UNITED STATES NEWS.

New York, April 5.

The Herald's correspondent says throughout the early part of the night operations were confined to skirmishing. But a few minutes after 12 o'clock the rebels advanced, making a demonstration on our centre. It was of short duration, and promptly repulsed. Then followed a season of stillness, with orders for most strict vigilance. The orders were that if the rebels started to go, we were to go after them, and they did go at 3 o'clock. Our skirmishers in pursuit occupied their main line, and orders were issued for an immediate advance, and at 4 o'clock we were in Petersburg.

A Herald correspondent gives an account of the condition of Petersburg. When he entered the city the negroes flocked about him, thanking the Lord that the Yankees had come. He found a bridge burning, and sent the negroes for a fire engine, which they brought, and he set them at work to extinguish the flames, and finally turned his superintendency over to a white man. Most of the railroad property had been destroyed, and large quantities of tobacco burned. Immense amounts of commissary stores were piled in storehouses in the heart of the city, and, if fired, would have destroyed the whole city.—Our shells fired into the city had done but very little damage.

Gen. Lee was in Petersburg up to Sunday night. He acknowledged his inability to hold Virginia any longer, and seemed very much depressed. The funeral of Gen. Hill took place just before the evacuation. He was buried in the city cemetery the same day he fell. The funeral was attended by Gen. Lee and other officers.

New York, April 5.

Senator Sherman who left Gen. Sherman on Saturday says that his army was then about moving according to the pre-arranged plan adopted on his late visit to Gen. Grant at Fortress Monroe. The army was in magnificent condition, and its number much larger than generally supposed.

New York, April 5.

The Post's special says: Advices from Richmond represent that the fire there was very destructive, totally destroying many tobacco warehouses. Gen. Grant was confident the spirit of Lee's army was completely broken. If he stops at Lynchburg he will be surrounded by our forces.

Petersburg, April 3.

The army of the Potomac has been in and out of Petersburg this morning, merely making a flying visit. The rebels commenced evacuating last night at ten o'clock, and by three o'clock this morning were across the river having burned about a million dollars worth of tobacco, &c., the South Side Railroad Depot, and the bridges across the Appomattox. Our troops charged the inner line of works at daylight, taking a picket line of some 500 men prisoners. The mayor of the town met the troops as they entered and to the officer commanding the following communication offering the surrender of the city:

Lt.-Gen. U. S. Grant, commanding the armies of the United States, or the Maj.-Gen. commanding the U. S. forces in front of Petersburg—General—The city of Petersburg, having been evacuated by the Confederate troops we a committee, authorized by the Common Council, do hereby surrender the city to the United States forces, with a request for the protection of the persons and property of its inhabitants. We are respectfully your obedient servants.

"W. W. Townes, Mayor.
"D'Arcy Paul, Committee."

Washington, April 4.

There is good authority for the statement that the rebel prisoners taken by Grant's army will number 20,000.

During Sunday night the rebels fired and blew up buildings in and around Petersburg.

A messenger from Goldsboro brings news that Johnston has swung around to a new position between Goldsboro and Weldon. Sherman will take care of him.

Washington, April 3, 5:30 a.m.

Petersburg is ours. The second brigade, 1st division, 9th corps, took possession this morning at daylight.

New York, April 4.

The Commercial says it is reasonable to suppose that we may hear soon of a movement against Augusta, up the Savannah River.

Immediately after Sherman's departure a line of couriers was established between Augusta and Columbia, and by this means communication was re-established between Richmond and the western portion of the Confederacy.

Philadelphia, April 4.

The Bulletin of this city has received the following special despatch:—

Washington, April 4.

Mrs. Lincoln received a despatch from the President to-day, dated as follows:—"From Jefferson Davis' late residence at Richmond."

Washington, April 4.

Correspondents from City Point state that Lee has divided the remnant of his army, and is retreating in two small columns.

Our prisoners at noon yesterday exceeded 25,000.

Over five thousand prisoners have already been received at City Point, and others are constantly arriving.

The entire number of prisoners captured by our troops up to yesterday was estimated at 13,000 by well informed officers.

Washington, April 3.

Although the fall of Petersburg and Richmond was believed soon to take place, owing to the late success of our arms, the official announcement of the fact itself, this morning, occasioned great surprise, mingled in the rejoicing and huzzas in all directions. Flags were thrown out more plentifully than at any other period of the war. Many merchants closed their stores, and business generally was suspended. The clerks in the public departments and the municipal offices were unable to work under the effect of the good news, joined the throngs on the principal avenues and elsewhere in congratulation of the important event. A crowd assembled in front of the Interior Department, and was addressed by the Commissioner of Patents, Mr. Holloway and Secretary Seward made a brief speech from the steps of the State Department. Mr. Stanton congratulated the assemblage on the great end of the rebellion, and announced to the rejoicing thousands the latest intelligence by telegraph.

The World's correspondent recounts the attacks on the Petersburg defences. It was to take place on Friday morning at 4 o'clock, but the failure on our left was doubtless the cause of the postponement. The plan of this last phase of the action was this:—Gen. Grant on receipt of news of Sheridan's victory at Five Forks, immediately despatched couriers in conjunction with the telegraph leading to his headquarters, to each of the corps commanders, desiring them without loss of time to open with both artillery and infantry upon the works of Petersburg. Sheridan, it will be remembered, attained his success by half-past seven on Saturday night, at nine, Grant hearing it, and before ten our columns had passed their picket line and were on their way to the rebel entrenchments. Parke to the right, Wright on the centre and Ord on the left marched almost at the same instant. The 6th corps, Wright's, were arranged on double line of battle and without ceremony they threw themselves en masse into the ditch and up the parapet.

The contest was short, though terrible and desperate hand-to hand conflicts occurred.—The deadly bayonet lunge; the impulsive and fatal crashes of musket and revolver; the crossing of swords; the volley now and then, when our troops poured enfilading fires down the parapet; the yells and groans; the galloping of couriers to and fro, from end to end of the lines. In places the ditches were heaped with living and dying combatants, tumbled together promiscuously; but every now and then Northern cheers told how the conflict went. On each side of the 6th corps the scene was the same. Opposite Fort Hell the rebels had a fort called Fort Heaven, at which they fought like Satan's legions.

The Daily British Whig

"Omnes per Orbem Diceri."

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 7, 1865.

Public Meetings, Amusements and Sales This Day.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Common School Trustees this evening, in the City Council Chamber.

ARRIVAL OF THE "ETNA."

CANADIAN DEFENCE IN THE HOUSE.

THE COLENSO CASE.

MAXIMILIAN TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE STATES.

New York, April 5.

The steamship Etna, from Liverpool on the 22nd, via Queenstown on the 23rd, has arrived.

Liverpool, March 23.

Breadstuffs—Market quiet but firm.—Provisions—Market quiet and steady.—The produce market is steady. Spirits of turpentine firmer at $1 70 for American.

London, March 23.

Consols closed at 89 to 89¼ for money. American stocks—Ill Central 54 to 55; Erie 32 to 33; United States 5-20's 53¼.

Liverpool, March 23.

The steamships Pennsylvania, Edinburgh and New York, have arrived.

Shipping arrived from New York.—Lantesquied at Marseilles.

London, March 23.

The political news is not of a very important character.

Messrs A Jacknay & son, of London, Liverpool, and New York, have suspended. Liabilities £100,000 sterling.

The papers to-day warn the House of Commons of the importance of the vote to be taken on the subject of Canadian fortifications.

The Moravian's news was promulgated to-day, and has caused an improvement in the United States 5 20's—the closing quotation being 53¼.

The Moravian's news was published on the afternoon of the 22nd, but the effect was not developed at closing this summary.

The Morning Star, on the question of possible repudiation by the United States, asserts that the Washington Government are incapable of repudiating obligations as the Government of England.

In the House of Commons, in reply to the enquiry of Mr. Gregory as to the protection of British property in the Southern States, Mr. Layard said he supposed the question referred to cotton. As regards that destroyed by the Confederates to prevent it falling into Northern hands, owners must stand all risks, and have no right to complain, but at the same time they have been urged to preserve authentic records of such property.—As regards cotton seized, the Federal Government has undoubtedly the right to remove it to the North, but the British Charge d'Affairs at Washington has been instructed to express the confident hope that no obstacle will be interposed to the claims of British subjects in respect to such cotton—that is to say, that every facility will be given to prove the claims to the cotton thus removed by the invading army.

Mr. H. Berkeley again called attention to the probability of war with America, and complained of the negligence of the Government in not making adequate preparations.

Mr. Peacocke spoke in a similar strain.

The Marquis of Hartington declined to reply to such remarks, merely pointing to the speeches of responsible Ministers in the previous debate as proof that the probability of war was very remote indeed.

Sir H. Willoughby and Mr. Foster deprecated the remarks of Messrs. Berkeley and Peacocke.

Sir F. Smith urged placing gunboats on the lakes.

The subject was then dropped.

The House of Commons by a majority of 72 against the Government, declared in favour of reduction in the fire insurance duty.

The Iron ram Scorpion, one of the famous Laird rams, left Liverpool for Plymouth, to be put in commission.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, the new British Minister for China, gave the decision by the Privy Council in Bishop Colenso's case, and pronounced his removal from the bishopric, by the Bishop of Capstown, null and void, that power resting with the Queen only.

The Œsterrichische Zeitung of Vienna asserts that negotiations at Washington, between the Emperor Maximilian's agent and Mr. Seward, were progressing satisfactorily, and that President Lincoln promised to recognize the empire on the termination of the war.

The Paris Constitutionnel asserts that apprehensions still exist of American aggression on Mexico.

It is reported that Monte Video capitulated to the Brazilians on the 7th Feb., but news contradictory has since been received.

Liverpool March 22.—Trade at Manchester yesterday was very dull.

Breadstuffs—Richardson, Spence & Co., Wakefield, Nash & Co., and others, report a good attendance of buyers and firmer market. Flour quiet but steady. Wheat firm and in fair demand, at 1d to 2d per cental advance for red Western; red is quoted at 8s to 8s 9d. Corn firm, at 3d to 6d per quarter easier.

London Money Market—Funds were quiet, but without material fluctuation. Consols on the 22nd were 89 to 89¼. There was a full demand for discount at the Bank and in the open market at unchanged rates.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF HASTINGS.

SEED GRAIN.

March 29th.

Council met,—same members present. The By-Law was read a third time and passed. The following are the appropriations made for each Township:—

Elzevir	$1,900
Huntingdon	2,500
Rawdon	2,500
Tyendinaga	3,200
Hungerford	2,500
Madoc	3,000
Thurlow	1,500
Tuder, Wellaston & Lim'k	1,000
Total	$18,100

To cover all expenses in connection with the loan and distribution, interest, &c. it was decided to raise the sum of $18,660.—The money will be ready immediately; the Seed grain will, we understand, be procured from Mr. Trenahill and Mr. Despard. The loans are to be a lien on the whole real estate of the Township, and also a first lien on the individual borrowing; and the grain thus raised is not liable for seizure under execution for any other debt.—Chronicle.

THE DISCHARGE OF THE RAIDERS.

Montreal, April 5th.

This morning at 10:40 his Honor Mr. Justice Smith took his seat on the bench, and the prisoners were brought into court.

Mr. Devlin stated, that in accordance with instructions from the Hon. Mr. Seward he begged to withdraw the charges against the prisoners before this court.

Mr. Abbott asked if the learned counsel would not go a step further, and declare that all claims for extradition were abandoned by the United States government.

Mr. Devlin said his functions ceased before this court, and was surprised that such a request should be made.

After further remarks it was understood that no further claims for extradition could be preferred against the prisoners here nor in Upper Canada.

They were then discharged by Judge Smith.

Mr. Cartier, Q.C., then made a formal application to the magistrates before whom proceedings had been taken, W. Ermatinger, J.P., and E. Clarke, Esq., J.P., for a breach of the neutrality laws, for the withdrawal of the proceedings before them, in order that the prisoners be summoned for trial to Upper Canada, where such prosecution could be carried out.

The application was granted, and the prisoners were handed over to the custody of the Toronto officers.

DEPARTURE OF THE RAIDERS.

At a little after 2 o'clock to-day the raiders were taken in charge of the Toronto officials. They were conducted from the Court House, under their custody, assisted by a number of mounted non-commissioned officers of the artillery, to leave by special train. There was considerable cheering from a portion of the crowd outside, on the departure of the prisoners.

THE FLOOD OVER.

Montreal April 5.

At four yesterday the river began to fall rapidly, and is now some six feet below the revetment wall, leaving Griffintown again above the water, but in a sorely dilapidated and damp condition. The utmost extent of the flood westward seems to have been near to the sugar refinery, and northwest as far as Bonaventure street, and extending along the whole frontage of the city. The cost of the damage to the wooden sidewalks will be large, much of them having been carried away and used as rafts, never, to be used again for their original purpose. The plankroad from St. Ann's Market to the old weigh-house there, has has been bodily floated away and deposited at the side of the market. Damage has been done the revetment wall by the shoving of the ice against it, and in many other instances stone and brick-work show the injurious effects of the flood. A number of animals have perished, but not nearly so many as in the flood of 1861. The forwarders' shed of the canal side was broken up. The rapidity with which the waters subsided was extraordinary. Very soon after the jam of ice in the afternoon had given way, and the channel become free, Commissioner street could be walked dryshod, and before midnight the water had fallen four feet.

STATEMENT

Of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Province of Canada, for the Half-year, from 1st July to 31st December, 1864.

REVENUE.

Customs	$3,589,925 00
Excise	341,563 21
Post Office	230,878 78
Ocean Postage	8,013 50
Public Works	269,761 95
Provincial Steamers	27,660 67
Territorial	322,949 37
Casual	5,562 15
Interest on Investments	99,867 68
Premium and Discount	22,846 52
Bank Imposts	7,417 68
Law Fees, Consolidated Statutes, U.C., Cap. 12, &c.	13,195 18
Fines and Forfeitures	2,924 41
Exchange	1,564 99
Bill Stamp Duty	83,989 33
Special Revenues.	
Law Fees, L.C.	32,107 96
Do U.C.	9,054 79
Tonnage Duties, Quebec	8,598 06
Do do	391 47
Do Montreal	7,688 29
Passenger Duty	10,736 00
Railway & Steamboat Inspections	2,641 92
Fisheries	829 00
Collet's Office Fees	64,617 81
Law Stamp Duty, U.C.	7,114 23
Do L.C.	26,972 99
Penitentiary and Reformatories	26,437 95
Hospitals and Charities	3,986 64
Receipts of Public Institutions	788 40
Shipping Office Fees	162 75
Debentures, &c.,	
Debentures and Stock	10,700 00
Imperial Sinking Fund	930,952 48
Loan from Bank of Montreal	750,000 00
Open Accounts.	
Municipal Loan Fund, U.C.	86,054 48
Do do L.C.	370 09
Quebec Fire Loan	1,908 75
Law Society, U.C.	7,195 91
Court Houses, L.C.	7,472 32
Northern Railway Interest Account	4,000 00
Consolidated Fund Investment Account	1,600 00
Sales of Public Works	297 63
Lower Canada Building and Jury Fund	20,536 45
Upper Canada Building Fund	11,595 00
Municipalities Fund, West	39,813 12
Do do East	7,565 40
Education Funds, West	12,182 24
Do do East	22,363 25
Common School Fund	29,181 49
Copy Right Duties	229 30
Indian Fund	81,674 95
Insurance on Quebec Custom House	24,000 00
Bank of Upper Canada Special Account	126,666 67
	$7,399,609 72

EXPENDITURE.

Interest on Public Debt	$1,861,905 57
Charges of Management	17,817 52
Exchange	19,187 65
Redemption of Debt	1,159,689 98
Premium and Discount	35 00
Civil Government	218,230 64
Administration of Justice, East	184,882 29
Administration of Justice, West	137,541 14
Police	19,944 1
Penitentiary, Reformatories & Prison Inspection	96,727 60
Legislation	149,328 48
Education, East	87,911 06
Do West	249,174 44
Literary and Scientific Institutions	10,294 32
Hospitals and Charities	188,018 60
Geological Survey	7,024 68
Militia and Enrolled Force	109,269 94
Arts, Agriculture & Statistics	12,765 71
Agricultural Societies	108,419 35
Emigration and Quarantine	27,183 46
Pensions	20,619 18
Indian Annuities	18,110 00
Public Works (Permanent)	448,652 68
Do (Special)	16,309 13
Public Works and Buildings	27,238 51
Rents, Repairs, &c., of Public Works	33,929 75
Roads and Bridges	129,345 68
Ocean and River Steam Service	162,008 63
Light Houses and Coast Service	35,128 29
Fisheries	4,100 78
Collet's Office Fees	61,322 41
Redemption of Seigniorial Rights	96,117 20
Railway and Steamboat Inspections	4,902 36
Municipalities Fund, East and West	202,397 28
Indian Fund	69,737 81
Removal to Ottawa	2,863 92
Miscellaneous	36,965 18
Collection of Revenue—	
Customs	219,642 05
Excise	3,353 54
Post Office	350,961 64
Public Works	142,011 16
Territorial	54,421 69
Special Funds	18,199 62
Stamps	15,604 85
Minor Revenues	83 68
	$6,755,306 65

BURNING OF THE STEAMER "GENERAL LYON."

A fire took place on board the steamer General Lyon, on Friday last. The steamer had on board from five hundred and fifty to six hundred souls. The New York Times gathers the following details from some of the survivors:—Two hundred and fifteen enlisted men and officers embarked at Wilmington for Fortress Monroe on the 29th ult. The vessel was one night delayed off the bar at the mouth of the river waiting for the tide. From the moment the vessel started on her voyage, the weather was rough and boisterous, and great numbers of the passengers were in consequence below suffering from sea-sickness—a circumstance which subsequently lent additional horrors to the terrible scenes on board, as the great majority of those thus confined were, in the excitement and terror of the moment, unable to make their way to the deck, and thus fell victims to the smoke and flames without a chance or effort to escape. The fire having broken out as above described, spread with great rapidity. It was, however, immediately detected, and the efforts of the first mate, to whom our informants accord all praise, were, at once directed to its extinguishment. But alarm unspared the place of coolness and discipline, and all the efforts of the mate and a few of the crew, who ran to the hose, were rendered abortive by the affrighted passengers, men and women, who ran about the deck, and thus prevented timely application of safety till all means were too late to be of any avail. It was in view of this state of things, and the evident fate that awaited the vessel, that the captain cried "The ship is gone, lower away the boats!" A wild disorderly rush to the boats followed, the captain of the General Lyon, as it is stated, being among the most eager to abandon the vessel and seek safety in the first boat lowered. The moment the boat touched the water he was overboard; but in the next, the boat came in collision with the steamer's wheel, and the captain was thrown out, the wheel striking him and Capt. Weber, of the 56th, and instantly sending them lifeless beneath the waves. The engineer and fireman in vain attempted to restore something like order. Major Jas Fyles, in command of 56th, made a like vain endeavour to quell the insane tumult that prevailed; but all such efforts were useless in the presence of the fiery element that was now fast gaining the mastery, and whose inevitable approach deprived the unfortunate people of all hope from human aid. Of the majority of those below seeking rest but a few escaped, and these only by rushing on deck at the first alarm. Through some agency or other the hatches were closed, and as the alarm spread the consternation of these below broke all bounds. A rush was made to the ladders, but the wild instinct of self-preservation deprived the unfortunates of their only chance of escape to the deck. Those foremost on the ladders were pulled back by the crowd who passed behind, and in the struggle that followed the ladders were pulled down, and every attempt to replace them was thwarted by the blind and despairing efforts of the unfortunates themselves. The cries from below became heartrending; but they were unheeded at the terrible moment of common danger to all. Within half an hour the vessel was wrapped in flames, and those on deck had disappeared in the engulphing waves, very few escaping in the boats; and even many of those who first gained them were by the roughness of the sea capsized, their places being taken by those who were able to combat for a brief space the waves, which were then running mountains high. Michael S. Brocket, a member of the 56th Regiment, and one of our informants, entered the first boat lowered, along with the captain of the steamer. He and eight others were in the boat for nearly four hours, and it was only at intervals that the burning steamer could be discerned as she drifted away on the breakers. The steam had not been turned off, and thus impelled by wind, steam and tide, the doomed vessel, one broad sheet of flame, hurried to two-fold destruction, the screams and imploring cries of help, shouted in vain, coming more and more faintly over the stormy waters. Besides the first boat lowered, in which Mr. Brockett was, there were two others got clear of the steamer, containing about thirty-five persons in all, and these were all that escaped. There were about fifty women and children on board, refugees coming North, but not one was saved. Mr. George W. William, of the fifty-sixth, gallantly risked his life in an effort to rescue one woman. He succeeded in getting her on the same plank as he himself clung to, but when finally aid came she was past all succour, the immersion in the water and the cold having done their fatal work. There were sixty-seven male refugees, but three of whom we saved. There were twenty-six enlisted men of the Tenth Missouri en route to their homes; none of these were saved. From the exhaustion they had undergone and the sufferings they were enduring in their half-submerged boats, every moment threatened with destruction, all hope of being rescued was dying out of the few survivors of this terrible calamity when at last the steamer Gen. Sedgwick came in sight—almost unseen until the moment she threw out the means of escape. The boat Mr. Brockett was in was the last hailed. He managed to catch the line thrown to him, and in an instant the friendly coil was round his body, but ere he was drawn up the boat capsized, and while in the water he was grasped by two of his companions in misfortune; with the clutch of drowning men then clung to him, and when drawn upon deck he was unconscious, the terrible stress of the others causing the rope to tighten so as almost deprive him of all respiration. The terrible scene on board, the harrowing cries of men, women and children for help, where no help could come; the almost hopeless struggle for life through which they passed, have left such an effect on the hearts and memories of the survivors that many of the details and circumstances of the moment are in the whirl of emotions created, yet unremembered; but enough has been told to class the loss and fate of the Gen. Lyon and its ill-fated passengers among the most disasterous calamities that have occurred at sea for years.

The survivors received all the care and attention from the captain and officers of the Gen. Sedgwick that their unhappy condition demanded.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.—The Connecticut State election occurred on Monday last, and resulted in a very large majority for the Republican ticket—about four times as large as the majority given for Mr. Lincoln in November. The Republicans elect all the Congressmen, which is a gain of one as compared with the last Congress. New England is now without a single Democratic representative in either branch of Congress. The overwhelming majority for the Republicans in Connecticut is, of course in good part due to the victories of the Union armies. How the world does love success.

THE GAME ACT.—We draw the attention of the public to the following clause of the Act for the protection of insectivorous and other birds beneficial to agriculture:

"It shall not be lawful to shoot, destroy, kill, wound or injure, or to attempt to shoot, destroy, kill, wound or injure any bird whatsoever, save and except eagles, falcons, hawks and other birds of the eagle kind, wild pigeons, hill birds, king-fishers, crows and ravens, between the first day of March and the first day of August in any year."

Another clause provides for birds being taken in any way or exposed for sale, except those mentioned in the first clause. The penalties are not less than one dollar or not more than ten dollars with costs.

"Any person may seize on view and Market clerks or Police officers may seize and confiscate, and also every person is authorized to destroy all nets, traps, cages or engines, &c."

Snow birds, robbins, &c., cannot be destroyed or sold in the markets, so beware of the Fish and Game Protection Club and the Agricultural Societies.

FRAUDS.—A person named Donald Stewart has been playing some strange pranks among the farmers of this County.—He travelled around proposing to be able to supply newly imported seed wheat, and induced several to give him notes for small amounts on account of wheat to be delivered. Failing to secure the imported seed, he tried to become possessed of wheat from other farmers in the district, from which he intended to supply the parties to whom he promised the imported article. Not having the money to pay for the wheat he wanted, his game was stopped but not before several farmers were done out of notes of hand for what they have not received. In future, they must beware of such "Dugald Creatures."—Brockville Recorder.

Hamilton, April 4.

Yesterday evening, about seven o'clock, Mr. James Nixon, a compositor in the Spectator office noticed a soldier of the 47th walk past his residence, which, is away at the eastern end of the city. Directly afterwards, and going in the same direction, came a stout-looking woman carrying a valise. Mr. N. thought something was up, without doubt, and, following the couple quietly, saw them enter together a thicket of bushes, where the soldier immediately commenced to strip himself of the Queen's livery, and to put on a suit of civilian's clothing from the valise. Nixon immediately hurried to the residence of Lieut. George Smith, of the Hamilton Volunteer Artillery, near by, and these two, with a third person, soon secured the soldier, but the woman, who, it appears after all, was a man in disguise, managed to escape.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LT.-COLONEL SHAW.

As some misapprehension prevails with regard to the retirement of Lt.-Colonel Shaw from the command of the 14th Volunteer Rifle Battalion, we may state for the information of all concerned, that the resignation of that officer as Commander of this Battalion has been in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief for the last two years, on the score of it being incompatible with his duties as Major of Brigade, at the same time to be responsible for the internal management of any one particular corps in his Division. The appointment originally was strictly a temporary one, to enable the then independent Volunteer Companies of Kingston to be formed into a Battalion, which, when done, and the 14th Volunteer Rifles fairly under way, Col. Shaw pressed his resignation upon the officers here, as also the Department at Quebec, and though two years have elapsed since he did so, his retirement is only now permitted, when it is found utterly impossible for him to overtake the onerous duties of the Brigade Office, covering as they do the supervision of some forty Volunteer Corps or Companies, together with the greatly increased work thrown upon him in connection with the Military School, and the organization of the Service Militia Battalions. Notwithstanding all which devoting upon him, more especially during the past winter, Col. Shaw leaves the Battalion in excellent order, and on the most friendly terms with every officer and man belonging to it. And we hope now that he is free from the details of the 14th, he may turn his attention to having a Review at Kingston of the whole force of his Division, such as he inaugurated so successfully at Picton two years ago.

The Commissions of Lt.-Colonel Shaw, we find by reference to the list, date as follows:—Captain 1st Rifle Company, 15th February, 1856; Major, 22nd November, 1857; Instructor of Musketry, 8th November 1861; Lieutenant Colonel by Service, 26th November, 1862; Major of Brigade, 28th November, 1862; Lt.-Colonel Volunteers, 1st January, 1863

PHILLIPSVILLE ROAD.—The Mayor and Special Committee appointed by the City Council to examine the Phillipsville Road and report thereon, accompanied by several members of the Council, left yesterday morning to make their examination.

THE LATEST FROM QUEBEC.

Quebec, April 5.

Mr. Honey is said to have been appointed prothonotary of Montreal. He has been deputy in the office up to the present time.

The Mercury says that Major Bernard, of the Crown Law department west, will go with the delegation to England.

LARGE FIRE.

Ogdensburg, March 5.

A fire broke out in the village of Adams, Jefferson County, N.Y., at 4 p.m., yesterday destroying 13 buildings, including Dwight & Eddy's Book Store, Hungerford's Bank, Jefferson County News office, the Masonic and Oddfellows' Halls, Whitney's Hotel, Hungerfords' & Fuller's livery stable, and Whipple & Griswold's blocks.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

THE RETREAT FROM RICHMOND.

DARING CAPTURE OF A U. S. STEAMER.

Wasnington, April 5.

The despatch of Gen. Grant to the War Department at Washington sets at rest the question of a junction between Lee and Johnston as it shows it to be impossible.—Lee has retreated along the Richmond and Danville Railroad. He was followed by Sheridan and Meade, and is now at Amelia Court house. Grant has proceeded westward from Petersburg along a line of railway south, of that by which Lee has made his retreat. He is now at Nottaway Court house—a greater distance west of Richmond than Lee. The consequence is that the whole of the Federal forces are between Lee and Johnston, for the latter at latest dates was represented as fortifying Weldon and Raleigh.

Baltimore, April 5, 3:30 p.m.—Capt. Albert League, of the steamer Harriet Deford, which plies on the Patuxent river, reached this city this morning, and, with several passengers arriving the previous night, gives information of an act of piracy. They state that on Tuesday while the steamer was lying at Fairhaven, Cherring Bay, about 27 rebels disguised and claiming to be refugees, came up the Patuxent the previous afternoon, appeared on board, and shortly after threw off their disguise. They detained the engineer and fireman, whom they compelled to steam up, and then started down the river, but shortly after returned, and permitted the passengers to land at Fairhaven. With several of the latter hats were exchanged, and some money taked belonging to the steamer. There were a number of negroes on board, whom they detained stating that it was their intention to carry them to the West Indies.

Petersburg, April 3.

Protection was promised on the part of the troops, and the citizens have no cause of complaint; for certainly there is no instance on record where an army, after being so long in front of a place of so much importance and losing so many men in the efforts to capture it, entered a city with less disorder and doing less damage to private property than in this case. The citizens did not show themselves during the fore part of the day, but after discovering that our soldiers were orderly and well behaved with no disposition to disturb or annoy anyone, they began to make their appearance at the doors and windows of their residence and later in the day even many expressing their joy quietly that the Confederates had gone, and hoping that the war would soon be over.

For more than a month past the rebel troops have been receiving less rations than before, only just enough being brought to last from day to day. The city presents a very cleanly and respectable appearance, and there are many residences here that would do no discredit to the fifth avenue.—Many houses in the lower part of the city have been badly injured by shot and shell thrown from our batteries last summer, and since that time most of the houses located there have been vacated.

Five o'clock p.m.—Ever since morning our troops have been passing through the city westward, taking the Cox and River roads to Southerland Station, on the South side railroad, where our headquarters are in camp to-night. At this hour the rear guard, in charge of Col. Taylor, 3rd Indiana, are passing, and waggon trains are following. The railroad from City Point here is to be put in running order immediately, and although it is not expected a permanent base will be established here, it will be held as a depot to deliver supplies to the army as long as it is within reach. All the rolling stock of the railroads was run off towards Richmond, but in this depot they must have been very deficient or they would not have burned so much tobacco.

Washington, April 3.

Although the fall of Petersburg and Richmond was expected soon to take place, owing to the late success of our arms, the official announcement of the fact itself this morning occasioned great surprise, mingled with rejoicing and huzzas in all directions. During the latter part of the proceedings, salutes of cannon were fired. There has never before been such a day of rejoicing in Washington. Foreign Ministers called this morning at the Department of State, to express their congratulations on the fall of Richmond.

A large crowd collected in front of the State Department, which was profusely decorated with flags, and called out Secretary Seward, who, after the cheers had subsided, spoke as follows:—

I thank my fellow citizens for the honor they do me by calling to congratulate me on the fall of Richmond. (Cheers.) I am now about writing my foreign despatches. What shall I tell the Emperor of China? I shall thank him in your name, for never having permitted a piratical flag to enter the harbor of the Empire. What shall I say to the Sultan of Turkey? I shall thank him for always having surrendered rebel insurgents who have taken refuge in his kingdom. (Cries of "that's it" and cheering.) What shall I say to the Emperor of the French? (A voice—"To get out of Mexico.") I shall say to the Emperor of the French, that he can go to-morrow to Richmond and get his tobacco, so long held under blockade there, provided the rebels have not used it up. (Laughter and cheers.) To Lord John Russell I will say, that British merchants will find cotton exported from our ports under treaty with the United States cheaper than cotton obtained by running the blockade. As for Earl Russell himself, I need not tell him this is a war for freedom and national independence and the rights of human virtue, and not a war for empire; and that if Great Britain should only remain just to the United States, Canada will remain undisturbed by us so long as she prefers the authority of the noble Queen to voluntary incorporation with the United States.—(Cheers and exclamations of "That's the talk," "Your right.") What shall I tell the King of Prussia? I will tell him that the Germans have been faithful to the standard of the Union as his excellent minister, Baron Gerolt, has been constant in his friendship to the United States during his long residence in this country. (Cheers.) To the Emperor of Austria, I shall say that he has proved himself a very wise man, for he told us in the beginning that he had no sympathy with rebellion anywhere. (Cheers) I do not doubt, fellow-citizens, but that least you accede to the theory by which I have governed myself during the war, namely, that the rebellion was to end in nineteen days. (Laughter and cheers) I have thought this the true theory, because I never knew a physician able to restore a patient to health unless he thought he could work the cure under the most favourable circumstances in nineteen days. (Renewed laughter.) Finally, if the American people approve, I will say that our motto in peace shall be what our text has been while in war. Every nation is entitled to regulate its own domestic affairs in its own way, and all are bound to conduct themselves so as to promote peace on earth and good-will to mankind.

Upon the conclusion of the Secretary's speech the crowd dispersed, cheering vociferously for the President, the Secretary and the Union.

LATER.

Barksville, Va., April 5th.

Lieut. Gen. Grant received the following despatch while on his way to this point, and at once proceeded to Gen. Sheridan's headquarters. The sixth corps, without doubt reached Gen. Sheridan's position within an hour or two after the despatch was written.

To Lieut.-Gen. U. S. Grant:

Headquarters, Cavalry, Jettersville, April 5, 3 p.m.—General—I send you the enclosed letter, which will give you an idea of the condition of the army and their whereabouts. I sent Gen. Davis' Brigade this morning around my left flank; he captured at Formes Cross Roads five pieces of artillery, about two hundred waggons, and eight or nine battle flags, and a number of prisoners. The 2nd army corps is now coming up. I wish you were here yourself. I feel confident of capturing the Army of Northern Virginia if we exert ourselves. I see no escape for Lee. I will put all my cavalry out on our left flank, except McKenzie, who is now is now on the right.

LETTER.—Amelia Court House, April 5.—Dear Mamma.—Our army is ruined, I fear. We are all safe as yet. Shyron left us sick: John Taylor is well; saw him yesterday. We are in line of battle this evening. General Robert Lee is in the field near us. My trust is still in the justice of our cause and in God. Gen. Hill is killed. I saw Murray a few moments since. Bernard Terry it is said was taken prisoner, but may get out. I send this by a negro I see passing up the railroad to Mechlenburg. Love to all. Your devoted son.

(Signed) W. B. TAYLOR.
Colonel.

Albany, April 6.—The Canal Board passed a resolution to-day to open the canals on May 1st.

New York, April 6.—Speculation in gold as dull. The prospects of the war are such is to leave no room for former wide fluctuations. The highest sales of yesterday were not maintained; this morning opening at 15-2½, the price soon fell to 150½.

New York, April 6.

The Costa Rica brought from California $1,600,000 in gold.

Washington, April 6.

The special agent of the post office department took possession of the Richmond post office. The mail boat to-day brought to Washington a large number of rebel officers as prisoners of war, and 22 bags of captured mails, which have been delivered to the war Department.

The steamer Gulding Star, from New Orleans, 26th, has arrived. The U.S. steamer Circassian arrived at Key West April 2d and reported an attack of the Union forces and gunboats on Mobile, March 30th. No particulars obtained, except that the monitor Milwankie was blown up off Dog River bar by a torpedo.

DIED.

In this City, on Thursday morning, April 6th, James Patrick, son of Mr. H. Cummins, aged 9 years and 8 months.

☞ The Funeral will take place from his Father's residence, Division Street, to the Catholic Cemetery, on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, at FOUR o'clock. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully requested to attend.

In Montreal, on the 2nd inst., William, aged 23, son of the late William McNider, Esq.,

At Elizabethtown, on the 25th ult., Henry Clow, Esq., in the 70th year of his age.

At Quebec, on the 3rd instant, Agnes, wife of Alexander Grant.

In Montreal, on the 4th inst., Hugh Torrence, aged 33 years.

Wanted in a Job Office.

A YOUNG HAND, who will be well instructed in the various Branches of Job Printing, and who will be paid fair Wages. Apply (if by letter post-paid) to the Publisher of the British Whig.

Kingston, April 6th, 1865. 80

Military School Meeting at Odessa.

LT.-COLONEL SHAW, by appointment, will meet in the TOWN HALL, ODESSA, on TUESDAY, 11th instant, at 4 P.M., Candidates for admission, and others who may be desirous of information concerning the Military School now established at Kingston.

Kingston, April 6th, 1865. 80

OLD PAINT SHOP,
Head of Brock Street,
NEAR BARRIE.

THE UNDERSIGNED respectfully informs his Friends and the Public at large, that having the building formerly known as the Kingston Paint and Putty Mill for a Shop, he has the best and most commodious Paint Shop in the City for all kinds of work, and is now prepared to execute all orders with neatness and dispatch, and on the most reasonable terms, in the following branches of his business:—

House, Sign and Ornamental Painting,
Glazing, Lettering, Graining, Marbling, &c.
House Decorating, Paper Hanging, &c.,

Carriage Painting and Trimming done in the best style.

Ceilings and Walls done in imitation of Fresco.

Reference kindly permitted to the following gentlemen:

Messrs. Chown & Cunningham, Thomas Hendry, Esq., M. Lavell, M. D., Esq., Robert Hendry, Esq., Wm. Martin, Esq., and Robert Mathews, Esq.

☞ An Apprentice Wanted.

W. H. G. SAVAGE,
Painter.

Kingston, April 6th, 1865. 80

Seeds, Seeds.

ENGLISH, AMERICAN & FRENCH, warranted Fresh and true to name. GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER in endless variety and cheap.

R.