DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXV. RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 5, 1863. NO. 107.

THURSDAY MORNING.....NOVEMBER 5, 1863.

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

We have no material change to report in the condition of affairs in Northern Virginia. It is stated by parties direct from the army that everything is yet quiet. The enemy are still busily engaged in relaying the track of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and their pickets and our own are in close proximity.

The vigilant Mosby is reported to be absent on another scout, and it is expected that a few days will bring some information of his operations.

THE IRON RAMS.

The Liverpool papers, of the 21st ult., contradict the report that a guard of marines had been put on board one of the rams in the Mersey to prevent her sailing. In the meantime the work on one of the rams, El Trousson, is being rapidly pushed forward, and no attempt is made to conceal the warlike character of the vessel. The *Levant Herald*, of Constantinople, confirms the report that the Turkish Government has offered to buy the rams. Two other members of the British Ministry, the Secretary of War and the Solicitor General, have made speeches on the American war. Both defended the course hitherto pursued by the Government and the continuance of strict neutrality.

FROM GENERAL LEE'S ARMY.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.]

OUTPOST ARMY NORTHERN VA., November 2d, 1863.

Meade still lingers in Fauquier, while Gen. Lee baits on the Rappahannock, and, Macawber like, is "waiting for something to turn up."

Meade has disclosed to the world the startling fact that he can conduct a retreat better than he can an advance. The little fame he won at Gettysburg is like foliage of the forest in autumn, descending rapidly to rise no more. He soon will have to walk the road that has already been trodden by McClellan, Hooker, Burnside, and others. It is evident that he is not equal to the work before him.

Gen. Warren has already been spoken of as his successor, and before the chill winds of December sweep over the earth he will be numbered among the things that were.

The destruction of the Orange and Alexandria railroad is so complete that the Yankees have been actively engaged in repairing it for ten days or more, and make but little progress in its reconstruction.

The country now occupied by Meade, once fertile, prosperous and happy, is now a vast territory of ruin and desolation. Dwellings prior to the war inhabited by happy souls with an abundance to subsist on, have been ruthlessly torn down to make quarters for a mean and insolent foe. There is not a house standing on the railroad from Manassas Junction to Rappahannock river, a distance of more than thirty miles. All enclosures upon the farms have been pulled down and destroyed; extensive fields, once yielding rich harvests, are cut to pieces by military roads. In lieu of valuable crops of corn may be seen bramble and high weeds waving triumphantly over the land. A lone cavalier rides in vain in pursuit of a few ears of corn for his faithful and jaded steed, and returns in despair to his bivouac to brood over the evils of war.

This is the condition of the country now occupied by Meade. How long he will continue to make the Upper Rappahannock his line for military operations I am not prepared to say. Should he remain where he is during the winter, he will receive some hard blows from Gen. Stuart, who never fails to harass the enemy when an opportunity presents itself.

John Minor Botts, a miserable traitor, has been endeavoring to arouse the sympathy of some of the army in his behalf by telling them how much he has suffered by some of our troops stopping only one night on his farm. This individual, during the occupation of Culpeper by the enemy, gave entertainments, and invited the most prominent officers to his house; and from what I have heard I have not the slightest doubt that he communicated all he knew concerning our army and Government. John Minor Botts should be imprisoned during the war by our authorities or banished. He is an enemy, and too dangerous a one to remain longer on the outpost.

Among the slaves captured by Major Mosby a few days since, there was one belonging to Gen. Wms. C. Wickham, of Hanover. He was stolen during Stoneman's raid and carried to Washington. He seemed to be highly gratified at the idea of getting home. DIXIE.

LATEST FROM THE NORTH.

Through the courtesy of the officers of the Exchange Bureau we have received New York papers of Monday last, the 2d inst.:

THE CAPTURE OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN—GALLANTRY OF THE 11TH AND 12TH CORPS—THE REBELS DRIVEN AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET.

Under this heading the New York *Tribune* publishes the following official telegram from General Thomas:

CHATTANOOGA, Oct. 29, 1863.

Maj.-Gen. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief:

In the fight of last night the enemy attacked Gen. Geary's division, posted at Wauhatchie, on three sides, and broke his camp at one point, but was driven back in most gallant style by part of his force, the remainder being held in reserve. Howard, while marching to Geary's relief, was attacked in the flank, the enemy occupying in force two commanding hills on the left of the road. He immediately threw forward two of his regiments and took both at the point of the bayonet, driving the enemy from his breastworks and across Lookout creek. In this brilliant success over their old adversary, the conduct of the officers and men of the 11th and 12th corps is entitled to the highest praise.

GEO. H. THOMAS, Major-General.

The following dispatches relating to the subject are published:

The Cincinnati *Gazette* has a dispatch from Chattanooga, dated the 27th inst., which says:

"A detachment under Col. Stanley, of the 11th Ohio regiment, floated fifty pontoons down the river in the face of the rebel sharpshooters, landed at Brown's ferry, and surprised and drove the rebels from the ridge on the south side, opening communication with Bridgeport.

"The rebels are flanked, and must evacuate Lookout Mountain."

A second dispatch says that Gen. Hazen, with two thousand of Gen. Palmer's division, attacked the enemy on Lookout Mountain, and drove him from his position.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 29.—Our loss in the brilliant achievement at Chattanooga was only five killed and fifteen wounded of Gen. Hazen's brigade.

Gen. Palmer is assigned to the command of the 14th army corps.

Communication will be opened between Bridgeport and Chattanooga along the Chattanooga river.

HIGH-HANDED TREASON IN OHIO—A STARTLING DEVELOPMENT—PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE STATE GOVERNMENT—ARREST OF THE RINGLEADERS.

Under this heading, gotten up in a style regardless of the cost of type, the *Tribune* publishes the following telegram:

CINCINNATI, Nov. 1.—An extraordinary case of treason has recently come to light, implicating several persons in this city, Columbus, Covington, and Newport, in conspiring to release the rebel prisoners at Camp Chase, and overthrow the State Government. The conspiracy was brought to light by United States detectives, who were supposed by the parties implicated to be spies from the rebel army, and were treated with full confidence.

The plot, as disclosed to the detectives, was, that an attack was to be made on Camp Chase, release the rebel prisoners confined there, numbering some 3,500, seize the arsenal at Columbus, take possession of the Penitentiary, release John Morgan and the other officers confined there, and then was to commence a rebel campaign in Ohio.

United States Marshal Sands and Provost Marshal M. J. Reany arrested the following persons implicated in the plot: Charles W. H. Cathcart, of Columbus, formerly School Commissioner of Ohio; J. D. Cresson, of Columbus, formerly sutler in the 19th regulars, who were to lead the attack on Camp Chase; James D. Patton, of Covington, a regular agent of the rebel Government, who furnished money to detectives under the impression that they were spies, and, according to agreement, were to meet Cathcart and the others at Camp Chase, and assist in maturing the plan of attack. Ruth McDonald, of Covington, who acted as mail carrier through the rebel lines, whose house was the headquarters of the rebels; Sam P. Thomas, merchant tailor of Cincinnati, and his wife, and Catherine Parmenter, of Cincinnati. Information has been obtained that the organization exists in Illinois, waiting for the outbreak in Ohio. Other particulars are known to the authorities, but have not yet been made public.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

The papers publish the following two dispatches relative to affairs in East Tennessee:

CHATTANOOGA, Oct. 27, (via Nashville, Oct 28.)—Unreliable intelligence has been received of the movement of a portion of Bragg's army, under Longstreet, up the valley of the Tennessee river, with the intention of operating against General Burnside. It is also believed here that a corps of Lee's army, under Ewell, is moving into East Tennessee, by way of Lynchburg, for the same purpose.

KNOXVILLE, Oct. 30, (via Louisville, Nov. 1.)—Our forces which occupied Loudon have retreated to the north side of the river, and now occupy the heights commanding Loudon. The other dispositions of our troops remain unchanged.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Furloughs for 15 days are being granted in the army of the Potomac. The cars on the railroad now run from Washington to the Three-Mile Station, and will soon go to Bealton. A dispatch from Washington, dated the 1st inst., says:

We learn from the army of the Potomac that the principal movements of late have been changes of positions of the different corps. These changes have been the occasions of slight skirmishes, but without serious loss to either side.

The guerillas continue their operations upon wagon trains and outposts with varied success.

The impression prevailed at headquarters that Lee was disposed to fight and Meade's intentions was to accommodate him at the earliest opportunity. There are those, however, who continue to think that Lee's army has been materially reduced, and that any show of intention to fight is merely to conceal his real weakness.

SHERMAN'S CORPS IN MISSISSIPPI.

A letter from Corinth states that the 15th army corps, under Maj.-Gen. Sherman, and one division of McPherson's 17th corps, had passed through there and advanced as far as Tuscumbia, without meeting any material opposition. The Mobile and Ohio Road will soon be opened from Columbus to Corinth, and thence to Chattanooga with all possible dispatch. An expedition sent out in the direction of Holly Springs, consisting of the 7th Kansas and 3d Michigan cavalry, with other regiments, met the enemy in the vicinity of that place, where they had a severe engagement. The loss of the 7th Kansas was three killed and nine wounded, and the other regiments suffered in about the same proportion. The rebels lost nine left killed on the field and 100 prisoners, while our forces occupied the site of battle in undisturbed possession.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Gen. Butler has been assigned to the command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

Iowa has given a majority of 25,000 for the Republican ticket. Of eighty two counties only fourteen give Democratic majorities.

From Arkansas we learn that Gen. Marmaduke was at Arkadelphia with the cavalry of General Holmes's command. Dobbs, a notorious guerilla, had been captured.

Col. Chas. R. Ellett, commanding the Mississippi marine brigade, died suddenly at Bunker Hill, Ill., on the 29th ult.

D. K. Abel, editor of the St. Joseph's (Mo.) *Tribune*, has been arrested for publishing articles "defamatory" of the Abolition militia of that State.

Major Mosby, the famous guerilla, dined in the Marshall House, at Alexandria, on September 30th, and then had the impudence to inform the public of the fact by placarding it in chalk on a dead wall in town over his own signature.

The Chicago *Tribune* says: "We have an intimation that Gen. Halleck is shortly to be removed from the chief command of the armies of the United States."

Gold was quoted in New York on Saturday at 146¾.

AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED STATES.

We make some further extracts from Northern papers of Friday last. The capture of the steamer J. B. White, on the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal, had caused considerable uneasiness in Norfolk, and Gen. Potter, with a body-guard, had gone to the scene of the occurrence to inspect the ground. Business in the ship-yard at Portsmouth, Va., is very brisk, and there are five United States vessels there being repaired. The following is an extract from

A LETTER FROM NORFOLK.

Col. Upham, of the 15th Connecticut regiment, with his own command and 500 cavalrymen in addition, left camp near Portsmouth on the 13th inst., and moved through the country in the direction of South Mills, raiding in fine style, but meeting with no force of the enemy en route. At the latter place a junction was made with a proportionate force from North Carolina, and thus strengthened the little army scouted and scoured the country far and near, with no mean success; for near Elizabeth City our men came unexpectedly upon a camp or lurking place of guerillas. The nest was broken up, several captures made, and those who escaped were dispersed in all directions. I believe that but five were captured, the rest escaping by reason of their unprecedented display of agility.

Information from the front of our forces gives us knowledge of the fact that Gens. French and Wise, with their troops, have been removed respectively from the Blackwater and the Peninsula to some more important point further South. Gen. Pickett commands the defences of Richmond and the area over which the former two Generals kept surveillance. The rebel force is represented as very weak indeed, owing to the constant drafts toward Rosecrans and Meade.

FORTRESS MONROE, Oct. 24, 1863.—The propeller Virginia, Captain Snyder, arrived this morning from New York, with about 200 rebel prisoners.—They were captured at the battle of Gettysburg.—Nearly all are wounded, and have lost either an arm or a leg.

The propeller City of Richmond arrived here this morning from Washington, with F. A. Holbrook, the Commissioner of Vermont, who will take all the disabled Vermont soldiers from this place on the City of Richmond to New Haven, Conn., en route to the United States General Hospital at Brattleboro', Vermont.

THE INTENTIONS OF THE CONFEDERATES IN TEXAS.

The New Orleans correspondent of the New York *Herald*, writing on the 16th ult., gives the programme adopted by the "rebel" leaders in Texas and the trans-Mississippi districts. He says:

The armies now commanded by Holmes, Price, and Parsons, in Arkansas; the forces of Smith, Hobart, and Taylor, in Northern and Central Louisiana; those of Greene, Straight, and Major, in the southern part of the State, and part of the troops of Magruder, in Texas, are to be concentrated at Niblett's Bluffs, on the Sabine river, which, together with the lake of the same name, forms the boundary between Louisiana and Texas. The evacuated regions necessary to be occupied, for military reasons—for instance, demonstration against the advance of our armies—will be held by a mere handful of mounted men, depending upon the co-operation of guerilla bands in cases of a move upon our part.

The point of concentration chosen by the enemy exhibits no insignificant sagacity. Sabine Lake lies immediately upon the Gulf coast, being connected with the Gulf by a narrow channel known as Sabine Pass. The lake is formed by the inflow of the waters of the Sabine and Neches rivers. Upon the Louisiana side of the Sabine is situated Niblett's Bluff; in almost the same latitude, on the west side of the Neches, lies Beaumont—a small town. Between the two points—by land across the peninsula formed by the two rivers—there lies a tract of impenetrable swamp, impassable at some seasons of the year even to local conveyances; but for the passage of an army, its infantry, cavalry, artillery, baggage and supply trains, would be at all times impracticable. However, by running from Niblett's Bluffs down the Sabine river, across the lake, and thence up the Neches to Beaumont, form an excellent water communication between the Bluffs and Beaumont, the distance being but eighty-eight miles. For purposes of navigation by this route the enemy has about twelve light draught steamers.

Upon these excellent considerations Niblett's Bluffs has been chosen as the defensive or offensive positions of their concentrated armies, and Beaumont the base of supplies; for, from that place to Houston, Texas, the communication by road is passable, and at Houston the cattle and entire agricultural resources of Texas can be centred for transportation to Beaumont and thence to their army at the bluffs.

The entire force of the enemy when here centred will not exceed thirty thousand. Their armies in the extreme West have suffered a greater depletion than those of the East, and more from disease than by the casualties of battle or campaign.

The enemy is resolutely determined to hold Texas, for the possession of that State by us will put an end to the existence, as an aggregate, of their armies on the west side of the river.

WHAT GEN. LEE'S MOVEMENTS MEAN.

The Yankees are very much puzzled to know what Gen. Lee's movements mean, though we should think that Meade discovered them pretty plainly in that race to Washington. An army correspondent of the *Herald* writes on the 26th ult.:

General Lee, it is ascertained, came across the river early Saturday morning, and remained a short time inspecting the situation. He then returned, and a short time afterwards the rebels advanced in strong force, variously estimated. I learn from reliable sources that the rebels are strongly fortifying themselves all along the banks of the Rappahannock, and have made quite a strong position of a fortification thrown up by the Union troops to serve to protect the pontoon bridges formerly thrown across near that point. The solution of the cause of these mysterious advances and retreats of Gen. Lee has not yet been positively obtained; but it is fair to presume that he has a motive, which is evidently not to give Meade battle; for if it were he has had many fair opportunities ere this. It would appear that he rather fears an advance on Meade's part; for otherwise he would not so diligently destroy the railroad or throw up fortifications. This would indicate weakness on Lee's part, no doubt caused by the loss of troops sent to the reinforcement of Bragg; and his design is now to hide the fact, under a guise of a belligerent attitude, until the truth leaks out from a heavy haste in the Southwest, and then if Meade should advance his fortifications would serve him to check sufficiently long to make good his retreat until under the protecting shield of the fortifications of Richmond. Winter coming on would be to him then a strong ally.

ELECTION FRAUDS IN OHIO.

A telegram from Hamilton, Ohio, dated October 29th, says revelations regarding the great majorities recently given to Brough are daily coming to light:

A Methodist minister was arrested here last week upon charge of illegal voting. He was brought up before the Mayor to-day for trial, and was bound over in the sum of five hundred dollars to appear at the next session of the Court of Common Pleas. The most gigantic frauds have been perpetrated in Ohio during the recent election.—Highland county alone gives Brough (Lincolnite) a majority of 589 votes more than the male population of the place. It contains a population of 5,589 males, including the unnaturalized and soldiers in the army. The people here, although expecting it, were startled upon the receipt of the frauds, and are now putting their heads together as to the propriety of appointing investigating committees.

AN EASY CAMPAIGN FOR GRANT PREDICTED.

A letter describing the position at Chattanooga gives the following Yankee idea of what Grant's campaign is to be:

On our right are the Raccoon, Lookout, Sand, and Cumberland Mountains. These can be crossed. They were by Rosecrans, but after months of special preparation; and should the enemy attempt the same manœuvre he may reasonably expect the same fate that befell Rosecrans at Chickamauga. It is one hundred and twenty miles from Chattanooga to Atlanta, through the same great valley. With his flanks and rear thus protected by Dame Nature, a powerful army to back him, necessitated to establish a short line, without fear of being flanked, Gen. Grant will be enabled to make the campaign to Atlanta without a serious engagement; and the name Atlanta is to be used in the sense of a compound one, signifying and including Rome, with her arsenals; Montgomery, with her great stores of cotton; Mobile, with her splendid advantages, and, indeed, all the country between the valley and the Mississippi river. It will never do to give up Chattanooga.

The Recent Engagement of General Chalmers in Mississippi.

A correspondent of the Atlanta *Appeal*, writing from Holly Springs, Miss., gives an account of the recent movements of Gen. Chalmers in that vicinity. He says:

Gen. Chalmers's whole force, having been reinforced by Richardson's command with six pieces of artillery, passed through Holly Springs Saturday last, en route (it was thought) for Collierville, Tenn., on the Memphis and Charleston railroad. A portion of his forces encountered a column of the enemy at or near North Mount Pleasant, in Marshall county, and drove them back. Reaching Collierville they surrounded it and Chalmers sent in a demand for the surrender of the place. The Federals refused, and Chalmers at once engaged them. The place was garrisoned by a portion of General Sherman's corps of infantry from Memphis and about one hundred cavalry. After a severe engagement he took the place, captured a train, which was burnt, about one hundred horses and mules, tore up the railroad track, destroyed all their commissary stores, captured one hundred and thirty prisoners, most of whom were cavalrymen, and fifteen wagons and teams. The number of Yankees killed and wounded could not be ascertained, but it was supposed to be heavy. One Yankee Colonel was known to have been killed, whose name I could not learn. Our loss was seven or eight killed and thirty or forty wounded. The Federals receiving reinforcements from Sherman's forces Chalmers fell back to Byhalia.

About three o'clock yesterday (Sunday) Gen. Philips, with 3,000 cavalry and eight pieces of artillery, passed through Holly Springs in a full gallop. They came in on the Salem road and went out on the same road that Chalmers and his troop did the day before. One mile north of this place Philips divided his forces—one column taking the Hudsonville road, and the other the road to North Mount Pleasant. It was at first supposed they were endeavoring to get in Chalmers's rear, but it is now generally believed both columns formed a junction at some point north of here, and are now engaging Chalmers at Byhalia or in that vicinity. Cannonading has been heard in that direction at intervals during the entire day, and much anxiety is felt as to the probable result. Gen. Hatch, with 500 cavalry, camped last night at Chism's place, only two and a half miles from town. They left early this morning, but it is not known where they have gone.

While here the Yankees captured one Confederate soldier, robbed several of the citizens of watches, money, and clothing, demolished two hand-cars on the Central road, and stole all the horses and mules they could find. The Rev. Mr. Johnson, an excellent man, was preaching a sermon to the negroes in the basement story of the Methodist Church when the Yankees came in.—They sent a negro in the Church, (one of their sweet-scented companions,) who told the minister that he was wanted at the door. The venerable minister was met at the door by a burley Yankee, with a drawn pistol, who commanded him to surrender. They carried him off, and thus broke up the meeting, when the negroes quietly dispersed. Just before the last squad left town they released him, after committing many indignities upon him.

They demanded of Gen. Thos. G. Polk, a venerable old man of this place, his fine gold watch, and upon refusing to deliver it up, he was shamefully abused and badly cut on the head with a sabre. In the vicinity of town they met a lady and her little daughter on their way home, in a buggy, and compelled them to get out, when two of the robbers got in and drove off, leaving them in the dusty lane to shift for themselves as best they could, and to be jeered at by every Yankee vagabond that saw fit to insult them.

About four miles from town they set fire to the residence of Mr. Branch, an old man, which was entirely consumed, together with everything he had, and his family left homeless in the road.—Their excuse for this diabolical act was that Chalmers had bivouaced on the premises the night previous. Several of the straggling Yankees were picked up by some of our furloughed soldiers after the main body had gone through and sent south.

Among the Yankees passing here last Sunday were a number of the notorious Kansas jayhawkers, who scruple not at the commission of any crime, however hideous. They came in town in advance of the main force, yelling like so many fiends. Galloping up to a squad of old men and boys assembled on the corner of the square, they with drawn pistols, curses and threats, sought to intimidate and frighten them; but failing to do so, went foward.

FRIDAY, October 13.—One of our cavalry arrived last night from the Tallahatchie, from whom I learned that no general engagement occurred at Byhalia, but simply an artillery running fight, as our forces were falling back. They reached the Tallahatchie river and crossed, dismounted, and formed a line of battle. The Yankees coming up, our troops engaged them, and finally drove them back, with a Yankee loss of twelve killed, left on the field, and one captain (a Kansas jayhawker) wounded and captured. Of the number of them wounded nothing could be ascertained. Our loss was four or six killed, and some ten or twelve wounded. The Yankees admit a defeat at the river. On their retreat, passing through Wyatt, they burned every house in the place, and would not permit any of the sufferers to save anything, not even wearing apparel. In the western portion of the county through which they retreated they burned all the residences and barns. They also destroyed the little town of Taltaloosa, six miles west of Holly Springs, as they passed through it. On yesterday, from the cupola of the court-house in Holly Springs, the smoke of as many as fifteen or twenty fires could plainly be seen all along the route of their retreat, and it is believed not a single residence or barn in that part of the country has escaped them.

On Wednesday last 25,000 infantry and cavalry, with ten pieces of artillery, passed through this place, taking the road to Wyatt, a mile south of us, and it was greatly feared they would return this way and destroy what is left of Holly Springs, but they did not do it.

It is said our soldiers, while at Collierville, captured enough boots and shoes and other quartermasters' stores to last them through the winter.—It was also reported that Gen. Sherman was on the train captured at Collierville, but made his escape.

GROWTH OF BOSTON.—The following is an extract of a Boston letter in the St. Louis *Republican*:

Boston is growing fast, notwithstanding the war, and in nothing is shown more plainly than in the number of public buildings now in process of erection. We are building a new City Hall—having torn down the old—which will be the finest edifice of the kind in the country. It is to be entirely of granite, and will cost very nearly a half million of dollars. A free City Hospital is also being erected, which will cost at least a quarter of a million. It is a larger building, having four separate wings for different forms of disease, and will combine all the modern improvements which can add to the comforts of patients, and will be open to all without charge. On the Back Bay lands the Natural History Society has erected a fine building for their occupancy, at a cost of over $100,000, and near by a similar building will be erected for the use of the Institute of Technology, which is, I believe, essentially a Yankee institution, and designed to afford to all opportunities for becoming practically acquainted with the science of mechanics and the operation of machinery of all descriptions. An "Institute of the Fine Arts," on a similar plan, is also contemplated, and there is one or two school houses being built, at a cost of from $50,000 to $60,000 each.

Boston is growing by the war, as it has always done by national calamities. After the war it will grow small by degrees and beautifully less.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Daring Robbery.—Some few nights since an old man named Wilson, a resident of Church Hill, was garroted and robbed of $1,400 in the following manner: Living in the neighborhood of the First Market house, a short time after dark, he was accosted by two fellows, who insisted on being treated. To get rid of them, he went into a drinking house near by, ordered liquor, and pulled out his roll of notes to pay the bill. After paying and drinking he started for home.—When on Broad street, between 20th and 21st, a fellow overtook him, offered to sell him a pair of fine ducks for $2.50, and insisted on his going to a shanty at the foot of the hill south of Broad street to look at them; but he declined, promising to return after supper. Wilson continued along Broad street till reaching 23d, when he turned to go to Marshall, followed by the "duck seller." On getting to the mouth of the alley, in rear of the late Capt. Burke's residence, three ruffians sprang upon him, choked him down, and, despite his cries for help, tore open his shirt bosom, robbed him of his money, and then ran off. Persons living in the neighborhood heard the cries for help of the old man, but the night being rather dark they did not feel willing to risk their heads even to save the life of a fellow being. The robbers have not been discovered, and probably never will be.

Robbers Foiled.—On Tuesday night last a party of rogues from this city procured a boat, and, with the hope of making a raise in grain, pulled to the south side of the river, below the Falls plantation, landed at Col S. Bassett French's farm, and, each supplied with empty bags and oil-cloth wrappings, proceeded to his corn-house, and commenced appropriating his grain to their purposes. They had made but little progress when the Colonel's guards discovered them and reported to him what was going on.—Feeling no disposition to have his grain thus distributed without his consent, the Colonel sallied out, well armed, and opening a flank fire upon the thieves, caused them to beat a hasty retreat, leaving their bags, wrapping, and boat in his hands. The Colonel continued the watch through the night, and as no one appeared to lay claim to the boat he yesterday morning ordered it to be destroyed. Farmers in the neighborhood of Richmond are so much annoyed by prowling thieves of every color that they are compelled to post regular guards on their premises, or lose all they have. If they would only use buckshot, and fire with more accuracy, so as to effectually stop one or more of the depredators, the authorities might get some information which would lead to the discovery and breaking up of this pestiferous gang.

Stabbing.—Joseph Rick, arrested for feloniously stabbing and wounding Henry B. Craft, on Monday last, was examined before the Mayor yesterday. The evidence showed that Rick had that morning assaulted and beaten Margaret Miller, a cyprian, who boarded in his house, and that his wife had informed Craft, who was a friend and visitor of Miss Miller, of what her husband had done. Craft, on hearing what had occurred, entered the house and asked Rick if he had struck the girl. Rick replied, "You had better carry her away from here, if you do not wish me to strike her." Craft then said he would allow no one to strike her, whereupon Rick drew his knife, gave Craft two stabs in his right breast. Craft sprang back and drew his pistol, seeing which Rick ran off. The Mayor sent the accused on to a called Court to be held next Monday, and refused him bail.

Muss at a Hotel.—Yesterday morning a party of young men appeared before the Mayor to answer the charge of fighting and otherwise disturbing the visitors at the Ballard House. Dr. Maddux was charged with assaulting and beating with a poker M. W. Nickelby; but the evidence showed that the doctor had only defended himself against a violent assault, made without cause or provocation, and he was therefore discharged.—Nickelby, however, was held to bail to answer an indictment for the disturbance, and required to give security to be of good behavior.

Judge Halyburton, of the C. S. Circuit Court, was engaged a portion of yesterday in the partial hearing of the charges against John Yates, Samuel Wheelberger, George Cooper, Daniel Cooper, G. W. Ramsey, John Thume, Samuel Bowman, Wm. Coffman, John D. Kester, and Rev. Wm. Dunlap, of Rockingham county, Va., for aiding and piloting deserters from the Confederate army to the Yankee lines. At the commencement of the investigation a message was received from the Secretary of War stating that the Government claimed that the parties were subject and ought to be tried by military authority. To this the counsel for the prisoners objected, alleging that they were citizens, and were, therefore, subject only to jury trial. To enable the Government to put in an argument, the investigation was adjourned until to-day.

The evidence elicited showed that the prisoners had been guilty of harboring Confederate deserters, and that they had used language that showed their antagonism to the Southern Confederacy, and in favor of the old Union of States. Only a portion of the witnesses were heard, because they all testified to the same facts. Whether others will be introduced to-day remains to be seen.

The C. S. Circuit Court is to be held for the future in the admirable rooms at the southwest corner of Franklin and 14th streets. The entrance to these rooms is on 14th street, and the location is perhaps the very best that could be obtained in Richmond. Apart from the accommodations of the Judge, there is ample space for the clerk, the sergeant and his deputies, and the juries, as well as for witnesses, jurors, lawyers, and spectators.—Until the Government can erect a building for this Court we are quite sure it will occupy its present location.

Violent Assault.—A young and genteel looking man, called Frank Pendleton, alias Barrett, made his appearance before the Mayor yesterday to answer the charge of violently assaulting and beating a young woman who gave her name as Lelia Smith. The assault was so very cruel that the accused was required to give bail for his future good behavior in the sum of $500, and to enter into security to answer an indictment by the Grand Jury in the sum of $700.

The Clothing Bureau, on 14th street, near Cary, under the charge of Capt. Weisiger, has been carefully arranged, as well for the transaction of business as for the accommodation and convenience of the three thousand ladies who get work there. Capt. W. says his first object is to give the work of his department to the wives, daughters, and mothers of soldiers *in the field*, and to enable him to do this he has already called in some five hundred tickets, held by ladies whose supports are not in active service.—The families of *detailed men* are not equally entitled to the work with those of soldiers, nor are any other class. Such lists as have been forwarded to us will be sent to the proper bureau, in order that the really needy may have the preference over those ladies who have their husbands and fathers with them, and who can get along without Government patronage.

We are satisfied that all abuses in this office will be remedied as soon as they are discovered, and that Capt. Weisiger will do all in his power to aid soldiers' families in providing for themselves the necessaries of life. After they are served the surplus work, if any, will be given to helpless widows and other ladies who live only by their needles, and who are known as deserving.

On Monday next the Hustings Court of Magistrates will meet at the City Hall for their regular monthly business, and the Grand Jury will be in session to hear and act upon all misdemeanor cases sent up by the Mayor.

Bound Over.—Edward Verde, for beating Albert Elders, was held to security by the Mayor for his good behavior, and required to give bail to answer an indictment by the Grand Jury.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM TENNESSEE—DESTRUCTION OF YANKEE PONTOONS, &c.

ATLANTA, Nov. 4.—Advices from the front state that the Yankees still maintain possession of Raccoon Valley, being heavily reinforced. They shell our forces incessantly. The floods in the Tennessee have demolished all the Yankee pontoons. The *Register* is informed that we have possession of Loudon, Tenn., the Federals falling back. Trains crossed the Hiawassee to-day, and ran to Loudon.

A special to the *Appeal*, dated Decatur, October 30th, says: "The Yankee's advance, via Eastport, has reached Florence. Gen. Ferguson fought them, capturing two cannon and forty prisoners."

A special to the *Intelligencer*, from Mission Ridge, says: "Our forces now occupy Loudon, the enemy having retreated, which places us within 23 miles of Knoxville, and behind the enemy's defences."

Prisoners captured near Whiteside report that Grant is in Chattanooga. The Yankees have been on half rations for the last three weeks, and their horses are suffering for forage.

Advices from Huntsville state that the enemy are raiding through the country, committing infamous depredations.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 4.—The bombardment of Fort Sumter continued furiously all night, and is still going on. No report from the fort this morning.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

CHARLESTON, Nov. 4, P. M.—The bombardment of Fort Sumter was kept up steadily by the monitors and land batteries all day. Ninety-two 30-pound rifle shots, with time fuzes, were fired on Tuesday night. No great damage done.

The President to-day visited James Island, Forts Johnson, Pemberton, and all the batteries along the shore, reviewing all the troops in the positions they will have to occupy in case of an attack. He visited Secessionville, and inspected Fort Lamar and other works about Secessionville. He made a thorough examination of all the works on James Island, and expressed himself exceedingly gratified with everything he saw—the fine appearance of the troops, the character and strength of positions, and the number of works. He leaves at 8 o'clock on Thursday morning, on the Northeastern railroad, for Florence.

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI.

COLUMBUS, Miss., Nov. 3, 1863.—The Governor's Message was read to day. He opens with a review of the enemy's encroachments upon the State, and the damage done public and private property. He urges the construction of a temporary penitentiary, and the re-establishment of the deaf, dumb and blind asylums, broken up by the enemy at Jackson. He advocates the removal of negroes from exposed districts, and suggests that they be put in the employ of the Government; and also advises that steps be taken to provide for the widows, wives, and children of soldiers.

He alludes to the good done by the State troops, and favors a thorough reorganization of the militia, calling out all male citizens between sixteen and sixty years of age. He does not think it necessary to retain the office of Brigadier-General of militia, but desires the amplest preparation to be made, regardless of expense or extreme measures.

Hon. James Drake was elected President of the Senate to-day.

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION.

RALEIGH, Nov. 4.—The vote of the following towns for members of Congress to day have been heard from: Raleigh—Turner, 339; Arrington, 107. Kinston—Yellowby, 57; Bridges, 36. Mosby Hall—Yellowby, 37; Bridges, 22. Weldon—Yellowby, 4; Bridges, 47. Hillsboro'—Turner, 205; Arrington, 50. Salisbury—Ramsay, 283; Lander, 114. Charlotte—Lander, 389; Ramsay, 54. Durham's—Turner, 56; Arrington, 88. Greensboro'—Gilmer's majority, 215. High Point—Brown's majority over Gilmer, 551. Lexington—Ashe, 111; Chatham, 75. Concord—Lander, 111; Ramsay, 102. Harrisonburg—Lander, 30; Ramsay, 1. Three precincts in Wayne county—McRae, 236; Leach, 66. Turner is believed to be elected in this district.

BLUNDERS OF SECRETARY SEWARD.—Mr. Seward, says the New Orleans *Picayune*, has more than once been detected in his plagiarisms from the writings of Alexander Hamilton and others, of the first era of the Republic. And now, besides some very adroit plagiarisms of other ideas, he is also convicted of some very gross blunders in his recent diplomatic circular. For instance, as noted by a New York cotemporary:

Such mistakes as placing Prince Rupert's Island near the head waters of the Mississippi; calling the motto of the Garter the motto of the British National Arms; attributing to Cardinal Richelieu the occupation and fortification of a large portion of this continent, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Straits of Belle Isle; though the Cardinal had been dead a quarter of a century ere the Mississippi was discovered; alluding to the "age of Gamecons" as coeval with the introduction of slavery to this continent by Portugal, though the poet died half a century before that event. These blunders of his past diplomatic correspondence, the critic thinks, were bad enough, but a like ignorance of passing events is inexcusable. Mr. Seward, in his circular, lately published to our Ministers abroad, speaks of an ordinance of emancipation having been adopted in Missouri, which terminated slavery in seven years. The ordinance alluded to does not even pretend to give a slave his liberty short of thirteen years, and leaves at least half the slaves now in Missouri slaves for life.

NARROW ESCAPE.—The torpedo which struck the Ironsides and was intended to blow up this monster frigate, might have played havoc generally had it been directed against the sides of a wooden vessel. At the time it exploded the gunboat Pah-Kee, Captain Webb, with dispatches from Fortress Monroe, was lying alongside of the Ironsides, and the shock caused by the explosion was distinctly felt by all on board. Had the torpedo been sent to the other side of the frigate, between her and the Pah-Kee, it is almost certain that the latter ship would have been blown to atoms.

An affray occurred in Staunton, Va., on Thursday last, in which Capt. E. P. Button, of Richmond, was shot and slightly wounded by Capt. O. W. Chambers, and afterwards severely beaten by the same party.

H. T. Clarke, of the Washington Artillery, has been arrested in Petersburg for stealing a gold watch from E. W. Hotlins, of Richmond, and selling it at $600.

C. D. Rides, lately published as a deserter figuring in a North Carolina peace meeting, is an old citizen of Forsyth county, and had not been in the army.

Sumter Anderson, it is stated in the New York papers, claims to have the "old flag", of Fort Sumter still in his possession.

The citizens of Florida are organizing Confederate societies for the purpose of bringing down the price of the necessaries of life.

The Presbyterian (United) Synod of Virginia has appointed the 1st proximo as a day of fasting and prayer.

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICES, &c.

THE subscribers have this day formed a co-partnership, under the firm and style of B H DAVIS & Co. for the purpose of conducting an Auction and Commission business, for the sale of Negroes.

They will sell both publicly and privately, and promise their best exertions to promote the interest of their patrons.

Their auctioneers will be for the present those lately used by B H Davis, corner Franklin st and Lower Alley.

They solicit the patronage of their friends and the public generally.

Porters always in attendance at the various depots.

B H DAVIS,
DUP'T RICHARDSON.

Richmond, Nov 21, 1863. no 4—6m

NEW AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE.—The subscribers have associated themselves together for the purpose of conducting a general auction and commission business at Richmond, and now offer their services to the public for the sale, either publicly or privately, of all kinds of produce, merchandise, or real and personal estate, in town or country.

REFERENCES—Kent, Paine & Co, Ferrum & Valentine, M Blair & Co, J A Smith, Cashier, J B Martin, Cashier, R H Maury & Co, G T Poster & Co, Richmond; E M Taylor, H of Shelby, Judge L P Thompson, and Hon J B Baldwin, Staunton.

no 2—3w4w† CATLETT & ALEY.

DISSOLUTION.—The firm of WAGGONER, HILL & ARCHER was dissolved on the 1st inst, by mutual consent. The name of the firm will be used by either partner in closing the business.

J J WAGGONER,
J R HILL,
S M ARCHER

Richmond, October 29, 1863. no 2—3t†

PULLIAM, HANES & WEISIGER, Auctioneers and Commission Merchants, Will attend to the sale of real or personal estate