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**THE WAR NEWS.**—Gen. Rosecrans reports that a brigade of Federal troops, while on a scouting expedition on Friday last, were attacked by Confederate cavalry near Milton, Tennessee. The Confederates, said to have had eight or ten regiments in the fight, were defeated with a loss of thirty or forty killed, one hundred and forty wounded and twelve taken prisoners. The Federal loss was seven killed and thirty-one wounded, including one captain. It is reported the Confederate cavalry under Gen. Morgan were defeated at McMinnville on Saturday, but this lacks confirmation.

The invasion of Kentucky by the Confederates is no longer a matter of rumor. A dispatch states that the town of Mount Sterling was surrounded by a force under command of Col. Clark, at an early hour yesterday morning. The Federal troops in the town, numbering two hundred, fought from the houses for four hours, but were finally compelled to surrender. The town was afterwards burned by the Confederates. It was expected that they would attack Paris last night.

It is reported from West Virginia that three Confederate regiments arrived at Lewisburg on the 4th. It was thought in military circles that the Confederates intended to make demonstrations in West Virginia about the time of the election on the new State question. It is stated that Col. Jenkins is at Coal Knob, in Greenbrier county, about sixty-five miles from Bulltown, and prisoners belonging to his command say that he intends to make another raid through West Virginia as soon as the roads get in a passable condition.

The latest intelligence from the negro expedition, which is now marching into Florida, is that they have taken several important points, with many prisoners, and captured large quantities of munitions and supplies, and that the Confederates were falling back before them.—The report of the capture of the regiment was, therefore, incorrect.

The Washington and Alexandria Railroad Company are now making preparations to construct the railroad bridge near the site of the present long bridge over the Potomac, which was authorized by the last Congress. The plans and estimates are now in the course of preparation by Mr. Silas Seymour, of New York, who is represented to be one of the most skillful and experienced engineers in the country.

Southern papers of late dates, among other things, state that the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., opened its fall term with four students, and the Union Seminary, (both Presbyterian,) at Prince Edward, Va., with two.

The Pope has refused to accept Cardinal Antonelli's resignation.

**A "MEDIUM" AT THE TUILLERIES.**—Hume, the "Medium," made another trial of his skill lately at the Tuilleries, at which Professor Maury was present. None but the male portion of the Emperor's guests were present at the seance. His Majesty, who has been busily studying the question for some time past, had noted down several questions to propound to the mighty magician. In no one case were the proofs of power successful, and the result of the sitting was unsatisfactory enough to give, for the moment, entire gain de cause to Maury, who professed to have discovered the secret. The table rose, the candelabra flew from one end of the room to the other—the ponderous Chinese Joss of solid bronze slid, as it did once before, across the carpet as though it were skating upon ice—and yet the experiment upon it, in the latter case, was conclusive enough of the immobility of the figure, and the deception practised on the eyes alone.

As soon as the displacing of the Joss was proposed by the Emperor, Professor Maury slid beneath it a page from his calpis, which must of necessity have moved had the weighty bronze but stirred one line. After the monster had been seen to slide across the carpet and regain its place, Professor Maury drew the page from beneath it unsoiled, uncreased, exactly as he had inserted it a minute before. And yet he declares that he himself was among those who beheld, and with the most amazement, too, the steady progress of the bronze towards the fireplace, and even now cannot get over the perplexity he experienced on beholding it turn around on reaching the fender and slide back to its place behind the door.—Hume, they say, has no idea himself of the power by which he acts, and experiences quite as much perplexity as vexation at beholding the new obstacle thrown by the erudition of Professor Maury in the road to success he was treading so gallantly a little while ago.

The Richmond Examiner has a leader, on the present situation of affairs, in which it says:—"Active operations of the chief Federal army under Hooker are now commenced, and either a decisive battle or the retreat of the army commanded by Lee, must be the speedy consequence. The latter contingency is possible but not at all probable, and another heavy struggle over the line of the Rappahannock may be safely anticipated." After speculating upon the supposed plan of General Hooker and the strength and probabilities of the success of Lee's forces, the editor remarks:—"If, however, the Confederate General's force is not sufficiently numerous to prevent the completion of the manœuvre, it is supposed that no course remains but to fall back upon some point nearer Richmond, and give the enemy battle at a greater distance from his base."

### Bombardment of Fort Pemberton.

**ST. LOUIS, March 22.**—A Memphis dispatch to the Republican, dated 20th instant, says:—"Advices from Greenwood to Monday last, are to the effect that the gunboat Chillicothe bombarded Fort Pemberton on Saturday and Sunday, but without any decisive result. The Confederate battery is so situated that it cannot be attacked by a land force on account of the high water. The guns of the De Kalb have been taken ashore and a land battery constructed near the Confederate works. The Confederate force is estimated at six thousand, under Gen. Loring. Reinforcements are being rapidly sent to the scene of operations. The Vicksburg Whig of the 11th inst., says the crew of the Indianola, ninety-two in number, arrived there the day before."

**CONFEDERATE CURRENCY.**—The Richmond Examiner of the 16th inst., gives the following as the reasons for the depreciation of Confederate money:

"1. All winter our people believed that peace would come with the spring, and that then there would be a cessation of the issue of Confederate notes. Spring has come, but peace appears more remote than ever. The people can see nothing before them but long years of war and shipplasters.

"2. A sudden spring tide of emigration of foreigners is setting from the Confederate States to the United States. These persons are converting all their possessions, be the same great or small, into gold, regardless of the cost. This large and sudden demand upon a drained market must have a marked and immediate effect.

"3. The people believe Congress will not pass a tax bill, and every one feels that to be the only method by which our redundant currency can be reduced within healthy bounds.

"4. Smugglers have increased an hundred fold within the past month. Jews and Gentiles are fitting over the border singly and in gangs. These men, though they use bank notes and State coupon bonds, must have gold and will pay any price for it.

"5. Arbitrary impressments in this city by sending provisions up to famine prices and producing something near akin to a panic.

In the British House of Commons, on the 4th Mr. Laird asked if the Government was informed of ships preparing for the Confederates in England similar to the Atabama. Mr. Laird said the attention of the Government had been called to more than one vessel of the kind, but no evidence had been furnished enabling the Government to interfere. Strict orders had been given that all suspected vessels should be closely watched.

A terrible explosion occurred at the Laboratory on Brown's Island, near Richmond, on the 13th instant, resulting in the killing of thirty-two females and two males, one of the latter being the Rev. John Woodcock, and the wounding of twenty-four females and five males. The explosion is believed to have been caused by one of the female operatives carelessly handling a friction primer.

A laughable case of somnambulism occurred in Salem a few nights ago. A young man left his bed and bed fellow and descended to the dining room, where he opened the register to the air-tight stove, and pulling a chair near the stove, which by this time had become hot, braced his knees against it. This sudden start brought him somewhat to his senses, and he returned to his chamber. In the morning he was surprised to find a burn upon each knee as large as a half-dollar.

Though General Fremont has been pertinaciously urged by a crowd of admirers for a "third" important command, the President has not favored the claim. The latter is reported in republican circles to have said that "Fremont never obeyed orders."

The Birmingham address to President Lincoln, in favor of his emancipation policy, has been signed by 13,500 citizens, and has been presented to Mr. Adams.