deal has turned the tables, and if Brown's friends keep good faith with their understanding with Stewart's friends, Opdyke cannot prevent the nomination of Stewart for Mayor, both by the republicans and the Marshall organization. Opdoke has therefore in reality been a tool in the hands of the friends of Brown, supposing that he was extending his own combinations, but in reality bringing about the very result that he started out to prevent. In other words, he has overdone his strategy, and has been bagged by his contestants. He may work himself out of his present dilemma, but the chances are against him.

There is to be a ratification meeting at the Cooper Institute to-night, to ratify the ticket put forward by the Marshall organization, or, as they call themselves, the People's Union party, of which Josiah W. Brown is the nominee for Sheriff. The ticket is now the same as the republican, with the exception of District Attorney and Judge of Marine Court. Several important speakers have agreed to be present; among them we see the name of Nathaniel Wolfe, of Kentucky. The gathering will, no doubt, be a large and enthusiastic one.

The Germans are now busy inquiring into the record of the candidates for Senate on the lager bier question, and will, during the present week select from their candidates in the field the men that they will support.

Since our notice of yesterday we have received a letter from Charles G. Cornell, in the following words:—

"Having seen in your columns to-day that I was about to withdraw as a candidate for Senator of the Fifth Senatorial district, and become a candidate for Alderman, may I beg of you to correct this statement, as the same is not true, and that I shall not be a candidate for Alderman at the December election under any circumstances."

INTERESTING DISCOVERY IN ACOUSTICS.—A very interesting exhibition of an improvement in the acoustic properties of the pianoforte took place before a large number of musical gentlemen, professional and amateur, on Thursday evening, at the room 259 Fourth street. It was the application of a new string clamp invented by Spencer B. Driggs, the inventor of the Wallace "violin piano," the object being to avoid the oblique position of the strings on the bridge, and thus not only to prevent the instrument from jarring, but to increase its tone immensely and preserve its tune for a great length of time. By this simple invention the strings are kept in perfect line, and all strain upon the bridge, screw and sounding board obviated. The experiment worked to perfection, and received the warmest approbation of the professional gentlemen present.

Markets.

OSWEGO, Oct. 26, 1861.

Flour firm. Wheat in moderate milling demand, but the inquiry for shipment is restricted owing to advance in freights; sales last night 6,000 bushels red at $1 16, and 2,300 bushels Canada club at $1 10, afloat; to-day, 7,000 bushels prime No. 2 Chicago spring at $1 08; 3,000 bushels Canada club at $1 10, and 5,000 bushels white Canada at $1 22½. Corn scarce and no sales. Barley quiet. Rye in demand; sales last night 19,000 bushels Canadian at 62c., to arrive. Peas firm at 62c. a 65c., according to quality. Canal freights excited and advance 1; 3c. on flour and 4c. on grain; flour, 50c.; wheat, 18c.; corn, 17c. to New York. Imports—784 bbls. flour; 170,000 bushels wheat; 76,000 bushels corn; 12,500 bushels barley, 13,700 bushels peas. Canal Exports—2,050 bbls. flour; 44,600 bushels wheat; 13,000 bushels corn; 11,200 bushels barley; 5,100 bushels rye; 6,800 bushels peas.

ALBANY, Oct. 26, 1861.

Flour very firm. Wheat—There were further sales yesterday afternoon of 6,000 bushels red State afloat, at $1 25½; to-day, 1,500 bushels State spring, and a like lot of red winter State together at $1 17 a $1 21. Rye at 73c., delivered. Oats—Sales in car lots at 40c., at the Central depot, and 39½c. a 40c. for 15,000 bushels State, afloat. After the close of our report yesterday 2,500 bushels two-rowed barley sold at 60c.; 2,500 bushels State four-rowed at 57c., and 2,100 bushels do. at 60c. To-day, 60c. a 64c. are paid for car lots of four-rowed, and 62½c. for 5,600 bushels do., afloat. A lot of 4,000 bushels Canada West barley, slightly stained were sold at 69c., and 6,000 bushels very choice Toronto, to arrive, on private terms. The quantity afloat is light. Corn dull; sales 18,800 bushels Western mixed, afloat, at 57c., and 6,000 bushels in store at 58c. Whiskey—sales 269 bbls. at 20¼c. and 200 bbls. at 20½c. Received by Central Railroad for New York 7,866 bbls. flour, 4,346 boxes cheese, 543 bags and 90 bbls. wheat, 112 bags seed, 504 bbls. beef, 73 bales hops, 251 bbls. high wines. For Boston and the East 3,919 bbls. flour, 280 bales wool, 117 bbls. high wines. Shipped by tows to New York, October 25, 68,200 bushels corn, 25,000 bushels rye, 114,600 bushels wheat, 119,000 bushels oats, 95,000 bushels barley.

MONTREAL, Oct. 26, 1861.

Flour in active demand with an upward tendency: No. 1 superfine, $5 50 a $5 60. Wheat—Upper Canada spring, $1 17½ a $1 20; Chicago and Milwaukee, $1 20 a $1 25. Peas, 80c. for 66 lbs. Ashes, pots, $6 a $6 05; pearls, $6 10 a $6 20.

TORONTO, Oct. 26, 1861.

Fall wheat—Farmers' deliveries, 2,000 bushels at $1 a $1 08, average $1 06; spring, 90c. a 95c. Peas quiet at 53c. Barley better demand: sales 2,000 bushels at 42c. a 45c.

MILITARY AFFAIRS IN NEW YORK.

THE EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT.

The annual parade for inspection and review of the Eighteenth regiment New York State Militia, under the command of Col. James Ryder, took place on the 25th inst. at Sing Sing. About one hundred and fifty were present, and the returns will probably show that some two or three hundred are absent in the service of the United States. The regiment looked remarkably well, and the evolutions were performed with military skill. The salute to the Brigadier General and the firing exercises of the troop were exceedingly well executed. The music was furnished by the