

THE LOCAL NEWS.

GENERAL NEWS.

The debate, in the U. S. House of Representatives, on Thursday, on the confiscation bill was of a very animated character. The closing scene between Messrs. Conway and Fouke, during which the latter pronounced the statement of Mr. Conway, relative to the battle at Belmont, to be a falsehood, caused quite a sensation; and the subsequent declaration of Mr. Richardson, Mr. Fouke's colleague, that as a personal matter it must be settled outside the House, has given rise to much speculation, but there will be no duel.

The member of the lower House of Congress from Kansas, Mr. Martin F. Conway, in his speech in that body on Thursday, held that the Federal arms had been unsuccessful everywhere during the present war, except in two sea-coast expeditions.

Caleb Cushing has written a letter to Mayor Wood, of New York, sustaining the act of Capt. Wilkes in seizing the Confederate ambassadors.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad will be in running order as far as Hancock in about a week.

It appears that the "horse frauds" in the U. S. army, are more extensive than they were at first supposed to be. Mere speculators have had contracts given out by Quartermasters at forty cents per head for a thousand or fifteen hundred head, and they immediately re-let them at twenty-five cents to farmers, thus clearing from one thousand to fifteen hundred dollars per week without an effort.

Com. Porter's mortar fleet will be ready to sail the latter part of this month. The schooners and brigs, twenty in number, are now receiving extra timbers at the N. Y. ship-yards. The mortar bed-plates, upon which the ponderous ordnance will rest, are now in process of manufacture at N. Y. iron works. The draught of the vessels, adapted them for service in shallow waters. Their destination is known only to the U. S. Government.

Mr. Charles Ellet's pamphlet on Army operations and in review and condemnation of the course of Gen. McClellan, attracts considerable attention not only in Washington, but at the North. It is severely criticised in some of the newspapers, and Mr. E. himself ridiculed and abused—but still his book is read—and, it is said, that many military men agree with him in his positions and views.

We may now expect stirring news from Mexico. When the two last divisions of the Spanish fleet left Cuba, to meet and join the English and French fleets in their proposed operations against Mexico, the Cubans exulted in what they saw, as the regeneration of Spain as a maritime power.

There has been a heavy flood at Sacramento, Marysville, Stockton and other places in California, doing much damage. The loss in Sacramento, alone, is said to have been half a million of dollars.

The Treasury Department is in consultation with New York bankers. The latter say they have bought all the bonds they can buy, but they will loan the government any amount upon the pledge of government stocks as collateral, and the abandonment of the sub-treasury, as provided for in the act of 1861. The bankers suggest to the Secretary the issuing of \$250,000,000 of demand notes, to be given to them, (the bankers,) in exchange for the bonds, to be held by them as collaterals.

Gen. Shields has accepted the appointment of Brigadier-General, and is on his way to Washington in the steamer Golden Age. The steamer has \$460,000 in treasure for New York.

In various quarters it is stated that advices from Missouri are that Gen. Sherman is suffering from aberration of mind. He is said to have been removed from his command.

Wm. H. Johnson, the soldier executed in Gen. Franklin's division, on Friday last for desertion, made a confession, in which he stated that he was a native of New Orleans, and was twenty-three years old. He joined the army for the purpose of using it as a medium of reaching New Orleans.

Com. Scott, tried by court-martial for deserting his post without orders, was convicted and sentenced to be relieved from service for six months upon reduced pay. The finding and sentence have been approved by Secretary Welles.

It is reported that the Racer, an English war steamer, arrived off Charleston on the 6th, with despatches for the British Consul, and left next day for Port Royal.

The U. S. Secretary of War and the Paymaster General have just made a decision that a soldier is entitled to pay from the day he enlists, and that he is not to wait till his company is full or the formal muster of the regiment into Government service.

The Norfolk fire is stated to have been incendiary in its origin, and report connects with it a slave insurrection, but this is probably only an unfounded rumor.

Parson Brownlow, it is said, is to be allowed to leave Tennessee, under a guard.

Trade from Accomac to Baltimore has recommenced. Considerable loss has been experienced in not being able to get sweet potatoes to market, from Northampton—Most of the vessels have been sent over to the Western shore.

The Liverpool papers of the 27th ult., announce the arrival of the bark Helen, from Charleston, with rosin and spirits of turpentine. She left Charleston on the 2nd ult., and saw nothing of the blockading squadron. While at Charleston, took on board 250 bales of cotton, but the authorities there compelled her to unship it, as they say they are determined not to let a bale leave the port. The Bermuda was allowed to take a cargo of cotton for the reason that she successfully ran the blockade, and brought in a cargo of articles of war and other necessaries.

Col. C. A. Waite, U. S. A., has been placed in command of the military posts along the Northern line. His department extends from Maine to Michigan, and the different posts are immediately to be put in a state of defence. A regiment of cavalry will be stationed at Detroit. A regiment of artillery will be located in divisions at Niagara, Lockport, and Sackett's harbor, and Fort Montgomery, at Rouse's Point, will be occupied by two companies of U. S. infantry within a few days, the works put in a state of defence, and guns mounted as soon as practicable.

We have a report, via Cincinnati, that there was great excitement at Nashville, Tenn., on the 6th inst., occasioned by an attempt to draft citizens into the Confederate army. A riot took place, which the police force endeavored to quell, without success—four of them losing their lives in the attempt. The mob, after the encounter with the police, went to the government house, in search of Gov. Harris, but did not find him, he having left the city for Memphis.

An order has been promulgated from the headquarters of the department of Missouri, commanding that a levy of ten thousand dollars in money or provisions be made on the disloyal citizens of St. Louis and St. Louis county, to be contributed to the support of such refugees as have arrived in St. Louis from other parts of the State.

It is freely stated that there are a number of letters of marque in New York, issued by the Mexican Government, to prey upon the commerce of England, France and Spain, and that vessels are fitted out. The vessels will sail under the Mexican flag as war vessels, and be entitled to bring prizes into neutral ports.

The Governor of Pennsylvania has granted a pardon to Mrs. Mary Hartung, who has been imprisoned three years and a half, on the charge of poisoning her husband.

The British gunboat Landrail has reached New York. The statement made with regard to the indignity put upon the Landrail by the San Jacinto is not borne out by the facts of the case. Commander Martin, of the Landrail, had no flag flying when first observed by the San Jacinto in the Gulf, and considered the summons of the latter as perfectly proper.

Mr. Russell's last letter to the London Times gives great offence at the North.—He says that the army on the Potomac cannot be well disciplined. He also speaks of the danger of the United States falling under the control of a military dictator, &c.

Rev. Mr. Macfarland, rector of St. Mark's Church, in Baltimore, fell, while officiating in the services in his church, on Sunday, and died in about two hours. He was the brother of Mr. Macfarland, of Richmond.

Capt. Palmer, commanding the steamer Iroquois, relates his movements in order to capture the privateer Sumter. He says the authorities at Martinique, and the residents there were all friendly to the Sumter, and gave her every facility for escape, which he could not prevent.

A number of dwelling houses, &c., owned by citizens of this place, who left Alexandria upon the breaking out of the present war, have within the last few days been taken possession of, with their furniture, by the U. S. military authorities.

The rent of Gen. Halleck's headquarters, commissary rooms, &c., at St. Louis, is \$2,250 per annum. The rent for the same purposes under Fremont was only \$14,500.

It is reported that the last British West India mail steamer from Vera Cruz refused to bring to Havana despatches from the American Minister in Mexico, because of the overhauling of the Trent. It is also said that the British steamer Clyde would take on board at Havana two Confederate commissioners to Europe, in place of Slidell and Mason—to sail on the 7th.

The London News of the 27th ult. says: "Yesterday much astonishment was created on the Liverpool Exchange, in consequence of the following announcement being posted in the news-room: The Bermuda has arrived at Havre with 1,780 bales of cotton. This is the same vessel which ran the Savannah blockade some months ago, with a cargo of supplies for the Confederates from Liverpool. The arrivals of the Nashville and the Bermuda show clearly that the blockade is anything but efficient off Savannah, and it was confidently stated yesterday that the Bermuda is not the only vessel which has run the blockade within the last month."

The Cincinnati Commercial says that a winter campaign will go on, and that "forward" movements will be made by the Federal armies. It says that Gen. Buel's forces in Kentucky are now moving on, and that "it is understood Gen. McClellan's project is that a simultaneous advance shall take place—on the Mississippi, against Columbus, Ky.; in Central Kentucky, upon Bowling Green; from Romney, upon Winchester; from the Potomac, into Eastern Virginia; from Fortress Monroe, upon Yorktown or Norfolk; and that Butler's, Burnside's and Sherman's coast expeditions shall make demonstrations at the same time."

John Brown, Jr., son of old Ossawatimie Brown, who was hung in Charlestown, Va., commands a company of Union Jayhawkers, now stationed at Leavenworth, Kansas.

The man-of-war Pensacola is still lying at Alexandria. Her armament is complete, except one gun. She has now, it is said, twenty-two 68-pounders, and will take on a 150 pound gun in a few days. When ready for service, she can throw seventeen hundred pounds of shot and shell every discharge, and in one hour can fire twenty tons, at a distance of from two to three miles.

Horn R. Kneass, a well known member of the Philadelphia bar, died on Thursday last. Mr. Kneass was an active politician, and acted with the Democratic party. The deceased was a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having at one time held the office of Grand Master of the Order in Pennsylvania. Mr. Kneass was also Grand Sire of the Order throughout the Union.

Lieut. John P. Worden, of the U. S. Navy, the first prisoner taken by the Confederates after the outbreak of the war, has been released, and is now in New York.

An exchange broker, in New York, named Bernard Levy, was found on Saturday morning, in his office, dead with his throat gashed from ear to ear. The matter is enveloped in mystery, so far, and "a woman is said to be in the case."

Windship, the "strong man," while attempting to lecture in Boston, last week, fell from exhaustion.

WAR NEWS.

We have a dispatch from Cheat Mountain, Va., received via Cincinnati, giving an account of a battle fought at Alleghany Camp, Pocahontas county, some day last week.—Gen. Milroy was in command of the Federal forces, and Gen. Johnson, of Georgia, at the head of the Confederates. The Confederates, it is said, were defeated, with a loss of two hundred men, Gen. Johnson being among the wounded. The Federal loss is reported to be about thirty.

The opposing forces in Kentucky appear to be on the eve of a great battle. General Zollicoffer, with from eight to thirteen thousand men, was advancing rapidly upon Schoeff's division, numbering some five thousand men.

From Missouri, we learn that Gen. Price is still in command of the Confederate forces in that State, and was at Osceola at last accounts, intending to move northward. Gen. Halleck has issued an order placing the command of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers under military control and surveillance.

The United States steamer Annie Taylor was wrecked recently near Sabine pass, and her officers and crew taken prisoners by the Confederates.

"Ion," the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:—"The question arises whether, at a time when we are engaged in a civil war, and are, at least, in some danger of a foreign war, it is expedient to attempt also a social revolution in regard to the slave population. The prospect is that Congress will not adopt any rash and radical measures on the subject, and that if they should, the President will withhold from it his approval." On the other hand, the Washington Republican affirms that a large majority in both branches of Congress are determined on "confiscation," and to compel the officers of the army to abandon the practice, still continued by some of them, of delivering up fugitive slaves.

A correspondent at Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, writes, under date of November 29, that the volunteers belonging to the Seventy-ninth New York Regiment, who were sent there to labor on the public works were released on the 27th.

Mrs. Lincoln's first public "reception," at the President's House, in Washington, took place on Saturday afternoon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED—A FURNISHED HOUSE, of moderate size, for a small family, in a central location in this city; or a conveniently furnished ROOM, with board, for a gentleman and wife. References given if required. Address, stating locality and terms, Box 330, Post Office. dec 11—1f

TO RENT—A very substantial FIRE PROOF WAREHOUSE on the wharf, near Mr. George D. Fowle's Warehouse, secure from any damage of the lower floors being overflowed by the highest tides. dec 11—1w*

JOSIAH H. DAVIS.

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, Fan-
cy Articles, Coal Oil, Etheral Oil, Lamp Oil, Lard
Oil, Alcohol, Dye Stuffs, Paints and Paint Oil of
all kinds, Window Glass and Putty, Coal Oil
Lamps, Store 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 univer-
sally acknowledged to be equal, if not su-
perior, to any other, received and for sale at a re-
duced price. HENRY COOK & CO.,
nov 9 Sarepta Hall, King street.

OIL! OIL!! OIL!!!

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

GROCERIES.

NEW BUCKWHEAT, HAMS AND CITRON.
THE SUBSCRIBER has just received the fol-
lowing articles, and invites the attention of
customers and citizens.
2,000 lbs. new Buckwheat, in large and small
packages;
1,000 lbs small Family Hams and Breast Pieces
Raisins, Currants and Citron; also, an assort-
ment of small family cakes and crackers, to wit:
Jumbles, Johnny Lind Cakes, Ginger Cakes, Gin-
ger Snaps, and Tea Cakes, Soda, Water and Sugar
Crackers, all of which will be sold at low prices
for cash. JOHN T. COOKE,
dec 13 Corner below Post Office.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

HENRY C. FIELD,
BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER,
No. 74 King street, Alexandria,
KEEPS on hand, and is prepared to manu-
facture 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 re-
paired.