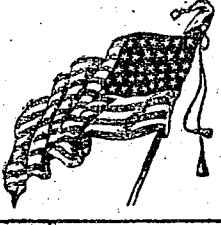


HUNTINGDON, PA. Wednesday morning, March 29, 1865. W. Lewis, Editor and Proprietor. Hugh Lindsay, Associate Editor.



"I know of no mode in which a loyal citizen may so well demonstrate his devotion to his country as by sustaining the flag, the Constitution and the Union, under all circumstances, and under every adverse political, religious, or social condition, at home and abroad." - STEPHEN A. DOUGLASS.

GEN. BUTLER AND FORT FISHER.—The Rebel Gen. Whiting, before his death, sent to Gen. Butler, in writing, a statement of the number of troops in Fort Fisher at the time of the first attack, of the Confederate force in supporting distance, and of Bragg's troops in Wilmington, and describes minutely the ineffectiveness of Porter's fire on the fort—so ineffective that the cannoniers were not driven from their guns—and made a case generally, that overwhelmingly justified Gen. Butler's withdrawal from the attack on Fort Fisher. Whiting said, among other things, that it was a matter of reproach against Bragg in his army and at Richmond, that Butler's small force was not captured bodily; that Bragg had the troops and the position to have made the capture; and he in terms charged it upon the supineness of the Confederate commander that every soldier Butler landed was not taken. This frank statement of Gen. Whiting is in testimony before the Committee on the Conduct of the War.

THE STATE GUARDS.—Secretary Stanton, in answer to an inquiry made by Governor Curtin, states that it will not be necessary to raise the State Guard, as proposed by legislative enactment, for the reason that the United States Government is fully able to protect our borders if the emergency should arise. This will save the State several millions of dollars, which would otherwise have been expended in setting up the Guards. At present there is not much likelihood of an invasion of the State, and the organization of a State guard would prove a useless expense. Still, the militia law of the State should be stringently enforced, and every individual capable of bearing arms be made to conform to its provisions.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN made another of his speeches, to a body of Illinoisans, on Friday last. He gives his opinion in a few words of the new Rebel policy of employing Slaves to fight in the interests of Slavery. The address will be found on the first page of to-day's Globe.

Read the news in another column with respect to the strength and condition of the Confederacy. The rebellion is evidently tottering to its base, and nothing can prevent its overthrow—and our armies will hasten its downfall.

The lecture of Col. Hawkins at the Court House last evening upon our wounded heroes, &c., was a spirited and patriotic appeal to the heart and sympathy of our people.

The Legislature adjourned on Friday last, after taking action on some fourteen hundred bills, most of a local character.

WAR NEWS SUMMARY.

In the North Carolina Legislature, a few weeks since, one member stated that the entire force of the Confederacy numbered only 121,000 men, which statement on being questioned was substantiated by an official document from Richmond.

The Richmond papers say that the Arabian horse presented to Jeff. Davis by the Viceroy of Egypt and brought over by a blockade-runner, and which was sent into the interior of North Carolina for safe keeping, has been captured by Sherman's scouts, who announced their intention of sending it to President Lincoln.

Sheridan's entire loss in the late expedition was fifty enlisted men and two officers. He captured many horses and mules, and two thousand negroes came in with his command to White House. The number of the latter would have been far larger but for the fact that he had no provisions to feed them when at Charlottsville, and was compelled to station guards to prevent them following. Gen. Sheridan's command will soon be in order for further work.

Major General Thomas, in his official report of the operations of his army from the 7th of September, 1864, to January 20th, 1865, says: "Others were captured from the enemy during the various actions, 13,189 prisoners of war, including several general officers, and nearly 1,000 other officers of small grades; 72 pieces of serviceable artillery, and a number of battle-flags. During the same period over 2,000 deserters from the enemy were received, and to whom the oath was administered. Our own losses will not exceed 10,000 in killed, wounded, and missing. The large number of prisoners captured in good condition, and six wagons loaded with similar ammunition were captured before Nashville." Other important captures are mentioned.

Vice President Johnson.

We copy the subjoined article of the New York Times of Monday last, and commend it to those of our contemporaries who seem to desire to rival the Opposition press in their assaults upon Vice President Johnson. It is within our knowledge that Governor Johnson left Nashville, to attend Mr. Lincoln's re-inauguration, most reluctantly, and greatly debilitated, but his friends insisted that he should be present, and he yielded to their advice. Unquestionably his indisposition on the 4th of March was the result of great physical weakness. We learn that Governor Johnson is perfectly restored to his usual vigorous health, and that he will soon leave for Tennessee to assist in the coronations of the instalment of the fighting preacher, Wm. G. Brownlow, in the gubernatorial chair to which he has recently been elected by such a large majority.

The Times says: "We copy from the Congressional Globe a report of the remarks by Vice President Andrew Johnson, on taking his place as President of the Senate, on the day of the inauguration. There may be differences of opinion as to the timeliness and good taste of some topics which he introduced on that occasion, but few will venture to question publicly the justice of the sentiments which he expressed. Still less will any basis be found in the speech for the unmeasured and intemperate vituperation of the Vice President for which it was made the occasion. Two years ago the same journals which have been specially vehement in denouncing Mr. Johnson, teemed with similar charges upon Secretary Seward, and subsequently Gen. Grant was subjected to the same ordeal. Indeed, it would not be easy to name any prominent member of the Government, who has not at one time or another, been visited by personal assaults of the same general character, if his opinion on certain phases of public affairs happened to conflict with those of the parties in question. One would suppose that to the Secession and Copperhead journals of the country might easily be left the task of demolishing the character and influence of the men to whom the people have entrusted the duties and responsibilities of office. It is consoling, however, to know that whenever there is any appearance of shrinking or hesitation in that quarter, there are 'friends' of the Administration not only ready but eager to come to the rescue. No man in this country has rendered, within the sphere, more substantial service to the Union, or earned more honorable mention than Andrew Johnson, and we venture to predict that, in the future as in the past, he will abundantly vindicate himself from the slanders of his enemies, and the ungenerous misconstruction of some who have claimed to be his friends."

Important from the Confederacy.

Revelations as to its Military Strength. Information has been placed in my hands touching several points of great importance in regard to the Rebellion, in military strength, its condition, the opinion and hopes of its political and military leaders, and the judgment of one of its most prominent men upon the possibilities and terms of peace. Without comment of mine, I shall submit them to you, with the single remark that for every fact I am about to state there is unimpeachable authority, and that these statements bear in themselves evidence of their authority and credibility.

First as to the military strength of the Confederacy. The figures which I give do not date later than February 4, 1865, at which date they were not merely accurate, but were compiled from the official of the Confederate War Department. On the 4th of February 1865, the available force of the Confederacy was 152,000 men. They are distributed as follows: Lee's army, 64,000; Bragg, including Hoke's div., 9,000; Beauregard and Hardee, 22,000; D. Taylor, H. Hill, and H. Cobb, 7,000; West of Mississippi, 50,000.

Total, 152,000. The 22,000 under Beauregard and Hardee includes the late army of Hood, and all the forces which evacuated Savannah and Charleston. The 9,000 of Bragg includes all the garrison of Wilmington. These 31,000 men constitute the bulk of the army now under Johnston in North Carolina, with such additions as have lately been made. The 7,000 under Taylor, Hill and Cobb, are or were scattered through Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, part of them constituting the present garrison of Mobile.

Of Hood's army the following is a correct numerical statement: Entered Tennessee, 47,000; Came out, 17,500; Not lost of that campaign, 29,500. In East Tennessee and West Virginia there were in February but 4,500 men altogether, and the greater part of them were transferred March 1, and thereafter, to Lynchburg.

General Lee's Testimony. A committee of the Rebel Senate was engaged early in the present year in an inquiry into the condition of the Confederacy. Among the witnesses summoned before them was General Lee, and the following are extracts from his testimony, on the 24th January 1865.

Question.—What is your opinion as to overrating Richmond, and withdrawing the army to North Carolina? Answer.—In my opinion, it would be a bad movement. The Virginia troops would not go to North Carolina; they would go home.

Question.—Do you think we have troops enough for the next campaign? Answer.—I do not. We cannot last till midsummer.

Question.—What do you think of the policy of arming 200,000 negroes? Answer.—If we are to carry on the War, that is the least of evils; but in such an event the negroes must have their liberty.

Question.—Do you think we could succeed by putting the negroes into the field? Answer.—That would depend on circumstances. We could at least carry on the war for another year.

Question.—What is the sentiment of the army in relation to peace? Answer.—It is almost unanimous for peace. The men will fight longer if necessary, but they believe we cannot continue the war through another campaign.

Question.—What is your individual opinion on the subject of peace? Answer.—I think the best policy is to make peace on the plan proposed by Mr. Stephens. The people and the country ought to be saved further sacrifices.

Question.—What is your opinion as to the best time to make peace? Answer.—I will take any position to which my country assigns me, and do the best I can, but I do not think I can save the country now. No human power can save it. Had I been elected, I would have signed such a peace one year ago, I

with the rules which are requisite for the good order of the body and the despatch of its business. I have only studied how I may best advance the interests of my State and of my country, and not the technical rules of order; and if I ever shall appear to the dignified body of representatives of States for kindness and indulgence.

Before I conclude this brief inaugural address, in the presence of this audience—and I, though a plebeian boy, am authorized by the principles of a Government under which I live to feel proudly conscious that I am a man, and grave dignitaries are but men—before the Supreme Court, the representatives of foreign Governments, Senators, and the people, I desire to proclaim that Tennessee, whose representative I have been, is free. She has bent the tyrant's rod, she has broken the yoke of slavery, and to-day stands redeemed. She waited not for the exercise of power by Congress; it was her own act, and she is now as loyal, Mr. Attorney General, as is the State from which you come. It is the doctrine of the Federal Constitution that no State can go out of this Union; and, moreover, Congress cannot eject a State from this Union. Thank God, Tennessee has never been out of the Union! It is true, the operations of her Government were for a time interrupted; but she is still in the Union, and I am her representative. This day she elects her Governor and her Legislature, which will be convened on the first Monday of April, and again her Senators and her members of Congress will mingle with those of her sister States; and who shall gainsay it?—for the Constitution requires that to every State shall be guaranteed a republican form of government.

I now am prepared to take the oath of office and renew my allegiance to the Constitution of the United States.

Desertion from the Rebel Army. From records in the Adjutant and Inspector-General's office it appears that from the 1st of October, 1864, to February 4th, 1865, 72,000 men had deserted from the Confederate armies east of the Mississippi. During Princeton's recent invasion of Missouri, nearly all the Missourians in his army deserted, and he lost during the campaign 19,500 men.

WAR FOR THE UNION. RECENT GOOD NEWS CONFIRMED. The Capture of Goldsboro, and Junction of Sherman and Schofield.—Reported Evacuation of Raleigh.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The Republican Extra says the Government has received intelligence that on Sunday last General Sherman's army entered Goldsboro, N. C. His march was unopposed.

The two armies of Sherman and Schofield have formed a junction. The above is confirmatory of the report of passengers from City Point, as telegraphed to the newspaper press yesterday afternoon from Washington.

The Republican Extra further says: "Sherman's present command is sufficiently formidable to confront Lee's whole army in open field without the assistance of Grant, and no force that the rebels may raise can impede Sherman's triumphant march northward."

Arrival of Steamer from Morehead City. "Friend's" Movements.—Good News Expected.

News from Morehead, March 21.—The steamer Ajax, Captain Godfrey, arrived here today from Morehead City, N. C., with three hundred North Carolina refugees and about one hundred discharged soldiers, en route North.

The Ajax left Morehead City yesterday afternoon at two o'clock, and brings nothing later of a definite character respecting General Schofield's movements, who was known to have moved out from Kinston, N. C., but in which direction was unknown. Just as the Ajax was steaming out to sea from the harbor all the flags of the different men of war and other vessels lying there were hoisted in the rigging, apparently as if some good news had been received.

The refugees brought by this steamer are in the most destitute condition, and come principally from Kinston and its immediate vicinity. Comprising the number there are about 60 men, women and children, and the number of the prisoners captured proves larger than at first reported. The slaughter of the enemy at the point where they entered our lines, and in front of it, was probably not less than 8,000. Our loss is estimated at 800, but may prove less.

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I could have made our condition better than it now is. Question by Senator Orr.—You think, then, General, that the best solution of our difficulties is to make peace on the Stephens plan? Answer.—Yes, that is the best policy now. I think the army and the people ought to be saved, if all else is lost.

Stephens' Plan For Peace. First, Let President Lincoln issue an address to the Army and people of the South, embodying in that address what he has before said as to Peace, and also what passed at his interview with the Commissioners.

Second, Agree to appoint Commissioners on the part of the United States, to meet State Commissioners on the part of such States as desire to meet at Nashville, Louisville, or Cincinnati, in April or May, to consult as to a peace, on the basis of such States returning to the Union upon the sole condition of obedience to the Constitution and laws of the Republic.

Third, An election by such States as shall send Commissioners to that convention, of Senators and Representatives to the Congress of the United States, to enter such Congress upon equal terms with the members of it, and such States to have equality on the floor of Congress with other States.

Mr. Stephens believed that this plan would secure the approbation of North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and perhaps of South Carolina and Virginia. He was quite sure it would command the assent of at least six States. In present circumstances, he might reasonably hope it would be still more generally adopted.

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Sunday morning, that each man should be a fortune from the proceeds of the victory, and that Sherman would then be annihilated, and the Confederacy established beyond a doubt.

The loss of Friday's battle, which was important one, and which decided the fate of Newbern, was the irresistible ruin of the enemy's plan against Sherman. The manner in which our men successfully resisted from behind their works the eight repeated assaults of the enemy, who at that time greatly outnumbered us, not only astonished our own officers, but elicited a high tribute to their courage from General Bragg.

This battle made it very apparent that Bragg's men could not be induced to make another stand.

Supplies are now being forwarded up the Neuse river to Schofield's and Sherman's armies. Their armies will doubtless be united to-morrow or next day.

FROM GENERAL GRANT. Sudden Attack by the Rebels. Fort Steadman Temporarily Captured.—Splendid Charge of Union Troops.—Brilliant Victory!—3,000 Rebels Captured.—Great Slaughter of Rebels.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—This morning at 4 o'clock the enemy, by a strong and sudden assault, captured Fort Steadman; but after a vigorous contest the fort was recaptured with 1,500 prisoners and two battle flags. All the guns were uninjured. Gen. McLaughlin was taken prisoner by the rebels, who also assaulted Fort Haskell but were repulsed with great loss. The official report is subjoined.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War. CITY POINT, VA., 1.30 P. M., March 23. Hon. E. M. Stanton: The following dispatch of Gen. Parke is received from General Moore and U. S. GRANT, Lieut. General.

The enemy attacked my front this morning at about half-past four o'clock, with 3 divisions under command of General Gordon.

By a sudden rush they seized the line held by the 3d brigade, 1st division, at the foot of the hill to the right of Fort Steadman, wheeled, and overpowering the garrison, took possession of the fort. They established themselves on the hill, turning our guns upon us. Our troops on either flank stood firm. Soon after a determined attack was made on Fort Haskell, held by a part of McLaughlin's brigade, Wilcox's division, and was repulsed with great loss to the enemy. The first brigade of Hartranft's division, held in reserve, was brought up and a check given to any further advance. One or two attempts to retake the hill were made, and were only temporarily successful until the arrival of the second brigade when a charge was made, aided by the troops of the first division on either flank, and the enemy was driven out of the fort with the loss of a number of prisoners, estimated at about 1,600. Two battle flags have also been brought in. The enemy also lost heavily in killed outside of our lines.

The whole line was immediately re-occupied, and the guns re-taken unharmed. I request to add that General McLaughlin was captured in Fort Steadman. Our loss was otherwise not heavy. Great praise is due to Hartranft for the gallantry displayed in handling his division which behaved with great skill in this, its first engagement.

JOHN G. PARKE, Major General. LATER. WASHINGTON, March 25, 9.30 P. M. Major General Dix: I report from General Grant which are subjoined, showing that the operations of our forces this morning were brilliantly successful. The rebel prisoners already secured, numbered 2700.

The rebels killed and wounded, Gen. Grant estimates at probably not less than 300. Our loss is estimated at 800, but may prove less.

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army towards this place. All his things were carried in accordance with Gen. Sherman's plans, I have no doubt all is well.

I hope to have more definite and later information from Sherman soon, and will forward it to you without delay. I find the bridges burned, but otherwise the road is not injured, and the depot houses are very good. I captured here seven cars, and General Terry has captured two locomotives and two cars, which he is now using.

JNO. M. SCIOFIELD, Major General. FROM GENERAL SHERIDAN. HIS TROOPS AGAIN READY.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The Government steamer Winona, an Gunpowder arrived here yesterday afternoon from the White House, to which place she had been dispatched several days ago with supplies for General Sheridan's troops. The Winona reports the troops of Gen. Sheridan's command as rapidly recovering from the fatigue of their recent brilliant but tiresome raid, and ready to enter upon any work that may be put out for them.

A number of guerillas have made their appearance in the vicinity of White House and along the banks of the Pamunkey. They have become quite troublesome by firing upon our transports. A number of Gen. Sheridan's troops who have received furloigns for meritorious conduct while on the recent raid, came up on the Winona. The Winona also brought from the White House a number of the horses worn on the road, which are being replaced by fresh ones.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. F O R R E N T.—THE COALMOUTH HOUSE.—A large and convenient building in the borough of Coalmouth, Huntingdon county, Pa. For particulars apply to the undersigned at Coalmouth, Pa. mh28,1865-66. Supt. Broad Top and Iron Co.

WANTED.—TWENTY CANAL BOATS, to carry coal from Huntingdon to Baltimore. Ready to employ given. Apply to O. M. EYING, Esq., Huntingdon, Pa. mh28,1865-66. Supt. Broad Top and Iron Co.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The next stated meeting of this society will be held at the MASONS HALL, in the borough of Huntingdon, on TUESDAY, the 10th inst. at 7 o'clock, P. M. The annual election of officers as well as of delegates to the State Society and Annual Conference, will be held at 7 o'clock, P. M. T. F. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

BLINDS AND SHADES. B. J. WILLIAMS, No. 16 North Sixth Street, Philadelphia, MANUFACTURER OF VENTILATING BLINDS AND WINDOW SHADES. The largest and finest assortment in the city at the lowest prices. STONE SHADES MADE AND LETTERED. mh28,1865-66.

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