

**Alex. Alexandria Gazette**

MONDAY EVENING, JULY 18.

One of the most pungent articles on the war, that has yet appeared from any source, is an elaborate editorial essay in the National Intelligencer last week, on the late military operations in Maryland and before Washington. It boldly charges incompetence or embeccility in the conduct of the war in this section, generally, hitherto, and declares that "no respect for the President's "honesty of purpose," and no admiration for the purity, intelligence, and administrative skill which we may recognise in the other Executive Departments of the Government, will stand in the way of ridding the War Department of the incubus which now visibly rests on it under its present management—making it a shame and a reproach to the nation." It is not often that the National Intelligencer speaks in this way. But it is even severer than this. In one place it says:—"Military incompetence on the Upper Potomac has been reinforced by military incompetence in Baltimore, as illustrated by Major Gen. Lew. Wallace, who is retained in command just long enough to lose the battle of Monocacy, and then superseded by a capable officer in the field, while he is needlessly retained in command of the Department, as if only to multiply the chances of confusion by the possible intrusion of his alacrity for blundering, and that too when it is no secret that in his "civil capacity" he has, by his illegal proceedings, brought down on his head, as we understand, the gravest censure of the Attorney General of the United States. What wonder that under such an administration of our military affairs a paltry squadron of two or three hundred bold riders can, with entire impunity, cut railroads between Harrisburg and Baltimore, and Baltimore and Philadelphia; or that a mere squad of ten men can approach within four miles of a city containing 200,000 inhabitants, garrisoned by 20,000 men, and burn at their leisure the mansion of the Governor of Maryland; or that five hundred men should, by simply sitting down before one of the forts of Washington and establishing a weak skirmish line, succeed in placing the capital of the nation under siege, cutting its telegraphic communications with Baltimore, burning the house of a cabinet minister within six miles of the city, and reducing the Government to the necessity of relying on river and sea navigation for its connections with the great North? And all this, be it remembered, happens in the fourth year of the war, with men by hundreds of thousands under arms!" This article, which attracts much attention in all quarters, concludes as follows. We copy to show "the age and body of the times."—"The protraction of the war, long drawn out by divided military counsels, by injudicious civil policies, and by incompetent officers in the field, is seen by every body to be the precursor either of a Disunion peace (rendered a physical necessity by the military imbecility which is breaking down the giant strength of the country) or of a change in the Administration which shall at least afford to the people one last hope of saving the country, where, if things remain as they are, there is

now none. If the President does not apply a corrective, at once timely and radical, to the evils of which the loyal States complain with just reason, they will not hesitate to apply the only corrective which lies within their reach, through the ballot-box."

European advices to the 6th. have been received at New York. In the British House of Commons on the 4th Mr. Disraeli moved a resolution of a want of confidence in the Government. Mr. Gladstone denied that England's influence had been lowered. Mr. Newdgate moved an amendment, declaring that the independence of Denmark ought to be guaranteed. Mr. Kinglake's amendment, that England's policy was for peace, was also offered. On the fifth, Mr. Ouden spoke at great length. The debate was adjourned on the 5th instant. Melmsbury will move a similar resolution in the House of Lords. The French papers state that the Prussian and Austrian troops in the Duchies have been increased, and that Prussia intends possessing all the Danish islands, and afterward attacking Copenhagen. The Presse says that King Christian has personally requested Napoleon's protecting intervention. The Czar of Russia intends visiting the King of Holland at the Hague. A dispatch dated at Southampton on the 6th states that pretty certain information establishes the fact that Capt. Semmes has officers and a crew for his new vessel—the Rappahannock—and intends to sail soon from a French port to attack the Kearsage.

England was warned a few weeks since by some of the New York papers that in case of a war with the German powers, "German privateers" could be fitted out in the ports of the United States. The New York Express says: "There are many Danish shipowners as well shipmasters in the United States who may find it profitable to drive Prussia's commerce from the seas."

Capt. Graham, lately in command of the "Electric Spark," captured by the Florida, has returned to this place. He states that many of the reports in the New York papers, in relation to the capture of the Electric Spark, conversations with Capt. Morris, &c. are without foundation. The Florida he represents as very fast.

A train with about eight hundred and fifty Confederate prisoners, on their way to the camp at Elkins, N. Y., collided with the Pennsylvania Coal Company's train between Lackawanna and Shohola, Saturday afternoon, killing and wounding a large number—reported at over one hundred. The coal train neglected to ascertain that the other train was behind time, and went on striking the latter at a crooked part of the road.

The French vessels which were lying off this place, attracted much attention. Their officers appeared to be polite gentlemen, and the crews well behaved and well disciplined.—They frequently visited the shore. It is said they were ordered here, by the French Admiral, upon the receipt of the news of the attack upon Washington. They sailed this morning.

It is reported the recent enrollment in this city, does not meet the approval of the military authorities.

[COMMUNICATED.]

A "curious coincidence," as the newspapers say, occurred in one of our Churches last night. Just as the minister officiating, was concluding an earnest prayer, and expressing the desire, "that our lights should not grow dim, nor we be left to grope in darkness," the gas lights all at once grew dim, and darkness succeeded! There was a sudden failure of, or some imperfection, in the gas apparatus. Could the faces of the congregation have been seen, the solemnity of the occasion, it would have been found, could not repress a natural smile, at the interruption to the service, just at that point. X.

The steamer United States from Boston, at Fortress Monroe, reports, July 13, five P. M. heard heavy firing north, north west. On the 14th at 1.15 was spoken by the United States steamer Ticonderoga and reported to her, when she steered in the direction of the firing, latitude 30 degrees 21 minutes, longitude 73 degrees 32 minutes.

Mr. John T. Evans, jr., of Fredericksburg, lately confined at Fort Delaware, has been released, and has returned to this place. He reports that Col. Charles F. Suttle, formerly of this place, is a prisoner at Fort Delaware, and has been there for some time.

Considerable uneasiness was manifested by boatmen on the James river, occasioned by the withdrawal of several Federal gunboats, and the firing upon several steamboats by the Confederates, from field pieces on the banks of the river.

A despatch from Fortress Monroe reports that a squad of Federal cavalry drove the Confederate cavalry and pickets from Nansemond County, across the Backwater river, and "burned all the buildings in the neighborhood."

Trade on the C. & O. Canal is entirely suspended. Low water, and obstructions in the Canal, caused by the late raid, will prevent boats from running probably before the first of next month.

**AUCTION SALE.**

BY THAYER & PIERCE, AUCTIONEERS. ON WEDNESDAY, at 10 o'clock, July 20, we will sell, at the late residence of Cash S. Harlowell Esq., all the remaining PARLOR, HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE contained in said house.

ALSO a number of fine SHOW CASES. THAYER & PIERCE, Auctioneers. Jy 18-20

FOUND, near Battery Rogers, this morning, a BRASS KEY, which may be of use to the owner, and which he can obtain by paying for this advertisement. Apply at this office. Jy 18-31

**TAKE NOTICE.**

TO LET, at low rate, a NICE STABLE, suitable for 8 horses and situated between Pitt and St. Asaph sts. H. SCHWARZ. Jy 16-41 132, King street

FOR SALE.—The advertiser having no further use for a DONKEY, CART and HARNESS, and a one-horse CARRIAGE, will sell them low for cash. The Donkey is remarkably gentle, and can be managed by a child, and the cart was constructed to be drawn by it. The carriage is as good as new—strongly built of the best material. For further information apply at the Gazette Office. Jy 11-41

5000 PALM LEAF FANS, for six cents a piece; just received at Jy 3-41 H. SCHWARZ'S.