

The Alexandria Gazette

THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 20.

BRIEF PARAGRAPHS.—*Multum in Parvo.*—Ex-President Buchanan had an "ovation" at the Bedford Springs last Saturday; large numbers of his friends called on him.—There is a very large company at Cape May; indeed all the northern watering places have been crowded this season.—Affairs in Japan still continue in an unsettled state, with war imminent; the Americans are accused by the British with furnishing the Japanese with munitions of war.—A soldier arrested in Washington for drunkenness, and subjected to the shower bath, was seized with every symptom of hydrophobia.—Eight Confederate soldiers and eight citizens said to be connected with Mosely's troops, were captured in Fairfax on Tuesday, and sent to the Old Capitol prison in Washington.—A number of cases of small-pox are reported as existing in Washington city.—Gold, in New York, yesterday, 124½.—T. C. Bladsoe and T. J. Thompson were captured a few nights ago, while crossing the Potomac at Mathias' Point; they were from Richmond, and had a number of letters in their possession.—Senator Sumner, of Mass., is to deliver an address in New York on "Foreign Relations."—The property of a number of persons now in the Confederate service, has recently been seized in New Orleans under the confiscation act; among the property is that belonging to Gen. Beauregard, J. P. Benjamin, Charles M. Conrad, &c.—Two surgeons and two chaplains belonging to the Confederate army, brought to Washington from Camp Chase, have been sent South, they not being considered as arrayed against the U. S. government.—Garibaldi is recovering from his wounds.—Another man has been arrested in Washington for receiving a bribe to get admission to the Chamber of the Board for the examination of substitutes under the draft.—Substitutes for drafted men, it is said, will receive, for a year, \$773, including the \$300 substitution fee, or \$1,365 for three years' service.—The reported death of Col. J. R. Johnson, the artist of Baltimore, mentioned yesterday, turns out to be false; "he still lives."—We have full accounts of the late dreadful calamity at Cochoes, N. Y., heretofore noticed, by which fifteen or twenty girls in the shoddy mill there, lost their lives; the fire originated accidentally.—The Philadelphia Press advocates the policy recommended by the N. Y. Times in relation to the falling back of General Meade's army, for the present, nearer to its base of operations, contending that, under the circumstances, delay will be more injurious to the Confederates than to the Federal forces; and that, if Charleston is taken, Gen. M. can operate then more effectually.—The Wash. cor. of the Philadelphia Ledger says that the Confederates deny that an indiscriminate burning of cotton is being practiced in Mississippi; they assert that the only cotton that has been destroyed, is that located in close proximity to the Federal army, and that the remainder will be removed far beyond reach.—The Philadelphia Ledger asserts that the recent article in the Raleigh Standard is scarcely worth the attention it receives, as the Standard "is for peace, but one based on the independence of the South."—

P. P. Blair, jr., of Missouri, is spoken of as a candidate for Speaker of the next U. S. House of Representatives.—Newspaper readers are objecting strongly to the flash headings put to news articles in the Northern papers, calculated to draw a penny or two, but often very "deceptions."—Doubts are expressed in Washington, notwithstanding the officially reported victories over the Western Indians, whether the expeditions of Gen. Sibley and Gen. Pope will be successful in their campaign.—Edward Everett in a published letter states that he has no doubt but that the ordinance for prospective emancipation recently passed in Missouri, will long before 1870 give place to a law for immediate emancipation in that State.—A violent tornado occurred at Poughkeepie, N. Y., last Thursday, which did a great deal of damage in the surrounding country.—The National Intelligencer holds that Mr. Whiting solicitor of the War Department, by the promulgation of his late views concerning the war and its results, is actually "an aider and abettor of the Confederates," and censures him strongly for his doctrine and theories.—Suspicious are afloat that the heavy loss of Treasury notes, some \$2,600,000, by the burning of the steamer Ruth not long since, involved a robbery before the vessel burned or was burned.

THE DRAFT in New York proceeded, yesterday, without the slightest disturbance. A large military force was stationed near the drafting office, but no public display of it was made, nor was there any occasion for calling in the aid of the military to preserve order. Business went on in the city as usual.

About nine o'clock Tuesday night the schooner Statesman of the N. Y. and Georgetown line, was run into off Point Lookout by the steamer Illinois, cutting off her bows to the water's edge, and otherwise damaging her. The schr. lost her main mast in the collision. The Illinois was bound down and the schr. which had a valuable cargo on board, was bound to Baltimore. The steamer Baltimore went to the assistance of the schr., and towed her into Cornfield Harbor.

The Baltimore American says:—"The army of the Potomac is probably about to return to a position nearer Washington than it has occupied for some time past. There is no present prospect of an immediate resumption of hostilities in Virginia by either side."

The Leavenworth (Kansas) Inquirer of August 14, says that the fate of General Blunt's army at Fort Gibson is decided ere this. Our latest news was up to August 2, and a battle seemed imminent. Since that time, unless delayed by swollen streams, the ammunition train and the 13th Kansas have reached Fort Blunt. If not previously attacked, General Blunt would then become the assailing party. Gen. Schofield has not reinforced the troops. He ordered a retreat, and General Blunt took the responsibility of disobeying it.

We understand that vacant lots are in demand, for rent, or lease, on which to erect cheap small frame tenements, and that a number of these tenements are being built at the North end of the town, and some in other quarters.

BALTIMORE LETTER.

[Correspondence of the Phil. Inquirer.]

BALTIMORE, August 18.

The arrest of Colonel CREAGER, at Frederick city, Maryland, on Saturday last, and his imprisonment in the jail of that place, upon the charge of enticing negro slaves away from their owners, with the alleged object of inducing them to enlist as soldiers in the U. S. service, is likely to cause some trouble, either to the Colonel himself or to the authorities. It appears that one if not more of the negroes enticed for enlistment were slaves belonging to good loyal citizens.

There is a law in Maryland which makes the act of enticing slaves away from their masters a penitentiary offence, liable to imprisonment for not less than five nor more than ten years. The law is very positive, and several convictions have taken place under it. Col. Creager is still in jail. He is not a regularly acting Colonel at present, though at one time he had command of a regiment in Baltimore.

This case involves an important principle of State Rights under the general Government. The chief question or point is, did Col. Creager, in what he did, act by authority of the United States? He certainly could not have done so, as the violating, or ignoring of an unquestionable State law, was too direct and palpable. My impression is, he acted wholly on his own responsibility, perhaps under ignorance or mistaken judgment, with a view of personal gain by helping to swell the ranks of a negro regiment with recruits obtained through his instrumentality. The case is a very important one, and if vigorously prosecuted, with the alleged offence clearly proved, the Colonel can scarcely escape conviction and punishment, unless relieved by executive clemency or some other power not now known to exist.

I am free to confess that the agency, or business of recruiting negroes here, is looked upon with great suspicion and disfavor.

Our readers will probably remember seeing during the month of May last, a notice of the robbery of a large lot of silks, on the night of the 14th of May, of Messrs. W. M. Shuster & Co., of Washington, and that a short time afterwards it was published in some of the papers that they had all been recovered. We regret to learn, however, from those gentlemen that such was not the case; and that up to this time no tidings of their whereabouts has come to their knowledge.

A man named Patrick McBride was charged yesterday morning with altering a pass which had been furnished him to go to Alexandria. The document was to expire on the 4th of August, and he changed it to the 24th inst. He was committed to the Central Guard house.

A writ of error and a stay of execution has been granted in the case of of Radetzky, convicted of the murder of the diamond merchant, Feller, and sentenced to be hung in September. The matter will now be carried to the Court of Appeals in New York.

Among the wounded prisoners of war in West's Buildings hospital, in Baltimore, is William W. Smith, son of Richard M. Smith, at present one of the proprietors and editors of the Richmond Sentinel. Young Smith was severely wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, but is rapidly becoming convalescent.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday announces the death, at Fort Delaware, of Col. John H. Waring, late of Prince George's county, Md.

The naval authorities of the Brooklyn Navy Yard have reported the iron-clad Lehigh ready for active service.