

The Alexandria Gazette

TUE. DAY EVENING, JULY. 5.

U. S. CONGRESS.—In the Senate on Saturday the bill for the more speedy punishment of guerrillas was adopted. The bill amendatory of the enrollment bill was reported back from the Conference Committee and passed.—The House bill to guarantee the "States in rebellion" a Republican form of government was taken up, and passed. The House bill to encourage emigration was taken up and passed. A resolution was adopted to adjourn sine die on Monday at twelve o'clock.

In the House the bill to provide for the punishment of guerrillas was agreed to. The report of the conference on the bill amendatory of the Enrollment act was agreed to. The House took up the Senate amendment to the House bill providing for a reconstruction of the State governments in the seceded States. The Senate struck out all of the House bill except one section, which provides that when the inhabitants of any State have been declared to be in rebellion by proclamation of the President, they shall be incapable of casting any electoral vote until such rebellion is suppressed, and a law has been passed by Congress authorizing the same. The House non-concurred and asked for a committee of conference. The Tax bill, as originally reported by Mr. Morrill, was taken up and passed. A resolution was adopted that the House adjourn sine die on Monday at 12 o'clock.

In an official dispatch from Mr. Stanton, dated on Sunday night, he announces that dispatches from Gen. Sherman on that day, at Marietta, Georgia, had been received, which state that the successful movement of his right has caused Gen. Johnston to evacuate Keneshaw and Marietta, and that the Federal forces now occupy both places. Thomas, he says, is moving towards the Chattahoochee, and McPherson towards the mouth of the Nickojack, on the Sandtown road. He adds: "Whether the enemy will halt this side of the Chattahoochee will soon be known. Marietta is almost entirely abandoned by its inhabitants, and more than a mile of the railroad iron, removed between the town and the foot of Kenesaw.

In Mr. Stanton's dispatch of Sunday, he states that dispatches from Gen. Grant up to 9 o'clock that morning had been received by him, in which he reports the result of Wilson's raid to have been the destruction of sixty miles of the Danville railroad and thirty miles of the Southside road, together with the blacksmith shops and mills, and brought in about 400 negroes and many horses and mules. His loss he estimates at "from 750 to 1,000 men, a small wagon train used to carry ammunition, and ambulance train and 12 cannon, some of which were damaged.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says that Mr. Fessenden will accept the position of Secretary of the Treasury, immediately after the adjournment of Congress.

The waters in the great Western rivers are all falling rapidly.

Confederate Movements in the Valley.

A dispatch from Baltimore states that about daybreak on Sunday morning, intelligence reached headquarters, at Martinsburg, to the effect the Confederates were approaching in three separate columns—one by the way of the turnpike towards Sheppardstown, another towards Martinsburg, not far from the line of the railroad, and a third west of it. Another force, also, advanced via the North Mountain. It will be remembered that the department of the railroad is that of General Hunter, who is assisted by General Sigel.

General Sigel, at once prepared to check the approach of the Confederates, and at 5 o'clock fighting commenced in the neighborhood of Bunker Hill, continuing for four or five hours, during which his cavalry fell back to the infantry supports. Ascertaining that the force of the Confederates was superior to his own, Sigel determined to evacuate Martinsburg, which was accomplished.

A dispatch received at five o'clock states that fighting had been going on all day near Leetown, about ten miles from Harper's Ferry between a force of the Confederates that was moving in the direction of the Sheppardstown pike and a command which Gen. Sigel had left there to occupy the place. Both forces engaged were small.

General Sigel has fallen back to Harper's Ferry, and holds the strong position on Maryland Heights. It is reported that the Confederates are under the command of General Ewell.

A fire occurred on the 2d inst., at the U. S. Armory, in Springfield, Mass. The melting shop was entirely destroyed with its contents. The upper story was used as a polishing shop, the second story for milling, trimming, tempering, etc. The building was constructed about fifty years ago, and has been in constant use in the manufacturing of muskets during this time. It is impossible to give a correct estimate of the loss in machinery and material.—Little was saved from the building destroyed, and much of the machinery in the adjoining buildings must have been seriously injured in its hasty removal.

The death of Wm. Smith O'Brien is an event that, in ordinary times, would excite great attention. He passes away in a time of peril and excitement, and the men who were so busy and anxious about him in the days of his fame are so much employed in other events that he is forgotten. His connection with the Irish rebellion gave it that importance and danger that caused England so much trouble.

Josiah Quincy, Sr., of Boston died on Saturday, at his residence in Quincy, Mass., having been unwell but a few hours. Mr. Quincy was born in 1773, and entered the U. S. Congress in 1804, and continued until 1813. He was a man of ability and learning, and, in politics, of the old Federal school.

In the Enrollment bill passed by the U. S. Congress, the \$300 exemption clause is repealed, the employment of substitutes is allowed, and a draft may be ordered after fifty days' notice, instead of sixty, as heretofore.

Both Houses of the U. S. Congress adjourned yesterday at 12½ o'clock.

POSTSCRIPT!

FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC.

[Correspondence of the Philada. Inquirer.]

There are a hundred reports, but hardly anything definite. It is, however, reliable that the Confederates are in force about Falling Waters, and that some of their cavalry have crossed the river at that point. Others are said to have crossed at Dam No. 2, and at Cherry Run, but this is not yet confirmed.

GETTYSBURG, July 4.—Much excitement prevails in town, and, indeed, through the country south of Harrisburg, in consequence of rumors to the effect that a large body of Confederates are in the act of making a raid upon Maryland and Southern Pennsylvania, having already crossed the Potomac.

The following was received in town from the headquarters of General Couch, this morning:

CHAMBERSBURG, July 4, 1864.—The latest information is, that the Rebel pickets were seen on the opposite bank of the river. A small cavalry force had crossed at Falling Waters and the main body was within three miles of Williamsport. It is said to consist of about six thousand, and a force of two thousand cavalry is reported crossing at dark last night at Dam No. 4.

By order of
JOHN S. SCHULTZ,
Asst. Adjt. General.

The above being semi-official in its character there would seem to be no doubt that the Confederates have really crossed the river.

BALTIMORE, July 4.—The latest advices say that fighting is going on at Falling Waters and Harper's Ferry. The telegraph line is not working beyond Frederick, and it appears that the Confederates captured a considerable amount of supplies at Martinsburg. The trains captured were east of that point, going towards Harper's Ferry.

GETTYSBURG, July 4.—A citizen who was in Hagerstown at ten o'clock last night, says Ewell's and Breckinridge's forces were between Williamsport and Winchester last night, none of them having crossed the river. They number twenty thousand. Large numbers of horses are passing through town from Maryland, being hurried North by their owners to prevent their falling into the hands of the Confederates. Many of the merchants of this town are also removing their goods.

BALTIMORE, July 5.—The latest from the invasion is up to nine o'clock this morning.—Nothing later has been received from the points mentioned in yesterday's dispatch.—Nothing later has been received from Sigel.

FROM WILSON'S RAID.

Dispatches in Southern papers to the 1st give the following in relation to Wilson's raid: "General Mahone, assisted by cavalry, came up with Wilson's raiders, near Reams' Station, ten miles below Petersburg, yesterday. He fought and routed them, driving them four miles, capturing eleven pieces of artillery, two hundred prisoners, thirty-three ambulances, thirty-five wagons, killing and wounding a large number of the enemy, and recapturing five hundred stolen slaves. Our cavalry were in pursuit at last accounts. The enemy are retreating in great disorder by the route by which they came to Reams'. Our loss in infantry is one killed and one wounded."

The following dispatch from General Lee,