LOCAL MATTERS.

TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 3.

CITY COUNCIL.—This body will meet in regular session at 7½ o'clock this evening.

BLACK FLAG.—The Concordia cavalry, who carry a black flag, were in town yesterday.

NO LICENSE.—For selling without license, J. Oretta was yesterday fined twenty-six dollars by the Recorder.

☞ Views of the Bosphorus will be exhibited at Odd Fellows' Hall next week for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers.

FORESTALLING.—For buying articles in market to sell again, Charles Frose was yesterday fined six dollars in the Recorder's court.

☞ We are under obligations to Capt. A. L. Whitley, of the 21st Tennessee regiment, for the St. Louis *Republican*, of the 23d instant.

ARRIVALS.—Among the arrivals at the Gayoso yesterday was Dr. G. W. Lawrence, C. S. A., of General Hardee's division.

ATTENTION LADIES.—You should not fail to attend at the ladies' sale at Messrs A. L. Andrews, No. 330 Main street, this morning.

DIED.—Thomas Carnes, of the 21st Tennessee regiment, company B, died at the Overton hospital yesterday morning.

MILITIA.—The militia were mustered yesterday on the grounds near the hospital. The attendance was not numerous.

☞ Grand battle of Bull Run, at Odd-Fellows' Hall next week, for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers.

COL. TAPPAN.—We had the pleasure last evening of a visit from Col. Tappan, whose regiment was so prominent at the opening of the battle of Belmont.

RECORDER'S COURT.—The Recorder had fifteen cases before him yesterday. Fifty-one dollars was collected in fines, and seven persons sent to the chain-gang.

MONEY FOUND.—Constable John Creighton found a purse with some money in it last week. If the owner will apply to him, or at Esq. Dickinson's office, he can have his own.

☞ Hon. J. M. Howry, of Mississippi, favored us with a visit yesterday. He reports the feeling in his section of the State as unanimous in favor of resistance to the enemies of the Confederacy.

BURGLARY.—Three hats and an overcoat were stolen from the boarding-house of Mrs. Miller, on Third street between Washington and Poplar, by some thief who entered the house early on Saturday evening.

FIRE.—A frame building, corner of Adams and Fourth streets, belonging to Charles Jones, Esq., was consumed by fire at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning. The next house was considerably injured.

COTTON SELLING.—The Memphis cotton market though inactive, of course, is not defunct. Five hundred bales were shipped from this place down the river last week; some 300 bales more will go to-day.

VICTORINE FOSE.—A lady friend of ours lost a stone-martin for victorine on Saturday week on Vance street between Hernando and Shelby, or on Shelby between Vance and Butler. Will the finder please leave it at the APPEAL office?

ODD-FELLOWS' HALL.—Burton's great South ern pictures, and the moving panorama, representing the battle of Bull Run, will be exhibited during next week for the benefit of the soldiers, previous to its departure for New Orleans.

PRESIDENT DAVIS' PORTRAIT.—This splendid portrait, painted by Cooper, and by him presented to the Southern Mothers, is now on exhibition at the Merchant's Exchange. It will be disposed of by lottery for the benefit of that institution. Tickets, $5 each, can be had of Secretary Tod.

☞ The Southern Mothers having appealed for support from the generosity of the citizens of Memphis, a number of ladies and gentlemen have taken Odd Fellow's Hall on Wednesday evening, for the occasion. They will present a series of tableaux, and give songs, duets, etc., which will prove attractive.

A GRAVE THEFT.—A robbery of a somewhat uncommon character, occurred in the city on Sunday. A child's metalic coffin was stolen from the store of Mr. Holst, undertaker, on Main street, between 7 and 8 o'clock. The plate that covers over the glass was not with the coffin, the thief can hear of it at the station house, where it awaits his call.

CRIMINAL COURT.—At this court, yesterday, the case of the State vs. Esq. Mallory, charged with extortion, was on trial, and was not concluded last evening. The case of C. W. Wells, charged with passing counterfeit money, was continued. Wm. McMillan and Jas. Merkle, arrested on the Plate Valley at Commerce, in Missouri, and placed in our jail on the charge of treason, applied to the court for a writ of *habeas corpus*, the examination was postponed until to-day.

A GREAT DESIDERATUM.—One of the most lucrative enterprises, at the present time, we believe, would be the manufacture of iron wire, particularly for telegraph purposes. The fact that not a pound has ever been made in the South, and that none is to be had at any price, no matter how great the "military necessity," will prove at once that such a factory would not only be immensely profitable, but would do "the State some service" in her great struggle. We throw out the suggestion for the attention of our enterprising iron men, hoping some of them will find it to their interest to come to the rescue.

A DISHONEST CLERK.—One day last week Dyer, of the detective police, entered one of the principal stores on Main street, and calling the proprietor aside, informed him that one of his clerks was robbing him almost daily and had attracted considerable signs of money. With an incredulous smile the gentleman told him he was mistaken, and asked which of the clerks he suspected. Dyer replied that there was no mere suspicion in the case, and the dishonest clerk was the one then standing behind the counter near the window. At this information the gentleman turned pale with emotion, for the clerk indicated was his business manager, and the one he left in a charge during his frequent absences from the city. At Dyer's request he retired with this officer into the counting room, and called in the clerk. The officer at once charged him with being in the habit of appropriating to his own use large sums from his employer's funds. With scarcely a change of countenance, the clerk, in the tone of an injured and indignant man, repudiated the charge and strongly protested his integrity, honor, and high principle. The detective then mentioned one circumstance after another that had come to his knowledge, and concluded by asking him where the large sums had come from that had been in his possession? He replied that money had been entrusted to him from his father; but his tone was far less confident, and many shades of red and white had passed over his countenance as he heard the officer tell what he knew. His employer, a kind-hearted and trusting individual, who was full of anxiety to see one in whom he had placed implicit confidence, relieved from the serious charges made against him, suggested that the production of his father's letters would be sufficient to refute the accusation. With a low wail and downcast looks the unhappy man stated that he had buried them. Dyer then stated that he would leave him for a short time with his employer and unless he could satisfy that gentleman of his innocence he should arrest him and put him in jail. What took place during the interview we cannot tell, but soon employer and clerk went out together. The former shortly returned and showed the officer a large amount of money which his clerk had hoarded up—all he had taken he had given up. The employer declared he could not make up his mind to prosecute the culprit, out of consideration for his amiable wife, and escaped, we will hope, to repent and amend his ways.

On 'Change—Business News.

There was a good attendance on 'Change yesterday morning, but business was not very active. Corn still tends downwards, and the New Orleans advices do not act a stimulant to operations. The Sunday New Orleans papers report small sales of flour at $8 for common, $9 for fine, $10.25 for superfine, and $11.25 for extra; market closed dull. Corn is in moderate demand at 70 and 75c. for white. Bran quiet at $1.90 and $2 per cwt. Rye firm. Sugar is in more moderate demand. Molasses dull at easier prices. Nothing doing in wheat, hay or oats.

The sales were: *Corn*—300 bushels mixed 65c.; 174 bushels white 75c.; 200 sacks 7c.; 158 sacks mixed 65c. *Wheat*—20 bushels prime red $1.85; 345 bushels common $1.30; 1000 bushels prime $1.60; 25 bushels prime $1.50. *Flour*—23 barrels superfine at $9.50; 25 barrels extra $10.50. *Tobacco*—1 hhd. 8c.; 1 hhd. 7c; 2 hhds. 5c. *Sugar*—3 hhds. 2½c. *Molasses*—53 barrels 23c. *Nails*—127 kegs $10.50. *Gunnies*—1000 second hand single 30c.; 1000 ditto private terms.

The City Council meets to-night, and some action will probably be taken on the subject of a sugar landing; the committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the Council committee have come to an understanding on the subject, we believe. If is time this matter was settled, the landing is wanted *now*.

In addition to the shipment of 500 bales of cotton last week for down the river, another shipment of about 300 bales will be made to-day—also going down the river. As no cotton is received in New Orleans, of course the shipments are put bound for that point.

We quote the following from the New Orleans *Price Current's* review of the last week's market there:

Our Louisiana staples, sugar and molasses, are still the only prominent articles in our market which show much activity. The sales of both have been to a fair extent, but at more irregular prices for the former, with a marked tendency in favor of buyers during the early part of the week, but greater steadiness and firmness since. Molasses has shown but few variations. The sales of cotton continue on a limited scale, but there has been more inquiry, and a portion of the few sales that have transpired has been at fuller prices. Something has been done in tobacco also, and the business would, no doubt, have been larger, had factors been less stringent in their pretensions. Western produce has shown but little movement. Flour and corn have sold at easier prices, the falling off in prices being caused by the raising of the Tennessee embargo, and the prospect of more copious receipts.

SUGAR—The receipts have continued liberal and the market has shown a fair degree of activity, but at irregular and easier prices, particularly during the early part of the week, when there were some few sales of low fair at the reduced rate of 2½c. During the past three days holders have evinced more confidence, and prices have exhibited greater steadiness and firmness. Inferior 1@1¼; common to good common 2@2½; fair to fully fair 2¾@3½; prime to choice 4@5; clarified—yellow 4½@5¾; seconds 2½@3½; clarified—white 5¼@6½; stove dried white has sold at 7½c., and higher according to quality.

MOLASSES—We have again to notice a fair demand, which has been freely met by holders with but little variation from last week's prices, the week's sales comprising 19,000 hhds., embracing 10,000 during the first three days and 9000 since, including 2400 yesterday, at 14@16c. for Low, Dark and Fermenting and 17½@18½ for Prime to Choice, which may be regarded as fair quotations. The sales of half-barrels embrace 2500 packages at 20@22c. for low Common to strictly Choice, including 400 yesterday at 21c. for a mixed lot of Common and Prime.

COFFEE—There have been some receipts from the interior and neighboring markets, and we have heard of sales of Rio as low as 50c. ⅌ lb. The stock is very light and prices are very irregular.

SALT—The stock of Liverpool is very light. The sales embrace 1000 sacks coarse, from Memphis, sold from the levee at $3 ⅌ sack, and 3000 bushels bulk salt in warehouse at 32@35 ⅌ bushel. Holders are asking $1½@1¾ ⅌ sack for coarse and $3 ⅌ bushel for packing salt. Dealers supply their regular customers at $1@1 $10@$10.50 for coarse, and $11@$11.50 ⅌ sack for fine, and $2@$2.50 ⅌ sack of two bushels for packing salt. The stock on hand on the 26th instant was stated at 22,000 sacks Liverpool, and 33,110 sacks made of packing salt—together 55,110 sacks. Stock of bulk salt, all kinds, merchantable and unmerchantable, exclusive of government supply, 79,775 bushels, equal to 26,592 sacks Liverpool.

FLOUR—In our last report we noticed that the receipts had been liberal, and that with an accumulating stock, the market had been extremely dull at a material decline in prices; fine ruling at $8.50@$8.75; superfine $9.00@$9.50, and extra $10.25@$10.50 ⅌ bbl; but toward the close of the week, holders withdrew their stock from the market, asking much higher prices, owing to anticipated light receipts. Since then, with a very limited demand and an accumulating stock, prices have been irregular and unsettled. On Monday and Tuesday about 1000 bbls and 400 bags were sold in small lots at $9.00 for fine; $10.00@$10.25 and $10.50 for superfine, and $11.00@$11.25 and $11.37½ ⅌ bbl for extra. Subsequently advices were received that all orders prohibiting the shipment of produce and stock from Tennessee, by river and railroad were rescinded, and on Wednesday and Thursday the market was extremely dull and drooping, only about 1000 bbls having changed hands in small lots at $10@$10.25 for superfine, and $11@$11.25 ⅌ bbl for extra. Yesterday, we did not hear of a sale of any moment. Arrived during the past week 6855 barrels.

GRAIN.—In our last report of the grain market we noticed that the receipts had been liberal, and meeting with only a moderate demand, prices had declined to $1.00@$1.10 for mixed, and $1.10@$1.20 ⅌ bushel for white. Since then the receipts have been more moderate, but with a very limited demand and an accumulating stock, prices have exhibited a continued downward tendency. The week's sales may have been confined to about 5500 sacks in small lots at a range of 75@85 and 90, and 95@$1.00 for yellow and white, the market closing dull at the inside figure. Of oats, 50 sacks sold at $1.10 ⅌ bushel. The sales of bran include about 1900 sacks, part shorts, at $2@$2.10 ⅌ 100lbs, mostly the inside rate. Of wheat, 350 sacks sold at $2 ⅌ bushel for red and white. Of rye, 100 sacks sold during the week at $2@$2.25 ⅌ bushel. Arrived during the past week 2723 sacks corn, 1480 sacks wheat and 471 sacks oats. Cleared, none.

HAY.—We have heard of no further sales. Southern hay may be quoted at $25@$40 ⅌ ton, according to quality. Yesterday 50 bales crab grass sold at $30 ⅌ ton.

MONEY MARKET.—The amount of unemployed capital is steadily increasing, as is evidenced by the bank returns, which show a considerable accumulation in the deposits. With this increasing supply of unemployed capital, we have to notice also an improved feeling in the out-door money market for some descriptions of securities, and a more active movement generally, though we are still compelled to say that the market exhibits much stringency except for a favored class of borrowers. Parties having a favored class of borrowers. Parties having ample unencumbered real estate, can, by allowing a very large margin, obtain money at from 10 to 12 ⅌ cent. ⅌ annum, but for good commercial paper, and such as was generally in good demand formerly, there are very few buyers, and these are demanding very high rates, generally. The banks are moving along the same as heretofore, and are not at all likely to change their policy until after some definite action is taken in reference to financial matters by our legislature, now in session. The bank statements of the week show a decrease in short of $128,938, in specie of $67,972, in exchange of $37,552; and an increase in circulation of $606, in deposits of $36,186, discount balances of $281,263, and of long loans of $94,790.

The New Orleans *Crescent* has the following on cotton:

We have returns to the 1st of October, or say the 27th of September; sixty days later, which gives the estimated real consumption per week of Great Britain to that date, say for

	American.	East India.	Brazilian &c.	Total.
Last year	40,000	4000	1000	45,000
This year	45,000	3000	1000	49,000

On the same date there were afloat for Liverpool 918,000 bales of East India. The accounts of the 4th of November represent the stock in Liverpool, of all kinds, at 853,000 bales, of which 200,000 bales were American, which, at 49,000 per week for *consumption*, would give over twenty weeks supply—say five months—which would last till early in April. The East Indies will be cleared of every available bale under the high range of prices, and with tolerably full stocks in spinners' hands, the famine in the staple will not begin to show itself till after the 1st of May. Our advices say the consumption of American cotton may be reduced to 25,000 bales per week. On the 1st of October the total amount of American cotton in the kingdom was estimated at 900,000 bales.

The drain on this stock for the export to the continent would be extremely moderate under the very high scale of prices. Large stocks of manufactured goods are known to be on hand in England, with all export demand closed for the United States, that was. Very limited shipments are made to Northern States under the Morrill tariff, and, of course, we are receiving nothing in the South. The estimate of 46,000 bales per week export and consumption would do very well under a regular state of trade. It will be found by reducing time, and the close of the American market, that the stocks will not be exhausted before the time we allote. It is, however, idle to be speculating what course the cotton trade of Great Britain will take. They know in England what results will follow from a total suspension of the supply from England. John Bull is stubborn, and we do not believe any steps will be taken that may lead to the opening of our ports and the free exportation of cotton. We may, therefore, consider the cotton trade of 1861-62 as a real lapse in the history of the cotton trade. It must not be overlooked that Great Britain, from June, 1812, to March, 1815, got through without a bale of cotton from the United States, though the cotton trade at that date was of a very diminutive character; nevertheless, it was an important item in many respects, and may answer as a comparison in the present attitude of events.

River News and Steamboat Business.

The river is falling very slowly....The weather cloudy, gloomy and cold yesterday, a regular "northerner" and the first absolutely wintry day of the season. We hear of a heavy fall of snow up the river. Business at the landing was very lively....The Col. Morgan, from New Madrid had 20 hogs, 550 sacks corn and 7 deer. She went up to Wolf river to get some repairs done to her bow....The Yazoo, from Columbus, had 853 sacks corn, 56 sacks and 22 barrels flour, 435 hogs, 20 barrels molasses, 320 sacks wheat, and various lots of apples, beans, butter, bacon, cotton seed, eggs, glassware, hay and potatoes. She left last evening.....The Clara Dolsen, from New Orleans, had 80 bales wool, 360 hides, 600 barrels molasses, 74 hogsheads sugar, and a quantity of lime, beer and salt. She went up for Hickman.....The Magenta, from New Orleans, had 1277 bbls molasses, 248 hhds and 66 bbls sugar, 500 boxes raisins, and a lot of bacon, oranges, peas, wine and coffee; she returns on Wednesday....The St. Francis, from St. Francis river, had 122 bales cotton, 1261 sacks cotton seed, 353 sacks corn, 13 horses, and a lot of butter, potatoes, eggs and 20 hogs; she returns to-day....The Prince of Wales, from New Orleans, had 726 bbls molasses, 217 hhds and 16 bbls sugar, 14 bales cotton, and a lot of hay, ale, potatoes, 83 bales wool, 166 boxes oranges, 132 tierces tallow. The Prince is a Memphis owned boat and one of the finest running on the river. Capt. Lee, her commander, is one of the most genial gentlemen in the profession. A. G. Folger, clerk.....The St. Louis News has a card from C. R. Woolward, dated November 18th, accusing steamboat owners of swindling the Lincoln government. The card concludes as follows:

I will state that I am prepared to prove that black mail has been exacted of steamboat owners for putting their boats into the United States service, and that double price has been paid for the same; also, that one-half of the profits arising from subsisting the crews of said boats have been exacted from steamboat captains by Capt. Able, and in one instance an extortion of three-fourths of the profits was exacted by a threat of being discharged for non-compliance, by a person immediately connected with Capt. Able; and, furthermore, that Capt. Able has employed persons known to be disloyal to the United States government, in many instances.

Capt. Able is well known here as the president of the Memphis and St. Louis packet company....The Magnolia came in from New Orleans last evening, with a large number of Louisiana troops on board, destined—for a fight—....The Louis D'Or and the Pargoud left for New Orleans. The Kanawha Valley leaves for White river on Tuesday; the Magenta for New Orleans to-morrow; the Eliza G., for White river, on Friday. The Admiral is up for White river.

The New Orleans *Delta* of Sunday says: The officers of the Era report Red river in an almost hopeless condition even to small packets, there being but ten inches water from Shreveport to Alexandria.... The receipts for the last week by the river show a decrease in sugar, molasses, flour, corn, wheat, oats, lard, beef, apples, bagging and rice, and an increase in tobacco, whisky, bale rope, bran, cotton seed, hay, potatoes, wool and other articles.

Eight Memphis packets have arrived. Their down trips have been very good, with fair prospects of improving from the opening of the blockade at Columbus. Sugar and molasses is the principal up-stream freight, of which they have plenty. Several boats this past week have been compelled to refuse. The DeSoto and Mary E. Keene left for Memphis; they were loaded very deep for up-stream; their freight was principally sugar and molasses. The river has fallen one inch, and is now ten feet eleven inches below high water mark. The Kennett, on her down trip, found the gunboat Manassas hard aground above the head of Island 93. She immediately came around to her assistance. After working three hours, and finding it impossible to get her off, she was compelled to leave. At Vicksburg the officers of the Kennett learned that one of the towboats had left the floating battery and gone to the Manassas' assistance.

BOATS LEAVING.

FOR WHITE RIVER.—The passenger packet Kanawha Valley, Price, master, leaves as above this evening at 5 o'clock. Larry Harmstad, agent.

FOR ST. FRANCIS RIVER.—The splendid passenger packet St. Francis No. 2, Capt. Bowman, leaves this evening at 5 o'clock. Larry Harmstad, agent.

FOR NEW ORLEANS.—The passenger packet Prince of Wales, Lee, master, leaves as above this evening at 5 o'clock. J. C. McManus, agent.

☞ Fort Sumter will be taken again at Odd-Fellows' Hall, next week, for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers.

VIOLENCE.—A man too much intoxicated to tell his name, was yesterday found by the police on the landing with a cut on his head over the ear. James Damien was arrested on the charge of inflicting the wound, which his friends state, was done by a blow from a stave.

SHOE AND HAT SALE.—As our world is so much excited at this crisis, it may be that some may have forgotten the extensive shoe and hat sale, to-day, at the Arcade. As the demand for such articles are great, we presume many will attend the sale. Pen o'clock is the hour. ti

THE WEATHER.—"Frosty, cold December" gave us a keen hint yesterday that Christmas is coming; fingers and toes suffered, and the only way to save the nose was to put a small furnace under the end of it. Clausen, on Main street, above Madison, keeps a portable article of the kind that answers the purpose well—we tried it. Our share of the feature is rather liberal, but Clausen's portable furnace proved equal to the emergency.

BANKHEAD'S BATTERY AT COLUMBUS.—We are requested to state, and do so with great pleasure—because there is not a better drilled or more gallant company than Capt. Bankhead's—that he needs a few more men to fill up his ranks. Albert Greenlaw, of this company, is now in the city, prepared to receive such men as prefer the volunteer to the militia service. They are already provided for in every respect, and will be received when reported without a moment's delay.

THE WORSHAM HOUSE.—The two gentlemen at present conducting the Worsham House, Messrs. G. V. Rambaut and Jno. D. Cox, will dissolve partnership on the first of January, and the house is for rent or lease. This is a fine opportunity for an enterprising man who understands the business, for the house is in one of the best localities in the city. It is a highly popular place, and has an exceedingly fine connection. If the house is not rented by the time specified, it will be opened by the proprietor, J. J. Worsham, Esq.

OVERTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Vials, both large and small, are greatly needed at this hospital, and cannot be obtained at the drug stores. Families having old ones will confer on us a great favor by sending them to us.

d3t C. S. FENNES, Surgeon.

Attention, Memphis Independents.

You are notified to meet at the Memphis and Charleston railroad depot this (Tuesday) afternoon at 3 o'clock. Business of importance will come before the meeting. By order of

E. A. COLE, Captain.

Attention, Militia.

The field and company officers of the 128th regiment Tennessee militia, Col. Ragland commanding, are hereby ordered to meet on Wednesday next, at the sheriff's office, at 11 o'clock a. m., on business of the utmost importance. The captains will at that time furnish a complete roll of the reserve force, and deliver up all guns in the hands of said reserve; also, a full list of the detailed and the number of guns in the hands of said detail. By order of E. D. Ragland, colonel commanding 128th regiment Tennessee militia.

A. C. EDMONDSON, Adjutant.

Military Notice.

All residents of the State of Missouri, who desire to take the field to assist her in the present struggle for independence, will please report to the undersigned, or in his absence to Col. A. A. Hunt, at the Gayoso House, where lists are open for signature. Parties from other States, desiring service in Missouri will also please report.

n28 1w JOHN DECKER, Capt. M. S. G.

The Memphis Appeal.

THE MASON AND SLIDELL AFFAIR.

Opinions of the Northern Press.

We have published the article of the *National Intelligencer*, which it is understood divulges the policy of the Lincoln government upon the question that will probably be raised as the result of the arrest of the Confederate commissioners, and below will be found the opinions of several leading northern papers of influence, taking issue with the organ's position.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser*, a leading influential Republican paper, says:—

The report, made public this afternoon, of the capture of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, the rebel commissioners to Europe, has very naturally caused great excitement. From the telegraphic statement, we think it clear that Capt. Wilkes has violated international rights, and that his act must be disavowed by the government, they being on their European voyage, and an apology be made to the British government. National honor, justice and consistency would seem to demand this of us. Capt. Wilkes has done the very thing, in principle, for which we went to war with England for doing. It is true that the right of search exists in a time of war, and vests in a belligerent; but this seizure of political prisoners when under the protection of a neutral flag, is unjustifiable, and ought to be repudiated by the United States government. We speak of the case only as the telegraph represents it.

The Albany (New York) *Atlas and Argus*, an able Democratic paper, expressed these views:

These prisoners were passengers on a British mail steamer, bound from Bermuda to England. An American man-of-war overhauls the vessel, and demands the right of visit and search, and prepares to enforce it, in the fashion of men-of-war—a shot ahead, a shot over, and if these are not heeded, a shot through it. The neutral vessel is boarded by an armed force, and the two passengers and their secretaries seized and carried off, and brought home for imprisonment.

The British flag gives to a British vessel, under such circumstances, all the immunities and sacred character of British soil. That country prides itself on being the refuge of the political exiles of every land. It has never surrendered one—not even the conspirators who plotted the assassination of the Napoleons. Nor has any other nation in Europe ever ventured to demand of her such surrender. The most that the first Napoleon and his present successor have asked, has been that England would try within its jurisdiction the plots and schemes of conspiracy and assassination against their borders. We, too, have held the same tone in regard to the sovereignty of our soil and of our vessels. Indeed, our whole history has been a long protest and struggle for the inviolability of our soil and flag, and against the pretensions of the right of visitation and search, and of the seizure of subjects on board of neutral ships. We fought for seventy years the battle in favor of neutral rights, till at last they have been yielded to us. What would we have said if an Austrian vessel had attempted to seize Kossuth on board of a Collins' steamer? What would England have said to a similar act of authority on board of a Cunarder? Neutral soil has been invaded by the great powers, as in the case of Don D'Oglhen seized by Napoleon, and executed for alleged participation in plots of assassination; but we recollect of no case in any degree parallel to this.

It declares that the United States government must prevent a rupture with the British government at all hazards, and concludes thus:

We know how easy it is to cheer at foreign powers and to boast of our ability to carry on a contest with all Europe. But we cannot afford in this instance to be wrong; not to belie all our own declarations of national law, and cast contempt on the noblest chapter of our own history. We believe that our own government will disclaim all grounds of offense in this act; and do it promptly and at once, and without waiting for the reclamation of the offended power. It may not be necessary to restore the *status quo* by releasing the prisoners; but it will be to disclaim frankly all pretensions to a right of search and seizure such as this.

The Pittsburg (Penn.) *Post*, also Democratic, and strongly for a vigorous prosecution of the war, after arguing against the policy of their seizure, says:

The whole country will applaud the zeal and pluck of Capt. Wilkes in this transaction; but cool and sober-minded men must nevertheless condemn it. He has brought the country into a bad scrape, and the sooner we get out of it the more gracefully we can do so. It will never do to rush wrong end foremost into a quarrel with Great Britain for the sake of a brace of traitors. We say this, not because Great Britain is powerful, but because we cannot afford, especially at a time like this, to persist in a wrong. This were to strike down at a blow all international law and comity, and throw the whole world into anarchy.

Suppose we hold on to Messrs. Mason and Slidell; we must not, cannot treat them as traitors after arresting them in the manner we did. Well, then, we shall send them to Fort Lafayette, as we have done others equally guilty. What then? Why, we should in that way do more to strengthen their cause in Europe than a thousand Masons and Slidells could do, were they there. It would be the strongest possible acknowledgement that we feared them—feared them to such a degree that we preferred to trample under foot all national rights and risk a rupture with the most powerful nation on earth rather than let them cross the Atlantic. Rely upon it, those desperate diplomatic adventurers—for at best they are nothing else—could accomplish more, a thousand fold, in Fort Lafayette than they could do at the Courts of St. James and St. Cloud. Let them go. Put them on board the first steamer that sails, and send after them a shout of derisive defiance. In that way, and in that way only, can we cut their claws and extract their fangs. We can do them better how than to make a courteous and dignified apology than Mr. Seward, and we hope he will do it promptly.

To hold these men as prisoners would, under the circumstances, do us no good, but as we have endeavored to show, incalculable injury. Fortunately the outrage on the British flag was so flagrant, that its disavowal can never be attributed to any other impulse than that of honor and fair dealing. But should there be the slight est hesitation about making the *amende honorable*, we shall lose all the advantages that we might derive from our magnanimity and our almost scornful indifference as to the whensabouts of this brace of rebels and mischief makers. If our government should restore them to liberty, and send them on their way, the sympathy of Europe would be changed to laughter.

Another Naval Expedition.

We find in the northern papers accounts of another naval expedition, under Gen. Butler, destined for some southern port. The precise destination of this expedition is, of course, not announced. The Boston correspondent of the New York *Herald* writes of it:

Boston has another cause of excitement, and one that rather annoys her because she cannot divine the mystery. It is the contemplated departure of Gen. Butler's division on the long talked of "special service." I am not prepared to give the precise destination of the expedition, but your readers may rely on the following particulars as authoritative and authentic: The new and splendid Pacific steamer, Constitution, is expected to arrive at this port to-morrow, (Sunday) and will at once proceed to take in quartermaster's and subsistence stores and coal. On Tuesday morning the 26th Massachusetts regiment, Col. Jones, and the 9th Connecticut regiment, Col. Cahill, will arrive in this city from Lowell, where they are now encamped, and will embark without delay on board the Constitution. The battery of artillery now at Camp Chase, Lowell, will accompany the two regiments.

On Tuesday night the steamer will leave for Portland to take on Col. Shepley's 12th Maine regiment, and will then put to sea and proceed at once to her destination on the southern coast.

The point is one at which they will meet with little, if any, resistance in landing. The troops will at once form a camp of instruction and await reinforcements, and the steamer will return to its port. General Butler and staff do not go with the advance, but remain here until about the 1st of December, and by that time General Butler will have the Constitution and a number of transport's (probably from the Port Royal fleet,) and will embark with a force of five or six thousand men to join the van. Major Strong, of the regular army, and assistant adjutant-general in Gen. Butler's division, is busily engaged in collecting heavy artillery and a siege train; so that, judging from the formidable preparations, I think that before many weeks shall have passed, the residents of one of our southern cities will be hugely disgusted to find the "greasy mechanics of Massachusetts, the wooden nutmeg Democracy of Connecticut, and the wiry lumbermen of Maine, thundering at their gates. When the attack is made it will be in conjunction with the navy.

Prisoners Arrested.

Special to the New York Herald.]

The expedition which left some days ago down the Potomac, returned this morning with six political prisoners, arrested in St. Mary's county. It appears that these parties are a portion of a secret organization for the purpose of conveying men and arms to the rebel government. A large quantity of arms was discovered and seized. A rebel spy was also arrested, who had just returned from the other side, and who had left Richmond the day before. Many valuable letters and papers were found on his person.

The expedition also seized a large quantity of contraband correspondence, which was found in the several post offices in lower Maryland, the channel through which the rebels have been receiving northern papers and other important information.

THE GRAND REVIEW.

AN IMPRESSIVE AND ENTRANCING SCENE.

Correspondence of the New York World.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—We now, for the first time, realized the extent of the display tendered us, and that it was nothing less than the combination in battle and marching order, of the divisions contained in the entire army south of the Potomac. That is to say, from twenty-five to thirty per cent. of every brigade was reserved for picket and guard duty, and the usual garrisons held the forts. About twenty-five thousand men were thus detailed and absent from the review. The remainder of the whole army—infantry, artillery and cavalry—lay in dense, dark order along the plain. Every regiment in every brigade in every division was thus represented by near three-fourths of its number. The main column of the Potomac, a symmetrical and harmonious army, was, for the first time, massed complete, with all appurtenances, ready for marching, fighting, or review.

It was a scene to entrance a civilian and to satisfy a soldier—the latter through the sense of professional pleasure at so rare a spectacle as the *tout ensemble* of a complete army. Well, McClellan came on the field at 11 o'clock, and was received with salutes from all the artillery present; battleries firing on the right and left, confronting each other, and converting the review, for a time, into the aspect of the ideal battle-field. Then, accompanied by Messrs. Lincoln, Cameron and Seward, on horseback, and escorted by his full staff, he galloped at a spirited rate up and down the long battalions. His style of action presented a marked contrast to the stolidness with which he has made previous reviews.

The President looked well in the saddle—much better than he ever looked on any other public occasion. He is an excellent horseman, and graceful, impossible as it may seem, because a Lincolnian attribute when the executive legs are spurred and stirruped. General Cameron, and Gov. Seward seemed less at ease in their unusual occupation. As the distinguished heads of the army passed swiftly through the lines, cheer after cheer arose in waves, which followed the cavalcade as a billow rives on either side of a great ship's course. I thought that a clear pride flushed across the President's face, making him almost handsome, as he saw and heard the mightiness of the legions sent from the North for the protection of his sacred charge. As for McClellan, at this moment he entered into the splendid enthusiasm of the occasion, and spurred his black charger at the head of the staff with a dash and animation which should have been caught by some artist for a spectacular war painting. Afterwards, when each regiment had been passed by the young commander, and he had taken his position on the left of the field, in order that the whole army might pass before him as it retired, his face became repossessed and content. He was more than satisfied with the condition of his soldiers, felt that he could handle them, and no doubt felt a desire to do so. What dramatic interest centers around this man? What shall be his future—glory or forgetfulness? But we stray flowery, and we wish the good young knight God-speed as he steps lustily forward into the dark enchanted land.

The telegraphists have already described the order and consistuation of the seven divisions which thus moved in closely massed battalions before the staff position. Let me briefly repeat the succession:

1. Gen. McCall's division: Twelve regiments of infantry, two batteries, and one regiment of cavalry.

2. Gen. Heintzelman's division: Seven regiments of infantry, two batteries, and one regiment of cavalry.

3. Gen. Smith's division: Ten regiments of infantry, two batteries, and one regiment of cavalry.

4. Gen. Franklin's division: Twelve regiments of infantry, three batteries, and one regiment of cavalry.

5. Gen. Blenker's division: Eleven regiments of infantry, two batteries, and Col Decker's regiment of mounted riflemen.

6. Gen. Fitz John Porter's division: Thirteen regiments of infantry, three batteries, and two regiments of cavalry.

7. Second and Fifth regular cavalry.

8. Gen. McDowell's division: Eleven regiments of infantry, three batteries, and one regiment of cavalry.

Total: Seventy-six regiments of infantry, ten regiments of cavalry and mounted riflemen, and seventeen batteries of artillery (102 guns)—making in all, after deducting the usually strong quota detailed from each corps for outpost and guard duty, a grand army of 72,000 men. The column passed in perfect military completeness; each acting major-general at the head of his brigade each colonel at the head of his regiment. The brigades in each division advanced in order of numerical succession, followed first by artillery, then by the cavalry of each division. Even the music, ambulances, and hospital stewards accompanied each regiment, to make the affair complete.

The several regiments were such formed in battalion square, and as they moved off and up Munson's Hill in solid masses, you could see an entire division at once against the slope. Thus the view from the valley surpassed that from the hill, but both were imposing in a high degree. Among the multitudes looking on there must have been hundreds of disloyal hearts. From hilltops in the distance rebel spies and scouts, perhaps rebel generals, may have inspected the northern cohorts. They had been sufficiently near Falls church within a day. But Gen. McClellan was neither afraid nor ashamed to show his army. Bulwer's question, "What will he do with it?" must have been uppermost in loyal and disloyal minds.

It now only remains to add a word relative to the military appearance of the troops. As I predicted in my last letter, it was more than gratifying. Fitz John Porter's division lately compared by McClellan to the regular army and pronounced a model for the rest, looked but little better than Blenker's, McDowell's or Franklin's, and the other three were not far behind in equipment, maneuver, or discipline. In short, a "standing army" of seventy-two thousand men passed before us—composed of better material than that of any other nation, and trained by months of practice to the necessities and dangers of campaign life. There are enough more just such soldiers in this column, beyond those needed for the permanent safety of the capital defenses, to enable McClellan to use a disciplined army of 100,000 men for his advance. This includes the due proportion of cavalry and artillery. And I should like to see the general who can handle more than 100,000 men along the line of approaches to Centerville and the Occoquan.

When we turned to ride home it was almost sunset, and a kind of heterogeneous Bull Run cavalcade prevailed from Munson's hill to Pennsylvania avenue.

RICHMOND INTELLIGENCE.

From the Enquirer, Nov. 27.]

Notwithstanding the bombastic and exaggerated reports of their success at Port Royal, with which the Yankee press have tickled their credulous readers, we have reason to believe that the amount of plunder which they have been able to secure has been small indeed. A private letter, received yesterday from a gentleman residing in Columbia, South Carolina, and who occupies a high official position, states that arrangements have been made to burn all the cotton and every article on the island of Port Royal which could be useful to the enemy. The writer says, in conclusion, "the Yankees will get very little cotton."

A few days since Major Henry Boyle brought to this city the following named prisoners of war, and being handed over to Gen. Winder, they were placed in the Confederate States prison until a further disposition is made of them: Lieut. S. M. Gammann, company H, 13th New York regiment; privates McCandley, W. A. Sodden, E. Rich, Math. Lyon and H. H. Cambell, of the same regiment; also, Samuel Deutz and H. Olden, two disloyal citizens of Virginia, who were found giving "aid and comfort" to the enemy. These prisoners were captured a few days since, by Confederate troops, about two miles this side of Fall's Church. They were in a party of about 300 Yankees, and on being met by about 75 of Col. Stewart's cavalry, the whole Yankee force took to the woods; only two stood the fire of the Confederates. The Confederate cavalry dismounted and followed the Yankees into the woods, killing seven of them and taking ten prisoners—seven of whom, above named, were brought to Richmond, and the other three, being badly wounded, were left at Centerville.

From the Dispatch, Nov. 27.]

The General Assembly meets in this city on Monday next, by which time the convention will have to finish up the work before it, and adjourn *sine die* or divide the hall with the people's Representatives. We hope it will adjourn.

The gross receipts of the Virginia Central railroad company for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1861, are $655,446 93, as follows: From passengers, $266,084 08; from freight, $245,562 28; from express freight, $17,467 57; from mail transportation, $23,775 12; from other sources, $3,497 94. The expenses for administration during the year, are $278,537 60—leaving a net revenue of $377,309 34. The earnings of the road are $74,343 42 more than the previous year, while the expenses have increased $3,582 49.

One or two hundred of the Yankee prisoners are expected to take their departure from the military prisons to-day, bound for Salisbury, North Carolina. Five hundred are to be carried thither, and then the exodus will cease unless similar stocks shall unduly multiply.

From the Examiner of Nov. 28.]

A few months since Rev. Richard W. Barnwell, and other gentlemen from South Carolina, established a depot at Richmond for the purpose of distributing contributions, received from South Carolina, to the