

THE NATIONAL LOAN. The Columbia Bank has authority to furnish all persons with United States Treasury Notes bearing 7 3/10 per cent. interest, in sums of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1000.

"No News Good News."—If this holds water we must have the best of local news this week. Our readers, for bad luck to the line have been able to secure up good, but of indifferent. The excitement with which the intelligence from the Great Expedition and from the West has been received, appears to have entirely absorbed every smaller excitement and the Spy is fairly ground for locals. In the way of weather we have had a charming variety, from the most delightful Indian Summer through drizzling and downright rain to a very abortive attempt at snow. But here all variety ceases. Beyond this everything has been smoothly and evenly dull.

RECRUITING.—Lieut. John J. Barber, an old Columbian, a first lieutenant in Col. Guss' Regiment, Ninety-seventh Penna. Volunteers, encamped at West Chester, is at present in Columbia recruiting for his regiment. Lieut. Barber has seen service, having fought at Wilson's Creek in the First Iowa Regiment, where that glorious hero, Lyon, laid down his life so nobly. The regiment to which he is now attached is mainly recruited in Chester county. It lacks a few men yet to bring it up to the standard, and our boys who desire to take part in our struggle for existence as a nation cannot find better quarters than among the sturdy warriors of our neighboring county. Lieut. Barber is to be found at the Washington House.

THE LADIES AT GARDENS.—Our citizens are informed that in Messrs. Charles Oakford & Sons' magnificent establishment, under the Continental, Philadelphia, there are among other special departments, those for the sale of Ladies' shoes, (in which the finest French article can always be found,) Children's Hats, and Ladies' Furs. All these departments are now daily thronged with fair customers, and the low price at which this popular house is now selling is at present one of the most interesting topics of conversation.

THE CLOUDS BREAKING AT LAST.—We have never been among the desponding and the croakers who have seen nothing but disaster as the necessary result of every encounter with the enemy. We have been cast down, it is true, when disaster has arrived, but never for a moment have we ventured to doubt the eventual triumph of the best—if men will let it be so—government the world has ever seen; yet we have grown weary watching and waiting for the good time which we knew must come. The news of this week however, looks more like what we have always considered ourselves justified in expecting than any previously received. It now seems as if the good cause were indeed about to triumph. We would not indulge in premature self gratulation, but we may at least allow ourselves to feel encouraged. The rebels have received in several quarters severe and almost simultaneous blows, thus adding to the moral effect. For particulars of the entire success of the great Expedition, the splendid triumph of Gen. Nelson in Kentucky, and the brilliant and successful attack of Gen. Grant on the enemy's camp at Belmont, Mo., we refer our readers to our columns of telegraphic particulars.

Not less important than these achievements of our arms, is the reported action of the Union men of East Tennessee, in destroying the bridges on the East Tennessee and other railroads, thus cutting off the most important lines of communication used by the rebels. Generals Nelson and Schoeffer will doubtless join forces; and rush Zollicoffer through Cumberland Gap and relieve the sorely oppressed loyalists of East Tennessee, and Gen. Sherman will advance on Buckner, behind whom an important bridge has been destroyed. Gen. Buell has taken command of the Department of Kentucky and Gen. Harlock of the Department of Missouri—both young men standing high in their profession, of one of whom, at least, Gen. Scott has spoken in the highest terms of commendation.

Triumphs are being hurried forward now by thousands, and within the next few weeks we are encouraged to look for further triumphs. The young commander in chief has the entire confidence of the people, and, better still, of his forces—officers and men. He will do nothing rashly but he will not be inactive. When the moment arrives for a decisive blow—and he must be the judge—he will not hold his hand.

Reinforcements will be sent on immediately to Gen. Sherman at Port Royal and Beaufort, and before the winter is over we may have the pleasure of hearing of South Carolina the arch-traitress, being brought back to her allegiance by the potent arguments of a federal lead.

Another thing we think the Union cause looks brighter than since the black days of April, and we can only pray that this may be in truth the breaking away of the clouds.

GOODY'S LADY'S BOOK.—Goody for December, of the volume, has been received. We can always say a good word for Goody, but it seems more especially appropriate on the completion of a year's contribution to the pleasure, amusement and instruction of the juvenile readers to commend its good works. It is one of the most universally entertaining and satisfactory magazines published in this country, and is a familiar visitor in almost every house in the land. The number for December is 17-1/2 times as usually excellent.

Our Army Correspondence. CAMP HILL, Nov. 12, 1861. DEAR SIR:—I last week gave you our regimental organization, promising the roll of the two Lancaster County Companies for this week's paper but I have not yet been able, owing to a busy week, to obtain them. We are now encamped, and with the Fourth Rhode Island, Thirty-Sixth Pennsylvania, and Goelie's Zouaves (Penna.) Regiments compose the command of Brig. Gen. O. O. Howard. Our brigade defends the rear of the Grand Army east of the Potomac at Washington, and occupies very nearly the ground where the American Army lay previous to that Bull's Run of the war of 1812-14—the battle of Bladenburg. It is present an eminently safe "posish," but we are placed here rather to give us an opportunity for drill and instruction than to keep us out of harm's way: we are not afraid to face the music whenever called on, though we be greenish and rawish yet. Very few of the officers are experienced, but all conscientious and hard-working, and they must be improving with the men, as we advance rapidly in drill and discipline.

On last Sunday we were afforded a variation to our milo-breaking routine. The election of last Wednesday, by which the Union men of Maryland so unanimously pronounced for our Government and against the bogus concern of J. D. & Co., was approaching, and it was considered necessary to march a force into the jagged counties where the secessionists are rampant and had freely threatened to drive the Union voters from the polls. Your correspondent would here suggest that in a state where the loyal voters are so largely in the ascendant, as the result of the late election proves, there ought to be no necessity for the interposition of the military arm. If these same Union men of Maryland struck but an occasional blow for themselves, they would better establish their character for unflinching devotion to the cause of liberty, than by permitting the numerically inferior, but far more plucky and energetic rebels to override and intimidate them. A good law-abiding citizen must always depreciate violence; but in the extraordinary crisis wouldn't a good, wholesome Union outrage now and then most effectually do away with the almost daily recurrence of secession's exhibitions? But to get back to our "muntions." Our entire brigade left camp on the aforesaid duty, the Forty-fifth being ordered to Prince Frederick, the county seat of Calvert county, a narrow strip of God-forsaken rebelion, lying between the Pautuxet river and the Chesapeake, below Annapolis, and extending fewer votes than our regiment numbers men. We reached our destination on Tuesday afternoon, and as we had left our tents standing was compelled to bivouac on an open lot adjoining the Court House. We carried no baggage except knapsacks, with blankets, overcoats, &c., and it was rather an airy rest that we took.

The election came off on Wednesday, and was attended with considerable excitement. The polls were opened at the Court House, and at one time during the morning "secession" raised its poisonous head and seemed disposed to "go in" with knives, pistols, &c., but our Colonel quietly set his foot on the reptile and squelched the fight out of it. He went at the crowd with two companies at a "charge bayonet," stampeding the belligerents, after which "order reigned." Five of the most violent of the secessionists were arrested—all heavily armed—one of whom, Sullivan, an ex-member of Congress, had drawn his bowie knife, threatening to "hip up any d—d union son of a—d (gun)." There was no further disturbance during the day or night. On Thursday morning we shook the dust of Prince Frederick from off our feet and took up our march for camp, the prisoners under the escort of Company K, by whom they were tenderly guarded. They were escorted to Brigade headquarters, at Lower Marlborough, where, to the excessive disgust of both officers and men, they were discharged after taking (as they would a drink of bad whisky) the oath of allegiance. I believe the regiment, thinking the oath of the rebels not sufficient swore roundly with one voice, from Colonel to Es-Constable McLane. We arrived at camp again on Saturday afternoon, having been absent seven days, during six of which we were on the march, making in that time one hundred and twenty-eight miles—most excellent marching, I think, for green troops.

The health of the Forty-fifth has, with little exception been good. A few of the boys left to guard the camp during the absence of the regiment through want of proper attention are seriously ill and one private, Moses Thompson, of Toga county, Co. C, died yesterday. Private Kridler, Co. C, accidentally shot himself (a flesh wound) through the arm on Saturday. These, with an accident to a cook of Coy. B, named Jarvis, who had his leg broken, being run over by a wagon in Washington whilst assisting quartermaster McClure, comprise the casualties and mortality of the regiment since organization.

Very many of us are greatly disappointed, in not receiving letters from home. It appears that three other regiments from Pennsylvania have unwarrantably assumed the title of "Forty-fifth;" and our letters and Spy's—we got none last week—were probably gone to these hushwhackers. To guard as far as possible against the effects of this most annoying commission, our friends should be careful to address all letters thus:—

Col. Welch's Forty-fifth Regiment, P. V., Washington City, D. C.

The companies of our regiment are Capt. Rambo's Columbians, with some few from Marietta and Wrightsville, and Co. B, Capt. Haines, from Maytown, Marietta and neighborhood. They are crack companies and no mistake. "45." REQUISITION ON PENNSYLVANIA FOR TROOPS.—HARRISBURG, October 24.—The War Department made a requisition on the Governor to-day for five companies of heavy artillery, and asked that Col. Angethorpe, of Philadelphia, shall enlist and command them. The Governor approved of the requisition, and the companies are to be enlisted, equipped, and armed by the National Government, under the order of the 20th of September, as contained in the proclamation.

From the Great Expedition

ARRIVAL OF THE BIENVILLE.

Two Forts Captured.

THE REBELS COMPLETELY ROUTED.

THEIR LOSS HEAVY.

Our Loss Eight Killed and Twenty Wounded.

All the Rebel Papers Captured.

THE DARKIES STAMPEDING.

Beaufort Deserted.

OUR ARMY SAFELY LANDED.

THE VICTORY COMPLETE.

A Telegram from Jeff Davis Revealed the Destination of our Fleet.

FORTRESS MONROE, Nov. 12, via BALTIMORE, Nov. 13.—The steamer Bienville has just arrived at Old Point from the great expedition.

She left Port Royal on Sunday morning, and brings cheering intelligence. The Bienville proceeded at once to New York, where she will be due to-morrow (Wednesday evening) Capt. Stedman, however, left her at this place, and proceeds direct to Washington, with despatches and trophies—two brass cannon and secession flags. He reports the gale encountered by the fleet to have been very severe. The Union and Osceola went ashore and were lost, as previously reported. The Governor foundered at sea, but the Isaac T. Smith succeeded in saving all her crew, with the exception of a few marines. The fleet arrived at Port Royal on Monday the 4th inst. On Tuesday the smaller gun-boats sounded and buoyed out the channel, under a fire from the forts, which did no damage. On Wednesday the weather prevented active operations, but on Thursday morning the 7th inst., the men of war and gun-boats advanced to the attack. The action commenced at 10 A. M., and was hotly carried on, on both sides, and lasted about four hours, at the end of which time the rebels were compelled, by the shower of shells, to abandon their works, and beat a hasty retreat.

Our loss was eight men and officers, (including the chief engineer of the Mohican) killed, and about twenty wounded. The rebel loss is not known, but fifty-two bodies found by our men were buried. All their wounded, except two, were carried off. Two forts were captured, Fort Walker, on Hilton Head, mounting twenty-three guns, and Fort Beauregard, on Bay Point, mounting nineteen guns. Two guns were of heavy calibre. These were both new and splendid artworks of great strength, constructed in the highest style of military science, and pronounced by our engineers as impregnable against any assault by land forces.

The final retreat of the rebels was a perfect rout; they left everything, arms, equipments of all kinds—even to the officers' swords and commissions—all the letters and papers, both public and private, order books and documents of all kinds, were left in their flight and fell into our hands, affording our officers much valuable information. Among the papers was a telegram from Jeff Davis to the commander of the post, informing him of the sailing of the fleet, and that he knew their destination to be Port Royal. The whole surrounding country was seized with a perfect panic. The day after the fight the Sacco and two other gunboats, under the command of Lieut. Arnold, proceeded up the river to Beaufort, and found but one white man in the town, and he was drunk. All the plantations up the river seemed to be deserted, except by the negroes, who were seen in great numbers and who, as the boats passed, came down to the shore with their bundles in their hands as if expecting to be taken off. They seized all the letters in the post-office at Beaufort. After the capture of the forts the whole army, about fifteen thousand men, were safely landed and established on shore. The forts are but little injured, but the rebels could not stand the explosion of our big shells.

The force of the enemy, as ascertained from their papers, was from three to four thousand men, under Gen. Drayton, of South Carolina.

Our victory is complete—the enemy leaving everything but their lives, which they saved by running.

J. S. Bradford, of the coast survey, bearer of despatches, and Lieut. S. Wyman, commanding the Pawnee, also arrived in the Bienville and takes the boat to-night for Baltimore.

The boats from the *Wabash* were the first to land after the fight, and Captain John Rodgers was the first man on shore.

The boats returned loaded with valuable trophies of all kinds, one of our officers finding an elegant cavalry sword, with solid silver scabbard. Swords, pistols, &c., &c., were scattered about in every direction and in any quantity. But four prisoners were found, two of them wounded.

All hands connected with the fleet are represented as acting in the most gallant manner.

The reporters who accompanied the expedition return to New York in the *Bienville*.

THE VICTORY AT BEAUFORT. FURTHER PARTICULARS.

New York, Nov. 13.—The *Tribune's* special report from Fortress Monroe, says that on Thursday morning the entire fleet formed in two grand lines for the fight. The steamer *Bienville* flanked the movement, which was in a circle, first delivering broadsides into Fort Beauregard on the northwest, and as the fleet came round raking Fort Walker on the southwest. Both forts responded vigorously. The *Pawnee* and *Mohican* having for the time being, got aground, were considerably damaged.

The bombardment lasted between four and five hours, when the Rebel flag on Fort Walker came down.

The Rebel loss is supposed to be about two hundred.

Gen. Drayton commanded at Fort Walker and Col. Elliott at Fort Beauregard. The Rebels retired across Scull Creek to a village 25 miles in the interior, where, it is supposed, they intend to make a stand.

The negroes had already begun to pillage and destroy Beaufort, the white population having fled to Charleston by small steamers through the inland route.

It is understood that Gen. Sherman will improve the defenses of his position before making any forward movement.

In the forts was a large supply of ammunition and stores of the best description. Commodore Dupont will immediately survey the harbor, place buoys and erect lights, and his position will be made a permanent base of operations.

Every one entered into the fight with the determination that the forts should be silenced, though it should cost the entire fleet. The gunboats stood between 800 and 1000 feet off the forts, used five-second fuses, and poured shells into them at the rate of 2000 per hour.

Not a single shell sent by the rebels burst in a ship. The *Wabash* was struck several times, as was most of the fleet, but every ship was in a fighting position when the rebels took to their heels.

The surgeon of Fort Walker was killed, and at Charleston the next day thirteen minute guns were fired, indicative of the burial of a Brigadier General.

General Sherman has hundreds, perhaps thousands, of negro laborers at his command to work on the new entrenchments.

A terrible panic prevails at Savannah and it is believed that the capture of that city could be easily effected.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 13.—The following are additional particulars of the bombardment: Notwithstanding the heavy calibre of the guns in the rebel forts, and their abundant supply of ammunition, as the subsequent discoveries proved, not a single vessel of our fleet was either sunk or burnt, and none were seriously injured or even disabled.

The gunboat *Pawnee*, which rendered efficient service in the fight, suffered more severely than any of the war vessels engaged, and yet she was not disabled in the slightest. A round shot went through her ward-room and another ball damaged the second Lieutenant's room, causing some havoc among the furniture, but doing the ship no material damage.

This ship lost six killed and two others of her gallant fellows were wounded.

Your correspondent regrets that he is unable to furnish the names of the killed and wounded.

The flag ship *Wabash* escaped with a slight injury to the main mast by a round shot. The *Poconahonts* had but one man injured. The Chief Engineer of the *Mohican* was killed; an Assistant Engineer of the *Poconahonts* is reported badly injured if not killed.

The Rebels set a trap but it missed fire. When our brave fellows landed to take possession of the forts, they found the rebel flag at the fort, an *Altus* Head, still flying, and just as one of our men pulled at the halcyons to draw down the traitorous banner, an explosion took place in the house just vacated by the rebel officers, but doing little damage and injuring no one. It was found on examination that the rebels had, before vacating the place, arranged what they thought would prove a deadly trap to the victors. Mines had been laid and matches so arranged that when the halcyons of the flag should be drawn down the mines would be sprung, firing the magazines and blowing up the whole work, and involving the victors in common ruin; but it did not go off and soon the brave old flag, the Stars and Stripes, waved in triumph from the rebel flag staff.

The magazines were found to contain large quantities of powder and a vast quantity of ammunition, shot and shells, and various descriptions of projectiles—the latter chiefly of English manufacture.

The *Saugahanna* had three men wounded. The list of casualties, as before stated, gives only eight killed and some 20 wounded, only a small portion of whom were con-

sidered seriously or dangerously hurt. All the wounded were doing well, and a great part would be sent home in a few days.

The town of Beaufort was entirely deserted, except by the negroes. The troops had not occupied it when the steamers left, being better engaged in strengthening their position.

THE NEWS AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Capt. Stedman arrived to-day at noon, bringing the official despatches from the expedition. He is also the bearer of two rebel flags, one a Balmatello flag, and the American flag first hoisted in South Carolina over Fort Walker.

Capt. Stedman reports that the captured forts are magnificent works, with covered ways and bomb-proofs. All that our troops had to do was to occupy them and they can be held against any land force.

Among the most efficient vessels were found to be the new gunboats, and of which the Navy Department had twenty-three constructed expressly for such purposes, and their success, both in the gale and under the fire, was perfect.

Commodore Drayton, who commanded the *Poconahonts*, is a brother of Gen. Drayton, who commanded the rebel forts, and Capt. Stedman, who brings the despatches, is the son of a former Mayor of Charleston.

On the reception of the official despatches the following order was issued:— GENERAL ORDER.

The department announces to the navy and to the country, its high gratification at the brilliant success of the combined navy and army forces, respectively commanded by flag-officer S. F. Dupont and Brig. General T. W. Sherman, in the capture of forts Walker and Beauregard, commanding the entrance to Port Royal harbor, South Carolina.

To commemorate the signal victory, it is ordered that a national salute be fired from each navy yard at meridian, on the day after the receipt of this order. (Signed,) GIBRON WELLES.

Nov. 13th, 1861. The following is a portion of a private letter from flag-officer Dupont to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

ON BOARD FRIGATE WARASH, Port Royal, S. C., Nov. 9, 1861. My Dear Mr. Secy: During the disheartening events of our passage, my faith never gave way, but at some moments it seemed appalling.

On the other hand I permit no elation at our success; yet I cannot refrain from telling you that it has been more complete and more brilliant than I ever could have believed.

I have been too much fatigued to send a detailed official account of the battle. My report is full up to the eve of it, and I think it will interest you; but I have contented myself with a succinct account, which, I think, will be liked as well as a more detailed narrative. This I will, however, forward in time for the Secretary's report.

I kept under way and made three turns, though I passed five times between the forts. I had a flanking division of five ships to watch. Old *Tatnall* had eight small and swift steamers ready to pounce upon any of ours, should they be disabled. I could get none of my big frigates up. I thought the *Sabine* would have gotten clear and so the *St. Lawrence*. I sent no word and the *Savannah* was blown off.

I do not regret it now, except on their account. I believe my plan was clever. I stood against the tide and had the management the better in consequence. Their confidence was extreme that they could drive us away. They fought bravely and their rifles gung never missed.

An eighty-pounder rifle shot went through our mainmast, in the very center, making an awful hole. They aimed at our bridges where they knew they would make a hole if lucky.

A shot in the centre let water into the after magazine, but I saved perhaps a hundred lives by keeping under way, and being in close, we found their sights graduated at six hundred yards.

When they once broke the stampede was intense and not a gun was spiked. In truth, I never witnessed such a fire as that of this ship on her second turn, and I am told that its effect upon the spectators outside of her was intense.

I leave that when they saw the flag flying on shore, the troops were powerless to cheer but wept. Gen. Sherman was deeply affected, and the soldiers were loud and unstinting in their expressions of admiration and gratitude.

The works are most scientifically constructed and there is nothing like Fort Walker on the Potomac. I did not allow the victory to shock our ardor, in the very center, making under Capt. Gillis over to the other side.—To-day I sent an expedition to Beaufort to land the light vessels, but they were fired instantly after surrender.

Beaufort is deserted. The negroes are wild with joy and revenge; they have been shot down, they say, like dogs because they would not get off with their masters.

I have already a boat at *Savannah* and the communication between *Savannah* and Charleston is cut off.

A BRILLIANT AFFAIR OPPOSITE COLUMBUS!

AN EXPEDITION FROM CAIRO.

7000 Rebels Defeated by Half their Number. THE ENEMY DRIVEN FROM THEIR ENTRENCHMENTS.

Rebel Camp Burned—All their Stores, Cannon and Magazine Captured—Two Hundred and Fifty Rebel Prisoners—Loss of Union Troops 300 to 500—Rebel Loss Heavy.

CAIRO, Nov. 7.—An expedition left here last night, under command of Generals Grant and McClelland, and landed at Belmont, three miles above Columbus, at 8 o'clock this morning. The Union troops numbering 6500 men, engaged the rebels, whose force amounted to 7000, at eleven o'clock. The battle lasted till sundown. The rebels were driven from their entrenchments across the river, with great loss. Their camp was burned, with all their stores and baggage. Their cannon, horses, and mules, with 100 prisoners, were captured. The Union troops then retired, the rebels having received reinforcements from Columbus. Both of our Generals had their horses shot from under them. Col. Dougherty, of Illinois, was wounded and taken prisoner by the rebels. The rebel loss is not known. The Union loss is believed to be from three to five hundred.

After taking possession of the rebel camp it was discovered that the rebels were crossing over from Kentucky, for the purpose of attacking us in the rear. The order was given to return to the boats, when our men were attacked by the reinforcement of several thousand rebels from Columbus.

Another severe engagement took place, in which our troops suffered seriously. The losses, as far as ascertained up to a late hour last night, were as follows: Third Illinois Regiment, Col. Foulke, 160 missing and Major McClernan wounded and taken prisoner.

Colonel Buford's regiment returned too late for us to obtain any particulars of its loss. Colonel Dougherty, of the 22d Illinois Regiment, is reported to have been taken prisoner. Col. Lamon, of the 31st Illinois, is reported to be dangerously wounded.—Taylor's battery lost one gun. We have 250 prisoners, a number of whom are wounded. The rebels had 300 killed. The ground was completely strewn with their dead bodies.—The rebel Colonel, Wright, of the 13th Tennessee regiment, was killed. Gen. Cheatnam commanded the rebels; Gen. Polk being at Columbus. It is stated that Gen. Johnson, of the rebels, was wounded.

The gunboats rendered efficient service in covering our retreat, mowing down the rebels with grape. Some of our own men were killed by the fire. A flag of truce left Cairo this morning for Columbus, with from forty to fifty wounded rebels.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE BATTLE. CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—A special Cairo dispatch to-day gives the particulars of the fight at Belmont yesterday:

Our force consisted of the following Illinois regiments: 22d, Col. Dougherty; 27th, Col. Buford; 30th, Col. Foulke; 31st, Col. Ligon; 7th Iowa Regiment, Col. Lamon; Taylor's Chicago artillery, and Duller's and Delano's cavalry. They left Cairo on the steamers *Alex. Scott*, *Chancellor*, *Memphis* and *Keystone* State, accompanied by the gunboats *Lexington* and *Tyler*. After landing they were formed in line of battle, Gen. McClelland in command of the Cairo troops, and Col. Dougherty of the Bird's Point troops.

They were encountered by the rebels, 7000 strong, and fought every inch of their way to the enemy's camp, making havoc in the enemy's ranks. Col. Buford was the first to plant the stars and stripes in the enemy's camp. Col. Dougherty's regiment captured the rebel battery of twelve pieces, two of which were brought away. Colonel Foulke's men suffered greatly, as they were in front of the batteries before they were taken.

Belmont has been abandoned by the rebels. They have one hundred and fifty prisoners, and acknowledge three hundred and fifty killed, but would not permit the Federal officers, who went to Columbus with a flag of truce yesterday, to visit the place to which they conveyed their dead.

St. Louis, Nov. 9.—General Grant telegraphed from Cairo to Head Quarters here that our victory at Belmont was complete.—We captured one hundred and thirty prisoners and all the rebel artillery, but were obliged to leave part of the guns behind for the want of horses to haul them away. Some of the prisoners report that a large force was preparing to start to reinforce Gen. Price, but this attack will no doubt prevent it.—Our loss was about two hundred and fifty, and of this number about one half were killed or mortally wounded.

Official Account of the Battle at Belmont. WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—The War Department has received an official telegram concerning the battle at Belmont, Mo., which generally confirms the newspaper statements. It says that Capt. Bielaski of General McClelland's staff was killed, and among other particulars, we fought all the way into the enemy's camp immediately under the guns of Columbus, spiked two guns and brought away two, together with 200 prisoners. The Federal loss is stated at 300, and that of the enemy being much heavier.

The Battle of Belmont—Private Letter from Gen. Grant. From a private letter of Gen. Grant to his father, hurriedly written on the night of the 8th, we are permitted to extract the following: Day before yesterday I left Cairo with about 3,000 men in five steamers, conveyed by two gunboats, and proceeded down the river to within about twelve miles of Columbus. The next morning the boats were dropped down out of range of the enemy's batteries, and the troops embarked. During this operation our gunboats exercised the rebels by throwing shells into their camps and batteries. When all ready we proceeded about one mile toward Belmont, opposite Columbus, when I formed the troops in line, and ordered two companies from each regiment to deploy as skirmishers, and push on through the woods and discover the position of the enemy. They had gone but a little way when they were fired upon, and the ball may be said to have fairly opened.

The whole command, with the exception of a small reserve, was then deployed in like manner and ordered forward. The order was obeyed with great alacrity, the men all showing great courage. I can say with great gratification that every Colonel, without a single exception, set an example to their commands that inspired a confidence that will always insure victory when there is the slightest possibility of gaining one. I feel truly proud to command such men.

From here we fought our way from tree to tree through the woods to Belmont, about two and a half miles, the enemy contesting every foot of ground. Here the enemy had strengthened their position by felling the trees for two or three hundred yards, and sharpening their limbs, making a sort of abatis. Our men charged through making the victory complete, giving us possession of their camp and garrison equipage, artillery, and everything else.

We got a great many prisoners. The majority, however, succeeded in getting aboard their steamers and pushing across the river. We burned everything possible and started back, having accomplished all that we went for, and even more. Belmont is entirely covered by the batteries from Columbus, and is worth nothing as a military position—cannot be held without Columbus.

The object of the expedition was to prevent the enemy from sending a force into Missouri to cut off troops I had sent there for a special purpose; and to prevent reinforcing Price.

Besides being well fortified at Columbus, their number far exceeded ours, and it would have been folly to have attacked them. We found the Confederates well armed and brave. On our return, stragglers that had been left in our rear (near front) fired into us, and more recrossed the river and gave us battle for full a mile, and afterward at the boats when we were embarking.

There was no hasty retreating or running away. Taking into account the object of the expedition, the victory was most complete. It has given us confidence in the officers and men of this command that will enable us to lead them into any future engagement without fear of the result. Gen. McClelland (who, by the way, acted with great coolness and courage throughout, and proved that he is a soldier as well as a statesman, and myself each had our horses shot from under us. Most of the field officers met with the same loss, nearly one third of them being themselves killed or wounded. As near as I can ascertain, our loss was about 250 killed, wounded and missing.

A Glorious Rout of the Rebels in Kentucky. FOUR HUNDRED KILLED. 1,000 PRISONERS TAKEN.

PARIS, Ky., Nov. 12.—Gen. Nelson met the rebels under Gen. Williams at Pikesville, Pike county, Kentucky, on Friday last, and gained a glorious victory.

SECOND DISPATCH. PARIS, Ky., Nov. 12.—Col. Leab Moore attacked the rebels in the rear with 3800 men, Col. Harris, of the Ohio 2d regiment, in front with 600 men—Col. Harris falling back and Col. Moore pressing forward until the enemy were brought into the midst of General Nelson's brigade, when our forces pressed them upon all sides, killing 400 and taking 1,600 prisoners. The killing scattered in all directions. The Federal loss is small.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT. LEXINGTON, Ky., Nov. 12.—A courier from Gen. Nelson's brigade, with despatches to Adjutant General Thomas, reports that there was fighting at Pikesville for two days. The rebels lost 400 killed and 1,000 prisoners.

[Pikesville is in Pike county, the extreme eastern county of Kentucky, and Gen. Nelson and Gen. Schoeffer are steadily making their way towards East Tennessee, where the Union men are waiting to join them.]

IMPORTANT FROM TENNESSEE. The Union Men in Earnest.

PARIS, Ky., Nov. 12.—The Union men of East Tennessee have burned numbers of railroad bridges, and destroyed telegraph wires, to prevent the transportation of rebel troops.

One bridge, of two hundred feet span, was destroyed on Saturday morning last; it was on the East Tennessee Railroad.

Four structures on the line north of Knoxville were entirely destroyed. A very heavy wooden bridge at Charleston, Bradley county Tennessee, was destroyed on the evening of Friday last. Charleston is seventy-five miles south west of Knoxville, and contains 200 inhabitants.

This action of the Union men will convince the Government that East Tennessee will redeem herself if an opportunity offers.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 12.—The bridge across the Cumberland river on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and in the rear of the Rebel General Buckner, has been burned by the Union men of Tennessee, causing great excitement among the Rebels.

FROM WESTERN VIRGINIA. Attack of the Rebels on Guyandotte.

The town of Guyandotte, Va., on the Ohio river, 30 miles below Gallipolis, was attacked on Sunday night by 600 rebels.

Out of the 150 Federal troops stationed there only about 50 escaped—the rest were killed or taken prisoners. The rebel residents of the town, both male and female, fired from their houses on our men.

Three steamers which passed down on Sunday night were compelled to put back. These steamers went back to Guyandotte, at 10 o'clock on Monday morning, with 400 Union troops from Point Pleasant, but nothing has been heard from them since.

The Town in Ashes. GALLIPOLIS, Nov. 11.—The steamer Empire City has just arrived from Guyandotte.

The secession portion of the inhabitants, it appears, were looking for the attack, and had a supper prepared for the rebel cavalry, who were headed by the notorious Jenkins and numbered eight hundred. Eight of our men were killed and a considerable number taken prisoners. The rebel loss is not known.

Col. Zeigler's Fifth Virginia (Union) regiment, on its arrival at Guyandotte fired