

WAR NEWS.

The Southern accounts of the recent movements of the Confederates in the rear of the Federal army near Richmond, state that the troops engaged in the expedition numbered fourteen hundred, with two pieces of artillery, all belonging to the regular army. They claim to have destroyed two hundred wagons laden with military stores, sunk three large transports and took one hundred and seventy prisoners, besides killing and wounding a number of the Federal troops in the several skirmishes that occurred. The total value of the property which was destroyed is estimated at two millions of dollars. After the accomplishment of the purpose of the expedition, the troops crossed the Pamunkey and returned to New Kent Court House. The Federal accounts deny the extent of the loss thus stated.

The Federal fleet which left Memphis, proceeding down the river, has arrived at the town of Arkansas, in the State of that name, without having occasion to fire a shot. A steamer was captured valued at sixty thousand dollars, having on board one hundred bales of cotton. Some of the Confederate gunboats are said to be at Indian Bay and up the Arkansas river.

Information has been received in Washington that the Confederates have evacuated Cumberland Gap in East Tennessee. A Federal force, under Gen. Morgan, advanced upon and occupied the place on Wednesday. Several skirmishes occurred before the advance reached the works, but there was no loss on the Federal side.

A Richmond paper of Monday states that Gen. McClellan has recently been reinforced by General McDowell's division and other troops.

The Louisville Journal of June 16 says: "We learn that Colonel Dumont and Col. Haggard have returned to Nashville from Chattanooga. The latter place, after having been taken, was abandoned for the want of supplies, which it was impossible to obtain, the supply steamboat, as well as the wagons, failing to arrive in time. Our forces that captured and occupied Chattanooga, are now at Shelbyville. This is the statement that has been made to us, but possibly the Confederate forces that recently occupied Cumberland Gap may have been advancing upon Chattanooga in such strength that our troops could not have kept the position, even if their supplies had been abundant."

The Richmond Whig says:—"On Thursday morning at nine o'clock, the Federal cavalry, followed by infantry, entered Ashland. Our troops, quartermasters and commissaries, and even our pickets, had withdrawn, leaving valuable stores behind, including cars filled with flour, &c. The village was swarming with the people of the neighborhood and negroes, who were helping themselves to the public stores. Mr. Critcher, of Westmoreland, and Mr. Grymes, of King George, assumed authority to order about forty negroes to push the cars about one hundred and fifty yards to the point of descent, whence they would run three miles toward Richmond—but after removing eleven cars to the point, the Federal cavalry dashed into the village, and Messrs. Critcher and Grymes escaped unpursued."

Water Melons from Cuba, have appeared in Washington.

GENERAL NEWS.

At Cincinnati, on the 17th inst., during a heavy storm, the lightning struck the extensive liquor warehouse of Messrs. Fletcher, Hobart & Co., and passing through the roof, struck one of the stills, causing an explosion. The burning fluid spread in every direction, and the workmen barely escaped. The building was speedily consumed, and the walls fell, crushing some frame houses, by which one woman was killed. The warehouse of the same firm, on Front street, was also entirely destroyed, consuming 1,000 bbls. of whisky and 200 bbls. of linseed oil, 100 bbls. lard oil and 20 bbls. coal oil, besides alcohol and other stock. Messrs. Fletcher, Hobart & Co. lost about \$60,000; insured for \$38,000. A large store on Front street, occupied by George M. Hood & Co., adjoining the burnt warehouse, was damaged to the amount of several thousand dollars. At 3 o'clock in the morning the walls of Messrs. Hood & Co.'s store fell in and the contents of the store caught fire, among which were 800 bbls. of whisky, and a large amount of baled hemp. All was destroyed by fire and water. This loss will reach perhaps \$40,000.

The London Times has an article on the refusal of the Canadian Parliament to provide additional troops for the defence of the province, and warns the Canadians that they must not believe "that they have in their present connection with Great Britain a sufficient protection against invasion, without taking any trouble to defend themselves. It is not in our power to send forth from this little island sufficient force to defend the frontier of Canada.—Our empire is too vast, our population too small, our antagonist too powerful."

Notwithstanding the *rating* that the London Times gives the Confederate agents in Europe, that paper of the 7th has an article implying that "intervention" is yet in prospect, and would not be distasteful to it.

The New York World says: "It will be noticed that while naval stores, sugar and molasses are in process of shipment from New Orleans, no cotton is reported as being under way."

Henry Thomas Buckle, the eminent historical writer, died at Damascus on the 31st ult., whither he had gone to recruit his health. He was the author of the History of Civilization.

Ex-Senator Jesse D. Bright intends to canvass Indiana in behalf of the "peace" party of that State should suitable candidates be nominated at the State Convention, to be held on the 18th inst.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald says that the only pretext for the charge made against Gen. Banks, was the permission given to a little girl, who had travelled on foot thirty miles in one day, to ride upon one of the caissons, and no soldier, either wearied or wounded was left behind in the march from Winchester except one, who was too badly wounded to bear even transportation in an ambulance.—Along the whole march General Banks himself was with the rear guard, and all stragglers of every description were picked up and carried along. An experienced military man, who is familiar with all the details, characterizes the movement as a "soldierly retreat."

An Emancipation Convention is in session in Missouri.

The U. S. Senate, yesterday, was engaged on the Pacific R. R. bill. The House, by a vote of 103 to 28, adopted a resolution authorizing the presiding officers of the two Houses to close the present session of Congress on the 30th instant. The Senate, however, refused to take up and consider a similar resolution.—A bill was reported to establish additional defences on the Northern lakes. The bill relative to claims for the loss and destruction of property belonging to loyal citizens, &c., was taken up and debated until the adjournment.

The first lot of this year's crop of wheat, received at St. Louis on the 15th, was from South Illinois, and was sold at \$1 55 a bushel. Samples of new wheat grown in Ohio were exhibited at Cincinnati on Monday.

Surgeon General Hammond has, within the past five days, provided 15,000 beds for the sick and wounded in hospitals in Washington and in Northern cities.

A colored preacher in Washington, who received money from several churches and individuals to purchase his wife and child from slavery, has filed an application to be compensated for them under the act of emancipation!

Some days ago, the Cambria Iron Company at Johnstown, Pa., employed several contrabands to work for twenty-five cents a day. The regular hands in the mill took offence at it and quit work. The contrabands were dismissed, and the old hands returned.

Many of the churches in Washington have been offered by their congregations to the U. S. government, to be used as hospitals.

Mr. Wetmore, formerly of New York, a rich China merchant, recently died at Newport, R. I.

The N. Y. Herald *actually* applies the epithet of "contemptible nimeumpoops" to members of Congress. This is harsh language.

The London Times has a very severe article on the Confederate agents to European countries. It abuses them in round terms, and calls them a "set of conceited, narrow minded, ignorant slave holders." The tone of the Times is somewhat changed from former music.

The National Republican, in Washington exults that the present Congress of the U. S. has "abolished slavery in the District of Columbia. Forever prohibited slavery in all the Territories of the Union, now acquired or to be hereafter acquired. Prohibited, under severe penalties, the surrender of fugitive slaves by naval and military officers. Offered compensation to such States as shall before this war closes, voluntarily emancipate their slaves.—Provided for the emancipation of slaves devoted to the uses of the rebellion by their owners.

The Richmond Despatch calls for punishment upon deserters from the Confederate army.

The contrabands in Washington are said to be greatly terrified at the correspondence between the U. S. Governments and the Danish Minister, and seem to prefer returning South again to being sent comfortable to the West Indies.

It is proposed, in the Washington Republican, to establish hospitals at Cumberland, Md.

Secretary Seward has returned from a visit to the North.