

# THE LOCAL NEWS.

## GENERAL NEWS.

A dispatch from St. Louis, dated 9th inst., says the report sent last night that the Confederates captured ten mule teams and took the teamsters prisoners, was a mistake.—The men and teams arrived there, having been released after all the arms belonging to the party were taken from them.

Col. Hudson, of Major General McClellan's staff, has reported, as the result of his late inspection of the Fourth Connecticut Volunteers, Col. Tyler, that they more nearly approach the condition of remarkably efficient regulars than any other regiment he has so far had occasion to inspect.

Two residents of Newark, N. J., within the past few weeks have perpetrated one grand swindle. It appears that they visited the bakers of Newark, and the surrounding towns, and procured large orders from them for flour at depreciated prices. They then, by false representations, fraudulent letters, and the exhibition of their large orders, prevailed upon Messrs. Smith, Woodbury & Co., Jesse Hoyt & Co., and other firms of the New York Corn Exchange, to sell them flour to the amount of nearly \$30,000, at thirty days. The flour was shipped to New York, and it is presumed was disposed of to various parties, the swindlers receiving cash, with which, instead of paying the New York firms, they left for some unknown locality.

Gerritt Smith, Beecher, and the other ultra Republicans at the North, discourse against the President's Message, in relation to slavery.

Four European steamers are now about due—and the news from England is anxiously looked for.

Besides the great amount of freight, in the shape of military stores, &c., sent down to Fortress Monroe, by the steamers from Baltimore, every boat now carries from thirty to forty thousand feet of lumber, designed for building barracks, store-rooms, stabling for horses, &c.

The reported evacuation by the Federal forces of Tybee Island, (Ga.) announced by the Savannah and Richmond papers, was disbelieved at first—and partially denied at Washington—but a correspondent of the Philadelphia North American writes, under date of Saturday, that "the reported evacuation is confirmed by intelligence which reached here to-day."

In some of the towns in Massachusetts the results of the municipal elections have been adverse to the ultra Republicans.

Judge Collamer, of Vt., advises an early adjournment. He says:—"War is not a business Congress can engineer. It is properly executive business, and the moment Congress passes beyond the line of providing for the wants of the Government, and deciding the purposes of the war, to say how it shall be conducted, the whole thing will prove a failure."

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, visited the jail in Alexandria, last week, to inquire as to the "contrabands," &c.

The St. Louis correspondent of the New York World severely condemns that portion of Gen. Halleck's proclamation, in which he renews his threat of shooting all persons found in arms against the government in Western Missouri. The correspondent says, "Its consequences, if enforced, must result in a strife so sanguinary and cruel as to lose the name of war. It is not to be supposed for a moment, that the Confederates will submit to such treatment without a dreadful and wicked retaliation; and if we are not strong enough to put them down without such resentment, we are still weaker with it."

Wm. Johnson, brother of ex-Governor Johnson, of Pennsylvania, had his pocket picked in Washington at the railroad station of two government drafts, one for \$5,000 and the other for \$1,800, a check on a bank in Pittsburg for \$2,500, and \$890 in cash.

The Nashville papers contain a letter from George N. Saunders to Kossuth, extolling the secession movements, and hoping that the European lovers of freedom will extend their sympathies to the South.

The report of Secretary Chase is very generally spoken of as able, but some of his recommendations, especially in regard to the currency, are not endorsed by the Northern press as a general thing.

The weather at the West, it appears, is too warm for pork packing.

A rumor was in circulation that a member of Gen. Bank's staff suddenly decamped lately, taking with him some papers of great value to the U. S., and still greater to the Con-

federates. It is surmised that he has left for the South. Persons have been sent in pursuit of him.

The government has found that a serious defect exists in the engines of the frigate Pensacola; so much so, that they will probably have to be entirely replaced. This, of course, will be a very costly operation, and will detain the vessel some time.

The Richmond Enquirer, of Dec. 2nd, has an article upon a winter campaign, stating it to be one of the greatest delusions to suppose that it is possible at the South, on accounts of the condition of the roads.

Notwithstanding the fact that the campaign is over in Western Virginia, and that the larger portion of the troops have been withdrawn, strong positions in that mountainous region are still occupied by detachments from the main bodies of both belligerents.

The Confederate forces are, it is said, engaged in rebuilding portions of the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, west of Martinsburg.

Col. Kerrigan's trial is going on in Washington. Heavy charges are against him.

Radski, the murderer of Fellner, has escaped so far from his pursuers.

A little boy, son of Mr. Omohundro, of Richmond, died in Philadelphia a few days ago. He had been sent there to school, before the present war commenced, and since then could have no communication with his friends at home.

A little incident occurred in the Senate, on Thursday last, which is worthy of note. Mr. Grimes, in reviewing the finding of the court of inquiry in the case of Col. Miles, intimated that he could put no trust in any public man addicted to intemperance. This sentiment called down such a round of applause from the galleries that the Vice President had promptly to rebuke it.

It is said that the Republicans in the Senate are talking of expelling Senator Bright, of Indiana.

Heavy firing was heard, yesterday afternoon, in a southwestwardly direction from Alexandria.

A number of persons recently confined as prisoners of war in Washington, have been released, on agreeing not to serve in arms against the United States.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. R. Conkling, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported a resolution requesting of the Attorney General his opinion with regard to the proper measures to be instituted for the retrocession of that portion of the District now in Virginia; adopted.

Brig. Gen. Philip St. George Cooke, U. S. A., has been appointed to the command of all the regular cavalry in the army of the Potomac. Brig. Gen. of Volunteers Stone-man, continues the chief of the bureau of the cavalry of the army, and also has special command of its volunteer cavalry.

In Washington, on Monday night, a man was killed in a house of ill-fame by a teamster named Contner. In the same city, a woman was found dead in a shanty—supposed to have been killed by her husband.

A telegram dated Savannah, December 7, says that Gen. Butler's expedition had arrived on that day.

Dr. Johnson Clark, Surgeon of the Union Coast Guard, has died at Old Point of typhoid fever.

Eight ascensions have been made in Prof. Lowe's balloon, near Budd's Ferry, and opposite the Confederate batteries. A topographical engineer is engaged in making a fine map of their fortifications, showing every point in detail. Another balloon was placed on board a canal boat, and despatched to the Upper Potomac, where balloon reconnaissances will be made about Leesburg, and that vicinity.

Mr. Crittenden was serenaded at Washington on Saturday night. He spoke in favor of an onward movement to Tennessee, where, he predicted, the Federal armies would be within ten days. He pledged Kentucky as unalterably for the Union and its maintenance at any cost.

A few days since a messenger from Gov. Reed, of North Carolina, came under a flag of truce to Gen. Hooker's Division, and was thence forwarded to Washington. His mission was to procure the children of Senator Douglas, to be sent South, to prevent the confiscation of their estate in Mississippi.

Mrs. Douglas, who has the guardianship of the sons of the deceased Senator, refused to listen to the proposition, contending that the children belonged to Illinois.

Mr. Gurley's bill, to be proposed in Congress, declares all Confederate property confiscated, and all slaves belonging to Confederates free, and provides for the appointment of Commissioners to carry out the confiscation of property and the liberation of slaves in a systematic manner, and to take charge of such slaves and employ them in the service of the United States at reasonable wages, and in transporting to Florida such as may not be needed for the public service, and to apprentice them there for not more than six years at reasonable wages to loyal proprietors of lands; after which term of six years they shall be entirely free. Florida to be occupied by the U. S. forces as far as is practicable, and the estates of Confederates are to be sold by Commissioners to loyal purchasers, and the slaves of loyal citizens purchased and paid for out of the confiscation fund. It is to be governed by military law, and as a Territory, until it shall have sufficient loyal white inhabitants to entitle it to a representative in Congress, when it may form a State Government and a Constitution excluding slavery.

The steamers Murray and Satellite arrived at the Navy Yard in Washington on Sunday. Four shells were fired from the Confederate batteries at the Satellite as she came up, none of which struck her, all going too high, though good line-shots.

During the march of a portion of Gen. Bank's division to Frederick in Maryland, the indiscriminate use of bad whiskey, procured generally from country groggeries, caused great annoyance along the route, and in some instances was near producing serious results. On the third night after leaving Darnestown, the 29th Pennsylvania bivouacked on the Monocacy below the junction. Permission was granted the soldiers to procure supper at the farm houses. One of the privates, named Lynch, in a state of partial intoxication, offered an insult to the lady, when he was seized by Major Scott, but before assistance could be called Lynch made a furious assault upon the Major with a large knife. This the latter wrested from him, but quick as thought drew a second and smaller knife, and would have killed his officer had not Lieut. Col. Parham arrived in time to avert the blow and secure the weapon. The culprit is now in confinement awaiting trial.

Some time since there appeared in the New York Tribune, resolutions purporting to be passed by a convention of Unionists at Hatteras Inlet, N. C., which convention, it was intimated, largely represented the feelings of the population in that State, it being attended by delegates from forty-five counties. The New York Sun (a Union paper) of yesterday, however, pronounces the whole affair to be complete and unmitigated *bogus* from beginning to end, and not worth the slightest consideration.

On Tuesday, in Baltimore, private Koons, of Company I, 2d Maryland Regiment, fired at and killed instantly Lieut. David E. Whitson, of the same company. Just a week ago, Lieut. Whitson killed a private of the company.

It is understood that underwriters of Boston have decided to charge extra premium on vessels leaving that port for Europe, and on those already in Europe bound home.

Since the great increase of travel on the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a large number of pickpockets have made their appearance, and daily fleece the unwary, who may chance to come within their reach.

A portion of the session yesterday, in both branches of Congress, was devoted to notices of the death of the late Senator from Michigan, Mr. Bingham.

The Collector of Philadelphia, a few days ago, seized the schooner *Ellis*, five-eighths of which is owned by William H. Fowle, a resident of Alexandria, Va., who is alleged to be in the Confederate army. The same vessel escaped the vigilance of the customs officials in New York and Boston, in both of which ports she has recently been.

In the Washington Board of Aldermen, a communication was received from Oden Bowie, esq., President of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company, stating that that company had a charter to build a railroad from Washington to Baltimore, and would have no expropriation tax to pay the State of Maryland.

The Episcopal Convention of Alabama has, by a unanimous vote, elected the Rev. Richard Wilmer, D. D., Bishop of that Diocese. A worthy successor to the late Bishop Cobb.

I. V. Fowler, once Postmaster of New York, is carrying on a tobacco manufactory in Tepec, Mexico, and is said to be making money.

The London Star, in the course of some very indignant comments upon the subject of the capture of the Harvey Birch by the Confederate steamer Nashville, makes the following observations:—"Nothing can be more barbarous than the distinction recognized by the usage of war between private property on land and on water. Except in the actual presence of the enemy, or in the case of a town taken by storm, the houses and goods of non-combatants are respected. It is justly deemed an act of wanton cruelty to break into a dwelling, or to fire a hayrick, except for purposes of military strategy.—No doubt such acts are common and almost inevitable incidents of a campaign. They were committed by our own troops in the Crimea, in India and in China. If the spoils of houses, museums, and even temples could be traced to their destination, we fear a good many English families would have cause to be ashamed. But the license of war is one thing—the laws of war another. Commanders invariably rebuke these outrages, if they do not punish them; and the ultimate possessors of the plunder excuse themselves for its possession by stories of purchase or discovery. It would at any rate be deemed a monstrous atrocity for a civilized government to 'take, burn or destroy,' every building in their line of march or throughout a given territory. Yet this is the very letter of instructions given to naval officers. They are bidden to seize or sink every vessel carrying the enemy's flag, no matter what her size, character or occupation."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

WOOD! WOOD!! WOOD!!!

AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE OF SEASONED OAK WOOD can be had on application, at the depot of the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad. dec 10-1w\*

JOHN H. DEVAUGHAN'S  
AMBROTYPE GALLERY.

No. 111, King Street,  
OPPOSITE THE MARSHALL HOUSE.  
nov 29-1m\*

JULIUS DINELT, DENTIST,

OFFICE No. 17 Washington street, above King.  
WHERE HE CAN BE FOUND AT ALL TIMES.  
nov 22-1m\*

JOB PRINTING, HANDBILLS, CARDS, BILL HEADS, CIRCULARS, &c., &c., neatly and expeditiously printed, on the lowest terms, at the Alexandria Gazette Office, near the corner of Prince and Fairfax streets.  
nov 6-1w

DRUGS, CHEMICALS, &c.

DRUG STORE.

HENRY COOK & CO., 89 King st., Alexandria, KEEP a constant supply of Drugs, Chemicals, Patent Medicines, Spices, Perfumery, Fancy Articles, Coal Oil, Ethereal Oil, Lamp Oil, Lard Oil, Alcohol, Dye Stuffs, Paints and Paint Oil of all kinds, Window Glass and Putty, Coal Oil Lamps, Stove Polish, Paint Brushes, and every article usually found in a well regulated Drug Store. oct 11-1f

PORTLAND KEROSENE.

400 GALLONS of the above, which is universally acknowledged to be equal, if not superior, to any other, received and for sale at a reduced price. HENRY COOK & CO., Sarepta Hall, King street. nov 9

OIL! OIL!! OIL!!!

LARD OIL, Machine Oil, Linseed, both raw and boiled, Ethereal Oil, pure Neatsfoot Coal Oil, Train and Tanners' Oil, received and for sale by nov 9 HENRY COOK & CO., Sarepta Hall.

GROCERIES

BUTTER.—Fresh ROLL BUTTER, just received, and for sale by dec 5 JOHN T. COOKE.

NEW BUCKWHEAT, put up expressly for family use, for sale by nov 28 JOHN T. COOKE.

SWEET CIDER.—A good article of the above, just received, and for sale by nov 27 JOHN T. COOKE, Old Post Office Corner.

NEW BACON.—A fresh supply of HAMS and BREAST PIECES, just received, and for sale by dec 4 JOHN T. COOKE, Old Post Office Corner.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

HENRY C. FIELD,  
BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER,  
No. 74 King street, Alexandria,

KEEPS on hand, and is prepared to manufacture BOOTS and SHOES of all kinds. MILITARY BOOTS or SHOES made at the shortest notice, and of the best material. Persons in want of a good article in his line, will do well to give him a call. oct 7

WOOD.

PRICE REDUCED.

OAK WOOD! OAK WOOD!!

I AM AUTHORIZED to take orders for OAK WOOD, to be delivered at \$6.75 per cord. Call at Wise & Co.'s Coal Office, King street. nov 15-1m\* B. T. PLUMMER, Agent.

DRY GOODS.

DRY GOODS.

BRYAN & ADAMS, AGENTS,  
No. 76, King street. oct

JEWELRY, &c.

W. W. ADAM,  
DEALER IN WATCHES, JEWELRY, AND SILVER WARE.

All kinds of WATCHES and CLOCKS repaired.