

# The Local News.

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TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 12, 1861.

PRINTED AT THE  
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE OFFICE.

## ALEXANDRIA, VA.

The business of this office is conducted on a cash basis. No books are kept, and we are without the ordinary means of perpetuating evidence of indebtedness. Job printing and transient advertisements must be paid for in advance.

**REPAIRS TO THE COURT HOUSE.**—During the occupation of the Court House as a barrack by the United States soldiers, some damage was done to various portions of the building, both interior and exterior. The Judge of the Military Court has recently had a careful examination made of all those damages, and had them repaired. Other portions of the building and walls, injured before the beginning of the present difficulties, have, also, been repaired, so that the Court House is now in a better condition than it has been for some time.

**WHEAT.**—The first arrival of wheat in the ordinary course of trade, for many months, took place yesterday. It came via the Potomac from Charles County—was disposed of to millers at \$1.50. The wheat was a prime lot of 2,000 bushels.

**REPORTS FROM BELOW.**—Vessels from Charles County report a sad state of things among the hitherto thriving people of that county, whose farms border upon the Potomac. War seems to have dealt as hardly with them as with our old friends, the farmers of Fairfax.

**THE MILITARY COURT.**—The Military Court, Judge Freese, held its usual session at the Court House, this morning. Its attention was occupied with military cases exclusively, of which there were a large number.

The St. Mary's Beacon of Faiday last says:—"We have been requested to say, that vessels sailing from the Potomac for Baltimore or other points will be permitted to take freight as heretofore, but they will not be permitted to land any freight on the Potomac shore on their return trips until further orders. We have been informed, that this prohibition extends to Blackstone's Island as well as to other points."

The report of the capture of a puny boat, with Fisher and Coleman on board, by the Confederates at Quantico, mentioned yesterday, is now positively contradicted. The vessel was loading with grain at Mattawoman, yesterday. The story of the capture was told with minute particulars. The inference is, not to believe any thing scarcely that you hear, now-a-days.

Charles Greene, late a merchant of Savannah, and his sister, Mrs. Lowe, have been arrested at Detroit. Mr. Greene is charged with having purchased war munitions in England for the Confederates. He was sent to Fort Warren. Mrs. Lowe was sent to Washington. Her husband was arrested in Cincinnati.

Gen. Beauregard says that the retreat of the Confederate troops from Fairfax, immediately preceding the battle of the 18th of July, at Blackburn's Ford, is the first instance on record of volunteers retiring before an engagement, and with the object of giving battle in another position.

The London Times says, after recounting some of the chief exploits of steam navigation, "that what has been a scientific success has been a pecuniary failure." This remark holds good only as concerns ocean navigation.

It is understood that the advance of the Federal army of the Potomac will be expedited by intelligence of a successful diversion in favor of the Federal cause by the naval expedition.

Rev. Mr. Mitchell, rector of the Episcopal Church, at Elkton, Md., has been arrested by the Federal troops, on a charge of uttering treasonable language. Great excitement prevailed.

The Union majority in the newly elected Legislature of Maryland will be 63, on joint ballot.

Anonymous communications receive no attention whatever. All communications, notices, &c., intended for insertion in the Local News must be accompanied with a responsible name.

**CARELESS RIDING—CHILD RUN OVER.**—On yesterday afternoon, about 5 o'clock, an artilleryman passed up King street on horseback at a very rapid pace, and when in front of the Fire Insurance Company's office, near St. Asaph street, ran over a little child. The lad, a boy eight years of age, is a son of Mr. John Lloyd, residing on Franklin street, near Yeates' garden. He was picked up immediately after the accident, and carried into the shop of Mr. J. F. Weadon, where his injuries were attended to. These proved to be wounds in the forehead and in the mouth, somewhat severe, but not at all dangerous. The artilleryman was at once arrested by the guard, and punished for culpable carelessness. Fast riding and driving through the streets is very dangerous and reprehensible.

**MARRIAGES.**—The Clerk of the Alexandria County Court granted during the month of October just passed, seven marriage licenses. This is considerably below the usual average of the month for the past eight years, but is larger than the number granted during the October of last year.

It is alleged by scientific men in England that the Armstrong gun is practically a failure. The cause of this is said to be chiefly owing to the defects of the vent piece, which if made of steel breaks, and if of wrought iron, bends. It is further stated that the lead coated projectiles, which are an essential part of the Armstrong system, are liable to which, where the artillery was covering infantry, would be more fatal to friends than foes.

It is said, in the New York Herald, that the government has given permission to certain parties in Rhode Island to send merchant vessels after the naval squadron, loaded with supplies necessary for the Union men of the South, for which they expect to obtain cotton in exchange at the ports in South Carolina and Georgia, which the fleet may open, and transport the staple thence to Liverpool.

A correspondent of the "Newark Daily Advertiser," writing from Alexandria speaks in condemnation of the "determined character of the feelings of many citizens of the place in reference to their allegiance to Virginia"—of the general use of "whiskey" in town and surrounding country—and of the "devotion of the females to the sacred soil of Virginia."

Caleb Ross, son of Ex Governor Ross, of Delaware, entered the Southern army on the breaking out of the war, and being subjected to exposure and hardships in the camp, was attacked with typhoid fever, from which he died at Big Springs, Va., on the 17th of September. He was twenty-two years of age, and the only surviving son of the ex-Governor.

In the Probate Court of Cuyahoga county, Ohio, a few days ago, a colored man, named West, was tried upon an indictment for marrying a white woman. West pleaded guilty to the charge, and was fined one cent.

There is no little indignation in official circles at the attempt of Gen. Fremont's friends to intimidate the Government by the fabrication of despatches, public and private, respecting a state of feeling in the Western army not warranted by the facts.

The first letter, by mail, received at this office for five months past, we believe, reached us yesterday, containing an order for the Local News to be sent to a subscriber in Maryland.

The Washington despatches now say that the Confederates, on the lower Potomac, have not retired southward—but that they are putting up a telegraph on the Virginia shore.

Gen. Blenker's command had their proposed torch light procession in Washington, on Monday night.

## GENERAL NEWS.

A surveying party from General Franklin's division returned last evening. They proceeded without molestation three miles beyond the pickets at Anandale, and within two and a half miles of Fairfax Station—They saw no trace of the Confederates.

At New York, November 11th, Thomas F. Coogen, a waiter at the St. Nicholas Hotel, was brutally murdered on the foot-walk in front of the hotel, by a loafer named Thomas White, armed with a dirk. White was arrested.

It is stated that on Thursday the Treasury Department, at Washington, paid out one million and a half of dollars, and on Friday one million. In October thirteen times as much was paid out as during the same month of last year.

Colonel Hinks, feeling that injustice has been done him, has demanded a court of inquiry in Stone's case, in order that the matter may be shown up, and the guilty bear the blame.

The Chicago Tribune states that General Totten, Chief of Engineer Corps, has been making an examination of our works along the Canada border, particularly at Rouse's Point, on Lake Champlain.

The Santa Fe and Carson City express brings Santa Fe dates to the 26th ult., and \$5,000 in gold dust. There were no through passengers and no news of importance. The mails from Washington were very irregular, and specie had become extremely scarce in the territory, and none could be obtained.

Flag officer McKean, in the Gulf, after investigating the affair of the 12th of October at the passes of the mouth of the Mississippi, ordered Com. Handy, of the Vincennes, home. About the same time, Captain Pope, of the Richmond, asked to be relieved on account of sudden ill health, and was relieved. He came home in a supply ship.

The steamer S. R. Spaulding arrived at Fortress Monroe on Sunday from Hatteras Inlet, bringing back the Twentieth Indiana regiment, whose sufferings from the loss of clothes, &c., rendered their removal necessary. It is also stated that the New York 9th regiment was to be brought from the Inlet, which will probably be guarded by one or two gun boats.

The wreck of the steamer Union, of the expedition, is confirmed. She was run ashore in a sinking condition on the North Carolina coast. The crew got safely ashore and were taken prisoners by the Confederates. The steamer was completely broken up, and her cargo, bales of pressed hay and dead horses, were scattered along the coast.

According to a statement in the New York Herald, there have been exported from this country this year 31,102,861 bushels of grain.

There is said to be a man in Chicago, worth some \$80,000 in real estate, who nevertheless has to labor for a livelihood, his real estate being wholly unproductive, and, worse than that, unsaleable. This Chicago case is not the only one of the kind that might be mentioned.

The Railroad Convention in Princeton adopted the following time table, to take effect on the 18th: Leave Washington 6 and 11 o'clock morning, and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, arriving at New York at 6 and 10 o'clock p. m., and 4 o'clock morning. Leave New York at 7 o'clock morning, and 6 and 21 o'clock p. m., and arrive in Washington at 6 o'clock p. m., and 6 and 9:30 a. m. Trains leaving Washington at 5 o'clock p. m. will go through direct to New York every day.

An article is going the rounds of the papers, showing that nobody who drinks what is called wine, in this country, can now be sure that there is any grape juice in what he drinks. Brandy, or what goes under that name, is almost universally shunned, as utterly untrustworthy. Whiskey, even, "requires watching," in more ways than one—most of it being drugged or adulterated.

The Secretary of War has returned to Washington.

WANTED TO RENT, a HOUSE neatly furnished, in a good location. Address T. G. P., at the office of the Gazette. nov 12—4t.

## NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

[Extracts from Southern papers]  
The following evidently has reference to Captain Semmes, of the privateer Sumter, whose arrival in England has already been mentioned:—"A Richmond correspondent of the Savannah News says a noted captain, well known in Savannah and Charleston, will soon turn up in England, and subsequently on the high seas, as a master of a large and powerful privateer, carrying the flag of the Confederate States."

The New Orleans Bee has an article on the capture by the Federal fleet, of the Joseph H. Toone, and several other vessels on the Gulf coast. The Bee says:—"The Joseph Toone had a cargo of arms and munitions of war, valued at \$40,000, that would have been worth four or five times that amount had she run safely into Barataria."

The Nashville Patriot contains the following:—"The Richmond papers are enforcing with irresistible appeals the importance of reinforcing Gen. Zollicoffer's command in Kentucky."

The yellow fever is prevailing at East Baton Rouge.

An armed Confederate steamer has brought another prize into Charleston. Also the following prizes:—"Brig Betsy Ams, Wells, of Maine, Michael, Tennessee, and six others, were captured. The Ams sailed from New York for Cardenas on the 6th of October. She was captured some days ago, with an assorted cargo. A valuable cargo of coffee, ammunition, saltpetre, sulphur, and small arms, recently arrived at Charleston."

The Richmond Whig says:—"We have reason to believe that the rumor that Mr. Breckinridge has received an appointment in President Davis' Cabinet, is entirely without foundation. The presumption is, instead, that he will be given a command in Kentucky. Unless we are misinformed, the gentleman who has, since the retirement of Secretary Walker, discharged the onerous duties of the War Department, will be retained at that post."

From extracts from the Southern papers, published in the Northern papers we give the following:—

The report that Gen. Evans disobeyed orders at Leesburg is erroneous. Gens. Johnson and Beauregard have written Gen. E. complimentary letters.

The cotton and sugar crops at the South are said to be about an average.

The Alexandria (La.) Constitutional of the 19th ult., says:—"We learn that there is to be erected near this city a large slaughter house, at which 40,000 hives are to be slain and packed for the use of the army."

The Richmond Dispatch says that within two days contributions were received for the Confederate army amounting in money and clothing to \$34,124.

It is stated, on Richmond authority, that Gen. Lee's command has been divided—Lee taking command in Northwestern Virginia, Gen. H. R. Jackson, of Georgia, in the Valley, and that Gen. Holmes takes command of the lower Potomac.

The newly elected Confederate States Senators from Tennessee are Landon C. Haynes, of Washington county, and Gustavus A. Henry, of Montgomery county.

The trade in broadstuffs at the West this season has been enormous, and how the amount yet remaining is to come forward in a brief month of navigation is a subject of lively interest. The last Detroit Advertiser notices a falling off in the deliveries of wheat there, on account of the advance in Canal freights, and a corresponding decline in prices of grain. Notwithstanding this decline there is no question that the roads and canals will be taxed to their utmost to the end of the season.

Gen. McClellan wants those sentinels who may hereafter be convicted of sleeping on their posts, that the penalty ordered by the military code will be inflicted.

We have to day Indian Summer weather—the most delightful season of the year.