

PROMOTED.—Major Van Brunt, of the 47th New York Volunteers, has been promoted to the Lieut. Colonelcy, and has vacated the position of Provost Marshal of Hilton Head, to assume command of his regiment. Captain Allen succeeds to the majorcy, while Captain Hasted is for the present performing the functions of the Provost Marshal. Previous to the severing of his connection with the Provost Guard, Col. Van Brunt was presented with a very handsome gold watch and chain, as a testimonial from the officers who had served under him.

Since writing the above we learn that Col. Van Brunt has been again detailed, as Provost Marshal, and that the entire regiment under his command has been assigned to him as the Provost Guard.

DISMISSED THE SERVICE.—In accordance with an order from the War Department dated on the 24th of December, Col. R. Rich, of the 9th Maine Volunteers has been dismissed from the service of the United States with the loss of all pay and allowances. The reasons assigned for this rigorous decree are the Colonel's incompetency and his refusal to recognize officers of the regiment duly commissioned by the Governor of the State of Maine.

Surgeon E. S. Hoffman, of the 90th New York Volunteers has also been dismissed the service for tendering his resignation while a fatal epidemic was raging in his regiment.

THE NASHVILLE AND THE ATLANTA.—We learn that the Confederate ram Atlanta, formerly the Finial, is now fully completed, and that she is only awaiting a high tide and a dark night to make her way through Wilmington River to Ossibaw Sound, there to assist the Nashville in escaping to sea. The latter vessel lies in the Ogeechee River, within the view of our blockading vessels, and under the protection of heavy batteries. We believe that our cruisers are fully alive to the situation, and that any attempt on the part of the Nashville to escape will result in her discomfiture and disaster.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.—By a flag of truce from Savannah on the 12th instant, we are in possession of stirring news from Texas. The rebel officers report that just before they left the city a dispatch was received announcing the recapture by the Confederates of the city of Galveston, together with the loss of the Federal gunboats *Harriet Lane* and *Wesfield*. This intelligence, it will be noted, is received through rebel sources, and we are inclined to await its confirmation before acknowledging its truth.

EXTENSION OF THE RAILROAD.—The immense saving of time and labor effected by means of the railroad as originally constructed has led to the establishment of several new branches, by which ordnance, commissary and quartermaster's stores may be removed by rail to their destination, immediately on their reaching the wharf. Already our railroad has so facilitated the discharge of transports as to have earned for the Government five times its cost.

OFFICERS OF THE COLORED REGIMENT.—Pursuant to instructions from the Secretary of War, Gen. Brannan has ordered that "all enlisted men appointed as officers in the colored troops under the command of Brig Gen. R. Saxton, in this Department, will be mustered out as enlisted men when mustered into service as officers."

TRAGEDY IN CAMP SAXTON.—We learn that one of the negroes belonging to the 1st South Carolina regiment was shot while attempting to escape from the guardhouse a few days since. He subsequently died of his wounds.

FLEET PAYMASTER.—In a general order issued at the beginning of the new year, Admiral Dupont officially announces Mr. J. S. Cunningham as Fleet Paymaster of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

MORE RECRUITS FOR THE COLORED REGIMENT.—The transport *Boston* returned on Tuesday night from Fernandina and St. Augustine, bringing up nearly 200 negroes, a great portion of whom are recruits for the 1st South Carolina Regiment. They were enlisted by Lieut. Colonel Billings, who went to Florida for that purpose.

ANOTHER PRIZE.—A small rebel yacht was captured by the boats of the *Canandaigua* while attempting to get to sea from Charleston harbor on the 7th instant. Important dispatches were found on board of her, and were sent North in the *Matanzas*, but their contents have not yet been revealed.

COME TO FERNANDINA.—The Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Col. J. R. Hawley, departed for Fernandina, Florida, last Tuesday night, on board the transport Delaware. The regiment will take post at Fernandina, relieving the 9th Maine, which is ordered to Hilton Head.

RETURNED TO HILTON HEAD.—The 97th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. H. R. Guss, has been relieved from duty on St. Helena Island, and ordered to report to Gen. Terry. One company, however, is to remain and assist the Engineers in the construction of the new wharf.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.—By the arrival of the *Star of the South* on the 9th instant and the *Melville* on the 13th, we have been put in possession of New York papers of the 8th instant.

—Gen. Rosecrans has won a complete victory at Murfreesboro, fighting the rebels in immense force for four days and defeating them with great slaughter. Our own loss is estimated at 1,000 killed and 5,000 wounded. Rosecrans has in this prolonged engagement proved himself one of the most conspicuous heroes of the war. The defeat is a severe blow to the rebels, inasmuch as it cuts them off from all hope of reaching Nashville, to secure which was Bragg's object.

—Gen. Sherman's forces had attacked Vicksburg, driving the rebels to within two miles of the city. The town was defended by a force of 65,000 troops under Gen. Pemberton, while the federal army numbered about 45,000. The contest was of the most desperate character, the regiments fighting hand to hand. One regiment—the 4th Iowa—is said to have lost 600 men. A severe battle would ensue before the place could be reduced. Later news from Vicksburg, received at this point through Savannah papers of the 12th is to the effect that the town is growing stronger, that the rebels intend to hold it, and that Sherman was evidently retiring.

—There seems to have been great destruction of Government property at Island No. 10, causelessly and uselessly. The facts, as we have them, are these: Gen. Davies, understanding it to be a part of rebel policy to take Island No. 10, and thus cut off river transportation, and fearing they might be successful, sent an order to the commanding officer on the 5th instant, to spike his guns, destroy his ammunition and evacuate the place. This order was not executed. Davies then sent another order to his Adjutant to see that it was executed and seventy-nine guns were spiked, and about 10,000 rounds of ammunition rolled into the river. The 150 men on the Island protested, but the order was executed.

The *Liverpool Journal of Commerce* says that the government has issued orders that the Alabama be warned from all British ports, and notice given that if any more British property be destroyed, the government will at once take steps to destroy the Alabama. The *Shipping Gazette* contradicts this, and says that the government will not consider itself justified in stopping the cruise of the Alabama. The *London Times* again ridicules the idea of the British government being held responsible for the acts of the Alabama. The same paper publishes a strong secession letter from Commander Maury. He is very bitter against the government of the United States, and repudiates the idea of reunion. He says the South is well supplied with arms and is as determined as ever. He asserts that the customs receipts at Charleston in July were greater than those of the corresponding month for ten years.

—The message of Governor Seymour is published in the *New York Herald* of the 8th. It advocates the doctrine of State Rights, condemns the emancipation proclamation, denounces martial law, and winds up with some touching rhetoric about the Union. It places its author in the light of open hostility to the plans and purposes of the Administration.

—Under the heading "Capture of Charleston," a Boston paper of a recent date prints the following item: "It is understood that the troops for this project have been assigned, the transports for their conveyance selected, the supplies obtained, and all the arrangements so far as relates to the land force completed, and yet the expedition waits. The announcement that seven out of nine monitors will be ready for action this week, affords ground for believing that the popular impatience to possess Charleston will soon be satisfied by the reduction of that hot-bed of secession." The same journal wishes that Gen. Butler might be designated as the Governor of Charleston.

Thermometric Table

For the week ending Thursday, Jan. 15th, 1863, giving the degrees of temperature (Fahrenheit) at four periods of the day.

	Frid	Satur	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs
Sunrise	36	52	40	44	43	56	69
9 A. M.	50	64	48	52	52	62	64
3 P. M.	51	64	62	62	66	66	68
9 P. M.	48	54	46	48	54	60	48

DEATHS.

Patrick E. Connor, Private Company E, 7th N. H. Vols., Dec. 26th, chronic dysentery.
 Peter Young, Private Co. E, 76th Penna. Vols., Dec. 26th, heart disease.
 William Scofield, Co. C, 7th Conn. Vols., Dec. 27th, dysentery.
 Theodor Bowers, Sergt. Co. H, 7th Conn. Vols., Dec. 29th, sore throat—diphtheria.
 Thomas M. Lancaster, Private Co. D, 97th Regt., Pa. Vols., Dec. 29th, sore throat—diphtheria.
 Isaac Wike, Corporal Co. F, 55th Penna. Vols., Dec. 26th, chronic dysentery.
 Jeremias Cramer, Private Co. T, 76th Penna. Vols., Jan. 11th, 1863.

MARINE NEWS.

ARRIVED.

Jan. 1, U. S. steamer Blackstone, New York;
 Jan. 1, Schr. Quickstep Carberry, New London;
 Jan. 1, Schr. Margaret Reinhart, Peerson, Phila.;
 Jan. 2, Bark Milton, Bradford, New York;
 Jan. 2, Schr. J. W. Linsey, Lewis N. Y.; Jan. 2, Schr. D. W. Sanders, Alden, N. Y.; Jan. 2, Schr. Jos. Crandell, Gage, N. Y.; Jan. 2, Schr. Anna B. Jacobs, Pennison, N. Y.; Jan. 3, Marietta Titton, Titton, Phila.; Jan. 3, Schr. Enchantress, Lynch, N. Y.; Jan. 3, Schr. May Queen, Gott, Phila.; Jan. 3, Schr. I. D. McCarthy, Young, Phila.; Jan. 3, Schr. Calvin S. Edward, Garwood, Phila.; Jan. 3, Str. Ben de Ford, Hallett, Key West; Jan. 3, Schr. J. Freeman Sherman, New Bedford; Jan. 3, Schr. Jesse A. Woodhouse, Nelson, N. Y.; Jan. 3, Schr. Eradfield, Haffordy, N. Y.; Jan. 3, Schr. Sallie B. Pateman, Phila.; Jan. 3, Str. Haze, Pennington, New Orleans; Jan. 4, Ship Suawan, McNair, N. Y.; Jan. 4, Bark Alamo, Godfrey, N. Y.; Jan. 6, Schr. Wm. Hunter, Eldridge, N. Y.; Steamship Matanzas, Leesgang, New Orleans; Jan. 7, Schr. J. S. Curtis, Crowell, N. Y.; Jan. 8, Schr. Lizzie Maul, Frambers, Phila.; Jan. 8, Robbie W. Dillon, Ludlam, Phila.; Jan. 9, Steamship Star of the South, Woodhull, N. Y.; Jan. 9, Bark Houston, Shore, N. Y.; Jan. 9, Str. Ben de Ford Hallett, Fernandina; Jan. 9, Schr. Spray, Ives, Phila.; Jan. 9, Schr. Northern Light, Ireland, Phila.; Jan. 11, Schr. Mary E. Smith, Smith, Phila.; Jan. 11, Schr. Amos Edwards, Somers, Phila.; Jan. 12, U. S. Str. Blackstone, Key West; Jan. 12, Schr. Martha Moore, Bennett, Boston, S. C., in distress; Jan. 13, Schr. Shark, Peaston, N. Y.; Jan. 13, Str. Boston, Johnson, St. Augustine; Jan. 14, Schr. D. W. Eldridge, Smith, Phila.; Jan. 14, Schr. Victor, Strout, N. Y.; Jan. 14, Str. Melville, Ellis, New York.

CLEARED.

Jan. 1 1863, Bark Gurrilla, Pierce, New Orleans;
 2, Bark Mary Stilson, Gilley, New York; Schr. W. F. Garrison, Morris, Phila.; 3, Steam Ship United States, Fulton, New York; Str. Delaware, Cannon, Fernandina; Str. Cosmopolitan, Crooker, Fernandina; 5, Str. Jersey Blue, Jarkaway, New York; 7, Schr. Huntress, Dezuey, New Orleans; Brig Leni, Speede, New York; Schr. Jos. Crandall, Gage, New York; Schr. Sam'l. C. Halse, Pates, Fernandina & St. Augustine; 8, Str. Haze, Pennington, New York; Str. Karnak Bragdon, New York; Str. Matanzas, Leesgang, New York; Bark Milton, Bradford, New York; 9, Schr. Varietta, Hall, New York; Schr. Broadfield, Fafords, New Orleans; Schr. Armenia Bartlett, Bartlett, Phila.; 10, Schr. Sea Ranger, Hinckley, Fernandina; Steamship Star of the South, Woodhull, New York; 12, Schr. J. S. Curtis, Crowell, St. Augustine; Schr. W. B. Darling, Baxter, New Orleans; Schr. Sam'l. H. Sharp, Mayhew, Phila.; 13, Schr. N. E. Clark, Clark, Phila.; Str. Delaware, Cannon, Fernandina; 14, Schr. Geo. Fales, Nubuson, New York; 15, Schr. Het Fernham, Cobb, New York.