

THE WAR NEWS.

As usual of late, there were rumours afloat yesterday that had better not be repeated.

A gentleman who left Charles City county yesterday morning, brought to the city the report that Grant was landing forces at Wilcox's wharf.

Other parties, who reached the city last evening, stated that a large number of transports, laden with troops, passed down the river during the day.

Upon these reports a rumour was soon in circulation that Grant was withdrawing from Petersburg and crossing to the north bank of the James.

Up to seven o'clock, P. M., no official intelligence of such a movement had been received at headquarters.

FROM PETERSBURG.

We have a strange and not disagreeable piece of news from Petersburg. From three o'clock, P. M., on Thursday, until half past four yesterday evening Grant did not throw a single shell into the city. All Thursday night and yesterday the ancient city was as quiet as a village church-yard. The Sabbath stillness was broken only by the occasional boom of a cannon on some distant part of the lines. This sudden cessation of the useless and barbarous bombardment has inclined some to give credit to the report of Grant's removal to the North side.

THE VICTORY AT CHARLESTON.

The following very satisfactory despatch was received from General Samuel Jones, commanding at Charleston, yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock:

“CHARLESTON, July 4th, 1864.

“General S. Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General:

“On the morning of the 3d instant the enemy landed several regiments on the south side of James Island, supported by two monitors and several gunboats in the Stono, and, after a sharp skirmish, captured two pieces of artillery, and commenced intrenching.

“At the same time several gunboats and transports with troops came up the North Edisto. At early dawn yesterday from seven hundred to a thousand men, on barges, attacked Fort Johnston, and were handsomely and thoroughly repulsed, with a loss to the enemy of one hundred and forty prisoners, with their arms and accoutrements, and five barges. Many were killed and wounded. Our loss very slight.

“The enemy on the south end of James Island fell back hastily yesterday before our men, leaving their dead unburied.

“Our picket line is re-established, but the monitors and gunboats are still in the Stono, firing heavily on our lines, and another transport has just come in with troops.

“The party from North Edisto landed at White Point and advanced, but were soon met and driven back.

“So far, the enemy has been repulsed with the loss of about six hundred men.

“SAMUEL JONES, Major-General.”

GOOD NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI.

At a late hour last night the following was received from Lieutenant-General Stephen Decatur Lee. We are glad to be able to lay it before our readers at the same time with the horrible jumble of a press despatch, which we publish in another column:

“MERIDIAN, July 7, 1864.

“General Braxton Bragg:

“The enemy evacuated Jackson yesterday evening. Brigadier General Adams fought them yesterday evening and this morning, punishing them severely. They are now on retreat to Vicksburg. Brigadier-General Gholson is severely though not dangerously wounded. The enemy did no damage to Jackson, to the railroad or telegraph.

“The enemy are advancing in force from La Grange towards Ripley. I am prepared to meet them.

“S. D. LEE, Lieutenant General.”

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

We hear nothing more from the Yankee force which were reported to have disembarked at the White House on Thursday. We should be inclined to believe that this force was a raiding party, but for two facts: we have nothing worth making an expedition against from that quarter; and the enemy's cavalry are in no condition for a raid.—Sheridan and Wilson have had enough of raiding for a long time to come.

The losses they sustained at Trovillian's, Nance's shop, Staunton river, Sappony, Reams' and Stony creek, cannot be repaired directly. Besides, if the men, material and horses were already replaced, Grant is apt to think twice before he sends out another freebooting expedition. The prestige of the once terrible Yankee raiders is broken. The Virginia militia whip them. The raiders are demoralized.

A GREAT STIR IN WASHINGTON.

The citizens of Fredericksburg who were seized by the enemy as hostages for some Yankee wounded captured by citizens in that town, having been exchanged, returned home on Thursday.

They left Washington on Wednesday morning.—They say that at the time of their departure there was intense excitement there, produced by the report that a heavy “rebel” force was on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, in the neighbourhood of Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry. Serious apprehensions were felt that the “rebels” would advance upon and take the city, and Lincoln had called out the militia of Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York, to repel the invasion and save the Capital.