THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 9421. NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

IMPORTANT FROM M'CLELLAN'S ARMY

Advance of the Union Lines Towards Richmond.

Brilliant Engagement and Success of the Union Forces.

OBSTINATE RESISTANCE OF THE ENEMY.

Splendid Conduct of Our Troops in the Action.

The Rebels Driven from Their Camps,

&c., &c., &c.

Despatches from General McClellan.

REDOUBT No. 3, June 25—1:30 P. M.

HON. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War:—

We have advanced our pickets on the left considerably to-day, under sharp resistance. Our men have behaved very handsomely. Some firing still continues.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

REDOUBT No. 3, June 25—3:15 P. M.

HON. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War:—

The enemy are making desperate resistance to the advance of our picket lines. Kearney and one half of Hooker's are where I want them.

I have this moment reinforced Hooker's right with a brigade and a couple of guns, and hope in a few minutes to finish the work intended for to-day.

Our men are behaving splendidly. The enemy are fighting well also.

This is not a battle; merely an affair of Heintzelman's corps, supported by Keyes, and thus far all goes well, and we hold every foot we have gained.

If we succeed in what we have undertaken, it will be a very important advantage gained. Loss not large thus far.

The fighting up to this time has been done by General Hooker's division, which has behaved as usual; that is, most handsomely.

On our right Porter has silenced the enemy's batteries in his front.

G. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

REDOUBT No. 3, June 25—5 P. M.

HON. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War:—

The affair is over, and we have gained our point fully, and with but little loss, notwithstanding the strong opposition.

Our men have done all that could be desired.

The affair was partially decided by two guns that Capt. Deersey [Dusenbury?] brought gallantly into action under very difficult circumstances.

The enemy was driven from his camps in front of this and all is now quiet.

G. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

Movements Before the Engagement.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS, June 24, 1862.

From the movements of the enemy last night, and from information received from a contraband, a general engagement was looked for this morning. The troops were all under arms at daylight, and everything in readiness, but after a slight demonstration by the rebels, and finding themselves promptly met at every point, they retired to their old position.

A terrible storm visited this section last night, lasting about three hours. The wind blew a hurricane, levelling tents and trees in all directions.

The Richmond papers complain of the large price paid for substitutes in the rebel army, many of whom immediately desert. They mention instances where as high as $17 and $20 have been paid.

The action of Colonel Rufus Ingalls at White House, in causing the arrest of some fifty of the most prominent citizens remaining in the rear of our army, is having a most salutary influence on those who are suffered to remain. Ten arrests were made yesterday in the neighborhood of New Kent Court House and Charles City, and the arrested partieh sent to Fortress Monroe.

A ride at sunrise this morning along the entire front of the Union lines found everything remarkably ready for any emergency that might arise.

There has been less skirmishing within the past six hours than at any time since the battle of Fair Oaks.

The condition of the swamp for an encampment has rapidly improved within the last few days.

The movements of the enemy to-day have been mysterious. Their pickets at some points have been drawn in for half a mile, while at others they remain as usual.

The ground vacated by the enemy is now held by our troops.

The Richmond papers of to-day contain nothing of special interest, except the arrival of Gen. Price.

No mention is made of the whereabouts of Beauregard's army.

Our Special Army Correspondence.

FAIR OAKS, June 22, 1862.

A Lively Skirmish—Retreat of the Rebels with Great Loss in Killed and Wounded—Our Loss Two Killed and Seven Wounded—Captured Rebels and Their Impudence—A Wounded Rebel Found in the Swamp, dc., dc.

Another three or four days has again passed without anything of very great importance occurring here, except a very lively skirmish between the pickets last evening, and which came very near bringing on a general engagement. I was some distance from the scene of the skirmish when it first commenced; but the rapid booming of cannon, which lasted nearly an hour, told me that something was occurring in that direction which I should know; so off I started, and as I approached the late battle field I became convinced that the heavy firing was altogether from our side. And so it proved when I arrived there. It seems that there is a redoubt of great force, and mounted with heavy guns, which the rebels have got an eye upon. In fact I learn that they have had an eye upon it ever since it was commenced, as it is in plain sight of their pickets, who have attempted to capture it no less than four or five times, each time being repulsed with great loss. The last attempt will probably remain the last, until the great battle takes place, as they should by this time be satisfied that it is no use. If, however, they should wish to try it again, they will find as warm a reception both there and elsewhere as heretofore.

The particulars of the skirmish are as follows:—At five o'clock yesterday afternoon the pickets of the Second (Troy) regiment, Colonel Carr, New York State Volunteers, relieved those of another brigade. They were about four hundred strong, those on the right of the redoubt commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Olmstead, and those on the left by Major Otis. About six o'clock the enemy made a feint on the left pickets to draw the attention of the reserves in that direction. Almost at the same instant they attacked the right, and in a few minutes the whole line was engaged. The enemy were full six hundred strong, as no less than eight companies were seen by our pickets. The pickets commanded by Major Otis were outnumbered and driven in, retreating in good order, and placing themselves on the right of the redoubt, out of range from our battery and rifle pits. Those under command of Lieutenant Colonel Olmstead maintained their position from first to last. Three or four companies of the rebels followed the retreating pickets beyond the skirt of woods, exposing themselves to view, and commenced a galling fire of musketry on our rifle pits. When within range our men returned their fire, and the enemy still advancing, they approached so near the redoubt that the orders of the officers could be distinctly heard. Now was the time. The musket firing had lasted about three minutes, drawing the enemy on, when the artillery from a redoubt in the centre opened upon them. This was instantly followed by a charge of canister from the redoubt on the right and shell on the left, making a cross fire, the musketry from the rifle pits still continuing. Nothing could withstand this, as shot, shell and canister, with deadly aim, flew amongst them, mowing them down and scattering them like chaff before the wind. They retreated in great disorder. The firing was continued some time longer, when the pickets who retreated to the rifle pits were sent to their original positions, holding the ground until relieved this morning. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded must be very great. They were seen from the first removing them to the rear, and even to the end, as they supposed, carried off all their dead and wounded with them; but early this morning our pickets observed a man lying upon the ground waving a white handkerchief. He was brought in, and found to be a rebel sergeant. He was badly wounded in the groin by a rifle ball, and his recovery is very doubtful. He reports a great number of the enemy killed and wounded, and states that he heard the cries and groans of the wounded and dying all night, and that they were all carried off but him. According to his account there were one Georgia regiment and four companies of the Second North Carolina engaged in the fight, and they had volunteered their services to take the redoubt. When they saw our pickets on the left retreat they yelled like madmen, and no doubt thought that the redoubt was already won. Our noble fellows fought bravely. Two were killed and seven wounded. Their names are as follows:—George Murry, Company B, killed, shot in the breast; Henry L. Dunham, Company B, flesh wound in arm; Jesse G. Huse, Company F, slightly in face and hand; James McGann, Company D, wounded in hip, seriously; George Paine, Company D, wounded badly in the arm, the ball entering at the elbow and coming out at the wrist, shattering the bone; Francis Megott, Company D, wounded in hip; Michael Barrett, Company D, shot through the hand; John McGovern, Company D, slightly in the face. The other that was killed belonged to the Third Excelsior, and was shot in the breast while on picket just before the skirmish commenced. I could not learn his name. Murry was from Schaghticoke, Rensselaer county, unmarried and about thirty-five years of age. He lived about an hour and a half after being shot. The wounded are all from Troy, N. Y., and were the advanced pickets. There is no doubt but that if the enemy had succeeded in capturing the redoubt a general engagement would have been the result. I forgot to say in the former part of my report that the first notice of anything unusual was the appearance of several officers apparently making a reconnoissance, and the chief officer sending aids to the right and left. Two horses belonging to the rebel officers were brought in by the pickets this morning, they having found them straying riderless in the woods. One was a very fine animal, the other moderate. A few days since two companies of this regiment—Company D, under command of Captain McGuire, and Company E, Lieutenant Wilson—drove the enemy, after they had driven in our pickets, skirmishing through the woods, back to their own rifle pits without losing a man. Colonel Carr, of this regiment, is acting Brigadier General, as General Patterson was taken sick and has returned home. I wish to correct an error in relation to the arrest of the two men of the Eighth Pennsylvania cavalry, published a day or two ago, who, I stated, were going to be shot for desertion to the enemy and acting as guides in the late cavalry raid. It is a mistake. The men, whose names are Thomas Cussen and James Clasby, went off on a drunken spree, and were arrested in a house where the rebels had been the night previous. The Eighth Pennsylvania regiment was scouring the country in search of the rebels when they fortunately came upon the two missing worthies of their regiment. They are now under arrest.

I have just seen a number of rebel prisoners and contrabands who are on their way to Fortress Monroe. The contrabands were so stupid and thick-headed that I could learn nothing from them, and the rebels so bitterly secesh that I could learn very little from them. Of their appearance there as prisoners, however, I learned that some had been captured by our pickets, some were of the First Virginia cavalry, and had been hunted down, as they termed it, while others, honest, quiet farmers, had been torn from their homes because they said that they would not take the oath of allegiance, and were probably supposed to be connected with or knew something of that little affair down the road the other evening. I have said they were bitterly secesh—bitter is no word for the scoundrels. They appear to delight in boasting of their connection with the rebel army, their intention never to take the oath of allegiance, and their hatred and contempt of the Northern army and people. One man said, "Richmond is not yours yet, nor will it ever be." I asked one, who appeared to be more intelligent than the rest, if he did not think we should be in Richmond before long. He said, "Yes, I think you will, but the same as I am here," meaning as prisoners. They did say that they did not expect the kind treatment from us that they received; yet they act as if they despised us the more for it.

It will be recollected by your readers that shortly after General McClellan had paid his accustomed visit to our troops in this direction on Wednesday afternoon last, when he was greeted with such bursts of applause, the rebels attempted and succeeded in driving back, with an immensely superior force, our pickets to their reserve. The rebels engaged in this affair consisted of a whole brigade, while our picket and reserve did not outnumber a whole regiment. What the motive for this attack was cannot be divined, unless it was to learn the cause of the immense glee in our camp. Secesh probably imagined that reinforcements were arriving for McClellan, and the reconnoissance in force was for the purpose of ascertaining the extent and nature of the reinforcements. At all events the effort, whatever may have been intended, was a perfect and entire failure, the shells from our batteries driving them like chaff through the woods and swamps, and enabling our pickets to obtain an advanced position.

On Friday Orderly Sergeant H. D. Hanahan, Company I, Second South Carolina Volunteers, Colonel Kenneday, of Kershaw's brigade, was found in the woods wounded in the legs, where he had been since Wednesday night. He suffered amputation at the hands of the surgeon of the First California. He was found in an emaciated condition by Captain W. P. Tomlinson, Company F, First California. The prisoner expressed a great desire to have one fact noticed in the HERALD to disabuse the minds of the Southern soldiery, who believe from representations of their leaders that their wounded do not receive merciful and charitable attention at our hands. He desires, through your correspondent, to express his thanks for the noble and generous treatment extended towards him since he has been a wounded prisoner in our hands. He believes that the loss of the rebels in the skirmish of Wednesday was severe, as the shells from our battery exploded right amongst them in their retreat through the woods.

An incident, illustrative as well of the fearlessness as of the vigilance and activity of our General, has not yet been recorded to my knowledge. General McClellan during Wednesday rode to the outer line of our pickets, and, pulling off his coat, mounted a tall tree generally used for reconnoitering purposes by our officers and men, with all the agility of a well trained "salt of the ocean," and ascended into its topmost branches, where he had a splendid view of the enemy's position and defences, and also of his army's Paridisian city of Richmond, the heart of rebellion. The rebels were no respectors of his valuable presence in the tree; for their vollies flew thick and fast around and amongst its clustering boughs, happily without injury to the "chief above a takin' notes." The object of their most recent movement is judged by our generals to have been to capture some small quantity of commissary stores which they presumed laid near Fair Oaks station.

Our picket lines, during the whole of last night resounded with the crack of musketry, mostly from the rebels, who, from motives of spite, seem determined to prevent our forces in camp from enjoying their nightly sleep. These constantly recurring alarms in camp are now, however, taken cheerfully by the men, and the line of battle is uniformly formed after a few shots have been exchanged between the pickets.

While the position and strength of our forces are at present such as to dissipate all fear for our safety from any attack which the rebels may make upon us, a reinforcement of fifty thousand fresh troops would insure the immediate reduction of Richmond, with much less loss to our side than it could be accomplished otherwise. It is idle to deny the fact that the rebels outnumber us, though in effectiveness our army is superior to theirs in the field.

I am glad to see that some of our regiments have been provided, as a measure of protection from the fervent heat, with a neat and light straw hat, with the name of the regiment neatly printed on its black band. I noticed the Sixteenth New York in regimental line this morning, and they presented really a neat and tidy appearance with their new chapeaus.

If anything can be said to be hopeful about the rebels, the fact that yesterday they allowed the blessed Sabbath to pass—or, at least, the devotional morning hours of the same—without a resort to the messengers of death, would indicate a change for the better on their part.

The health of our troops has slightly improved since my last communication.

SAVAGE STATION, June 23, 1862.

The Rebel Espionage—Desertions Continue—Further Statements of the Rebel Deserters—Gustavus W. Smith Gone to Reinforce Jackson, dc., dc.

The ominous silence of the past few days still continues, much to the apparent discomfiture of the rebels, who keep up a continuous close espionage of our forces. Occasionally some of them venture too near our pickets and find themselves in rather close proximity to our guns, to which they seem to have taken an utter dislike since the recent skirmish, in which they lost, in killed, wounded and prisoners, nearly two hundred men. With but a few exceptions our guns remain silent, as it seems to be the design of the enemy to find out the position and calibre of our guns. Thus far they have failed to procure the desired information, although they have sacrificed many lives for this special purpose.

Desertions from their picket regiments, from right to left, are becoming quite frequent. Most of these desertions are by men from the North who have been pressed into the service of Jeff. Davis, and seize the first opportunity to make good their escape from ignominy and starvation. On Saturday morning last six men of Northern birth made their way to our lines and were taken charge of. Their names are as follows:—Thos. McFarland, a native of Rhode Island, from the Third Louisiana battalion; James Rindal, a native of Massachusetts, from the Third Louisiana battalion; Frederick Vogel, a native of Germany, from the Third Louisiana battalion; Sydney Young, a native of New Hampshire, from the Third Louisiana battalion; Arthur Woodman, a native of New Hampshire, from Dubney's siege gun battery; C. A. Murdock, a native of Ohio, from the Second Georgia cavalry.

These men were all regularly enlisted, having their choice between enlisting in the rebel army at New Orleans, where they happened to be at the time the State seceded from the national Union, or going to work as prisoners on some of the fortifications then in course of erection. Of the two alternatives they thought to choose the lesser, and accordingly enlisted in the regiments then forming, with a view to make their escape North at the first opportunity. Shortly after the blockade was established off New Orleans the regiments were ordered to Virginia, and after spending a portion of last winter in North Virginia, under the command of Beauregard, they were ordered to Norfolk, at which place they were garrisoned until the evacuation, when they were again ordered to Richmond. While the evacuation was going on, seven of the company of the Third Louisiana battalion managed to make their escape, and it was thought by the officers that the whole company was about to desert, and a strict watch was kept upon them. They were never allowed, until lately, to go on picket, although their services were frequently needed. At length the officers seemed to regain confidence, and after the raid of Jackson upon the column under General Banks they were placed on picket at the Mechanicsville pike. Early on Saturday morning, during a dense fog, they managed to make their way to the Union side of the Chickahominy undiscovered by either party. Here they lay in the swamp until daylight, when, after throwing their arms away, they proceeded to give themselves up to some of our videttes, and were marched, with lighter hearts than they had had for many a day, into the camp of some of their old friends.

During the first few months they were in the service their rations were good and plenty; but since the capture of Roanoke Island the supplies of coffee and sugar gradually became less, until within the past three months, when they ceased to receive their usual small quantity of coffee, and were forced to do without anything save an occasional ration of burnt rye, which was used in lieu of a more substantial beverage. Tea was an article not known in the army, and what little could be procured was used for hospital purposes. The sugar, which was of the poorest quality, gradually disappeared from the camp, and the privates were compelled to take their rye coffee without any sweetening whatever. This was in itself bad enough; but the worst was yet to come. Commissary stores of all kinds became suddenly very scarce, and for the past few weeks the troops have been on half rations, viz: nine ounces of flour or meal and a pound of bread per day. The scarcity of food has become such a bugbear that many of the troops are nearly in open rebellion against their officers. This, taken with the effect produced upon the troops by the frequent retreats and failures to accomplish any of their many undertakings, is working upon the men to such a degree that they only await the opportunity to make good their escape from the army of the Confederate States, whose cause they now believe to be utterly hopeless. The men seem fully aware of the manner in which their lives are being sacrificed by their leaders, and fully appreciate their position in the coming great fight in front of the rebel capital; and, what is most important, is the certainty of their having lost confidence in their commanders, with the exception of Magruder, whose conduct at Yorktown was the theme of conversation.

The retreat of Jackson in the valley of the Shenandoah is looked upon with considerable anxiety by the people, who fear for his safety. Numerous reinforcements have been sent to him, consisting of a whole division under the command of General Gustavus W. Smith, two batteries of artillery and a regiment of cavalry. It is thought that Jackson will make the best of his way back to Richmond, where the grand finale of the rebellion will take place.

The force of the rebels in and about Richmond at the present time is estimated at about one hundred and twenty-five thousand, some of whom are without arms other than those brought from home. Reinforcements from the West are looked for daily. They have numerous works thrown up around the city and considerable heavy ordnance.

The weather, which for the past few days has been intolerably warm, has to-night become quite pleasant, with every indication of a copious fall of rain, which, although a matter not much to be wished for by the army, is nevertheless much needed, as the ground was becoming parched and vegetation suffering for want of water.

IMPORTANT FROM NORFOLK.

The City Placed Under Martial Law—No Election for City Officers Permitted—Disloyalty of the Authorities, dc.

NORFOLK, VA., June 24, 1862.

Generald Viele held a conference with the city officers here yesterday, and finding that they would not take the oath of allegiance, ordered that no election for municipal officers should be held to-day as arranged for.

This morning he issued a proclamation declaring the city under martial law, and retiring the old city officers whose terms have expired.

General Viele has found it necessary to adopt this course in consequence of the numerous petty disturbances between the Union men and secessionists.

Interesting from Memphis.

CAPTURE OF PRISONERS AND SUPPLIES—WHITE RIVER OPEN TO GENERAL CURTIS' ARMY, ETC.

MEMPHIS, June 23, 1862.

A detachment of the Sixth Illinois cavalry made a descent on a band of rebel cavalry guarding a train near Coldwater station, on the Mississippi and Tennessee rivers, and captured twenty-five prisoners and about 20,000 pounds of bacon, which was on the train. They destroyed the bridge on the road, rendering it impassable.

The navigation of White river is now open to General Curtis' army.

Occupation of Arizona by Union Troops.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 9, 1862.

General Carelton's brigade has entered Arizona. The advance guard, under Colonel West, reached Tucson about the 17th ult., the rebels having previously abandoned the place. The Stars and Stripes were again hoisted over the ruins of Fort Breckinridge.

WASHINGTON, June 25, 1862.

The following has been received at the War Department:—

SAN FRANCISCO, June 10, 1862.

General L. THOMAS, Adjutant General:—

General Carleton, at Pimos Village, May 25, reports that Colonel West took possession of Tucson, Arizona, on the 20th, without opposition. The rebel troops fled to the Rio Grande. As soon as the rebels are pushed away from Messilla, the overland mail route will be open from Honolulu, via Santa Fe, Fort Thorn, Tucson and Fort Yuma to San Francisco.

GEORGE WRIGHT, Brigadier General.

From General Fremont's Column.

MIDDLETOWN, VA, June 25, 1862.

The mail arrangements for the army in the field have been reorganized. Letters for General Fremont's headquarters, whether from Washington, New York or the West, should all be directed Martinsburg, and will be forwarded from there. All letters for the army under and with General Fremont, except those for headquarters, should be addressed Winchester. Letters for other districts in the department to be sent as heretofore. Postmasters and others to take care of this direction, which is by order of Captain Goulding, Chief Quartermaster in the field, under whose charge the mails have been placed.

Movements of European Steamers.

BOSTON, June 25, 1862.

The steamship Africa sailed at ten o'clock this morning, with sixteen passengers for Halifax and one hundred and fifty for Liverpool. She takes out about $63,000 in specie.

MONTREAL, June 25, 1862.

The steamship Jura, from Liverpool, reached Father Point at twenty minutes to two o'clock this morning. Her news is anticipated. She brings sixty cabin and two hundred and thirty steerage passengers.

Arrivals and Departures.

ARRIVALS.

NEW ORLEANS—Steamship Costracoalcos—Lieut G B Bacon, Dr H F McTherry, Capt Gerdeo, US Coast Survey; R Adams, Acting Master; Henry Babcock, do; John R Fegan, Master's Mate; T Van Hogen, Engineer; Dr J F Lymer, Mr Bowie, US Coast Survey, and 25 seamen, from US frigate Colorado; J S Reeves, Mr Tillotson, E W Powell, W W Miller, Louis Fasrecht, D W Johnson, wife and servants; Jas Lee and wife, John Schnike and three children, Hiram Jerome, Mrs Henderson and daughter, W W Buell, J McLean, S M Rode, Madame Didier, sister and servant; J J Wood and servant, Mrs Edgar Spedden and two infants, Nathan Stevens, Mrs Hawley and two children, John Rowland, George Pierce, Ira Swift, wife and child; T B Venables.

DEPARTURES.

NEW ORLEANS—Steamship Roanoke—N W Hoyt, James Norman, James Sagehorn, E R Stephens, A Wainsch, S B Bevans, T Leon, F Law, D T Bagley, Thomas Dolan, W Stilwell, L G Thorpe, R G Sharp, George Hounewell, S Sibley, Charles Robb, Captain Oliver Amesbury, John McCloney, George A Fosdick, J S Martin, Robert Gamble, N Bailey, Mrs Thos Hale and servant, Mrs Donovan, J F Allison, A Allen, J H Foster, John Duncan, B Anthon, Charles Duncan, John Gale, Isaac Hart, Jr, L Sturtevant, B F Dane, J S Molden, Thomas B Lewick, Albert Brummell, A Hobart, Moses Levy, Solomon Lyon, J W Stanton, W L Palmer, Jacob Cohn, Mrs Josephine Alexander and George Horton.

THE PRESIDENT AT WEST POINT.

OBJECT OF HIS VISIT.

CONFERENCE WITH GEN. SCOTT.

INSPECTION OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

Trial of Parrott Guns at Coldspring.

Grand Serenade to Old Abe by the West Point Quadrille Band.

DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON.

ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION IN NEW YORK.

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT AT JERSEY CITY.

NO GENERALS TO BE MADE OR UNMADE.

Rumored Changes in the Cabinet and in the Army of the Shenandoah,

&c., &c., &c.

Our Special West Point Correspondence.

COZZENS' HOTEL, WEST POINT, June 24, 1862.

As you have already been informed by telegraph, President Lincoln arrived here at an unseasonably early hour this morning, and most unexpectedly. His appearance naturally created the most intense excitement and curiosity. All sorts of rumors were immediately put in circulation, and the most absurd sensation stories were eagerly swallowed by people dying to know all about the cause of the President coming on to this out-of-the-way place at a time when his presence at the national capital would seem to be indispensable. The quidnuncs were all in a muddle; the politicians knew not what to make of it; military men looked mysterious, and altogether the excitement was at the highest pitch. Some said General McClellan was dead, and that Old Abe came here to summon General Scott to resume the chief command of the armies of the Union. Others would have it that the President contemplated a change in the Cabinet, and desired General Scott to assume control of the War Department in place of Secretary Stanton, while Old Abe himself, all smiles and good nature, declared that "nobody was hurt," and that he came here merely to avail himself of the experience and profound military science of the greatest captain of the age—Lieutenant General Winfield Scott. Even the ladies were not exempt from the all-prevalent mania for news. What does it mean? Why is the President here? Has Old Abe taken another clandestine flight in Scotch cap and military cloak; like that from Harrisburg to Washington; and, if so, what has been his motive? Such were the questions on every tongue; but echo or the quidnuncs could return no answer. It is very questionable whether anybody, except General Scott himself, and a few of his very intimate friends, really knows what it all means.

If the President himself is to be credited, there is no occasion for any extraordinary alarm. He has assured several who have had the pleasure of conversing with him, that his object in making such a sudden visit to General Scott is purely to confer with that distinguished officer on subjects relating to present military movements and the general conduct of the war—nothing more and nothing less. Nevertheless, rumor will ascribe other motives, and it is very singular that the impression should so universally prevail that the visit is connected with important contemplated changes in the Cabinet and in certain commands in the army. A few days, perhaps hours, will tell the whole story. But to return to the President's movements.

Mr. Samuel Sloan, President of the Hudson River Railroad, who happened to be stopping here, received a telegraphic despatch, about two o'clock on Monday afternoon, that a special government train would be required between Washington and West Point that evening. Mr. S. immediately made provision therefor, and proceeded to apprise General Scott of the fact, hinting that President Lincoln himself was probably about to visit these quarters. The old chief was dining at Mr. Durand's, at Coldsprings, at the time, and was exceedingly surprised and alarmed at the intelligence. Our correspondent was informed by one person that the Lieutenant General shook his head dubiously, and exclaimed that something must be wrong to occasion this extraordinary visit of the President. However, he left Mr. Durand's in company with Mr. Sloan, and repaired to the railway depot at Garrison's station, opposite West Point. Here he waited with great patience, though completely worn out and fatigued, until nearly half-past three o'clock the following morning, when the President finally arrived. It seems Mr. Lincoln left Washington at ten minutes past four o'clock on Monday afternoon, arrived at Jersey City at half-past one o'clock on Tuesday morning, and left the Thirtieth street depot, New York, accompanied by his servant and Colonel McCullum, Military Superintendent of Railroads, at ten minutes past two o'clock, reaching Cozzens' Hotel about four o'clock this (Tuesday) morning. The President and party crossed in the usual West Point boat to Cozzens' Hotel.

The President, like any ordinary man, instantly retired to bed, and rose about eight o'clock in the morning to breakfast. Having partaken of this meal, he had a short interview with General Scott, after which he paid a visit to the West Point Academy, in company with General Scott and Mr. Sloan. He was received with great courtesy by Colonel Bowman, the Military Superintendent of the Academy, who showed the party all through the buildings and grounds, and pointed out all the objects of interest. The cadets honored the President with a grand salute, which he suitably acknowledged.

He returned to the hotel in time for dinner, which was served up in the sumptuous style for which Mr. Cozzens is so justly celebrated. The dinner party consisted of the President, General Scott, Professor Mahan, of the West Point Academy, and Mr. Sloan.

By special invitation of the Hon. Gouverneur Kemble, Mr. Lincoln, after dinner, proceeded to inspect the celebrated foundry of Messrs. Kemble & Parrott, at Coldspring, where he witnessed a most interesting trial of one hundred and two hundred pounder Parrott guns. The practice was splendid, and afforded the President the greatest pleasure. He went all through the works, and exhibited great interest in what he witnessed. This factory has about five hundred men constantly at work manufacturing guns for the army. Before returning he partook of refreshments at the private residence of Mr. Kemble. General Scott did not accompany him, remaining all the afternoon in his private apartments at the hotel, poring over maps and writing letters. The General refused admission to all outsiders, except the President and his body servant.

The President returned to Cozzens' Hotel about eight o'clock, and shortly after held a long private conference with General Scott—about what matters has not transpired. In the course of the evening he made his appearance among the ladies in the parlor, and was the observed of all observers, male and female. He appeared in the best of spirits, and, as usual, was full of joke and anecdote. Old Abe seemed to lay himself out to please the ladies. At their bidding he inscribed his name in their albums, and in fact was the most agreeable of Presidents. Baroness Stoeckel, wife of the Russian Minister, and Mrs. General Egbert L. Viele (who are guests at Cozzens'), came in for a large share of the Presidential attention. Old Abe remarked to Mrs. Viele, in a humorous manner, that "the wives of his generals had a peculiar claim upon him."

About half-past eleven o'clock the West Point Quadrille band complimented the President and General Scott with a serenade. The band first performed on the front balcony, over which the President's room was located, playing the "President's March," "Hail to the Chief," selections from "Norma," "Trovatore" and other operas. The serenade was most successful, although the horrible weather prevented the usual outside crowd from attending. The rain poured down in torrents the whole afternoon and evening, and the mud and slush about West Point were intolerable.

WEST POINT, June 25, 1862.

The serenade did not terminate until between one and two o'clock this morning, when the President and General Scott retired to repose, quite fatigued after their heavy day's feteing. Mr. Lincoln was at breakfast at seven o'clock this morning, and Gen. Scott joined him a little later, looking quite fresh and robust. About eight o'clock the President was escorted to a barouche by Mr. Sloan, and, in company with Gen. Scott, was driven to the West Point boat in waiting to convey them to the special train in readiness at Garrison's station. The departure from Cozzens' Hotel was not signalized by any particular enthusiasm, a general shaking hands all around merely occurring, and the ladies waving adieus with their handkerchiefs. The party on the boat consisted of some dozen persons, among them Prof. Church, of the Military Academy; Mr. Sloan, President of the railroad, and some half dozen reporters. The boat started shortly after eight o'clock. The President appeared to enjoy the sail, and remained out in the open air, admiring the beautiful scenery and inhaling the pure fresh air of the morning. As usual, he was in fine spirits, letting off occasionally some of his curious jokes, and keeping the party in the best of good humor. The boat sailed all around the Point, to afford the President a good opportunity to behold the picturesque spots of that charming locality.

GARRISON'S STATION—9 A. M.

Exactly at ten minutes before nine o'clock the vessel touched at Garrison's station, where the West Point boys fired a salute of welcome to the President. The train started off without a moment's delay, at the rate of very little less than fifty miles an hour. At this station the morning papers were received, and Old Abe was observed very intently pouring over a leader in the NEW YORK HERALD devoted to an explanation of his sudden visit to West Point. Before the train departed a poor woman threw a bouquet of Sweet Williams into the car for the President. Mr. Sloan picked it up and presented it to Old Abe, who remarked, with a smile, "Very rich, but not much variety." "It is an offering of the heart," suggested one of the party. "The widow's mite," put in General Scott. "As such I accept it," answered the President.

During the trip the conversation turned upon the capture of Norfolk, and the President threw some light upon the subject. "I knew," he remarked, "that Saturday night that the next morning the Merrimac would either be in the James river or at the bottom. Mr. Stanton, Commodore Goldsborough and myself had a long conversation on the subject. I knew that, Norfolk in our possession, the Merrimac would have no place to retire to, and therefore I took the step which resulted in the capture of that place. The result proved my figuring correct."

NEW YORK CITY, June 25—10:15 A. M.

All along the route very few people seemed to be aware of the important personages the special train contained. At Tarrytown, however, a great crowd was assembled, and as the train flew past shouts of "Three cheers for Abe Lincoln," "Hurrah for General Scott," &c., rose high above the din and confusion occasioned by the engine. The President and General Scott bowed in response to these plaudits of the people. The train reached the Thirtieth street station at fifteen minutes past ten o'clock, having accomplished the journey in the remarkably short period of one hour and ten minutes. At this station a singular display awaited them. Thirty-four torpedoes were placed upon the track, and, as the train passed over, exploded, one by one, thus giving a rather novel style of salute to the party. A torpedo exploded for every State in the Union. A tremendous congregation of people were also in attendance, and sent up the most deafening shouts of welcome. Old Abe bowed; the people roared. General Scott took off his hat and waved it, at which the people shouted with redoubled force, cheering for the President and the General with the utmost enthusiasm. When the train finally stopped the crowd was extremely uncomfortable. "Honest Old Abe," accompanied by Mr. Sloan, made his way through the throng towards a carriage, which had been in readiness for a couple of hours. General Scott followed, and with difficulty entered the same vehicle. For some moments it seemed almost impossible for the carriage to proceed; but the police soon cleared the way, and the carriage started off for the Jersey City ferry, foot of Cortlandt street. The President went right through for Washington, not stopping even for a moment to take refreshments.

General Scott went as far as Jersey City and returned to New York.

THE ARRIVAL IN JERSEY CITY.

The President, General Scott and Colonel McCullum, having arrived in a carriage at the foot of Cortlandt street, went on board the D. S. Gregory, which was waiting to convey the distinguished party to Jersey City. Here they were met by General Darcy, President of the New Jersey Railroad, and the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. J. W. Woodruff.

When they arrived at the great railway depot in Jersey City the news spread rapidly, and in a short time a dense crowd had congregated, and cheered lustily for President Lincoln and General Scott.

Loud and repeated outbursts of enthusiasm continued, and President Lincoln was urged by the multitude to make a speech. The President left the carriage in which he was sitting with General Scott while the special train was getting ready. He stepped on the platform from the carriage, in front of the multitude, amidst a volley of cheers, and spoke as follows:—

MY WARM UNION-LOVING FRIENDS OF NEW JERSEY.—It is not the first time I have been honored with your cordial welcome in this very place; and I have only to warmly thank you for your present recognition of me, although I had hoped that I should have passed unnoticed. (Loud cheers.) I admire not only your generosity as citizens, and your strong attachment to the Union, but I also notice with much pleasure the gallantry and daring bravery of your noble troops on the battlefield, both officers and men. (Great applause.) When animals and birds are viewed through a fog they cannot be seen to advantage. You may all feel anxious to know about my flying visit to West Point to see General Scott; but I am sure you will feel satisfied when I tell you that it was not to make or unmake any generals now in the army. (Great cheering.) The Secretary of War has put an injunction on the press, lest it might tell more than is requisite, and if I were to give you too much information he might bear a tight rein on myself. (Great laughter and cheers.) My time is necessarily limited, and as I see the cars in readiness I hope you will permit me to conclude for the present by again thanking you for the reception I have received in your city. (Bursts of applause.)

Three cheers having been called for for General Scott, who was present, they were warmly accorded, and the veteran bowed his acknowledgments.

The President, General Darcy and Colonel McCullum, having taken their leave of General Scott, entered the special train, which started at eleven o'clock, amidst the most deafening cheers.

On the train moving off, it is due to Mr. J. W. Woodruff to state that he stood on the front platform of the back car, and called out in a high tone, "Three cheers for the President of the United States," which was immediately responded to, the President duly acknowledging the compliment by standing up and removing his hat.

Mr. J. W. Woodruff, the Assistant Superintendent, proceeded as far as New Brunswick with the party.

After the departure of the special train the patriotic veteran, General Scott, became the object of attraction. Rounds of plaudits were given for him, to which he repeatedly bowed. The Hudson ferryboat having conveyed the General in his carriage to New York, he drove at once to the Hudson River Railroad depot, and started on his return for West Point.

Lest any annoyance might be created by the crowd in Jersey City, Inspector Leonard and two patrolmen, of the Metropolitan Police of New York, were in attendance; but their services were not needed.

RUMORS RELATIVE TO THE PRESIDENT'S CONSULTATION WITH GEN. SCOTT.

In a conversation with our reporter, Mr. Lincoln declared that there was nothing at all alarming going on, and seemed to be very unreserved in his conversation. General Scott likewise spoke in the same terms, asserting that Mr. Lincoln's visit was not on account of any disaster, past or expected. The old chief declared he had no idea of going to Washington again, as his health would not bear so much labor. From this it is fair to infer, though the General seemed unwilling to admit it, that the whole object of the President's visit was to consult General Scott relative to the conduct of the war, as stated above.

This theory is further strengthened by the fact that the President and General Scott, while in secret consultation, were pouring over maps and charts, evidently intent on some military studies. When Mr. Lincoln first saw the General after his arrival at West Point, he exclaimed, "General, I am exceedingly pleased to see you, especially looking so robust and hearty; I came here purposely to have a confab with you." It is pertinently asked what business but military business would thus bring the President at such a time from Washington away off to West Point to consult with the illustrious hero of a hundred well fought battles? In fact, there can be little doubt—no doubt whatever—that such is the real object of the visit. As to the contemplated changes in the army, Mr. Lincoln's speech in Jersey City would seem to settle satisfactorily that point, inasmuch as he says he did not propose to "make or unmake any generals." Nevertheless, it is not so certain that important military changes are not *in prospectu*. The management of the political generals in the Shenandoah valley has not been the most successful, and if the guillotine is to be set at work at all the most proper victims would seem to be those unlucky officers whose late reverses in the valley of Virginia have brought so much vexation upon the government. But time will tell. *Nous verrons.*

Arrival of the President at Washington.

WASHINGTON, June 25, 1862.

The President arrived here at ten minutes to seven o'clock this evening, on his return trip from New York city and West Point. He left the latter place at ten minutes past ten this morning, and the former at ten minutes past eleven, making the trip from New York in seven hours and twenty minutes, being the shortest time over the same route between that city and Washington on record.

The President was accompanied on the trip by Colonel McCallum, General Director of Military Roads, and from Philadelphia by President Felton, of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad Company, and was joined at Baltimore by Mr. Garrett, the President, and W. P. Smith, the General Superintendent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, who attended the Presidential party to this city.

Arrival of Sick and Wounded Soldiers.

The United States steam transport Commodore, Capt. Wilbur, arrived here yesterday morning from Fortress Monroe, having on board 374 sick and wounded soldiers from General McClellan's army, in charge of the Sanitary Commission. The following are the names of the medical staff:—Surgeon in charge, Dr. J. R. Bronson; Drs. J. C. Shiner of Massachusetts; G. M. Paullin, J. Fred. Berg, Horatio Paine, medical cadet, United States Army; Assistant Surgeon O. Worthly, of Second New Hampshire (invalid); also Drs. Jomais and F. F. Maury.

The Turf.

FASHION PLEASURE GROUND ASSOCIATION—TROTTING.

WEDNESDAY, June 25.—Purse $200, mile heats, to wagons.