

AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

OUR EDITOR, Editor & Proprietor.



CARLISLE, PA., MARCH 30, 1865.

APRIL SETTLEMENTS.—The first of April, which is general pay day with our country friends, will soon be here. While making to their other payments, we hope they will not forget to pay the printer.

TOWN COUNCIL.—The new Town Council met and organized on the 21st inst. J. W. D. GUYLER, Esq., was elected President, and JAMES M. MASONHEIMER, Secretary.

Borough Treasurer—David Corman. High Constable—Emanuel Swartz. Clerk of Market—A. S. Lyne.

Street Commissioner—Patrick Madden. Street Regulators—Geo. S. Boston, Jesse D. Rhinehart, John Hoek.

These are judicious appointments, and we hope that hereafter we shall have no negligence on the part of our Borough officers.

DEATH OF A VETERAN.—Major GEORGE MICHAEL SANNO, one of our oldest and most respected citizens, departed this life on Monday, the 20th inst., at his residence, in this borough, in the 89th year of his age.

Major Sanno served his country gallantly in the last war with Great Britain, he being a member of Capt. HENDEL'S company. During his term of service he won for himself the approbation and esteem of his officers and fellow-soldiers, among whom he was always regarded as a gallant soldier, an honest man, and a faithful friend.

On Friday last, he remains were consigned to their final resting place, with appropriate military and Masonic honors. A large concourse of citizens also attended his body to the grave, who, knowing him in life, mourn him in death.

The Abolitionists of Mechanicsburg elected their Borough ticket on the 17th inst., by less than their usual majority.

Of Mechanicsburg stands firm and true to the faith, and the election furnishes a glowing illustration of the fact, that wherever a community can be found in which like that of Mechanicsburg, a high moral tone pervades the people; the places of business—endearing energy, enterprise and thrift; the political sentiment will be found to be unflinchingly on the side of freedom and good government.

That's very complimentary to Mechanicsburg, but is rather a hard dig at our own town, Carlisle, where the Democrats were successful. According to the Herald's reasoning, our people lack "moral tone, energy, enterprise and thrift."

It is possible that military law requires an act like this? We are aware that a soldier who deserts, violates military discipline, and makes himself amenable to the law which declares desertion death. But then, justice and humanity should govern in all cases—both before civil and military courts; and we think the facts above recited, would have justified the military court that tried the idiot boy, in acquitting him.

The New York Tribune publishes the following: Among mercantile houses there is a growing complaint of want of customers. In the retail trade the stagnation is very apparent. Consumers are acting upon the theory that prices will be much lower at an early day, and buy in the smallest way.

AN IDIOT SOLDIER BOY SHOT!

In the Army of the Potomac there is a stockade of logs, twenty feet high, and sharp-edged at the top, and known as the "Bull Pen," in which captured deserters are confined before execution. In it there are about sixty wretched men, awaiting their fate—Henry Clay Trumbull, Chaplain of the Connecticut 10th, thus writes of

A VERY SAD CASE. But the saddest case was the latest. A boy not yet sixteen, born and brought up in the upper part of New York city, was met in the street by a shell-brother, and enticed away to Connecticut to be sold as a substitute. He was far from being a bright boy, seemingly not full witted, but his childish ways were touchingly attractive.

With unaccounted naturalness he sobbed out his lament over his own hard lot, and for the dear ones at home. "Me, so young, to go outside the breastworks, and see the coffin and grave there, and then to be shot!"

On being ascertained that his execution was a certainty, he urged the chaplain not to let his friends know how he died, "for they'd feel so bad about it," he said.

On one occasion, when it was too late to obtain a reprieve, an official shot of the department commander having the power to grant it, and there being no time to obtain it from him, and having cried his cry out—like a wailing child, he hid himself in a hole, and lay there for the eternal fate. Kneeling on the soaked, swampy ground, under the dripping roof of that gloomy cabin, in the dark and stormy night, he folded his fettered hands, and bowed his head in prayer, and committed himself in seeming confidence to his Heavenly Father's care.

He could not read, but he had been taught in one of the blessed mission schools of New York, and seemed to have a simple, child-like faith in God. He had not been addicted to vicious habits. He said, when asked about the way he spent his evenings, that he "always worked in the factory (his times, and when evening came was tired, and went to bed early." His father and mother had looked upon him as an obedient and dutiful son, and he had been drawn in grateful confidence. After his first hard year of the thought of death did not seem to occupy him.

He was too much of a child to fully realize it. Just before he went out to be shot he turned to the chaplain and asked, as in boyish curiosity, "If I die to-day, will my soul go right to heaven to-day?" Arriving at the field of execution he was not at all disturbed by the terrible preparations. He walked up to the open grave and looked inquiringly into it without a shudder, and then turned to gaze at the firing party as though he saw only kind-hearted comrades there. He knelt again to pray as calmly as if he were to lie down in his own little crib at home. Just as his arms were being bound a bird flew by, and he twisted his head around to follow with his gaze the bird in its flight, as though he thought like a child, "I shall be laid back again at the bright meadows with soft and steady eye as before."

Can any one read the above shocking narrative without tears in his eyes? God of our fathers, what are we coming to? A poor little "not full-witted" boy—perhaps an idiot—mere helpless child—who had been elected and sold into the army by some burly brute, attempts to run home to his parents, and for this his young quivering heart is blown into atoms, and his soul sent to Eternity! This simple child had no more idea of responsibility than a sucking babe. He was half-witted, and had never in his short life passed a single night away from his parents. He wanted to go home, and like a tired homesick school-boy, determined to play truant. For this the tender body of the idiot boy was torn to pieces by the bullets from a dozen muskets!

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DAVIS' SPECIAL MESSAGE.

Jeff Davis has recently sent a special message of considerable importance, to the Rebel Congress, in which he states some facts not heretofore known to the public. He frankly acknowledged that the Confederate States are surrounded by perils, and that Richmond is in greater danger than at any previous time. He appeals to Congress to adopt measures to fill up the ranks of their armies and to improve their currency, which has become almost worthless for the purchase of supplies. The thing chiefly insisted on by the rebel President, is the impossibility of obtaining from our government any terms of peace which the South can honorably accept. In this connection he says that during the conference between Mr. Lincoln and the Southern commissioners, the latter proposed that the adjustment of our difficulties should be left to Military Convention. What occurred in reference to this proposition can be best told in Mr. Davis' own language.

It has become certain beyond all doubt or question that we must continue this struggle to a successful issue or must make abject and unconditional submission to such terms as shall please the conqueror to impose upon us after our surrender. If a possible peace between our commissioners and Mr. Lincoln, as recently reported to you, it would be dispelled by a recent occurrence, of which it is proper that you should be informed.

It has not, however, been hitherto stated to you that in the course of the conference at Fortress Monroe a suggestion was made by one of our commissioners that the question of the abolition of slavery should be treated with the government of the confederacy or with any separate state might be avoided by substituting for the usual mode of negotiating through commissioners or other diplomatic agents, the mode of a military convention, to be entered into by the commanding generals of the two belligerents. This, he admitted, was a power possessed by him, though it was not thought commendable for the abolition of slavery.

Subsequently, however, an interview with General Longstreet was asked for by General Grant, commanding the enemy's Army of the James, during which General Longstreet was informed by him that this was a possibility of the special dispatch sent to your Government. Subsequently, however, an interview with General Longstreet was asked for by General Grant, commanding the enemy's Army of the James, during which General Longstreet was informed by him that this was a possibility of the special dispatch sent to your Government.

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NEGROES AT THE INAUGURATION.

One marked feature of Inauguration day at Washington was the multitude of negroes everywhere present. They came fully impressed with the truth of Abolition teaching, and their feelings of importance and insolence. They forced themselves into the most prominent positions. They were perfectly ubiquitous and utterly irrepresible. There was a regiment of negro soldiers in uniform in the procession, and enough to make up several regiments not in uniform. They jostled white people without compunction, and showed their way into the best positions for seeing. They crowded white ladies of the platform on which Mr. LINCOLN stood to be inaugurated. It was a grand jubilee for Sambo. The correspondent of the New York Herald gives the following account of the scene during the delivery of the Inaugural Address:

"During the delivery of the speech Stanton and Seward were remarkably attentive, rising and bending forward to listen. The crowd kept pushing nearer and nearer the platform. Sambo smiled superciliously at the frequent exclamations 'Negroes! Negroes!' 'blessed old Lord,' in a low murmur, at the end of almost every sentence. Beyond this there was no cheering of any consequence. Even the soldiers did not hurra for much. The statement that the progress of our country was rapidly advancing, and encouraging to all, met with no response, although the President paused significantly."

"The negroes seem to have been the only portion of the assembly which was much moved by the scriptural speech of the ex-Republican. 'But it was not in the streets, and in and about the Capitol alone, that the 'coming man' made his presence and his rising importunate felt. In the evening, there was, as a crushing jam, at the White House. Every body looked there to shake hands with 'Old Abe.' There were high dignitaries and some very low people; there were ladies of refinement attended by well dressed gallants, and strapping negro-women with buck negroes to bear them; 'all in' one confused, crowding, swaying mass. The darkeys made themselves as much at home, and more fully as self-important as any part of the assembly. Throughout the day, 'in all places and at all times, the negro was a prominent feature of the occasion. Let our readers remember that we are not complaining. It was 'none of our business.' We should have been surprised if the negroes had not put on airs, and made themselves conspicuously prominent. They had a right to regard the inauguration as a spectacle gotten up especially for their pleasure. The way is carried on for their benefit, and why should they not feel their importance, eye and show it? So says the Lancaster Intelligencer."

Forbes Monroe, March 24.—His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, accompanied by Mrs. Lincoln and a few Government officials, arrived here this morning from Washington on the special dispatch steamer, *Queen*, and after a short stay proceeded up the James River to Lieutenant-General Grant's headquarters, with the intention of making a tour of inspection of our forces in front of Richmond. The Congressional committee of about twenty-five eminent Senators and Representatives, and several merchants and politicians of our leading cities, who sailed in the steamer *Fulton*, from here on a pleasure trip to Charleston, S. C., and Savannah, Ga., some ten days ago, returned to-day in the same steamer, and proceeded in the steamer *City of Hudson* to Washington.

"Should this war ever come to 'an end the subsidies will be a loss to know how to live in their time. For several years Mrs. Lincoln and a few Government officials' have been sailing up and down the river on Government steamers, at an expense to the people of about two thousand dollars a day. It appears that there are now two Government steamers kept running—one for Queen Lincoln and her party of army 'inspectors,' and another for 'Congressmen' and politicians of our leading cities.' We venture to assert that those steamers were occupied by 'politicians' who emptied pecuniations for the last four years will amount to hundreds of millions. Of course, many in the party were honorable men, but many again were those who had prayed for the express purpose of enabling them to 'steal the Government.' Truly, 'the politicians are putting on airs; they are aping aristocracy; but in doing this they compel poor old Uncle Sam to pay their expenses.' They are wearing the peacock's plumage."

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE'S VANTAGE THEY OBTAIN.—The New York Tribune gives the following facts concerning the 7-30s to which we would call the attention of our readers: AN IRON-AND-STEEL COMPANY. Nearly all active credits are now based on Government securities, and the old law of the very best and strongest investment they can make. If it were possible to contemplate the financial failure of the Government, no bank would be a safer place for money, it would be payable in the same currency as the Government pays with, and no better. The Government never has failed to meet its engagements, and the national debt is a great mortgag upon the whole property of the country. While other securities fluctuate from ten to fifty, or even a greater percentage, Government stocks are always comparatively firm. Their value is fixed and reliable above all other securities; for while a thousand speculative bubbles rise and burst, as a rule, they are never below par, and are often above.

THE SAFETY OF RAILROAD TRAVELLERS.—Both branches of the State Legislature have passed a bill declaring that if any employee of a railroad company shall violate any rule of such company, and injury or loss of life shall thereby result, the offender shall be immediately arrested by the prosecuting attorney of the city or county where the accident happens, and if found guilty, shall be convicted of misdemeanor, and punished at the discretion of the court with imprisonment in the State penitentiary for five years and a fine of (\$5,000) five thousand dollars. In addition to this criminal prosecution, the offender and the railroad company shall be liable for civil damages.

THE LEGISLATURE adjourned sine die on Friday last. In the Senate, just previous to the final adjournment, Hon. DAVID FLEMING, of Dauphin, was elected Speaker.

THE WAR NEWS.

Important Fights in Gen. Meade's Front. THE ENEMY CAPTURED FORT STREEDMAN, BUT IT IS RETAKEN WITH 1,600 PRISONERS. UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON FORT HASKELL.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—This morning at 4:30 o'clock the enemy, by a strong and sudden attack, captured Fort Streedman, but after a vigorous contest, the fort was captured with 1,600 prisoners and two battle flags, and all the guns were uninjured. Gen. McLaughlin was taken by the rebels, who also captured Fort Haskell, but were repulsed with great loss. The official report is subjoined.

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number of prisoners reported by the Provost Marshal is 2,200; taken by the Ninth corps, and 600 by the Second corps. There may be still some more to be brought in. U. S. GRANT.

THIRD GAZETTE. Confirmation of the Occupation of Goldsboro.—Despatch from General Schofield.—Latest Accounts from Sherman's Army. WASHINGTON, 10 P. M., March 25.—Major General J. A. Dix: The following official report of General Sherman's arrival at and occupation of Goldsboro' on Tuesday, the 21st inst., with but slight opposition. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War. GOLDENROCK, N. C., March 21, via Fort Monroe, 7 P. M., 25th.—Lieutenant General U. S. Grant, City Point, Va.: I have the honor to report that I occupied Goldsboro' this afternoon with my entire force. A General Terry's column from Wilmington was at Floyd's depot last night, and should be near this place to-night. General Sherman's left was engaged with the enemy near Beaufort on Sunday. The artillery firing was quick during the day, and for a short time on Monday morning. Sherman's right, the Seventeenth Corps, was near Mount Olive, on Sunday night. There is a B on some of the reports today, which indicates a great approach of Sherman's army towards this place. At this being strictly in accordance with Sherman's plans, I have no doubt all is well. I hope to receive more definite and later information from Sherman soon, and will forward it to you without delay. I find the bridges burned, but otherwise the land is not injured and the depot facilities are very fine. I captured here several cars, and General Terry has sent two locomotives and two cars, which is in no way unusual. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD, Major General.

FOURTH GAZETTE. News from Grant and Sherman.—The Loss of Sherman's Operations since Leaving Fayetteville. WASHINGTON, March 27, 1865, 1:30 P. M. Major General Dix: The following official reports of the operations of the Army of the Potomac on Saturday, and of General Sherman's operations since he left Fayetteville, have been received this morning. General Sherman was at Goldsboro' on the 22d of this month. No movements have been made on either side before Richmond and Petersburg since Saturday night.

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