

The Alexandria Gazette

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 20.

Gen. Butler had a public reception in Baltimore, yesterday. He was received and welcomed at the Hall of the Maryland Institute where he made a speech, in which he said:—"If any foreign nation dares to intermeddle with our family quarrel, we will arm every man, blue, black, white and gray, in defense of our nationality. [Loud and continued cheering.] Large numbers were present, and the whole reception is said to have been "an enthusiastic demonstration."

At the meeting yesterday, in the Hall of the Maryland Institute in Baltimore, after the reception of Gen. Butler, and after he had left, Mr. John Wilmot proposed a resolution that the Hon. C. L. Vallandigham should not be permitted to speak in that hall to a Baltimore audience; which was carried.

The white boy who killed the negro boy, in Washington, in an affray, the other day, has given bail in the sum of \$1000, to await the action of the grand jury.

The Democratic State Convention of Connecticut has nominated Gov. Thomas H. Seymour, as their candidate for Governor of the State.

The two houses of Congress are disagreeing on the finance measures. If a bill is not passed, Secretary Chase's plan or some other, there will have to be an extra session.

Every owner of a lot or garden, in town, ought, this coming spring, to cultivate every foot of it, and endeavor to raise as many vegetables as possible.

The wind came out this morning from the northwest, and we had a bright day, after nearly a week of rain and bad weather.

There are still quite a number of cases of small-pox and varioloid in town.

The Confederate Senate, on Tuesday, discussed and amended the exemption bill. The House referred a bill to compensate for impressed property, discussed resolutions vindicating North Carolina, and referred to the committee on Indian relations the following: "That the Government of the Confederate States has witnessed with feelings of no ordinary gratification the loyalty and good faith of the Indian allies west of the State of Arkansas, and that no effort of the Confederate Government shall be spared to protect them against their enemies, from any source whatever."

The President and Secretary of War, with many military and scientific gentlemen, witnessed, a day or two ago, some interesting experiments made at Fort De Kalb by Col. Alexander, Engineer of the defences of Washington, in the explosion of mines and 15-inch shells by electricity from the instruments of the field telegraph trains of the Signal Corps. A detachment of the corps were on the ground with one of their trains, making the firings on the order of Col. Alexander. The explosions were instantaneous and of terrific force.

The Northern papers seem to think that Chantilly, in Fairfax county, was the residence of the Confederate General Stuart. This is an entire mistake.

FROM CHARLESTON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA AND FLORIDA, FEB. 18.—It has become my solemn duty to inform the authorities and citizens of Charleston and Savannah, that the movements of the enemy's fleet indicate an early land and naval attack at one or both cities, and to urge that persons unable to take an active part, shall retire.

"It is hoped, however, that this temporary separation of some of you from your homes will be made without alarm or undue haste, thus showing that the only feeling which animates you in this hour of supreme trial is the right of being able to participate in the defence of your homes, your altars and the graves of your kindred.

"Carolinians and Georgians, the hour is at hand to prove your country's cause. Let all able bodied men, from the seaboard to the mountains rush to arms.

"Be not too exacting in the choice of weapons. Pikes and scythes will do for exterminating your enemies—spades and shovels for protecting your fire-sides.

"To arms, fellow citizens! Come to share with us our danger, our brilliant success or our glorious death.

"G. T. BEAUREGARD, Gen. Com'dg.

"Official—J. M. CATTEY, A. A. G.

"The final preparations for the expected attack are being rapidly perfected. The troops and people are calm and confident."

From The Army of the Rappahannock.

From the statements of persons who have returned from the Rappahannock, it appears that the Confederates are working with great energy and industry. They have thrown up two lines of breastworks opposite to Falmouth, on the low grounds near the river, and are continuing them along the river bank in front of Fredericksburg. Jackson's force is said to be back of the first range of hills, two miles south of Fredericksburg. The smoke of a large campfire, was yesterday plainly seen, and the woods are rapidly disappearing in that vicinity. The headquarters are plainly seen from this side through a powerful glass. The position is two miles south-southwest from Fredericksburg.

There is trouble among the sutlers, Gen. Patrick, the Provost Marshal General, being engaged in carrying out the new order. A large cargo of unauthorized sutlers' stores was recently seized at Belle Plain and confiscated.

Col. Ambrose Thompson yesterday discovered new abuses in the Quartermaster's Department at Aquia Creek, and promptly applied the remedy. Contraband whiskey valued at \$1,000 was among the forfeitures.

The court-martial trials for desertion are kept very quiet. There is a determination to make examples of some, if not all of those convicted.

VESSELS CAPTURED.

BOSTON, Feb. 19.—The brig Chastelain was burnt on the 27th ult. off Altoveto, by the Confederate steamer Alabama. Capt. Semmes took all the nautical instruments on board, and eight hundred dollars in gold. The Alabama also captured and burned on the 26th ult., off Cape Libourn, the ship Golden Rule. The crew of the Chastelain were landed at St. Domingo. The schooner Hanover, from Boston, for Aux Cayes, was captured by a privateer, off Cape Haenault, Hayti. The crew were landed. She was captured on the 31st ultimo.

The newspaper vendors in the army of the Potomac have struck, and refuse to sell any newspapers to the army, until Gen. Hooker's order, limiting the number of newsboys to one for each division, is rescinded.

Prof. Agassiz has been appointed Regent of the Smithsonian Institute, in the place of Geo. E. Badger, of North Carolina.

It is stated that the Alabama, on capturing the Golden Rule, demanded evidence that the cargo belonged to neutral owners. This could not be produced, as the Captain had not even a bill of lading. Capt. Semmes informed him that if he had ever a consular certificate that a portion of the cargo was the property of neutrals he would let him depart unmolested. In the absence of such evidence the officers and crew were removed aboard the Alabama, all the portable articles of value taken, and the vessel burnt. The Golden Rule had aboard goods belonging to Spanish, French and English shippers. The Pacific Mail Company had consignments aboard also. The Government had new spars on board for the big Bainbridge.

Ex-Governor Roger Sherman Baldwin, of Connecticut, died yesterday aged 73 years. He was a grandson of Roger Sherman.

The Richmond Enquirer says:—"There has been no intention or pretence of an intention to mediate at all on the part of France. The South wants no French mediation while hostilities still go on."

The Illinois Legislature has adjourned without passing the resolutions appointing Commissioners to attend the Peace Convention to be held at Louisville.

The U. S. Senate, yesterday, confirmed Lieutenant Colonel Timothy P. Andrews as Paymaster General, and Major Hiram Leonard to be Deputy Paymaster General, vice Andrews promoted. Also, upwards of one hundred and eighty additional Paymasters in the volunteer forces; about two hundred Assistant Quartermasters with the rank of Captain; six Surgeons; together with several hundred Commissaries and promotions, in the regular service. The entire number of confirmations, probably reaches eight hundred or a thousand. In addition to these there were a number of confirmations of a miscellaneous character.

Gen. Hunter is about instituting a general draft of all able-bodied negroes within the limits of his department for service in the army.

The N. Y. Express says:—"There are rumors, 'as plenty as blackberries,' that after March 4th, the President will re-organize his Cabinet, and re-bring Gen. McClellan into the command of the army. There are doubtless such rumors, even from White House circles,—but he who relies upon them relies upon the wind."

Fowler & Wells have published the result of a manipulation of General Butler's skull, which occurs the following: "You are sure to make what you touch pay. You are an excellent judge of the value of property. Are you most skeptical in matters of religion. Are you more radical than conservative, and if ever inclined to be conservative are so from policy."

A Frenchman threw himself from the top of one of the towers of Notre Dame, a short time since, and striking a buttress in his descent the legs were detached and fell to the ground. The trunk remained on the building.

At New York, yesterday, the stock market opened unsettled and closed weak. United States coupon 6s declined $\frac{1}{2}$, One-year Certificates $\frac{1}{4}$; Demand notes advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. 7.30 Treasury note, unchanged.

The property of the late Andrew McLoughlin, proprietor of Barnum's Hotel, in Baltimore, is valued at \$200,000. The hotel is to be conducted hereafter by Lenox Barnum.