

The Alexandria Gazette

WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPT. 2.

The mendacity of the press has reached to such a height, that, for the most part, newspaper statements are utterly discredited, and no one believes the quarter of what they see in print. Everything seems infected with the poison of lying—telegraph reports, letters from Washington, letters from the scenes of military operations, editorial comments, all, are more or less, filled with falsehood and exaggeration. The public journals have to occupy some space every day in contradicting the publications of the day before. To those who are situated as we are, the "brief chroniclers" and recorders of passing events, it is a tiresome and irksome task even to attempt to sift the grain of wheat from the bushel of chaff, and it is often impossible, to properly perform that duty—though we do our best. Surely, in the matter of truth, the press, generally, now-a-days, knows not what it is.

**FIRES.**—Last night about 8 o'clock, a fire broke out in the bake-house of Mr. L. Appich in the rear of his store, on Royal street, near the market, which was extinguished after a portion of the wood work was destroyed, but before much damage was done.

About half-past twelve o'clock this morning, two frame buildings, on the corner of Payne and Cameron streets, opposite Thomas's Soap Factory, were consumed by fire. They were occupied at the time but the furniture &c., was saved, (some in a damaged condition,) by the exertions of the firemen and citizens.—The houses belonged to Messrs. R. G. Violett and Wm. A. Sisson. There was no insurance. The two steam fire engines and the Friendship and Sun engines were promptly at the scenes of the fire and rendered very efficient aid.

**NEW THEATRE.**—Mr. Ford, the well known, energetic and popular manager of Ford's Theatre, in Washington, has leased the ground upon which stands the Circus pavilion (the sale of which was noticed in yesterday's Gazette) and intends having erected a fine brick Theatre, to be completed in time for entertainments this Winter. The present frame structure is to be removed at once and the Theatre building commenced immediately, and when completed, according to the plans, will be one of the best arranged and handsomest structures of the kind in the country.

Alfred Spates, President of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Company, was arrested yesterday morning by a government detective and taken before Col. Fish in Baltimore. The charges against Mr. Spates were numerous, most of them having reference to his alleged interviews with Gen. Lee and Gen. Ewell during the late campaign in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Col. Fish sent Mr. Spates to Fort McHenry, to there await a trial by military commission, unless the case is otherwise disposed of by the authorities at Washington.

Several arrests have lately been made at Hagerstown, Md., of persons charged with giving information to the Confederates during Gen. Lee's recent advance into Maryland.—Two of them were ladies, who have been sent South.

The president of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Co., upon hearing of the interruption of canal trade, immediately came to Washington and made arrangements with the authorities to guard the canal and insure the safe transportation of coal, &c., to market; and boatmen report the line well guarded. The whole number of arrivals by canal during the month of August were about 135, of which about 95 were loaded with coal. The revenue received at the Georgetown office during the month was small, not exceeding \$4,000.

The soap and tallow warehouse of Mr. Wm. L. Davison, in Georgetown, D. C., was consumed by fire this morning before day. A negro woman and two children, sleeping in the upper part of the building, perished in the flames.

A bill for establishing a paid fire department in Washington, has passed the common council of that city.

A man has been arrested in Baltimore, and held to bail, to answer to the charge of "enticing slaves to runaway from their masters."

Five Confederate prisoners confined in Fort Delaware, recently made their escape and have arrived in Richmond.

The Washington Star thinks that the report of the sinking of the Vanderbilt by the Georgia is a mistake.

The Radical emancipationists' State Convention of Missouri, met on Monday. Judge Wells, of Cole county, presided, assisted by vice presidents from each Congressional district. Four fifths of the counties of the State are represented.

The Union State Convention of New York which meets to-day promises to be unusually large. The outside pressure is tremendous.—Among the prominent men present are Senator Morgan, Horace Greeley, H. J. Raymond, and Mayor O'dyke.

Advices from Japan to the 24th June, confirm the intelligence that the indemnity claimed by the British had been partly paid, and that peace for the present will be maintained.

Fourteen substitutes for drafted men, who were placed in the "Exchange," Walnut street, Harrisburg, under guard, escaped Monday night. They were in an upper story, and succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the guard, who thought their prisoners were asleep, by climbing out a back window, and letting themselves to the ground by means of their blankets and canteen strings which they tied together.

The New York Express of yesterday says:—"Some of the troops belonging to the army of occupation in this city—namely, the Third Michigan regiment and a section of artillery—left this city yesterday for Troy. They are to be used to protect the draft in that city and vicinity. Troy will be taken if Richmond is not."

Major George W. Everett, of the 9th New Hampshire Regiment, died suddenly at the Gibson House, in Cincinnati, last Friday. He was on his return from Vicksburg, and in bad health. A contraband, acting as his servant, robbed him after death of nearly \$300, of which \$275 was subsequently recovered and the thief arrested.

FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

**CAIRO, September 1.**—Brig. Gen. Beal, and a number of other Confederate officers from below, passed through to-day, en route for Johnson's Island, in charge of Lieutenant Wright.

The Memphis Bulletin of the 30th ultimo learns from Mr. Ray, recently a prisoner at Little Rock, that the Confederate force at that place is forty thousand strong, many of whom are conscripts from sixteen to sixty years old. Only half of them are armed. They are commanded by Generals Kirby Smith, and Price. They are erecting fortifications on the opposite side of the river, thirteen miles from Little Rock.

It is reported that General Blunt is marching on Arakadelphia.

A later dispatch from Fort Leavenworth states that General Blunt crossed the Arkansas river on the 23d ult., with six thousand men and twelve pieces of artillery. The Confederates, estimated at twenty-five thousand, declined battle and fell back. Reports from Fort Scott to the 27th of last month say that Blunt has been defeated, with a loss of three hundred men.

Banishment of Confederate Sympathizers.

**KANSAS CITY, MO., September 1.**—About sixty persons, chiefly the heads of families, and residents of this city and vicinity who are believed to be aiders and abettors of the Confederacy, or strong sympathizers with it, have been ordered by General Ewing to remove from the District. The list includes many of the wealthiest and most influential families in this vicinity. Their houses will be taken for the families of Union refugees.

A number of orders for the removal of leading sympathizers at Westport, Independence are also being made out.

**NOT TRUE.**—After proper inquiry, we are able to assure the public that the statement of the New York Herald, (telegraphed from New York) embraces nothing but misrepresentation of the purport of President Lincoln's letter, written to the Springfield mass meeting, so nearly totally false in each and all its allegations, as to be almost too ridiculous to require this contradiction.—[Wash. Star.]

**STAMPEDE OF SLAVES.**—The exodus from this country still goes on; indeed so great has it become, that many people begin to look upon it as a matter of course. On Sunday morning last nine slaves of Mr. Philemon Griffith—all that he had on his farm, about two miles north of this place, decamped to the "Zoar" for "American citizens of African descent."—[Rockville (Md.) Sentinel, Aug. 28.]

**FOR SALE.**  
WILL BE SOLD, at Public Auction, on the premises, AT 12 O'CLOCK, ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23D, the THREE-STORY BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, No. 24 Royal street.  
M. G. KINZER, Adm'r. of I. L. Kinzer, dec'd.

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