THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

Important Communication from an Eye Witness.

How the Victory Was Won and How Its Advantages Were Lost.

Generals Halleck's and Meade's Official Reports Refuted,

&c., &c., &c.

To the Editor of the Herald.

The battle of Gettysburg is the decisive battle of this war. It not only saved the North from invasion, but turned the tide of victory in our favor. The opinion of Europe on the failure of the rebellion dates from this great conflict. How essential, then, that its real history should be known. Up to this moment no clear narrative has appeared. The sketches of the press, the reports of Generals Halleck and Meade and the oration of Mr. Everett give only phases of this terrible struggle, and that not very correctly. To supply this hiatus I send you a connected and, I hope, lucid review of its main features. I have not ventured to touch on the thrilling incidents and affecting details of such a strife, but have confined myself to a succinct relation of its principal events and the actors therein. My only motive is to vindicate history, do honor to the fallen and justice to the survivors when unfairly impeached.

General Meade took command of the Army of the Potomac on Sunday, the 28th of June, at Frederick, Maryland. On Monday, as he states, the army was put in motion, and by Tuesday night the right flank had reached Manchester and the left occupied Emmettsburg. General Buford's cavalry had advanced as far as Gettysburg, and reported that the Confederate army was debouching from the mountains on the Cashtown road. Upon this intelligence Gen. Reynolds was ordered to advance on Gettysburg with the First and Eleventh corps, which he reached early on the 1st of July, and found Buford's cavalry already engaged with the enemy—the corps of Gen. Hill. Rapidly making his dispositions, Gen. Reynolds joined in the conflict, and soon fell mortally wounded. The command of the field then devolved on General Howard, of the Eleventh corps, who maintained his position till about two o'clock P. M., when the enemy was heavily reinforced by the arrival of Ewell's corps. The battle now raged fearfully, between Hill's and Ewell's corps on one side and the First and Eleventh corps on the other, till about four P. M., when General Howard was compelled to yield to the superior numbers of the enemy and fall back, losing many prisoners—nearly four thousand—to the south side of Gettysburg. His position was eminently critical, when, to the great relief of both the General and our valiant troops, a division of the Third corps, under the immediate command of General Sickles, arrived, and the fighting for that day was at an end. It should be mentioned that the Third corps was stationed at Emmettsburg, by order of General Meade, with a view to protect that important point; but information continuing to reach General Sickles that the First and Eleventh corps were in great danger* he decided to assume the grave responsibility of moving to their relief without orders. Leaving two brigades at Emmettsburg, he made a forced march of ten miles, in spite of the heat and dust, in three hours, and had the satisfaction to be hailed by General Howard on his reaching the field with the flattering phrase, "Here you are, General—always reliable, always first"—a generous tribute from one soldier to another. General Slocum, of the Twelfth corps, had arrived a short time before; but his corps was then some four miles distant. In the early part of the evening (Wednesday) a conference of the leading generals took place, when some insisted on falling back towards Taneytown, while others urged the expediency of maintaining their present position as offering rare advantages for the inevitable and decisive contest that must occur on the following day. It appears that Gen. Meade had issued a circular (of which I saw several copies) on the morning of Wednesday, July 1, to all his corps commanders, stating that his advance had accomplished all the objects contemplated—namely, the relief of Harrisburg and Philadelphia—and that he would now desist altogether from the offensive. He proposed to post the whole army in line of battle on Pipe creek, the right flank resting on Manchester and the left on Middleburg, involving an entire change of front, and there await the movements of the enemy. The position which General Meade had selected for the final struggle between the two armies was some fifteen miles distant from Gettysburg, where fate willed that it should occur. Whether this important circular ordering him to fall back reached the lamented Reynolds before he became engaged at Gettysburg it is difficult to say. It could not have failed to reach General Sickles; but he happily determined to push on to the rescue of the First and Eleventh corps, already engaged. It is strange that General Meade should make no mention in his report of this singular and most important fact: that he issued a plan of campaign on Wednesday, July 1, directing his whole army to retire and take up the defensive on Pipe creek almost at the moment that his left flank was fiercely struggling with the right wing of the enemy. This proves how often the plans of a general are frustrated by unlooked-for contingencies.

General Meade broke up his quarters at Taneytown, as he states, at eleven P. M. on Wednesday, and reached Gettysburg at one A. M. Thursday, July 2. Early in the morning he set to work examining the position of the various army corps. It is hardly true to say that he imitated the example of all prudent commanders on the eve of a battle and made a complete survey of the ground he occupied.

It was on three occasions that the genius of the First Napoleon revealed itself; for at a glance he saw the advantages of his own position and the assailable point of the enemy. It seems that General Lee was somewhat more astute than Meade in this; for in his report he states what he deemed "the most favorable point" for his attack. "In front of General Longstreet" (opposite our left wing), Lee remarks, "the enemy held a position from which, if he could be driven, it was thought our army could be used to advantage in assailing the more elevated ground beyond, and thus enable us to reach the crest of the ridge. That officer, then, *was directed to carry this position.*" It is plain enough that Lee regarded the point where our left was posted as the key to our position, and if that could be taken from us our defeat was inevitable. It is not to be supposed that Gen. Meade refused to see this; but as he makes no mention of it in his report I propose, for the sake of the future historian of the battle, to tell what I know about it.

Near this important ground was posted the valiant Third corps, and its commander, Gen. Sickles, saw at once how necessary it was to occupy the elevated ground in his front towards the Emmettsburg road, and to extend his lines to the commanding eminence known as the Roundtop, or Sugarloaf Hill. Unless this were done the left and rear of our army would be in the greatest danger. Sickles concluded that no time was to be lost, as he observed the enemy massing large bodies of troops on their right (our left). Receiving no orders, and filled with anxiety, he reported in person to General Meade and urged the advance he deemed so essential. "Oh," said Meade, "Generals are all apt to look for the attack to be made where they are." Whether this was a jest or a sneer Sickles did not stop to consider, but begged Meade to go over the ground with him instantly; but the Commander-in-Chief declined this on account of other duties. Yielding, however, to the prolonged solicitations of Sickles, General Meade desired General Hunt, Chief of Artillery, to accompany Sickles and report the result of their reconnoissance. Hunt concurred with Sickles as to the line to be occupied—the *advance line from the left of the Second corps to the Roundtop Hill*—but he declined to give any orders until he had reported to General Meade, remarking, however, that he (General Sickles) would doubtless receive orders immediately.

Two P. M. came, and yet no orders. Why was this? Other orders than those expected by General Sickles were it appears, in preparation at headquarters. It has since been stated, upon unquestionable authority, *that General Meade had decided upon a retreat, and that an order to withdraw from the position held by our army was penned by his chief of staff*, General Butterfield, though happily its promulgation never took place. This order is probably on record in the Adjutant General's office.

Meanwhile the enemy's columns were moving rapidly around to our left and rear. These facts were again reported to headquarters, but brought no response. Buford's cavalry had been massed on the left, covering that flank with outposts, and videttes were thrown forward on the Emmettsburg road. While awaiting the expected orders Sickles made good use of his time in levelling all the fences and stone walls, so as to facilitate the movements of his troops and to favor the operations of the cavalry. What, then, was the surprise of Sickles to see of a sudden all the cavalry withdrawn, leaving his flank entirely exposed! He sent an earnest remonstrance to General Meade, whose reply was that he did not intend to withdraw the cavalry, and that a part of this division (Buford's) should be sent back. It never returned. Under those circumstances Sickles threw forward three regiments of light troops as skirmishers and for outpost duty. The critical moment had now arrived. The enemy's movements indicated their purpose to seize the Roundtop Hill; and this in their possession, General Longstreet would have had easy work in cutting up our left wing. To prevent this disaster Sickles waited no longer for orders from General Meade, but directed General Hobart Ward's brigade and Smith's battery (Fourth New York) to secure that vital position, and at the same time advancing his line of battle about three hundred yards, *so as to hold the crest in his front*, he extended his left, to support Ward and cover the threatened rear of the army.

These dispositions were made in the very face of the enemy, who were advancing in columns of attack, and Sickles dreaded lest the conflict should open before his dispositions were completed. At this juncture he was summoned to report in person at headquarters to attend a council of corps commanders. His preparations were of such moment and the attack so near that Gen. Sickles delayed attending the council, while giving all his attention to the carrying out of his orders. A second peremptory summons came from General Meade, and, leaving his unfinished task to the active supervision of General Birney and General Humphreys, Sickles rode off to the rear to headquarters. Before he had reached there the sound of cannon announced that the battle had begun. Hastening rapidly on, he was met by General Meade at the door of his quarters, who said "General, I will not ask you to dismount, the enemy are engaging your front; the council is over." It was an unfortunate moment, as it proved, for a council of war. Sickles, putting spurs to his horse, flew back to his command, and, finding that Graham's brigade was not advanced as far as he desired, he was pushing that brigade and a battery forward about a hundred yards, when General Meade at length arrived on the field. The following colloquy ensued, which I gathered from several officers present:—"Are you not too much extended, General?" said Meade. "Can you hold this front?" "Yes," replied Sickles, "until more troops are brought up; the enemy are attacking in force, and I shall need support." General Meade then let drop some remark showing that his mind was still wavering as to the extent of ground covered by the Third corps. Sickles replied, "General, I have received no orders. I have made these dispositions to the best of my judgment. Of course I shall be happy to modify them according to your views." "No," said Meade, "I will send you the Fifth corps, and you may send for support from the Second corps." "I shall need more artillery," added Sickles. "Send for all you want," replied Meade, "to the artillery reserve. I will direct General Hunt to send you all you ask for." The conference was then abruptly terminated by a heavy shower of shells, probably directed at the group, and General Meade rode off. Sickles received no further orders that day. There is no doubt, I may venture to add, that Sickles' line was too much extended for the number of troops under his command; but his great aim was to prevent the enemy getting between his flank and the Roundtop alluded to. This was worth the risk, in his opinion, of momentarily weakening his lines. The contest now going on was of the most fierce and sanguinary description. The entire right wing of the enemy was concentrated on the devoted Third corps; for the object of Lee, as he states, was "to carry" the ground which Sickles occupied, and which both generals evidently regarded as of the highest importance. While this terrific combat was raging on our left Lee ordered Ewell "to attack" our right wing and Hill "to threaten" our centre, both with the object, as he says in his report, to divert reinforcements from reaching our left, which, as we have seen, Longstreet was "directed to carry." Well may General Meade in his report say "the Third corps sustained the shock most heroically;" for they fought like lions, against tremendous odds, for nearly an hour before the Fifth corps came up under Sykes, who was immediately put in position by General Sickles to the left of the Third corps, and General Sykes was desired to relieve Ward's brigade and Smith's battery on the Roundtop, and hold the line from thence to Birney's left (First division, Third corps). Strange to say, this movement was not promptly carried out, and there was imminent danger of losing the Roundtop, for Longstreet was making desperate exertions to "carry it." Fearing this result, Sickles sent orders to General Crawford, of the Fifth corps, to reinforce Ward's brigade; but he declined to move without orders from his own corps commander, Sykes; but Captain Moore, of Sickles' staff, at length overcame his scruples and he reached the disputed point just in time to prevent its falling into the enemy's hands. Considering our force unequal to the exigency, Sickles called on the heroic troops of the Second corps for support, and they gave it with a will. The struggle now became deadly. The columns of Longstreet charged with reckless fury upon our troops; but they were met with a valor and stern fortitude that defied their utmost efforts. An alarming incident, however, occurred. Barnes' division, of the Fifth corps, suddenly gave way; and Sickles, seeing this, put a battery in position to check the enemy if he broke through this gap on our front, and General Birney was sent to order Barnes back into line. "No," he said; "impossible. It is too hot. My men cannot stand it." Remonstrance was unavailing, and Sickles despatched his aids to bring up any troops they met to fill this blank. Major Tremaine, of his staff, fell in with General Zook, at the head of his brigade (Second corps), and this gallant officer instantly volunteered to take Barnes' place. When they reached the ground Barnes' disordered troops impeded the advance of the brigade. "If you can't get out of the way," cried Zook, "lie down and I will march over you." Barnes ordered his men to lie down, and the chivalric Zook and his splendid brigade, under the personal direction of General Birney, did march over them and right into the breach. Alas! poor Zook soon fell, mortally wounded, and half of his brigade perished with him. It was about this time—near seven P. M.—that Sickles was struck by a cannon ball that tore off his right leg, and he was borne from the field.

It was now pretty clear that General Meade had awakened to the fact which he treated with such indifference when pressed on him by Sickles in the morning—that our left was the assailable point, if not the key to our position; for he began to pour in reinforcements whose presence in the beginning of the action would have saved thousands of lives. "Perceiving great exertions on the part of the enemy," says Meade's report, "the Sixth corps (Sedgwick's) and part of the First corps (Newton's), Lockwood's Maryland brigade, together with detachments from the Second corps, were all brought up at different periods, and succeeded, together with the gallant resistance of the Fifth corps, in checking and finally repulsing the assault of the enemy, who retired in confusion and disorder about sunset, and ceased any further efforts." If this remarkable concentration of troops was necessary, at last, to save the left of our army, it is almost incredible that the single corps of General Sickles was able to withstand the impetuous onset of Longstreet's legions for nearly an hour before any succor reached it.

On Friday, July 3, the enemy renewed their efforts to carry out the original design of Lee by overthrowing our left wing, and Longstreet was reinforced by Pickett's three brigades, and further supported by one division and two brigades from Hill's corps.

In addition to this heavy mass of infantry the entire artillery of the rebel army was concentrated against our left. After his oversight of the day before it may be supposed that General Meade was better prepared to defend his left, and had made adequate preparations. About one P. M. the enemy opened a furious cannonade upon our left and left centre, which continued some two hours, with occasional responses from us. At about three P. M. the enemy moved forward in column, and once more essayed to carry our position on the left. It was during this conflict that General Hancock, commander of the Second corps, a gallant soldier and accomplished officer, was wounded by a musket ball and obliged to retire. He contributed greatly by his energy and valor to the success of the day. Meanwhile our artillery opened with vigor and inflicted great damage. After a severe and prolonged struggle the enemy at length fell back and abandoned the contest. "Owing to the strength of the enemy's position," says Lee's report, "and the reduction of our ammunition, a renewal of the engagement could not be hazarded." Hence it is plain that our good fortune in preserving our position on the left gave us the victory at Gettysburg; and yet General Meade, not having sufficiently examined the ground before the battle, disregarded the repeated warnings of that sagacious officer, General Sickles, as well as the report of his own Chief of Artillery, General Hunt, who concurred in all the suggestions of the commander of the Third corps. Without meaning to do injustice to General Meade, it must be admitted that his report of this great battle is at such variance with all the statements which have appeared in the press, that it is due not only to history, but to the indomitable prowess of our heroic army, that every fact sustained by concurrent testimony should be given in order to fully establish the truth. I reserve for any suitable occasion abundant documentary evidence to support the facts furnished.

On Saturday, July 4, both armies continued to face each other during the entire day, without either manifesting a disposition to attack. "The enemy," says Meade, "drew back his left flank, but maintained his position in front of our left," as if always conscious that our vulnerable point was there, and they were loth to retire from it. On the night of the 4th Lee, finding his ammunition exhausted and his subsistence imperilled, decided to withdraw, and he began his retreat towards Williamsport, with four thousand of our prisoners and all his immense trains. On the morning of the 5th this event became known, and General Meade despatched the Sixth corps in pursuit, together with some squadrons of cavalry. "The 5th and 6th of July were employed," says Meade's report, "in succoring the wounded and burying the dead." The enemy made good use of all this precious time in pushing on towards Williamsport as rapidly as possible; and it was fortunate for them that detachments were not detailed for these solemn and affecting duties and that our whole army was not launched in prompt and eager pursuit. They were burdened by heavy trains filled with plunder, without ammunition, and wofully demoralized. Had the half of our army, flushed with success, fallen on them in flank or rear, or anywhere or anyhow, General Lee might have got across the Potomac, but his army never. "The trains, with the wounded and prisoners," says Lee's report, "were compelled to await at Williamsport (about the 8th of July) the subsiding of the river and the construction of boats. * * * The enemy had not yet made his appearance." The rebel army must have trembled with anxiety lest the dreaded Yankees should heave in sight before they could escape over the swollen Potomac, which Providence seemed to have destined as the place of their surrender. It was not till the 12th of July that our army, too long delayed, came up; but, unfortunately, the enemy had nearly finished their preparations for flight. "An attack," says Lee, "was awaited during that and the succeeding day. This did not take place, though the two armies were in close proximity." Why it did not take place the country has never yet understood. General Meade in his report gives no explanation. The press of the day stated that General Meade again held councils of war at this supreme moment, and that several of his generals opposed falling on the crippled enemy. All we know is that Lee, having completed his preparations, slipped quietly over the river on the morning of the 14th. "The crossing was not completed until one P. M.," says Lee, "when the bridge was removed. The enemy offered no serious interruption, and the movement was attended with no loss of *materiel* except a few disabled wagons and two pieces of artillery, which the horses were unable to drag through the deep mud." It seems that General Meade and the recalcitrant members of the council of war finally made up their minds to attack. "But on advancing on the morning of the 14th," reports General Meade, "it was ascertained he (the enemy) had retired the night previous by the bridge at Falling Waters and the ford at Williamsport."

In striking confirmation of the sketch now given of this important battle it may be interesting to quote a few brief extracts from the diary of a British officer who was a guest of General Lee during the campaign in Pennsylvania, and which was published in Blackwood's Magazine in September last. The writer was an eye-witness of the battle of Gettysburg, and the hearty praise he lavishes upon the Confederate troops and their generals shows that all his sympathies were with the South, and he takes no pains to conceal his prejudices against the North. Speaking of the moment when the columns of Longstreet had been finally repulsed by our left on Friday afternoon, July 3, he says:—"It is difficult to exaggerate the critical state of affairs as they appeared about this time. *If the enemy or his General had shown any enterprise, there is no saying what might have happened.* General Longstreet talked to me," he narrates, "for a long time about the battle. The General said the mistake Lee had made was in not concentrating the army more and making the attack with 30,000 men instead of 15,000. It is impossible to avoid seeing," adds the English officer, "that the cause of this check to the Confederates lies in their utter contempt for the enemy." He continues:—"Wagons, horses, mules and cattle captured in Pennsylvania—*the solid advantages of this campaign*—have been passing slowly along this road (Fairfield) all day (July 4). So interminable was this train that it soon became evident that we should not be able to start. As soon as it became dark we all lay around a big fire, and I heard reports coming in from the different generals that the enemy was retiring, and had been doing so all day long. But this, of course, could make no difference to General Lee's plans. *Ammunition he must have*, as he had failed to capture it from the enemy according to precedent. Our progress," he continues, "was naturally very slow indeed, and we took eight hours to go as many miles."

I will close these extracts with the following graphic sketch of a "stampede" which occurred on Monday, July 6, about seven P. M., and which demonstrates most unequivocally the utter demoralization of the Confederate army:—

"About seven P. M.," the writer states, "we rode through Hagerstown, in the streets of which were several dead horses and a few dead men. After proceeding about a mile beyond the town we halted, and General Longstreet sent four cavalrymen up a lane, with directions to report everything they saw. We then dismounted and lay down. About ten minutes later (being nearly dark) we heard a sudden rush—a panic—and then a regular stampede commenced, in the midst of which I descried our four cavalry heroes crossing a field as fast as they could gallop. All was now complete confusion—officers mounting their horses and pursuing those which had got loose, and soldiers climbing over fences for protection against the supposed advancing Yankees. In the midst of the din I heard an artillery officer shouting to his cannoniers to stand by him and plant the guns in a proper position for enfilading the lane. I also distinguished Longstreet walking about, hustled by the excited crowd, and remarking, in angry tones, which could scarcely be heard, and to which no attention was paid, 'Now, you don't know what it is—you don't know what it is.' While the row and confusion were at their height the object of all this alarm at length emerged from the dark lane, in the shape of a domestic four-wheeled carriage, with a harmless load of females. The stampede had, however, spread, increased in the rear, and caused much harm and delay."

It is to be hoped that the above narrative will be regarded as dispassionate, as it is meant to be impartial. Some slight errors may have crept in; but this may possibly stimulate others to come forward with a rectification. Had General Meade been more copious in his report and less reserved as to his own important acts, the necessity for this communication would not have existed.

HISTORICUS.

*Besides numerous reports, the following brief communication reached him, which accidentally fell into my hands:—"July 1, Gettysburg. General SICKLES:—General Doubleday (First corps) says for God's sake come up with all speed. They are pressing us hard. H. T. LEE, Lt., A. D. C."

DABOLL'S FOG TRUMPET.—We are informed that Mr. Daboll, the inventor of the air whistle, or trumpet, and who put up one of these signals at Dungeness, in the British Channel, last fall, has just received official reports from the English government giving the details of another trial of his invention. Since his return home, and in the last trial, a gun—an eighteen-pounder—fired each time with three pounds of powder, was served, and also a large bell. These were tested against the trumpet on the 8th of January last, and the result of the trial has determined the government to have Mr. Daboll immediately construct a larger and more powerful signal of this kind—such, in fact, as Mr. Daboll had originally recommended for Cape Race.

The result of these several trials must be very gratifying to the inventor, while it brings nearer the time when, as we hope, Cape Race may have the same signal established there. But while the English government are thus moving towards the introduction and use of what they have proved to be the best fog signal in the world, we are not aware that our own government offer any inducements to the inventor to introduce the signal here. Why not place one of these at Sandy Hook and Montauk? Are they afraid of the cost? To fire a gun every five minutes costs a couple of hundred dollars per day. Daboll's signal costs a penny per hour, and moreover gives a continuous sound.

Coroners' Inquests.

FATAL RESULT OF A SHOOTING AFFRAY.—John Bell, the young man who was shot in the left side by a pistol in the hands of George Evans, on the night of the 25th ult., as previously reported in the HERALD, died yesterday in the New York Hospital. It appears that Evans had an altercation with a stranger in the dance house of Alexander Mulholland, 315 Water street, when Evans drew a pistol to shoot him. At that moment Bell interfered, and, stepping between the belligerents, was shot by Evans, the bullet penetrating the left side, inflicting a fatal wound. Evans was arrested by officer Charles Murphy, and committed to the Tombs to await the result of the injuries. Coroner Naumann was notified, and will hold an inquest on the body to-day. Bell and Evans were shipmates and old friends. The shooting of Bell, it is claimed, was perfectly accidental.

THE BLOCKADE.

The Capture of the British Steamer Don—The Vessel Valued at Nearly Two Hundred Thousand Dollars—Details of the Chase, &c.

OUR BEAUFORT CORRESPONDENCE.

BEAUFORT, N. C., March 6, 1864.

I have the pleasure of announcing to you the capture, on the 4th inst., by the United States steamer Pequot, of the British blockade runner, double screw, iron steamer Don, Captain Fred. Cory, five days out from Nassau, N. P., for Wilmington, N. C., with a cargo of army blankets, dry goods, &c.

THE CHASE.

At forty minutes after nine a black smoke was sighted from the masthead, and the Pequot was at once headed for it. We soon made out a lead colored steamer with one mast, steering southerly. As soon as we were descried from the Don, she was headed from us, giving us a stern chase, and manœuvring to get to windward. We, however, gained on her rapidly, and when about a mile from her sent a shot from our forecastle gun across her bow, to which she paid no attention. We then sent a shot ahead of her and another over her; but she still keeping on her course we gave her a broadside, which scattered through her rigging without doing any serious damage, when she lowered her colors (English ensign) and rounded to towards us.

THE CAPTURE—VESSEL AND CREW.

Two armed boats were sent, in charge of Acting Ensigns George Lamb and Wm. F. Chase, to board and take possession of her. Her papers had been thrown overboard, and her captain acknowledged her to be a blockade runner. The Don is the sister ship to the Dee, lately run on the beach and destroyed. She is a fine vessel, built at London last June, 244 tons British register, has four engines of 120 horse power each, driving two screw propellers. The vessel was built expressly for blockade running purposes, and is thought to have cost about £23,000, equal, at present rates, to $185,000. Her captain, officers and crew are all, or nearly all, Englishmen, and are a fine looking set of men.

HER EXPLOITS AND OWNER.

The Don has cleared nine times for Wilmington, but has succeeded in getting in only four times, having had to return to Nassau or Bermuda on the other trips with her original cargo. Captain Cory reports that he found blockaders so plentiful on approaching New Inlet that he was obliged to put to sea again. On the 2d and 3d he was chased by the Dacotah, and ran within a boat's length of her twice; once on the evening of the 2d instant, across her bow, and on the morning of the 3d instant under her stern, but escaped unharmed each time, although fired at repeatedly. The Dacotah, being under sail, was taken aback each time, and could not follow. The captain of the Dacotah says that Captain Cory displayed splendid seamanship and deserved to get away. The managing owner of the Don is supposed to be Francis Muir, of Pudding lane, London. Her complement of officers and men is as follows:—Eight officers, thirty-six men and one passenger, about whom there is something mysterious, as no one on board knew his name or anything about him—as they say. He gives his name as Alonzo G. Craggett, says he is a Southerner, and has been in Europe. The Don is said to be able to run fourteen knots; but Captain Cory says her furnaces were clogged, so he could not get enough steam. The Pequot logged twelve knots while overhauling her, and with the ordinary head of steam. We all feel proud of the vessel, for she has proved herself to be a splendid craft. She has made over fourteen knots with steam and sail. Captain Quackenbush has shown his excellent seamanship and tact in handling this vessel while chasing and firing. I should have said that he completed the capture at eleven A. M.—in just one hour and twenty minutes after sighting the smoke on the horizon. Acting Ensign George Lamb goes home in charge of the prize. The Don's officers are guests of the ward room mess. The crew is at present on board the Pequot.

George Thompson at Plymouth Church.

George Thompson, the English abolitionist, who has recently come across the ocean to fraternize with Henry Ward Beecher and other kindred spirits of abolitionism, held forth last evening at Plymouth church, Brooklyn, before a large audience, on his darling theme. Previous to the commencement of the lecture a musical concert was given on the organ, embracing some operatic music, the latest dancing pieces, &c. General Duryea presided, and opened the proceedings in a few remarks, in which he introduced Mr. Beecher, who introduced Mr. Thompson to the audience.

The speaker, having received the applause of the audience, commenced by observing that he began to feel he was quite unequal to the duty of standing before an audience like that, as he had become embarrassed before he rose by the kind things that had been said respecting him. His life had been one of conflict from its earliest period as a public man, until he returned to these shores about a month ago. Let them not suppose that he came here to receive these marks of their respect and gratitude for any humble service which he had attempted to render to this country in her hour of trial and of agony. No; it was another object altogether that had brought him. There was no year during the last thirty years that he had not been talking about America in England, save when he was absent from that country. (Applause.) He had endeavored to explain the principles which actuated John Brown—(applause)—to his countrymen, and he believed the spirit of that martyred man now walks abroad, marching on and on to speedy triumph; and he trusted to live long enough to stand upon the spot from which he ascended from the hands of guilty men on earth to Heaven. (Applause.) And for preaching that doctrine he (the speaker) had been exiled from this country for thirty years. Now, it was his opinion of his own countrymen that they were a very stupid race. (Applause and laughter.) They were tolerably honest, but exceedingly obtuse. (More laughter.) It had been his lot for the last thirty years to be the teacher of the people of Great Britain on great political questions: on the anti-slavery question first, the British judiciary question second, the question of the franchise third, and other questions; but he had found them quite obtuse on the American question. They never understood it, and do not understand it now. They (the audience) knew a goodideal more about their (the Englishmen's) history than the English people knew about the history of America. The speaker then proceeded at great length to inform the audience of the laborsbe had gone through in England in the connection alluded to, referring to the late emancipation acts of President Lincoln in order to show the effect they had in changing the minds of the English people in favor of the cause of the North. He said that now the working classes of Great Britain were with the North, if the aristocracy were not; and, after speaking over an hour, in substance the same as he said at the Cooper Institute a few evenings ago, he brought his remarks to a conclusion.

Police Intelligence.

EXTENSIVE THIEVING OPERATIONS BY PORTERS—$15,000 WORTH OF GOODS STOLEN—THE PORTERS ARRESTED—LARGE AMOUNT OF GOODS RECOVERED, ETC.

The particulars of a series of extensive larcenies, committed by the porters employed in the store of Messrs. Horace B. Claflin & Co., and amounting to at least $15,000 in the aggregate, were developed before Justice Dowling, at the Tombs, yesterday afternoon. It appears that Mr. Daniel H. Conklin, a member of the firm, heard, some time ago, that the store was being robbed in a mysterious manner, and all efforts to obtain a clue to the thieves proved fruitless, till, a few days since, Capt. Jourdan, of the Sixth precinct, was applied to in the matter, who, with officer Golden, also of the Sixth, succeeded not only in ascertaining how the goods were stolen and by whom, but also in arresting the thieves and recovering a large amount of the stolen goods, &c. It appears that when the store was opened in the morning it was the custom of the parties to follow behind the night watchman to the various departments where their duties called them. In their passage through the store the parties, who had a perfect understanding in the matter, would steal silks, satins, muslins and other light goods, which they would conceal under their coats or temporarily deposit them till dinner time, when the goods, with others that might have been secured in the meantime, were taken out and disposed of to receivers of stolen goods. Captain Jourdan and officer Golden, having learned the names of the guilty parties, yesterday arrested them. The prisoners rave their names as John Rogers, Frederick Riley, Edward Cushing, John McCutcheon, Daniel Egenloe, James Kay, Robert Strong, all porters, and Edward Innet, one of the clerks, who, it is alleged, had been aiding the others in their thieving operations as well as stealing himself. Cushing, Riley, Rogers and the clerk, Innet, all pleaded guilty to grand larceny, and the others to petit larceny. The prisoner Rogers yesterday restored $400 to his late employers, the proceeds of goods stolen from them. Cushing restored $350, and Robert Strong $85. Rogers kept quite a large bank account, and had been in the habit of depositing from $100 to $250 for several months past. The officers also received information which led to the recovery of $500 worth of the stolen goods at 92 President street, Brooklyn, and two carriage loads of goods, worth one thousand dollars, from No. 137 West Broadway, where they had been deposited temporarily. It is expected that other goods will be recovered. Justice Dowling committed the prisoners for trial. The firm of Messrs. Claflin & Co. are establishing a private police espionage in their establishment, which will render it extremely hazardous for thieves to operate without the fear of detection.

ASSAULT WITH A CLEAVER.—Yesterday afternoon Frederica Benson, a colored woman, went to the grocery store corner of Laurens and Grand streets, and while there got into an altercation with Henry Myers, a German employed there. As she was leaving the place to go home Myers seized a cleaver with which he struck her two heavy blows on the head, inflicting injuries which it is feared will prove fatal. She was conveyed to her residence, 59 Thompson street, and a doctor called. Officer Keely, of the Eighth precinct, arrested Myers, and Justice Dodge committed him to prison to await the result of her injuries.

AN OFFICER BADLY BEATEN BY ROWDIES—FOUR OF THEM ARRESTED.—An outrageous assault was made on officer Kearney, of the Twenty-first precinct, on Thursday evening, by a number of young men whom the police describe as thieves and rowdies. Kearney was quietly performing his duty in Third avenue, near Fortieth street, when one of the gang threw a potato and struck him on the head. The officer instantly grabbed his assailant, whereupon the friends of the latter, about a dozen strong, attacked the policeman, beating him severely about the head and face. He still held fast to his prisoner, and defended himself as best he could till officer Coughlin came to his assistance. A severe struggle then ensued between the rowdies and the two officers, during which the roughs were well clubbed, and four of them—named John Picket, Thomas Cooley, Michael Whalen and John Brady—speedily reduced to submission; but the others fled. The persons named were taken to the station house and locked up for the night. Justice Ledwith, before whom they were subsequently arraigned, required them to give bail for their future appearance at court.

Personal Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF COLONEL A. D. STREIGHT AT THE METROPOLITAN HOTEL.

Colonel A. D. Streight, of the Fifty-first regiment Indiana Volunteer cavalry, arrived at the Metropolitan Hotel early yesterday morning. The Colonel's recent escape from the Libby prison must be fresh in the minds of our readers, and we are happy to state that his health, which was considerably injured by his long confinement in the Bastile of rebeldom, is fast improving. His feet were much lacerated and inflamed during his long tramp through the woods of the peninsula, but are again in good walking order. Shortly after his arrival at the Metropolitan, Mr. Simeon Leland (the senior proprietor) accompanied him to the headquarters of Major General Dix and Brigadier General Stannard, by both of whom he was cordially received and warmly congratulated on his arrival among the loyal people of the North, without undergoing the tedious process of a formal exchange. During the day large numbers of gentlemen, both military and civil, called on him at the Metropolitan Hotel, to offer their congratulations on his escape. He will leave for his home in Indiana some time to-day.

General Starkweather, and Captain J. Alden, of the United States Army; Hon. A. B. Olin and wife, of Troy; Dr. W. W. Welch, of Connecticut; J. L. Whiting, of Detroit; H. L. Bigelow, of Clinton, and S. B. Stitt, of Philadelphia, are stopping at the Astor House.

The Newfoundland Telegraph Line.

PORT HOOD, N. F., March 10, 1864.

The Newfoundland telegraph line has been down for the last two weeks. Heavy freshets throughout the island have done great damage to the line, which takes much time to repair. It is expected that operations will soon be resumed.

THE WEEKLY HERALD.

The Best and Cheapest Newspaper in the Country.

The WEEKLY HERALD for the present week, ready this (Saturday) morning, will contain:—Full and authentic accounts of the daring advance of the Union Cavalry Forces, under General Kilpatrick, into the Rebel lines, with details of their Movements in front of Richmond, the amount of damage inflicted on the enemy, and their Return to the Union lines, accompanied with a Map showing the scene of operations; The latest News from our Forces in the Southwest, and in all other portions of the country; Late and interesting intelligence from the Rebel States; Account of the Arrival and Reception of General Grant at Washington; Poetry, two excellent Stories, Facetiæ, Agricultural, with the method of raising Poultry on a large scale, and a quantity of interesting miscellaneous reading matter; Valuable reviews of the Money, Commercial, Dry Goods, Cattle, Horse and Family markets, and reports of all important and interesting events of the past week.

Terms—Single copy, $2; Three copies, $5; Five copies, $8; Ten copies, $15.

Official Drawings of Murray, Eddy & Co.'s Kentucky State Lottery.
KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 217—March 11, 1864.
73, 56, 70, 36, 57, 38, 74, 67, 64, 42, 39, 34, 71.
KENTUCKY, CLASS 218—March 11, 1864.
25, 62, 45, 44, 68, 73, 61, 55, 54, 37, 64, 47, 52, 66.
Circulars sent free of charge by addressing
MURRAY, EDDY & CO., Covington, Ky.

Official Drawings of the Shelby College Lottery of Kentucky.
EXTRA CLASS 121—March 11, 1864.
7, 48, 78, 33, 73, 65, 34, 31, 13, 25, 23, 55, 43.
CLASS 122—March 11, 1864.
57, 42, 7, 73, 9, 49, 74, 51, 59, 26, 12, 13, 64, 32.
Circulars sent by addressing
Z. E. SIMMONS & CO., Covington, Ky.

Official Drawings of the Library Association Company's Lottery of Kentucky.
EXTRA CLASS 617—March 11, 1864.
6, 39, 46, 3, 28, 72, 14, 58, 45, 77, 62, 44, 12.
CLASS 618—March 11, 1864.
65, 12, 71, 28, 19, 50, 60, 36, 33, 77, 40, 8, 17, 47.
Circulars sent by addressing
FRANCE, ELLIS & CO., Managers, Covington, Ky.

Messrs. Simmons, Rogers & Co. are authorized to receive deposits and make collections on our account.
Z. E. SIMMONS & CO.

Prizes Cashed in All Legalized Lotteries and information given. GALLAGHER & BENJAMIN, Brokers, 310 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

Prizes Cashed in All Legalized Lotteries.—Information given or sent.
J. B. CLAYTON & CO., 10 Wall street, N. Y.

Prizes Cashed and Information Furnished in all legalized Lotteries.
ALECK & CO., Brokers, 38 Pine street, N. Y.

Royal Havana Lottery.—30 Per Cent premium paid for Prizes. Information furnished. Highest rates paid for Doubloons and all kinds of Gold and Silver.
TAYLOR & CO., Bakers, 16 Wall street.

Lottery Tickets Cashed in all Legalized lotteries. Information given.
JOSEPH BATES, Broker, 11 Wall st., room No. 1, N. Y.

A Caution.—To the Drug Trade and Fancy dealers.—Night Blooming Cereus pirated.—PROSECUTION COMMENCED.—In vindication of their own rights and for the protection of the public the undersigned have resolved to invoke the aid of the law in all cases in which their celebrated perfume, "The Night Blooming Cereus," is or may be counterfeited or simulated. An injunction has already been obtained from the Supreme Court against certain jobbing houses of this city prohibiting them from selling a preparation purporting to be the Night Blooming Cereus, made by D. & D. A. Wright of Philadelphia. A prosecution has been commenced in Philadelphia, and others will be instituted here forthwith. The law of this State on the subject is simple and to the point. It constitutes the copying or counterfeiting of trade marks a criminal offence, as also the sale of the articles which bear the fraudulent symbols. This law will be enforced to the utmost by the subscribers against all who trench upon their rights as sole manufacturers and proprietors of the Night Blooming Cereus for the Handkerchief.
This rare perfume, it is admitted, cannot be successfully imitated. The secret of its preparation is confined to the firm who manufacture and own it. Labels, however, are more easily copied than subtle chemical combinations, and it is therefore intended that the enterprise of the individuals who hope to cheat the public by mock externals shall be promptly suppressed by the strong hand of justice.
PHALON & SON, 517 Broadway.

Air—Tara's Halls.

The mind that once in life's wide walks
The soul of action gave,
Now seems as dull as though 'twas sunk
Within the pulseless grave.

The body that once trod the earth
Lithe as an eagle's wing,
Now bends as frail and weak as flowers
In winter withering.

O, what renews the spirits flame?
O, what the body wakes
As fresh, as strong as April winds
That rouse the sluggish lakes?

It is the glorious talisman,
With herbs, barks, flowers rife—
No mineral poison in its breast—
Dr. Wright's Rejuvenating Elixir of Life.

Sold by all druggists everywhere. Pamphlet free. Price, one bottle, $2; three bottles, $5,