

News of the Week.

THE WAR.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

So far as important movements are concerned, the news this week from the army of the Potomac is rather meagre. The campaigning, picket-firing and skirmishing, usual when the army is not engaged in actual combat, is still kept up, but no general engagement has taken place. From private letters received from correspondents with the army, we learn that preparations are now making for another grand movement against the enemy. The army is being reinforced with fresh troops, and before the November election, the country will no doubt hear of a great battle or series of battles. Let no one imagine that the fall campaign will be allowed to close without a grand effort to destroy the rebel army in Virginia.

The dissemination of copies of President Lincoln's Amnesty Proclamation, and Gen. Grant's late order relating to Rebel deserters, have been attended with good results. In consequence of the information thus conveyed, squads of Rebel deserters have come within our lines and claimed pardon and protection. In consequence of these orders Rebel officers experience much difficulty in keeping their men upon picket posts, for they generally embrace the opportunity to desert. On the night of the 16th, the rebels in front of the Second Corps strengthened their picket lines, and under cover of night charged our skirmish line, but were handsomely repulsed with considerable loss. Their design was completely frustrated, as we retained possession of the coveted position. The Rebel batteries above Petersburg continued to fire at the trains to and from City Point and General Warren's headquarters. The road is now completed to the six-mile station, on the Weldon road. On the 14th, our batteries opened on the enemy, and heavy firing was kept up all the day, in order to silence the rebels, who for some days had been annoying our lines, particularly on the left.

On the 16th, a large body of rebel cavalry made a raid on our cattle herd, opposite Harrison's Landing, and succeeded in carrying off the entire drove, about two thousand five hundred head. The guard was composed of two hundred of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and of course could not resist such an overpowering force. The attack was made just before daylight. Captain Richardson, Commissary of Subsistence, had charge of the herd, which was the main supply for the army in front of Richmond. He had barely time to collect his papers and escape. A body of our cavalry were sent in pursuit, from City Point.

General Grant has issued an order sending all civilians within his lines, in front of Petersburg, who refuse to take the oath of allegiance, through the lines of the enemy. He also prohibits the sale of provisions to those who refuse to take the oath. This is somewhat different from the policy of McClellan while in command of the army of the Potomac. Grant cannot spare troops to guard the houses and farms of rebels, and he will not create them within his lines. This looks like war to the rose water policy of the "young Napoleon."

An interesting performance took place in the Fifth Corps, under General Mead, on the 13th instant. By virtue of an act of Congress, authorizing the presentation of medals of honor to non-commissioned officers and privates who may distinguish themselves for bravery. The ceremony took place at Gen. Warren's headquarters. First Sergeant John Shilling, Company H, Third Regiment Delaware Volunteers, who captured a South Carolina flag; Private F. C. Anderson, Company H, Eighteenth Massachusetts Veteran Volunteers, who captured the flag of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina; and Private George H. Reed, Company B, Eleventh Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, who captured the flag of the Twenty-fourth North Carolina, came forward to the platform and after an eloquent and patriotic speech from General Meade, were duly invested with the honorary prizes.

Seventeen rebel regiments have recently been sent to Ream's Station, probably to strengthen the rebel position near that point. On the morning of the 16th, the Union picket line West of the Weldon road was charged on and driven in, with the loss of several prisoners. The rebels changed in force, and it was sometime before the reserve could be rallied and their advance checked. The enemy were finally completely repulsed with considerable loss. Among the prisoners taken were nine who were bearded drunk. The Union force occupies their old position again undisturbed. Later intelligence is to the effect that on the morning of the 17th, heavy firing had commenced between the pickets on the left, when the steamer left City Point, at ten o'clock of that morning was increasing in rapidity and earnestness. General Grant after a hurried visit to Gen. Sheridan and to some of his children at Burlington New Jersey, is back again with the army of the Potomac.

Lieutenant-General Grant has issued an order that no spirituous, vinous or malt liquors shall be allowed to come into the army, excepting through the Commissary and Medical Departments.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S ARMY.

Fighting has ceased for the present in this army, and Sherman has made arrangements to secure himself in the possession of Atlanta. He is a firm believer in the only safe policy that has ever been adopted in dealing with captured rebel towns and cities—separating the sheep from the goats and sending the Unionists North and the implacable traitors South, where they belong. In this way the enemy will know less than heretofore of what is going on in our lines. General Sherman has issued an order announcing an agreement between himself and General Hood for a truce at Rough and Ready, on the Macon railroad, and the country around it enclosed by a circle of two miles radius, to extend from September 13th, to enable the people of Atlanta and vicinity to remove to points South. Gen. Hood protests against the order as an act of studied, ingenious cruelty. Mayor Calhoun of Atlanta, issues, by permission of General Sherman, a notice which will probably give an idea of General Sherman's order:—All citizens are required to leave Atlanta and proceed either South or North. The government will furnish transportation South as far as Chattanooga. All citizens may take their movable property with them, and transportation will be furnished for all movables. Negroes, with ten to all movables. Their masters, and all other male negroes will be put in Government employ, and the women and children sent out of the lines.

The following is Gen. Sherman's congratulatory order to his troops, in which he

gives a brief history of the campaign, from May 1st to the capture of Atlanta:

HEAD QUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD, ATLANTA, GA., Sept. 8.—SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 68.—The officers and soldiers of the Armies of the Cumberland, Ohio and Tennessee, have already received the thanks of the nation, through its President and Commander-in-Chief; and it now remains only for him who has been to you from the beginning, and who intends to stay all the time, to thank the officers and men for their intelligence, fidelity and courage displayed in the campaign of Atlanta. On the first day of May our armies were lying in garrison, seemingly quiet, from Knoxville to Huntsville, and our enemy lay behind his rocky barrier at Dalton, proud, defiant, and exulting. He had had time since Christmas to recover from his discomfiture at Mission Ridge, with his ranks filled, and a new commander-in-chief, second to none in the Confederacy in reputation for skill, sagacity and extreme popularity. All at once our armies assumed life and action, and appeared before Dalton, threatening Rocky Face, we threw ourselves upon Resaca, and the rebel army only escaped by the rapidity of its retreat, aided by the numerous roads with which he was familiar, and which were strange to us. Again he took post at Altoona, but we gave him no rest, and by a circuitous route, we gained the Altona Pass. Then followed the eventful battle about Kenesaw, and the escape of the enemy across the Chattahoochee River. The crossing of the Chattahoochee, and breaking of the Augusta road was most handsomely executed by us, and will be studied as an example in the art of war. At this stage of our campaign, our enemies became disheartened by their old and skillful commander, and selected one more bold and rash. New devices were adopted. Hood first boldly advanced on the 20th of July, fell on our right at Peach Tree Creek, and lost. Again, on the 22d, he struck our extreme left, and was severely punished; and finally again, on the 28th, he repeated the attempt on our right, and that time must have been satisfied, for since that date he has remained on the defensive. We slowly and gradually drew our lines about Atlanta, feeling for the railroads which supplied the rebel army and made Atlanta a place of importance. We must not only hold the city, but we must take these efforts patiently and skillfully, but at last he made the mistake we had waited for so long, and sent his cavalry to our rear, far beyond the reach of recall. Instantly our cavalry was on his only remaining road, and we followed quickly with our principal army, and Atlanta fell into our possession, as the fruit of well-concerted measures, backed by a brave and confident army. This completed the grand task which had been assigned us by our Government; and your General again repeats his personal and official thanks to all officers and men composing this army, for the indomitable courage and perseverance which alone could give success. We have beaten our enemy at every ground he has chosen, and have wrested from him his own Gate City, where were located his foundries, arsenals, and workshops, deemed secure on account of their distance from our base, and the seeming impregnable obstacles intervening. Nothing is impossible to an army like this, determined to vindicate a government which has rights wherever our flag has once floated, and is resolved to maintain them at any and all costs. In our campaign many, very many of our gallant and noble comrades have preceded us to our common destination, the grave; but they have left the memory of deeds on which a nation can build a proud history. McPherson, Harker, McCook, and others, dear to us all, are now the binding links in our minds that should attach more closely together the living who have to complete the task which still lays before us in the dim future. I ask all to continue as they have so well begun, the cultivation of the soldierly virtues that have ennobled our own and other countries; courage, patience, obedience to the laws and constituted authorities of our government, fidelity to our trusts, and good feeling among each other; each trying to excel the other in the practice of those high qualities, and it will then require no prophet to foretell that our country will in time emerge from this war, and worthy its great founder, WASHINGTON.

W. T. SHERMAN, Maj.-Gen. Commanding.

A Strange Proceeding.

By the steamer James White, from New Orleans on the 12th, we have news (doubted in some quarters) from the Rio Grande of peculiar interest. Mexicans arrived at New Orleans report that the Mexican leader of the republican forces, Cortinas, being unable to cope with the Imperial army, had crossed the river at Brownsville with two thousand men and six pieces of cannon, had driven the Rebel forces under Colonel Ford, from Brownsville, and had occupied that place, hoisting the American flag. He had also notified the Federal commander at Brazos of his proceeding, and offered through him, to the United States Government, the services of himself and army.

The War in the Southwest.

From the West the news this week is important. By way of Louisville, September 18th, we learn that Forrest is camped near Memphis; Marmaduke, with seven thousand men, is across the St. Francis river, in Arkansas, threatening an invasion of Missouri, and that Price is menacing Little Rock. The Vicksburg Herald, of the 10th, received at Cairo the 18th, says there has been a concentration of rebel forces at Jackson, Miss. The troops of Forrest, Taylor, Gaison and Wirt Adams, numbering 20,000, with wagon, pontoon and artillery trains, were there.

MIDDLE MILITARY DIVISION.

There has been a movement in this department since our last issue, in which the rebels were worsted. Under date of the 13th inst., General Sheridan telegraphs the War Department as follows: This morning I sent Getty's Division of the Sixth Corps, with two brigades of cavalry, to the crossing of the Summit Point and Winchester Road, near Ocoquan Creek. Rhodes' Ramser's, Gordon's and Wharton's Divisions were found on the west bank. At the same time Generals Wilson and Martinale's Brigade of Cavalry dashed up the Winchester pike, drove the rebel cavalry at a run, came in contact with Kershaw's Division, charged it, and captured the Eighth South Carolina Regiment, sixteen officers and one hundred and forty-five men, and its battle flag, and Colonel Hennegan, commanding a brigade, with the loss of only two killed and three wounded. Credit is due to Gens. Wilson and Mackintosh, and the 3d New Jersey and the 2d Ohio. The charge was a gallant one. A portion of the 2d Massachusetts Reserve Brigade made a charge on the right of the line, and captured an officer and eleven men of Gordon's Division of Infantry. Our loss in the reconnaissance is very light.

P. H. SHERIDAN, Maj.-Gen.

General Breckenridge, with his forces, is reported to have joined Lee in front of Richmond. Early still remains in the Val-

ley, but the scarcity of forage, it is thought, will soon compel him to change his base.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Draft. The following bulletin from the War Department in relation to the draft will be of interest to our readers:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Sept. 14, 1864. MAJ.-GEN. DIX, New York:—Lieut.-Gen. Grant telegraphs this department in respect to the draft, as follows:

CITY POINT, Sept. 13, 1864.—10.30 A. M. Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War: We ought to have the whole number of men called for by the President in the shortest possible time. Prompt action in filling our ranks will have more effect upon the enemy than a victory over them. They profess to believe, and make their men believe, there is such a party North in favor of recognizing Southern independence that the draft cannot be enforced. Let them be undeceived. Deserters come into our lines daily who tell us that the men are nearly universally tired of the war, and that the desertions would be much more frequent but they believe peace will be negotiated after the fall election. The enforcement of the draft and prompt filling up of our armies, will save the shedding of blood to an immense degree.

U. S. GRANT, Lieut.-General.

The following telegram has been received from Maj.-Gen. Sherman on the same subject: ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 13, 1864.—6.30 P. M. Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War: I am glad to hear the draft will be enforced. First: we need the men. Second, they come as privates to fill up our old and tried regiments with their experienced officers already on hand; and third, because the enforcement of the law will manifest a power resident in our Government equal to the occasion. Our Government, though a Democracy, should in times of trouble and danger, be able to wield the powers of a great nation. All well. W. T. SHERMAN, Maj.-Gen.

The draft is ordered to commence in all the States and Districts where the quota is not filled by volunteers, on Monday, the 19th, and will go on until completed. Volunteering is still progressing with vigor in most of the States.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

MINISTERS COMMISSIONED.

On applications received from the churches they serve, the following ministers were commissioned by the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, at their last regular meeting, eight of whom were under commission last year: Rev. John A. Tiffany, Clinton and Toronto, Ind. " J. L. Swain, Ullyses, Pa. " J. A. Prime, Troy, N. Y. " George Ransom, Muir and Pewamo, Mich. " E. H. Avery, Warren, Ill. " Martin P. Ormsby, Monok, Ill. " Ariel McMasters, Ply Creek and Exeter, N. Y. " George E. W. Leonard, Pleasant Prairie and Centre Point, Iowa. " Sandford H. Smith, Red Wing, Minn. " John Kelland, Angola and Salem, Ind. " G. W. Goodall, Greenville, Ill. " Henry H. Garnett, Washington, D. C. " Asa Martin, Olivet, Iowa. " George D. Horton, Oneida Lake, N. Y. " Samuel Loomis, Vineland, N. J. " Moses Thacher, Perry, N. Y. " Thomas S. Milligan, Gosport, Ind. " Jos. H. Beard, West Milford, N. J. " Isaiah Reed, Nevada and Iowa Centre, Iowa. " C. F. Mussey, Waverly and Clark's Green, Pa.

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U. S. 7-30 Loan. MASON & HAMLIN.

The Secretary of the Treasury gives notice that subscriptions will be received for Coupon Treasury Notes, payable three years from Aug. 15th, 1864, with semi-annual interest at the rate of seven and three-tenths per cent. per annum,—principal and interest both to be paid in lawful money. These notes will be convertible at the option of the holder at maturity, into six per cent. gold-bearing bonds, payable not less than five nor more than twenty years from their date, as the Government may elect. They will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000, and all subscriptions must be for fifty dollars or some multiple of fifty dollars. As the notes draw interest from August 15, persons making deposits subsequent to that date must pay the interest accrued from date of note to date of deposit. Parties depositing twenty-five thousand dollars and upwards for these notes at any one time will be allowed a commission of one-quarter of one per cent. SPECIAL ADVANTAGES OF THIS LOAN. It is a NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK, offering a higher rate of interest than any other, and the best security. Any savings bank which pays its depositors in U. S. Notes, considers that it is paying in the best circulating medium of the country, and it cannot pay in anything better, for its own assets are either in government securities or in notes or bonds payable in government paper. Convertible into a Six per cent. 5-20 Gold Bond. In addition to the very liberal interest on the notes for three years, this privilege of conversion is now worth about three per cent. per annum, for the current rate for 5-20 Bonds is not less than nine per cent. premium, and before the war the premium on six per cent. U. S. stocks was over twenty per cent. It will be seen that the actual profit on this loan, at the present market rate, is not less than ten per cent. per annum. Its Exemption from State or Municipal Taxation. But aside from all the advantages we have enumerated a special Act of Congress exempts all bonds and Treasury notes from local taxation. On the average, this exemption is worth about two per cent. per annum, according to the rate of taxation in various parts of the country. It is believed that no securities offer so great inducements to lenders as those issued by the government. In all other forms of indebtedness, the faith or ability of private parties, or stock companies, or separate communities only, is pledged for payment, while the whole property of the country is held to secure the discharge of all the obligations of the United States. SUBSCRIPTIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE Treasurer of the United States, at Washington, the several Assistant Treasurers and designated Depositories, and by the First National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa. Second National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa. Third National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa. Fourth National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa. And by all National Banks which are depositories of public money, and ALL RESPECTABLE BANKS AND BANKERS throughout the country will give further information and AFFORD EVERY FACILITY TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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