

THE LOCAL NEWS.

GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Seward says he never received Mrs. Greenhow's letter, or saw it until it appeared in a Richmond paper.

Resolutions bottomed upon Van Wyck's Investigation, have been introduced by that Committee, in the U. S. House of Representatives.

Gen. Scott is now, with his wife, in Paris, where Mrs. Scott has resided for some years past.

Selby Parker, accidentally fell down the steps of his lodgings in Washington, yesterday, and broke his neck.

The Federal troops still occupy Beaufort, S. C., and are collecting all the cotton that they can, in that neighborhood.

Mr. Faulkner has been sent down to Richmond, under a flag of truce. He expects to be exchanged for Mr. Ely.

The famous Caravajal has made an attack upon the city of Matamoras, where "a considerable fight took place."

The U. S. government has received despatches from Mr. Adams, minister to England, weighing, the Washington Star says, over one hundred pounds.

Financial affairs are so unsettled by the late increased complications of the national difficulties that capitalists are more than ever disposed to hold off and await developments. This state of things is evidenced in none of the legitimate channels of business so strongly as in the stock market, where capital is the base of operations.

The St. Louis Republican states that among the twelve Confederate prisoners recently brought in from North Missouri is Mr. John K. Lincoln, of Clinton county. He is a highly respectable citizen of that county, and a cousin of President Lincoln.

Garrett Voorhees, an Englishman, who came to this country in 1791, and settled at Fort Washington, now the city of Cincinnati, died near that city on Saturday last.

Gen. J. H. Lane, of Kansas, has been tendered the position of Brig. Gen. by the President. He will accept it as soon as he can lay before the Judiciary Committee of the Senate additional evidence vindicating his right to a seat in that body now contested. His command will embrace all the troops in Kansas.

Col. Halstead, of New Jersey, was tried to-day before the Court Martial, on the charge of malfeasance, which he denied.

In thirty minutes after the Europa touched at Halifax the British sloop-of-war Rinaldo got up steam and started off with despatches, most probably for the Admiral of the North American squadron at Havana.

The story told by the purser of the Trent regarding the frantic conduct of Miss Slidell, and the undignified exit of her father through the cabin window, is unqualifiedly false, as also is the statement, current in some of the English papers, that one of the officers was slapped in the face by the hand of a female secessionist.

It is said that the British government, in the case of Messrs. Slidell and Mason, demands reparation in general terms, but not restitution.

One account says that Mr. Faulkner does not expect to be exchanged for Mr. Ely. He does not think the Southern Confederacy will consent to it. He has agreed upon a different exchange with Secretary Seward.

A letter from a mercantile firm in Liverpool, which has made a large shipment of arms, states that "all the arms have been taken from the vessels. Sixty thousand that were to be shipped have been retained. No more will be permitted to be shipped."

It is reported that a Lieutenant and four privates of the 5th Michigan regiment were on Wednesday night, near Accotink, while on picket duty, and that four regiments and one battery have been ordered to that quarter.

A strange fatality seems to prevail among the Protestant Episcopal Clergy of Maryland. Within the past week, death has entered the Altar, and removed three of its brightest lights to another world. Two were stricken down whilst clothed in the robes of their office, and the third had but just removed his robes, when he was summoned to his last account. The third death to be recorded is that of the Rev. Richard H. Waters, Rector of a church in the lower part of St. Mary's county, which took place on Thursday last, just as he had concluded a marriage ceremony.

Gen. Floyd's Confederate army has been ordered to Bowling Green, Ky., leaving, it is said, a portion of Western Virginia, exposed to the operations of the U. S. troops.

It seems that the law officers of the British Crown have only given an opinion in one of the various points involved in the Trent U. S. case, and that opinion is unfavorable to the construction of international law. The legal advisers of the British Cabinet deny the right of an individual officer "to assume to himself on the high seas the functions of an Admiralty Court, and condemn a ship or its cargo on his own authority." They say that the conduct which Capt. Wilkes ought to have pursued was to have taken the Trent into port, and have her guilt or innocence established by a prize court. While this is the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, the British press goes much further.

The Paris correspondent of the Daily News learns that when Mr. Slidell was taking leave of his wife on board the Trent, he placed his despatches in her hand; told her to go to the cabin, sit at the port-hole, and that if an attempt was made to take the box from her, to drop it into the sea. Mrs. Slidell obeyed his orders, was not molested, and took the despatches safely to England.

The British prize ship Cheshire, captured off the mouth of the Savannah river, has arrived at New York. She has a cargo of coffee, salt and army blankets.

The commercial world in Europe has been startled with another of those stupendous frauds which every now and then fright the British isle from its propriety. The National Insurance and Investment Association has suddenly wound up under the joint stock companies' act and the bankruptcy code, disclosing an indebtedness of upwards of \$4,800,000, while its assets amount to only \$275,000.

The U. S. steam gunboat New London has just come in, having captured two steamers and two schooners near Mobile. Lieut. Reed commands the New London.

Lord Byron said he "woke up one morning, and found himself famous." It is probable this will be the case with Gen. Phelps. He has issued one proclamation—his first—and, it is said, it will be his last.—A perfect storm of indignation and ridicule is poured upon him. Even the abolitionists denounce his "folly."

Kerrigan's court martial is still in session.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. World says that the Federal army on the Potomac lines is not going into winter quarters, but that it is waiting the completion and departure of Gen. Burnside's expedition; the reinforcement of Gen. Wool, whose numbers at Fortress Monroe are greatly reduced, and of Gen. Rosecranz, who can just now make two more brigades useful; the further concentration of the columns led by Gens. Buel and Halleck; finally, the effect of the Christmas holidays on the internal condition of the Southern States." Of the meaning of the last phrases the public must judge.

An account of the last "Levee" at the President's House, in Washington, is given in the N. Y. Herald. It is said that the Ministers of England, France, Spain, and Prussia did not appear; but the Ministers of Russia, Sweden, Bremen, and Nicaragua were present, and the Russian Minister was especially cordial in his conversation with the President.

Gen. McClellan and his lady were the observed of all observers at the Reception at the President's House, in Washington, on Tuesday night. The General was warmly welcomed by Mr. Lincoln.

On Monday morning, eight men, three from the Second and five from the Fourth New Jersey Regiments in Gen. Kearney's brigade, Gen. Franklin's division, left their respective companies, which were on picket duty at Edsall's Hill, and went to a house between Burke's Station and Anandale.—While there, a body of Confederate cavalry suddenly came upon them, and three who were in the house were taken prisoners.

Ben McCullough, it is said, has been summoned to Richmond to answer the charges which have been preferred against him, of needlessly burning the property of Southern men, and of refusing to reinforce General Price when the latter was pursued by the Federal troops. McCullough's forces were in winter quarters in Benton county, Arkansas. Six regiments of Indians were in his camp.

Another Confederate battery has been discovered on the Lower Potomac. This one is situated opposite Rum Point, and is armed with two sixty-four pound guns, which threw shells over into the camp of the New Jersey regiment on the Maryland shore.

At a meeting of the bank presidents at New York yesterday, Secretary Chase stated that the balances now in the vaults of the banks would be sufficient for the needs of the government until about the middle of January, and by that time he was confident that the Federal arms would meet with decisive successes. He also expressed the opinion that the difficulties with the government of Great Britain would be amicably adjusted.

A number of private letters from England, represent the public excitement there as intense, but the speculations on the subject are similar to those indulged in by the press of that country.

The joint committee of the U. S. Congress to inquire into the conduct of the war consists of Senators Wade, Chandler, and Johnson, of Tenn., and Representatives Gooch, Covode, Julian and Odell.

Twenty-seven insubordinate members of the New York 13th regiment, who for two months past have been confined in the central guard house, have been released and returned to their regiment in Virginia.

The executive messages sent into the U. S. Senate yesterday, and which caused an interruption of the public sitting in order to go into secret or executive session, it is understood were in reference to our relations with England.

The Boston Herald states that the lack of rain is felt with considerable severity in that vicinity, and many old wells never dry before have given out. In one case, a well in use uninterruptedly for 60 years, is now per feutely dry.

The people of other countries must be rather astonished at the number of false statements, unauthorized reports, incorrect accounts and unfounded rumors, which are continually circulated in the newspapers on this side of the Atlantic. A mendacious press is a public nuisance; nor does the situation of affairs excuse, in the slightest degree, the want of candor and truth which too often prevails in the public journals. On the contrary, that very situation demands more caution, and a stricter adherence to veracity by all of those who profess either from their correspondents, their telegraphic dispatches or their own knowledge, to furnish the current news. In an especial manner ought they to guard against false narratives of army movements and military operations. We believe that in war, as in peace, the truth is best in the end for all. The public may be deceived for a day—or elation excited or depression created—to suit a temporary purpose. But a reaction is always brought about, and no permanent advantage is gained on either side.

U. S. CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday, petitions were presented for appointing Gen. Fremont Lieutenant General of the United States, and for abolishing slavery, and Mr. Willey made a speech on the war, and offered resolutions to the effect that the war was forced on the United States, &c. In the House of Representatives, a committee was appointed to inquire into the conduct of the present war. A bill for building twenty iron clad steamships was under discussion.

WAR NEWS.

An artillery duel was fought yesterday across the Potomac river, near Point of Rocks, between a Confederate battery of three guns and a battery attached to Col. Geary's Pennsylvania Regiment. After a short conflict the guns of the Confederates were silenced and the men driven from their position. The despatch by telegraph says a number of Confederates were killed and wounded.

Reports from Missouri indicate that Gen. Pope has met with some success in his effort to prevent the arms of Gen. Price joining the Confederate forces at Lexington. A reconnaissance in force approached within fifteen miles of Osceola, where Gen. Price was encamped, and succeeded in capturing some three hundred prisoners and a large quantity of army stores.

From Southern accounts we learn that Gen. Humphrey Marshall, at the head of a Confederate force, was advancing on Lexington, Ky. Gen. Crittenden was at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., on Saturday last, in command of five thousand men, and expecting reinforcements, with which he intended to invade Kentucky from that point.

Senator Simmons's schooner Charity, with a cargo of notions, whiskey included, arrived at Hatteras, with irregular papers, and was seized by a U. S. steamer, and sent back to New York as a prize! The parties are very indignant.

The Petroleum oil business at Allegheny City, Pa., is said to be immense. The wharves are crowded with it, and flat boats are constant taking it away. Numbers of refineries have been erected, but they cannot supply the demand.

The New York Tribune of yesterday says—"Mr. Cisco has called for \$3,500,000 on the fifty million 6 per cent stock loan made by the banks, which is about 12 per cent on the portion taken by our banks."

Letters from Berlin state that the situation of affairs in America is beginning to produce its effects in Prussia. Independently of an advance in the price of cotton goods, the large manufactory at Gladbach has just announced that in a short time a considerable reduction will be made in its time of working.

A person from Boston is now in Washington, engaged in making arrangements for the establishment, in that city, of a large hotel to be conducted on the European plan.

The National Intelligencer thinks that Gen. Phelps's proclamation to the Southwest will not prove to be a very effective production.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINCE MEAT.

LOOK OUT FOR SOMETHING GOOD. A VERY superior lot of MINCE MEAT, for sale in large or small quantities, at W. G. SIMPSON'S Bakery, No. 149 King street. dec 17-1w

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.

JUST RECEIVED, a full supply of Brown's Bronchial Troches, Spaulding's Throat Confections, for coughs and sore throat, Ayer's Sarsaparilla, Cherry Pectoral, and a good assortment of other Drugs, &c., for sale at MILBURN'S Drug and Chemical Store, dec 17-2w N. W. corner King and Wash'n-st.

DRUG STORE.

HENRY COOK & CO., 89 King st., Alexandria, KEEP a constant supply of Drugs, Chemicals, Patent Medicines, Spices, Perfumery, Fancy 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, Stove Polish, Paint Brushes, and every article usually found in a well regulated Drug Store. oct 11-tf

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., nov 9 Sarepta Hall, King street.

OIL! OIL!! OIL!!!

LARD OIL, Machine Oil, Linseed, both raw and boiled, Etheral Oil, pure Neatsfoot 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 following 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 assortment of small family cakes and crackers, to wit: Jumbles, Jenny Lind Cakes, Ginger Cakes, Ginger Snaps, and Ten 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.

MINCE MEAT.—Just received, a nice article of Mince Meat. J. T. COOK, dec 19 Old Post Office Corner.

EGGS.—Fresh Eggs, just in time, for sale low by the dozen. J. T. COOK, dec 19 Old Post Office Corner.

NEW JOWL.—Just received, a lot of new Jowls, very nice. J. T. COOK, dec 19 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

DRY GOODS.

DRY GOODS. BRYAN & ADAMS, AGENTS, No. 78, King street. oct

JEWELRY, &c.

W. W. ADAM, DEALER IN WATCHES, JEWELRY, AND SILVER WARE. All kinds of WATCHES and CLOCKS repaired.