NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BIRLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—EAST LYNNE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—ROBY O'MORE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—REFFER OF THE MOUNTAIN—LOTTERY TICKET—RICK OF THE WOODS.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway.—TWO GIANTS, TWO DWARFS, ALBINOS, SERPENTS, &c. at all hours. THE MAGIC CAVE—at 11 A. M., 3 and 7½ P. M.

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 514 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, &C.—ON TO RICHMOND.

CAMPBELL MINSTRELS, 199 and 201 Bowery.—VARIED AND EXCITING MELANGE OF ETHIOPIAN ODDITIES.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—CURIOSITIES AND LECTURES, from 9 A. M. till 10 P. M.

FOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, &C.

New York, Saturday, August 13 1864.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The Price of the Herald Raised to Four Cents.

On and after Monday next the price of the NEW YORK HERALD will be four cents a copy. The price of the Sunday HERALD will be five cents. Our terms to subscribers and news agents will be proportionately increased.

Several weeks ago our daily contemporaries made a similar increase in their prices, and we were invited to join them at that time. We refused, however, because we expected that Secretary Fessenden would at once set to work to reform our financial affairs, contract the currency and restore specie payments. In these reasonable expectations we have been sadly disappointed. Secretary Fessenden has plunged still deeper into the sea of paper money, and the national finances are now more unsettled than ever.

As an illustration of the effects upon newspapers of the tremendous depreciation of the currency and the terrible financial blundering of this administration, we may mention the fact that white paper, which used to cost us ten cents a pound, now costs nearly thirty. It is evident that within the next two months half of the newspapers of the country must stop publication. Many have already done so. We expect that the price of our contemporaries will be raised to five cents before long.

It is needless to say that the circulation of the HERALD—now considerably over one hundred thousand per day, and more than all the other daily papers combined—will not be diminished by our advance to four cents. A rise of one cent will not disturb the popularity of the HERALD, which has retained its vast circulation through all the changes of this war, and which is now universally and justly regarded as one of the necessaries of life.

THE SITUATION.

The rebel pirate steamer Tallahassee, Captain Wood, of the rebel navy, was plying about New York harbor for several hours yesterday. She captured and destroyed six vessels—among them one of our pilot boats, the James Funk, whose crew, together with a portion of those of three brigs, a bark and a schooner, landed at Fire Island in a yawl, having been picked up by the yacht Lily. The rest were put on board the schooner Carroll. The Tallahassee is an iron steamer, and was built in London. She sailed recently from Wilmington, with a crew of one hundred and twenty men and three guns. When last seen yesterday evening she was steering southeast, taking the pilot boat Funk as a tender. Not having any swift war vessels ready for such an emergency off Sandy Hook (thanks to the vigilance of Mr. Welles), the pirate has no doubt made good her escape, to do further damage along the coast. She came within sixty miles of Sandy Hook on Thursday.

Everything was quiet in the Army of the Potomac yesterday, except some picket firing in front of General Burnside's corps.

We learn from Sheridan's headquarters that he has driven General Early, with his immense booty, from Winchester and along the Shenandoah valley, towards Strasburg, where it is probable the latter may be compelled to give battle. His train was three miles long.

The attack on Mobile and capture of Fort Gaines, and the blowing up of Fort Powell by Admiral Farragut's fleet, are fully confirmed by despatches from General Banks. The United States Monitor Tecumseh was blown up by a torpedo; but no other vessel was lost in the encounter.

By the latest news from New Orleans we learn that our gunboats made an expedition up Grand Lake on the 20th ult., and destroyed a large number of flatboats just completed by the rebels and several in course of construction. They also captured a considerable number of small arms and accoutrements left by rebel skedaddling cavalry-men. On the 28th the same gunboats destroyed two sawmills, captured two boatloads of valuable lumber, and returned to Berwick Bay. On the 29th a party of General Ullmann's scouts had a fight with some rebels near Morganzia, resulting in the flight of the rebels, leaving a rebel captain and several men dead and a number of wounded, besides seventy prisoners, in our hands.

A battalion of Scott's Nine Hundred (Eleventh New York cavalry), under Major Remington, were surrounded by the rebels near Donaldsonville, but cut their way bravely through without much loss. The rebel Colonel Scott demanded their surrender, but Major Remington refused.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

Yesterday morning an extensive conflagration occurred in Doyer, Mott and Pell streets. It originated in the carpenter shop of L. Vreedenberg, and before the flames were subdued seven buildings were totally destroyed and fifteen more or less damaged. About seventy families were rendered houseless. The total loss will probably amount to about $40,000. Fire Marshal Baker has the matter under investigation.

The bounty to one year substitutes has been increased by the County Volunteer Committee from one hundred to one hundred and seventy dollars, and the hand money from thirty-five to one hundred dollars. This action of the committee will have a powerful effect in filling up the quota. Let all now lend a hand in the good work. One hundred dollars hand money is not to be sneezed at by the brokers.

The Street Cleaning Commission, consisting of the Mayor, Comptroller and City Inspector, met in the Mayor's office, yesterday. The Mayor, who acted as chairman, presented a proposal from Mr. Daniel D. Badger to clean the streets of the city for five years, at $800,000 per annum, the manure to be at his disposal, the dumping grounds to be rent free, and a sufficient supply of water to be guaranteed to him. The Comptroller and City Inspector thought Mr. Badger's proposal could not be entertained, as the Commission had no right to give him the manure, and they had not the power to guarantee him a supply of water at all times, more particularly at present. The Comptroller stated that he was endeavoring to sell the street manure, and had inserted advertisements in the daily papers for proposals for the same. The Mayor took an opposite view of the question, and thought Mr. Badger's proposal should be considered. The Commission, however, adjourned without taking action in the matter.

In the United States Commissioner's office yesterday Commissioner Osborn rendered a decision in the case of the United States against James Maxwell. The defendant was charged with perjury, in having sworn to a certain return of manufactures of the late firm of Maxwell & Stuart. The defence was that the law under which the return was made did not require that it should be under oath, and that therefore, the affidavit being a nullity, no perjury could have been committed. The objection was sustained and the case dismissed.

The Second Congregational church at Bennington, Vt., was burned on Thursday morning.

There was a very destructive fire at East Boston, Mass., on Thursday evening. A good deal of valuable machinery was destroyed. The loss was nearly $100,000.

Commercial matters were very quiet yesterday. The anxiety to hear from Mobile and Sherman took the place of the usual desire to make money, and comparatively little business was done. The fluctuations in gold also acted as a hindrance to trade operations. Cotton was dull and almost nominal. Petroleum was very quiet. On 'Change flour was 5c. a 10c. higher, wheat was a shade firmer, while corn and oats were lower. Pork was $1 higher. Beef quiet, and lard firmer. Freights were firm. Whiskey was quiet, but firm.

Peace Overtures—Their Advantages to the Administration and the National Cause.

The most famous of all the recorded speeches of Daniel Webster is that which was delivered in the Senate thirty-four years ago against the nullification and disunion doctrines of South Carolina of that day, and in vindication of the Union, commencing with these words:—"When the mariner has been tossed, for many days, in thick weather, and on an unknown sea, he naturally avails himself of the first pause in the storm, the earliest glance of the sun, to take his latitude, and ascertain how far the elements have driven him from his true course. Let us imitate this prudence, and, before we float farther on the waves of this debate, refer to the point from which we departed, that we may be able, at least, to form some conjecture where we now are."

This is precisely the advice which we would apply to the administration at this crisis. In the prosecution of this war we have "been tossed for many days, in thick weather, and on an unknown sea;" but at length we have "a pause in the storm" and a "glimpse of the sun," which may be wisely appropriated in ascertaining "how far the elements have driven us from our true course," and exactly "where we are." We call, therefore, upon Captain Lincoln to come out on deck and take a careful observation, in order that he may return to the "true course" which will bring the good ship Union safely into port. No observation is needed to show him that he is out of his latitude and all adrift; but, in continuing to beat about at random, he is in danger of going to the bottom. In short, we believe that the time has come, that we have arrived at that stage of this exhausting war, when every consideration of wisdom, patriotism and humanity suggests the propriety of a magnanimous and *bona fide* movement on the part of the administration in behalf of peace.

In the present state of affairs, if we can do nothing more, it is all important to the safety of the country and the administration that we should place the leaders of the rebellion clearly in the wrong before their own people and the civilized world, and the government as clearly in the right before all the people of the loyal States in the further prosecution of this dreadful war. We can do this through a special embassy of three peace commissioners to Richmond, if we can do no more. We believe, however, that through a movement of this kind, comprehending an armistice of six months, and a convention of all the States, subject to such conditions and ratifications as may be hereafter agreed upon, we can secure a permanent peace upon the basis of the Union and the constitution.

Let us suppose, for instance, that Mr. Lincoln, assuming this responsibility for the sake of peace and "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind," has detailed three peace commissioners to Richmond with these simple propositions:—First, for an armistice for six months; and, second, for a convention of all the States, to consist of one delegate from each Congressional district, and two additional delegates at large from each State; and that said convention, thus constituted, shall meet, say in Baltimore, on the first Monday in December next, to consider the ways and means for peace—could anything, in any event, but the greatest advantages result to the Union side of the house? No. Rejected or accepted, the loyal States and the government have everything to gain and nothing to lose in this undertaking.

If Jeff. Davis, his Cabinet and Congress accept the armistice and the convention, we shall still retain under the first our blockade and all the forts and places wrested from the enemy as now held by our land and naval forces; and if the convention shall come to nothing we shall be in a position to resume the war with all, and more than all, the advantages which we now command. But we have great faith in the opinion that the representatives of the rebellious States, in being brought into familiar council with those of the loyal States, where they will be relieved of the despotic authority of Davis, will be so charmed with the suspension of the war that they will find a treaty of peace and reunion, satisfactory to the North and to the South, an easy achievement.

It is probable that Davis may reject the convention; it is possible that he may reject the armistice, or couple its acceptance with preposterous conditions of Southern independence; but the overtures suggested will compel him to show his hand, and if he shall flatly refuse to listen to any propositions of peace, except upon the basis of a Southern confederacy, all doubts, all divisions, all discords, among the people of the loyal States will be at an end. The copperhead peace faction will be disarmed and powerless for further mischief, the North will be united, and divisions and dissensions will break out in the South. Let it be made to appear to those people, in their present crippled, exhausted and desperate position, under Jeff. Davis, that the government does not seek their subjugation to an abolition idea, or their destruction, but their reclamation and salvation in the Union, and President Lincoln will soon realize the immense advantages of this peace movement. It will save the country and make sure his re-election, accepted or rejected at Richmond; but, short of some such concession to public opinion, he may even now read the handwriting upon the wall. Surely, after having been so far led astray and betrayed, as Mr. Lincoln has been, by such treacherous guides as Ben. Wade and Winter Davis, he must now be in a frame of mind to listen to good advice.

THE DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION—PEACE.—The whole partisan press takes a narrow and strictly party view of the great popular demonstration of the 10th inst. The *News* finds that it was a triumph of the views of the peace party because no one advocated the prosecution of hostilities, and the *Post* takes especial notice that the "leaders of the democratic party" were not there. We do not see what right the *Post* has to assume that any other portion of the democratic party was there. As far as party goes, every man there might have been once a republican; for it was not a party affair at all. It was a demonstration most distinctly and definitely outside of all party, and the only comprehensive view that can possibly be taken of it is that it was a tremendous expression of the popular disgust with the administration and of the determination to overwhelm it unless some great change in its policy is soon made. So far as the absence of "leaders" goes, the meeting was an evidence that an intelligent people are the true leaders, and an evidence also that the people can come together and make themselves heard without the old fashioned party machinery. It was the presence of so many men, coming there with the common object, and the earnestness with which they expressed themselves to one another, that made this demonstration great. It was not great in virtue of the speeches; for the speeches were the only contemptible part of it.

Mr. Lincoln may see in this demonstration a fair example of the heartiness with which the people will come together at the shortest notice to utter the most wholesale and absolute denunciations of his past actions and his present policy. Men were never more universally agreed upon any point than they are now agreed in disgust with the administration over this whole country; and unless something decided is done between this and November this condition of the public mind will continue, and will completely defeat Mr. Lincoln. Nothing can make a sufficient impression upon the public mind to change it greatly on this point, unless it looks to the cessation of hostilities. An armistice, such as we have recommended, with the appointment from either side of delegates to a national convention, to agree on terms of reconciliation, would affect the country immensely, and that is Lincoln's last chance to affect the country in any way favorably to him.

REBEL JOURNALS IN NEW YORK.—The *News* of this city is merely a reproduction of the Richmond papers. Its advertisements are taken from those papers or meant for them. Its reading matter is in great part taken from them, and its editorials are merely feeble rescripts of those it copies from the more bitter of the Southern papers. In its issue of yesterday it assumes that Mr. Lincoln rejected the proposition of Southern peace commissioners with the air of a conqueror, and argues to show that he had no reason to do so. For this purpose it gives a view of the present position of the contest from which an Englishman just landed in New York might suppose that he was standing on the only spot in the United States that was still in the absolute possession of the government of the United States, and that even this spot was invested by rebel armies. In these matters the *News* goes too far to accomplish even its own purposes. It draws its lies so largely that they are merely ridiculous, and do not deceive even the few demented and ignorant persons who wish to believe it. When Lee and Grant begin to fight on the Rapidan, and the combat progresses from that point steadily southward for sixty miles, neither the *News* nor the *World* can make the country believe that Grant is being badly beaten all the time. Neither when Sherman has penetrated to the heart of the greatest of the cotton States can they make the country believe that rebel victories are what took him there and what keep him there. The people of the United States know well that of the twelve States that the rebels pretended to hold when this war began they now hold entirely only the two Carolinas, that they have large armies only in Georgia and Virginia, and that in the whole country this side the Mississippi there is, except those two armies, nothing to dispute our possession but guerillas; and with that knowledge they very readily answer all those who argue that the confederacy is triumphant everywhere, and that we are "actually hemmed in at Paducah by Southern ascendency."

LOOK OUT, SMUGGLERS!—The Treasury Department has just issued stringent instructions to officers of the revenue and agents in foreign ports, enjoining the strict observance of the United States law to prevent smuggling. Passengers' baggage is to be more rigidly examined than heretofore, and all contraband articles promptly confiscated. Great care is required at the hands of all consuls, vice consuls and commercial agents abroad in regard to the manifests of cargoes coming to United States ports, and the proper sealing of such cargoes, &c. Baggage passing from the United States, through Canada, and again into the United States, as by way of the Grand Trunk Railway, should be put in some place where it can be sealed up and go through without being disturbed. When this is done, such baggage need not be inspected when delivered. These are very good regulations, and, although they may occasion some inconvenience for a time, their propriety must be conceded by all citizens who desire that Uncle Sam should not be defrauded of his just dues.

KITCHEN CABINET CHANGES AT WASHINGTON.—During Forney's absence in Europe, on a visit to Napoleon and the Pope, there will be a vacancy in the Kitchen Cabinet. We understand that Old Blair will fill the vacancy, as well as he can. He organized the kitchen of General Jackson; but since then he has been out of the business and has grown rusty. Evidently he is not so good a chief cook as formerly; for on his late visit to New York he could not catch McClellan, although he baited the hook very nicely. This shows that Blair is out of practice, since the first requisite of a cook is to know how to catch his fish. We hope that under the circumstances Seward, Stanton and the other members of the regular cabinet will make some allowances for Old Blair's deficiencies.

THE MCCLELLAN MEETING.—This was an anti-Lincoln meeting. The groans for Old Abe showed it. The meeting proved that New York will roll up a tremendous majority against the administration in November.

The Rebel Privateer Tallahassee Close to Our Harbor—Six Vessels Captured.

The new Anglo-rebel privateer Tallahassee is at work close to the mouth of our harbor. She is reported to have run out of Wilmington. If she did, where was Acting Rear Admiral Samuel Phillips Lee?—a relative of Old Blair. Now that she is out, where are Rip Van Winkle Welles' gunboats? We have a score of times requested Mr. Welles to have a fast gunboat stationed at Sandy Hook, as well as one at Hampton Roads, Delaware Breakwater, Boston, Portsmouth and Portland, for just such service as is now demanded of it.

There is not a single vessel ready, nor could one be sent in pursuit in less than twenty-four hours after the receipt of the news. How much damage the Tallahassee may do before she quits our immediate vicinity cannot be estimated; but the losses will be credited to the account of Mr. Welles and Acting Rear Admiral Lee.

QUERIES.—How much did the McClellan meeting cost? Who footed the bills? What became of the invitations to the speakers who did not appear? Belmont and Barlow will please answer the first and second questions, and Hiram Ketchum & Son will please answer the third.

THE ROOSEVELT HOSPITAL.—A proposition was recently brought before the Corporation relative to the appropriation of a locality in Hamilton square for the erection of the Roosevelt Hospital, an establishment for the benefit of poor and wounded soldiers and others, provided for by act of Legislature, under the will of the late Mr. James H. Roosevelt, who bequeathed the munificent sum of over a million of dollars for the praiseworthy purpose. Our object in recalling the subject to the attention of the public is to inquire what has become of the proposition presented to the Common Council. Why all this delay in acting upon it? The longer the delay, the longer will the sufferings of many of our wounded soldiers be protracted, if the poor fellows be not forever deprived of the benefits of the humane intentions of the benevolent founder of the institution. We call for official action in this matter at once.

THE HOPE CHAPEL CONVOCATION.—We learn that fussy little John McKeon made the most revolutionary speech at the recent peace meeting at Hope Chapel. The meeting, it seems, was gotten up to operate upon the Chicago Convention, with a view of bargaining with the nominees. But it amounted to nothing.

Ex-President Tyler's Family.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

In order to correct the erroneous statement in his paper of this morning, Mrs. Tyler will trouble the editor of the NEW YORK HERALD with another card—entirely veracious, she must beg to say, as was also the one of yesterday. Ex-President Tyler had no adopted daughter. What a dependent relative of the family—sheltered and protected while Mrs. Tyler had it in her power to extend that kindness—may have thought proper to do under the miserable circumstances that surrounded her, when deprived of the protector who was provided her, with the home that sheltered her rifled of its contents, and with starvation (by her own account) staring her in the face, Mrs. Tyler cannot answer for, and designs to express no judgment upon.

CASTLETON HILL, STATEN ISLAND, August 12, 1864.

Police Intelligence.

THE BELLAMY ARSON CASE—ATTEMPT TO BRIBE A WITNESS—ARREST OF THE PARTIES, ETC.

A few days since Fire Marshal Baker received information that two men had waited on Mr. William Goodwin, residing at No. 10 East Eleventh street, and made propositions with the view of inducing him to leave the city and not appear as a witness against John Bellamy, the Broome street merchant, who was recently arrested on his (Goodwin's) complaint for arson, in setting fire to his tea store in Broome street. The Marshal accordingly took Mr. Goodwin's affidavit, which sets forth that on the 10th inst. William A. Hillyer and Alexander H. Henry called on him, when Hillyer proposed that he should take a certain amount of money, sign some papers, leave the city for Canada, and not appear as a witness against John Bellamy, now under five thousand dollars bail to answer for applying the incendiary torch to his own store. Hillyer said he represented Bellamy's lawyer, and was managing business for him. Hillyer then offered Goodwin eight hundred dollars; said he had the the money with him, and would pay it right down. Goodwin declined the proposition, saying he wanted no money; whereupon Hillyer advanced his price to $1,000. This also being rejected, Hillyer said he would give Goodwin $1,200, when the latter peremptorily refused to have anything to do with it. Hillyer then, as is charged in the affidavit, threatened that if Goodwin did not accede to the proposition he would be his bitter enemy, and likewise have him in prison, where his friends could not get him out. During this interview Henry acted and spoke as a friend to both parties, and kept advising Goodwin to accept Hillyer's proposition. Out of the $1 200 Hillyer offered Goodwin he wanted $50 as counsel fee. Edwin Hampson, formerly engineer in Bellamy's employ, also made an affidavit, stating that he heard the propositions made by Hillyer as sworn to by Goodwin. The affidavits being submitted to Justice Hogan, he issued his warrant, and yesterday afternoon officer Jolly, of the Fourteenth precinct, arrested Hillyer and Henry, and they were taken before the magistrate and committed to the Tombs for examination. The accused parties claim to be lawyers, and have an office at 74 Wall street.

City Intelligence.

A BRAVE ACT.—On Friday morning, at about two o'clock, the steamer Martha Washington brought to the dock at the foot of Spring street two barges, having over one thousand people, men, women and children, who had attended an excursion of the Plumbers' Association. The morning was very dark indeed, and in the confusion of landing a lady fell from the gang plank between the barges and into the river. Women and children shrieked, and all was confusion and consternation, when James Farley, a deck hand on board the barge Stella, parted the crowd to the right and left and bravely sprang overboard. In the intense darkness, guided by the sense of feeling alone, he searched for the imperilled woman, found her, buoyed her up and steamed the tide, all the time giving directions to those above in the coolest manner. Lights were brought and a ladder was lowered, she clung to the rungs and was drawn out in safety. He in like manner was afterwards brought to the deck of the barge.

LOOK OUT FOR SHARKS—CAUTION TO BATHERS.—The Twentieth precinct police report that a lad named Henry Brice, fourteen years of age, while bathing in the North river, off the foot of Thirty-seventh street, was bitten three different times by a shark on the right thigh and leg. The flesh was taken out in large pieces. Some boys on the pier hearing Henry scream for help, and at the same time seeing the bloody water, went out in a small boat and rescued him. The lad, who is a son of officer Brice, of the Twentieth precinct, is under medical treatment, and it is thought he will recover. According to report the sharks are very numerous in the North river, but more especially in the vicinity of the offal docks.

SUNSTROKE CASES.—Charles Lutt, cook at the Astor House, was prostrated by the extreme heat at the corner of Broadway and Amity street. He subsequently recovered, and was taken to his residence, No. 120 East Sixteenth street, by the Fifteenth precinct police.

An unknown man, about fifty years of age, with gray hair and whiskers, and dressed in dark clothes and glazed cap, was found sunstruck in West Broadway. The Fifth precinct police conveyed him to the New York Hospital.

Coroner Naumann yesterday held an inquest on the body of Owen Trainor, a laborer, who died at 225 West Forty second street, from the effects of a stroke of the sun. Deceased was employed by the Eighth Avenue Railroad Company. He was forty-six years of age and a native of Ireland.

FIRE IN FIFTY-SECOND STREET.—About ten o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the composition roof factory in Fifty-second street, near Tenth avenue. The whole of the building, with its contents, was destroyed. The building and machinery is estimated at about $3,000; insured for the amount in the People's and Pacific Insurance Companies. The material destroyed, consisting of tar and pitch, was valued at about $2,000; no insurance. The buildings were owned by R. R. Randolph. The fire occurred by the carelessness of the man attending to the kettle of tar; it boiled over, thus spreading the fire to the buildings.

FIRE IN EAST STREET.—Between five and six o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the four story brick building No. 20 East street, owned by J. & J. Duryee, and occupied by Taylor & Griffin for storage of shoddy. The premises were totally destroyed. Loss on building $3,500, and on stock $3,000; insurance not ascertained. Cause of fire unknown at present.

Indiana Democratic Congressional Nomination.

LOUISVILLE, KY., August 11, 1864.

The Democratic Convention at Jeffersonville, Indiana, to-day was very largely attended. Hon. M. C. Kerr was nominated to represent the Second district of Indiana.

GRANT.

Mr. Finley Anderson's Despatch.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, August 10, 1864.

THE NEWS FROM MOBILE.

There was great rejoicing among the troops upon the promulgation of the news from Mobile contained in the Richmond papers of to-day to the effect that Fort Powell had been destroyed and Fort Gaines, with fifty guns, six hundred prisoners and six months' provisions, had been captured by our naval fleet.

PICKET FIRING.

Picket firing is continually kept up along the breastworks in our front.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

The court of inquiry in relation to the unsuccessful assault on Petersburg convened again to-day. After the reading of the record, and General Meade had been cross-examined, General Burnside proceeded to give, in a somewhat extended narrative, a history of what he knew of the facts and circumstances concerning the assault. General Burnside's testimony was intended to show that he and his subordinate commanders, both by obeying the orders received from the headquarters of the army and in every other way, endeavored to assure the success of the affair. The court continues the examination from day to day.

The Press Despatch.

WASHINGTON, August 12, 1864.

A letter from the Army of the Potomac represents that all is quiet, with the exception of the usual picket firing along the line of General Burnside's corps.

The Explosion at City Point.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

It was the steam fire wrecking tug Louis, Captain Jas. Crossley, which, being close at hand, commenced throwing six streams of water on the fire and putting out the flames on board the government boats after the recent explosion, thus saving a large amount of ammunition and stores on the wharf.

Rebel Accounts.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, August 10.]

Late in the afternoon of Tuesday, we learn from the Petersburg *Express*, a brisk firing, mostly from mortars, was commenced on the centre and left, and kept up until nine o'clock.

There seems to be little doubt that Grant is moving large bodies of his troops cautiously and quietly from our front. Where he is sending them we, of course, do not know, but they leave City Point in transports and go down the river. His steamers, loaded with troops, have been seen within the last two days moving off.

Yesterday was quiet; but in the morning a tremendous explosion was heard within the enemy's lines, and from the direction of the sound it was supposed one of the enemy's gunboats had been blown up.

We are informed that on the 5th instant a Confederate battery opened on the enemy's gunboats at Wilcox's wharf, which was replied to by the enemy. The battery then moved to another position higher up the river. Next day the enemy dropped down near Swinyard's wharf, and deliberately shelled a house occupied alone by ladies, children and servants. The family, consisting of eight persons, had left the dining room but a few seconds, when a shell exploded directly under the room, tearing everything to pieces. The negro cook was the only person wounded.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Alleged Excessive Quotas in New York.

SECRETARY STANTON'S REPLY TO GOVERNOR SEYMOUR—THE PRESENT ENROLMENT TO STAND.

WASHINGTON, August 12, 1864.

The Secretary of War has replied to the letter of Governor Seymour, of the 3d inst., submitting the report of the Provost Marshal General, which he trusts will satisfy him. The objections made against the quota assigned to the State of New York are not well founded. The Secretary does not feel authorized to appoint a commission. First, because there is no fault found by the Governor with the enrolling officers, nor any mistake, fraud or neglect on their part alleged by him requiring investigation by a commission. Second, the errors of the enrolment, if there be any, can readily be corrected by the Board of Enrolment, established by law for the correction of the enrolment. Third, the commission would not have nor has the President or Secretary of War power to change the basis of draft prescribed by the act of Congress. Fourth, the commission would operate to postpone the draft, and perhaps fatally delay strengthening the armies now in the field, thus aiding the enemy and endangering the national government. Every facility, he says, will be afforded by the War Department to correct any error or mistake that may appear in the enrolment, and no effort will be spared to do justice to the cities of New York and Brooklyn, and apply the law with equality and fairness to every district and in every State.

Solicitor Whiting, in his last opinion on the subject says, when the time comes for calling out the forces of the respective districts the enrolments thereof, which have been previously subject to correction, must be taken as the basis for ascertaining and assigning the quotas. This is the positive requirement of the acts of Congress. To adopt any other mode of estimating or computing quotas would be a plain and unjustifiable violation of law. To increase or diminish the quota by abandoning this standard erected by the statutes will be an exercise of power which can find no legal excuse in any alleged error of the enrolment.

Recruiting in the Park and on the Battery—One Hundred Dollars Hand Money.

The Supervisors committee have resolved to pay $100 cash to any person who brings to either of its offices, in the Park or on the Battery, a one year substitute for the army. This is very large pay, and ought to set the regular agents to work as well as thousands of others looking up substitutes. It is an easy way to earn $100, and perhaps three or four of them in a day. The substitute himself will be paid $170 cash for one year's service, equal to $510 for three years. If he comes voluntarily to the rooms of the committee he himself draws the $100 hand money in addition.

Now let all hands go to work and help Supervisor Blunt fill up the quota, and let our capitalists and patriots step up to Comptroller Brennan's office and subscribe liberally for the bounty fund. We must have money as well as men, and our wealthy citizens must advance it or we all go to the dogs together.

The General Spinola Court Martial—Acquittal of the General.

The court martial which has been sitting for the last month for the trial of General F. B. Spinola, was suddenly, though not unexpectedly, brought to a close yesterday. After seven months preparation to establish a case, and after a month's trial, the prosecution completely broke down. At the opening of the court yesterday the Judge Advocate announced that there was no further evidence, whereupon, without calling upon the accused for his defence, the court dismissed itself and the case at one and the same time.

The Ninety-Ninth Regiment New York State National Guard.

This regiment is now encamped at Elmira, N. Y., where it is likely to remain during its term of service (one hundred days.) General Sandford has issued an order detailing one officer from each company for recruiting purposes. All those who wish to escape the draft and join a regiment, which has such a healthy and splendid location, had better apply immediately at the headquarters of the regiment, 153 Crosby street, where transportation and clothing will be furnished. Those of the old members who are absent will avoid trouble and disgrace by reporting forthwith. Dr. O'Haulon, Jr., is the examining surgeon at headquarters.

Heirs of Hundred Day Men Entitled to Pensions.

It would appear from the following correspondence, published in the Washington *Chronicle*, that the heirs of hundred day soldiers are entitled to receive pensions:—

OHIO STATE MILITARY AGENCY,
WASHINGTON, D.C., August 8, 1864.

HON. JOSEPH H. BARRETT, Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C.:—

SIR—I have the honor to state that I am advised that there is considerable doubt in the minds of many citizens of the State which it is my privilege to represent as military agent in this city, whether heirs of commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates who have died or been disabled while in the hundred days service are entitled to pension, the same as if the soldier had died or been disabled in the three years service.

Will you please inform me on the subject, that I may give it publicity?

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. C. WEIMORE, Ohio State Military Agent.

THE COMMISSIONER'S REPLY.

PENSION OFFICE, August 9, 1864.

SIR—To the inquiry in your letter of the 8th inst. I reply that, under the act of July 14, 1862, the same rights in regard to pensions are granted to those called into the service for one hundred days (and to their widows or dependent relatives in case of death) as to those who have enlisted for the term of three years. This law, under which all pensions based on service in the present war are allowed, is unequivocal in its language, making no distinction between those engaging for a longer or a shorter period. It surprises me to learn that doubts on this subject have existed in the mind of any one.

Very respectfully, yours,
JOS. H. BARRETT, Commissioner.

JAMES C. WEIMORE, Esq., Ohio Military State Agent.

THE VANDERBILT "ALL RIGHT."—The steamer Francis Skiddy, which reached here at an early hour this morning from New York, reports that it met its consort, the Vanderbilt, going down the Hudson, opposite Crumb Ribow, about twelve o'clock. The Vanderbilt was proceeding under its own motive power, and making good "time." Captain George O. Tupper had previously gone to New York, and prepared a dry dock for the reception of the "wounded" boat. Its repairs will be completed with all possible despatch, and it will be "in line" again by Saturday or Sunday next.—*Troy Times, August 10.*

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WAR GAZETTE.

OFFICIAL.

Assignments to Commands in Sherman's Army.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, July 30, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 238.

The following assignments are hereby made:—

I.—Major General O. O. Howard, to the army and Department of the Tennessee.

II.—Major General H. W. Slocum, to the command of the Twentieth army corps, vice Major General Hooker, who is relieved at his own request.

III.—Major General D. S. Stanley, to the command of the Fourth army corps, vice Major General Howard, transferred to the army and Department of the Tennessee.

By order of THE PRESIDENT.
R. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL NEWS.

WASHINGTON, August 12, 1864.

A HEAVY INDIAN WAR ANTICIPATED.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs has received a despatch from Governor Evans, of Colorado, dated Denver, August 10, stating that he is satisfied that nearly all the Indian tribes of the Plains are combined in the war against the whites, and that it will be the largest Indian war this country ever had, extending from Texas to the British lines, involving nearly all the wild tribes of the Plains and urging that all the influence of the department shall be used in favor of speedy reinforcements of the troops, and asking that authority be given him to raise a regiment of mounted men for one hundred days, and saying that the militia laws of the Territory are inoperative and unless authority is given the whites will be destroyed.

SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN DENMARK AND GERMANY.

It has been officially announced to the State Department that, in consequence of the conclusion of a suspension of hostilities between Denmark and the German Powers, the blockade of the Prussian ports of Colberg, Cammin, Swinemunde, Wolgast, Greifswalde, Stralsund, Barth, Dantzig and Pillau, as well as that of the ports and inlets on the east coast of the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, was ordered to be raised on the 20th of July.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW RELATIVE TO SMUGGLING.

Commissioner of Customs Sargent will leave Washington next week for the frontier to carry into effect the law and regulations to prevent smuggling. These, he says in his circular, have been made necessary by the extent to which the revenue laws have been evaded, and the very lax manner in which they have by some of the officers of customs been enforced. The examination of travellers' baggage will, under any circumstances, be a very unpleasant and annoying duty. Nevertheless it must be performed. The American people are not accustomed to being stopped and having their trunks and travelling sacks opened and examined, and may at first exhibit some impatience under the operation. But it is expected that no officer who may have this duty to perform will suffer himself to exhibit the least irritation, but at all times maintain entire self-control and a placid demeanor. In examining trunks, sacks, &c., they will be careful not to disturb their contents more than is necessary to ascertain whether they contain any goods liable to duty. The examination must, however, be sufficiently thorough to ascertain whether they contain such goods, including laces and jewelry, or not. Baggage passing from the United States through Canada into the United States should be put in some place where it can be sealed up and go through without being disturbed. When this is done baggage need not be inspected when delivered.

The regulations, among other things, require that in closing and sealing trunks, boxes, barrels, bales or other envelopes or packages of any kind, the proper officers, in order to guard against false bottoms, movable hinges and other fraudulent contrivances, will take care that the same are so secured by cords or wires and additional seals that they cannot be opened nor any part of their contents taken from them without breaking, removing or cutting such cords, wires or seals. Seals are to be used for sailing vessels, steamers, boats, cars and other vehicles engaged in trade between the United States and other countries; trunks, travelling bags, boxes and everything containing articles of wearing apparel or other personal effects, or purporting to do so, must be opened and their contents thoroughly inspected by the proper officer of the customs, who shall remove the seals from the car containing such baggage; and no trunk, travelling bag, valise or other envelope, is to be delivered or taken away until thus inspected; and all baggage among which may be found secreted any articles liable to duty, upon which duties have not been paid, must be seized and retained.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT LOAN.

The subscriptions to the seven-thirty loan reported to the Treasury to-day amounted to $761,800.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT.

Hon. Joseph G. Knapp, United States District Judge of the Third Judicial District of New Mexico, has been removed, and Judge Hubbel appointed in his place. Some difficulty occurred between Judge Knapp and Colonel Carleton, commanding the military forces in New Mexico, in regard to procuring military passes while travelling in the discharge of his judicial duties, and it is supposed that his removal was in consequence of representations made by that officer. Judge Brochus, of the Second Judicial district of New Mexico, has also been removed for the same reason.

Tax on Cotton and Tobacco in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, August 12, 1864.

General Payne has levied a tax of one hundred and twenty-five dollars on each bale of cotton and twenty-five per cent ad valorem on each hogshead of tobacco of disloyal men for the benefit of the families of robbed and murdered Union men. It is expected that this tax will yield three hundred thousand dollars in six months.

Arrest of Congressman Hall, of Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, August 12, 1864.

A letter to the *Democrat* from Mexico, Mo., says Congressman Hall was arrested there on Wednesday for using the following language at the railroad depot:—"I hold President Lincoln to be as much an enemy to this government as Jeff. Davis." Hall arrived here under guard this evening.

Railway Accident at Perryville, Md.

BALTIMORE, August 12, 1864.

A despatch from Havre de Grace says:—Nine freight cars, owing to the neglect of the brakeman to put on the brakes, ran overboard from the steamer Maryland to-day at Perryville. One soldier was drowned. There will be no detention of passenger trains.

HUDSON, THE IRISH COMEDIAN.—Mr. James Hudson, the well known comedian and vocalist, has just returned to this country, where he will be remembered as having played a star engagement at the Broadway theatre in 1849. Mr. Hudson commenced his theatrical career with Macready at Drury Lane, where he played Gratiano in the Merchant of Venice, and other characters in high genteel comedy, with great success. He next appeared at the Haymarket in Irish character, after Powers' death, and won quite a reputation as a vocalist as well as an actor. He rendered Irish ballads inimitably. He has visited Australia since he was in this country, and made a decided success there, as well, we believe, as a considerable fortune. His friends will be glad to learn that he is in excellent health, and looks as hale and hearty as of old. Although Mr. Hudson has acquired a very handsome competence, he is about to give his American admirers an opportunity of again seeing him in a round of his old dashing characters.

Arrivals