

per's Ferry is of course cut off by the rebels, but there is no danger of the National force there being starved out, as has been feared, so long as they can receive supplies from the West over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which the recent skirmish at Martinsburg indicates is still in our possession in that direction. It appears to be doubtful whether the rebels intend to make a movement on Harper's Ferry. With the Maryland Heights in our possession, such a movement could hardly be successful, unless in overwhelming numbers. It appears more probable that they contemplate a raid into Pennsylvania by way of Hagerstown, a direct march upon Washington, or an attack upon Baltimore. At any rate, there is no doubt of their presence in the State in heavy force. The rebel force on the Upper Potomac is said to consist of Jackson's, Longstreet's, Ewell's and Walker's Divisions. No force, it is reported, has been left in front of Washington but cavalry. If this be so, the rebels are risking all upon a single chance, and if surrounded and defeated in Maryland or Pennsylvania, their army will be annihilated. With respect to the position of our own troops, who, under Gen. McClellan, are following up the rebels, we have no information, except that they are moving rapidly forward in large force and confident spirits.

The Baltimore American of Wednesday, the 10th, says that the enemy are scouting in the neighborhood of Frederick for horses, cattle, &c., and that they will probably enter Pennsylvania, if sufficient time is afforded them. The National Intelligencer announces that they have fallen back before Gen. McClellan's advance, which had on Tuesday afternoon, the 9th, reached within six miles of Poolesville. A dispatch from Harrisburg states that the rebels, under Jackson, entered Hagerstown in force on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 10th. The telegraph operator is stated to have left as the rebels were entering the town. Accounts relative to the presence of the rebels before Washington are conflicting, and the opinion prevails to a considerable extent that the movement into Maryland and toward Pennsylvania is only a feint to cover an advance upon the Capital. A short time will probably develop the true condition of affairs.

Major-Gen. Pope has, at his own request, been relieved from the command of the Army of Virginia, and has been assigned to the command of the Department of the Northwest, which embraces Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and Dakota. His headquarters will be at St. Paul, Minn.

A late dispatch from Cincinnati, announced that Gen. Buell has ordered the City of Nashville to be evacuated.

We have various rumors of rebel movements in the West, looking to operations on the line of the Ohio, but nothing of a very definite character. A reconnaissance was made from Cincinnati on the 5th, over the Kentucky Central Railroad, to a point ten miles north of Cynthia, where evidences of the enemy were found; and a dispatch from Falmouth, dated at one o'clock the next morning, states that the National scouts had discovered the rebels within four miles of that place, with artillery. It is also said that Spencer, in Western Virginia, has surrendered to a rebel force under Jenkins, and that a part of Jenkins' force had actually made a raid across the Ohio at Buffington's Island.

Gen. Lew. Wallace has been relieved from duty at Cincinnati, and is to repair to Covington, Ky., where he will make his headquarters for the present. His duty will be to organize and brigade troops. The rebel Gen. Heath is reported to be at Williamsstown with 15,000 men.

POSTSCRIPT!

Cheering News—The Rebels Driven out of Maryland—Capture of a large Supply Train by our Cavalry—Hard Fighting at Harper's Ferry—Burnside and McClellan pressing close on the Enemy's Retreat—Cincinnati Safe—Kirby Smith Retires to Florence, Ky.—Brisk Skirmishing in Western Virginia, &c.

The U. S. gunboat *Mercidita* arrived at this port yesterday from New York, bringing dates to the 15th inst. Her news is gratifying in every aspect. We take the following abstract of its leading features from the New York Herald:

A serious battle was in progress all day on Sunday, the 14th, in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, and very probably on both sides of the Potomac. Such, indeed, is the presumption based upon all the news which has reached us. Heavy firing commenced in the direction of Harper's Ferry, on Saturday afternoon, and was kept up until a late hour on Sunday. It was distinctly heard at Greencastle and Chambersburg, in Pennsylvania, as well as at Frederick, Maryland. There can be

little doubt that the conflict was between the rebels and General Miles, who commands at Harper's Ferry. Gen. Miles, though having only a small force, is splendidly protected on the heights of Bolivar, and it is said sent word to Gen. McClellan that he could hold out until reinforcements arrived. These must have reached him on Sunday night. It was stated by parties who arrived in Washington on the 14th, that a general order of Gen. Lee's, found at Frederick, laid down the plans for the rebels as follows:—Two columns were to proceed by way of Middletown—one destined for Greencastle, and the other to proceed by Williamsport or Sheppardstown to engage our troops at Harper's Ferry. Gen. Longstreet, it is said, was intercepted by some Union forces at Middletown yesterday. No official reports have been received.

There seems to be no doubt of the fact that Jackson, with a large portion of the rebel army, has crossed into Virginia. Two railroad employees arrived in Baltimore, who had been captured by Jackson and were taken across the river on Friday, the 11th, to Williamsport and there released. Their testimony, if true, is conclusive of the fact that Jackson is on the Virginia side of the Potomac.

On Friday, the 12th, our advance cavalry, under Gen. Pleasanton, drove a portion of the rebel cavalry, who were protecting the rear of their army, from the city of Frederick, Md., after a brief skirmish in the streets. On Saturday morning, the 13th, Gen. Burnside passed through the city and was wildly welcomed, and when Gen. McClellan arrived later on the same day the enthusiasm of the people knew no bounds. It was with difficulty that he could make his way through the surging crowd to his headquarters. Gen. Burnside pushed on after the rebels with his whole force, occupying every road, and even crossing the fields to come up with them. The three stone bridges across the Monocacy were found uninjured, but the fine iron railroad bridge was destroyed. The rebels devoured all the provisions in Frederick before they left, and even robbed the hospital of all the medical stores, although they left 450 of their sick behind. General Franklin has captured a rebel train of a hundred ammunition and subsistence wagons, and sent back 150 prisoners to Frederick.

On Friday afternoon the 8th Illinois cavalry, Col. Farnsworth, charged on two rebel regiments of cavalry and three guns, a short distance above Middletown, on the road to Hagerstown. Three of our men were wounded, but we took forty prisoners. Later in the afternoon four squadrons of the Second Indiana cavalry charged on a regiment of cavalry supported by artillery, on the same road. It was a desperate affair. We lost 30 men killed and wounded, but the loss of the enemy doubled ours. Our cavalry so pushed the enemy's wagon trains that they were forced to burn half a mile of wagons to prevent them falling into our hands.

From the West the news continues cheerful. Cincinnati is quiet and secure. The rebels are lying back in some force south of Florence, Ky. On Sunday morning a desperate fight took place at Mumfordsville, on the Green River, between a large force of the rebels and our troops under Col. Wilder, of the 17th Indiana, in which, after a contest continuing from 8 o'clock in the morning until 11, the rebels were totally repulsed with heavy loss. They sent in a flag of truce, asking permission to bury their dead.

A brisk succession of fights took place last week in Western Virginia, commencing on Wednesday. The Union forces under Col. Siber, were attacked by the rebels, five thousand strong, between Fayette and Gauley and fought till dark. Our men cut their way through gallantly to Gauley, with a loss of 100 killed and wounded. Another rebel force, meantime, attacked Col. Lightburn, at Gauley Bridge, compelling him to retire down the Kanawha—fighting every inch of ground—and still farther to the Elk River, where he made a grand stand on Friday. At last accounts—Saturday, 6 P. M.—he was holding his ground, and had shelled the town of Charleston and destroyed all the salt works in the vicinity.

LOCAL NEWS.

ANOTHER FLAG OF TRUCE.—On Friday last the rebels sent a Mrs. Gilbert and servant down from Savannah to Fort Pulaski, with the request that they should be sent North. Considering that the lady's papers were irregular, Col. Barton laid the matter before Gen. Brannan, then commanding the Department, who also thought the case required further explanation. Therefore at noon on Saturday Lieut. Christopher Hale was sent from the fort with a dispatch to the Commanding Officer at Savannah. He was detained on this mission nearly 36 hours, during which time neither himself nor his boat's crew were provided with food. Lieut. Hale is of opinion that the supplies at the picket station were limited, and thus accounts for the

rebel lack of hospitality. The explanation made with reference to Mrs. Gilbert proved satisfactory and she will be permitted to leave on the *Arago*.

PROMOTIONS IN THE FORTY-SEVENTH.—The *Arago* brought commissions granted by the Governor of the State of New York to the following named officers of the Forty-Seventh New York Regiment: Lt. Col. James L. Fraser to be Colonel vice Henry Moore resigned. Major Pierre C. Kane to be Lt. Colonel vice Jas. L. Fraser promoted. Capt. Geo. B. Van Brunt to be Major vice Pierre C. Kane promoted. It is understood that Major Van Brunt's well-deserved promotion will not relieve him from the responsible position of Provost Marshal which he so ably and satisfactorily fills.

APPOINTED COLONEL.—Lieut. P. H. O'Rourke, of the U. S. Engineer Corps, has been appointed Colonel of the 140th Regiment of New York Volunteers, lately organized at Rochester, and is to leave Hilton Head in the *Arago*. Lieut. O'Rourke graduated from the Military Academy with the first honors of his class. His services in this Department date from the capture of Hilton Head, and in planning and executing the bombardment and fall of Pulaski were proved invaluable. While we are happy to chronicle his promotion, we nevertheless regret the necessity which takes from our midst so gallant an officer and so genial a friend.

THE EXPRESS.—Heavy has been the disappointment of our expectant friends who have read upon the door of the express office, after each arrival during the month past, the bulletin: "No express per last steamer." To such an extent has freight accumulated in New York that it has been found impossible to procure transportation for it upon the Government transports. A schooner has accordingly been chartered by the company in New York for its conveyance, and its arrival may be looked for within the coming week.

FALSE RUMOR.—The New York papers of the 12th instant contained a groundless and absurd report of the loss of the gunboat *South Carolina*. She was at that date at anchor in this port, and is now on duty with the blockading squadron off Charleston. The story of her loss was evidently concocted at the Navy Yard, and for no other purpose than to injure the Navy.

WHEREABOUTS OF THE NASHVILLE.—This famous craft is now quietly moored in the Ogeechee River, behind a powerful shore battery. She is watching her chances, and will perhaps try to elude the vigilance of our blockaders again. We trust that any attempt of the kind may be foiled, and that we shall ere long have the gratification of giving to the country the intelligence of her capture.

THE IRON CLADS.—We hear that Lieutenants Rhind, of the *Crusader*, Ammen, of the *Seneca*, and Bankhead, of the *Pembina*, all formerly of the South Atlantic squadron, are to be placed in command of three of the new iron-clads now nearly completed. They are gallant officers, and we hope soon again to welcome them to service in this department.

The crowded condition of our columns compels us to omit the weekly record of deaths from this number of THE NEW SOUTH. We shall publish it in our next.

Almanac, Port Royal, S. C., Sept. 20, '62.
 SUN RISES.....5 47 | MOON RISES.....2 29
 SUN SETS.....6 02 | HIGH WATER.....4 48

MARINE NEWS.

ARRIVED.

Sept. 14—Bark John Jay Philbrick, Reid, Key West; 15—Steamship *Arago*, Gadsden, New York; 16—Schr. John Guyant, Smith, Philadelphia; 17—Brig Intended, White, Philadelphia; Schr. Trojan, Shourds, Philadelphia; 18—Schr. Free Wind, Robinson, New York.

CLEARED.

Sept. 12—Schr. Euphemia, Lee, New York; Schr. Jesse A. Woodhouse, Thomas, New York; 16—Bark John Jay Philbrick, Reid, New York; 17—Steamer Delaware, Faircloth, New York; 18—Julia A. Halleck, Sinclair, New York.

SAILED.

Sept. 11—Schr. Chrysolite; U. S. Ship Ino; 16—Schr. J. A. Woodhouse; 17—Schr. F. P. Simpson; Schr. Euphemia; Steamer Delaware; U. S. Ship Dale, New York; U. S. Ship Onward, New York; 19—Schr. Julia A. Halleck.