

The Alexandria Gazette

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 19.

In confirmation of the reported raid by the Confederates, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, noticed yesterday, a dispatch from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac says that on Thursday night a body of Confederate cavalry, eight hundred strong, attacked the Federal guard on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, about one mile and a-half beyond Fairfax Court-House. The company forming the guard made a firm stand, but were overpowered and captured. The Confederates also destroyed two bridges over Pope's run, and tore up the track for about two miles. The principal object of the movement, it is supposed, was to capture a train from Alexandria loaded with provisions for Gen. Meade's army, but which happened to be an hour and a-half late, and consequently escaped.

The Washington Chronicle highly applauds all of the Message of the Governor of Kentucky, except that part which relates to emancipation and the enlistment of negro troops.—The Governor though he strongly objects to the course of the U. S. government on these two subjects, is still more strongly opposed to the course of the Southern States, and to secession; and is in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war.

The State Central Committee of the "Union party" of Maryland met on Wednesday, and after an address from Thomas Swann, adopted resolutions proposed by Mr. J. P. Kennedy, in favor of the call of a convention to direct the immediate emancipation of the slaves in Maryland.

It is stated that Gen. Hitchcock has gone to Fortress Monroe with final propositions to the Confederate authorities for an exchange of prisoners. It is intimated that he will offer to exchange man for man, and grade for grade, without reference to the officers or men of the negro regiments.

Advices from New Orleans state that Juarez had recaptured Puebla from the French, and that Comomfort was advancing. The French in Tampico it is said are in a state of siege, and numbers of their soldiers dying with the yellow fever. These reports are doubted.

A dispatch states that a portion of the Federal troops sent to Knoxville have returned to Chattanooga. The situation of affairs in that vicinity is unchanged, and it is expected that the Federal army will soon be in winter quarters.

Rev. Dr. James May, late Professor in the Episcopal Theological Seminary near this place, and more recently a Professor in the Divinity School in Philadelphia, died in that city yesterday after a short illness. He was a learned and able man and a sincere christian.

There are great railroad squabbles in Missouri, in relation to the Pacific railroad, rival interests contending for the prize of the immense trade and travel of the Kansas Valley, Salt Lake Valley, New Mexico, California, &c. &c.

It is reported that General Rosecrans will succeed Gen. Schofield in Missouri.

The Port Tobacco, Md., Times says:—"On Tuesday evening last, John Durbin Hammack, a son of the late John D. Hammack, and about 18 years of age, came to his death by the accidental discharge of a gun in his own hands. It seems that the deceased and a younger brother had been out shooting ducks on Chickamuxen Creek, and on returning to the shore he reached for his gun, which he grasped by the barrel, and while drawing it towards him the gun went off, the whole load ing effect in the right side and passing upward lodged in his breast. The unfortunate young man expired in a very short time after the accident happened.

Notwithstanding the positive assurances, in the Moniteur, official organ of the French Government that the Archduke Maximilian was making great preparations to proceed to Mexico early in February, it appears that he is devoting himself, as usual, to the performance at Trieste, of his duties as head of the Austrian admiralty and marine. He is a good sailor, much devoted to his profession, and a hard working man as regards all its details.

It is rumored that Surgeon-General Hammond has been mustered out of the service of the U. S.

It is reported that Mr. Charles Bragg, Mayor of Warrenton, died a short time since in that place.

Many persons will remember Hales, the giant, who was exhibited some years ago at Barnum's Museum in New York and other cities. His height was seven feet six inches, and his weight four hundred and fifty-two pounds. He died recently at Yarmouth, England, of consumption, having dwindled away almost to a skeleton.

On Wednesday night the bodies of six deceased Federal prisoners were deposited in the dead house of the hospital in Richmond to await the coming of the undertaker with coffins. Next morning one of the bodies was gone, and the plank knocked from the house, showed the way the ghost went. He had been "playing possum," and was laid out among the dead only to get up and run away when nobody was looking.

It is reported that while President Lincoln was confined to his house with the varioloid, some friends called to sympathize with him, especially on the character of his disease.—"Yes," he said, "it is a bad disease, but it has its advantages. For the first time since I have been in office, I have something now to give to everybody that calls."

The City Council of Louisville, in view of the high price of coal, and its tendency upward, has appropriated \$50,000 for the purchase of coal, with a view to keep down the price.

The Baltimore Sun says, that Walter Lenox, ex-Mayor of Washington, and lately residing in Richmond, has been arrested in Baltimore, and is still held held in custody.

A letter dated Panama, the 7th instant, says: The small-pox, which has sensibly abated in this city, but only from lack of subjects, has carried off in six months 1,600 persons out of a population of about 9,000!

Gold, in New York, yesterday, 152½ at the second board.

The N. Y. Journal of Commerce has a letter from Rev. Mr. Fletcher just returned from his fourth visit to Brazil. We copy his sketch of the Emperor Pedro:—"Let no one figure to himself a ruler with a people at his beck and call; let no one imagine the barbarous despotism of an Emperor of Siam, or the refined, but nevertheless strick, absolutism of a Louis Napoleon, or of the autocrat of all the Russias. The Emperor of Brazil is a constitutional monarch, with powers perhaps more limited than those possessed by the Queen of England."

The circumstances of the recent Malden Bank Tragedy, as detailed in the newspapers, invest it with peculiar horror. The audacity of the assassin, who entered a public bank on the chief thoroughfare of Malden village, Massachusetts, at noonday, and consummated the murder of its only occupant, the teller, a young man of eighteen years, rifled the drawer of five thousand dollars in notes, and retreated unobserved, within the space of fifteen minutes, are without a recent parallel.

John Turner, of the barge Fox; James Griffin, L. H. Vandete, and John McCafferty, of the Down East; Frank Harkiss, of the John Hennegaw, and Wm. Dever, of the Rolling Wave, have been arrested by the commander of the gunboat Adolph Hugo, for robbing and attempting to burn the bridges near Piney Point. The vessels were brought up to Alexandria, and the accused were committed to the Old Capitol, Washington.

The Washington Chronicle says:—"The dock just below the Seventh street wharf is rapidly approaching completion. It is to be used by the parties who purpose starting an opposition line between this and Alexandria.—They are about putting on ferry-boats similar to those running between Staten Island and New York."

In the Confederate Senate, Mr. Foote has introduced a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to so amend the Retaliatory act of the last Congress as to make a distinction in treatment between the free negroes enlisted at the North and the slaves of Southern masters who were captured from the Federal armies.

The prize steamer Minna has arrived at Boston. Her cargo is valued at three hundred thousand dollars.

DIED.

On the morning of the 18th instant, after a short but severe illness of 4 days, DENNIS KENNEDY, in the 36th year of his age. He was a native of the county of Donegal, Ireland, but for several years a resident of Alexandria Va.—[Washington Star please copy.

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E. O. NORTON, Agent.

Washington, oct 21-1y

BUTTER—20 tubs of prime GOSHEN BUTTER, just received per steamer Seymour, in small packages, for sale by R. H. GEMENY, dec 12-1f No. 7, cor. King and Union sts.

JUST RECEIVED.—A prime article of MINCE MEAT, which will be sold cheap. J. T. COOKE, nov 18-1f