

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

If we are correctly informed, there is no material change in the position of affairs in Northern Virginia, notwithstanding the report which obtained circulation yesterday that both armies were moving towards Fredericksburg.

It would seem that the enemy are busy in reconstructing the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, but we think that this is no indication of an early advance upon their part.

On Wednesday last the Yankees captured one of our commissioned officers and five privates, who were on picket, and who had ventured too far beyond the regular lines.

MATTERS IN NORFOLK.

The Yankees are publishing a paper in Portsmouth called The Old Dominion. A copy of that journal, of Thursday, gives us some insight into the way affairs are progressing in the unhappy city of Norfolk. Among the events of the week was a "grand surprise serenade" to Brigadier-General J. A. Barnes, Wednesday night, at the residence of that officer, on Freemason street. Remarkable as the General was not at all surprised, "as any other man might have been," but was, on the contrary, so self-possessed as to allow "all the facetious and genial nature of his soul to lavish a sincere welcome" on the serenaders. Mr. J. G. Shaw, the President of the Board of Trade, who got up this surprise, addressed the General in an effort which we feel bound to copy entire:

We come here to-night in a very inappropriate manner—we come as merchants and adopted citizens of Virginia—loyal men and every one of us. We come in a complimentary way, to shake hands with you as the representative of the Government we are the subjects. You are the head, we are the members of the "Young Men of Life," (especially speaking.) You are to be judge and jury, we come, general, to pay our respects to you, and in behalf of the gentlemen present, all me to congratulate you on the General's reported, glooming his guests in "an easy, military way," and furnishing them something to drink. The serenading party was composed of the Norfolk Board of Trade, three Yankee paymasters, two quartermasters, two New York newspaper reporters, and one Yankee sawbones. This nice tea party then proceeded to serenade "Hon." L. H. Chandler, a native of Massachusetts, representing the Norfolk district in the free nigger Congress at Washington. After this patriotic horn-blowing retired to roost in the Atlantic Hotel.

We read in this paper that Dr. Arthur Watson, of Accomac, who represented that county for several sessions in the Legislature of Virginia, has gone to Norfolk to practice medicine. Norfolk, like Richmond, is swarming with restaurants. Here are some of the names advertised: "The National," "Hygea," "European," "St. Charles," "American House," "Oxford Hall Restaurant," "Aracoe Saloon," "Manola Saloon," "Hem Saloon," "The Bugle," "Friendship Restaurant," "Grocker's," "The Office," "Washington Hall," "Break O' Day House," and "Cafe de Paris." There is also a "Fall de H. W. Goslin, a tragedian, was pleasing the Yankees there with Virginia.

NEGRO ENLISTMENTS IN MARYLAND—HOW THE THING IS WORKED.

We are reliably informed that the Lincoln Government is engaged in stealing the property of the slave-owners of Maryland, and using all the slaves they can seduce from their homes to recruit their shattered armies. The abduction of the slave is accomplished through the agency of free negroes who are employed to go through the State and inform the slaves of the intention of the Government to make them free. Points along the river and bay are designated, and facilities provided for their removal to Washington. Boats are sent to these points at the times specified, and signals given by the steam whistle for the negroes to come in and go on board. In this way hundreds are carried away to Washington, where, instead of being allowed their freedom, they are forced into the Federal ranks. It is supposed that this plan has been resorted to to avoid the payment of three hundred dollars to the owner for the emancipation of his negro. The free negro, of course, receives a bonus for his part of the performance.

The following shows the number of "colored" soldiers that have been enlisted in Maryland under this and other systems up to the 1st of October: From Somerset, 90; Dorchester, 285; Talbot, 38; Caroline, 30; Queen Anne's, 196; Kent, 200; Cecil, 33; Baltimore, (second district), 123; Baltimore, (third district), 197; Prince George's, 10; Annapolis, 10; Carroll, 34; St. Mary's, 2; Anne Arundel, 5; Prince George, 1; Howard, 23. Total, 1,728.

On the Sunday night previous to the 23d of October fifty negroes left the vicinity of Leonardtown, St. Mary's county, and have not since been heard from. Others are daily coming from different sections of the same county, and the tenure to this species of property has become so insecure as to render it entirely valueless.

The Disposition of Chattanooga.

The disposition of the Chattanooga Railroad is a subject which has been discussed in our columns for some time past. The history of the railroad is as follows: It was chartered in 1837, and its route was from Chattanooga to the mouth of the Tennessee River. It was built to a length of 100 miles, and was the longest railroad in the South at that time. It was abandoned in 1862, and the route was taken up by the Federal Government. It was then used as a military road, and was the only one of the kind in the South. It was abandoned in 1864, and the route was taken up by the Confederate Government. It was then used as a military road, and was the only one of the kind in the South. It was abandoned in 1865, and the route was taken up by the Federal Government. It was then used as a military road, and was the only one of the kind in the South.

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LOCAL MATTERS.

Meeting by a Soldier.—The Mayor yesterday morning presided at the meeting of John P. Newsum, of North Carolina, charged with feloniously shooting Martin Grepp and two other members of the City Battalion, on the 23d of October last. The meeting was held in the City Hall, and was attended by a large number of citizens.

John P. Newsum, of North Carolina, charged with feloniously shooting Martin Grepp and two other members of the City Battalion, on the 23d of October last. The meeting was held in the City Hall, and was attended by a large number of citizens. Newsum was charged with the murder of Grepp and two other members of the City Battalion. The meeting was held in the City Hall, and was attended by a large number of citizens.

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LETTERS.

THE OFFICE on the 23d of Oct. 1863. The following are the names of the persons who were present at the meeting of the City Council on the 23d of October last: Mayor Newsum, Aldermen Grepp, Newsum, and two other members of the City Battalion.

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