THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

The America at Halifax and the Jura at Portland with Eight Days Later News.

Napoleon's Speech to the French Chamber.

Important Declaration as to the American War.

Reported Decision of Napoleon to Assail the Blockade.

England Officially Invited to Join Him.

The London Times Again Advises Her to Wait.

Arrival of Mason and Slidell in England.

MOVEMENTS OF THE SUMTER AND TUSCARORA

The Nashville Ordered to Leave Port.

Rumored Regulations Respecting Belligerent Vessels.

What Spain Proposes to Accomplish in Mexico.

Address of the Emperor of France to the Nuncio of the Pope.

AFFAIRS IN INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN, &c., &c., &c.

The steamship America, which left Liverpool at two P. M. on the 25th, and Queenstown on the 26th, arrived at Halifax on Sunday evening, at six o'clock, and sailed again for Boston at midnight.

The America was ashore on a mud bank in Queenstown harbor for five hours, and, in consequence of a heavy gale, did not sail until nine o'clock on Tuesday morning. Although virtually three days later than the Nova Scotian, it does not appear that any communication was had with the shore during the thirty-six hours she lay Queenstown harbor, and her latest advices include only those received from Liverpool and London by telegraph on Sunday. This is to be regretted, as it is intimated by our despatch that the Emperor Napoleon was to have delivered his Speech on Monday, which might possibly have been obtained.

The America has twenty-six passengers and £2,400 in specie.

The steamship Jura, which left Liverpool on the 30th and Londonderry on the 31st ult., arrived at Portland at fifteen minutes to twelve o'clock last night.

Purser Newlans reports 7th, a field of ice, ninety miles east of Cape Race, the large amount of which prevented the landing of despatches. Passed a steamer on the 8th, bound east.

The steamer La Plata, with Messrs. Mason and Slidell on board, arrived at Southampton on the 29th. They were taken to St. Thomas by the Rinaldo, as she was unable to reach Halifax. They were received at Southampton courteously, but no demonstration was made. Both proceeded to London, where Mason remains.

Lord Lyons is gazetted as a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath.

The Etna, which left Liverpool 29th, put into Holyhead the same night, with fore compartment full of water, having been in collision with ship Cheviot.

The steamer Edinburg was coaling at Liverpool to take forward the Etna's passengers and cargo if necessary.

The American ship V. S. Gamble, from the Rio Grande for Queenstown, foundered at sea.

The steamship Asia, from New York, arrived at Queenstown on the 26th of January.

THE AMERICAN WAR CRISIS.

Napoleon's Speech in the French Chamber on the American War.

Napoleon opened the French Chamber on the 27th ult. In a speech he said:—

The civil war which desolates America has greatly compromised our commercial interests. *So long, however, as the rights of neutrals are respected we must confine ourselves to expressing wishes for an early termination of these dissensions.*

The speech refers to the pacific relations of France and recapitulates the financial programme of Fould's budget.

Some English journals construe the allusion to America into something like a threat, and as significant that France is impatient, and when the occasion appears to demand it will interfere.

The Bourse was higher. Rentes, 71f. 30c.

Rumored Decision of Napoleon to Interfere with the Blockade.

The London *Shipping Gazette* says that a rumor is current in circles, supposed to be well informed, that a semi-official note has been addressed to the British government by France respecting the blockade of the Confederate ports, to the effect that the Emperor cannot longer allow French commerce to be injured by respecting the non-effective blockade, and that he will shortly make *an official demand to the English government to join him in raising the blockade, and that in case of non-compliance he will take the initiative.*

The French papers conclude, from the attitude of the English press, *that the Trent affair was only a pretext for war, and that England wants to force the blockade of the Southern ports.*

The Paris *Temps* in replying to the assertion that the blockade of the Southern ports is ineffective, recalls that some Russian ships ran the blockade of the Baltic in 1854, as now happens at Charleston.

The *Opinion Nationale* blames the semi-official French papers for their hidden Southern sympathies, and says that England would become dangerous to France if America were weakened.

England Can Afford to Wait—She is Recommended to be Nationally Consistent.

The London *Times* in an editorial says:—*We need not prepare to meddle with American affairs.* This is a time for awaiting, and we can afford to wait quite as easily as the North and South can afford to be looking across the Atlantic at the cost of two millions sterling a week each of them. If there does come *any real cause of complaint* it will tell all the more for our present patience and forbearance.

The London *Globe* editorially remarks that the maritime powers cannot be expected to respect the federal blockade unless really effective. The commerce of the world cannot suffer itself to be despoiled for an indefinite period under the mere paper blockade.

As to intervention, says the *Globe*, we may be invited or offered to intervene, but our *great aim must be to preserve consistency with our own principles.*

The London *Times*, in a characteristic article, calls for something decisive in America. It says unpleasant complications must arise if the present state of affairs continue much longer.

Mr. Seward's Opinion of the Stone Blockade at Charleston.

Another despatch gives Lord Lyons' conversation with Secretary Seward on the Charleston blockade. Mr. Seward stated that the plan was not devised to injure the the harbor permanently but merely to aid the blockade. It would be the duty of the government to remove all obstructions as soon as the Union was restored. The harbor of Charleston was not rendered inaccessible. Mr. Seward was not prepared to say that as an operation in war it was unjustifiable to destroy the permanent harbors of the enemy.

Earl Russell's Reply to Mr. Seward's Argument on the Trent Affair.

Earl Russell, in a despatch dated January 23, to Lord Lyons, says the English government differs entirely from Mr. Seward's conclusions on the question whether the persons taken from the Trent, and their supposed despatches, were contraband. He argues the point at length, and points out the injurious consequences of such a law. For instance, according to Mr. Seward's doctrine, a packet carrying a Confederate agent from Dover to Calais, might be captured and taken to New York, and in like manner the Confederates might capture a Cunard steamer bound from Liverpool to Halifax, on the ground that she was carrying despatches to Mr. Seward from Mr. Adams. The British government would not acquiesce in the capture of any British ship in circumstances similar to those of the Trent, and the fact of its being brought for adjudication before the Prize Court, though altering the character would not diminish the gravity of the offence.

The despatch concludes with reference to Mr. Seward's declaration, that if the safety of the Union required it, it would have been right to detain the Trent prisoners. In reply to this Earl Russell says:—"Great Britain could not have permitted the perpetration of that wrong, however flourishing might have been the insurrection in the South."

The London *Times*, in an editorial on Mr. Sumner's speech, protests against any suggestion that England has budged one step from her former position with respect to her rights, either neutral or belligerent. What she agreed to at the Congress of Paris she still stands by, and what she had before limited only by those concessions she has still. The case of the Trent has made no new phase whatever.

Secretary Seward's Reply to Smith O'Brien.

In a letter from Mr. Seward to Smith O'Brien in response to the latter's recently proffered advice. Mr. Seward urges Mr. O'Brien, if he would promote the cause *of America, of Great Britain and of humanity* at large, to speak and act in every case, and without qualification for the American Union. Mr. Seward's tone is highly patriotic for union, and friendly towards European Powers, in regard to whom he is determined to stand always, not only in the right, but upon the defensive.

George Thompson, the Abolitionist, in Favor of the North.

George Thompson had again been lecturing at Manchester on American affairs. His remarks were mainly in response to a late speech by Mr. Massey, at Salford, whose statements he branded as absolutely false and a grievous injustice to the North. The lecturer said the breaking of the blockade *would be a wicked and foolish act*, and no greater crime could be committed against any country. He had faith, however, in the pacific and neutral policy of Earl Russell.

The Blockade of the Nashville.

It was rumored that the government had ordered the Nashville to quit Southampton, but extended the time for her departure, owing to danger from the Tuscarora. It was also rumored that the government will prohibit armed ships of either party remaining over twenty-four hours in any British port.

The commander of the federal steamer Tuscarora publishes a denial of the report that he anchored off Osborne, and was rebuked for his violation of good taste.

It was reported that the Tuscarora was about to quit Southampton. The destination was kept secret.

The Privateer Sumter's Cruise.

REPORTED SUCCESS OF THE PRIVATEER OFF ALGIERS—WHY THE SPANIARDS AIDED HER AT CADIZ.

A telegraphic despatch of the 22d ult., from Algiers says:—On Monday a prolonged cannonade was heard here, proceeding apparently from a distance of about six miles from shore. A vessel was sighted this morning, which appeared to be the Sumter. It is supposed she sunk her adversary.

The above is considered doubtful, as an Algiers telegraphic despatch of the 24th ult. says the Sumter has been seen in Genoese waters, a few leagues off the port of Genoa.

It was rumored that the vessel which the Sumter engaged off Algiers was the Iroquois. There was no news of either.

The Gibraltar *Chronicle* says:—The United States Consul at Cadiz protested against the assistance given the Sumter at that port. The authorities, however, considered themselves bound to afford such aid as was indispensable, the Sumter having sprung aleak near her screw. She was permitted to effect the necessary repairs in the arsenal.

THE INVASION OF MEXICO.

What Spain Demands and Proposes.

The Spanish Minister of State has declared in Congress that Spain would demand reparation from Mexico on account of the war of independence.

It was also stated that Spain had received no official communication respecting any further resolution of France and England in reference to Mexico. He concluded by saying that Spain would fittingly support the interests of Mexico.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* of the 25th ult. says that the Mexican General Almonte is now in Belgium, pursuing a negotiation for placing the Archduke Maximilian on the throne of Mexico.

General Almonte will accompany the French expedition to Mexico.

There were contradictory rumors of an enlarged French expedition to Mexico.

Great Britain.

Lord Palmerston had issued the customary circular to his supporters in Parliament, soliciting their attendance on the opening on the 6th of February, as matters of considerable importance will be discussed. He and other Parliamentary leaders had also issued invitations to banquets prior to the commencement of the session.

A meeting had been called in London to consider the propriety of forming a British-American Association.

A royal warrant regulating the amalgamation of the Royal and India armies is published.

More fears were realized relative to the accident at the Hartley coal mine. Not one of the buried miners was found alive.

There has been very stormy weather in the Irish Channel. There were several shipwrecks and some loss of life. There were no important American disasters, but some vessels returned to port with slight damage.

France.

The dissatisfaction with M. Fould's budget was apparently giving way.

Napoleon, in officially receiving the Papal Nuncio, said:—"Pelissier has already addressed words to me through General Goyon, which have deeply touched me. I shall always seek to fulfil the duties of a sovereign with my devotion to the Holy Father. I do not doubt but that your nomination will contribute to render more intimate the relations that are so essential to the welfare of religion, peace and Christianity."

The London *Globe* construes the Emperor's remarks into a manifestation that his relations with Rome are not harmonious.

It is asserted that France has sent the strongest recommendations to the Pontifical government to accept Garibaldi's offer for the renunciation of the temporal power, in order that French occupation may cease and the present situation be ended. It is understood that the Pope's reply shows no disposition to yield.

The diplomatic correspondence between France and Rome has been published. France recommended conciliation with the Court of Turin. Antonelli absolutely refused all terms.

Statistics show that the English imports into France for 1861 are fifty per cent above the previous year.

The Paris *Pays* says that the bill for the optional conversion of the four per cent stock into three per cent stock has been submitted to the Council of State.

Denmark.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 26, 1862.

The King's road was opened with a royal speech. He hopes that the tie between Holstein and other portions of the kingdom will be renewed, although he had failed to effect this up to the present time. The accounts of the resistance of the Holstein and federal Diet to the negotiation concerning Holstein continue satisfactory and a solution of the question is shortly expected. Schleswig is to obtain free developement when the danger of foreign intervention passes away.

Prussia.

A bill had been introduced by government regulating ministerial responsibility, according to which the right of impeachment can only be exercised by both houses conjointly.

A rupture was anticipated between the Prussian government and the Archbishop of Posen, who, in a letter to the Minister of Public Worship, defends the national attitude assumed by his countrymen.

Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26, 1862.

An imperial ukase is published, permitting Jews to enter every branch of the State service; permitting Jewish merchants to reside anywhere, and granting other concessions to the Jews.

Turkey.

A decree has been issued, announcing the publication of the budget confirming full powers in Fuad Pacha as Grand Vizer and Minister of Finance.

The ex-Minister of Finance has been deprived of his decoration and is to be tried for malversation.

RAGUSA, Jan. 26, 1862.

The insurgents have rejected the amnesty offered them by Omar Pacha. Hostilities have recommenced in consequence.

India and China.

The Calcutta and China mails left Malta for Marseilles on the 22d. Additional despatches have been received.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 30, 1862.

Facilities have been afforded by the government for opening out Indian export and cotton trade. Shirtings dull and declining. Indigo active but unchanged. Exchange, 2s. ¾d. Freights advancing.

CANTON, Dec. 14, 1861.

Shirtings dull and unchanged. Twist advancing. Tea firm and unaltered. Exchange ½d. higher. Canton is resuming its former importance as a place of trade.

SHANGHAE, Dec. 7, 1861.

Alarm is no longer felt here on account of the rebels. Ningpo is reported to be invested by them.

Tea declining. Silk active, but drooping. Exchange unaltered.

Cochin China advices say that the French had taken possession of Reilo Caudore.

Japan.

The Japan news is satisfactory.

Financial and Commercial Intelligence.

LONDON MONEY MARKET—JAN. 30.

Consols closed, for money, on Thursday, at 92⅞.

AMERICAN STOCKS.

Illinois Central shares, 44 a 43 discount; Erie, 28½ a 29½.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—JAN. 30.

The sales of cotton for three days were 28,000 bales, including 12,000 bales to speculators and exporters. The market was firmer, with an advance of ⅛d. per pound.

MANCHESTER TRADE REPORT.

The advices from Manchester are favorable, the market for goods and yarns having an upward tendency, but quiet.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS MARKET—JAN. 30.

The market is generally dull, with a slight decline, except for corn, which is steady. Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co., and others, report flour heavy and declined 6d. per barrel. Wheat dull and declined 1d. a 2d.; red Western 11s. a 12s. 2d., red Southern 12s. 3d. a 12s. 5d., white Western 12s. 6d. a 12s. 9d., white Southern 13s. a 13s. 3d. Corn steady; mixed 31s. a 31s. 6d.

LIVERPOOL PROVISION MARKET—JAN. 30.

The provision market has a downward tendency. Beef declining and quotations have receded 2s. 6d. Pork nominal. Bacon declining. Lard very dull. Tallow nominal at 47s.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET—JAN. 30.

Ashes quiet at 35s. for pots. Sugar dull. Coffee inactive. Rice—No sales. Linseed oil firm at 35s. Rosin quiet; common, 13s. Spirits turpentine steady at 71s. a 72s.

LONDON MARKETS.

Breadstuffs dull and all qualities slightly declined. Sugar quiet and steady. Coffee firm. Tea firm. Rice dull. Tallow firmer at 47s. 9d.

THE LATEST MARKETS.

Consols closed to-day (Friday) at 92½ a 92¾ for money. The weekly return of the Bank of England shows a decrease in bullion of £70,000.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

The latest sales were—Erie shares, 28¾; Illinois Central shares, 44 a 43 discount; New York Central, 80 a 71.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 31, 1862.

The Brokers' circular reports:—The sales of cotton for the week have been 46,000 bales, including 14,500 to speculators and 7,000 to exporters. The market rules firmer, with an advance on the week of ⅛d. The sales to-day (Friday) reach 6,000 bales, of which 3,000 were to speculators and exporters, the market closing quiet, but steady, at the following quotations:—

	Fair.	*Middling.*
Orleans	14d.	13d.
Mobile	13¾d.	12¾d.
Uplands	13¾d.	12¾d.

The total stock of cotton in port is estimated at 546,000 bales, of which 215,000 bales are American.

Breadstuffs.—The market still has a downward tendency. Wheat is more steady. Corn quiet.

Provisions.—The provision market rules dull.

Shipping Intelligence.

Arr from New York, Macaulay, and Lydia, at Genoa; Glencarn, Aberdeen, J Scamidi, Johann Louisa, and H Von Brabant, at Bremen; Dolphin, and Fanny Kirchner, at Flushing; Greenock, in the Clyde; Isabella, Westport, Klygoer, and Lyngorn, at Queenstown; Guy Mannering, at Deal.

Arr from Baltimore, Energie, at Bremen.

LAUGHING GAS EXHIBITION AT COOPER INSTITUTE.—The large basement hall of Cooper Institute was crowded last evening with a most fashionable and select audience to witness the comical effects of nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, upon the human subject. It being the first exhibition of the kind for several years in this city great interest was manifested by the audience, and Dr. G. Q. Colton's method of administering the gas left no room for disappointment. Everybody went with the idea of having a good laugh, and everybody retired smiling from the hall after a few hours innocent mirth and enjoyment. The entertainment was, in fact, a decided success. A strong railing was erected on the stage to prevent those under the influence of the gas from coming in contact with the audience, or of doing injury to themselves by falling. Dr. Colton prefaced the exhibition by a few humorous remarks, explaining the harmless effects of the gas, and also the elements of which it is composed. The nitrous oxide, he said, differs from the atmosphere only in the proportion of the constituents, there being much more oxygen in the laughing gas than in the air about us. The exhilirating effect produced was owing to the immense quantity of oxygen inhaled, the blood being oxygenated much more rapidly than by the air. Dr. Colton then proceeded to illustrate by inhaling the gas himself. The effect was almost instantaneous, Dr. Colton fairly jumping with pleasure and laughing most heartily. The experiment was next tried on several young and old men, some lean and some fat, some small and some tall, the effect being almost the same in every case—provoking the highest ecstacy and developing the leading traits in the various characters. Some exhibited very strong affection, others showed fight, one shouted "Three cheers for Jeff. Davis," another danced and pirouetted around the stage in a most extraordinary manner, and one very lean subject worked and jumped and twisted himself almost inside out with merriment. The exhibition was preceded by an excellent concert by the Seventh regiment band, and will be repeated this evening.

Personal Intelligence.

Professor Agassiz and wife left the Everett House yesterday, for their home in Cambridge, Mass.

Edwin Forrest, the tragedian; J. J. Raree, the horse tamer, and Colonel Egan, of the Mozart regiment, are stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Dr. H. Lyon, and J. R. Bassett, of Boston; Lieut. W. Smith, Lieut. G. Brown, W. M. Coleman, and J. R. Oliphant, of the United States Navy; J. H. Burton, of Cincinnati; R. A. Forsyth, of Newburg; E. R. Root, of Hartford; M. B. Bremhall, of New Jersey, and L. E. Bigby, of Detroit, are stopping at the Astor House.

C. Winship, of Connecticut; L. and G. Follett, of Vermont; J. Rodes and wife, of Pittsburg; W. W. Sawyer, of Maine; John H. Reynolds, of Albany; S. E. Woodworth, of California; C. M. Whitney, of Boston; P. Fitch, of Syracuse; L. M. Roneck and wife, of New Bedford; Robert Gray, of Springfield, and H. Sibley, of Rochester, are stopping at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Captain Niess and E. D. Wait, of the United States Army; A. Freiman and C. E. Cady, of St. Louis; E. B. Buckingham, of Boston; J. Barran and J. Walsh, of Cleveland; C. H. Cornwell, of Washington, J. F. Winchester, of Massachusetts; W. W. Roberts, of Hartford; H. Stokes, of Toronto, and R. Edge, of Buffalo, are stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

TAMMANY SOCIETY—ELECTION OF A GRAND SACHEM—IMPORTANT MEETING.—The office of Grand Sachem of the Tammany Society has remained unfilled since the death of Colonel William D. Kennedy, the last incumbent. Yesterday the Council met—present, Sachems John Kelly, H. Vandewater, R. B. Connolly, Wilson Small, Douglas Taylor, N. J. Waterbury, Isaac Bell, James B. Nicholson, George E. Baldwin and Thomas Dunlap—and after transacting some routine business, elected Hon. Nelson J. Waterbury Grand Sachem.

Large Fire at Brantford, C. W.

BRANTFORD, C. W., Feb. 10, 1862.

The car shops of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railroad were burned yesterday. Loss $30,000, which is covered by insurance.

IMPORTANT FROM TENNESSEE.

Movements of the Union and Rebel Forces.

Additional Details of the Brilliant Affair at Fort Henry.

WHAT THE REBELS THINK OF IT.

Names of the Killed and Wounded in the Action.

Vigorous Preparations for Future Operations.

Terrible Panic Among the Rebels in Tennessee, &c., &c., &c.

INTERESTING OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 10, 1862.

The following despatches have been received at headquarters:—

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, 1862.

Major General H[illegible]ck, St. Louis:—

Your energy and ability receive the strongest commendation of this department. You have my perfect confidence, and you may rely upon my utmost support in your undertakings. The pressure of my engagements has prevented me from writing you; but I will do so fully in a day or two.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

The following has also been received:—

Thank Gen. Grant, Flag Officer Foote and their commands for me.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

Two despatches received by Gen. Halleck state that Gen. Curtis, south of Lebanon, had taken twenty-nine prisoners, including two corporals and a quartermaster; also a quantity of flour.

MOVEMENTS OF THE UNION AND REBEL FORCES.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9, 1862.

The *Republican's* special despatch says that the enemy is still encamped near Fort Henry, and preparations for further movements go vigorously forward. The river is high, and a part of Fort Henry overflowed.

Five more regiments were expected to arrive from Cairo in a few days.

An unfinished fortification, called Fort Hermann, opposite Fort Henry, has been taken possession of.

The panic was so extensive in Tennessee that the river is considered open for Union fleets to its head waters.

The late garrison of Fort Henry have taken refuge in Fort Donelson, making the force there between eight and ten thousand.

A Southern mail has been captured by Captain Logan. It contained a letter from some high officers, speaking of the "demoralizing effect of the defeat at Somerset;" another that "Fort Henry would be almost irreparable." The rebel steamer Orr, being chased by the gunboat Conestoga, was fired by the crew and abandoned. Several other steamers are said to have fallen into our hands.

The Conestoga and Lexington have gone up the Tennessee river, and will probably go as far as Florence, Alabama.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 10, 1862.

The *Democrat* has a special despatch, dated Fort Henry to-day, which says that 200 of the Second Illinois cavalry, while on a reconnoitering expedition this morning, met a company of the enemy's horse, charged on them, killed four and took twenty-five prisoners, their captain among them. Only one of our men was wounded.

In consequence of General Smith's appointment not having been confirmed by the Senate, that officer transferred the command of his division to General Wallace, and will leave for Paducah to-morrow. Generals Grant and McClernand telegraphed to Washington, vouching for Smith's loyalty and efficiency, and urging that the Senate reconsider its action.

General Grant and staff made a reconnoissance in the vicinity of Fort Donelson to-day.

The steamer W. H. B. has returned from the railroad bridge, with a lot of horses, wagons, commissary stores, &c.

NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS.

[Despatches to the Chicago Evening Journal.]

FORT HENRY, Feb. 6, 1862.

The land forces under General Grant, on the east side of the Tennessee, left Camp Halleck at two o'clock this morning. The land force under General Wallace, on the west side of the river, started at the same time. The gunboats all got under weigh at fifty minutes past ten A. M. and steamed directly up the channel west of Panther Island. Action was commenced at thirty-five minues past twelve by the flagship Cincinnati, the fleet being at that time at the head of the island. The Carondelet followed. The St. Louis at thirty-six minutes past twelve fired two forward rifles.

The cannonade was kept up with scarcely an intermission until forty minutes past one, when the rebels struck their colors. General Tilghman surrendered to Flag Officer Foote. The Adjutant General and the officers in command of the batteries are among the prisoners.

The rebel infantry had run early in the fight.

Our gunboats took seventeen large guns, a large number of muskets, a large amount of ammunition and all their tents and camp equipage.

The land force did not reach the fort in time to participate in the action. The victory is splendid.

The Essex was disabled by a shot through her boiler. The two pilots were scalded to death. Capt. Pratt, master's mate of the Cincinnati, will lose his leg.

[Special Despatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CAIRO, Feb. 7—12 M.

The gunboats Cincinnati, St. Louis and Essex have just returned from the rebel Fort Henry, on the Tennessee river. The Stars and Stripes now float over that place. Yesterday, at 12:38 P. M., the gunboats Cincinnati, St. Louis, Carondelet and Essex—the Taylor, Conestoga and Lexington bringing up the rear—advanced boldly against the rebel works, going to the right of Painter Creek island, issuing above which, on the east shore of the river, stands the fortifications: and keeping consequently off range till at the head of the island, and within a mile of the enemy, passing the island in full view of the rebel guns, we steadily advanced, every man at quarters, every ear strained to catch the flag officer's signal gun for the commencement of action.

Our line of battle was on the left, the St. Louis next, the Carondelet next; the Cincinnati, for the time being the flagship, having on board the flag officer, A. H. Foote, was next to the right of the Essex.

We advanced in line, the Cincinnati a boat's length in advance, when, at half-past twelve the Cincinnati opened the ball, and immediately the three accompanying boats followed suit.

The enemy, not backward, gave admirable response, and the fight raged furiously for half an hour. We steadily advanced, receiving and returning storms of shot and shell, when, getting within 300 yards of their works, we came to a stand and poured into them right and left. It was magnificent—the whistling shot, chugs of the scalp-seips, and the cheering of our men as our shots took evident effect.

In the mean time the Essex had been disabled and drifted away from the scene of the engagement, leaving the Cincinnati, Carondelet and St. Louis engaged.

At length, at precisely forty minutes past one, the enemy struck his flag, and such cheering, such wild excitement as seized the throats and arms and caps of the 400 or 500 sailors of the gunboats—well, imagine it.

After the surrender, which was made to Flag Officer Foote by the rebel General Lloyd Tilghman, who defended his fort in a most determined manner, we found that the rebel infantry, encamped, to the number of some 4,000 or 5,000, outside the fortification, had cut and run, leaving the rebel artillery company in command of the fort to their fate.

The fort mounted seventeen guns, mostly thirty-two and twenty-four pounders; one, however, a magnificent ten inch columbiad. They claim to have had but eleven effective guns, worked by fifty-four men, which is the number, all told, of our prisoners.

Our shots had dismounted two of their guns, driven the enemy from their embankments and played smash with them generally.

They lost five killed and some ten badly wounded. One of their rifled guns, a 32-pounder, burst during the engagement, badly wounding one of their gunners, but killing none.

Captain Taylor, of Nashville, rebel commander of the fort artillery company—now our prisoner—says the 32-pounder is the gun that did their chief injury.

Watts, formerly of Cincinnati, and of Marion county, Ky., of the firm of Watts & Colburn, was their ordnance officer. He is now our prisoner.

The infantry fled from the fort, leaving bag and baggage. A vast deal of plunder has fallen into our hands, and a large and valuable quantity of ordnance stores.

Gen. Tilghman is a sharp-looking, and thinks it one of the most disagreeable blows of the war.

In surrendering to our flag officer, the rebel General remarked:—"I am glad to surrender to so gallant an officer."

Yes, flag officer, Foote, replied:—"You do perfectly right, sir, in surrendering, but you should have blown my boats out of water before I would have surrendered to you."

The land force under command of General Grant did not arrive at the fort till after the rebels had surrendered and their army escaped.

Our gunboats did splendid fighting. We can make no distinctions. The Cincinnati, however, was in the lead and flying the flag officer's penant, the chief mark. Flag Officer Foote and Captain Stembel crowded her defiantly into the teeth of the enemy's guns. She got thirty one shots, some of them going through and through her. She expended one hundred and ten shots.

Pringle Carradice, seamen, of Hamilton, C. W., was killed outright; Wm. Lakeman, seaman, badly wounded; Martin Hussey, George Massey, Wm. Curtis, Michael Dalton and E. N. Arilla, all seamen, were slightly wounded; Captain D. H. Pratt, Second Master of the boat, was slightly wounded.

The Essex was badly crippled. When about half through the fight, and crowding with a splendid heroism steadily against the enemy, a ball went in at her port side forward port, through one of her boilers, the escaping steam scalding and killing several of her crew and badly wounding many more. Captain Porter, his aid, S. P. Britton, Jr., and Paymaster Lewis, were standing on a direct line of the ball's passage, Britton being in the centre of the group. The shot struck poor Britton on the top of the head, scattering his brains and blood in every direction. The escaping steam went into the pilot house, quickly killing the two pilots, Ford and McBride. Many of the sailors, at the rush of steam, jumped overboard and were drowned.

Here is the complete list of the Essex dead, wounded and missing. This casualty to the Essex has cast a gloom over our fleet, and somewhat dampens the enthusiasm of our victory.

Killed—M. H. Ford, Jas. McPride, pilots; S. B. Britton, Quartermaster's Mate; David Wilson, captain of gun; J. Coffey, Jasper P. Brease, seamen.

Officers Wounded—Commander W. D. Porter, Theo. P. Ferry, third master.

Seamen Wounded (badly)—John Mathews, N. McCarty, Peter White, G. E. Nichols, Samuel Boyer, B. Harrington, Wm. O'Brien.

Seamen Wounded (slightly)—John Rodgers, Francis Wilson, Harvey Hogan, Thomas Mullen, W. H. Maxley, T. Sullivan, John O'Hara, John Castello, J. J. Phillips, B. Solin.

Missing—A. D. Waterman, Jno. Larrize, Henry Gulper, Henry Reynolds, Jas Bellard.

A detachment from one of the Indiana regiments, taken on board the Essex, just before engaging the enemy, to act as sharpshooters, under command of Daniel Trotter, lost some of their men, as follows:—

Killed—Charles Stocker, Lewis Gantz.

Scalded—Lieutenant Trotter, Charles E. Erb, J. Lump.

Missing—William O'Neal and Benjamin Lubec.

Lieutenant Trotter is now on the Tyler, and said to be badly scalded. David Wilson, the gun captain, being mortally wounded, worked his gun after the accident.

There was no casualties on board the St. Louis or Carondelet, though the shot and shell poured upon them as rain.

The St. Louis was under the command of Captain Leonard Paulding, who personally stood upon the main deck and directed the guns to the last. Not a man flinched, and with cheer upon cheer we sent the scalp-seips among the enemy. The St. Louis received seventeen shots and expended 106.

I have not been upon the Carondelet, she yet being at the fort. I cannot say what damage is done her. She was near to our boat, however, and stood splendidly up to the work. Captain Walker's shots were neither few nor far between.

CAIRO, Feb. 7, 1862.

I arrived from Fort Henry on the gunboat St. Louis this morning. We left the fort at nine o'clock last night.

Our gunboats took one 128-pounder, one twenty-four rifled 42-pounder, ten 32-pounders, one twenty-four siege gun, two 12-pounders, one 6-pounder caisson in the fort.

A rifled shell was fired directly into the muzzle of the 128-pounder. Seven guns were disabled. Thirty-one shots struck the Cincinnati, seven struck the St. Louis, and fourteen struck the Essex.

The Cincinnati, Carondelet and St. Louis were within three hundred yards of the rebel batteries when the flag was hauled down.

On the St. Louis no one was injured. The St. Louis is as good as new. She fired 126 shots during the engagement: fifty-three five second rifle seven-inch shells, weighing eighty pounds; eighteen ten second rifle seven-inch shells, weighing eighty pounds; two fifteen second rifle seven-inch shells, weighing eighty pounds; seventeen five second and eight ten second eight-inch shells. The Cincinnati fired 136 shots. The Essex fired 55 shells.

The Essex was disabled by a round shot that entered a forward port, passing through a heavy bulwark into her boiler. She reports twenty-six killed, wounded and missing. Her pilots, Marsh Ford, of Pittsburg, and James McBride, of Cincinnati, were scalded, and died.

Captain Porter's clerk, S. B. Britton, was killed, a round shot taking off his head. Two were killed on the Cincinnati. The Second Master, Howitt, lost a leg, but will probably recover.

Our prisoners are Brigadier General Lloyd Tilghman; Capt. H. L. Jones, of Kentucky, acting Quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Hayden, Chief of Engineers; Capt. John McLaughlin, Quartermaster; Major W. L. McComico, Assistant Adjutant General; Capt. Jesse Taylor, commanding garrison; Lieuts. J. Ormsley, Watts and Fred. J. Weller, and Capt. G. R. R. G. Jones, and sixty privates.

In the evening three six-pounders and five rifled field pieces were recovered that had been taken into the woods.

The Lexington and Conestoga went up the river, it was supposed, to destroy the bridge of the Clarksville and Memphis Railroad, last night.

Gen. Smith, on the west side of the river, has captured the whole camp equipage of two regiments, and, as was believed, a number of prisoners.

At least six hundred shots were fired during the engagement. It was a most terrific cannonade. The guns were well served. I saw six dead rebels. Their loss could not be ascertained, the dead having been taken away. The scene inside of the rebel intrenchments was terrible. In three rows of their log barracks not one escaped, shot and shell having torn everything to splinters.

On the Cincinnati one was killed, P. Cassidy, of St. Catherines; eight wounded, one of whom, Wm. Lakeman, will die. Capt. Pratt may save his leg.

Our and forces on the east side of the river encamped at Fort Henry last night.

ACCOUNTS VIA PADUCAH.

PADUCAH, Feb. 7, 1862.

Fort Henry fell yesterday at two o'clock. The gunboats opened fire on the fort at forty minutes past twelve. High water prevented the land force from participating in the engagement. The rebel force at the fort was about 3,500 to 4,000, having been largely reinforced within the last few days. Have not learned the enemy's loss in killed and wounded. General Tilghman and staff and sixty men were taken prisoners. The rebels left everything and are in full retreat. General Smith on the west and General Grant on the east side of the river.

In the early part of the engagement a gun was fired from the fort, and the shot entered a port of the Essex, cutting a plate in one of her boilers, killing and wounding by scalding thirty-two men. Commodore Porter was badly scalded in the face and hands. This is our principal loss.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS VIA SPRINGFIELD.

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 7, 1862.

Cairo official despatches from the Tennessee river state that Fort Henry was captured yesterday by the gunboats alone. The land forces did not reach the point to which they were ordered in time to participate in the engagement. The rebels stampeded, and nearly all made their escape. The rebel Commander Tilghman and his staff, with about one hundred others, mostly officers, were taken prisoners.

The gunboats Essex and Cincinnati received the hottest of the enemy's fire. A shot entered one of the bow portholes of the Essex and passed through one of her boilers, scalding seven persons fatally, and some others more or less severly. This was all the loss on our side. Commodore Porter, who was on board the Essex, was slightly scalded. No other officers were hurt. The only injury to the boat is supposed to have been the destruction of the boiler.

It was reported and credited by some of our officers that the rebel troops at Fort Henry were not true to the rebel cause, and took advantage of the opportunity offered by the attack, to run away from a fight that was distasteful to them. There is no doubt that the fire from our gunboats was terrific.

A third despatch just received from General Paine says the gunboats attacked Fort Henry yesterday, and at half-past one P. M. General Tilghman, commanding, surrendered. In one hour and twenty minutes we have taken a large amount of cannon, camp equipage and stores.

Our infantry took no part in the fight. The cannonading was terrific.

REBEL ACCOUNTS.

THE REBELS ANTICIPATED DEFEAT.

A correspondent of the Memphis *Appeal* (30th ult.), speaking of the anticipated attack on Forts Donelson and Henry, says:—

Fort Donelson, with its 3,000 heroes, will be held against all opposition. More solicitude is felt about Fort Henry. In the first place it is built in a low place, which is easily commanded from a high hill on the opposite soil. That hill is now in the possession of our forces, and if we lose it, Fort Henry cannot long hold out, though there are provisions enough there to last our forces for months. Those in possession of Fort Henry have resolved to fight outside the intrenchments. The water at the fort is said to be within a few feet of our magazines, and within six feet of our largest guns, and at last accounts the river was still rising.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Feb. 8.]

CAPTURE OF FORT HENRY.

The capture of Fort Henry, although much to be regretted by the South, was a foregone conclusion whenever the enemy should think proper to bring a large force of men and artillery to bear upon it. It is a structure that has been thrown up since the beginning of the war, a short distance within the Tennessee line, on the Tennessee river. It was designed at first as a defence against marauding excursions of the enemy, and was never expected to resist a heavy bombardment, or assault from a large land force. To have manned it with a very large force of our own, and to have armed it with a sufficient number of heavy guns to enable it to be held under any assault, would have required too great a dissipation of our strength and extension of our lines. The enemy has taken this fort, as he will take other points of importance on the line of navigable waters. His great strength in artillery and in boats give him the power to do so. These things we cannot well avoid; but when he marches against us on dry land, then is our opportunity and then our occasion for punishing him properly.

The destruction of the railroad bridge which crossed the Tennessee river, near Fort Henry, though productive of some inconvenience, is not a matter of any great detriment to our interests. The road without the bridge will still be available for strengthening our lines on either side of the river: through connection, except for more convenience, being a matter of inferior importance. While it would have been a subject of lively gratification if our troops could have held Fort Henry, its loss is not a matter to cause any serious concern.

THE BURNSIDE EXPEDITION.

The Fighting at Roanoke Island Still Going on at the Last Accounts.

One or Two Rebel Gunboats Sunk, &c., &c., &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 9, 1862.

The great topic of the day is the operation of the Burnside expedition, and the intelligence brought here yesterday by flag of truce that fighting had already commenced created the greatest possible excitement.

The flag of truce which brought the answer of the rebel authorities in relation to the Commissioners gives us the intelligence that the battle at Roanoke Island was a terrible, fierce and hotly contested affair. The fighting lasted from