

The Alexandria Gazette

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 28.

**FIRE.**—This morning a fire broke out in the old frame building corner of Duke and Water streets, known as Shuck's corner. It was one of the oldest houses in town, and will be recollected by all our citizens, present and absent. The building was occupied principally by "contrabands," and the fire was accidental. The property was owned by Mr. James Green. The fire Department, government and city, did good service, and prevented the flames from spreading to the adjoining buildings.—The loss is not great as far as the house is concerned; the shell of which only is left standing.

The Richmond Enquirer says:—"A dashing young fellow, calling himself Dr. L. Lugo, who has recently cut quite a fine figure in fashionable and official circles in this city, was arrested on Saturday morning last, in Tappahannock, Essex county, while en route for the North, with lots of plans and drawings of bright particular spots in the Confederacy, and doubtless a memory well stuffed with the latest "semi-official" information relating to the movements of Confederate troops."

Several of the officers and soldiers of the Wisconsin Battery, at Fort Rogers, while out on a sailing excursion, in a boat, yesterday, were capsized and came near being drowned. They were rescued by boats from Jones' Point.

The Federal Military Commission, which has been sitting at Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, for a long time, have passed upon one hundred and six cases, and have sent to Washington their decisions for approval.

There are few arrivals of fish to day. Herrings, \$6 per thousand.

The Quebec (Canada) Gazette, of the 20th instant, says there was an earthquake shock in that city on the previous day. It lasted several seconds, and the houses were so violently shaken that all who were in them made their way to the street as quickly as possible. The alarm in every part of the city was great. No damage was done, except the falling of a few bricks from chimneys. The atmosphere at the time was clear, with a strong breeze from the northeast. This shock exceeded in power that of October, 1860.

Private letters received in New York state that the people of California are suffering at present from drought. Eight thousand sheep and eight thousand beeves have died, and the farmers are killing the cattle for their hides and fat. This drought will prove most disastrous to the farming and hydraulic mining interests of that State.

The Federal steamer Nita has captured the blockade-running schooner Three Brothers, off the coast off Florida, and the schooner Wild Pigeon has been sunk by the gunboat Hendrick Hudson.

The St. Louis Union describes some interesting experiments with a new invention in that city, devised for the purpose of working heavy guns by steam power. The plan was tested last week on board a monitor.

In the vicinity of Denver, the Indians only steal a little. They do not commit hostile acts against the emigrants.

An Order Concerning "Contrabands."  
NATCHEZ, (MISS.) March 19, 1864.—To

preserve the general health of the troops stationed in the city of Natchez and of the inhabitants, and to guard against the origination here, and the introduction of pestilential diseases the ensuing summer and autumn, it imperatively requires the prompt, vigorous, and steady enforcement of the sanitary regulations heretofore prescribed in this city.

It is of the first and greatest importance and necessity that all cases tending to the engendering and dissemination of pestilential diseases here, so soon as their existence is known, shall be at once abated or removed so far as practicable. It is to be apprehended that serious danger to the health of this city will result from the congregation within its limits of the large numbers of idle negroes which now throng the streets, lanes, and alleys, and over crowd every hotel. Lazy and profligate, unused to caring for themselves; thriftless for the present and recklessly improvident for the future, the most of them loaf idly about the streets and alleys, prowling in secret places, and lounge lazily in crowded hovels, which soon become dens of noisome filth, the hot-beds fit to engender and rapidly disseminate the most loathsome and malignant diseases.

To prevent these evil effects, it is hereby ordered that after the first day of April, 1864, no contraband shall be allowed to remain in the city of Natchez, who is not employed by some responsible white person in some legitimate business, and who does not reside at the domicile of his or her employer; and no contraband will be allowed to hire any premises in the city for any purpose whatever, and no other person will be allowed to hire such premises for the purpose of evading this order, nor allowed to hire or harbor any contraband who cannot satisfy the health officer that he or she needs the services of said contraband in some legitimate employment. All contrabands remaining in the city in contravention of this order after April 1st will be removed to the contraband encampment.

The word contraband is hereby defined to mean all persons formerly slaves who are not now in the employ of their former owners.

Persons drawing rations from the United States Government are not supposed to need any hired servants. The number allowed to each family will be determined by the undersigned. By order of

A. W. KELLY, Surgeon and Health Officer.  
Approved:  
J. M. TURTLE, Brig. Gen. Com'g District.

**ARREST OF LADIES.**—Mrs. Anna Nugent, Mrs. Mary R. Murphy, and Miss Mary E. Seymour, were yesterday arrested and taken before Colonel Woolley, upon the charge of disloyalty. It is stated that the first said the South would never be whipped, and hoped the day would come when the Confederate flag would float over Baltimore, and that the Federal army would be thrashed, and expressed a desire to go South. The second said Abraham Lincoln ought to be hung, and called a gentleman (who remonstrated with her) a whitewashed negro. She also ridiculed the negro troops. The third cheered for Jeff. Davis; said she was a Jeff. Davis lady—a Rebel, and proud of it. After an examination, all of them were paroled until this afternoon.—[Balt. Gazette of this morning.]

By a recent marriage in Gill, Massachusetts, a family of six persons is made to contain a grandfather, a grandmother, two fathers, two brothers, two sisters, three husbands, three wives, two sons, two daughters, one uncle, one niece, one grandson, and one grand-daughter.

A grand review of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry took place yesterday just below Fredericksburg.

An Order from General Meade.  
[From the Washington Star.]

As the time is approaching when some of the regiments belonging to the Army of the Potomac are to be discharged from the military service of the United States, by reason of the expiration of the term for which they were mustered into said service, Major Gen. Meade has announced to such troops that the War Department has decided that the term of service of a regiment is to be computed from the date of muster into the service of the United States without reference to the date of enlistment or any service rendered a State.

"The Commanding General, the order says, will however, at all times be glad to receive and forward, for the consideration of the proper authority, any respectful communication touching the term of service of a regiment when such term appears to be involved in doubt."

The order concludes:  
"The Commanding General, in making this announcement, expresses the hope that the regiments to be discharged will cheerfully acquiesce in the decision of the Government with regard to their term of service, and that re-organized bodies of individuals, after having borne an unsullied reputation during all the eventful scenes that have marked their connection with the Army of the Potomac, will suffer the honorable fame they have won by their gallantry and good conduct to be tarnished, in the closing hours of their service, by acts of insubordination, which, if ventured upon by any, will be promptly suppressed, and can only terminate in the speedy and certain punishment of the offending parties."

LINES

*On the Death of a Little Boy.*  
Gone, ere thy pure soul felt the touch of sorrow,  
Gone, ere thy spirit flushed with sense of shame;  
Saved from the blight of that unknown tomorrow,  
Ere sin's dark shadow on thy being came.  
Above the little grave loved hands have made thee,  
The sun will glitter down his golden radi;  
The emerald sod will bloom where we have laid thee,  
But here we'll never see our child again.  
But, blessed be our God! again we'll meet thee,  
In that bright land beyond life's surging tide,  
O darling! with what rapture there we'll greet thee,  
Never to leave our little boy that died.  
God sent thee for a time—our household blossom—  
What marvel that we'd have thee still remain?  
We know our darling slumbers on this bosom,  
He gave, and now He takes it's own again.  
Farewell! we have an angel bright in heaven,  
We'll hear his whispers on this earthly shore,  
Our Father! grant that, all our sins forgiven,  
We'll meet him there where partings come no more.

DIED.

In Marlboro on Thursday last, after an illness of four months, Mr. L. LINDSDALE GIBBS-ELIN, son of the late Robert Gibbelin, Esq. of Nottingham district, aged 27 years.

At his residence, near Beltsville, in Prince George's county, on Monday, Mr. RICHARD D. HALL.

On Easter Sunday, March 27th, in the city of New York, LUCIEN PORTER WADDELL, of Natchitoches, Louisiana, in the 26 year of his age.

**LARGE SALE BY AUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE,** at 10 o'clock, on Friday, (to-morrow) morning, at No. 8, North Alfred street. Terms Cash.—Sale positive: PENN & CO., Auctioneers. ap 25—1t

LOTS FOR SALE OR LEASE.

**LOTS** in that eligibly situated square of ground bounded by Washington, Columbia, Franklin and Jefferson streets, will be sold or leased, upon reasonable terms, and in sizes to suit those desiring to make improvements. For terms enquire of W. B. MUIR. ap 27—6t cor. of King and St. Asaph sts.

**A HOUSE and LOT** at private sale, containing 6 rooms and a good, dry cellar, situated on Wolfe, between Water and Union sts. If not sold before the 5th May it will on that day at 12 o'clock be offered for sale at public auction. Title unquestionable. For particulars, enquire of Mr. Eihu Stanton, near the premises or of James Green. HARRISON H. B. ARNOLD. ap 26—cots