THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Another Fight Expected Between the Monitor and Merrimac.

The Armored Champions Ready for the Combat.

BIG BETHEL OCCUPIED BY THE UNION TROOPS.

DISAFFECTION AMONG THE REBEL TROOPS,

&c., &c., &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 26, 1862.

Contrabands state that the rebel steamer Merrimac, having been fully repaired, was brought out of the dry dock on Monday morning; that her crew had been placed on board, and that she was ready for action. Several new guns of a heavier metal than she had before had been placed on board of her.

The rebel steamers Jamestown and Yorktown have also been greatly strengthened, and are fully prepared for action, and will accompany the Merrimac.

The flag of the Yorktown, with the commodore's pennant, was flying when the contrabands left.

Three deserters arrived here to-day in a boat from the south side of James river. They belonged to a North Carolina regiment, and report that the rebel steamer Merrimac has been daily expected to come out and attack the Monitor for the past three days.

The rebel gunboat Jamestown made a reconnoissance to-day, coming down some distance below Craney Island.

The deserters represent that there was a great panic among the rank and file of the rebel army on account of the rumors of Union victories.

The Monitor, Lieutenant Jeffries commander, stands out in the Roads, this side of Sewall's Point, with steam up, ready for action. The greatest confidence is felt in the result. She is in fine condition and ready at a moment's warning.

The newspapers are carefully kept from the rebel soldiers, and they have been so often imposed upon by false statements of rebel victories that they are much dissatisfied.

The deserters say that during the excitement that prevailed in Norfolk immediately after the fall of Roanoke Island, it was believed that if a demand had been made upon General Huger he would have capitulated.

A flag of truce went to Norfolk to take up the Commodore of the French ship Catinat. No news or papers were brought back. A bundle of letters from the Union prisoners at Richmond was received, and also despatches from General Huger to General Wool.

The steamer Constitution arrived from Ship Island last night. She sailed from there on the 15th instant.

The French steamer Catinat arrived yesterday afternoon from Havana, and she and the Gassendi have taken a position within two hundred yards of the Monitor, for the purpose of obtaining a good view of the expected battle.

Two drummers of one of the regiments in Hampton strayed out to Back river yesterday, and were taken prisoners by the enemy's cavalry.

Occupation of Big Bethel by Union Troops.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1862.

The following despatch was received from Fortress Monroe to-night, dated to day at four P. M., it being telegraphed from Cherrystone, Va.:—

"There was a reconnoissance this morning extending to Big Bethel, which was occupied by about 1,500 rebels, who fled on the approach of our forces without any hostile demonstrations. Our troops now occupy the place."

NEWS FROM TENNESSEE.

Columbia Occupied by Union Troops—Rebel Cavalry Captured—No Cotton to be Planted This Year, &c., &c.

LOUISVILLE, March 27, 1862.

Colonel Millick's Thirty-second Indiana regiment occupies Columbia, Tenn.

Memphis papers contain a Richmond despatch of the 16th, stating that on Friday 2,000 federals passed Cumberland Mountains and captured two companies of rebel cavalry.

A courier arriving at Knoxville, reported that the federals, from 4,000 to 6,000 strong, were twenty-five miles from Knoxville and advancing.

Both houses of the rebel Congress have passed resolutions, advising that no cotton be planted this year.

CHICAGO, March 27, 1862.

The Chicago *Times* says that a steamer has arrived from the Tennessee river with a number of prisoners taken near Pittsburg, Tenn.

A gentleman who has been some time connected with the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, arrived to-day, reports that Generals Cheatham and Polk have left Humboldt with their forces to join Beauregard, who is concentrating his forces at Corinth. Their pickets extend within eighteen miles of our forces.

The Navy.

Business at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, is progressing with great despatch. The new gunboats, Somerset and Fort Henry, were hauled under the shears yesterday and received their armaments. These boats were originally intended for the use of the Union Ferry Company, but were subsequently purchased by the government and fitted out as gunboats. Their length of keel is 150 feet 6 inches, beam 32 feet, and depth of hold 11 feet 9 inches. They are both iron-plated, and carry four 32-pound Dahlgren and two 64-pound pivot rifled guns. The engines are powerful, being 38-inch cylinder and 10 feet stroke, and were built at the Atlantic Dock Works, Brooklyn. The officers' apartments are fitted up in a very comfortable style, and everything about the boats presents an appearance of neatness and comfort. They will probably go into commission on Monday.

The United States survey steamer Curlew will proceed to sea to-day. She carries one 32-pound rifled gun and two brass 12-pounders. Annexed is a list of her officers:—

Lieutenant Commanding—Thos. S. Phelps, United States Navy.
Executive Officer—L. B. Minor.
Second Executive Officer—W. Duane DuBarry.
Third Executive Officer—Ed. L. Taylor.
Fourth Executive Officer—Wm. Buttrick.
Chief Engineer—Edwin L. Brady.
Assistant Engineer—R. B. Swift.
Captain's Clerk—C. H. Junken.
Surgeon—A. E. Sumner.

ACCIDENT TO THE ADIRONDACK

An accident occurred to the sloop-of-war Adirondack on Wednesday, which will cause some delay to her rapid completion. While hoisting her second boiler on board at the Novelty Works the fall gave way, and precipitated the boiler, weighing forty-five tons, into the hold, tearing the deck and otherwise injuring her. Luckily in its descent it struck the other boiler, which broke the fall, or the consequences would have been very serious. No injury resulted to her bottom.

The Atlantic Telegraph Cable.

Private advices from London of the 15th inst. state that Mr. Field and other leading gentlemen and capitalists interested in the Atlantic telegraph cable enterprise were to meet Lord Palmerston at noon on the 21st inst., and that the prospect of a satisfactory termination of negotiations with the government in regard to raising the necessary capital to secure the proposed new cable was very encouraging. Mr. Field confidently expected to return to New York at an early day with assurances of the earnest co-operation of the British government in the great undertaking which he has so long and ably endeavored to bring to a successful issue.

Movements of Parson Brownlow.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 27, 1862.

Parson Brownlow has arrived here, and leaves for Cincinnati at noon to-day.

THE BATTLE AT WINCHESTER.

Importance of the Victory Over the Rebels.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1862.

Gen. Shields is informed that our victory at Winchester has been more fatal to the rebels than at first supposed.

The blow has struck terror to the heart of the Shenandoah Valley.

Union prisoners who escaped from Mount Jackson prison, just arrived, saw eight wagons loaded with dead and wounded enter Mount Jackson on Monday, at ten o'clock P. M—forty-four miles from the field of battle, in thirty hours.

The rebels admitted they had eleven thousand in the field, also that they lost between one thousand and fifteen hundred in killed and wounded. We are finding their graves at some distance from each side of the road.

General Shields has sent a despatch to Judge Daly as follows:—

WINCHESTER, March 27, 1862.

My wound is doing well. I will be able to ride in a buggy in a few days at the head of my command.

JAS. SHIELDS.

THANKS OF GENERAL MC'CLELLAN TO GENERAL SHIELDS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SEMINARY, March 27, 1862.

To Brigadier General SHIELDS:—

The Commanding General congratulates you and the troops under your command upon the victory gained by your own energy and activity and their bravery on the 23d. He is pained to learn that the wound you have received in the skirmish on the day before is more serious than at first supposed.

By command of
Major General GEORGE B. McCLELAN.
S. WILLIAMS, Assistant Adjutant General.

CONGRATULATIONS OF THE GENERAL COMMANDING TO MAJOR GENERAL BANKS.

FAIRFAX SEMINARY, March 27, 1862.

To MAJOR GENERAL BANKS:—

The General Commanding congratulates you and the brave troops under your command on the splendid achievement commenced in your department, news of which he has just received. He desires you to follow up rapidly the enemies' troops as far as Strasburg if possible.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Additional Names of the Killed and Wounded in the Battle.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1862.

Many of the regiments engaged in the recent fight near Winchester are at Strasburg, and the surgeons have not yet reported. The telegraph line is not working, but the list of the killed will be forwarded as soon as received at headquarters. Men are engaged in collecting the names of all who have been buried here.

Eight wagon loads of the enemy's dead were carried into Strasburg Monday afternoon. This and other facts lead to the belief that the enemy's killed and wounded numbered a thousand.

The following are the killed:—

EIGHTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Captain Whitcomb.

FIFTH OHIO REGIMENT.
J. J. Seridan, W. H. Bogard, C. E. Gray, Henry Lippen, Henry Hill, C. Talbott, Martin Mallory, C. A. Brown, W. B. Maysons, Geo. W. Nethous, Peter Hansel, W. B. Major.

THIRTEENTH INDIANA REGIMENT.
Three unknown.

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.
Joseph Cooper, —— Liebrick, Samuel Everly, John Murphy, John Dawson.

SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Michael McGee, Charles Gill, Allen E. Lamb, J. Creglow, S. M. Rice, Lewis Corwin, Frederick Gratz, John Frain, James Bische, Elias Hall, James Carroll, Merrick Regular, —— Stillwater.

EIGHTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Sergeant John L. Stough, Corporal Shumaker, James Martin, Wallace Manning, John Miller.
Corporal Abner K. Butler; Urichl Carey, an artillerist, unknown; A. Griswold, ——. Griswold, Reuben Burnham, Daniel S. Garrett, one unknown, and one, name unknown, of Company K, Seventh Ohio.

FORTY-SIXTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.
Sergeant David Becker.

SIXTY-SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Tobias N. Edwards.

EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.
Five unknown, E. R. Douglas.

TWENTY-EIGHTH NEW YORK REGIMENT.
John Fox.

SIXTY-SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Wm. Green, Wm. Gersler, H. G. Beckwith.

TWENTY-NINTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Robert Morris.

SIXTY-SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Stephen L. Iiles.

EIGHTH OHIO REGIMENT.
David Porcher.

The following are the names of additional wounded:—

SIXTY-SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Zenophen Wheeler, John Conley, Gustavus Schwackmann, M. Coothan, G. W. Lepping, Vane Neusbaumer, Shelton Colton, F. A. J. Sullivan, David Murdock.

EIGHTY-FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.
Martin Kerrigan, Wm. McCailly, W. A. Davis, Corporal Bunce, J. Spridee, Wm. C. Heenan, Thomas Ravenhill.

SEVENTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Samuel Loveat, Frank Bethel, A. S. Withers.

EIGHTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Samuel Beelor, Stephen Lyle, Sherman Smith, James Anderson, Lieutenant Craig, F. Pearson, Sergeant Wm. Wetherell, Sergeant A. G. Bacon, A. E. Brown, Captain Starchman, Company G; A. Fry, M. Master.

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.
J. W. Hallege, John Maitan, David S. Baker.

SEVENTH INDIANA REGIMENT.
John McNight, Henry Thompson, John W. Jones, George R. Covert, George Holmes, Mathew R. Parker, H. Ridgeway, Orderly Sergeant L. Davis, Charles Montague.

FOURTEENTH INDIANA REGIMENT.
Howard Loner, J. H. Simpson, Adam Marx, L. Briggs, J. Roger, C. Warner, C. Meurs, L. Crump, T. E. Barrett, P. A. Miller, A. Nellis, J. Wilbert, J. Miller, H. Hollis, —— Hooker, E. J. Walder, —— McMulvelle, James Wallins, Wm. H. Statt, Lieutenant D. Bean, Lieutenant John Lindsay, Lieutenant E. Slocum, Captain James B. Kelly.

FIRST MICHIGAN CAVALRY.
Captain Parks.

FIFTH OHIO REGIMENT.
Z. C. Edwards, Wm. Miller.

TWENTY-NINTH OHIO REGIMENT
Captain M. T. Wright.

FIRST VIRGINIA REGIMENT.
Thomas Roberts, Edward White, Sergeant McCarty, J. McFarland, Wm. Murphy, J. M. Fordice, Charles Poleson, David Reid, George W. Stakeman, Geo. Tronax, Walter H. Hitchcock, H. McCarrick, J. S. Martin, Charles Rawlings, John Gardner, D. Kingsbury, J. Collett, B. Hatfield.

THIRTEENTH INDIANA REGIMENT.
Daniel W. Morgan, Andrew J. Brooman, Conrad Rahmer, J. T. Graham, G. W. Baker, J. S. Ellison, Frank Peach, Andrew Levy.

Country people have just reported fifteen or twenty dead in the field a mile from the battle ground, before unknown, some of whom are rebels.

Owing to the want of large buildings and the consequent necessity of scattering the wounded, considerable delay has occurred in obtaining the names.

THE LATEST FROM STRASBURG.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1862.

Intelligence from Strasburg states that no movement has taken place in that vicinity.

General Jackson, with the remnant of his army, is supposed to be near Woodstock.

General Shields' wound is improving rapidly. He hopes to be on duty again in a week.

The Rebel Prisoners at Baltimore.

OUR BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENCE.

BALTIMORE, March 26, 1862.

List of the Names and General Description of the Prisoners—Where They are Quartered—Their Description of the Battle on Sunday—Their Account of the State of Feeling at the South, &c.

Baltimore is all excitement to-day over the arrival here yesterday of about a hundred rebel soldiers taken prisoners by the forces under General Shields, near Winchester, on Sunday morning last. Among them are thirteen commissioned officers, as follows:—

Fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers—Captain R. R. Morrison, Company I; Lieutenant John N. Lyle, Company I; Lieutenant C. C. Burke, Company H; Lieutenant J. H. Langhorne, Adjutant of the regiment; Lieutenant T. Wade, Company G; Lieutenant Thomas J. Boyd, Company C.

Twenty first Regiment Virginia Volunteers—Lieutenant John G. Witcher.

Twenty Third Regiment Virginia Volunteers—Captain W. J. Sargeant.

Twenty seventh Regiment Virginia Volunteers—Captain L. P. Holloway, Company C; Captain H. H. Robertson, Company B; Lieutenant J. B. Lady, Company G.

Staff Officers—Lieutenant Geo. G. Junkin, Staff of Gen. Jackson; Lieutenant S. C. Williams, Staff of Gen. Garnett.

The prisoners are all from the above regiments. Most of them have been in the rebel service for the last nine or ten months, and are now re-enlisted for the war. The officers say that all the Virginia troops now in the field have re-enlisted for the war. I have conversed with most of the above officers, and find them to be highly intelligent men, and some of them have the manners of highly educated and polished gentlemen. On their arrival here they were placed in the city jail, where they will remain for the present. The city jail is a building of enormous proportions, built of stone, with white marble facings. It is about the size and height of the Metropolitan Hotel in New York, and its magnificent towers and turrets give it more the appearance of a castle of feudal times than of a prison. On entering its spacious corridors, I found the prisoners grouped around one of General Dix's clerks, who was taking down their names. The men were not at all disinclined to converse, and talked freely of the battle in which they had been taken prisoners. They are all comfortably clothed, and apparently in good spirits. They all had Virginia bank notes, amounting, in the aggregate, to $1,500 or $1,800, but stated that they had not been paid for the last two months. Having been allowed to do so, many of them sent their Virginia bank notes out to day and had them exchanged for United States money or silver at a heavy discount. At present they have to put up with the common jail fare—brown bread to eat, and molasses and water, under the name of coffee, to drink. But arrangements are being made by the military authorities here by which they will have proper food. Their washing will be done for them, and everything else done to render them comfortable. The men are to be allowed to walk in the spacious yards of the jail, and the officers will be paroled and allowed to go about the city.

The officers who were in the battle of Manassas declare that the battle of last Sunday was far bloodier than that, and far more hotly contested. They marched from Mount Jackson to Strasburg, and from Strasburg to near Winchester, where they met Gen. Shields' forces, and the battle took place. I infer, from what they said, that it was Gen. Jackson's idea that Gen. Banks was endeavoring to form a junction with Gen. McClellan at Centreville, and that, in order to prevent this, or, at least, to retard it, Gen. Jackson returned to Winchester and fought this battle.

The officers speak in the highest terms of General Jackson. They say he never sends his men into battle, but always leads them, and then the men follow his example.

In reply to my question what the rebel officers generally thought of our generals, the officers answered that General McClellan was regarded as the first general in America, with the single exception of General Beauregard. But as to our other generals they claimed they were not equal to theirs. The war of the abolitionists on McClellan was watched with the greatest interest at the South. It was believed there that if the abolitionists succeeded in getting McClellan deposed from the chief command there was no man in the North who could control the Northern armies in such a way as to defeat the Southern armies. It is generally believed by the officers of the rebel army that President Lincoln now controls the movements of the Union armies, and that the victories of those armies, the fruits of McClellan's plans, are now over—that without the controlling mind that has heretofore planned the campaign the Union armies will be beaten in detail.

During the whole day the jail has been besieged by crowds of persons in all conditions of life, anxious to see the prisoners. None, however, except relatives, are allowed access to the inside. Many ladies call in their carriages, and, not being allowed to enter, walk past the windows, looking at the prisoners through the bars.

SPRING FASHIONS.

Opening Day in the Metropolis.

The following establishments opened through the week, and were visited by great numbers:—

BROADWAY—Miss Stewart, Mrs. Marcy, Mrs. Simons, Binns', Madame Demorest, Bassford's, Mrs. Levins and Mrs. Gosson, Mlle. Barnett, J. D. Davis, Mrs. S. P. Lovett, Mme. Harris & Son, Mme. Kahn, Terry's.

BLEECKER STREET—Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. A. T. James, Mme. Nourrit, Mrs. Shearman.

CANAL STREET—Mme. Rallings, Mme. Demoriss, Goodall, Messrs. K. and R. Gallier, Miss J. Smith, Mrs. Mulchinock, Mrs. Scott, M. Daly, Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. E. Stack, Coley & Steinbrecher.

SIXTH AVENUE—M. T. Higgins, Mrs. Gallagher, Mrs. Ayer, Miss Shugg, Mme. Camille Lacy.

CLINTON PLACE—Misses E. G. and E. H. Thomas.

DIVISION STREET—W. Oppenheim, H. Oppenhym, Mrs. W. H. Prince, Mrs. M. Feely, Mrs. L. Isaacs, Mme. Alexander.

FOURTH STREET—Mrs. J. Reid.

BOWERY—Mrs. J. W. Dempsey, Mrs. D. L. Green.

SPRING STREET—Mrs. Rumrill.

BREVOORT PLACE—Mathilde & Co.

WAVERLEY PLACE—Mlle. R. Burnett.

But yesterday was "opening day" *par excellence*, and everything looked gay and brilliant in honor of the occasion. Nature was in her smiling mood, the city in its holiday trim, and the bevies of ladies that fluttered up and down Broadway in a fever of excitement looked their very prettiest. New York fashionables have not seen such an opening day for a long while, and, to do them justice, they made the most of it. The earnestness with which they pursued their course of investigation from morn till dewy eve, an earnestness that bade defiance to fatigue, and increased with the waning day, was almost sublime.

It must be confessed there is something very pleasant in these exhibitions, something to gratify a refined taste in the artistic arrangement visible even in the minor details of a first class millinery establishment—the delicately tinted feathers, so gracefully disposed; the flowers arranged with all the taste of the most skilful *touquetiere*; vernal buds shyly peeping as it were from their encircling leaves and radiant autumnal blossoms, openly courting admiration. All these are pleasant to look upon, whether in reality or its "counterfeit presentment." Yet these form but a portion, and a small one, of the attractions of these semi-annual exhibitions. Grace of form, harmony of arrangement, beauty of design, skilful combination, harmonious incongruities, add their quota to the general effect; and, in addition, there is the excitement of the occasion, the life and animation of a joyous crowd, and all the other etceteras that constitute what may be called the subsidiary attraction of "opening day." The strength of these combined attractions might be estimated by any one who walked Broadway yesterday with his eyes open; for at no previous opening have we seen that thoroughfare so crowded. It was literally overrun with ladies, all agog to see the display which, by some unerring instinct, they seemed to know would far surpass its predecessors. What was lacking in quantity was more than made up for in quality; for the care and taste that on other occasions would have been spread over many were concentrated in a few.

The opening was later than usual this year, on account of the war and the consequent loss of the Southern trade. Strange how this question of our civil strife meets us at every turn, how it is mixed up with every interest, great or small; how it affects the tide of fashion, as well as that of business. Formerly it was necessary to have millinery goods ready in advance of our season for the earlier Southern market, and thus, on account of the belles of Charleston and the fashionables of New Orleans, our New York ladies had to put up with all the inconveniences of premature openings, and select their summer bonnets while a bitter norther was blowing or heavy flakes of snow were falling. This season there was no such cause in operation, and consequently there was no such discrepancy. The light, delicate looking creations, fresh as spring and bright as summer, were in keeping with the day, and came just in the nick of time, early enough for all practical purposes, and late enough to stimulate curiosity to the utmost. Therefore, yesterday, there was a great deal of real business done; for those who went to see had resolved to purchase, and as there was no time to be lost they did so at once.

Formerly these "openings" used to deserve the name, for they were open to all comers. Now they have changed their character, and should rather be designated private exhibitions; for such they are. Admitting all visitors indiscriminately was not found to work well, and so the practice was quietly dropped by the *elite* of the profession, in order to save their ideas from being plagiarized for the benefit of others less fertile in invention. The effect of this must be salutary; for it will preserve the individuality of each establishment, secure to originality the pre-eminence it deserves, and stimulate the inventive faculties of the professionally dormant to exertions that must ultimately bring their own reward.

The establishment first on our list presented yesterday a striking *coup d'œil*. It was a perfect flower garden, with its central parterres and side beds, with broad walks between, a-down which the human stream kept gliding, with little cessation, for hours and hours together, now pausing to admire one hat, and anon hovering, butterfly like, around another; and not ladies only, but gentlemen also wandered, well pleased, among these vari-colored creations, some struck by the simple, and others by the stylish, some affecting the *ecclatante* and others the coquettish. It was a pleasant scene to look upon, indicative, as it was, of taste and success, and, free from the distractions agitating many a fair spectator as to the relative merits of this or that style, we passed through, admiring all with the impartiality of one who has no desire to possess any. With the tranquil admiration of a connoisseur we paused before a white chip hat in close juxtaposition with a remarkably brilliant one, the colorless loveliness of the one and the glowing beauty of the other reminding the spectator of sculpture and painting. "Snowflake," it might have been termed. As we have said, the material was chip; but the front and the cape were of dotted lace, imparting additional lightness to the delicate looking fabric. On one side of the hat were bows of chip, and on the other a crimped ostrich feather, that fell in wavy masses of great beauty. Inside a bouquet of tiny moss rose buds, "half hidden from the eye," in a bed of tulle, just relieved the pure monotony of the whole, without injuring in the least its character of delicate loveliness. Lace lappets and long white strings completed the picture. Further on was a white dotted crape bonnet, edged with black lace and bound with black velvet. On the outside, near the brim, was a bunch of green violets, intermingled with gold cord. Around the crown was a deep fall of rich lace, caught up with black velvet and gold cord; black silk cape, with overcape of exquisite Chantilly lace. Inside trimming a bandeau of black lace, with a bouquet of wild flowers; marguerites of various shades, from pale pink to deep crimson, so natural that you almost fancied you felt the soft green grass beneath you. That nice attention to details, while subordinating them to the harmonizing of the whole design, which marks the difference between the mere tradeswoman and the artist, was displayed even in the selection of the strings. Another hat of white lace, with three lace fanchons folding over the crown, excited general admiration. Trained around the brim of the hat, with as much care as a gardener would train a vine, was an ostrich feather of rare beauty, that fell like a shower of "streamy gold" on one side. A bouquet of violet ribbon and one delicate straw colored jonquil, with a few half blown buds of rich nasturtium color, formed the whole face trimming. It would be difficult to imagine anything more becoming or in better taste. This hat and the one before it had a short fanchon shaped fall of lace attached to the brim, that fell over the forehead and produced an effect similar to the Mary Stuart cap. A very elegant, stylish looking hat, formed of split straw, bound round the brim and side crown with green silk, and trimmed profusely with black Chantilly lace, was exhibited in Miss Stewart's, as were also the other hats we have described. The inside trimming was an exquisite combination of flowers, lace and ribbon, forming altogether an indescribable bouquet, which was arranged a little to one side, the space on the other being filled up with a thick ruche of black and white lace. Nor can we pass over a Leghorn hat, trimmed with violet ribbon and straw lace, the latter a new, rare and very effective trimming; nor a Dunstable hat, bound round with violet and white. The cape, violet silk with lace centre, was trimmed with straw cord and tassels which crossed and fell below the cape, forming a very graceful effect.

With all the talk about depression of business and tightness of the money market, spring and summer hats are just as expensive as ever, made of as fine materials and compounded with as much taste as those of last summer, or indeed of any preceding summer. We must be understood now as speaking of carriage, opera or reception hats; for hats intended for the street, or promenade hats, as they are called, are marked by extreme simplicity. We have seen some of white lace, trimmed with a half scarf edged with black velvet, that looked simple and ladylike. Small blue flowers, with the stems, which were curled like tendrils, exposed to view, formed a pretty and appropriate face trimming.

DRESSES.

In dress goods we have nothing very new to chronicle; but the eye, accustomed so long to dark and heavy winter fabrics, rests with all the pleasure of novelty on those lighter and gayer materials which speak so eloquently of coming summer, with its train of rainbow colored flowers and insatiable mosquitoes. Of course our sidewalks are still swept by sombre hued dresses; but, *en revanche*, the store windows are brilliant as parterres, and with the glimpse they afford into futurity we can see that there is a good time coming for the ladies of New York. As we possess the "open sesame" to all these temples of fashion, we will use it for the especial behoof of our fair lady readers, whom we will place *au courant du jour* in these all important matters. First, as to the materials: We have all the usual summer varieties of dress goods—silks, muslins, organdies, foulards, poplins, and those numerous nameless mixtures with which the market is flooded. Foulards will be very much worn this season; they are of a superior quality and handsomer patterns than we are accustomed to see in this material. We are glad to see that small figures still prevail in dress goods, and that the large and *pronounce* styles are not allowed to obtrude themselves on public attention. We have seen one or two of the latter, with a modesty that is not at all characteristic of their style, peeping out from among their favored rivals; but the total disregard with which they were received will be no inducement to storekeepers to force them on the public. Shepherd's plaid will supersede the gray dresses of last year for travelling. There is one noticeable feature about dresses this season, and that is the great quantity and expensive character of the trimmings. Lace is the especial favorite on suitable materials. Ribbon and velvet are both very pretty trimmings, and, according to the arrangements, may be also very elegant; but that depends entirely on the taste of the dressmaker. This rage for trimming exhibits itself most frequently on the skirts; it gives greater opportunity for display, is a larger field for operations, and consumes considerably more trimming than any other part of the dress—all good and tangible reasons, no doubt; but, potent though they may be, good taste will reassert herself, and these skirt trimmings, whether lozenge shaped, tablier or puffings, will sink into the "tomb of the Capulets." Gored skirts are still to be seen; they linger as if loth to depart; but they are not universal favorites, nor ever will be. Skirts are worn very full and long, especially at the back, where they form almost a demi-train, and flounces in almost every style are universal. There is no trimming on a skirt that looks so well as these same flounces, whether one deep flounce or a host of small ones be chosen. The sleeve allows as much latitude of choice and presents as many candidates for popular favor as the skirt. Indeed we never remember to have seen Fashion hold so light a rein over her subjects before. The leg of mutton sleeve is a very pretty style, and bids fair to be popular. The puffed sleeve, which was so great a favorite during the winter, will scarcely retain its place in the summer; a cooler sleeve will be more desirable in July. During all seasons the flowing sleeve holds the place, and in all the mutations of fashion, which has swept away and obliterated so many styles, the flowing sleeve is still to be seen triumphant over many a younger favorite. The puffed flowing sleeve, a kind of compromise, or rather, we should say, an amalgamation sleeve, is one of the prettiest of its kind; and the diamond sleeve is also very popular. This is a loose sleeve, slashed at the bottom and fastened into a band at the wrist; through these openings, which are diamond shaped, puffings of lace, or a rich under sleeve, are exhibited. Wherever trimming can be disposed on the sleeve it is put: the favorite style, *a la Grecque*, is the most used. The corsage is made high to the throat, and plain; but we sometimes see a Pompadour waist, and there are indications that bretelles and berthas are to be restored to favor, or trimmings so disposed as to form berthas. Zouave jackets, with white muslin waists and different colored skirt, will be a most becoming and economical style. The skirt of a dress is generally good after the waist is worn out. Now, by this arrangement the skirt will be as good as new, and will look better at last than it did at first.

In mantillas, the summer styles have not appeared as yet, and with reference to them we can only repeat what we said last week, that they are made of light cloths and narrow plaid, and of all shapes and sizes, from the long circular, so much in favor last year, to the short sacque or basquine, which has already made its appearance on our thoroughfares.

As a general rule, mourning hats are the same in shape and general arrangement as their gayer colored contemporaries. They follow the same laws, are governed by the same influences, and, generally speaking, are reproductions of the others, allowing for the modifications and toning down and absence of color necessary to fit them for the sad and sombre purpose to which custom has assigned them. In this department Mrs. Jackson exhibits some beautiful specimens, remarkable for correct taste and quiet elegance, two essentials in mourning bonnets.

Arrival of the Steamship Saxonia.

PERILOUS VOYAGE FROM HAMBURG TO NEW YORK—FOUR DAYS DETENTION IN AN ICE PACK.

The Hamburg steamship Saxonia, Captain Ehlers, arrived at this port last evening from Hamburg and Southampton, and makes the following report:—Left Southampton Wednesday, March 12; had fine weather and light winds up to the 19th, on which day, in latitude 47 53, longitude 49 24, passed several large icebergs. On the following day (20th) came between some drift ice; stopped the engine; but having discovered that they were only small streaks, and not very heavy, ventured in it. Later in the same day the ice became more packed, so that we could only proceed at the rate of four miles per hour all night. Often found free water, and hoped to be soon clear of the ice. On the 21st, however, the ice became so compact that the ship could proceed but very slowly. Saw a brig under sail ahead, about six miles distant, apparently in clearer water; attempted to get up to her, but the heavily packed ice prevented, and at nightfall was compelled to stop the engines. On the 22d started the engines, but could make but very little headway, and was obliged often to stop the engines, in order to keep the screw clear of the large ice blocks. About noon the same day, a man from the above mentioned brig came to the steamer over the ice, and reported that his vessel was the brig Calpey, from Lisbon, bound to Havre de Grace, Newfoundland, with a cargo of salt, and that she had been in the ice for eight weeks, and was getting short of provisions. The steamer was then about three miles southeast from the brig; but as it was impossible to get to her, as the ice was so heavy, and we could only go straight ahead, could render her no assistance. We made no more than three miles that day, and at night had to stop the engines again. A strong southeast breeze sprung up during the night, and the next morning (23d), at six o'clock, discovered the ice more open, and could proceed. A dense fog was then prevailing, and the brig could not be seen. We then proceeded on our course, and gradually came into clearer water; the speed of the engine was, however, slackened during the night. At four o'clock on the morning of the 24th got entirely out of the ice, after having been detained in it four days and three hours, during which time a distance of about two hundred miles only was made. The last part of the passage had strong westerly winds.

The Saxonia behaved extremely well in the ice, and the only real danger was in breaking the propeller, which was only avoided by paying the strictest attention to the engine and stopping it in time to keep it clear of the large blocks.

The sailor from the brig seen in the ice reported that they had seen three or four more vessels in the ice during the eight weeks. Captain Ehlers expresses great regret at not being able to supply the brig or render them any assistance, as it was impossible to approach her.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"Masaniello" was given last night at this establishment to a house as large as at the performance of the "Traviata." Whether it was the opera or the ballet that attracted the saints in such crowds we cannot take upon ourselves to say, but certainly there they were in force. We are afraid that the *pas de fascination* of the beautiful Cubas will make as much commotion among the elect of the City of Churches as did that of Lola Montez in the court of King Ludwig of Bavaria.

THE FIGHT AT ISLAND NO. 10.

Reconnoissance Down the Missouri Shore—Capture of Secessionists—Their Reports Relative to the Movements and Strength of the Enemy—The Loss of the Rebels During the Bombardment,

&c., &c., &c.

ST. LOUIS, March 27, 1862.

A special despatch to the *Republican*, dated near Island No. 10, evening of the 26th, says that only three shells were thrown by the mortars to-day, to which no response was made by the rebels.

This morning Col. Buford sent a reconnoitering party of twenty men, of the Twenty-seventh Illinois regiment, down the Missouri shore. They arrested three prominent residents, who report that two thousand negroes are employed on the island and at the batteries along the shore; that sixty-five rebel troops, including two lieutenants, and forty negroes have been killed by our shells; that the upper shore battery is abandoned, but the others are being strengthened; that the enemy is fifteen thousand strong, and that their encampment has been moved entirely out of the range of our guns.

The rebels are confident of success, and say they have a good road to Trenton and other points, by which they can escape whenever they choose. They have plenty of provisions.

Three rebel steamers, loaded with troops, were seen watching the shore, to prevent communication from here. The total number of the enemy's transports is eleven.

Two or three balloon ascensions have been made by Captain Steimer, but the weather was too thick for favorable observation.

CHICAGO, March 27, 1862.

A special to the Chicago *Tribune* contains the following:—

A gentleman arrived on the Conestoga this morning, with intelligence from Island No. 10 up to two o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Colonel Buford sent a force to make a reconnoissance on the Kentucky shore, on Tuesday night, which succeeded in capturing six prisoners belonging to a Tennessee cavalry regiment. They report the strength of the rebels near the island at 15,000. General Bragg is in command. Fifteen hundred reinforcements reached there from Humboldt, having come by railroad to a point only fifteen miles distant. Still larger reinforcements were expected by the same route last night.

Measures have been taken to intercept this means of communication.

A special despatch to the Chicago *Journal* from Cairo says:—Memphis papers of the 22d state that only one man was killed in the first four days' bombardment at Island No. 10. He was a citizen of Memphis.

Our Mississippi Correspondence.

ON BOARD GUNBOAT CARONDELET, NEAR ISLAND NO. 10, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, March 22, 1862.

Rebel Movements—Night Signals, &c.

During the last forty-eight hours there has been but little of interest transpiring here, and, aside from the appearance of our fleet in the river and an occasional report from one of our mortars as it sends off its spherical "love letters," there is nothing that would tend to show that "No. 10" was under siege. What we are waiting for no one save the Flag Officer knows hereabouts; but I presume that there are good reasons for our inaction. There was a talk towards night, the day before yesterday, of running the rebel blockade with a part of our gunboats, so as to attack the rebel batteries from below; but that project was given up.

The rebel steam transports were flying around down the river like mad all day yesterday, and it was surmised that the rebels had forced Pope's troops back from the river at New Madrid, and were now abdicating the island; but I am more inclined to the belief that the movement was only a ruse to deceive us about some new manœuvre of their own.

All last night bright signal lights were blazing upon the island and at the main shore batteries, and there are a thousand surmises as to their meaning. I do not think that the signals amounted to anything, especially as betokening movements of the enemy, though many of the naval officers seemed to consider that the lights were significant enough to warrant them in changing their positions somewhat, changing the orders of the night, and inciting them to renewed vigilance, lest a night attack by the enemy in force deprives us of the use of a few of our mortars and transports.

The weather this morning is fine. Not a breath stirs the air nor a cloud obscures the sunlight. This is the first fair day we have had since Tuesday, and I hope that Commodore Foote will take advantage of it to give the forts another taste of his metal. Anything to dispel this *ennui*.

ON BOARD GUNBOAT CONESTOGA, THREE MILES ABOVE ISLAND NO. 10, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, March 23, 1862.

Island No. 10 Not Evacuated—Scenes on the Gunboats—The Bombardment Continuing—The Rebel Sixty-four Pounder Spiked by Our Men—How it Was Accomplished—The Occupation of Hickman—The Balloon Reconnoissance, &c., &c.

We have been somewhat amused during the last two days at the tenacity with which the Northern press clings to the statement that the rebels have evacuated their stronghold just below us. It may be so; but if it is—to use the chaste and classic phraseology of the Bowery—"I don't see it." On Friday we received the Northern journals, announcing that "Island No. 10 is ours," and that, too, when three rebel batteries were playing upon our fleet, and giving us the most solid assurances that there were a "few more of the same sort left." Some of the scenes on shipboard at the receipt of this precious bit of information were really laughable. For instance, one which I witnessed on the deck of the Carondelet. The newsboy had just left a quantity of papers containing the news, when Captain Walke came on deck. Immediately half a dozen tars rushed up to him, and, saluting in sailor style, asked liberty to take the yawl and go ashore. "What for?" said Capt. Walke. "Why, sir," replied Jack, "the papers say that the rebels have all left, and we want to get some fresh grub." Just then a sixty-four pound rifled shot from the upper battery skimmed along the surface of the river just at our stern, and interred itself in the bank off our port quarter. "There," said Captain Walke, "that don't look much like evacuation, does it?" "Oh, that's nothing," replied the old salt; "here is the papers for it," and holding up a *Missouri Democrat*, he read over General Halleck's speech at the Planters' House, wherein he publicly announced the fact that "our brave troops have taken No. 10 Island," and promising still "more victories." "There," said he, "General Halleck says they've quit, and he ought to know, being as he's right at headquarters." But a second shot—a huge shell—falling and exploding still nearer to us