The New York City Press.

The capture of New Orleans forms the leading topic of discussion by the various papers. We quote as follows:

The Tribune.—The key of the Southwest is ours, and the rebel army, pressed upon from the North, and cut off from retreat and all hope of aid from where it, no doubt, calculated to make its last desperate stand, must soon seek for safety in disorganization, and return to obedience and hope for pardon in the obscurity of citizenship.

The Times.—New Orleans is repossessed; let the loyal heart of the Nation rejoice that the Stars and Stripes again float over the Crescent City of the Southwest.

The Herald.—The greatest cotton port of the rebels has fallen into our hands, an event which must change the whole features of the war in the South and West, baffle the plans of Beauregard at Corinth and Memphis, paralyze the action of Johnston at Yorktown, and reduce this nefarious rebellion to a last feeble struggle.

The World.—The capture of New Orleans, just at this time, is most inopportune for Beauregard. The great battle at Corinth occurs about this time. The intelligence of the fall of the great city of the Southwest must greatly demoralize his troops, and thoroughly unfit them for a conflict which even before was almost hopeless. If beaten, he has no place for retreat. His avenues of communication with the rebel army of the East are all cut off. He will quickly find himself hemmed in on all sides; and his only alternative will be either to surrender his entire army or to scatter it. In either case, his war material would be lost, and the war in the Southwest would substantially be at an end.

The Journal of Commerce.—With New Orleans in our possession, Mobile will soon follow; Savannah is sufficiently ours in the possession of Fort Pulaski; Charleston can be made to yield in due time, and then having the Mississippi free to our navigation from St. Paul to the Gulf, the United States will have repossessed most of the property which was taken by the insurgents, and the first great object of the war will have been accomplished. While the nation rejoices over the successes already achieved, it is a source of profound satisfaction that our army takes into the cities it occupies the Constitution of the United States, unimpaired, and only requires the inhabitants to submit to its requirements.

The Commercial Advertiser.—The capture of New Orleans is an event second to no other since the war began.

The Evening Post.—The rebel journals report the "fall" of the Crescent City; they should rather say its rise. It fell last year, when the Union flag was taken down from its Custom House and Mint, and the money deposited there was stolen by the irresponsible demagogues who persuaded and coerced the city and the state of Louisiana into rebellion.

The TIMES takes the EXPRESS and JOURNAL OF COMMERCE to task for hinting that the work of re-constructing the Union demands the acknowledgment of a mutual wrong.

A Port Royal correspondent of the TRIBUNE writes:

Mr. John Fila, formerly a resident of South Carolina, and now claiming to be and to have always been a loyalist, came recently to this Department, and alleging that he was and is the owner of a plantation and negroes on Port Royal Island, preferred before Gen. Stevens a claim to be reinstated in possession of his property both real and personal. The estate which he claims is now in care of a superintendent under Mr. Pierce, and carried on, like the rest, for the common benefit of the Government and the laborers upon it. Mr. Fila made no application to Mr. Pierce, but sought relief in the first instance from Gen. Stevens. That officer, anxious to restore the old amenities of the patriarchal institution, and to command about fifty negroes to their natural guardian, who had precipitately abandoned them, referred him with a letter of earnest recommendation to Gen. Hunter. That General decisively declined to interfere in any way with the operations of the Treasury Department, or to assume any judicial functions whatever. Mr. Fila's claim was peremptorily put aside, and he was summoned to show cause for his appearance within that jurisdiction.

Our Special Correspondence.

Operations against New Orleans—Strength and Position of the Enemy—The Federal Forces—New Plan of Iron Protection—Preparations to Attack the City—Mortar Fleet, South-West Pass, Mississippi River.

APRIL 12, 1862.

Several gunboats have reconnoitred the enemy's position during the past week. The *Kennebec* approached so near to Forts Jackson and Phillip that she was in danger from the shells that were fired towards her with considerable precision. One of the shells fell into the water within twenty yards of the steamer. Captain Bell of the sloop-of-war *Hartford* was on board the *Kennebec* and made the following observations: The enemy appears to have a number of rifled guns and some whose range is extensive, as is proved by the distance which the *Kennebec* sustained when exposed to the fire. Fort Jackson, which is on the left as you ascend the river, is the stronger fort. It is casemated and gives evidence of having been recently strengthened. The trees in the neighborhood which obstruct the range of the guns have been felled, so that the two fortifications together command all the approaches from below. Several scows are moored near the forts. It is said that their use is in supporting an immense iron chain which crosses the river at that point, and which may prove a very serious obstacle in the way of the fleet when it advances. It is reported that the guns of both forts amount to more than three hundred and that fire ships are in readiness to repel assailants.

Notwithstanding these immense preparations for the defence of the river, there seems to be but little doubt that before an attack is made by the Federal forces our fleet will have attained such formidable dimensions that victory for the Union will be almost a sure thing. All the vessels of the mortar fleet are in good order. The mortars and their machinery operate admirably, and the officers and men are in good health and spirits. Besides the mortar fleet a large number of men-of-war of all sizes will assist in the bombardment. It was said that the *Colorado*, a frigate carrying fifty guns, would lend her assistance. But, on account of her great size it will be impossible for her to cross the bar. If she were once over the bar she would find no difficulty, as the water in the river is in many places more than one hundred feet in depth. But there are other vessels of no insignificant size which can cross the bar. Such are the *Hartford*, *Pensacola*, *Brooklyn* and *Richmond*. All these are first-class sloops, carrying about twenty-five heavy guns apiece, and all with the exception of the *Pensacola* are now anchored in the river above the bar. The *Pensacola* is now aground in her endeavor to cross. An accident happened on board of her two or three days ago, in the parting of a hawser, by which two men were killed and eight wounded. An officer, said to be an Acting Master, had his leg broken. The appearance of the *Richmond* is very suggestive of the action she is to take part in before long. She is painted all over, smoke stack and all, with a dirt-colored paint, which looks as if one of its ingredients is the mud of the river. This is done so that she may not present so fair a mark to the enemy's gunners. Besides this she is plated with very heavy chain cable for about one-third of her length. The chains are spiked and her sides cover them about half way up from the surface of the water. They look as if they would be a pretty good but not perfect protection to her machinery.

Besides the vessels above named, the following are in the vicinity preparing to accompany the mortar fleet. The side-wheel frigate *Mississippi*, the sloops of war *Oneida*, *Iroquois* and *Dacotah*, the sidewheel steamers *Harriet Lane*, *Miami*, *Montgomery*, *Westfield* and *Clifton*, and the gunboats *Kennebec*, *Winona*, *Pinola*, *Owasco*, *Kineo*, *Scioto*, *Katahdin* and *Varuna*.

On March 18th, a boat belonging to the *Marin J. Carlton* was upset while towing by a steamer in Pass a l'Outre. Capt. Charles E. Jack, of the *Carlton*, was in the boat at the time. With great exertion almost all the boat's crew were saved. Francis Bird, ordinary seaman, of Bristol, Eng., was drowned. A similar casualty occurred on board the Norfolk packet, the flag ship of the 1st division. Edward Barry, landsman, Ireland, fell from the forecastle and was drowned. His body was not seen after he fell, probably on account of the strong eddying current, and after a long search he was given up.

BOMB FLOTILLA, HEAD OF THE PASSES, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, April 13th, 1862.

The Union forces in these waters are rapidly gaining in strength and efficiency, and seem prepared to strike in a few days the blow which will decide the fate of the Mississippi River and New Orleans. The number of troops at Ship Island is stated to be not less ——— Gen. Butler has made a visit to the *Hartford* for the purpose of consulting with Commodore Farragut about the plan of attack. It is well known that troops can be landed by the way of Back Bay, within five miles of the rear of Fort Phillip. After a voyage of less than twenty-four hours a sufficient force can be landed to take that Fort by storm in the rear, while the fleet is engaging it in front. A successful movement of this kind would enable our Generals to assist the operations of the fleet against Fort Jackson from the embrasures of Fort Phillip, thus fighting the enemy with his own guns.

The sloops-of-war *Hartford*, *Richmond* and *Brooklyn* have put on a new kind of defensive armor. Their sides are covered for about one-third of the length with the heaviest chain cable, laid with the links close together, and spiked in such a manner as to keep shot from penetrating to their steam engines. These three vessels and the *Mississippi*, besides their heavy batteries of nine inch guns, carry 12-pound howitzers in their rigging by which they can deliver an almost vertical fire upon the enemy.

The gunboat *Wissota*, Capt. Nichols, has made a reconnoissance under a flag of truce, by which they ascertained the existence of a dozen rebel gunboats stationed above the chain which spans the river near the forts. She was visited by two rebel officers from the steamers *Defiance* and *Tennessee*. The latter vessel carries two rifled guns of enormous calibre. The two officers, who were formerly in the service of the United States, state that the forts are in excellent condition and ready at any time to repel an attack.

The mortar fleet, upon which great reliance is to be placed in the coming bombardment, is in excellent condition. None of the vessels have suffered materially from their voyage from the North, and have not yielded in any point to the great strain upon their timbers occasioned by the weight of their mortars in a rolling sea. In a few days it is not improbable that a page of history will be occupied by a description of the bombardment of New Orleans, in which Commodore Porter and his mortar fleet will occupy an important position.

The Siege of Yorktown.

Dismal Weather—The Rain Delaying Operations—The Government Censorship—Everything Quiet—The Approaching Engagement.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
Before Yorktown, April 24.

Rain Sunday, rainier Monday, rain again Tuesday, shiny Wednesday; such has been the dismal record of the week thus far—and today is far from promising, a drop of hate trickling through the shingled roof of my cabin, and descending into the corner of my half-shut eye, reminding me, before I was fairly awake this morning, that all is not sunshine in barbaric more than in civilized life. Oh! these damp and dreary days in camp, with the heavens opening their floodgates, and the earth exuding its moisture. "Who wouldn't sell a farm and be a soldier?" Cold accompanies the rain, so that those who, with a soldier's improvidence, threw away their blankets when commencing their march in the first warm days of Spring, have suffered much from exposure. Discomfort has been the lot of all, and coughs and colds are the order of the day. It is such weather as this that fills the hospitals, though our troops are now so inured to hardship as to bear it with comparative indifference.

The storm has not helped military operations here, though they still progress favorably. It was extremely fortunate that we had a few days of sunshine, in which to complete the work of road and bridge building, lest re-the storm came upon us. But in this porous, spongy soil, a few days of dampness make horrible work with the roads, scattering out their weak spots, and converting trifling breaches into bogs of unknown depth and horrible tenacity, in which horses and wagons flounder helplessly. The worst feature of this soil is that it has no solid foundation beneath the mud, a single foot or two of digging bringing you to the water which underlies the treacherous sand. The corduroy roads, extended in all directions at an immense labor, were thus a necessary preliminary to progress, as this rain storm has abundantly proved.

I was fortunate enough to escape the fury of the tempest, being absent from camp during its continuance, arranging about my correspondence. Most of my letters, I have the satisfaction of finding, have probably failed to reach you, being stopped at the post office in Fortress Monroe, when I was distinctly assured that they would not be molested. On signing a parole not to write anything that will give aid and comfort to the enemy, I received the authoritative assurance that my letters shall hence forth pass through the mails unmutilated. I wonder if the enemy will not take comfort from the news of the discomfort of our troops during the past few days.

The absence of news will show you how quiet things have been here for the past week, nothing of moment having occurred since the fight of the 16th, of which I gave you some incidents, in addition to the telegraphic report of the main features of the engagement. As discussion of news is likely to beget vague rumors of disaster, let me assure you here that, with the exception of that some what untoward affair, everything has thus far progressed favorably for our arms, and the fullest confidence is felt in our final success here. Confidence in Gen. McClellan is unbounded, and the troops are full of determination and spirit. The affair of the 16th proves that our troops can and will fight when they have the opportunity.

By request I send you the enclosed resolutions in regard to the death of Captain O'Sullivan, of the 85th N. Y. Volunteers.* They will show the estimation in which he was held by his companions in arms. The 60th have also recently lost one of their members, viz.: Michael Reid, of Co. K, formerly commanded by Captain J. P. McMahon, now Adjutant General of the —— Brigade. Sergeant Reid was a young man of twenty-two, whose soldierly qualities gave fine promise for the future, since his many excellencies of the head and heart so endeared him to those with whom he was associated that his loss is felt by each as a personal bereavement.

The brigade have just had a welcome addition to their comforts, in the shape of a lot of shelter tents, obtained for them by Captain A. P. Galway, the Brigade Quarter Master and Acting Officer of Ordnance. I write at the headquarters of General Meagher, looking out upon the broad plain in which his troops lie encamped. This plain is nearly circular in shape, a mile or more in diameter, surrounded by a belt of wood, shutting in the prospect, and forming a natural amphitheatre large enough for the battlefield of empires. At one side, near a deep ravine, cluster the tents of the General and his staff, under the shade of the large spreading apple trees standing in full blossom conspicuously in the plain. It is a beautiful situation for a sunny day; but all is dreary when the sky is overcast.

I hope to have more stirring news for you ere long, as advancing preparations promise speedy results. Fortunately no censorial restrictions will prevent a full description of any engagement that may occur, though with so vast a battlefield as we are to have, it will be impossible to give more than a partial view of the conflict, which is to give a new lease of immortality to the historical plains of Yorktown.

Curiosity has its victims as well as cannon; and among these are probably to be enumerated Colonel Crocker and Major Cassidy, of the 93d Regiment N. Y. Volunteers, taken prisoners last night by the rebels, while indiscretely venturing beyond our lines. The rebels may congratulate themselves upon having made so good a capture, though it be due to no especial prowess on their part.

*The resolutions will be found in another column.

From the Army before Yorktown.

THE TRAIL OF THE ARMY—CONTRABANDS SECURING HOMES—REFUGEES FROM HAMPTON—ROAD BUILDING—A REBEL OPINION OF OUR FORCE—DELIGHTFUL WEATHER—THE GUNBOATS AT WORK—CAPTURE OF REBEL SCOUTS.

CAMP BEFORE YORKTOWN,
April 19th, 1862.

A fortnight's occupation of this neighborhood by our army has made great changes in the appearance of the country, and in some respects not altogether for the better, though I find fewer evidences of that lawlessness inseparable from an army on the march than is usual. But the rights of property have not in all cases been strictly respected, as the fenceless fields and dismantled houses by the wayside testify. Those in which the occupants remain have seldom suffered damage, though some complain of violence. The demand for forage has stripped every granary and left the few horses on the farm here in an almost starving condition. Nor are the inhabitants much better off, if their complaints of scarcity are to be depended upon. Even as I write, in a farm-house by the wayside, I hear a voice above stairs complaining:

"I've got no flour, no eggs, no nothin'!"

Soldiers on the march are always hungry, and their demands must be supplied. Some of the mansions deserted by their rebel owners have been taken possession of by stray contrabands, who make themselves entirely at home, contriving to live somehow on such food as they can pick up here and there.

Losing my way after the sun last night had gone down, and wandering aimlessly until ten o'clock in a vain search for the camp I had left, I was very glad at last to take shelter in one of these houses, where I shared the bed of an enterprising mail agent, who had secured a room to himself, with a feather bed and a few odds and ends of furniture, which had evidently formed part of an establishment of considerable pretensions. In another part of the house were several likely looking negroes, an old man and a young woman with a number of healthy looking children about her. They had secured possession of a bit of corn and flour from some deserted house, and with beef rescued from the Commissary stores burnt by Gen. Magruder, and coffee and sugar, obtained perhaps by purchase, they contrived to make me out a very tolerable breakfast.

Above the apartment in which I slept was a room occupied by two poor women, who had fled from Hampton had driven forth into the world homeless and shelterless. How they contrive to live I do not know. Their situation is that of many, and pity the people of the border! Union or secession, their case is a hard one and deserves consideration.

We are leaving some marks of Northern enterprise as we go. For miles it has been turned into fields, acres and acres of woods falling before the axes of our soldiers searching for fuel or for logs with which to build corduroy roads. Many miles of road have been built during the past two weeks, converting the swamps and morasses into good highways, so that our army wagons pass in a continuous stream from the wharves and landing places lining the shores of the bays and creeks in which our transports find anchorage ground.

How many vessels we have here, I am not at liberty to tell; they are enough to excite astonishment and bewilderment among the few Virginians left here. One old lady in particular refused to be shaken in her belief that every vessel belonging to the North has been sent for the conquest of Yorktown. She is equally confident that if the enemy communicate this fact to Gen. Magruder, he will immediately surrender at discretion.

"Don't tear!" she was heard to exclaim in great anxiety, "I know they will tell my son John, but I tell Gen. Magruder, and I know he'll stop fighting right off."

But no mere show of strength is to subdue Yorktown. The rebel preparations for stubborn resistance continue, while we are progressing with equal activity to a position which must secure its fall. The telegraph supplies you with most of the details of our movements which it is proper to publish, and the necessity of caution in what I say compels me to withhold much that is of interest.

A number of rebel scouts have been found in the woods where I lost my way last night, so I escaped other dangers than that of want of shelter. A few days ago two scouts had a fight near Mulberry Island, two appeared, one man making it his boast that he has killed ten of our men. His wife, who lives near here, cannot conceal her pride in the achievement; hence our knowledge of the fact.

W. C. C.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

BEFORE YORKTOWN, April 22.

About noon yesterday the gunboats Torrens ran up within three miles of Yorktown, and opened on the town with one of her two-pound 18-inch Parrott guns. The first fell short and exploded in the air; the next two fell in the water near Yorktown; the fourth exploded right over the flagstaff in Yorktown, and was a splendid shot; the next went over their fort and exploded in their barracks; immediately there was a hurrying to and fro, their battery was run out, a flag was seen, a piece of smoke was seen and heard, and the shell burst a mile of the Torrens and was a good line shot.

The gunboat then ran down to the mouth of the York river, and turning around came up and running half a mile nearer than before, fired again. Her first shell exploded within a load near in front of the rebel battery, the next two fell short; the next fell within 50 feet of the water battery, the next two exploded on shore, near the fort; two then exploded over their water battery, which is bomb proof. All the time rebel men were going in their rat holes, and disappointed Parrott and the Torrens by so thick that Yorktown was rapidly being enveloped, and the tide turning, our rapidly, the gunboat retired back to the mouth of the river.

The pickets from Co. B, Rhode Island regiment were extended within striking distance of the enemy last night. They amused themselves by firing musket shots at each other, and Regiment Co. proposed an exchange of a southern paper for a New York paper. The colonel proposed they should meet half way, which proposition was accepted, when, as it was about to be put into execution, the rebel was ordered back by his officer. It is such incidents as these which take away or soften the harsher features of war.

From Cuba and Mexico.

The Spanish steam frigate Isabel La Catalina, Admiral Carlos Carmina, arrived on Friday from Havana, 14th inst. She mounts sixteen guns, has a crew of 260 men, is a side-wheel vessel, and of 500 horse power. She brings a large mail. We have received our Havana files to the 17th instant. American affairs receive great attention.

The DIARIO discusses the question whether New Orleans is sufficiently fortified to resist Butler and Porter's fleet, and comes to the conclusion that it is not. The editor states that persons who have lately arrived at Havana from New Orleans say that the rebel defences are much exaggerated—that Forts Jackson and Phillip have been abandoned by the troops, with all taking away their cannon, and that there is nothing to prevent the federal fleet from sailing directly up to New Orleans.

MEXICO.

The United States frigate Black Prince had arrived at Havana from Ship Island. The Guadalquivir had arrived from Vera Cruz with news to the 6th instant. The allied commanders were awaiting fresh orders from their respective governments.

The government of Juarez were still ready to give every satisfaction required by the interests of the subjects of the three powers who had claims against Mexico. They would do it, however, little to the idea of a monarchy, and in case the allied troops advanced to the capital would retire from it.

All the Spanish forces had concentrated at Orizaba, and the French at Tehuacan.

The Ministers of Justice and Agriculture had arrived by special express from Mexico city at Vera Cruz to confer with the French commander. They were also received with all due honor by General Prim.

General Miranda and Colonel Almonte, with the French General, and have published proclamations to the people whereas the Juarez administration. Senor Doblado had issued a counter proclamation, branding Almonte and his adherents as traitors.

The plan of Almonte is to overthrow the present government, to have himself recognized as Dictator (*Tefe supremo*), and then call a National Assembly, to take into consideration the deplorable condition of the country, and decide which will be the best form of government for it. A number of Almonte's adherents have signed a document supporting this measure.

An Orizaba paper declares that a reaction has commenced in favor of the Spanish. A journal entitled LA RAZON has been established at Orizaba, advocating the pronunciamiento of Almonte to the supreme command of the country.

STILL LATER.

Another steamer, the Ulloa, arrived at Havana on the 17th instant.

After an unsatisfactory conference between the allied commanders, *the French General had decided to march his division against Mexico city, taking upon himself all the responsibility of the act.* The English and Spanish Plenipotentiaries therefore decided to withdraw their troops.

The reactionary party had made preparations to make a final campaign against the Juarez government.

General Robles has been under the charge of being a traitor to his country. This execution had created a great excitement. His brothers have through the press asked the public to suspend judgment.

GENERAL SIGEL is reported convalescent, and ady to take the field again.

THURLOW WEED, in a recent letter from Europe, says that the persistence of our volunteers in facing batteries and storming redoubts, under fire, has won the commendation of veteran military officers in Europe, who look for no such results in raw volunteers.

LITTLE NELLIE WILLIAMS' "PENFIELD EXTRA," edited and printed by her own hands, has been very justly restored to the privileges of the mails, from which it had been excluded on the pretence that it was an advertising sheet, and not a newspaper.

BURTON McILVAINE, of Ohio, lately held a confirmation of 100 young persons, English and American, of both sexes, in one of the largest Protestant Episcopal churches in Paris.

WE learn from rebel sources, that Gen. McClellan has cut a canal between the York and Warwick rivers, which "gives him a water front across the whole country, and contributes very much to the security of his position."

GEN. HUNTER has, under the act of Congress, given the first certificate of freedom granted by our officers in South Carolina to a slave named William Jenkins, who was employed by his master to aid against the Government. His wife and children are also declared free, with liberty to go "North, South, East or West, as they may decide." About 100 other cases have been examined and passed, and the necessary free papers were to be issued immediately.

A BILL is now before Congress for organizing the region between Kansas and Texas, West of Arkansas, and East of Colorado, Texas and New Mexico, into a territory under the name of Laumiwa—a Shawnee word, signifying Indian.

Capture of New Orleans.

The accompanying map represents New Orleans, the mouths of the Mississippi River, and the surrounding coast. The principal defences of the rebels were concentrated at Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, which will be shown on the map just above the forks of the river, where additional batteries were constructed on both sides of it, a chain thrown across it, and a raft taken with pitch, turpentine and other inflammable materials, with which to fire our approaching fleet, was moored. From this point up to Fort Leon, just below Algiers, which is opposite the city, no rebel entrenchments were erected; but opposite Fort Leon, and just below New Orleans, very formidable batteries existed principally commanding the approaches by land. The water approaches to the city, from the river, and Lake Ponchartrain, have been so numerous, that the rebels have been at a loss at what point to concentrate their greatest efforts for defence, and their fleets on the river once passed, the city has been easily captured. On the upper part of the map, near the right corner, will be shown Ship Island, the headquarters of the Gulf Expedition, from which we have had late accounts of their departure.

Operations Against New Orleans.

Washington, April 26.—The Richmond EXAMINER of the 24th, announces that one of our gunboats passed Fort Jackson and Fort Philip, sixty miles below New Orleans, on the 24th. The report was telegraphed to Norfolk, and brought to Fortress Monroe under flag of truce, and received from there to-day by the Navy Department. The rebels say they regard it of little importance, as they have other defences to be depended upon.

Boston, April 26.—A Ship Island letter of the 6th inst., states that Gen. Williams' Brigade left there on the 24 inst., for New Orleans.

LATER.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 27.

HON. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War:

A flag of truce boat just arrived from Portsmouth, brings the Petersburg Express of yesterday, which contains the following dispatch:

Mobile, April 25.—The enemy passed Fort Jackson at four o'clock yesterday morning. When the news reached New Orleans, the excitement was boundless.

Martial law was put in full force and business was completely suspended.

All the cotton and steamboats excepting such as were necessary to transport cotton, ammunition, &c., were destroyed.

At one o'clock today, the operator lade us good bye, saying that the enemy had appeared before the city.

This is the last we know regarding the fall. Will send particulars as soon as they can be received.

The negro following the above reports that the rebels have two ironclad steamers nearly completed, and that the Merrimac will be down to-morrow.

JOHN E. WOOL.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK, April 23, 1862.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

I have just returned from the camp opposite Fredericksburgh. I was told the Richmond EXAMINER of the 26th had been received in town, announcing as follows: "New Orleans taken." "Great destruction of property, cotton and steamboats." "Steamboats enough saved to take away the ammunition." Great consternation of the inhabitants.

IRVIN McDOWELL, Maj. Gen.

The War in the West.

St. Louis, April 26.—A special dispatch to the Missouri Democrat, dated Cairo today, says—The steamers, which reached here this morning on the steamer N. W. Thomas, which left Pittsburgh Landing Thursday, say that a battle of importance had taken place on Tuesday between the advance guards of the National and rebel armies; that the rebels were driven back towards Corinth, and that Gen. Halleck was pushing his whole force vigorously forward."

Chicago, April 26.—A special dispatch from Cairo to the Journal, says that a reconnoissance was made towards Corinth on Thursday, and when near Monterey surprised a rebel camp, and captured Lieut. Pen Rolins, a dashing rebel of Corinth. They returned from Hamburg Landing on Friday morning, but did not engage the enemy, who were seen. Mr. Stevenson, of Danville, Ill., who accompanied the reconnoissance, heard the constant rattle of cars and sounding of steam whistles towards Mobile, and thus got the impression that the rebels were concentrating from that direction.

PITTSBURGH LANDING, April 25.
CORINTH, April 24.

Major General C. F. Smith died at Savannah, Tenn., at 4 o'clock this afternoon, of dysentery. He was taken sick shortly after the occupation of Savannah by the forces under him, and has been suffering and sinking slowly for some weeks, though his condition was not thought to be dangerous until the last week. His family have been notified of his death, and are on their way to Savannah. Gen. P. L. Sherman arrived here today.

Washington, April 26.—The Navy Department has received a dispatch from Commander Foote, dated the 14th inst., in which he says:

The Tyler and Lexington, convoyed two large prizes, coming up the Tennessee, on Sunday last, under command of Lieutenant Shirmann, to Chickasaw, Ala., where they discovered that preparations were rapidly to Bear Creek Bridge, not the one on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, but for the purpose of destroying it, and as much of the track work as they could find. The expedition was entirely successful, the bridge consisting of trestles of Hickory trees, was completely destroyed, but the superstructure—a truss work 500 feet long—took fire and fell a mass of the ample fuel. The rebels made a feeble attempt to rally a force of about 120 in number, but soon hastily retreated, leaving four killed. Our loss none.

Chicago, April 27.—A special dispatch from Cairo to the TIMES, says:

Passengers from Pittsburgh report that on Tuesday, over thirty deserters from the rebel army entered our camps and begged to be enrolled among our troops. They all corroborated the statement received the day before, relating to the evacuation by the rebels of their present position, and asserted that Beauregard had withdrawn a considerable portion of his force for the defense of Memphis.

The War in the Southwest

Chicago, April 27.—The Memphis AVALANCHE of the 23d says that on the 11th eighty Federal cavalry took possession of Pocahontas, Ark.

There are 10,000 Federal troops at Dumbarton, Mo., engaged in building flatboats on Current River, with which to descend Black and White Rivers.

The condition of the roads prevent the Federals marching on Corinth for some time to come. They are moving in force in the direction of Humboldt.

Martial law has been declared at Vicksburg, and five miles around.

A large body of Texans are in Memphis, *en route* for Corinth.

Mr. De Bow, the editor, is for the Confederate Congress, wants a loan of two hundred millions for a specific purpose in exchange for approved Confederate bonds.

A military band is forming in Nashville, in consequence of the recent wholesale massacre of Federal musicians by the rebels. Gen. Buell visited Murfreesboro' and had a pitched battle with two Indian regiments.

The Federal steamer Montgomery burned the steamer Columbia, loaded with cotton, inside St. Louis Pass, west of Galveston.

A dispatch from Richmond, dated the 22d, says that Gen. Frémont reached Eastern Kentucky with his whole force, numbering 20,000, and had gone to Catlettsville.

Cairo, April 27.—The steamer McClellan, from Pittsburg Landing at 4 o'clock on Saturday, has arrived.

The rebels are inaugurating a system of guerilla warfare along the Tennessee river. Boats are fired on frequently, a short distance above Fort Henry.

Our army is steadily advancing toward Corinth. Gen. Pope's forces are on the extreme left, four miles above Pittsburg Landing.

The roads have been improving, but the rainstorm Friday rendered them again impassable.

The McClellan brought down the body of Gen. C. F. Smith.

The Memphis AVALANCHE of the 23d says that a fight took place near Monterey, in which one rebel was killed and 16 of our men, was captured. The rebels retreated from Fort Wright and taken down the river.

Generals Buell and Rosecrans had left for an unknown point. Great exchange of wounded prisoners. Reports received by the McClellan bring further accounts of Corinth being evacuated by the rebels, who will make their next stand at Columbus, Miss.

Irish News.

The Dublin corporation has agreed, by a large majority, to memorialize the government in favor of granting a charter to the new Catholic University.

The Galway AMERICAN, a new weekly journal intended to "advocate the national rights and development of the industrial resources of Ireland," appeared on the 12th of April. It looks healthy, and contains an able article showing the superior advantages of Galway as an American packet station.

On the night of the 6th of April, a party of men broke in the roof of a cottage owned by a poor man named Duggan, near Galway, and beat the inmates. They then tore down the house of a widow, named O'Brien.

A meeting was held at the Belfast Corn Exchange, April 9th, in aid of the distress that now prevails in that city, owing to the want of employment. Several deaths from starvation were reported to have occurred within a few days. A committee was appointed to procure subscriptions and present the claims of the suffers to the public.

The ball at the Dublin Portobello Gardens, known as the Union Hall, and containing a quantity of Canadian timber of property belonging to the officers of the barracks, was destroyed by fire on the 7th of April.

The Dublin Municipal Council have unanimously resolved to address the Government in favor of the new Catholic University.

Lord Rosmore has granted the use of an excellent quarry on his estate for building the new Catholic Cathedral at Monaghan.

The annual meeting of the Protestant Orphan Society was held in Dublin April 5th, and amongst the eloquent advocacy of the Right Rev. Dr. Gregg, the hitherto trusted friend of the Society, was waning on the occasion, the proceedings were full of interest. The annual collection of the Society was reported to be flourishing.

At the April meeting of the Irish Church Mission Society, some interesting details were given of the surprising success of the Ragged Schools in Dublin, and their influence in elevating the character of street children.

The meeting of the Church Missionary Society was perhaps the most interesting of the series of April meetings. The annual breakfast took place in the morning, and in the afternoon a meeting was held in the Rotunda, at which the report of the Society was adopted, and a number of interesting addresses delivered.

The Sunday School Society held its meeting on the 9th of April. On the 1st of January last it had under its supervision 2,224 schools with 228,126 children and 12,214 teaching teachers. Only about 100,000 of these were supposed to be attending week-day schools, and 60,000 were above 15 years of age.

Dr. Wade, the celebrated Dublin oculist, has gratuitously assigned Sir Marks Operations Hospital to trustees, for the benefit of the poor of Ireland. This was founded by Dr. Wade some years ago, at an expense of $10,000, and made it celebrated, has achieved a high character and been the means of inestimable good.

"The Bird's Nest" is the title of a new three-story building lately opened at Kingstown, near Dublin, under the auspices of Miss Whately and a committee of ladies, for the education and support of such children as may be consigned to its sheltering care.

The Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Belfast, has been seized by bailiffs for a debt of $10,000.

A man's head, without any other remains, was lately found on the Trustea Mountains, Co. Antrim.

The Treasurer of the Connemara Relief Fund, has received from the Comte de Paris, who at present is with Gen. McClellan at Yorktown, $100 for the suffering poor. The Prince states in his letter that after of witnessing the misfortunes of the Irish people on their own soil, it now gives him pleasure to behold their heroism and devotion to the land of their adoption.

From a statement recently published, respecting the condition of the embroidered muslin trade, which formerly flourished in Ulster, it appears that in 1853, 200,000 females were employed at the trade, who received for their work $3,000,000 a year. The trade fell off till, in 1860, the receipts were reduced to but little over $600,000. In order to revive the trade, which has the merit of giving employment to women at their homes, a memorial was presented to the Queen soliciting her patronage, but the answer was delayed in consequence of the death of Prince Albert. Her Majesty, on receiving the memorial, took such a warm interest in aiding the trade that prices advanced from 25 to 50 per cent., and it is estimated that specimens of work sent to the Great Exhibition will stimulate it still more, and probably restore it to its former prosperity.

At a recent meeting in Dublin of the Irish branch of the society for promoting the employment of educated women, it was stated that numbers of 100 ladies were on the roll. Though the number of the society is confined to women of the middle classes who were obliged to seek employment have been limited, the greater portion have found employment. 47 pupils who have passed the writing and book-keeping lines have received the Queen's certificate, and the Royal Dublin Society endorses the commercial testimonies of young women in the same as in the case of men. The sewing machine class has an attendance of 50, but all have not yet attained proficiency. The pupils in the art class are under the auspices of the Royal Dublin Society; and among the lady clerks formed are the law writers, and telegraph clerks. The British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company have granted a number of situations for the use of the latter class, and a number of stations to the Irish Telegraphs trained for the Company by the Society. Interesting statements were made illustrating the usefulness of the Society in fitting ladies for offices of peculiar position and responsibility.

M. LOUIS REYBAUD has published a work on the condition of the operatives in France, in which he says: "In the North of France the wages of a cotton spinner are 36c. 2½c. per day, and may rise to 41. for a lever hand. A country weaver does not earn more than 17.50c per day. Generally a man earns from 600f. to 1200f. in the course of the year, calculated at 300 working days; a woman earns from 37f. to 450f., and a child from 120f. to 225f.

FINANCIAL NEWS.

NEW YORK, Monday, April 28.

The governments are very firm and the 7-3-10 notes which are favorites with banks in the interior, Savings Banks and Insurance Co's which have funds to employ, have risen to ¼ premium higher than they have been before. They give 7 per cent interest and are available in the market if the funds are wanted. The 1 year certificates are 98¾. After the board prices were higher. Coupon 6's, 95¾ and reg. 95½.

The list generally was much improved, and steamship, under a new pressure, rose to 6¾ a 7 after the board. The operators talk of 25.

The operations in gold were to the usual extent, and the prices form at 1½.

There were sales of Washington Fire Ins. Co. at 100¾.

The exchanges at the Clearing House were $26,515,777; balances, $1,560,041. The clearings rose rapidly in volume with the larger transactions at the Treasury.

There are later advices from London to the 19th inst. The sales of cotton were very large at ⅛ a ¼ higher. Breadstuffs were firm.

The returns of the Winnington and Zanesville R. R. for March were $13,077; expenses $12,069.

The indebtedness certificates of the government are to 98½, or nearly 2½ per cent higher than when first issued. The 6 per cent. had risen 6 per cent above the rate at which the banks took them last December. That they are so firm to-day is to some extent due to the fact that the banks had recently not sold either them or the 7 3-10 notes. They cannot employ the money to better advantage. The best they get is 5 per cent, from the government at 10 days notice. The 5 year bonds give them 7 per cent. in specie, and the 6 per cent. stock 6½ in specie with a good margin. They are there, for no longer anxious to lighten their load on the other hand, they will derive from it a periodical supply of specie, which will pay a handsome interest to hold.

The comparative exports and prices of specie for the past week were as follows:

	From California, 1861.	1862.	Export.	Price.
March 8	$[illegible]	741,101	510,714	1½
" 15	819,524	626,594	471,355	1 ⅛
" 22	699,647	617,[illegible]	514,965	1½
" 29	996,445	490,[illegible]	779,564	1½
April 5	[illegible]	481,295	673,829	1½
" 12	1,110,231	[illegible]	[illegible]	1½
" 19	[illegible]	617,279	693,432	1½
" 26	811,577	620,311	1,131,100	1½
	5,3[illegible],109	4,110,687	12,969,992	

The exports of specie were again large this week, but nevertheless the amount in bank shows rather an increase than otherwise. The receipts from California are small as compared with last year, and the amount exported since March 1, exceeds those receipts $5,500,000. The amount of specie in bank compares as follows:

March 8	$30,135,614
April 26	26,[illegible]
Increase in March	4,731,6[illegible]
Amount exported since March 1	6,[illegible]
Total	$45,[illegible]
Of which from California	4,110,687
From internal sources	$13,[illegible]

The amount of coin was collected in a period of expansion, under the stimulus of a premium of 1 a 1¼ per cent., and is held a large portion on special deposit in the banks by those who expect to sell it at a high premium to the exporters and to Government. There is a large amount also to be delivered by operators, who have sold it without "to deliver." These contracts run many in times, and as the seller always retains the right to deliver, the operation has filtered [illegible] Meantime the supply is wasting, and the demand increasing.

The Bank returns for today are comparatively as follows:

	Loans.	Specie.	Circ'n.	Deposit.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]