

for miles around the interior of every house was lit up as if by a noonday sun, and the flash was more startlingly bright than the most vivid lightning on a dark night. Red, white and blue flashes mingled in the brilliance, which was steady for some seconds. Its disappearance was accompanied with hoarse rattling reports like distant thunder or artillery. At Parrsboro, the phenomenon presented a most beautiful appearance. It glowed like an immense ball of fire, and thrice in succession scattered showers of sparks accompanied with blue flashes so magnificently bright that the whole heaven was illuminated, and the moon made nearly invisible. When the flashes ceased, the scene, notwithstanding the clear moonlight, seemed to sink into pitchy darkness. Startling reports like thunderbursts were also heard, and a strong sulphureous smell was felt on the disappearance of the meteor. At Minudie the sounds seemed like thunder on distant hills.—*Id.*

DEATH OF LORD NELSON'S COXSWAIN.—Lord Nelson's coxswain on board the "Victory," Mr. John Pringle, died at his residence, Newton Bushel Devon, on the 5th inst. having attained the extraordinary age of 103 on the 19th of May last. The deceased veteran had only been ill about a month. Prior to his illness, although he was rather infirm, still his mental faculties were unimpaired, and he was accustomed to display those social qualities which so distinguished him in early life. On his birthday for several years past he was in the habit of driving round the town in company with his wife, and the old and respected couple were the observed of all observers on the occasion. He was by birth a Scotchman, having been born in the county of Fife, and on attaining the age of 21 he joined the Royal Navy. Whilst in the service he took an active part in many of our celebrated naval battles, and among others those of the Nile, Trafalgar and Alexandria. He was in receipt of a pension, and at the ripe age of 92 he married, and his wife survives him.

La France states that General Fleury will proceed very shortly to Copenhagen. The ostensible object of his mission is to congratulate King Christian on his accession to the throne.

The Prussians are willing now to submit to the despotic rule of their King, which hitherto they have patriotically resisted, if he will take part with the rest of Germany, violate the Treaty of London, and assist to wrest Schleswig-Holstein from the Danish authority.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

A letter received at New York from a naval officer on board the flag-ship *Pascala* at New Orleans, states that the

embers of mutiny are gathering fast among the sailors of the men of war in that harbor. It seems a great many of the sailors enlisted for one year, and their time has expired, but the Navy Department being pressed for men was obliged to issue an order that no sailors should be allowed to come home even if their time had expired, until relieved by others. This order is said to be felt very severely by a portion of the sailors, and the officer who writes the information fears a mutiny may be the result of it.—*Globe.*

By Telegraph to Morning & Evening Papers.

St. John, Dec. 25.—Gen. Gilmore was shelling Charleston daily with 100-pounders. Charleston despatches to Richmond mention the same, but report little damage.

It is expected that Arkansas will soon be represented in Congress, arrangements are progressing for election in that State. Reported all the Confederate rams in England have been offered to the English Government at a certain price. The proposition is before the Admiralty.

Gen. Averill officially reports a dashing raid by his command in West Virginia, burning at Salem three depots containing twenty thousand barrels of flour, ten thousand bushels wheat, one hundred bushels of corn, fifty thousand bushels of oats, and two thousand barrels meal, besides a large amount of equipment, and a hundred waggons; also wrecked 15 miles of Virginia Railroad. On his return he narrowly escaped from the enemy, who were concentrated to intercept him. The command made 350 miles in 13 days, and took 200 prisoners.

Evening.—Two Union prisoners escaped from Richmond (one feigning death was carried out in a coffin) and arrived in Washington. They report Union prisoners suffering great hardships in prisons and hospitals. Rations of Confederates themselves scanty, consisting of corn bread and occasionally a piece of bacon.

Secretary Welles issued instructions to post vessels at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and other important ports to enforce the new regulations relative to passports for vessels and passengers.

Russian fleet gone to winter near Fort Monroë.

Dec. 28.—Steamer *Cheatham*, laden with cotton, tobacco, rosin, &c., was captured. The prize is estimated at \$150,000.

The English barque *Circassian* was seized in New York under suspicious circumstances; and arrests were made both of males and females. Four revolvers were taken from one woman.

Evening.—Advices from Charleston to the 24th, represent no prospect of active operations; there was but little firing for several days.

Keels for two immense war vessels were laid at Brooklyn last week.

U. S. Marshal, on Saturday, found a number of revolvers among the passengers on steamer *Morning Star*. A number of roughs offered large inducements for passage, if taken on board after passing the guard ship.

Russian Minister at Washington, by instructions from Emperor, personally thanked President Lincoln for courtesies to Russian fleet.

Dec. 29.—Newbern advices report that a number of Confederate officers and soldiers recently came within Federal lines to accept the President's pardon, have taken the oath of allegiance, and report that large numbers will do likewise at the earliest opportunity.

The plan for leasing abandoned plantations in Eastern North Carolina proves a great success, financially and to the laboring classes.

The Federal Cavalry raid returned to Benton station, having driven the guerrillas to the mountains, and destroyed six taneries between Juray and Springville.

Late Wilmington papers announce numerous arrivals of blockade runners. A refugee reports twenty-three arrivals the night before he left.

The Alabama has destroyed the ships Winged Racer and Armada off Java Head.

Since Congress has refused to increase the bounties, re-enlistments have greatly increased, and at the rate now offering, it is supposed that nearly all the army of the Potomac will have re-enlisted. Within a few weeks some of the regiments have re-enlisted bodily; a few have refused altogether.

Eighty-two Confederate prisoners came from Camp Douglas, Chicago, to New York, and enlisted in the Federal Navy, going on board receiving ship "North Carolina."

J. D. Storer, general contractor for the Navy Department, has been arrested, and is to be tried before the Military Court in Philadelphia, on charges of grave character.

Evening.—General Wheeler, with a force of cavalry of 1500, and mounted infantry, attacked Col. Siebert and captured supply train from Chattanooga for Knoxville. Col. Long went to Siebert's support and drove the enemy off, and captured over 100 prisoners.

General Kelly at Harper's Ferry has information from deserters just from Shenandoah valley that Gen. Early with 9000 men is between New Orleans and Mt. Jackson.

Deserters report great dissatisfaction among Confederates, and that if the President's amnesty proclamation were circulated among them, thousands would come to the Federal lines.

The Richmond Enquirer laments the loss of East Tennessee.