

# The Local News.

COMMENCED  
October 7, 1861.

MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 25, 1861.

PRINTED AT THE  
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE OFFICE.

## ALEXANDRIA, VA.

**THE LAST SUNDAY OF AUTUMN.**—Yesterday closed the series of autumnal Sabbaths, and, in appearance, was the most sombre of them all. A dull cloud hung over the heavens during the greater portion of the day, which, at night fall, broke into a snow shower. The air was keen and searching, and people kept within doors as much as possible. The Sunday schools were thinly attended, and, although more churches were open than has been usual for some months past, the congregations were not so large as on the bright Sundays of the early fall.

The Baptist church was open morning and evening, with the usual services, by Rev. Mr. Biting.

The Catholic (St. Mary's) church was open at the usual morning and afternoon services, conducted by Rev. P. P. Kroes.

Grace (Protestant Episcopal) church was open in the morning for sacramental services, which were conducted by the Rev. Geo. A. Smith.

Christ church was open, as usual, the services being conducted by army chaplains.

The Methodist Episcopal church, Washington street, was opened, morning and evening, services being conducted by the reverend pastors, Messrs. Phelps and Lemon. At evening service, a special discourse on the text, "Buy the truth, and sell it not," was preached by the Rev. Mr. Phelps to a large congregation.

The Methodist Protestant church was opened for public service—the first time for months—the pastor, Rev. James T. Ward, officiating morning and evening.

The First Presbyterian church, Fairfax street, Rev. Dr. Harrison, was opened for morning and afternoon services, the venerable pastor officiating.

We heard of no cases of disorder in the streets, and were glad to notice the entire resumption of the olden Sabbath quietude.

**THE POOR HOUSE.**—The recent reports afloat that John Stephenson, the keeper of the poor and work house, had abandoned his post, and removed himself, his family and effects into town, proves, like most reports circulated hereabouts, entirely untrue. On a visit to the poor-house yesterday evening, we found Mr. Stephenson, in the midst of his charge, doing his duty with his usual faithfulness. He said that it was true that, anticipating a speedy removal from his position, he had rented a house in town, and sent thither the greater portion of his household effects, but that he had never for a moment entertained the idea of leaving the poor people under his charge, until his successor was ready to enter upon the duties of the post.

The poor residents, many of whom were well known in this town in other days, were seated in a large room, beside a comfortable fire, looking as easy and contented as almost any group in the city. They were talking over all the stirring events of the times, the change in the superintendent, prophesying snow near at hand, &c., and it was evident, from the appearance of all things around, that there had been no "neglect" on the part of Mr. Stephenson.

**SNOW AND ICE.**—The first snow of the season fell last night,—not as usual—in a few "spits" but in a heavy driving shower, which, had it lasted longer, might well be called a snow storm. The snow began soon after twilight and continued until about 10 o'clock, lying in exposed situations to the depth of a quarter of an inch. After the snow cloud blew off the night grew quite cold, and this morning ice was to be seen on all standing water.

**MILITARY COURT.**—A small number of military cases occupied the attention of the Military Court, Judge Freese, at its session this morning, showing that the town was more orderly yesterday than usual.

**THE RIVER.**—The arrivals, since our last report, have been a few small oyster boats. This morning several vessels, with grain, wood and oysters, passed up, bound for Washington or Georgetown.

**RENEWAL OF SERVICE.**—We noticed some days since that the Wednesday evening services at St. Paul's lecture-room had been resumed. We learn that arrangements have since been matured for the opening of regular Sunday services at the same place. The first service under the new arrangement will take place on Sunday morning next, and will consist of the exercises peculiar to the Protestant Episcopal worship, as usual at St. Paul's church. These exercises will be in charge of the Rev. George A. Smith and the Rev. K. J. Stewart, and will doubtless be largely attended.

**THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.**—There was quite a busy time at the Mayor's office this morning. Arrangements for bonding the officials elected on Wednesday last; some affidavits were made, sundry inquiries as to licenses and civil proceedings for rent, &c., occupied the time much beyond the period during which the Mayor's Court has been accustomed to sit. No action, however, was taken in any of the cases.

**EXCITEMENT.**—There has been considerable disorder in the streets to-day, owing to the too free use of intoxicating drinks by the soldiers.

[For the Local News.]

Mr. Price, the late Mayor, informs me that there is no truth whatever in the report that he ever committed any one to gaol, in consequence of his political opinions. He feels, therefore, that I did him injustice in my remarks, reported in your paper of Friday—This I would be very far from doing. I did not then, and do not now, make any charge that such was the fact. I referred to the circumstance as one "publicly stated here."—I had heard it several times asserted with great positiveness. Mr. Price, however, assures me, with equal positiveness, that it has not the least foundation in truth, and Mr. Price's denial will be conclusive with any one who knows him, until it shall be disproved by the very best evidence.

S. F. BEACH.

Alexandria, Nov. 25, 1861.

## SOUTHERN NEWS.

From the extracts from Southern papers, published in the Northern journals, we glean the following items:

The Congress of the Confederate States has passed an act to remove the capital from Richmond to Nashville, Tenn.

The Enquirer learns that Gen. Winder contemplates sending a large number of the prisoners of war, at present in Richmond, to North Carolina and Florida, and that hereafter Richmond will be regarded merely as a receiving depot.

Among the contributions received in Richmond, were the following for the Alexandria troops: Mrs. Margaret Line, Shepherdstown, Va., \$5; Dr. W. R. Nelson, Hanover county, \$20; heretofore reported, \$1,065—total \$1,090.

Thirty-two federal prisoners were brought to Richmond on Monday evening by the Central train, from Manassas, under escort of a captain and six men. They were captured on Saturday previous while on a foraging expedition in the vicinity of Fall's Church.

The Enquirer gives the names of forty-five prisoners taken by a portion of Gen. Floyd's command in Northwestern Virginia, and who reached Richmond by the Danville road on Thursday.

Sacks of salt (130 pounds) have been bringing nine dollars each in Charlottesville, Va. A letter from there violently denounces speculators.

Governor Letcher has furnished the State convention with a list of the colonels appointed since their last adjournment. They are as follows: J. E. B. Stuart, J. B. Baldwin, Ben. H. Robertson, J. McCausland, Francis H. Smith, Wm. H. Harman, Geo. W. Randolph, Charles W. Field, F. Mallory, S. H. Reynolds, Wm. D. Stuart, Wm. R. Kray, L. A. Armistead, Edmund Goode, William E. Jones, John Echols, H. B. Tomlin, Armistead T. M. Rust. They are all on duty.

A large number of appointments of cadets from the Confederate States to the Virginia Military Institution have been made.

The Enquirer says that among the distinguished persons at present in Richmond, is the Hon. Albert Pike, the poet warrior of Arkansas, who is there on official business connected with the Indians of the southwest.

The appeal of John Withers et al., from a decree pronounced by the Circuit Court of Alexandria county, on the 1st of June, 1861, in which the board of public works of Virginia was plaintiff, and Wm. Selden and others defendants, the decree was interlocutory, and that the case shall be proceeded with to a final decision before an appeal could be granted.

Wm. A. Moncure, Esq., the Second Auditor of Virginia, has just made his report for the fiscal year ending 30th of September.—The total receipts of the year from internal improvements, was \$1,775,091, and the expenditures \$1,766,871, leaving a balance of \$8,220. Of the sinking fund, the receipts were \$2,292,025, and the expenditures \$2,233,716, leaving a balance of \$68,309. The aggregate public debt is \$34,809,824, and there is a balance of \$17,798 in the treasury to the credit of the literary fund.

The Charleston Mercury says that an English screw frigate, the "Immortalite," has arrived off that port, looking after British interests. The British steam sloop "Racer" is expected in a few days.

Com. Drayton, U. S. N., has visited his brother's plantation, and has taken an inventory of his property—negroes excluded.

The New York Albion has one remark, in the truth of which "both sides and all sides" will acquiesce, and that is, "if newspaper articles are long, they are sure to be unread." In our own case, we have no room for long articles, and our space will not allow anything but brief paragraphs and short pieces. But, if we had a sheet ten times as large, we would repeat, "be brief, or you will not be read."

## GENERAL NEWS.

The small-pox, typhoid fever, and black measles, are said to be committing ravages in Gen. Buckner's army on Muldraugh's Hill. Large numbers die every day.

Joseph K. Maddox, esq., of St. Mary's county, Md., who has been confined in Fort Warren for some weeks, has been released on his parole.

James S. Green, late United States Senator from Missouri, was arrested on Thursday last at his residence, near Canton.

Calhoun Benham, of California, who, with Senator Gwin, was arrested by General Sumner on his recent passage from the Pacific, is a brother-in-law of George D. Prentice, of the Louisville Journal. One object of Mr. Prentice, who is now in Washington, is to procure Benham's release.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, has issued his proclamation for thirty additional infantry companies, to aid in the coast defences of that State. They are required to be armed "with a good country rifle or double barreled shot gun, or with a good military gun, fit or immediate use."

The stock market in New York last Saturday "showed a lower tone."

Bishop Simpson of the M. E. Church is preaching in Washington.

Letter writers from Washington, in the Northern papers, say that it may be the intention of Gen. McClellan to advance towards Richmond in some other way than via Manassas.

It is predicted in some quarters that there will be a warm discussion in Congress, in relation to "contrabands and slavery"—and that the disagreement in opinion between Secretary Cameron and Secretary Smith, on the subject, will be farther developed in party movements.

It is said that John Jacob Astor, of New York, has joined Gen. McClellan's staff, in the capacity of a Lieutenant Colonel.

Steamer George Page is still in Quantico Creek.

Up to last dates every thing was quiet on the Upper Potomac. There was a great deal of heavy firing, two or three days last week, heard west of this place.

It is said that after the battle of Port Royal, there was a great stampede at Savannah and its neighborhood. The Savannah papers are giving it to the "flyers."

Resolutions of respect to the memory of the late V. W. Southall, of Albemarle, were passed in the Virginia Convention on the 18th. John A. Hughes, a delegate to the Convention from Randolph county, was killed at the battle of Rich Mountain.

A society has been established in Boston the object of which is declared to be in the Constitution, "to urge upon the people and the government emancipation of the slaves as a measure of justice and as a military necessity."

The slavery question is agitating the politicians of the North—in New York, the Herald taking decided ground against the Tribune on the subject, and declaring that the government ought to consider abolitionists as bad as secessionists. The journals dispute vigorously.

They are performing at the Richmond Theater the "Grand National Drama of the Scouts; or, The Plains of Manassas." John H. Hewitt, formerly of Baltimore, is the lessee and manager.

An attempt was made last week to poison the family of Mr. Robert M. Allen in Richmond.

The tops of the mountains at the North are covered with snow. The Virginia mountains have, also, snow on their summits.—Snow fell heavily in Albany yesterday.

Considerable quantities of salt are now being sent from the salt works near Abingdon, Va.

Judge Birch, of Mo., was recently seized at his residence in that State, by secessionists, and carried off.

The U. S. Government proposes to use for the Post-Office Department, twines of other material than cotton.

George W. Mehaffey, and Mehaffey, Houtz & Co., of Marietta, Ohio, are now busily engaged in shipping large amounts of lumber and bridge timber over the Northern Central railway to Washington for government use.

The New York Post gives a full account of the expedition of ships, laden with stone, which left New Bedford on the 20th inst., destined for some point on the Southern coast. The expedition is composed of twenty-five vessels, principally whaling ships, from New Bedford, New London, Nantucket, Newport, &c.

Colonel Smith, commander of the secession forces, and some of his officers, were trying to escape from the lower extremity of Northampton, but Flag-officer Goldsborough has, at Gen. Dix's request, put the whole shore under surveillance, and it is believed that they will all be captured if they do not surrender.

A detachment of U. S. troops has been sent to Only, in Accomac, Gov. Wise's old residence, to take possession of some cannon said to be there.

It is said that Beauregard's war policy is "an advance"—Davis' "not to advance," out of the State northwards.

Confederate privateers are reported as cruising about the West Indies, and off the Southern Coast.

The Richmond Examiner confirms the report that Col. Croghan was killed in the recent engagement between Gens. Floyd and Rosecrans.

## ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY,

NO. 7 NORTH COLUMBUS STREET.

THE SECOND QUARTER of the Twenty third Session having just commenced, parents and guardians desiring to enter their sons and wards are requested to do so now.

The course of studies embraces the usual English branches, together with the Greek, Latin and French Languages, and Mathematics.

Terms—\$6½ a quarter for English branches and Mathematics; Languages, \$2 each extra.

RICHARD L. CARNE, Jr.,  
Principal.

LOST.—On Thursday evening last, on King street, one yard of DARK MAROON CASHMERE, having in it large red and green flowers. Any person finding the above, and leaving it at No. 228 Wilkes street, between Henry and Fayette, will be suitably rewarded.

nov 25—1t\* ELIZABETH NICHOLS.