



ALTOONA, PA. WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24, 1864.

The Great Uprising.

Since the opening of the rebellion, there has not been such an uprising of the masses as that which the country is now witnessing.

This action leads to reflection, and we may be permitted to moralize on the events of the day.

We would ask, what was gained by the draft last season? Were the decimated ranks of our armies filled by it?

So far, so good. But what did it accomplish? Almost nothing in way of securing either men or means.

This is no time to experiment. What ever is done, should be done quickly.

We do not fault the Government. The people were not prepared for such movements.

One attributes the present uprising to the large bounties now offered.

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of this country cannot be driven; and the offer of a bounty has shown that they may be persuaded.

That editor must be ungrateful who can, month after month, receive a copy of Godey's Lady's Book, and never notice it, or fail to send the publisher a copy of his paper containing a notice should he give one.

Toombs.

General Robert Toombs has come to grief. General Robert Toombs was formerly the Honorable Robert Toombs of Georgia.

The other day Toombs ventured to attempt the exercise of one of the privileges of a Southern freeman and make a trip by railroad from Savannah.

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Had the bounties now being offered to veterans and new recruits been offered in May last, but few of the nine month men then in the field would have returned home.

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War Broken Out in Europe.

The latest news from Europe, is of great moment. The war between the Danes and the German Confederation on the old Schleswig-Holstein question, which has been so long impending, has at last broken out into actual hostilities.

In relation to this war, Garmany appears to be very much divided, the minor States being arrayed against the extent of hostilities against the two great powers which have taken the Schleswig matter out of German hands.

Denmark has also quite a formidable navy, which has lately been materially strengthened.

LOCAL EDITOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Table with columns for various items and their counts, including Times asked to drink, Drank, Requested to retract, Didn't retract, Invited to parties, etc.

Story of the Union Officers.

Baltimore, Feb. 17. The escaped Union officers reached here this morning, and leave for Washington this afternoon.

At one time they got near the bed of the stream, that a still and dark night, a stove pipe broke through; but, fortunately, they were observed by the guard, and was a great service, admitting air, and enabling them to prosecute their work more rapidly.

Although they were attired in our army coats, and many of them had their haversacks, they found the national uniform a better disguise than they had been provided with genuine Rebel uniforms.

An Exciting Narrative.

ESCAPE OF OUR MEN FROM RICHMOND—THEIR PERILOUS PERILS AND FINAL RETURN TO FREEDOM.

[From the Washington Star.] A large number of our officers who escaped from Libby prison a few days ago arrived in this city last night, and are stopping at the National and Metropolitan Hotels, and from them we gather very interesting statements relative to their manner of escape.

Over two months ago the officers confined in Libby prison conceived the idea of effecting their own exchange, and after the matter had been seriously discussed by some seven or eight of them, they undertook to dig for a distance toward the sewer running into the basin.

The dirt was hid under the straw and other refuse, and was kept in a tin can, which was buried down so as not to present a great bulk. The working party had got to a considerable distance under ground it was found difficult to haul the dirt back by hand, and a spittoon which had been carried to the prison, was used for this purpose.

After fifteen days and nights' hard work they again struck the earth beyond the wall, and pushed their work forward. Here, too, after they had got some distance under ground, the friendly rat came to their aid, and the dirt was hauled out in small quantities.

At one point they met a negro in the field, and she told them that her mistress was a Scotch woman, and that she had a son in the Rebel army.

When about fifteen miles from Williamsburg, the party came upon the main road and found the road very dark, and a body of cavalry A piece of paper found by Captain Jones, and which they were Union cavalry, but his companions were suspicious, and avoided the road and moved forward, and at the "Burnt Ordinary" (about two miles from Williamsburg, awaited the return of the detachment of men sent out for the purpose of picking up escaped prisoners.

The party rode into Williamsburg with the cavalry, where they were quartered for the night. There they were found by others who had escaped safely. Colonel Spear and his companions furnished the officers with clothing and other necessities.

At all points along the route the fugitives describe the reception by the negroes as most enthusiastic. There was no lack of white people who sympathized with them and helped them on their way.

From these officers we learn that there is a widespread Union feeling in Richmond. Jeff. Davis is held in detestation by the negroes, but all who do not openly endorse the Rebel Government are spotted and watched. There are at this time eighteen persons confined in Castle Thunder on charge of attempts to assassinate the Rebel President.

At about 9 o'clock on the evening of the 9th the party started out. Colonel Rose, of New York, was leading the van. Before starting, the party had divided themselves into squads of two, three and four, and each squad was to take a different route, and after they were out to push for their respective quarters. Provisionally, however, they agreed to meet at a certain point, and in a few moments the exodus was again commenced.

Between one and two o'clock the lamps were extinguished in the streets, and then the exit was more safely accomplished. There were many officers who desired to leave who were so weak and ill by main force, and carried to the safety, until such time as they were able to make their journey.

Lieutenant Bradford was intrusted with the provisions for this squad, and in getting through he was obliged to leave his haversack behind him, as he could not get through with it upon him.

A description of the route pursued by this party, and of the tribulations through which they passed, will give some idea of the rough time they had in the shade of the buildings and passed eastward through the city.

While passing through the swamp near the Chickahominy, Colonel Kendrick sprained his ankle and fell. Fortunately, so was that fall for him and his party, for while he was lying there one of them chanced to look up, and saw in a direct line with them a swamp bridge, and in the dim outlines they could perceive that parties with muskets were passing over the bridge.

They subsequently learned, from a friendly negro, that had they crossed the bridge they had seen, they would assuredly have been recaptured, but had been out of feet for some time, and in fact had alarmed the whole country, and got the people up as a vigilance committee to capture the escaped prisoners.

After crossing over this natural bridge they laid down on the ground and slept until the morning of the 11th, when they commenced on their way, keeping cautiously as near as they could. Up to this time they had nothing to eat, and were almost famished. About noon of the 11th they met a friendly negro, who gave them information as to the whereabouts of the rebel pickets, and furnished them with food.

Acting under the advice of these friendly negroes, they remained quietly in the woods until darkness had set in, when they were furnished with a comfortable supper by the negroes, and after dark proceeded on their way, the negroes who everywhere showed their friendship to the fugitives having first directed them how to avoid the rebel pickets.

At one point they met a negro in the field, and she told them that her mistress was a Scotch woman, and that she had a son in the Rebel army. The party, however, were exceedingly hungry, and they determined to secure some food. This they did by boldly approaching the house and informing the mistress that they were fugitives from Norfolk, and that they were in need of food.

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ockets of the officers of the prisons. In other respects the treatment was quite harsh.

When a prisoner entered the prison, an article found upon him that was fancied by the Rebel officers or guards were taken possession of; they pretended the money and articles were deposited with the quartermaster.

The sleeping accommodations were very poor, and the only place they had to exercise their limbs was the dining-room. For a while the officers were furnished with meat at all, and at some time they received fresh which was pronounced by those among the officers who knew something of butchering as being male meat, as they knew of no cattle used for food which had bones like those found in the meat.

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Altoona Tribune POW. Printing O. Advertising with the past two years added to our establishment in 1863.

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