# THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

PRICE THREE CENTS.] PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1864. [PRICE THREE CENTS.


## FROM THE SOUTH.

VERY LATEST NEWS.

Raid on Rogersville, East Tennessee.

FORREST CAPTURES MEMPHIS

Washburne's Narrow Escape.

LATEST FROM PETERSBURG.

The Fight at Reams' Station.

MOSEBY HANGS THIRTY UNION SOLDIERS.

THE SURRENDER OF FORT MORGAN.

Mobile Papers Anxious About the Safety of the City.

REBEL TRANS-MISSISSIPPI AFFAIRS

GEN. EARLY'S MOVEMENTS

Gen. A. J. Smith's Expedition.

LATE AND INTERESTING FROM ATLANTA.

Our Shells Set Fire to the City.

THE WORK OF KILPATRICK'S MEN.

Peace Mission in Richmond.

BENJAMIN ON JAQUES AND GILMORE

IMPORTANT OFFICIAL CIRCULAR.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

We make the following extracts from the Richmond *Examiner* of the 26th instant:—

**Important from Southwestern Virginia—Yankee Raid into Rogersville, &c.**

BRISTOL, August 24.—Three hundred Yankee cavalry dashed into Rogersville on the 21st, and captured the Hon. J. Heckell, R. C. Shields, Colonel Walder, Captain Clay, and nineteen privates. They retired in the direction of Bean's station.

**Forrest Attacks Memphis—The Yankee General Washburne Escapes in his Shirt Tail.**

The following official despatch was received at the War Department yesterday:—

BY TELEGRAPH FROM MOBILE, August 22, 1864.—The following despatch was received from General Forrest, dated Hernando, 21st:—"I attacked Memphis at 4 o'clock this morning, driving the enemy to his fortifications. We killed and captured four hundred, capturing their entire camp, with about three hundred horses and mules. Washburne escaped in the darkness of the morning, leaving his clothes behind. My loss is twenty killed and wounded.

"N. B. FORREST, Major-General.

"D. B. MAURY, Major-General.

**From Petersburg.**

There was no news from Petersburg yesterday, except the report that all was quiet there, as also along the entire line of the Army of Northern Virginia.

**From the Valley.**

There is nothing of special interest from the valley. Our troops are at Charlestown, and Sheridan holds Harper's Ferry, while his cavalry under Averill guard the upper fords of the Potomac.

We have confirmation of the report that Mosby hang thirty Yankees whom he caught burning private residences in Clark county.

**The Situation at Mobile.**

We have Mobile papers to the 18th instant. The news is without special interest.

The enemy's vessels have gone entirely out of sight. A Confederate flag-of-truce boat had gone down, but on what errand had not transpired.

It is reported that the prisoners taken at Fort Gaines will be exchanged, and may be expected home in a few days.

There is no later news from Fort Morgan. It is believed that the enemy is working away on it, but of this no information had been received. The Mobile papers say the place will be stoutly defended, and, it is to be hoped, preserved.

CAN THE ENEMY'S FLEET GET UP TO MOBILE?

The most vital question connected with the defense of Mobile is, can the enemy's fleet get up to the city? The following facts and figures from the United States Coast Survey will throw some light on the subject:—

To proceed up to Mobile is only practicable for vessels drawing not more than eight feet water. When opposite Alabama City steer N. 24 degrees W. for Stewart's Pavilion, (nearly a mile west of Choctaw Light;) when the Lower Stake bears N. 7 degrees E. steer for it, passing it close aboard on your port hand. Thence to the Upper and Wreck Stakes steer N. 18½ degrees E., keeping them also close aboard on your port hand. From Wreck Stake steer N. 12 degrees E. for Turn Stake; haul close around Turn Stake, and when it and Fowler's are in range steer N. 33 degrees W., keeping this range astern until you get near the Choctaw Point shoal at the entrance of Mobile river, then haul up to the Northward, keeping the Mobile side of the river close aboard.

Vessels drawing more than twelve feet must anchor in the Lower Fleet; vessels of twelve feet may proceed to the anchorage of the Upper Fleet, crossing the Middle Ground in not less than fifteen feet, passing Point Clear, three miles distant, on the starboard hand, and anchoring off Alabama City, midway between the east and west shores of the bay, in twelve and a half feet water, blue mud.

Dog river bar on the chart, is about four and a half miles from the centre of the city. The nearest point of the Upper Fleet, nearly nine miles. The depth from Dog river bar up to the city is eight feet and under—so say the Mobile papers.

THE LATEST—THE FLAG OF TRUCE.

The flag of truce above alluded to arrived at noon, in charge of Captain Gluardy, of the Yankee steamer *Fort Royal*. It was met by Lieutenant James McC. Baker. The flag brought a number of letters from our prisoners, and also a communication to Colonel Watts, our agent here for the exchange of prisoners.

It also reports that at the last accounts Admiral Buchanan's wound was doing well.

This is all that we can learn of the purposes of the flag.—*Mobile Tribune.*

**From the Trans-Mississippi.**

We have some very agreeable and interesting advices from the Trans-Mississippi Department. From late orders issued from headquarters we learn that General Buckner succeeds General Walker in command of Western Louisiana; Magruder takes the Department of Arkansas, and Walker commands the Department of Texas, Brownsville, Texas, has been evacuated by the Federals. This takes the last Yankee foot from Texas soil. We have other good news from that quarter, which is embraced in the summary below:—

Price is said to be moving on Missouri.

Lieutenant-General Dick Taylor was at Alexandria.

General Maxey attacked a camp of Kansas troops within six miles of Fort Smith. He reports the capture of one hundred and fifty prisoners, (6th Kansas Cavalry,) three hundred small arms, and four hundred six shooters. He has pushed Generals Gano and Standwatie towards Kansas.

General Joe Shelby is playing sad havoc with the Yankees on the Missouri border. He reports over three thousand recruits since his advance.

Texas is free from the tread of the enemy. Louisiana nearly so, Arkansas is in a fair way to be recovered, and Price, it is known, is "biding his time" for a telling blow for the disenthralment of his own State.

At last accounts General Steele was at Little Rock, but so exhausted in strength as to have lost power to harm.

The new departments inaugurated by Congress at its last session are getting into successful operation, and promise to realize all that was expected, and the spirit of the people is bold, cheerful, and confident.

In a word everything in the Trans-Mississippi Department is represented as in excellent condition, and the crops are splendid.

From the Richmond *Sentinel* of Friday, the 26th, we take the following:—

**The War News.**

The situation in front of Petersburg is unchanged. Some skirmishing and a good deal of picket firing continue on our right, the lines being very near to each other, and the temptation to take an occasional shot at the Yankees irresistible. On Wednesday, there was some cannonading all day on the left and centre; and in the afternoon the city was briskly shelled by the enemy's batteries near the river. This was the first regular shelling of any consequence for several weeks. The only damage to property was the partial burning of one small tenement, and the only casualty the killing of a negro in the lower part of the city. The cannonading on the left was kept up, with occasional intermissions, until a late hour of the night.

As we stated yesterday, on the authority of reports brought in by scouts, but a comparatively small length of the track of the Weldon railroad has been torn up. It is believed that the road has not been destroyed as far as Reams' station, and that the rails, instead of being heated and twisted so as to render them unfit for further use, are being hauled away as fast as they are taken up. The impression also prevails to some extent, that the enemy intends to preserve the road intact for his own use, in case of the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond—an event so far in the future that Grant may as well secure a life-lease on his position between Reams' Station and Davis' farm, and will it to his heirs and assigns.

The enemy's position on the railroad has not been materially altered, and as he is closely watched by the experienced eyes of skilful generals, and confronted at every point by our troops, he can move no farther without endangering his safety. If any further movement is intended, it will occur in the shape of raids, which have been already foreshadowed by hints in the Yankee newspapers. We are not aware of the future plans of our commanding officers, but feel assured that they will be dictated by good judgment and carried out with success.

Prisoners report that Grant, Meade, and all the prominent Yankee generals, are with the army south of Petersburg, busily inspecting and noting the advantages of the new position. Prisoners and deserters are brought in daily.

Nothing of importance occurred on the lines south of Petersburg yesterday; but the indications are that we shall have stirring news from that quarter before many days elapse.

SKIRMISH NEAR CHESTER STATION.

The enemy's line of pickets in front of Chester, on the Richmond and Petersburg railroad, was attacked yesterday morning by General Pickett's command and driven in. Some sixty or seventy prisoners were captured. Our loss was small.

FROM THE VALLEY.

An official despatch from General Early, at Charlestown, states that he has pressed the enemy back to Harper's Ferry.

We have received some gratifying particulars of the recent engagement near Winchester. The rout of the enemy was complete, equalling, if it did not surpass, the stampede from Kernstown a few weeks since. The enemy had in the fight about eight thousand cavalry, and some four thousand or five thousand infantry, which was the rear guard of their main army, the latter being in full retreat towards the Potomac.

After the affair at Front Royal, our army pushed on, and coming up with the rear guard at Winchester, were, for a short time, held at bay, by their artillery, and suffered some little loss, but nothing could withstand the valor of our troops, and with a yell they charged the enemy, who broke and ran in the wildest confusion.

They were pursued for several miles beyond Winchester, when darkness compelled General Early to call off his men and allow them to rest. The next morning the pursuit was recommenced, but the enemy had taken advantage of the darkness and gotten too far in advance to be overtaken.

We got about two hundred and fifty prisoners and one piece of artillery, besides a number of horses, and any quantity of small arms, clothing, &c., which the enemy in their flight threw away.

But very few of the enemy were killed or wounded, and our entire casualties did not exceed fifteen.

**Capture of Fort Morgan.**

MOBILE, August 24.—Fort Morgan is in the enemy's hands. Whether surrendered, or blown up, or evacuated, is unknown. There are conflicting reports, but nothing reliable.

A flag-of-truce boat visited the enemy's upper fleet to-day. The Federal exchange agent not having arrived, nothing was accomplished.

A special to the *Advertiser*, from near Aberdeen, on the 24th, says the enemy burned Aberville last night. Their advance force passed through Hardy Springs this morning towards La Grange. Their wagon train crossed at Waterford last night. As they were about our crossing, Chalmers fired into their infantry force yesterday, and a sharp skirmish took place. He captured three wagons and teams and five prisoners. Our loss, twenty. The pursuit was renewed this morning.

**The Latest from Petersburg.**

PETERSBURG, August 26.—Our forces engaged and drove in the enemy's skirmishers in front of Bermuda Hundred this morning, capturing some forty prisoners. The engagement lasted but a short time. Our loss was small.

For several days past the enemy has been picketing in front of Bermuda Hundred with negroes. In front and on the line of the Weldon railroad there is little or no change.

The enemy has been engaged to-day shifting forces from their right to their left. Butler's cavalry engaged the enemy's cavalry nine miles below here night before last, and repulsed an effort they were making to drive in our picket lines. Our loss was small. Heavy firing has for the last hour been heard some distance down the line of the Weldon railroad, cause unexplained.

**Important from Atlanta.**

ATLANTA, August 23.—A despatch from Jonesboro' states that a Federal raiding party in heavy force has appeared at Fayetteville. A despatch from General Maury, at Mobile, confirms the capture of Memphis by Forrest. Washburne and staff were captured with the city. Dixon bridge, on Flint river, near Fayetteville, was burnt this morning.

Scouts report that another Federal raid, 7000 strong, with nine pieces of artillery, started from Decatur early this morning in the direction of Covington. A letter from an officer at Greeneville, East Tennessee, says that John Morgan left that point for Knoxville. Trains are running regularly from Bristol to Greeneville.

The situation around Atlanta is unchanged. The enemy shelled the city at intervals all night. All quiet this morning, except occasional picket skirmishing. A lady was killed near the Express office last evening by a shell, and a soldier lost a leg.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

ATLANTA, August 24.—Another large conflagration occurred this evening on Alabama street, destroying a large warehouse and several dwellings. The fire was caused by a shell. The Yankee batteries, during the day, shelled that portion of the city with great rapidity.

Prisoners report that Sherman's army continues well fed. Citizens from Marietta report that Federal officers claim that there are twenty days' provisions at that place. The 8th Brigade gives McClosky 150 majority over Snead.

## PEACE AT RICHMOND!

### The Late Peace Interview in Richmond—Circular from the State Department.

The following circular from the State Department will explain itself:—

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, RICHMOND, VA., August 25, 1864.—Sir: Numerous publications which have recently appeared in the journals of the United States on the subject of informal conferences for peace between two Federal states now at war on this continent, render it desirable that you should be fully advised of the views and policy of this Government on a matter of such paramount importance. It is due to our people that you should be accurately informed of what has occurred on the several occasions mentioned in the published statements.

You have therefore been furnished with copies of the manuscript issued by the Congressional committee, with the approval of the President, on the 14th June last, and have, doubtless, acted in conformity with the resolution which requested that copies of the manifesto should be laid before foreign Governments. The principles, sentiments, and purposes by which these States have been, and are still actuated, are set forth in that paper with all the authority due to the solemn declaration of the legislative and executive departments of this Government, and with a clearness which leaves no room for comment or explanation. In a few sentences it is pointed out that all we ask is non-interference with our internal peace and prosperity, "and to be left in the undisturbed enjoyment of those inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, which our common ancestors declared to be the equal heritage of all parties to the social compact. Let them (Federal aggressors) spare us, and the earth at an end. If there be questions which require adjustment by negotiation, we have ever been willing, and are still willing, to enter into communication with our adversaries in a spirit of peace, of equity, and manly frankness." The manifesto closed with the declaration that "we commit our cause to the enlightened judgment of the world, to the sincerity of our professions and adversaries themselves, and to the solemn and righteous arbitrament of Heaven."

Within a very few weeks after the publication of this manifesto, it seemed to have met with a response from President Lincoln. In the early part of last month a letter was received by General Lee from Lieutenant General Grant, in the following words:—

"HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, City Point, Va., July 9, 1864.—General R. E. Lee, commanding Confederate forces, near Petersburg, Virginia—General:—I would request that Colonel Jaques, 2d Illinois volunteer infantry, and J. R. Gilmore, be allowed to come through your lines, Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners, at such place between the lines of the two armies as you may designate. The object of the mission is familiar with the duties of Colonel Ould as Commissioner.

"I propose to-morrow morning to send the gentlemen referred to, if I can have your assurance that they will be received by the President Davis for the purpose.

"Requesting an early and a favorable answer to this communication, and a safe conduct for the gentlemen named, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"U. S. GRANT,

"Lieutenant-General, U. S. A."

On the receipt of this letter by the President, he authorized Colonel Ould to accompany the gentlemen named to General Grant's lines, and Colonel Ould, after seeing them safely through the Confederate picket lines, returned to Richmond and reported to the President in the presence of the Secretary of War and myself, that Messrs. Jaques and Gilmore had not said anything to him about the quite as much desired mission for the release of prisoners, but that they asked permission to come to Richmond for the purpose of seeing the President, that they came with the knowledge and approval of Mr. Lincoln, and, as they said, that they were bearer of messages, sent with a view of paving the way for a meeting of formal commissioners authorized to negotiate peace, and desired to communicate to President Davis and Mr. Lincoln, and to obtain the President's views in return, so as to arrange for a meeting of Commissioners. Colonel Ould stated that he had told them repeatedly that it was useless to come to Richmond to talk of peace on any other terms than the recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, to which they said they were aware of this, and that they were nevertheless confident that their interview would result in bringing the President and the rest of Jeff. Davis' Cabinet to a more reasonable frame of mind. Colonel Ould determined to permit them to come to Richmond under his charge.

On the evening of the 17th of July, Colonel Ould drove the three gentlemen in a closed carriage to Richmond, where a room was provided for them, in which they were to remain under surveillance during their stay here, and the next morning I received the following letter:—

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, RICHMOND, VA., July 11, 1864.—Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State of Confederate States of America.—Dear Sir:—The undersigned, James F. Jaques, of Illinois, and James R. Gilmore, of Massachusetts, must respectfully solicit an interview with President Davis. They visit Richmond as private citizens, and have no official character or authority. Yet they are fully possessed of the views of the United States Government relative to an adjustment of the differences now existing between the North and the South, and have little doubt that a free interchange of views between President Davis and themselves would result in such a basis of negotiations as would ultimate in restoring to peace two millions of our distracted country.

"They therefore ask an interview with the President, and, if satisfactory to him, are ready to come to Richmond.

"Most truly and respectfully,

"Your obedient servants,

"JAMES F. JAQUES,

"JAMES R. GILMORE."

The word "official" is underscored, and the word "peace" doubly underscored, in the original.

After perusing the letter, I invited Colonel Ould to conduct the writers to my office; and on their arrival, stated to them that they must be conscious they could not be admitted to an interview with the President without obtaining my permission; that I was ready to hear what they had to say, but that they must be aware that the Confederate Congress have never delegated to the President the power to make peace; that they admitted that proposals ought to come from the North, and that they were prepared to make these proposals by Mr. Lincoln's authority; that it was necessary to have a sort of informal understanding as a matter of regular negotiations, for if commissions were appointed without some such understanding they would meet, quarrel, and separate, leaving the parties more wide apart than ever; that before that they know Mr. Lincoln's views, and would state them if I proceed to the President to ask, and desired to learn his in return.

I hesitated a moment, and then said that they came from Mr. Lincoln; and in order to satisfy me, Mr. Gilmore referred to the fact that permission for their coming through our lines had been asked officially by General Grant in a letter to General Lee, and that the request of that letter had asked that this request should be reported to President Davis. Mr. Gilmore then showed a card, with an autograph signed by Mr. Lincoln, requesting General Grant to aid Mr. Gilmore and a friend in passing through our lines into the Confederate. Colonel Jaques then said that his name was not put on the card for the reason that it was extremely desired that their visit should be kept secret; that he had come with the understanding that the President was in Petersburg on a similar errand, and that it was feared if his name should become known, that some of those who had formerly met him in Petersburg would consider the presence of a third party as embarrassing. He said he thought the quite as much anxious for the success of the mission, but that they asked permission to come to Richmond for the purpose of seeing the President, that they came with the knowledge and approval of President Lincoln, and, as I gathered from their conversation, that they were bearers of messages, sent with a view of paving the way for a meeting of formal commissioners authorized to negotiate peace, and desired to communicate to President Davis and Mr. Lincoln, and to obtain the President's views in return, so as to arrange for a meeting of Commissioners. Colonel Ould stated that he had told them repeatedly that it was useless to come to Richmond to talk of peace on any other terms than the recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, to which they said they were aware of this, and that they were nevertheless confident that their interview would result in bringing the President and the rest of Jeff. Davis' Cabinet to a more reasonable frame of mind. Colonel Ould determined to permit them to come to Richmond under his charge.

On the evening of the 18