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WAR NEWS.

It is stated that information has been received in Washington that Gen. Lee's army is concentrated south of the Rapidan river, in the vicinity of Gordonsville. A small force occupy Fredericksburg. Late Southern papers say that no important movements have been made by the army beyond such as was rendered necessary by the advance of the Federals.

Gen. Foster has returned from a reconnoissance up the James river, which occupied two days. He was accompanied by the turreted gunboat Sangmore, also gunboat Cohasset and Com. Barney. Capt. Cox, of the Cohasset was killed while at the wheel. The Com. Barney, when at a place called Dutch Gap, several miles above City Point, exploded a torpedo, by which two of her sailors were drowned. The information obtained by Gen. Foster from this expedition is of value.

The New Orleans correspondent of the New York Herald states that Brashear City was recaptured, but the Confederates had previously carried off or destroyed everything but one gun. The Confederates left in the direction of Texas.

A Cairo dispatch says that Gen. Davidson, at the head of a Federal force, is marching down the interior of Arkansas, and that he has been successful in several skirmishes with the Confederates. Another expedition is at the point of starting, from which important results is expected.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of Saturday morning says: "An order was received in this city yesterday morning directing that the colored regiment which has been encamped at Chelton Hill, since its formation, shall leave as soon as possible for Charleston, S. C."

Last week, some of Baker's detectives had instructions to surround a house at White Point, Va., for the purpose of capturing some persons charged with disloyalty. The crew of the gunboat Cœur de Lion were to act in conjunction with the detectives. The gunboat was under the command of Ensign Sheridan.—When the house was being surrounded by Baker's men, David Lynch, a marine belonging to the boat, had already been placed there. Lynch challenged Fawpelle (a detective) twice, when the latter gave the signal agreed upon by the detectives. This was misunderstood by Lynch, who supposing by the motion of deceased hand that he intended to shoot, fired at him, killing him almost instantly. Fawpelle was at once taken up and placed on the gunboat, and Lynch was placed under guard, not only that the facts should undergo an investigation, but that he might be protected from violence by Fawpelle's comrades. The object of the expedition was abandoned, in consequence of the excitement which prevailed at the time.

Many of those drafted in the District of Columbia who are satisfied that they have no good plea of exemption under the law, have already been paying up the \$300 in lieu of personal service. Substitutes, however offering to a considerable extent, and are being purchased by some at prices less than \$300. There will doubtless be anxious crowds in attendance upon the board of enrollment, for the purpose of claiming exemption on one ground or another. It is said that brokers offer to supply substitutes as low as \$200.

The sergeant-at-arms of the U. S. Senate has removed J. W. Jennings, and appointed Henry O. Kent, of New Hampshire, postmaster of that body.

It is rumored that George Peabody, the American banker in London, proposes to donate to Yale College the sum of \$400,000 for the purpose of erecting a geological cabinet.

Mr. Thomas D'Arcy McGee has of late made himself prominent in Canada and others, of the British North American Provinces, by advocating the consolidation of them all into one monarchy, to be ruled by a descendant of the present Queen of England.

The Government has a cattle pen at Perryville, Cecil county, Md., containing 2,800 beeves. The number has been as high as 5,000, but has been reduced to supply the Army of the Potomac.

The Capitol at Jackson, Miss., was not entirely destroyed. The only thing that saved it was the fact that it was built of stone. The Court House and Governor's Mansion, with the majority of residences and the entire business portion of the city are utterly consumed.

Short dresses are said to be coming into fashion, and next winter nothing else will be seen in the grande salone of Paris.

Commissioner Lewis has decided that billiard tables kept for the use of the public, are chargeable with the specific duty of ten dollars each, in addition to the license duty prescribed in section 64 of the act for raising revenue, &c. The decision recently published was unofficial.

There are now in the Yazoo river and its tributary streams, thirty-two wrecks of the finest steamers that ever floated upon the Mississippi river. The boats were removed to the Yazoo for safety at the commencement of the war. Some of them were converted into gunboats but performed little service, and were sunk or burned to prevent falling into the Federal hands.

Robert C. Gist, special agent of the Post-office Department, in charge of the Memphis post-office, writes to the second assistant-postmaster-general, that steamboats are arriving and departing almost daily to and from New Orleans, without molestation from guerrillas. He adds: "I am now making up a mail daily for New Orleans."

The Richmond Sentinel says the Shenandoah valley presents a flourishing appearance. The crops are very fine, particularly the corn and hay.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

The Steamers Hibernian and China have arrived and bring English dates to the 1st inst.

In the absence of fresh advices from America the English journals have little to say on American affairs.

The London Morning Post argues to show that the recent Federal successes are not likely to prove materially advantageous to the Federals.

The Army and Navy Gazette takes a gloomy view of the military prospects of the Confederates. It says the retreat of General Bragg, and the flight of General Johnston before General Sherman's forces show sufficient signs of exhaustion. It adds: "Charleston is in real danger, and if it falls, Savannah follows." Still it thinks that the Federal armies cannot be filled without a conscription, which may palsy the North and wrest victory from her grasp.

The London Globe contends that the Confederates have not yet been conquered, and that Lee is as safe as ever at Culpeper.

The Confederate loan was heavy at 17a15 discount.

Sir Crescent, the well known judge, is dead. Marshal Forey, in an official report, says that he is occupied in forming a provisional government in Mexico from men of moderate views belonging to all parties.

The war panic on the Polish question has subsided.

It is reported that an extensive conspiracy against Russia has been discovered in Caucasus.

The Cotton and Breadstuffs markets in England were dull and rather declining.

Correspondence between Gov. Seymour and President Lincoln.

Gov. Seymour, in a letter dated the 3d inst., asks for the suspension of the draft in New York until its constitutionality is settled by the Supreme Court. He complains of unfairness of the quotas as compared with those of the rural districts, and that the city has not been credited for volunteers sent to the seat of war.

The President in reply, under date of August 7, says he cannot suspend the draft in New York because time is too important. He admits the disparity of quotas in different sections, and accounts for it by the fact that so many more persons fit for soldiers are in the city than the country who have too recently arrived from Europe to be included in the census of 1860.

Still he would not consider that reason sufficient, and he would direct the draft to proceed, drawing only the average quota of all districts. After this drawing the city districts shall be carefully re-enrolled and the Governor's agents might witness every step of the process. Due credit will be given for all volunteers. The President would not object to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court. He would be willing to facilitate it, but could not consent to lose time.

Ill-feeling is provoked in New England by the publication of exemptions with their deformities and ailments. The exposure is not agreeable; in many cases it is a positive injury. The law does not require it.

Gen. Robert H. Milroy is to be tried by a military general court-martial for an offence specified in an order of the General-in-Chief. Gen. Halleck has detailed officers to constitute the court.