

The Alexandria Gazette

MONDAY EVENING, FEB 20

NEWS BY TO-DAY'S MAIL.

We learn by a dispatch from City Point that the Confederate flag of frigate boat William Allison, while on her upward trip from Cox Landing, on the 17th inst., was blown up by a torpedo. The boat went down almost immediately. The pickets saw no survivors from her. There were no prisoners on board at the time. This catastrophe probably arose from one of the torpedoes, which had been in the water a long time. Colonel Hatch, the Confederate assistant commissioner of exchange, and the medical director were on board.

The steamship Guiding Star, from New Orleans on the 11th instant, has arrived at New York, and reports that on the 15th she saw the steamship Merrimac in a sinking condition, the fires all out, and the boilers damaged. Everything was adrift, and the ship was leaking badly. She laid by her until night, and received all her crew, numbering 140 officers and men, and took them into Port Royal.

One branch of the Legislature of Illinois has passed a bill appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars for the purchase, on behalf of the State, of the grounds in which repose the remains of Stephen A. Douglas.

Acting Master Henry C. Stone of the dispatch boat Ella, died on Friday at the Washington Navy Yard of congestion of the brain, after an illness of about 30 hours. Capt. Stone has been attached to the Potomac Flotilla for over a year.

Extensive preparations are being made at Annapolis for the receipt of a large number of exchanged Union prisoners, who are expected there shortly from prisons in the South. As soon as these prisoners arrive, officers will be sent to Annapolis to muster them for pay.

The sentence "to be hung," passed upon W. H. Carter, by Gen. Doubleday's Military Commission, for being a spy and breaking his oath, has been commuted by the President to imprisonment to hard labor during the war.

Mr. Stevens' amendment to the Tax bill taxing sales on gold, and ordering a license for dealers, has been rejected by the House. The House has agreed to a tax of ten per cent on State bank notes in circulation after January 1866, by the casting vote of the Speaker.

Carpenter's picture descriptive of the scene in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, when the emancipation proclamation was under discussion, was on Saturday afternoon placed over the northern door of the rotunda of the Capital, in Washington.

President Lincoln has issued a Proclamation convening, as is usual on such occasions, an extra session of the Senate on the 4th of March next.

Col. James Wallace, formerly of Philadelphia, and lately connected with the editorial department of the Louisville Journal, died last week from paralysis.

The Boston Advertiser speaks of the present stagnation of all the branches of commerce in that city.

The Nevada Legislature has ratified the amendment to the Constitution of the U. S. abolishing slavery.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

The Charleston Mercury has suspended its publication, preparatory to removal from the city.

Com. Summes has been made a Rear Admiral and will take command of the Confederate vessels in the James River.

Gen. Pillow has been made commissary general of prisoners in the West.

The general exchange of prisoners has been resumed, and the understanding is that it will be continued until all the prison houses on both sides are emptied.

It is reported, and believed, in Kinston, that the Federal army had landed two locomotives and two transport loads of railroad iron at Morehead City, N. C.

Barnwell Court house, S. C., was burned on Monday night. The roads are teeming with vehicles, stock, and all kinds of movable property, going to Georgia and upper Carolina.

The Richmond papers say that the military committee of the House of Delegates has reported in favor of enlisting negroes in the Confederate service, and that negroes in the hospitals in Richmond are applying to enlist.

Col. Isaac M. St. John, has been appointed Commissary General of the Confederate States.

U. S. CONGRESS - In the Senate, on Saturday, a resolution was introduced to appoint a Commission on Taxation. The Army Appropriation bill was passed. Mr. Salisbury introduced a resolution for appointing a committee to enquire into certain charges against Secretary Stanton, made by Mr. Albert G. Brown late a Senator of the U. S., and now a member of the Confederate Congress, asserting that Mr. Stanton, just before the war had told him (Brown) "that the South was right and to stand firm in what they had done," &c. The resolution was objected to, and goes over under the rule.

In the House of Representatives, the Revenue bill, as amended, was passed; the original military bill was passed; the subject of the air line railroad to Washington was postponed.

General Lee's Order.

HQ'RS. CONFEDERATE ARMY.

February 9, 1865.

General Orders—No. 1.

In obedience to General Order No. 3. Adjutant and Inspector General's office, February 6, 1865. I assume command of the military forces of the Confederate States. Deeply impressed with the difficulties and responsibility of the position, and humbly invoking the guidance of Almighty God, I rely for success upon the courage and fortitude of the army, sustained by the patriotism and firmness of the people, confident that their united efforts, under the blessing of Heaven, will secure peace and independence.

The headquarters of the army, to which all special reports and communications will be addressed, will be for the present with the army of Northern Virginia. The stated and regular returns and reports of each army and department will be forwarded, as heretofore to the office of the Adjutant and Inspector General. R. E. LEE, General.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued an order postponing the sale of land for direct taxes advertised to take place at Norfolk on the 13th instant, until the 12th of March.

The Northern Mail did not reach here this morning, until about 11 o'clock.

Gold, in New York, to-day, 20 1/2.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Saxonia, from Liverpool on the 8th instant, has arrived at New York.

Parliament was opened by royal commission on the 7th of February. Her Majesty, in her speech says she remains steadfastly neutral between the contending parties in North America, and would rejoice at friendly reconstruction.

The Confederate loan was 55@57.

The Paris Monitor says: "All reports with reference to the cession of Sonora, and other States of Mexico, to France, are pure fabrications."

Peace rumors gained such credit at Frankfurt that U. S. bonds advanced to five per cent. above New York prices.

The Phare de la Loire confirms the reports that the steam ram Olinde, recently seen off the coast of France, is a Confederate cruiser. She was recognized as one of the iron clad rams constructed at Bordeaux, and sold to Denmark. A large number of cases and barrels were transferred to her from an English steamer.

FROM WASHINGTON.

A strong pressure is being brought to bear upon Senator Morzan to induce him to accept the position of Secretary of the Treasury.

The Committee on Ways and Means of the House have not yet taken any action upon Mr. Fessenden's financial project for the next fiscal year, nor will they do so until his successor shall be appointed.

Mr. Raymond, of the New York Times, and Thulow Weed, Esq., are at Willard's.

There is no news from Gen. Grant's forces. The roads are in a very bad condition, preventing army movements.

President Lincoln has ordered the release of Roger A. Pryor from Fort Warren on parole. He is to report to Mr. Forney, of Washington.

A resolution has passed the U. S. Senate for giving to Mrs. Lucy A. Wright, late of Richmond, Va., fifteen hundred dollars for relief extended by her to Union prisoners in Richmond.

The Everett Monument Fund amounts now to \$29,000.

DIED.

In this city, on the 15th inst., Mrs. ELIZABETH, wife of Edwin Bentley, Surgeon U. S. V., in charge of General Hospital, Alexandria, Va.

In Washington, on the 16th inst., Prof. A. G. PENDLETON, U. S. Navy, in the 46th year of his age.

FLOUR.

Just received, by Express, the following celebrated brands of

FAMILY FLOUR.

Patasco; J. S. Welch; Royal York; Carroll Manor, and John Davidson's, Also

CHOICE EXTRAS AND SUPER 3.

For sale by the barrel, and bag, by J. T. JANNEY, feb 20—no 3t Cor. Prince and Pitt st.

FOR RENT.

STORE and DWELLING HOUSE, on Cameron street, between Royal and Pitt, next door to White's Grocery store. It is a good stand for business. Possession given immediately. Inquire of JAS. CATHAM. feb 15—tf

FOR SALE.

A GROCERY STORE, one of the best stands in the city. The stock is new and well assorted. No charge for good will. Inquire at this office, feb 9—tf