## AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN ALMANAC.

FOR THE YEAR 1865.

Montes.	Sunday.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	MONTES.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday
JAN.	1	9	3	4	5	6	7	JULY.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Feb.	15 22 29 5	16 23 30 -6	17 24 31 7 14	11 18 25 1 8 15	2 9	20 27 3 10	14 21 28 - 4 11 18	Aug.	23 30 6 13	$\frac{31}{7}$	25 1 8 15	26 2 9 16	27 -3 10 17	14 21 28 - 4 11 18	29  5 12 19
	$\frac{19}{26}$	$\frac{20}{27}$	$\frac{21}{28}$	22	23	24	25		20	21	22	$^{23}$	24	25	<b>2</b> 6
M'RCH	5 12 19	6 13	7 14 21	1 8 15 22 29	23	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25	Sept.	3 10 17		-5		7 14 21	22	2 9 16 23 30
APRIL.	2	3	4	5.	6	7	1 8	Ост.	1	2	3	4	- 5	6	7
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JUNE.		-	_	-	1	2	3	DEC.	-	_	-	-	-	1	2
	11 18 25		6 13 20 27	21	22	9 16 23 30	10 17 24		3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25		20		22	

# Aews of the Week.

## THE WAR.

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST WILMING-

During the last week the public anxiety respecting this enterprise was tantalized by conflicting rumors, coming mainly through rebel sources, and none of them very cheering. The particulars of the first attack upon Fort Fisher, the outer guard of the city, are now known, and they involve, as will be seen below, a grave question respecting the generalship of the land forces, which under Generals Butler and Weitzel accompanied the expedition. The elements, however, were not propitious, a storm having so scattered the fleet as to put back operations four or five days behind the programme, thus en-abling General Lee to send in a strong rein-

abing Greneral Lee to send in a strong reinforcement.

The first attempt upon the fort was a novel effort to demolish it by the concussive power of the explosion of a monster torpedo boat, disguised as a blockade runner, apparently chased by the fleet, and making for the fort. All worked well up to the point of explosion. The fuses were fired, and the men safely off. She ran up to within two hundred and fifty yards of the fort, and then see and land were yards of the fort, and then sea and land were shaken by one of the most terrific explosions ever heard. The result was two hundred and fifty tons of powder gone, and the fort tough

This was on the morning of the 24th. It was immediately followed by a furious bombardment from the fleet, doing various severe injuries; but at the closing in of night, the strength of the fort was not seriously impaired. All this while the transports containing the land forces were detained from landing, and hence were not in co-operation. The next day the bombardment from the fleet was renewed, and the land forces, after some delay, succeeded in landing and taking a battery on the beach upon which they hoisted the Union flag. But on feeling the strength of the enemy, the assault was abandoned and they returned to their beats. doned, and they returned to their boats. The ton Roads. We append the following correspondence, as furnishing all the light which we now have, respecting the causes and the responsibilities of the failure—a failure which there is good reason to hope is only temporary, and which was attended by only a few

GENERAL BUTLER TO ADMIRAL PORTER.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIR-GINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, Dec. 25.—Admiral: Upon landing the troops and making a thorough reconnoissance of Fort Fisher, both General Weitzel and myself are fully of the opinion that the place could not be carried by assault, as it was left substantially uninjured as a defensive work by the navy fire. We found seventeen guns, protected by traverses, two only of which were dismounted, land—the only practicable route—not wide enough for a thousand men in line of battle. Having captured Flag Pond battery, the garison of which—sixty-five men and two commissioned officers-were taken off by the navy, we also captured Half Moon battery seven officers and two hundred and eight men of the Third North Carolina Junior Reserves, including its commander, from whom I learned that a portion of Hoke's division, consisting of Kirkland's and Hopgood's brigades, had been sent from the lines before Richmond on Tuesday last, arriving at Wilmington on Friday last. General Weitzel advanced his skirmish line

within fifty yards of the fort, while the garrison were kept in their bomb-proofs by the fire of the navy, and so closely that three or four men of the picket line ventured upon the parapet and through the sallyport of the works, capturing a horse, which he brought off, killing the orderly, who was the bearer of a despatch from the chief of artillery of Gen. Whiting, to bring a light battery within the fort, and also brought away from the paraget the flug of the fort. This was done Presbyterian Banner. The magazine, upon while the shells of the navy were falling bout the heads of the daring men who enered the work; and it was evident, as soon as the fire of the navy ceased because of the darkness, that the fort was fully manned again, and opened with grape and cannister

upon our picket line.

Finding that nothing but the operations of a regular siege, which did not come within my instructions, would reduce the fort, and in view of the threatening aspect of the weather, the wind arising from the southwest rendering it impossible to make further landing through the surf, I caused the troopps, with their prisoners, to re-embark; and I see nothing further that can be done by the land forces. I shall therefore sail for Hampton Roads as soon as the transport fleet can be

defensive work.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
Major General Commanding.
To Rear Admiral Poster.

ADMIRAL PORTER TO GENERAL BUTLER. NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON, UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP MALVERN, OFF NEW INLET, N. C., December 26, 1864.—General: which was communicated to me by General instruments of this class.—N. Y. World.

Weitzel last night. I have ordered the largest vessels to proceed off Beaufort to fill up with ammunition to be ready for another attack in case it is decided to proceed with this matter by making other arrangements. We have not commenced firing rapidly yet, and could keep any rebels inside from showing their heads until an assaulting column was within twenty yards of the works. I wish some more of your gallant fellows had followed the officers who took the flag from the parapet, and the brave fellow who brought the horse out from the fort. I think they would have found it an easier concepts they would have found it an easier conquest than is supposed. I do not, however, pre-

tend to place my opinion in opposition to General Weitzel, whom I know to be an ac-complished soldier and engineer, and whose opinion has great weight with me. I will look out that the troops are all off in safety. We will have a west wind presently, and a smooth beach about three o'clock, when sufficient boats will be sent for them. The prisoners now on board the Santiago de Cuba will be delivered to the Provost Marshal at Fortress Monroe, unless you wish to take them on board one of the trans-

ports, which would be inconvenient just now. I remain, General, respectfully your obedient servant, DAVID D. PORTER, Rear Admiral, To Major General B. F. Butler, commanding, &c., &c.

ADVANCE UPON MOBILE.

New Orleans dates of December 22, by way Cairo, states that an expedition under General Granger, in considerable force, landed at Pascagoula on the 15th, and pushed rapidly on towards Mobile. A brief skirmish occurred on the 15th, near Franklin Creek, and the on the 15th, near Franklin Creek, and the rebels were quickly routed. Many of the people rejoiced at the sight of the Union forces. The navy rendered valuable assistance to the troops in landing. Two tin clad gunboats have just gone up the Pascagoula river thirty miles, and everything is progressing favorably. Refugees report but 5,000 militia in Mobile, and that a strong Union sentiment prevails there sentiment prevails there.

#### ITEMS.

Hood's army is still north of the Tennessee. Gens. Stoneman, Gillem and Burbridge, have eturned from their raid into South-wes Virginia, having captured 250 prisoners, 13 guns, engines, cars, stores, &c., and destroyed valuable lead and salt works. Gen. Ganger's expedition was 30 miles from Mobile, Dec.

The steamship North America, of this city, on the way from New Orleans to New York, foundered on the 22d of Dec., with loss of 197 lives, principally sick soldiers.

DEATH OF GEORGE M. DALLAS .- The announcement of this event, in the papers of Monday morning, took us by surprise, as it was only two or three days since we had noticed him on the street, looking, as we then thought, hale for his years. He died on Saturday morning. Mr. Dallas was a man generally and deservedly esteemed for personal qualities.' Though never assigned the front rank in statesmanship, his qualifications in that line were far from indifferent, and the high honors which at one time and another he received from the country, were secured in a manly way; without resort to demagogueism. His official career commenced when, a young lawyer, he was made private secretary to Mr. Gallatin. Minister to Russia. Subsequently he was appointed United States Attorney for this district; then chosen United States Senator from Pennsylvania, and afterwards sent doned, and they returned to their boats. The fleet thus failing of their co-operation, which was an essential feature of the project withdrew, not to abandon the enterprise but to await orders from Washington. The transports with the land forces returned to Hampton Roads. We append the following course.

Trom Fennsylvania, and atterwards sent abroad strength of the government at the St. Petersburgh Court. Silas Wright declining, he received from his party, (the ports with the land forces returned to Hampton Roads. We append the following course.

Democratic,) the nomination for the Vice-traits with a scrupplious regard for the truth. He has Democratic,) the nomination for the Vice-Presidency, to run in connection with James K. Polk, and was elected. As presiding officer of the Senate, he gave the casting vote which carried the abandonment of the protective policy and established a revenue tariff. His last public serviceone where his polished breeding and social urbanity were eminently serviceable-was that of United States Minister to the Court of St. James, during the last Presidential Administration. Since then, until the event now recorded, he has lived in retirement in this his native city, enjoying a respect for bearing up the beach and covering a strip of his personal virtues, which, as far as we know, has never been forfeited in the wiles and strategies of party politics. We are not aware that he has taken any decided stand in the important issues of the present times; at least we are not aware, as we gladly would be, that like his illustrious Democratic compeer, Lewis Cass, he had given his strong and ripe influence in such unequivocal form as to make it a felt power in support of the Government.

DR. McKinney's "Family Treasure." -This excellent monthly enters upon its second year with the first of the present month. It is edited by a well-known minister of the other branch of the Church, long and favorably known from his connection with that valuable weekly journal, the which he now bestows all his editorial resources, is of a high character, religious, social, domestic, entertaining, and profitable to old and young. It fills a place otherwise unoccupied in periodical literature, and should have a wide circulation in every branch of the Church. See advertisement.

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perty, and feel sanguine of success.

Lawrence county, Pa.

only partially developed oil region; but the success already obtained there and on the Mahoning River, a few miles west, together with the large quantities of oil found north, south, east, and west of it, leads us to hope that it will prove a successful oil region.

engine, tools, and all necessary fixtures on the ground, with a well partly down, and shall proceed to develope the property as fast as These lands and leases were all selected for

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