

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27.

The Treasury Department in Washington commenced yesterday paying off, the awards made by the commissioners appointed under the act to emancipate the slaves in the District of Columbia, a large crowd of persons interested gathered at the Department.

It is said that Generals Sumner and Franklin, who commanded the right and left Grand Divisions of the Army of the Potomac, have been relieved from their commands, but their successors have not yet been named. These changes leave vacancies for three Grand Division commanders.

On Saturday, John B. Hunter, of Fairfax county, was arrested by a guard sent out by Col. Doster, Provost Marshal, on charges of disloyalty, and committed to the Old Capitol, where he will be held as a hostage for Robert Siles, a government scout, who was captured by Stuart's cavalry, near Hunter's residence, a few weeks since.

John O. Little, tried in Washington for the murder of John Leach, a policeman, was acquitted yesterday. Augustus Ford, convicted of the murder of John Adams, has been sentenced to be hung on the 6th of March next.

This weather is like any thing but that which would be likely to "dry the roads." The mud, thick and deep enough before, is now thicker and deeper than ever, and the roads in lower Virginia must be almost impassable. A steady rain has been falling all this morning.

It is said that Gen. Hooker, now in command of the Army of the Potomac, has his plan of the campaign prepared, and will commence acting upon it, as soon as circumstances will permit.

Gold in New York, yesterday, 152.

The New York World, speaking of the late Pastoral letter of the Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States, says:—

"We have read with great interest, and candor requires us to say, with great pleasure, the whole pastoral letter. There are, indeed, some sentiments in it from which we dissent; but, taken as a whole, it is conceived in a spirit of sobriety, moderation, fervent piety, and unfeigned Christian charity, without any alloy of sectional bitterness, or any tinge of political asperity. They have in no respect changed the prayer-book, except to substitute the word "Confederate" for United before States in the prayers for the President and Congress; and they express the warmest sentiments of Christian love for other branches of the church, wheresoever located."

A dinner to the sick and wounded soldiers in McVeigh and Gore hospitals, in Alexandria, was given a few days since, by Mrs. Lammon and a number of ladies of Washington who took down a supply of substantials and delicacies, and served them up for the soldiers at these places. At the McVeigh, 68 patients partook of the repast, and 135 at Gore.

Minnesota has disposed of 40,000 acres of her school lands for a quarter of a million dollars, and there yet remain two and a half millions to be sold.

THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

MURFREESBORO, Jan. 26.—Gen. Rosecrans hopes that newspapers will desist from the practice of publishing the reports of shipments of supplies to the Department of the Cumberland, being substantially a notification to prepare forces for the capture of such supplies.

Wheeler's Confederate cavalry made a dash at a train of cars on Sunday on the Railroad between Nashville and Franklin, and succeeded in destroying two cars; but were driven away before they destroyed the balance of the train. A convalescent soldier was killed on the Confederate side. One Federal sergeant was badly wounded.

Brig. Gen. Stanley is following the Confederates, but they had too much start. He rode fifty-two miles within twenty hours. The Confederate cavalry, in considerable bodies, constantly hover on the Federal flanks watching their communication.

Gen. Wheeler has been made a major-general, and is in command of all the Confederate cavalry in Tennessee.

Gen. McCook has command of the right wing.

Brig. Gen. Granger commands Gen. Rosecrans' division.

It is reported that the Confederates are being reinforced.

The National Intelligencer, commenting on an article in the New York Tribune, setting the 1st of April as the limit for the prosecution of the present war, thus speaks:—"We shall be surprised if our contemporary, before making its final overtures to General Jefferson Davis for "the best attainable peace," does not prelude its humble plea by vehemently demanding at the hands of Mr. Lincoln still another proclamation, as a kind of "auctioneer's last call," addressed to the "loyal" but apathetic blacks—the "forlorn hope of the Republic."

Several editions of the Boston Journal have recently been printed on paper made of wood, with a small addition of linen stock, and the Journal states that the experiment has proved entirely successful. The paper is represented as fully equal to if not better than the paper ordinarily used by newspapers, and the cost of manufacture is much less.

It is stated that Gen. Scott's health is fast failing him now. He is confined to his apartment in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, almost entirely helpless, and, what is worse, it is said that his mind at length is breaking down under the weight of years and mental and bodily trouble. He receives but few visitors, and these only his most intimate friends.

We have already noticed the sale of Humphrey Marshall's law library, by order of the United States District Court. The library brought \$1367.19 and the Court confirmed the sale and ordered the proceeds distributed. After paying the United States Marshal's Clerk and the District Attorney's fees, what remained, \$1086, was ordered to be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

LIBERTY HALL.—As usual, the Hall was again filled last night by a large and discriminating audience. The engagement of the Sisters M'les Augusta and Marie, must prove a profitable one to the managers, judging from the high encomiums bestowed upon their chaste and graceful dancing last night by every one present. Tim Hayes is also an excellent performer, and Messrs. Sinn & Hess can now boast of having the best company which has appeared here for many years.

TROUBLES OF THE ARMY OF POTOMAC.

During the few weeks the army has been resting in camp, the opportunity has been seized upon to hold courts-martial, and the dismissal of several officers have been officially promulgated. Among these are the following named officers:

Lieutenant Colonel Holliday, 110th Pennsylvania volunteers, "for conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman." First Lieutenant Cottrell, of the same regiment upon the same charge. Lieutenant Colonel E. A. L. Roberts, 28th New Jersey volunteers, "cashiered" for "drunkenness on duty." Captain Edwin A. Batchelder, company B, 3d Maine regiment volunteers, "cashiered" for "cowardice and misbehavior before the enemy."

The recent mutiny, of which there are many and various versions already circulating in camp, was simply and wholly this: Company C, of the New York Artillery Battalion, informed their sergeant that they would not turn out to fight until they were paid. The Sergeant told the Lieutenant, the Lieutenant told the Adjutant General, who in turn told General Hayes. The General immediately ordered that unless they should consent to turn out, the company should be shot down. This morning, accordingly, Capt. Graham had ready a section of his battery, and it arranged that the Adjutant General should address them in German preparatory to executing the threat. The company hearing of it, quietly communicated to their Sergeant, and he to his Lieutenant, and he again to his Adjutant General, and finally to General Hayes, that they would obey orders without any hesitation. The status quo was accordingly restored.—[N. Y. Herald.

Confiscation of Property.

In reply to a resolution of inquiry relative to property heretofore seized by the Military Governor of the District of Columbia as the property of rebels, Secretary Stanton encloses a communication from Gen. Martindale, Military Governor of the district, detailing the circumstances of the conflict of the military and civil authorities with regard to the property of Judge Campbell, which after its seizure by the military authorities was subsequently turned over to the Marshal of the District upon a writ of replevin. Gen. Martindale suggests further legislation by Congress to embrace two points: 1st. To authorize the seizure of rebel property by military authority as though martial law existed, but to be transferred to the civil authorities for condemnation and sale in those districts where the civil courts are in operation and to courts-martial where rebellion has interrupted civil courts; 2d. Continued absence and general reputation of disloyalty, to authorize condemnation and sale unless the owner of the property seized shall appear and prove loyalty.—[Washington Chronicle.

The Louisville Journal, one of the strongest Union papers in the whole country, denounces the Northern ultraists, as men "who carry resentment to the very extreme of subjugation, and passion to a ferocity which would shame our frontier savage tribes; who wish to wage this war for conquest and annihilation; who would overthrow the established institutions of the South regardless of the wrongs done to loyal inhabitants, and break down every constitutional barrier in their progress; who hope to preserve the Union by insulting the dignity, destroying the equality, and impairing the rights of sovereign States, and who assert that this war ought never to cease, the sword never to be sheathed, or the rifle never to be hung upon its peaceful bracket, until African slavery is exterminated by fire and steel from every section of the land."