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THE WAR.

VIRGINIA.

The most important movement of the past week in the Army of the Potomac, has been the great raid of Wilson's cavalry. Their mission was to destroy certain railroads leading to Richmond and Petersburg. This is a part of Grant's plan which we have alluded to before—the isolation of the rebel army and the rebel capital. Wilson seems to have done his work thoroughly, and though he has lost considerably in men and munitons of war, in returning from the expedition, the injury done the enemy is sufficient to over-balance such losses. We give a detailed account of the raid.

Wilson's Cavalry Raid.

The third division of cavalry, under Gen. Wilson, left the Army of the Potomac on the 20th of June, on a raid toward the Danville Railroad; having in view its destruction as far as possible. After an absence of nine days, part of his force reached the headquarters of General Meade on the 29th ult... under command of Capt. Whittaker, of

Wilson's command consisted of his own and Kautz's divisions. Not halting on the way out to more than temporarily break the Weldon Road, which he did at Reims Staand the Petersburg and Lynchburg Roads, thousands of active men. Up to this time he met but little opposition. With headquarters at Burkesville, he dispatched commands in each of the four directions where lay a railroad. In this way, on the Danville road he burned bridges forty miles apart, and thoroughly destroyed, to the burning of every tie and the twisting of every rail, some twenty miles between. On the Petersburg and Lynchburg road he utterly destroyed thirty miles, and fired bridges outside of that distance. All the track was composed of strap iron placed upon wooden supports. The destruction of the one was the destruc-tion of the other. As the track was torn up it was placed upon the wooden sleepers, and burned until it was bent and useless. A locomotive and a train of cars were surprised at one station, and before the engine could move off all were in the hands of our men. The cars were crowded with refugees from Petersburg. All the cars, with the locomotive, were destroyed.

Having effected the object of his raid, he now looked out for his line of retreat, already threatened by gathering rebels. He tured to come back. He met skirmishing right, left, front, rear, but nothing not easily the army. There the enemy had concentrated in his front, and attacked him late in the afternoon, and a severe engagement ensued, lasting into night. He met the same force that had been dealing with Sheridan north of Richmond. The result does not seem to have been decisive, although the losses sustained and inflicted were large. During the night of the 28th ult. he turned the enemy's flank, coming in between him and Petersburg, preferring that to the other flank and a longer march. So far as the force he had been fighting is concerned, the move seems to have been successful. He eluded it, and would have reached our lines by noon, but for the rebel infantry column, which Capt. Whittaker discovered and rode through. What new plan he adopted on withstand an attack, or march back on the ordered the 6th Corps, the neafest, to march to Wilson's support, as an offset to the rebel infantry, and such of Sheridan's cavalry as had come up from Windmill Point, where it crossed the James, was also ordered Sixth Corps marched early in the afternoon of the 29th ult., divested of all impediments, stripped for marching and fighting. When the Danville road was completed, two months ago the Richmond papers pro-nounced it worth more than a victory. By a parity of reasoning, the loss of it is worse than a defeat.

It is probable that this expedition has broken off the work of provisioning Richmond for a siege. The two lines cut were Railroad was the sole link between Richmond and Atlanta—assuming, what we are entitled to believe on rebel authority, that the Weldon Railroad has been for some time in the undisputed possession of Gen. Grant. It was vitally important, therefore, not only as an avenue of supply, but as the means of rapid exchange of troops between Lee and Johnston. As matters now stand. Lee must fight his battles with what forces he has. The other road which Gen. Wilson has cut in two, the Petersburg and Lynchburg, formed the only communication, save the James River Canal, between Richmond and Lynchburg, which latter place has been and doubtless still is an important depot of sup-plies of all kinds. And it strikes us as probable that Wilson has done a very important service somewhat incidentally. The two divisions, comprising nine brigades, which Lee sent to repel Hunter, were still at last accounts in the neighborhood of Lynchburg, and are, therefore, cut off from immediately re-inforcing Lee in case of urgent necessity

Arrival of the Raiders within our Lines

Gen, Wilson, with what remained of his cavalry division reached the lines of our army on the 2d inst. His command was worn out by fatigue and fighting, having been absent twelve days during which they marched between three and four hundred miles. Finding it impossible to cut through the rebel lines at Ream's Station, and no help coming from the vicinity of Petersburg, Gen. Wilson ordered his command to retreat under cover of night towards Suffolk. Having crossed Nottoway River about thirty miles below Petersburg, they struck for the railroad and crossed at Jarrett's Station, and bearing southward crossed the Blackwater at the county road bridge, and came into our lines at Cabin Point, five miles southeast of Fort

Gen. Grant's Dispatch about the Raid. Gen. Grant sends the War Department the following dispatch, giving the results of Wilson's operations .

Sixty miles of railroad were thoroughly destroyed. The Danville road, General Wilson reports, could not be repaired in less than forty days, even if all the materials were on hand. He has destroyed all the

perty is a small wagon train used to carry ammunition, his ambulance train and wagons were generally brought off, Of the cannon two were removed from the carriages, the wheels of which were broken and the guns thrown into the water, and one other gun had been disabled by a Rebel shot breaking the trunions before it was abandoned. He estimates his total loss at from seven hundred and fifty to one thousand men, including those lost from Kautz's division.

GEN SHERMAN'S DEPARTMENT.

It is characteristic of General Sherman that he advises the public as promptly of his failures as he does of his victories. And when he does fail, which is not often, he never stops to select a string of euphemisms to convey a false impression to the public. With him a "repulse" is a repulse, and a "defeat" is a defeat, just as his "victories" are real victories and not shams. Thus on the 27th ultimo he promptly notified the people, through the War Department, that he had made a combined assault on Johnston's lines at Kenesaw on that day, and had failed, after losing over two thousand men. Upon this the public of the Atlantic

cities, who are unacquainted with Sherman's habit of telling the worst of his operations right out at once, began to imagine that his tion, he moved rapidly to Burkesville, the army had met with such a disaster as that intersection of the Danville and Richmond of Chickamauga, and that the campaign against Atlanta had come to an inglorious thirty miles from Richmond. Then to the against Atlanta had come to an inglorious work of destruction with all the might of end. But mark the sequel. General Sherman had advised the public of the full extent of his repulse. It was just what he described it to be and nothing more. He was quite ready on the 28th to begin again, and he did begin. Finding Kenesaw (which is a mountain of eighteen hundred feet in height) too strong a position to be carried by storm, he commenced a series of maneuvres to turn it on the flank. Johnston was obliged to abandon his strong works on the mountain and fall back toward the Chattahoochie river.

On the 3d of July General Sherman had his head-quarters at Marietta, a town of some importance on the Western and Atlantic Railroad, one hundred and eighteen miles from Chattanooga and just twenty miles north of Atlanta. It is in a rich farming and mining region and very healthy, being on the highest ground occupied by any railway station between the Tennessee and the Savannah rivers. Our army has thus made another forward step in its grand ridden through until the night of the 28th thus made another forward step in its grand ult., at Stony Creek, on the Weldon road, and wonderful march from Chattanooga to eighteen miles below the head-quarters of Atlanta. Its leader moves on as if he Atlanta. Its leader moves on as if he others, a Committee of the National Union knows no such word as fail. His objective Convention—Gentlemen:—Your letter of point, as the people are aware, is Atlanta, the great centre of the railway system of Georgia. At that point he strikes the junction of the Atlantic and Western with the Georgia road, leading to Augusta; the Macon and Western, communicating with Savannah; and the La Grange, extending to West Point and thence to Alabama. The capture planting of republican governments upon the Western Continent is fully concurred in, there might be an misunderstanding tion of troops and supplies on all these

But the interruption of railroad communication in Georgia is but one of the points meeting this new element in the problem of his return—whether he decined to halt and the city upon which General Sherman has so long as the state of facts shall leave that path he had come—is not known. Whitta-ker had scarcely reported when Gen. Meade great centre of manufactures as well as of and scarcely properties that the railroads. The most valuable of the rebel armories, arsenals, founderies and factories are now (or were lately) established in Atlanta. These once destroyed and Jeff. to hasten in the same direction. The Davis will be deprived of another large portion of that aliment which enables him to carry on the work of rebellion. Hence the capture of Atlanta and the destruction of the railways, armories, founderies, factories and depots there, will be a material victory of the most valuable character. That General Sherman will succeed in his grand object, there is not the slightest room for the last remaining communications of the doubt. This last event proves that conclu-Rebel capital. The Richmond and Danville sively. If Johnston could not bar his way at Resaca, Allatoona, or Kennesaw, he can do it nowhere.

A Dispatch From Sherman.

War Department. It gives the official report of the successful flank movement:

The movement on our right caused the enemy to evacuate. We occupied Kenesaw at daylight and Marietta at 8:30 A. M. General Thomas is moving down the main road towards the Chattahootchie, General McPherson towards the mouth of the Nickajack, on the Southtown road; our cavalry is on the extreme left. Whether the enemy cured between the town and the foot of the

Why Kenesaw Mountain was Evacuated by the Rebels.

On the 23d ult., Gen. Hood's corps, in Gen. McPherson's front was withdrawn. The movement seems to have been commenced on the 21st ult. Gen. Schofield, on our right, moved forward after the capture of Pine Mountain, and crossed the Nickajack Creek, followed by Gen. Hooker. There Gen. Sherman found him, at a right angle to the rebel line, on Kenesaw Mountain. Johnston was compelled by this movement to change his direction, it being north and south, and still covering Marietta. Gen. Sherman, however, kept moving his right southward, thus compelling the rebels to abandon Kenesaw, and lengthen their line southward. The object of the maneuvering on our part was to compel Johnston to occupy ground whose natural advantages for defensive battle would not be so great as at Kenesaw. Our efforts are so far successful, but the enemy still hold high ground about the head waters of the numerous streams rising near Marietta. Their line is supposed the same assaulted by Howard and Hooker, parallel with and somewhat west of the railroad, the right covering Marietta. On the 23d ult. the rebels made an assault

Rebels slaughtered without mercy, all the a battle will take place near where the negroes they retook. Wilson's loss of pro- armies are now massed, as Johnston is so closely pressed that he cannot get away beyoud the river safely.

RESULTS OF GEN. HUNTER'S OPERA-TIONS.

Gen. Hunter has been giving the rebels great trouble for the past two or three weeks in the Shenandoah Valley. The damage inflicted upon them in that region cannot soon has suffered before from our own and the rebel army, it has been so completely desolated by Hunter's command, as to be little

f any use to the rebels hereafter. Gen. Hunter, with the whole of his command, had arrived safely at Charlestown, W. Va., without the loss to the army of a single mills, founderies, and furnaces in the Sheof the Tredegar Iron Works, at Buchanan, working 500 hands, and the Military Instipeing supplied with much-needed stores will again soon be hear from in a locality | Chase's shoes and succeed him in his arduwhere least expected.

A REBEL RAID INTO MARYLAND.

A rebel force variously estimated at from two to six thousand composed of cavalry and infantry are said to have crossed the Potomec at Falling Waters, Va., with the intention of making a raid into Maryland and, if possible Pennsylvania. At this writing the reports are as numerous as the rebels are said to be, and as conflicting as possible. It is generally believed that a considerable force, mostly cavalry, are on their way towards Maryland Gen. Couch in command of the Middle Departmenti is understood to be making arrangements to give the raiders a suitable reception. This much is known and beyond this the remainder is mere rumor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

President Lincoln's Letter of Acceptance. The following is the letter of President

Lincoln in reply to the Committee of the National Union Convention, appointed to inform him of his nomination:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, June 17, 1864.—Hon. WILLIAM DENNISON and the 14th instant, formally notifying me that I had been nominated by the Convention you represent for the Presidency of the United States for four years from the 4th of March next, has been received.

The nomination is gratefully accepted, and the resolutions of the Convention, called the platform, are heartily approved. While the resolution in regard to the supwere I not to say that the position of the Government in relation to the action of France in Mexico as assumed through the State Department and indorsed by the Convention, among the measures and acts of the Executive, will be faithfully maintained

I am especially gratified that the soldiers and seamen were not forgotten by the Convention, as they forever must and will be remembered by the grateful country for whose salvation they devote their lives.

Thanking you for the kind and complimentary terms in which you communicated the nomination and other proceedings of the Convention, I subscribe myself your obedient ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Resignation of Secretary Chase. On the afternoon of the 30th of June, the vhole country was surprised to hear of the resignation of the Hon. Salmon P. Chase, late Secretary of the Treasury. The real cause of this unlooked for event is not publicly known at this writing. There are a thousand speculations afloat, as to difficulties which have long existed in the Cabinet, between Mr. Chase and some of the other members. It is well-known that his views of the policy of the government have never coincided with those of the "Blair Family," and perhaps Secretary Seward. Whether The following telegram dated July 3d, at | this was the cause or not, we do not know. Marietta, Georgia, has been received at the Another statement given as a reason is to the effect that there has been some disagreement between the Secretary and the President as to appointments in the Treasury department. This seems to be the most generally believed. The President, it would seem, was anxious to have some persons appointed, whose knowledge of financial affairs was thought by Mr. Chase to be very deficient. These candidates for office were recommended by some political friends of the President and it would seem had no other will halt this side of the Chattahoochie or not will soon be known. Marietta is almost entirely abandoned by its inhabitants, and more than a mile of the railroad iron setrouble be true, Mr. Lincoln is much to blame. Whatever may be said of him, now that he has retired from the position, there are few who will be unwilling to accord to Mr. Chase the credit of having done his duty unselfishly and with a view to the best interests of the whole country. That his financial policy was, in some respects, at fault, we are ready to admit, but we claim at the same ime that his errors were those of the head and not of the heart. In the judgment of posterity he will stand side by side with Alexander Hamilton as an able and patriotic

Mr. Chase was among the foremost of our eminent men to take the ground of uncompromising hostility to Slavery as the bane and the peril of the American Republic. He participated in the call and the organization in 1841 of the "Liberty party" in Ohio, having long before ably maintained as a lawyer the proposition that the Fugitive Slave act of 1793 was unconstitutional and void. He presided over the Free Soil National Convention at Buffalo in 1848 which nominated Martin Van Buren for President and Charles Francis Adams for Vice-President. Elected in 1849 a U. S. Senator, through a coalition of Democrats and Abolitionists, he opposed the Slave Power throughout his term, especially in its Nebraska Kansas policy, and, refusing to support Pierce and King because of their were on hard. He has destroyed all the blacksmiths' shops where the rails might be straightened, and all the mills where scantling for sleepers could be sawed. Thirty miles of the Southside Bailroad were desmitted. Wilson brought in about 400 negroes, and were repulsed with 1854 by George E. Pugh. He was thereupon elected and re-elected Governor of Ohio by the Republicans, and had just entered upon a new term of six years as U. S. Senator, when he was required and most reluctantly gathered by his forces. He reports that the to be at Marietta. The indications are that consented to accept the Secretaryship of the united people among the family of nations;

Appointment of a New Secretary of the Treasury.

Immediately after the resignation of Secretary Chase, the President sent to the Senate the name of Ex Governor Tod, of Ohio, as his successor. The nomination was not confirmed by the Senate. On the morning of the 1st of July, the President sent to the unity and fraternity may be restored and be repaired. Much as this portion of Virginia | Senate the name of William Pitt Fessenden, U. S. Senator from Maine. The Senate went immediately into Executive session and in a few minutes he was confirmed as Secretary of the Treasury.

N. H., in 1806, settled as a lawyer in Portland in 1829, was elected thence to the pound of Government property, during a Legislature of Maine in 1831, and has ever long and arduous march of 500 miles over since ranked among the foremost men of since ranked among the foremost men of almost impassible mountain roads, and with | that State. He served repeatedly at interscarcely any feed for his command. He succeeded in defeating the enemy in five different engagements; in destroying Government property to the value of \$5,000,000 of declining a re-election. He was persuaded our money, including all factories, tan-yards, to run again for Congress in 1850, and received a majority of the votes, but the seat was awarded to his Democratic competitor nandoah Valley, as far as Lynchburg. The was awarded to his Democratic competitor most important establishments were a branch by the canvassers, and he declined to contest it. He was chosen U.S. Senator in 1854, by a union of Whigs and Free-Soil Democrats, tute at Lexington, with its capacious build- and has ever since filled a seat in that body. ings and magazine, containing a large supply of amunition, arms, &c. All the railroads and its Finance Committee, which is its first and the canal on the route were totally de- position in rank and importance. His distroyed. Our total loss in the expedition will charge of the duties of that post has rendernot exceed 2,000, while that of the enemy, ed him thoroughly familiar with every including prisoners, must be at least 5,000, question relating to the National Finances; The army is in excellent spirits, and, after and there is probably no other man in America who could step at once into Gov.

> rior as a ready, forcible debater.
>
> Senator Fessenden formally accepted the position of Secretary of the Treasury on the 4th inst., and will enter upon his duties at once. Much confidence is felt throughout the country in the new Secretary.

Adjournment of Congress.

The First Session of the XXXVII Congress of the United States was closed on the 4th inst., at noon. The session was a prolonged one, lasting within three days of seven months. Much important legislation has been accomplished, though the first part of the session might have been more profitably improved than it was. Among the important acts passed were the Tariff and Tax Bills; the repeal of the Commutation Clause in the Enrollment Bill*; the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, and a bill to Equalize the Pay of Colored Soldiers. An attempt was made and carried by a majority vote in both houses, to amend the Federal Constitution, so as to forever prohibit Sla_ very in the United States. It received the necessary two-third vote in the Senate, but failed to do so in the House; and consequently was not passed.

The Enrollment Bill, as amended, provides that all persons drafted into the service of the United States sliall either go in person or furnish a substitute. No commutation money will be taken.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The steamer city of Baltimore has arrived with European news to the 23d of June. The portion of her intelligence most interesting to loyal Americans will be.

The Destruction of the Rebel Pirate "Alabama."

This event occurred on the 19th of June, off Cherbourg, France. The Alabama left Cherbourg on the 19th ult., for the purpose of engaging the United States steamer Kearsage, Captain John A. Winslow, and attacked her about ten miles from Cherbourg. The Kearsage had been on the track of the Alabama for some time, and was no doubt glad of the opportunity to meet her.

At 12.10 the Alabama commenced the action by firing with her starboard battery at a distance of about a mile. The Kearsage also opened fire immediately with her starboard guns, and a sharp engagement with rapid firing from both ships was kept up, both shot and shell being discharged. In manœuvring, both ships made seven complete circles, at a distance from a quarter to half a mile. At 12 o'clock the firing from the Alabama was observed to slacken and she appeared to be making head sail and shaping her course for land, which was distant about nine miles. At 12.30 the Confederate ship was in a disabled and sinking condition. The encounter was witnessed by the English steam yacht Deerhound. When the Alabama was in a sinking condition the Deerhound made toward her and in passing the Kearsage, was requested to assist in saving the crew of the Alabama. When the Deerhound was still at a distance of two hundred yards, the Alabama sunk, and the Deerhound then launched her boats and, with the assistance of those from the sinking vessel, succeeded in saving about forty men, including Captain Semmes and thirteen officers. Nine of the Alabama's crew were killed and twenty wounded. The Kearsage captured sixty-eight of her officers and crew. No person was killed on the Kearsage, and only three of her seamen are said to be wounded. The vessel herself received but little injury. Semmes had gone to England where he was tendered a public dinner.

A DAY OF HUMILIATION AND PRAYER

PROPOSED.

On motion of Mr. Harlan, the following joint resolution was adopted by the Senate Be it resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to appoint a day for humiliation and prayer by the people of the United States. That he request his constitutional advisers, at the head of the Executive Department, to unite with him as the Chief Megistrate of the nation, at the city of Washington; and the members of Congress and all magistrates, all civil, military, and naval officers, all soldiers, sailors, and marines, with all loyal and law-abiding people, to convene at their usual places of worship, or wherever they may be, to confess and to repent of their manifold sins, to implore the compassion and forgiveness of the Almighty, that, if consistent with His will the existing rebellion may be speedily suppressed, and the supremacy of the Constitution and laws of the United States may be established throughout all the States; to implore Him, as the Supreme Ruler of the world, not to destroy us as a people, nor suffer us to be destrayed by the hostility and connivance of other nations, or by the obstinate adhesion to our own counsels, which may be in conflict with His eternal purposes; to implore Him to enlighten the mind of the nation to know and do His will, humbly be lieving that it is in accordance with His will that our place should be maintained as a

Treasury on the accession of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidency. Since then, his career is a part of our National history. necessary to secure that result; to implore Him in His infinite goodness, to soften the hearts, enlighten the minds, and quicken the consciences of those in rebellion, that they may lay down their arms, and speedily return to their allegiance to the United States, that they may not be utterly destroyed; that the effusion of blood may be stayed, and that peace established throughout all our borders.

HOME MISSIONS. The Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions a knowledge the recipt of the following contributions William Pitt Fessenden, born in Boscawen during the month of May:-South Pres. ch., Brooklyn, N. Y., in part. Westminister ch., Buffalo, N. Y.
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Martin Camp, Talmadge, O.

Jas. Clark, Clevcland, O.

2d Pres. ch., "
Pres. and Ist Cong'l Society, Chester, O.

Ist Pres. ch., Cellamer, O.

Ist "Lyons, O.

Pres. ch., Salem Centre, Ind.

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"Marion, Ind.

"La Gro"

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Mr. Caspelher, Swede Point, Iowa.

Pres. ch., Corfu, N. Y.

"Spartansburgh, Pa.

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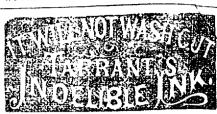
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O. H. WILLARD, PHOTOGRAPHER. Has removed from 1628 Market Street, to his new and spacious galleries,

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