MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE!

A LIKELY NEGRO BOY, about sixteen years old, for Confederate notes. For particulars apply at JACK JONS BLOCK.
my14 1w 261 Main street

WANTED, IMMEDIATELY,

EIGHT or ten good SEWING WOMEN to go to Grenada, Miss. hospital, where good wages will be paid weekly. Those with Sewing Machines preferred. Apply to ROBERT ORMSBORD
my16 2t Corner Monroe and Third sts.

TIN ROOFING.

THE Government needs, and must have all the Tin Roofs on the cotton sheds in this city, and it will pay a fair value for them. Parties having such are requested not to sell them to persons who are trying to buy them up to speculate on the government. Agent is here to purchase at such roofs, and will call on all who have them. J. T. TREZEVANT,
Acting Quartermaster C. S. A.
my14 1w

COTTON SEED.

PARTIES within hauling distance of the city are notified that the usual price will be paid in cash for all the good, sound, dry COTTON SEED they will deliver at the Planters' Oil Works. Parties living more remote, on either of the railroads or the river, having cotton seed to sell, are requested to correspond with the company and arrange to have it sent to their respective depots. [my14 1w

COL. HARMAN'S REGIMENT.

THE list of unpaid subscriptions to Col. Harman's Regiment has been left with WALLACE YOUNG, at Walker, Nelson & Co's, on Jefferson street. Subscribers will please call and pay in. [my14 1w

NOTICE.

OFFICE CIVIL GOVR AND PROV. MAR.,
MEMPHIS, May 13th, 1862.

HEREAFTER no person will be allowed to leave the city in any way or by any mode of conveyance, without a passport. J. D. McKISICK,
my14 1w Civil Governor and Provost Marshal.

BRANCH RESTAURANT!

JOSEPH SCHWOOB

HAS opened a first-class BRANCH RESTAURANT, on Second st., four doors from the southeast corner of Madison street. The proprietor pledges himself to supply the public with everything in his line of the best quality, and put on the table in a style that shall satisfy the most fastidious. [my14 1w

WANTED,

50 RECRUITS to fill the ranks of Company H, Tennessee Guards, 5th Tennessee regiment. The recruiting officer, M. T. GAVIN, can be found at Southworth, Pease & Co's, who will procure transportation, etc., for all recruits. [my13 1w*

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 340.

HEADQUARTERS,
MEMPHIS, May 10, 1862.

THE following order, in compliance with orders from General Beauregard, is published for the information of the public:

I. The Civil Governor and Provost Marshal will arrest all persons who refuse to take Confederate money in ordinary business transactions. No mere subterfuge on the part of the person or persons refusing, will suffice to screen the offender from the penalties of this order.

II. Banks, banking houses and all incorporated companies are hereby required to take Confederate notes as currency in the transaction of their business.

III. All persons will distinctly understand that nothing in the least degree calculated to disorganize the operations of the Government will be tolerated, or treated as any thing else than what it is, REBELLION.

IV. A rigid compliance with this order is expected and it will be vigilantly and promptly enforced.

By command of THOS. H. ROSSER,
Colonel Commanding Post.
THOS. M. CROWDER,
Acting Post Adjutant.
[Official]
ja11-1w

STATEMENT

OF the Illinois of HARMAN'S Regiment of Confederate Infantry:

Total amount subscribed to Regiment.....$1 284 50
CR.
Amount of delinquent list..... $ 435 00
Amount of expense..... 3 000 00
Bills payable to R. B. Rutledge..... 846 00 5,274 88

Indebtedness of the Regiment.....$ 990 38
GRAND JUNCTION, Tenn., }
May 4th, 1862. }

EDITORS APPEAL: Above I hand you a statement of the financ[illegible] of the regiment as I find them. A list of subscriptions, paid and unpaid, and the amount of the expenditures, you will oblige me by having exposed in your office for the information of those who so liberally responded to my efforts to raise the regiment. The thanks of the whole command are cordially given to those, who, earlier, failed to make good their subscriptions, it is hoped will come forward and redeem their promise. Capt. Stookey, Q. M., is now in Memphis, and will call upon these gentlemen. The regiment is not at all disorganized, for good reason to believe that but a short time will elapse before it will be. Such as it is, however, its material, discipline and the general good of its members is excellent, and I hope that the time will soon arrive when the expectations which a liberal public have formed of us will be fulfilled.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. DESHA HARMAN,
Colonel Commanding.
my13 1w

NOTICE.

HEADQUARTERS 2D DIVISION,
CORINTH, May 6th, 1862.

ALL officers and soldiers from the command, absent without leave, are ordered to report themselves in camp within ten days from this date, or they will be considered as deserters and treated accordingly.

By order of Major General BRAGG.
JAS. D. PORTER,
A. A. General.
my16-1w Civil Governor and Provost Marshal.

TO PROPERTY OWNERS!

THE assessors for the 20th corporate year having completed the assessment and entered their books to this office, property owners are hereby notified to come forward in the order in which they assessed, and examine all such alterations to be made as will be necessary and proper in the assessment of their property honestly, etc. JOHN PARK,
my7-10t Assess. corp. Mayor.

AT WHOLESALE!

225 bales best 7-8 Osnaburgs,
10 bales Heavy Drills and Ducks,
10 cases Wool Hats,
3 " Gum Overshoes,
15 " Gents' Boots,
9 " Women's Stout Shoes,
41 " Children's Shoes,
6 " Youths' Shoes,
60 " Boys' Shoes,
20 " Men's Kip Shoes,
6 " Russet Shoes,
17 " Umbrellas,
75 pieces Tweeds and Cassimeres
50 " Jeans,
50 " Ticking,
25 " Kersey,
20 " Merinos,
100 " Plaid and Striped Domestics,
20 " Ginghams,
10 " Heavy Shirting Checks,
150 " Calicoes,
50 " Hickory Shirtings,
20 dozen Overalls,
12 " Heavy Wool Jackets,
300 pairs Pantaloons,
50 Suits Gray Kerseys,
500 dozen Spool Cotton,
10,000 dozen Cotton Yarns,
200 dozen Wool Socks,
20 " Wool Hose,
50 " Cotton Hose,
50 " Misses' and Children's Hose,
50 gross Military Buttons,
200 lbs. Turkey Red Cotton,
50 lbs. Knitting Cotton,
30 lbs. Zephyr Worsteds,
30 lbs. Sewing Silks,
100 Red Comforts,
Blankets, Quilts,
Brown Shirtings and Sheetings,
Bleached " "
Checked Jaconet and Swiss Muslins,
Table Cloths, Napkins and Towels,
Plaid and White Linseys,
Canton Flannels, Green Baize,
White and Red Flannels,
Shawls, Neck Comforts,
Black Velvets, Alpaccas,
Irish Linens,
Handkerchiefs, Cravats, Gloves,
Ladies' and Gents' Gauntlets,
Heavy Buck and Seal " "
Grain Bags,
Wool Yarns, Carpet Warps,
Wrapping Twine,
Flax Threads, Needles, Pins,
Table Cutlery, Scissors, etc.

We offer the above, and other desirable goods, to arrive, at WHOLESALE, FOR CASH.

☞ Country Socks, Jeans, Linseys, etc., will be taken in exchange for goods.

JOHN L. TAYLOR & CO.,
Corner of Adams and Second streets.
ja14-1y

Daily Appeal.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

RICHMOND, May 5, 1862.

Since Saturday we have been waiting to hear the faraway "din of resounding arms." The posture of affairs at Corinth seemed to make it almost certain that the most momentous battle of the war would be fought yesterday, and the thoughts of everybody could not but wander from liturgy and sermon, from the calm of the vernal Sabbath and the tender beauty of the fresh-robed trees, to the hot field of conflict and the dire scenes enwrapped in its smoky canopy. No tidings came, however, throughout the day. We have news this morning that the Sabbath, which here was so cloudless and beautiful, was at Corinth a day of darkness and pouring rain that rendered military operations impracticable. Our suspense has not been lessened, as you may suppose, by the postponement of the struggle. The vast consequences that hang upon Beauregard's success are too well apprehended here not to cause every loyal man and woman in Virginia to await the issue with almost breathless anxiety.

Our communication with Memphis is now so difficult and circuitous that for practical purposes it might nearly as well be suspended. The last APPEAL that was received here bore date the 23d April—twelve days ago. The telegraphic column of our city papers this morning contains a dispatch from Augusta giving us an extract from the APPEAL of the 28th. Thus without the means of knowing accurately the condition of your city, we can only derive a good augury from the very lack of information, and suppose that, had Memphis shared the fate of New Orleans, we should have heard the fact, for evil tidings fly fast. Whatever may be the success of the Yankees with their tremendous flotilla of war vessels upon the Mississippi, we feel assured that they will not succeed in obtaining the great object of their expedition—cotton—but that the torch will go before them to illuminate with the light of blazing warehouses their way to desolated plantations.

A very important change in the conduct of the war has been announced out-of-doors as the definite policy of the administration, and the events of the last forty-eight hours in this immediate neighborhood would seem to give it almost an official sanction. *We are to give up the coast, abandon every water course into which a gunboat can penetrate, and fight the battle henceforward in the interior.* Accordingly, our forces have fallen back from Yorktown to a line not more than forty miles from this city, leaving Williamsburg and West Point outside. This movement was admirably accomplished, without loss of men, stores or munitions of war. Our last train was fired into yesterday morning at West Point, by three of the Yankee gunboats which had steamed with all speed up the York river, but no damage was sustained.

A considerable number of large guns had to be left in the batteries at Yorktown and Gloucester Point, but they were previously rendered unserviceable to the enemy. In further execution of this new policy, Norfolk and Portsmouth have been evacuated. For some time past the authorities have been removing all the available materials from the navy yard, and what they could not carry off they destroyed. This morning the evacuation was completed by blowing up the magnificent dry dock there—such at least is the report currently believed. The Virginia will convoy all the vessels that can be useful for the defense of James river, across Hampton Roads, to a place of safety some distance this side of Newport News. It will occur to you, of course, that Richmond, being on a navigable stream affording depth of water sufficient for the enemy's gunboats, will be made an exception to the general rule for the surrender of the tidewater districts, and such is the fact. By obstructions in the channel, with the fleet we have for the protection of the stream, it is confidently believed that the city can be rendered inaccessible to the enemy by water, and to attempt it by land they would give us battle in the open field. Whenever and wherever they have done this hitherto, we have whipped them, and we shall not fight the less bravely when the issue is the safety of the Confederate capital and the ancient seat of government of Virginia.

But the most cheering feature of the new policy remains yet to be stated. *The war is to be made aggressive on our part.* Two or more columns, under tried leaders, it is said, are to penetrate into the enemy's country and carry consternation and suffering to their doors. With a shout of joy will this information be welcomed throughout the land. Pale and weary occupants of beds in the sick wards of hospitals, will feel the pulse of returning health in their veins, as they hear that they will be wanted for a war *of invasion.* A new spirit will animate the army, a new life throb throughout the Republic. It would be improper to hint what commanding generals will be intrusted with this new enterprise, or what points of the enemy's country will probably be selected for the first attack. Let them find this out by the sight of the advancing columns, and the sound of the pealing trumpets.

We have the good news from the Peninsula, that diseases of all kinds have broken out in McClellan's army, fevers, small pox, cholera, etc., etc. and 20,000 of them are reported as in the hospital.

Jackson was at Staunton yesterday, and expecting to engage the enemy within twenty-four hours.

The President has issued his proclamation for another day of fasting and prayer, on the 16th instant. DIXIE.

Everything for the Cause.

Our people do not fear death so much as they do increased expense, deprivation of comfort, and loss of property. They would wage war to the death, but they would feign solace themselves with the delusive hope that it can be waged without any other sacrifice than that of blood. They must no longer recoil from the idea of such losses. They will have to make up their minds to endure the reality. Corn bread and mule meat may yet become the fare of our men. If we are determined in this struggle we will submit to it, and with it we will conquer. Should we reach that point of heroic virtue and self-denial, then nothing less than the armies of the living God could subjugate us. If by a combination of land and naval forces our chief cities are taken, let us remember that *the country is left to us.* We can there concentrate our forces at proper points, and whip the enemy in detail. They will have to keep armies in captured cities and towns to hold them, or their pretended conquests will be but farces. We have an ally of immense power in the approaching summer. Its heat will generate fever that will more than decimate our enemy. Their ships will become hospitals, and their camps will become graveyards.

No great object is accomplished without a corresponding sacrifice, and in order to accomplish our independence we must at once make up our minds to sacrifice everything necessary to it. That done, then the great difficulty is removed. Then we exhibit our unconquerable will and energy to the enemy and our merit to an admiring world. Corn bread and potatoes and such dainties when we can get them! This cheap and simple fare, aided by good arms and sufficient ammunition, will make us invincible. When we learn to eat what our heroic fathers lived upon during the seven years' war of the revolution, then will we show ourselves to be worthy of them. Providence may not design us to encounter such trials, but if we desire to be heroic and truly virtuous, we must resolve, if necessary, to submit to them. We must at once make up our minds to sacrifice everything, no matter what, that interferes with our success. *We have got to succeed.* If we fail, posterity, the offspring of our own loins, will curse us for commencing a war which we had not the courage and the virtue to prosecute to success. If we must suffer ourselves, let us, at least, bequeath to our children freedom, a country, and an honorable name. To Roman courage we must unite Spartan economy and self-denial.—*Richmond Whig.*

THE YANKEES IN THE SOUTH.—The army of Butler is now in New Orleans, and other Yankee armies are at other points on the southern coast. They think they have taken the country, but they will find before many months that the country has taken them. The yellow fever is a scourge even to the native population, living in comfortable houses, and having all the advantages of systematic habits and experienced medical attendance. What it will be among the dissipated and unacclimated hordes of the North, it needs no prophet to predict.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

GEN. SHIELDS.—This man, who is now in command of a brigade in Lincoln's army, said in 1860: "If the political contest degenerates into a sectional struggle, my part will be taken with the South." What reliance can be placed upon the pledges of politicians?

THE CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.

Accounts from the Federal Side.

(Correspondence New York Times.)

APRIL 18.—Yesterday morning the mortar fleet was all ordered up the river, a stiff southeast wind affording the sailing vessels an opportunity to come up without the aid of towboats, and the entire squadron is now at anchor, excepting three of the mortar schooners, on the west shore, the advanced vessels probably a mile distant from the sharp bend in the river, directly above which the enemy has stretched a chain barrier, supported on hulks. The vessels are arranged in parallel lines. On the outside are the frigates and gunboats, and inside, literally moored to the stumps and margin of the stream, are the mortar schooners.

As the bombardment is to be made from a point not more than half a mile above our present position, I will attempt to describe the natural features of the place. The river here is about its average width of five-eighths of a mile, and the velocity of the current is from three to five miles an hour. Commencing near the forts, and extending eight miles below them, on the stream affording depth of water sufficient for the enemy's gunboats, will be made an exception to the general rule for the surrender of the tidewater districts, and such is the fact. By obstructions in the channel, with the fleet we have for the protection of the stream, it is confidently believed that the city can be rendered inaccessible to the enemy by water, and to attempt it by land they would give us battle in the open field. Whenever and wherever they have done this hitherto, we have whipped them, and we shall not fight the less bravely when the issue is the safety of the Confederate capital and the ancient seat of government of Virginia.

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The mortar schooners at best afford a small target for the enemy to fire at, but the chances of striking them are still further decreased by the screen of woods which hides the hulls completely from the forts. Still further to conceal them from observation, their masts have been dressed with evergreens. All yesterday afternoon, the sailors were busy in the tangled chapparel, cutting the branches and limbs of the trees for this purpose. It was great fun for the tars, who felt no fear, in the glow of their excitement, at disturbing the rattle-snakes and alligators which infest the morass. Imagine the pleasantry peculiar appearance of the schooners in their leafy dresses. Eighteen of them converted into shady bowers! A tree lashed to each masthead, intertwining its branches and boughs beneath, laced to the rigging on either side, jutting a refreshing shade. They look prepared for a festival instead of for war. It is May-day, Palm Sunday and Christmas time exaggerated! Burnam woods come to Dunsinane; a "forest of masts," with the adjuncts of branches and leaves.

FIRE RAFTS.

Early in the morning a large flatboat, filled with cords of pine wood, was set on fire and sent down the river with the current. As it came dangerously near one or two of the advanced vessels of the fleet, cables were slipped and there was a season of general excitement. Not knowing the character of the blazing pile, and supposing that it might contain torpedoes or other infernal contrivances, Capt. Smith, of the Mississippi, put somerified shot in it. A stray ball unfortunately struck the gunboat Katahdin, carrying away her cutwater. But as the damage was no worse the incident was looked upon as comic. Cabinet.

Mindful of the morning's experience with the raft, Capt. Porter ordered all the boats belonging to the mortar flotilla to be fitted with grapnel ropes, fire buckets and axes, in preparation for another, should the enemy send one down. In the evening about sunset the boats were reviewed. They pulled by the Harriet Lane in single file, and the officer in charge being questioned as he passed by Commodore Porter as follows: "Fire buckets! axes! ropes!" A responsive "Aye, aye, sir," and the Commodore directed "Pull around the Mississippi, and return to your vessels." The Mississippi being a quarter of a mile ahead, the men gave way sturdily, in order to beat the rival boats. They were not less than 150 boats under review, many of them tea-scows, and the whole scene reminded me of a grand regatta than of anything else.

An hour after the review, the men had an opportunity to test in a practical manner their means for destroying fire rafts, and they proved to be an admirable success. A turgid column of black smoke, arising from resinous wood, was seen approaching us from the vicinity of the forts. Signal lights were made, the varied colors of which produced a brilliant effect upon the foliage of the river bank, and rendering the darkness intenser by contrast when they disappeared; instantly a hundred boats shot out toward the raft, which now was blazing fiercely and casting a wide zone of light upon the water. Two or three of the gunboats then got under weigh and steamed boldly toward the unknown thing of terror. Once on them, the Westfield, Captain Renshaw, gallantly opened her steam valves, and dashes furiously upon it, making the sparks fly and timbers crash with the force of her blow. Then a stream of water from her hose pays on the blazing mass. Now the small boats lay alongside, coming up helter skelter, and actively employing their men. We see everything distinctly in the broad glare: men, oars, boats, buckets, and ropes. The scene looks phantom-like, supernatural; intensely interesting, extremely exciting, inextricably confused. But finally the object is nobly accomplished. The raft, yet fiercely burning, is taken out of range of the anchored vessels, and towed ashore, where it is slowly consumed. As the boats return they are cheered by the fleet, and the scene changes to one of darkness and repose, broken occasionally by the gruff hail of a seaman, when a boat, sent on business from one vessel to another, passes through the fleet. We have a contempt for fire rafts. They have proved, like many other things, to be "weak inventions of the enemy."

THE SIEGE.

UNITED STATES BARKENTINE HORACE BEALES, }
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, Wednesday, April 22, 1862. }

The siege of Forts Jackson and St. Philip has been in progress almost uninterruptedly during the past six days and five nights, and still they are not reduced. All this time I have been patiently waiting the end, convinced that a succinct narrative of operations of our vessels had been achieved would be far more acceptable to you than a diffused statement of events in the order of their occurrence. But it is impossible to conjecture how long the rebels will remain at bay, and meantime my note book is becoming fearfully full. Therefore, if I would send the news in detail, I must write it now at the risk of its appearing a tissue of shreds, patches and fragments.

I will premise with the statement that to-day—the 23d day of April—will be remembered as the date of one of the most desperate of naval battles. At 3 o'clock in the morning the greater part of Commodore Farragut's squadron, consisting of five sloops-of-war and nine gunboats, successfully passed up the river, running through a fearful fire, and are now above the forts. The mortar flotilla and eight armed steamers are still below the enemy, who is thus placed between two fires, with his supplies from New Orleans cut off, and rendering his surrender merely a question of time. Of the damage that has resulted to either side, I have at present little knowledge.

From my position with the mortar vessels I can see the masts of our fleet, apparently three or four miles beyond the forts, and the flag of the Union is flying from the top of every spar. The burning hulls of three rebel steamers have passed by us down the river, and that famous bug-bear, the ram Manassas, is destroyed. I saw it sinking, a burning wreck, its two smoke-racks tottering, its cylindrical sides pierced with yawning holes made by rifled shot; and in the cabin where I now am writing is a logslate taken from her deck just before she sank, by Mr. Geo. W. Sumner, the executive officer of this vessel. The edges and frame of the slate are charred, but so badly as to prevent our reading on the outside these words: "Master's log, U. S. steamer Manassas." On the inside is written: "From 6 to 8 evening, kept up fires. At 7:30, steamer Diana passed up." Signed "R. T. W.," which are probably the initials of the name of the officer who had the watch. Although the loss of the rebels could not have been otherwise than severe, they refuse to surrender. Communication has been had with them by means of a flag of truce, when Capt Porter demanded that they should yield themselves up unconditionally. Their reply was that the terms were inadmissible, and until the last man fell they should fight.

A MAGNIFICENT SCENE.

The Hartford, Pensacola, Richmond, Brooklyn and Mississippi, had come up close to the rear of mortar vessels, just without the range of the enemy's guns, and were steaming only enough to keep their relative positions against the force of the current. A dozen smaller steam vessels dotted the smooth surface of the river, like the chessman upon a board when the game is nearly finished. Of these gunboats the Owasco, Kennebec, Wissahkeon, Cayuga and Sciota, were all the head of our lines, belching out shell upon the enemy from their 11-inch pivot guns with furious rapidity, and with them the sloop-of-war Iroquois, Capt. De Camp, whose gallantry is everywhere admitted. The Iroquois seemed to be a special target for the enemy, and shells plowed up the water all around her, but she escaped with only two of the crew slightly wounded.

Over the woods, beyond the forts, we can count seven or eight moving columns of smoke, which indicate that the rebel steamers are paving about probably plotting some mischief against us. Soon one and then another, and afterwards a third, appear in view, steering toward the forts. Before reaching them, however, the steamers dash to cover again, and we see that three huge burning rafts have been set adrift. The swift current sweeps them toward us, below they are a brilliant blaze, and rising from the flames is a spiral, funnel-shaped cloud of grayish, black smoke, so dense as to shut from sight the fort, and all else in that direction. Nearer and nearer these seemingly formidable rafts approach, but they occasion very little anxiety. We know how to dispose of them. The sailors from the large ships are called out of the rigging, which they have been permitted to occupy as interested spectators of the battle, and in a short time boats have the rafts in tow, and they are landed on the river bank to burn away. We all confess to an admiration of these pyrotechnic displays. They add vastly to the picturesqueness of our surroundings, and are perfectly harmless.

UNITED STATES SCHOONER DAN SMITH, }
OFF PILOT TOWN, MISSISSIPPI, }
Friday Evening, April 25 }

When I closed my letter yesterday, I had no idea that I should be down here at Pilot Town, in my old quarters, more than twenty miles from the scene of the bombardment. But such is the fact. The mortar flotilla, with which I have been more especially connected, was ordered suddenly, about five o'clock in the afternoon, to get under way, and repair to this place, where most of the vessels are now at anchor. The reason for this unexpected order is explained by the circumstance that an immense floating battery, iron-clad and heavily armed, survived the fire of our fleet as it ran the gauntlet of the forts, and could be seen a mile or two above us, with no adequate force to interpose, should its rebel masters attempt to clear us out of the river. With every confidence in the capacity of the mortar schooners to defend themselves against ordinary enemies, Captain Porter was of the opinion that it would be sheer recklessness to allow them to remain where they were certainly exposed to an attack from this invulnerable arrangement, which would have the game entirely in its hands. Our retreat was decided upon particularly because there is really no need, under existing circumstances, of keeping up the siege of the forts. We have the rebel garrison in a trap, from which it is impossible to extricate themselves, and a few days, more or less, for them to hold the forts is of no material consequence. Here the mortar vessels are perfectly secure.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM COM. FARRAGUT.

There is no doubt that Commodore Farragut, with a large squadron, is now in New Orleans. Read the following letter, a copy of which I was requested to make. It was written when the flag officer was warm from the conflict, and the words have the ring of true metal in them:

DEAR PORTER: We had a rough time of it, as Boggs will tell you; but, thank God, the number of killed and wounded was very small, considering. This ship had two killed and eight wounded. We destroyed the ram in a single combat between us and the old Mississippi, but we paid for it pretty dearly. The Mississippi coming at him so rapidly, and he dodged her and ran on the shore, whereupon Smith put two or three broadsides through him and knocked him all to pieces. The ram rushed a fire raft on to me, and in trying to avoid it I ran the ship on shore. He again pushed the fire raft on me, and got the ship on fire all along one side. I thought it was all up, but with the help of God we put it on again, proceeding up the river, fighting our way. We have destroyed all but two of the gunboats, and these will have to surrender with the forts.

I intend to follow up my success and push for New Orleans, and then come down and attend to the forts, so you hold them in status quo until I come back. I think if you send a flag of truce and demand their surrender, they will yield, for their intercourse with the city is cut off. We have cut the wires above the quarantine, and are now going ahead. I took 300 or 400 prisoners at quarantine. They surrendered and I paroled them not to take up arms again. I could not stop to take care of them. If the general will come up to the beyond and land a few men at the quarantine, he will find enough to fill the vacancy. Yours in haste,

D. G. FARRAGUT.

To Capt. D. D. Porter, Commanding Mortar Flotilla.

FIGHT BETWEEN OUR STEAMERS AND THE IRON RAM.

This dispatch was brought to Capt. Porter this afternoon by Captain Boggs, late commander of the Varuna, whose vessel was sunk in the action. From Capt. Boggs I obtained some further information. He stated that before the Varuna sunk she destroyed alone six of the rebel steamers, of which he learned the names of four, viz: The Wm. H. Webb, Palmetto, Chieora and Jackson. As he passed the forts, Capt. Boggs, as well as all the other vessels, received their fire. The Richmond, and one or two more of the large steam sloops, slowed down and poured three or four broadsides each into the enemy. The Varuna did not wait after delivering two broadsides, but pressed directly on into a hornet's nest of rebel gunboats which were a mile or two above. She was assailed by these two or three at a time, in rapid fashion, butting at her with their iron-cased prows, and several large holes were made in her.

As long as his vessel floated, Capt. Boggs fought gallantly with his guns, and drove the enemy's steamers ashore, where they were fired by their own crews. One of the Varuna's shot disabled still another steamer by making a hole in her boiler, and this vessel surrendered to the Oneida, who took her officers and crew prisoners. The Varuna's last guns were fired when her decks were under water. As her crew and other property was saved by a scut on board. There were three of the Varuna's crew killed in the action, and seven wounded, two of whom are not expected to survive their injuries. Including the ram there were eleven of the rebel steamers destroyed, and the captain of the ram is a prisoner on board the Mississippi.

After the fight, the whole squadron repaired to the quarantine anchorage, which is seven miles above the forts. There the dead were buried, and the wounded made as comfortable as circumstances would permit. The number of our killed and wounded is estimated by Capt. Boggs at about 125, and 17 of these belonged to the Richmond. He thinks the loss on the side of the rebels was enormous. The chain cables which were fastened on the outside of our vessels proved an admirable protection to their machinery, as in every case where the shot struck them it bounded off without penetrating. A great deal of damage was done to us by the floating dock of the rebels, to which I had before adverted; and although many broadsides were discharged at it, they had no effect whatever upon its iron sides.

"Stonewall" Jackson's Victory near Staunton.

RICHMOND, May 9.—A dispatch from Staunton this morning, says Jackson's advance force engaged the enemy near McDowell's, at five o'clock yesterday evening, and after four hours fighting succeeded in driving them back. Our loss is said to be 300. General Edward Johnson was wounded in the ankle. Col M. G. Harman and Capt. Dabney, of the 52d regiment were wounded in the arm. Col. Gibbons, of the 10th Virginia regiment, was killed. A big fight is expected to-day.

A dispatch received in Richmond this morning says on authority of Capt. Hill of the steamer Shultz, that our batteries at Day's Point, Isle of Wight county, were attacked by three gunboats yesterday. The batteries succeeded in silencing one vessel and the iron-clad steamer Galena.

Three hundred and twenty Yankees captured at Williamsburg on Monday, arrived here last evening.

The city is excited by reports of more fighting on the Peninsula.

THE DEFENSE OF CHARLESTON.—The Charleston *Courier* says:

Gen. Pemberton, we are delighted to learn, has declared his determination to defend the city to the last extremity. Honor to the gallant commander for the bold patriotic resolution.

We propose that his honor the mayor shall forthwith call a public meeting of our citizens to pledge their support to our noble general, and to tell him that our war cry and our war action will be "victory or death."

The Rebel Gunboats Make Their Appearance Before Com. Foote.

CAIRO, April 9.—Steamer Bruce from the flotilla this morning at daybreak.

Yesterday four rebel gunboats were seen rounding the point, making their way in the direction of the mortars, evidently with the intention of capturing them. Our gunboats formed in line of battle, with decks cleared for action. Some fifty shots were fired, when the rebel boats retired to a distance so great it is impossible to say whether any shots took effect.

Firing from the mortars, which had been suspended two days, was renewed when the Bruce left, going on with great vigor.

To guard against any surprise, the mortar-boats are towed up now every night, and remain behind the fleet.

Richmond News and Gossip.

The Richmond correspondent of the Charleston *Mercury* says, under date of the 3d:

The President declares there is not the slightest hope of foreign intervention. The folly of his naval policy backs him. Mr. Mallory intended to startle the country by visiting Norfolk, but was unable to leave his bed. His friends say he is overwhelmed with grief and gout at the loss of New Orleans; his enemies say he keeps his bed because he loves it, and because he finds the seclusion of the sheets very comfortable. It is suggested that inasmuch as his whole navy is gone, it would not be amiss in him to resign and and take up his bed and walk. His office, as Mr. Davis' clerk of the navy, is gone.

Reported that a plan is on foot to sink the Patrick Henry, Jamestown, and other vessels in the channel at Norfolk, burn the Virginia and the uncompleted gunboats, burn the city and navy yard, and give up the place to the enemy. While this is only a "reliable" rumor, it is perhaps probable that it will be attempted.

If Banks is not careful, he will get drubbed by Ewell and Jackson. It was said in town last night that Jackson had been whipped—a good sign in these days, when unfavorable reports always precede favorable results.

There is at least a prospect, and only a prospect, that the city river will be blockaded against gunboats. A committee of practical men have taken the matter in hand, with the determination to give the workmen no peace until the thing is done, and well done. Yesterday, or the day before, this committee manifested the first sympt tom yet exhibited in this city of common sense, by visiting the river in person. They found only twenty men at work. The engineer in charge said he could get no more men, because Mr. Mallory had them all employed. This has been remedied, but not until the facts of the case were laid before the President by a special deputation of the city council. People must stir, General Randolph's health is feeble. Weather brilliant and warm.

The War Department and the Press.

From the New York Times, April 29.]

Our Washington correspondent gives a fresh and highly characteristic illustration of the mode in which the Secretary of War exercises his functions as military censor. On Sunday last, the President, accompanied by Secretaries Chase and Stanton, visited Aquia Creek, with a view to organizing the transportation of the state of things at that important point, possibly, so as to decide upon the propriety of Gen. McDowell prosecuting his advance. Our correspondent, thinking no evil of this necessary journey, carried his statement of the fact, as in duty bound, to the telegraph office, and left it for transmission to the *Times*. The dispatch was never sent; but through another agency there was sent a brief report of what took place, which, by very easy transferred to Saturday, and the supposed edition of Sunday travel escaped at the cost of an official lie.

For the public to understand the vexatious despotism exercised by the War Department since Mr. Stanton became its chief, and the patience with which the press has submitted to the tyrannic yoke which the Secretary has imposed on the capital, a chapter still more full than that of which are preserved, will have to be printed one of these days. The entire machinery of the code invented for French journalism under the imperial regime has been imported and applied to the American press. Warnings are given in the solemn phraseology of a police office. Impertinentments of police appear in the shape of the official rebuke, and in a short time notice that any announcement of a military character disapproved in his paper, will consign him at once to Fort Lafayette, and I suppose his establishment to confiscation. The most trivial reference to a patent projectile, the sailing of a gunboat, or the departure of a fire engine from the city are matters of military, naval or civic—information too dangerous to attract the notice of the person entrusted with a special report, and to be stricken out of the inquisitive secretary, and to incur his displeasure and menace.

Correspondents sent with the several divisions of the army are subjected to a similar rule of terror. They are caught, and, as if they were traitors, compelled to take the oath of allegiance, and to sign a parole obliging them to refrain from sending in their letters anticipations of movements, or in describing past transactions; from giving the names of any of the regiments, divisions, or *corps d'armee* engaged in any action, or the comparative number upon either side—restrictions which the reader will observe renders correspondence utterly worthless. But even this is not enough. The letters, public and private of these reporters, are taken from the post-office, and after perusal, are destroyed or dispatched, at the option of persons wholly devoid of discretion, and of course free from responsibility.

An establishment like the New York Times is obliged to maintain an army of mounted and picked men to attend and report the movements of the national forces. It can only do so at an enormous pecuniary cost, and the exaction of much endurance and courage from the correspondent. These sacrifices it has been the business—apparently the principal business—of