

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

LEE RETREATING!

The Rebel Cabinet Fleeing from Richmond.

WASHINGTON, May 25, 1864.

The Republican says, official dispatches are received from the army of the Potomac, that Lee is fleeing back from the North Anna, and has commenced to retreat. He is beyond the South Anna river, and was pursued by Grant with great vigor. Grant was in his saddle day and night directing the pursuit. Other reports state that Davis and his Cabinet left Richmond some days ago.

DRAFT ORDERED.

HEADQUARTERS, PROVOST MARCHAL, 16th DIST., CHAMBERSBURG, May 23, 1864. To the Editor of the Bedford Inquirer: Sir—You are authorized to say to your readers, this week, that a draft for the deficiency of each Sub-District, of its quota of Seven Hundred Thousand Men, will commence at the Masonic Hall, in Chambersburg, next Monday, the 30th inst., and be continued, from day to day until completed.

GEO. RYSTER, Capt. & Provost Marshal, 16th Dist. Pa.

We are under obligations to Hon. A. H. COPP for valuable Public Documents.

We understand the conferees from Somerset and Fulton, to choose a delegate to the Baltimore Convention are invited to meet the conferees of Bedford County in this place next Tuesday for the purpose of making such choice.

THE SITUATION.

There have been no general engagements between the armies of Grant and Lee since our last. On Friday last Gen. Grant began a flank movement on Lee's left flank. Lee's army has withdrawn from before Spotsylvania to the line of the Anna river, twelve miles southward. The enemy is still in great strength before our conquering armies. He has been reinforced by detachments from Beauregard and Brookridge. Lee's army needs to be well supplied with rations, and will doubt give desperate battle to our legions. Grant's army has been heavily reinforced, and is now the Secretary of War says, stronger and in better condition than it was at the opening of the campaign. However obstinate and fool hardy the enemy may show himself in the "last ditch," the great Union army is not to be broken, or its integrity seriously threatened. It has a troublesome affair on hand, and may not readily accomplish it, but in the end it must prevail. The enemy has concentrated his whole strength around Richmond, and if he is beaten here, he is beaten everywhere. Gen. Butler has fallen back from before Fort Darling to his intrenchments. He has not been quite successful in interrupting reinforcements to Lee. His army is in a good condition, and ready, when wanted, to co-operate with Gen. Grant. Sherman continues to drive Johnson, and Johnson is running away from Sherman as fast as he can. Banks' army is now safe. The skies are brightening.

A FORGERY, a pretty full account of which is given on our first page, was published on the New York World and Journal of Commerce on Wednesday the 18th inst. A document, purporting to be a proclamation signed by the President calling for four hundred thousand more men, written on paper similar to that used for dispatches to the associated press, was sent to all the New York morning papers except the Tribune, at about half past three in the morning. The two papers were suspended three days, but have now resumed publication. The author of the bogus proclamation has since been discovered to be Joseph Howard, a Reporter for the Brooklyn Eagle, and he has been arrested and sent to Fort Lafayette. He admitted his guilt, and alleges that he was led to it by losses in stock-gambling, the fact that in was published on steamer day clearly indicates that he had a rebel accomplice who hoped to send the proclamation to Europe uncontradicted, and secure the recognition of the Confederacy.

"A great many sensation rumors are constantly flying, and we caution our readers to believe nothing until it is well authenticated."—Bedford Gazette.

The "sensation rumors" alluded to above, were the telegraphic reports, (mainly official from the Secretary of War), of the cheering success of the armies of our country in the late onslaught against the Rebels. The Gazette and its party are a good deal troubled at the hopeful state of things. The news all indicated the triumph of the Union, and the downfall of the slavholders' rebellion, hence their alarm. Their cause is tottering and ready to fall. If the rebellion falls, they fall. The Democratic party in Bedford county, is but a craven and sly echo of the most repulsive doctrines of the slaveocracy. They know right well that their soulless and heartless life, as a party, hangs on this hell-born rebellion. Their hopes rise and fall with the turn of battle's fortune. When patriots and good men all over the land are rejoicing over the encouraging prospects of our country, they hang their heads with baffled rage and mortification. They prolong and intensify their miserable dying, with trying to believe "nothing until it is well authenticated." Are they not in a pitiable condition?

WHO FIRST URGED A DRAFT.

The history of the administration of President Lincoln, by H. J. Raymond, just published in New York, contains a letter, which we commend to the admirers of Gen. McClellan, who have so violently resisted the draft to fill the armies. It was written to the President of the United States about a month after the battle of Bull Run, and at a time when citizens were rushing to arms all over the country, and when volunteers were pouring into Washington from every State. Here is the letter:

WASHINGTON, August 20, 1861.

"Sir: I have just received the enclosed dispatch in reply. Col. Mary knows what is said, and it is the coolest judgment. I recommend that the Secretary of War ascertain at once by telegram how the enrollment proceeds in New York and elsewhere, and that, if it is not proceeding with great rapidity, drafts be made at once. We must have men without delay. Respectfully your obedient servant, GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Maj. Gen. U. S. A." The following is the dispatch of Colonel Mary alluded to: BEDFORD PA. COLONEL M. B. MARY TO GENERAL McCLELLAN. "NEW YORK, August 20, 1861. I urge upon you to make a positive and unconditional demand for an immediate draft of the additional troops required. Men will not volunteer now, and drafting is the only successful plan. The people will applaud such a course, rely upon it. I will be in Washington to-morrow. G. B. MARY."

THE OTHER SIDE.

In order, that our readers may have an idea how the enemy regard the late battles, we give an extract from the Bedford Gazette, of last week.

"Already he (Grant) has lost as many men as composed McClellan's entire army when that general marched up the Peninsula. The loss of the Federal army, according to telegraphic reports, cannot fall short of 100,000 men killed, wounded and missing. There have been about three weeks fighting, including the small battles fought by Gen. Butler, which would average the loss at about 5,000 per day. It seems to be the hope of Grant to crush his adversary rather by brute force than by strategy. As yet the fighting has been indistinct, the Federal troops having gained but one advantage, that of Thursday the 12th, in which they took between three thousand and four thousand prisoners and thirty cannon. On the other hand, Lee's army made large captures of prisoners in the first six days fighting and also took a number of guns. Six Federal Generals are known to have been killed, viz: Sedgwick, Wadsworth, Hays, Rice, Robinson and Owen. Several other Generals are prisoners. With all the losses, however, Gen. Grant is still able to act on the offensive; and it seems now to be a mere question of endurance between the contending parties. A great many sensation rumors are constantly flying, and we caution our readers to believe nothing until it is well authenticated."

"The above we consider pretty fair 'scoosh.' To be sure it is not so pungent as the Richmond Examiner, nor so weighty as the Richmond Inquirer, but the intent and meaning is the same. The Union loss is stated at more than three times the actual number. The Richmond papers state our loss at only twenty thousand previous to the battle of Thursday. The telegraphic dispatches, in the 'sensation rumors,' are 'authentic' enough for the purpose of 'fixing up a grave misstatement, to be little and hurt the Union cause; but everything favorable, every thing inspiring to the patriot, is to be received with 'caution until it is well authenticated.'"

PATRIOTISM OF THE LUTH. CHURCH.

The General Synod of the Lutheran Church of the United States held its biennial session in York, Pa., during the last ten days. A committee on the state of the country, consisting of one member from each Synod represented, was appointed, of which Rev. W. A. Passavant, of Pittsburg, was Chairman. The following patriotic resolutions were reported, on a call of the yeas and nays. It will be seen that they take strong ground in support of the Government, and most emphatically condemn the system of American slavery as a sin against God, and as the cause of the rebellion. They also rebuke the attempt of Bishop Hopkins, in his celebrated letter, to prove that slavery is a divine institution. By the adoption of these resolutions the Lutheran Church of the United States places itself fairly on the side of justice and right. We speak for them the careful perusal of our readers:—Harrisburg Telegraph.

Resolved, That having assembled a second time during the prevalence of civil war in our land, this Synod cannot separate without solemnly reaffirming the declarations adopted at our last Convention in reference to the original cause of the rebellion, the necessity of its forcible suppression, the righteousness of the war which is waged by the Government of the United States for the maintenance of the national life, and the consequent duty of every Christian to support it by the whole weight of his influence, his prayers and his life.

Resolved, That we acknowledge with profound gratitude to Almighty God, the various important successes which have thus far crowned our arms; the merciful interposition of Providence in delimiting us from the invasion of the enemy, and in protecting our homes, our churches and our institutions from the resolutions of war, and the cheering progress which has been made by the Government and the Nation in the recognition of the laws of God and the rights of man in the measures which have been adopted for the suppression of the rebellion.

Resolved, That recognizing the sufferings and calamities of war as the righteous judgment of a just God, in retribution to the original cause of the rebellion, we call upon our pastors and churches to unite with us in the confession of our many and grievous individual and national sins, and in fervent supplications for the Divine forgiveness, that as a people we may break off sins by righteousness, and do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

Resolved, That as persistent efforts are making among us by professedly christian writers to prove, from the Holy Scriptures, the Divine institution of American slavery—the principal cause of this civil rebellion—we, the Delegates of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, hereby express our unqualified condemnation of such a course, which claims the sanction of the merciful God and Father of us all for a system of human oppression which exists only by violence under the cover of iniquitous laws.

[NOTE.—The vote on the adoption of the last resolutions by yeas and nays, was as follows: Yeas—Clerical..... 72 Lay..... 59 Total..... 131 Absent on leave and not voting: Clerical..... 14 Lay..... 24 Total..... 38]

PHILADELPHIA AND ERIE RAILROAD.

Mr. Editor.—Having recently made a trip over part of this thoroughfare, for the purpose of visiting a son, who is a telegraphic operator, at Driftwood Station, Cameron county, I thought, for the purpose of occupying a leisurely hour, I thought a few observations would be interesting to some of your readers. This line traverses the Northern and Northwest counties of Pennsylvania from Sunbury to the city of Erie, on Lake Erie. It has been leased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and under their auspices is being rapidly opened throughout its entire length. It is divided into three divisions of equal length and each division is under the direction of a Division Superintendent, and the whole line is under the general management of Joseph D. Potts, Esq., whose efficiency and energy and gentlemanly deportment must entitle him to the esteem and confidence of all.

The Eastern Division commences at Sunbury and terminates at Renovo, and is under the direction of Mr. S. A. Black. Mr. Black is a thorough railroad-man and has been at this business for his youth. This gentleman is about going on his annual tour for the purpose of occupying a prominent position and in the event of doing so, will be succeeded by Mr. Frank Thompson. The length of this division is ninety miles. It passes through a rich and cultivated section of country. The towns, near and directly on this section, are Leaning, Sunbury, and Lewisburg, Milton, Maner, Williamsport, and Lock Haven, all beautiful and enterprising towns. The General Manager's office is located at Williamsport. In passing from Lock Haven, westward, the road takes a serpentine course along side the West Branch, and takes the traveller through a romantic section of country. Here and there are cultivated spots which promise to reward the toil of the husbandman. Renovo, Clinton county, is anticipated to be a second Altoona. The ground is regularly laid out for the contemplated town, and when built up, it will present a beautiful location. Here, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is building a round-house, machine-shops, foundry, etc., which are expected to be completed by August next.

The Middle Division commences at Renovo and terminates at Lamont, and is under the direction of Major J. J. Lawrence, formerly Superintendent of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad. The distance from Renovo to Lamont, is ninety-five miles. This Division runs along side the West Branch to Keating Station, and from thence along side the Sinnemahoning to Driftwood Station, and from thence along side of the Driftwood to Emporium. It is now open for passengers and freight business to St. Albans, Elk county. Minds accustomed to reflect on romantic scenery can here enjoy a rich and grateful treat. There are already many improvements in progress and many others will be developed in the future. The wilderness will soon blossom like the rose and progress will follow in the train. The la-

bor expended here will be simply rewarded. There will be towns and villages springing up in the wilderness, in the course of a few years, which will show that the location and completion of this railway will develop a healthy and prosperous domain. The people residing along the line have been shut out from the world, as it regards transportation facilities. They already see the greatness of the change and realize the happy effects which this thoroughfare has produced. They have now access to market; and instead of taking two or more days to go and return from Lock Haven for produce and other things, can now go over the same distance in a few hours.

The Western Division commences at Lamont and terminates at the city of Erie, on Lake Erie, and is under the direction of W. A. Baldwin, Esq. Its length is ninety-five miles, and is open from Sheffield to Erie. Having never been over this Division we cannot speak so definitely as of the Eastern and Middle Divisions. We have learned that it is doing a prosperous business and will contribute very much to develop trade and stimulate enterprise. The unfinished link between St. Mary and Sheffield is being rapidly pushed forward, so that the completion of the entire line is expected to be accomplished through the passage of freight business by August next. The road so far, has already done a greater amount of business than was anticipated and will also be largely increased. The iron-horse will revolutionize this whole section of country. The mineral and lumber resources will be largely developed. It will make an out-let to market, which has hitherto been closed to the people in the wilderness. Already are branches being constructed to accommodate the transportation of freight along the way-side. The coal and lumber trade call for these accommodations.

In concluding these observations of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, leased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, we would say, that this great thoroughfare, so deficient in the management of such railroad officials, as J. Edgar Thompson, Esq., President; Thomas A. Scott, Esq., 1st Vice-President; and Joseph D. Potts, Esq., General Manager and their coadjutors, will be brought to a successful completion at an early day, which event will be heartily and gratefully welcomed. May 11, 1864. N. E. G.

THE WAR FOR THE UNION. GRANT'S ARMY ADVANCING. LEE FALLS BACK WITHOUT OFFERING BATTLE. GRANT LARGELY REINFORCED. From the Southwest. General Sherman Moving Forward. GENERAL BUTLER'S OPERATIONS.

SECRETARY STANTON TO GEN. DIX. Success of the Union Troops under Butler.—The enemy repulsed at every point. WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, May 17—9 P. M. To Major Gen. Dix: Despatches from Gen. Butler, just received, report the success of his expedition under Gen. Kautz to cut the Danville road and destroy the iron bridge across the Appomattox.

On Monday morning the enemy, in force, under cover of thick fog, made an attack upon Smith's line, and forced it back in some confusion and with considerable loss. But as soon as the fog lifted Gen. Smith re-established his lines, and the enemy was driven back to his original lines. At the same time the enemy made an attack from Petersburg on Gen. Butler's forces guarding the rear, but were handsomely repulsed. The troops having been on incessant duty for five days, three of which were in a rain storm, Gen. Butler retired leisurely within his own lines. We hold the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond.

Persons state that Bragg and Davis were present on the field. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War. SEC. STANTON TO GEN. CADWALADER. Gen. Grant to be reinforced.—The National Forces to be kept up until the rebellion is overthrown. WASHINGTON, May 18. To Major General Cadwalader, Philadelphia: We have no reports of operations since my last despatch, but the latest information from Gen. Grant that the roads have been greatly improved. Large reinforcements had reached him and he designed to move against the enemy without delay.

It is the design of the Government to keep up the national force until the Rebellion is overthrown, and in order to provide against any opportune reduction when the service of the hundred days' men is out, a draft to fill up their places and all other reductions, will be ordered to take place on the 1st of July, by which time the new enrolments will be completed. No order is yet issued. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

SEC. STANTON TO GEN. CADWALADER. General Crook heard from.—He Defeats the Rebels.—A Rebel General and 300 Prisoners Captured. WASHINGTON, May 18—10:40 P. M. Major General Cadwalader, Philadelphia: We have no despatches to-day from Generals Grant, Butler or Sherman. The report from Kanawha confirms the destruction of the bridge over the New River. Several miles of railroad were destroyed by General Crook's command, and he reports that he fought three battles with Generals Sam Jones and A. Jenkins, and has defeated them, the rebel loss being over six hundred killed and three hundred prisoners. General Jenkins fell into our hands mortally wounded. All of our wounded that can be removed from Fredericksburg have reached Washington.

The rebel prisoners have been removed from Belle Plain. Visitors from the Army of the Potomac represent the troops to be in excellent condition, and reinforcements rapidly arriving. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War. SEC. STANTON TO GEN. CADWALADER. Advance of Sherman to Kingston. Occupation of Rome by our forces. WASHINGTON, May 19—5 P. M. To Major General Cadwalader, Philadelphia: No official reports of military operations to-day have been received by this Department from Gen. Grant or Gen. Butler. Reports from Gen. Sherman's command, dated at Kingston, Georgia, at 2 P. M. to-day, announce that Sherman reached Kingston and encamped last night. This morning he advanced upon the enemy, who again retreated. The despatches state, while being written, Hooker's and Howard's guns were hammering at Johnston, and the United States Artillery, of each other, two miles east of Kingston.

Davis' division, of the 14th corps, is in possession of Rome. The weather is fine, the roads good, and the country more open and less mountainous. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War. (Rome is an important city, capital of Floyd county, Georgia, at the confluence of the Etowah and Oostanaula, which streams form the Coosa River. It is 170 miles from Millidgeville, and is situated on several hills. A railroad runs from Rome to Kingston, where it joins the Western and Atlantic road.)

From twenty-five to thirty thousand bales of cotton used to be shipped from this point. Since the Rebellion, the Rebels have built extensive foundries and manufactories of arms at Rome, and it became, from its natural advantages and

apparent security from the Union armies, a place of great importance to the Rebels.] Gen. Sherman's Progress.—Capture of Iron Foundries at Rome.—Fighting in Butler's Army. WASHINGTON, May 21, 1864. To Major Gen. Dix: Despatches from Gen. Sherman state that our forces found in Rome a great deal of provisions and seven fine iron works and machine shops. We have secured two good bridges, and an excellent campaign brought away. The cars are now arriving at Kingston with stores, and two days would be given to replenish and fit up.

A dispatch just received from Gen. Banks, dated at Alexandria, the 8th of May, states that the dam will be completed to-morrow. (May 9.) and the gunboats relieved. He would then move immediately for the Mississippi. Gen. Canby was at the mouth of the Red River on the 14th of May, collecting forces to assist Banks, if necessary. Despatches from Gen. Butler, dated at 10 o'clock last night, report that he had been fighting all day, the enemy endeavoring to close in upon our position. He had captured the rebel Gen. Walker, of the Texas troops.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Sec. of War. No Fighting Since Thursday. Important Movements Going on. WASHINGTON, May 21. No fighting since the rebel attack on our communications with Fredericksburg on Thursday. There is reason to believe, however, that the movements of yesterday and to-day will be speedily followed by important results. Grant's Flank Movement so far Successful.—Advances of Gen. Canby and Sherman. WASHINGTON, May 22—10 P. M. To Major Gen. Dix: On Friday morning, Gen. Grant commenced a movement for the purpose of compelling Lee to abandon his position at Spotsylvania (the details of which for obvious reasons, should not be made public.) It has thus far progressed successfully. Longstreet's corps started at one o'clock on Friday night, an hour and a half after Hancock moved. Ewell's corps followed Longstreet last night. The indications are that the rebel army has fallen back beyond the North Anna.

Hoke's brigade has joined Gen. Grant has thus far been accomplished without any severe engagement or serious interruption. We now occupy Gurney's Station, Mulford Station, and south of the Mattaponi on that line. Despatches received from Gen. Canby, dated May 14, at the mouth of the Red River, say: "We have returned, to-day, from rebel sources that the gunboats, except two, succeeded in getting over the falls at Alexandria on the day mentioned to Gen. Bank's dispatch. No despatches have been received to-day from Gen. Butler. Despatches from Kingston, Georgia, state that Gen. Sherman's forces are resting and replenishing their supplies. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, May 18. Yesterday was spent in making preparations for an attack this morning, and we expect a battle to-day, provided Gen. Lee has not disappeared. The details of the operations, as published reports to the contrary notwithstanding. His army was in strong intrenchments yesterday, in front of the Fifth Corps, on the stage road, fifteen guns being counted in one place, with strong lines of earthworks wherever the openness of the country permitted a view. Last night a body of stragglers arrived here from Washington to the number of 600, including 17 officers, some of them having surgeon's certificates of disability, and others slightly wounded. Gen. Meade has ordered the latter to be tried by court-martial. Many resignations have been sent in within the past two days, and will have to be accepted, for the good of the service, as it is believed that no officer capable and disposed to do his duty would resign at this time.

It was reported yesterday afternoon that the enemy were moving columns of troops and wagon trains toward Bowling Green, under the impression that our army were endeavoring to turn their right flank. This morning at 4, 10 firing opened briskly on our right, and it is believed that Generals Grant and Meade intend to push the rebels sharply. A large force of cavalry from the dismounted camp have arrived here with fresh horses, and will be of great service to the army in the absence of Sheridan's command.

A NEVER FIGHT ON WEDNESDAY. [Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.] WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 19, 12. 10 P. M. J. Your correspondent "Beta" sends the following, dated headquarters Army of the Potomac, May 18 14 P. M. Since forwarding my first despatch this morning I have been driving which commenced at daybreak has grown into a very considerable battle. The enemy discovering our change of position last night, and taking advantage of the same, were found to have massed all their strength on our right, designing, no doubt, one more desperate assault to break our lines and get through to our supply depots. This movement of the foe of course occasioned a re-occupation of our position yesterday morning, and it was here upon our extreme right, and with the Second and Sixth corps, that the struggle has been kept up with more or less severity up to noon to-day. Our troops were advanced within close range of their works, when a murderous artillery fire was opened upon us, occasioning us considerable loss; but our own guns were soon got into position, and under cover of their fire, we charged and took their first line of rifle-pits, capturing a considerable number of prisoners and several of their guns.

As the fighting continued, the writing there is a cessation of firing along the lines, and the indications are that there will be no more fighting to-day evening or to-morrow. It is estimated that the rebel loss is considerably greater than ours, notwithstanding the momentary advantage of their artillery range upon us. The rebel artillery, just arrived participated in this fight, and is highly complimented. It is stated that the decisive battle is not unlikely to be fought right here, and that within a few days at the furthest. Of the casualties, the report comes in that Lieut. Bartlett, 10th Massachusetts, is killed; Lieut. Bigelow and Lieut. Col. Cook, are wounded. Whitney of the same regiment, wounded Adjutant Dean, 7th Massachusetts, wounded. These men were of Gen. Estee's 4th Brigade of the 2d division, Sixth Corps, and were in the charge. A party of guerrillas got in behind a barn about four miles out from Fredericksburg, on the road to the House. The party, as officers of our army of our men while at the well. One of our men was killed, and three wounded, when our boys rallied, charged upon the murderers, killing two, wounded three, and then burnt the building.—Guerrilla warfare is fast becoming an unprofitable mode of warfare heretofore.

WASHINGTON, May 23—1:35 P. M.—To Maj. Gen. Dix, New York.—Despatches from Major-General Sherman, dated at the mouth of Red River, at midnight, May 16th, state that the rebel forces have just arrived, and that the remainder of the gun-boats will arrive to-night. General Banks will probably reach Semmesport, on the Atchafalaya, to-morrow. A despatch from Admiral Porter, dated on board his flagship, at the mouth of the Red River, May 16th, states that the portion of the squadron above the falls at Alexandria have been released from their unpleasant position, owing to the indefatigable exertions of Lieutenant-Colonel BAILEY, Acting Engineer of the United States Army Corps, who proposed and built a dam of six hundred feet across the river at the Lowry Falls, which enabled all the vessels to pass in safety the back water of the Mississippi, reaching Alexandria, and allowed them to pass over all the points of obstructions planted by the enemy to a point of safety.

Lieutenant-Colonel BAILEY will be immediately nominated for promotion for distinguished and meritorious service. An unofficial report from Cairo, dated May 22d, states that the rebel boats were all safe at the mouth of the Red River and at Semmesport. Major-General SHERMAN, by a despatch at 8:30 P. M. last night, reports that he will be ready by morning to resume his operations. Returned veterans and regulars, however, have more than replaced all 183 days. The Pacific Railroad bill, as amended, is now before the House, and will be taken up as unfinished business, but no vote was taken.

Official reports of this Department show that within eight days after the great battle at Spotsylvania Court House, many thousand veteran troops have been forwarded to General GRANT. The whole army has been supplied with full rations of subsistence. Upwards of twenty thousand sick and wounded have been transported from the field to the Washington Hospitals, and placed under surgical care. Over eight thousand prisoners have been transported from the field to prison depots, and a large amount of artillery and other impediments of an active campaign brought away. Several trains and fresh cavalry horses have been forwarded to the army, and the grand Army of the Potomac is now fully as strong in numbers, and better equipped, supplied and furnished, than when the campaign opened. Several thousand reinforcements have also been forwarded to other armies in the field, and ample supplies to all.

During the same time over thirty thousand volunteers for one hundred days have been mustered into the service, clothed, armed, equipped and transported to their respective positions. This statement is due to the Chiefs of the Army, Staff and Bureau, and their respective Corps, to whom the credit belongs. E. M. STANTON, Sec. of War.

Port Hudson advancing to the 7th inst., state that the rebels have been making considerable demonstrations in that vicinity, but Gen. Ullman commanding the fort, is prepared for any attack. There is also a report that the rebels have established a blockade at the bend in the river, about 25 miles above Port DeLussay, and in attempting to pass the point, he had in four days lost three transports and two of the lighted gunboats. The rebel blockading force is said to number 10,000.

Advices from Red River, via Cairo, state that the rebels have constructed at least three batteries on Red river, between its mouth and Alexandria, it is supposed to prevent the passage of stores gunboats or transports. Admiral Porter was at Alexandria with his iron-clads. The river was being dammed, so as to raise the water to allow the gunboats to pass.—There is no communication to-day from the rebels at Grand Ecore. General McClernand was soon to reinforce General Banks. The Secretary of War has issued an official order declaring exchanged all Federal prisoners of war and all civilians on parole prior to May 7th. The rebels are said to be indebted to us \$2,500,000.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, May 18. All quiet with our army to-day. The object of the demonstration on Fort Darling was merely to draw off and entertain as many of Lee's troops as possible, also to attract the attention of all the rebel forces in and about Richmond, so as to enable Gen. Kautz to destroy the communications south of Richmond. On Monday morning the enemy came out of their earthworks in front of Fort Darling, and were heavily reinforced during the night, by Longstreet's corps, and made three separate and desperate charges upon our entrenchments, all of which were promptly and energetically repulsed by our men. The enemy lost in the three charges from 1000 to 1500 men while our loss was very slight. Gen. Butler having learned that Beauregard was heavily reinforced by Longstreet's corps, and also by the rebel papers, and by a courier ascertaining that General Kautz, cavalry had destroyed the bridge over the Appomattox River, and several miles from the Fallsville Railroad track, with the dams, locks and embankments of the canal leading into Richmond, decided to fall back from before Fort Darling, and gave orders accordingly, and by Monday evening our army had safely arrived behind our new lines of intrenchments having retired in perfect order, excepting General Heckman's brigade, which was badly disorganized and the General captured.

This brigade formed the extreme right wing, and the enemy attacked this point with great desperation, following them back nearly two miles with overwhelming numbers, and wounding many of them. Three of our siege guns fell into the enemy's hands, the horses being killed. The guns were spiked. At present it is impossible to estimate our loss.—Stragglers are coming in constantly. We have lost more prisoners than the enemy, but the loss in killed and wounded is double ours, as our men were protected by intrenchments.

GOOD NEWS FROM GEN. AVERILL! Rebels Defeated Near Wytheville! CINCINNATI, May 19. Despatches have been received here dated Gauley Bridge, West Virginia, May 18, giving an account of a brilliant victory of Gen. Averill, (on the right of our main body of Crook's army), over the Rebels. On the 10th instant General Averill reached a point within four miles of Wytheville, where he encountered the enemy—four thousand strong—under Gen. Sam Jones. He fought them four hours, driving them and wounded many and capturing some prisoners. Under cover of darkness the enemy retreated. Our loss was one killed and wounded—none missing.—Near Blacksburg Gen. Averill's command commenced destroying the railroad, which was most effectually done to a point four miles east of Christiansburg.—At the latter place a small force of the enemy hastily retreated, leaving two three-inch guns, which we captured.

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During the same time over thirty thousand volunteers for one hundred days have been mustered into the service, clothed, armed, equipped and transported to their respective positions. This statement is due to the Chiefs of the Army, Staff and Bureau, and their respective Corps, to whom the credit belongs. E. M. STANTON, Sec. of War.

Port Hudson advancing to the 7th inst., state that the rebels have been making considerable demonstrations in that vicinity, but Gen. Ullman commanding the fort, is prepared for any attack. There is also a report that the rebels have established a blockade at the bend in the river, about 25 miles above Port DeLussay, and in attempting to pass the point, he had in four days lost three transports and two of the lighted gunboats. The rebel blockading force is said to number 10,000.

Advices from Red River, via Cairo, state that the rebels have constructed at least three batteries on Red river, between its mouth and Alexandria, it is supposed to prevent the passage of stores gunboats or transports. Admiral Porter was at Alexandria with his iron-clads. The river was being dammed, so as to raise the water to allow the gunboats to pass.—There is no communication to-day from the rebels at Grand Ecore. General McClernand was soon to reinforce General Banks. The Secretary of War has issued an official order declaring exchanged all Federal prisoners of war and all civilians on parole prior to May 7th. The rebels are said to be indebted to us \$2,500,000.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, May 18. All quiet with our army to-day. The object of the demonstration on Fort Darling was merely to draw off and entertain as many of Lee's troops as possible, also to attract the attention of all the rebel forces in and about Richmond, so as to enable Gen. Kautz to destroy the communications south of Richmond. On Monday morning the enemy came out of their earthworks in front of Fort Darling, and were heavily reinforced during the night, by Longstreet's corps, and made three separate and desperate charges upon our entrenchments, all of which were promptly and energetically repulsed by our men. The enemy lost in the three charges from 1000 to 1500 men while our loss was very slight. Gen. Butler having learned that Beauregard was heavily reinforced by Longstreet's corps, and also by the rebel papers, and by a courier ascertaining that General Kautz, cavalry had destroyed the bridge over the Appomattox River, and several miles from the Fallsville Railroad track, with the dams, locks and embankments of the canal leading into Richmond, decided to fall back from before Fort Darling, and gave orders accordingly, and by Monday evening our army had safely arrived behind our new lines of intrenchments having retired in perfect order, excepting General Heckman's brigade, which was badly disorganized and the General captured.

This brigade formed the extreme right wing, and the enemy attacked this point with great desperation, following them back nearly two miles with overwhelming numbers, and wounding many of them. Three of our siege guns fell into the enemy's hands, the horses being killed. The guns were spiked. At present it is impossible to estimate our loss.—Stragglers are coming in constantly. We have lost more prisoners than the enemy, but the loss in killed and wounded is double ours, as our men were protected by intrenchments.

GOOD NEWS FROM GEN. AVERILL! Rebels Defeated Near Wytheville! CINCINNATI, May 19. Despatches have been received here dated Gauley Bridge, West Virginia, May 18, giving an account of a brilliant victory of Gen. Averill, (on the right of our main body of Crook's army), over the Rebels. On the 10th instant General Averill reached a point within four miles of Wytheville, where he encountered the enemy—four thousand strong—under Gen. Sam Jones. He fought them four hours, driving them and wounded many and capturing some prisoners. Under cover of darkness the enemy retreated. Our loss was one killed and wounded—none missing.—Near Blacksburg Gen. Averill's command commenced destroying the railroad, which was most effectually done to a point four miles east of Christiansburg.—At the latter place a small force of the enemy hastily retreated, leaving two three-inch guns, which we captured.

CONGRESS. TUESDAY, May 17. SENATE.—Mr. Henderson submitted resolutions asking the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate a statement of the full amount of the public debt of the United States, and also full reports of bank associations, corporations and individuals engaged in business. A memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of New York, complaining of the hardship of a decision of the Treasury Department requiring fifty per cent. additional duties to be paid on the day after the passage of the tariff resolution, was presented. The report of the Central Pacific Railroad Company of California was transmitted by Secretary Chase. The bill to equalize the pay of soldiers in the U. S. army was then taken up. After the adoption of several amendments the bill was passed and sent back to the House. The bill to expedite the public printing was considered without final action. Ad-
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HOUSE.—The House agreed to the report of the Committee of Conference upon the amendments to the Naval Appropriation bill, a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Navy for a proceeding in the case of Commodore Charles Wilkes was adopted.—The resolutions of the Committee of Elections, that Joseph Segar and Lucien H. Chandler are not entitled to seats from the First and Second Districts of Virginia, after some discussion were adopted. Ad-
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WEDNESDAY, May 18. SENATE.—A bill defining the pay of officers on the staff of the Lieut. General was passed. A joint resolution to encourage and reward enlistees who were offered by Mr. Wilson and referred to the military committee. A bill granting lands to Michigan for railroad purposes was passed. Also a similar bill relative to Iowa. Also a bill to expedite the public printing.

HOUSE.—The House instructed the Committee on Military affairs to inquire into the expediency of providing for the promotion of "non-commissioned officers and privates, distinguished for good conduct and bravery in the field, to the rank of private." A bill for the more speedy punishment of guerrillas was objected to. A bill providing for the issue of patents to the bona fide holders of float issued in pursuance of an act of 1862, relative to Spanish grants in Louisiana, was passed.—The joint resolution to insure more perfect reciprocity of trade, between the United States and the British American provinces was considered until the expiration of the morning hour. The Indian Appropriation bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole, but was not finally acted upon.

THURSDAY, May 19. SENATE.—Mr. Harding introduced a bill to amend the act of Congress, approved September, 1850, in relation to donations to the public lands in California. It was passed. Mr. Sherman reported from the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Army Appropriation bill. He moved that the motion for a full conference asked by the House be agreed to. This was adopted, and another committee was appointed by the Chair. The House bill providing for the construction of the bridge over the Ohio River, at the falls of that river, ten feet above high water mark was debated during the morning hour. Mr. Morrill, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes on the bill for an erection of a territorial government for Montana, made a report which recommends that the Senate recede from its amendment, striking out the words "Every free white inhabitant in the qualified for voters," and inserting "All citizens of the United States and those who have declared their intention to become such," etc. After considerable debate, in which Messrs. Morrill, Hale, Wade, Horton and Sumner participated the report of the committee was adopted, 23 Yeas, 18 Nays. The Pacific Railroad bill, as amended, is now before the House, and will be taken up as unfinished business, but no vote was taken.

HOUSE.—The House passed the Senate bill amendment of the 2d authorizing Nevada, for a State Government. The House took up the Indian Appropriation bill. All the amendments of the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union were considered in, excepting one reducing the appropriation for the Indians of Minnesota from \$100,000 to \$50,000. The bill passed. A long and acrimonious personal debate here followed, in which Messrs. Dawes, Loan, Julian, and Mallory participated. It is unimportant. Mr. Pike of Maine advocated and Mr. Arnold of Illinois opposed the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. Without taking the question the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, May 20. SENATE.—Mr. Wilson introduced a joint resolution to authorize the President to call for men by draft for one year. It was referred to the committee on Military Affairs. Mr. Collamer called up the bill to authorize the establishment of an Ocean Mail Steamship Service between the United States and Brazil, the question pending