

The Local News.

COMMENCED
October 7, 1861.

ALEXANDRIA, MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 6, 1862.

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GENERAL NEWS.

COURT MEETING.—The January term of the County Court, organized on the 16th of December last, was opened at 12 o'clock at the Court House, of this city, this morning, present, Messrs. Crupper (presiding), Sidebottom, Tucker, Penn and Noland.

Several affidavits were made in open Court, and the clerk ordered to certify to the same. The minutes of the last term were read in open Court.

The clerk read the list of conveyances admitted to record since the December term, viz: two deeds of trust on real estate, one which was from the City Council of Alexandria, dated September 26th, to trustees, conveying the city gas works in trust to secure the payment of certain notes.

J. Farris charged with horse stealing, was then placed at the bar, and the further examination of the charge against him adjourned until Wednesday.

The subject of appointing a Coroner and a Collector of the Revenue having been considered, it was agreed that, as any justice was competent to act as coroner, it was unnecessary to name a coroner, and that, for the present, there was no need of a Collector of the Revenue. Adjourned.

FLAG PRESENTATION.—We mentioned on Saturday the presentation of a flag to a Pennsylvania regiment, in this place, on that day. There was a parade on the occasion, and a large crowd assembled at the headquarters, where the presentation was made. Speeches were made on the occasion by Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, Judge Kelly, Gen. Montgomery, U. S. A., and Lewis McKenzie, of Alexandria.

RIVER MOVEMENTS.—The river flats are blocked, and the channel full of floating ice, not, however, sufficient to impede navigation. The U. S. steamer Yankee passed up, and the U. S. steamer King Philip (steamerboat Powhatan) paid two visits to the U. S. steamer Pensacola. The U. S. transports City of Richmond, Eagle and Hugh Jenkins are at the wharves. The brig Delaware has sold the Cumberland coal shipped in her some months since to the owners of the steamer James Guy, and has gone up to deliver her load.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Mr. O. D.oghue, M. P., who presided over the American sympathy meeting at Dublin, has been punished by the English government by removing his name from the commission of peace of the counties of Kerry and Cork. Afterward he resigned his place as chairman of a committee appointed by the aforesaid meeting, giving as reasons that, "upon reflection," he thinks "that the resolution appointing it was too hastily adopted," and "it does not contain names well enough known to command the confidence of the country."

The latest news from Central and South America is interesting, though not important. The condition of Venezuela is anything but satisfactory, and the other South American republics are all passing through an ordeal of trial and suffering. The recent fraud on the Peruvian government had produced great excitement throughout the country.

An exposition of the finances of Austria has just been published, showing its finances to be in a most hopelessly embarrassed and crippled condition—the deficit for the last and for the current year being estimated at about \$30,000,000 each, on a total income of only about five times the amount.

It was reported on the London Stock Exchange, on the 21st ult., that the legal authorities at Washington had pronounced against the capture of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and that they were on their way to England.

It is said that two persons from New Orleans, (on whose persons letters from Confederates were found) recently taken from Havana to Matanzas, and now imprisoned in Lafayette, will be released, their cases being similar to those of Mason and Slidell.

The health of Gen. McClellan, it is said, continues to improve; though it is now evident he has been much more unwell than the newspapers reported.

The Northern papers are all predicting and urging an immediate "advance" of the Federal army now on the Potomac. They declare that a "winter campaign" is to be made at this time. The weather at this time looks like anything but very favorable to army operations of any kind.

Capt. Thomas Turner, of the 4th U. S. infantry, shot a member of the patrol guard, named John C. Halter, U. S. Cavalry, last Friday, in front of the National Hotel, in Washington. Turner was arrested and conveyed to the headquarters of the provost-marshal.

The Confederate steamer Nashville has either sailed, or is on the point of sailing, from Southampton, England. She is watched by a Federal cruiser outside the channel.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press says that the Burnside expedition may ascend the Rappahannock river; and that a movement forward by the Federal troops will probably be made via Occoquan, to attack the Confederate batteries, and also to get possession of the terminus of the railroad to Richmond at Aquia Creek.

The Northern papers say that the revenue interests of the United States will require the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty with Canada and the other British provinces—which England will not like.

Gen. Shields, in a note commenting upon a speech reported to have been made by Senator McDougall, of California, to the effect that he (Shields) was enlisted in the secession movement, and went to California to further its interests, says that if Senator McD. did make such a statement, he pronounces him "the author of a base lie, and despicable calumniation."

It is said, now, that Galveston, in Texas, has not been evacuated. Many persons have left there, but business still goes on, and a large number are still left.

The Burnside expedition is now expected every day at Old Point.

A free fight occurred among some of the members of the Tiger Rifles at Bristow Station, near Manassas Junction, on Saturday last, in which one was instantly killed by a cut from a bowie knife, and several others wounded. The fight was the result of a drunken frolic.

The cold weather has closed up with ice almost all the rivers, sounds and channels at the North, leaving the transportation business to the rail roads.

Two deserters from the First Maryland regiment and three from a Tennessee regiment encamped near Union Mills, and Centreville, and Manassas a river in Washington on Saturday. They escaped by way of Winchester, crossing the Potomac at D in No. 5, eight miles above William shot. These men were well clothed. They had no idea of the number of men, but represent the defenses to be of a formidable character.

Persons from Nashville say that at the great fire at Nashville, which consumed \$70,000 worth of property on the 22d ult., C. Q. Armstrong's pork house contributed materially to the progress of the flames, and that the stored shells exploded in every direction.

It is reported that the French Orleans princes, are soon to leave their present position in the U. S. army, and go to Europe.

Gen. Bank's division, on the Upper Potomac, was visited last week, by Mr. Hamlin, the U. S. Vice President and other persons from Washington. Nothing new from that division.

Gen. Stuart in his account of the battle of Dranesville says, that his men piled up their blankets before they went into the fight, and, when they retired took them up again; but one of the regiments missed the place where their blankets had been placed, and thus lost them. He says the troops retired in good order, there was no precipitate retreat, and no arms or clothing thrown away.

The N. Y. Express says that the expenses of the U. S. government, in all its departments, now amount to \$3,239,600 daily—or an annual expenditure of \$1,182,459,000.

A large military force is being enlisted in South Carolina, for twelve months, for the defence of the coast.

Col. Corcoran, and a number of Federal prisoners, have reached Columbus, S. C., where they are to remain at present.

There is a hospital for the sick and wounded Confederates at Warrenton, Va., and where they receive every care and attention possible.

Mr. Hewitt the musician, lost a valuable musical library, at the recent fire at the Richmond theatre; and nearly all the "properties" of the theatre were burned.

Gen. Shields has arrived at New York from California.

The sessions of the U. S. Congress were resumed, in Washington, to day. The Northern papers urge an immediate attention to financial matters, as all important both to the U. S. Government and the Northern banks and people.

A Bankrupt law is strenuously urged in several of the Northern papers.

It is said that addition measures have been taken by the U. S. authorities to guard against information being conveyed to the Confederates through female agency.

It is said that additional information has been obtained against Col. Kerrigan, U. S. A., charging him with having furnished information to the Confederates.

The U. S. Navy Department is pressing on the building of iron clad steam batteries, and the completion of the steam batteries at New York.

The London Times is now in worse repute at the North, than the Charleston Mercury. It is considered the strongest friend to the South, in Europe.

Mr. Fuller, formerly one of the editors of the New York Mirror, is in London, lecturing on the present condition of affairs, and defending the Southern States. The New York papers are abusing him.

John Mitchell writes to the Dublin News, from Paris, that if the Southern States are recognized by the United States, and peace made, the Irish now in the Southern army, will furnish a handsome contingent to any army which may be wanted in a war against Great Britain.

Preparations, at the last accounts, were making in England for the funeral of the late Prince Albert. The Queen has ordered the erection of a monument over the remains of her deceased husband. She has left Windsor, for the present.

The English barrister, unfrocked in England, but received at the bar in New York, wrote a letter, vindicating the action of Capt. Wicks in the Trent affair. Some of the New York papers are "poking fun" at him.

M. Hautefeuille, the learned author of "The History of Maritime International Law," and of "The Treatise on the Rights and Duties of Neutral Nations during Naval Warfare," has just given to the world a careful examination of the various questions involved in the Trent and Nashville cases, which concludes with the opinion that Capt. Wicks has committed a violation of all the principles regulating international relations. He also decides that President Lincoln has not the right to seize and make prisoners of the inhabitants and officials of the Southern Confederation wherever he can find them, although he has the right to regard them as Rebels.

It is said that the inhabitants of the coast of South Carolina have destroyed, already, three or four million dollars worth of cotton, rather than have it fall into the possession of the Northern troops.

Mr. Cameron has written a letter to Gen. McCall, speaking of the satisfaction he has experienced at the report of the battle at Dranesville, and praising the conduct of the Pennsylvania troops in that engagement.

No more passes through the Federal lines are to be given to ladies, it is said; or if given they are to be strictly searched.

Jacob M. Howard, (Rep.) has been nominated for U. S. Senate, from Michigan, to succeed the late Mr. Bingham.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald says:—Our streets are filled with the most painful rumors of the discovery of traitors in a place where the breath of suspicion should not rest. This discovery also calls up afresh facts that were sometime since discovered. The present case is a serious one, too serious to be allowed to pass without a public exposure and a public execution. In both of these instances alluded to woman figures as the chief offender."

On Saturday a U. S. soldier from Pennsylvania, in one of the camps, near Washington, thrust his head with a false head on into a tent, where there were other soldiers, when one of them fired his pistol at the intruder, and killed another man who was walking quietly by. On the same day, a private in a New York Regiment stumbled into a post hole near the camp ground, when his musket was accidentally discharged killing one man and wounding another.

The U. S. frigate John Adams, now out of time, is looked for daily at New York.

AN ACT in relation to the bonds of Collectors of Taxes and other dues remaining unpaid for the year 1861, and previous years:
SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the City Council of Alexandria, That the Collectors of Taxes and other dues to this Corporation who were elected on the 20th day of November, 1861, shall give bond respectively, with good surety or sureties conditioned for the faithful discharge of their several duties, each in the penalty of five thousand dollars, to the satisfaction of the Joint Committee of the City Council on Finance and Salaries, before entering upon the discharge of their respective duties.
Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, that this act shall be in force from its passage.
Passed the Common Council, December 3, 1861.
WM. D. MASSEY, President.
Passed the Board of Aldermen, December 3, 1861.
STEPHEN SHINN, President.
Approved: LEWIS MCKENZIE, Mayor.
Attest: B. M. FRANKS, Clerk.

AN ACT to amend the laws in relation to the keeping and disbursement of the funds of this Corporation.
SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the City Council of Alexandria, That all laws now in force requiring the appointment of a Treasurer of this Corporation, and prescribing his powers and duties, be and they are hereby repealed; and that all moneys of the Corporation shall be hereafter deposited to the credit of the City Council of Alexandria, in such bank or banks as shall be from time to time, designated by the Finance Committee of the City Council; which moneys shall be paid out by such bank or banks upon the warrants of the Auditor, countersigned by the Mayor, and not otherwise.
Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said bank or banks shall keep and render such accounts of the moneys deposited as aforesaid, as shall from time to time be required by the said Finance Committee.
Passed the Board of Aldermen, December 3, 1861.
STEPHEN SHINN, President.
Passed the Common Council, December 3, 1861.
W. D. MASSEY, President.
Approved: LEWIS MCKENZIE, Mayor.
Attest: B. M. FRANKS, Clerk.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LYCEUM HALL! **LYCEUM HALL!!**
FOR TWO NIGHTS ONLY!
Monday and Tuesday Even'gs, Jan. 7 and 8.
THE ALLEGANIANS!
THE ALLEGANIANS!
VOCALIST AND
SWISS BELL RINGERS!
SWISS BELL RINGERS!

MISS CARRIE HIFFERT,
MISS MARIA BOULARD,
MR. A. SEDGWICK,
MR. G. GALLOWAY,
MR. J. M. BOULARD,
Lately returned from a four years tour around the world, and having just concluded a series of 48 successful concerts in the city of New York would most respectfully announce the first of their
Highly Popular Musical Entertainments.
Their Repertoire embraces a choice selection of
VOCAL QUARTETTES.

In addition to their usual choice selection of vocal music, they will play, each evening, several pieces on the celebrated

SWISS BELLS!
The front of the hall and the adjacent streets will be illuminated with the magnificent
DRUMMOND LIGHT!
DRUMMOND LIGHT!
for a long time an object of great curiosity at
BARNUM'S MUSEUM,
New York, upon the nights of the ALLEGANIANS AND SWISS BELL RINGERS.
Prices—Admission, 25 cents; front seats, 50 cents. Jan 4—3t

WANTED.—Copies of the LOCAL NEWS of Oct. 14, Oct. 17, Oct. 18, Nov. 19, Nov. 22, Dec. 12, and Dec. 17, to complete a file. Apply at the Gazette Office. Jan 3—1w

FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY.—The eighth annual meeting of the Company, will be held at the Company's Hall, on Monday evening, January 6.
JOHN MUIR,
Jan 3—3t* Corresponding Secretary