



Our Flag Forever.

NOTICE.

We have not the time nor the inclination, to den personally, a large number of persons who have unsettled accounts upon our books of several years standing. We shall, therefore, from day to day, without respect to persons, place into the hands of a Justice for collection, all accounts of over two years standing. All those who wish to save expense, will do well to give us a call immediately.

THE LATEST NEWS.

—The Rebel batteries at Aquia Creek were evacuated on Tuesday.

—Col. Fremont has been assigned the command of "The Mountain Department," including the country west of the Potomac and east of the department of the Mississippi.

—All was quiet at Fortress Monroe yesterday morning.

—All the papers of the Cumberland having gone down with her, it is impossible to give the names of all the killed and missing. The loss will reach about 100.

—Satisfactory information has been received at Fortress Monroe, to the effect that the Merrimac was very much disabled in the contest with the Monitor. It is also declared that the Monitor is sorer than the equal of the Merrimac.

—Seventeen men were killed on the Merrimac by a shell from the Cumberland, including her Captain, Thomas W. Buchanan, a Marylander, who was in command of the Washington Navy Yard when the rebellion broke out, which position he resigned, but afterwards asked to be reinstated, but was refused.

—Tennessee advises say that the citizens of Shelbyville, Bedford county, burned, on Sunday night, a large quantity of Confederate stores to prevent their falling into the hands of the rebel troops, under A. Sidney Johnston, who was in full retreat from Murfreesboro.

—Col. Geary, acting brigadier general in command of the troops at Leesburg, made a personal reconnaissance on Tuesday as far as Carter's Mills.—The trail of the retreating rebel army was blackened with the ruins of granaries, ashes of hay and grain stacks, fences, &c. He found that the bridges over Goose Creek had been burned after our occupation on Saturday.—The enemy had completely fallen back. The loyal feeling is growing, and many come forward to take the oath of allegiance.

—Col. Geary, with some of his officers, and a detachment of the First Michigan Cavalry, rode to Ball's Bluff on Tuesday, and buried the exhibiting bones of the brave American soldiers, who fell upon that field in October last. Impressive remarks preceded this humane act, and a moment of gross rebel neglect was from human sight.

—A call from the rebel Governor of Virginia on the militia of the State for ten thousand men was proclaimed in the Streets of Oceanon on the 9th inst., by an official, who immediately departed. Nearly all the able-bodied men of the village left with the rebel army. A few refused to go.

—The soldiers of Gen. Banks' division have pushed their way rapidly toward Winchester. All the strategic positions which lie between Harper's Ferry and Winchester have been occupied, and the latter town, if not actually, is virtually in our possession.

Huntingdon Academy.

We are gratified to learn that this institution is again in operation, with every promise of complete success.—The gentleman having it in charge, Mr. McCANDLEL, is a finished teacher, and is very highly spoken of by all who have made his acquaintance as a citizen, and as instructor of his children. And, now that the Huntingdon Academy is in proper hands, we hope parents in the town, and in the county, will give it that patronage it deserves. The school has been in operation but for some four or five weeks, and the number of scholars is considerably larger than was expected in so short a time and with so little effort. This fact of itself is a strong evidence that the Academy is now a popular institution with parents and pupils.

—An assortment of Card Photographs at Lewis' Book Store.

Union Sentiment at the South.

The New York Journal of Commerce concludes an article on the Union sentiment at the South with the following interesting information:

We have learned some interesting facts about the general condition of the public mind in the Southwest, through a gentleman who has just arrived in New York from New Orleans. He was in the latter city when the news of the intended evacuation of Columbus was received. It came in a telegram from a General in the Confederate army to his brother in New Orleans, stating that Columbus was to be abandoned, and begging that all the militia of New Orleans might at once be sent to Memphis, as it was proposed to make a stand there. A meeting was called in New Orleans, great excitement and great depression marking the public mind. The militia formally resolved that they would not go, and a universal sentiment was expressed that their departure to Memphis would be useless. The probability is, that New Orleans is nearly ready to welcome a Union army. Such are the opinions formed from observation of the state of mind in the city. At the same time, it is to be always remarked that men's opinions in such matters depend more on the immediate circles surrounding them, than on the public at large, with whom they may not associate. The same gentleman stopped in Memphis on his way to the North, and found great anxiety and terror prevailing there. He attended a meeting at that city, at which a Brigadier General presided. The object was, to arouse the people to a defence of the South. The General made a speech, calling on the armistice with some eloquence to "rush to arms, every man seize his gun, and come forward to the defence of the country." He was interrupted by a voice in the audience saying, "that's all very nice talk General, but all you know we ain't got nary a gun among us!" The effect on the audience was by no means inspiring.

From these circumstances, it may be seen that the Southern mind is at work, rapidly and feverishly. The future is in the hands of God and the patriotism of the people. We look now, as we have always looked, to the Union men of the South for the grand movement which will end the war, if it is soon to be ended, by the restoration of the Union. The conservative course of the President, has been throughout the war, directed towards a similar view. His recent message, and suggestions of a joint resolution on the subject of slavery, have produced a momentary (let us hope it will be a lasting) cessation of the war against the Union, which has been carried on at the North, and the tendency of which has been to alienate the Union men of the South. While, therefore, the war goes forward with unabating vigor, and the armies of the Union march into the States that have been occupied by rebellion, the hour rapidly approaches when the Union men of the South may take up the old American weapons of persuasion and conciliation, and then let us look for the revolt against the rebellion, that will justify all our hopes for the Union.

The questions now asked by every one is, "Where is Jeff Davis? Is he in Richmond, or has he gone to Europe for his health?" If he still sojourns in Richmond, we opine that his quarters must be becoming decidedly warm, and one has issues another in general, he will be compelled to "face the wrath to come," or quietly submit to subjugation, and take quarters in Fort Lafayette, until we get time to hang him. It would be a pity to hang him, too, for Barnum could make a fortune by exhibiting him through the country as the greatest natural curiosity ever heard of, on this or any other continent. We think he should be christened the Prince of Demons, and then give Barnum a chance. No doubt, Barnum is sighing around for a novelty of the above stamp.

THE CANDIDATE FOR ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

By the proceedings of Congress on Tuesday, we notice that the proposition of the President on the subject of emancipation, was sustained in the House by a vote of 88 yeas to 31 nays. The following is the resolution:

Resolved, That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt gradual abolition of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid to be used by such State in its discretion, to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system.

FIRST IN MANASSAS.—Colonel David Gregg's Penna. Cavalry Regiment was the first in Manassas. Colonel G. is a nephew of Maj. D. McMurtre.

MARRIED.

On Tuesday evening, March 11, 1862, by Rev. G. W. Zahner, Dr. Edmund Snare and Miss Adrie Ziegler, all of this borough.

CAKE again—and a whole one, and capricious at that, but not unexpected—as we know the Doctor and Miss Adrie have great faith in the prayers of the printer. May their honey-moon never cease—and may they be blessed to a good old age with health and prosperity, and when they are called to depart from this world, may the doors of everlasting happiness be thrown wide open to receive them.

WAR NEWS.

IMPORTANT FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Further Details of the Battle.

The Loss of Life Probably Heavy.

(Special despatch to the Times.)

Fortress Monroe, March 10.—The Minnesota was got safely off this morning, and now lies in the same position which she occupied previous to the advent of the Merrimac. She does not appear to have been very materially damaged; but I understand that she will leave as soon as possible for one of the Northern stations for repairs.

The steamer Whitehall was struck by a shell from the Yorktown, which killed her assistant engineer, Andrew Nesbitt, and two seamen, named Robert Waugh and Charles O'Connor.—During the night she took fire. A shell from one of her guns fell in the yard attached to the fort here, and exploded, the fragments flying into the fort. She finally blew up with a terrible explosion.

The steam tug Dragon received a shot through her boiler. Three of her men were slightly scalded.

The brig Rescue came into collision with the tug America, and sustained some damage to her rigging. The Rescue was in the action, but strangely enough, escaped without other damage than that referred to, and it is said was not once in danger.

I have just learned that six men were killed and seventeen wounded on board the Merrimac.

The Monitor yesterday fired sixty-two shells at the Merrimac, of which twelve took effect, although the effect was not immediately apparent. Had the Merrimac been twice as strongly constructed, she could not have stood the terrific broadsides of the Monitor for three hours with impunity. The injuries she has sustained will begin to tell in the most effective manner against her.

One of the Monitor's shells entered the Yorktown's boiler, which was blown up. As the rebel steamer was crowded with troops, the loss of life must have been fearful.

We are told that General Lee proposed the place perfectly defensible. We are not surprised at this, if true. We captured Port Royal, but Fernandina and Fort Clinch have been given to us.

We had in the expedition Mr. W. H. Dennis, an assistant in the coast survey, who possessed an accurate knowledge of a part of the ground we passed over, and, in fact, indeed, he had made the topographical map, under the direction of the superintendent. He was zealous and active, and it gives me pleasure to mention him.

The Empire City, on board of which was General Wright, grounded on the bar. As soon as he arrived in another steamer immediate steps were taken to transfer to him the forts and all the artillery and possession on the land. I desire here to speak of the harmonious counsel and cordial co-operation which marked throughout my intercourse with this able officer. Our plans of action have been matured by mutual consultation, and have been carried out by mutual help.

I take great pleasure in reminding the Department that the principal and ultimate effect of the naval expedition here, was to get under way, and keep under control the whole line of the sea coast of Georgia, "knowing," to use the language of the original paper, that the Merrimac, under the command of Major Reynolds, and the transports Florida, Alabama, Keystone State, Seneca, Huron, Pembina, Isaac Smith, Fenigin, Potomac, the armed cutter Henrietta, the armed transport McClellan, (the latter having on board the battalion of marines under the command of Major Reynolds), and the transports Port Royal, Yorktown, and the South, Belvidere, Boston, Georges' Creek, containing a brigade under the command of Brig. Gen. Wright.

The Merrimac was in Cumberland Sound at half past ten on the morning of the 2d, to make an examination of the channel and wait for the tide.—She put a steamer in a contraband, who had been picked up at sea by Commander Lanier, and from the neighboring residents on Cumberland Island, that the rebels had abandoned the whole of the defenses of Fernandina, and were even at that moment retreating from Amelia Island, carrying with them such of their munitions as their precipitate flight would allow.

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