

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 17.

ARRIVAL OF MR. BLAIR.—Mr. Francis P. Blair arrived in Washington, yesterday, from his late visit to Richmond. The Richmond Examiner of Saturday states that "Mr. Blair, on his arrival, announced to Mr. Davis that he had no credentials from Mr. Lincoln, but would be glad to meet him as an old friend; that Mr. Davis granted an interview to Mr. Blair, and Mr. B. told Mr. Davis he could have peace on the basis of gradual emancipation. Mr. Davis said he was willing to receive three commissioners to treat for peace, or to send three to Mr. Lincoln, provided he could have any guaranty that they would be received." The Dispatch says that Mr. Davis sent a letter by Mr. Blair to Mr. Lincoln, containing an offer to the above effect. These are all reports.

NEW ATTACK UPON WILMINGTON.—The Richmond papers of Saturday say that a new expedition against Wilmington made its appearance off Fort Fisher on Thursday, and on Friday bombarded the fort, and also shelled the belt of woods on the peninsula on the right of where Butler landed; and that on Friday afternoon the U. S. troops commenced to land, and occupied this piece of woods. The point where this landing is being made is between three and four miles from Fort Fisher, and is said to afford a good strategical position for entrenching.

THE PEACE RUMORS.—The National Intelligencer expresses the belief that an effort is being made by the U. S. government "to spare the effusion of more blood in Georgia, and indeed all along the lines," because of the conjecture that the war may soon be ended, and the Confederates "be induced very soon to lay down their arms." The Intelligencer also predicts "that the mission to Richmond will prove to be a serious one."

Various associations from different cities at the North, are making arrangements to visit Washington on the 4th of March next, to attend the inauguration of President Lincoln.

A. T. Stewart, the Dry Goods merchant in New York, pays an income tax upon \$1,843,639.

The mail steamer from City Point reports that the pickets on both sides continue very active; but there are no other military operations. On Friday there was a jubilee in Petersburg from some cause or other, for the troops in front of that place could distinctly hear the bells ringing and bands playing jubilantly; the cause whereof had not been ascertained.

Parties just arrived from North Carolina report that the new Confederate ram on the Roanoke river, now nearly finished, is an improvement on the Albemarle.

Two large delegations, representing Chicago and Milwaukee, arrived in Washington on Saturday, for the purpose of securing the establishment of a navy yard on Lake Michigan.

The Little Rock (Arkansas) Democrat says the recent election of N. D. Snow to the U. S. Senate from Arkansas was a farce, only sixty votes being cast, while it required seventy-six to form a quorum.

NEWS BY TO-DAY'S MAIL.

Gold fell in New York, yesterday afternoon, to 218.

An officer who arrived at St. Louis from Gen. Thomas's headquarters in Tennessee, reports that on Saturday, the roads on account of the recent heavy rains were in a condition that would prevent any military operations for several days. The report of Gen. Hood's army having made a stand at Corinth had not yet been confirmed.

It is said that Mr. Blair will not communicate any account of his "mission" to Richmond, until he does so "in definite and responsible shape, in an appropriate manner."

The Savannah Republican of the 11th publishes a letter from General Sherman to a prominent citizen, stating that he is "merely a military commander and can act only in that capacity. He cannot give assurances or pledges affecting civil matters. In future, Congress will adjust these, when Georgia is again represented there as of old."

Forts Smith, Van Buren, and other posts in Western Arkansas have been abandoned by the U. S. garrisons formerly stationed there, notwithstanding the reports to the contrary.

From Clarksburg, West Virginia, we learn that Rosser captured four hundred of the garrison at Beverly, in his recent attack on that place. The affair is said to have been a surprise.

The death of Gen. Price appears to be confirmed.

The Legislatures of several of the Northern states, and various corporate bodies, have passed resolutions of respect for the memory of the late Mr. Everett.

All the judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri have resigned.

It is understood that the coast and frontier of Maine are to be prepared for emergencies, and companies have been sent to Castine and Machais.

The association known as the Navassa Phosphate Company has again dispatched the fine brig Romance to the guano islands. On the present voyage she carries out fifty-five men, who, when they reach the island, will give the company a working force of over one hundred men. The total cessation of imports of guano from Peru has caused a great demand for this fertilizer.

Surgeon John W. Robinson, U. S. vols., for obtaining money under false pretences, has been sentenced to be dishonorably discharged the service, with the forfeiture of all pay and allowance, to be forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or emolument under the Government of the United States, to pay a fine of three hundred dollars, and to be confined at hard labor for one year.

At the Washington Navy Yard the workmen's wages are now about \$100,000 per month, which is a greater amount than ever before. This is exclusive of the pay of officers and men in the ordnance yard.

Dr. Coxe, formerly of Grace Church, Baltimore, but recently elected Bishop of West New York, commenced his Episcopal service by preaching to the convicts in the State Prison at Auburn on Sunday last.

A bill relating to the finances, which was introduced in the U. S. House of Representatives by Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, makes much of a stir in monetary circles.

U. S. CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday Mr. Lane, of Indiana, presented a petition asking that the Confederate prisoners now held may be placed in charge of exchanged rations and clothing according to the treatment received by Union prisoners at the South. Mr. Wade offered a resolution providing that all Confederate prisoners now held, or hereafter taken, shall receive the same rations and the same amount of clothing, as Federal prisoners at the South; every officer failing to carry out this policy to be dismissed the service. Mr. Powell offered a resolution requesting the President to cause Brigadier General Paine to be arrested and tried before a proper tribunal, to the intent that he may be duly punished if the charges brought against him are proven.

In the House of Representatives a bill was introduced to increase the duty to three dollars a gallon on all spirits distilled after the 1st of July next. Mr. Cox offered resolutions looking to a cessation of hostilities and a restoration of the Union through the medium of negotiation. Laid on the table by eighty-four yeas to fifty nays. A resolution was agreed to, directing the Committee on Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of imposing an additional tax of one cent—per mile?—on all passengers by public conveyances. The House concurred in the amendment to the joint resolution to give notice to Great Britain of the desire of the United States to terminate the Reciprocity Treaty. The Naval appropriation bill was taken up, and in the course of the debate on the provision appropriating three thousand dollars for a medal to Commodore Vanderbilt, Mr. Higby, of California, "dennounced the Commodore as one of the greatest scoundrels alive—a swindler, if not a murderer." The amendment making the appropriation was passed, nevertheless, with only one dissenting voice—that of Mr. Higby.

MARRIED.

On the 22d ultimo, at St. James' Church, Richmond, Va., ROBERT H. MAURY to BETTIE, daughter of Samuel Greenhow, Esq.

DIED.

Of chronic croup, November 27th, SIDNEY MILLER HAYES, only child of Nathaniel and Winnifred F. Hayes, aged 4 years, 3 months, and 11 days.

He was so pure, so fair,
That even from his birth,
We looked upon him as a flower,
Two delicate for earth.
And so alas it proved;
But O! my heart is sore,
Weary and sore and lone,
For I loved him dearer than my life.
That precious darling one,
I open wide his drawer,
And touch those little things,
The little cap that last he wore,
And many other things.
Sidney, love, thou'rt happy now—
An angel child above,
Safe in the tender Shepherd's arms,
Safe in his sheltering love.
And could I wish the back?
O! no, my loved one, no,
This life is fleeting on apace,
And soon too, I must go;
Even now the blessed thought
Sheds light upon my way,
I'm nearer to thee than I was,
One month ago to-day.

[Southern papers please copy.]

In this place, on the 24th of December last, MRS. ELEANOR A. CHURCH, aged 50 years.

NOTICE.—TO THE PUBLIC.—I will close out all of my stock of Fall and Winter Boots and Shoes at reduced prices. Call and examine at No. 80 King street before you buy. JOHN T. EVANS.
Jan 12—17