



CLEARFIELD, PA.

Wednesday Morning June 5. 1861

Is Greely Going into the Slave Trade?

This political prostitute and disturber of the peace of our country, has labored for years to prove that slaves were not property in the eye of the government of the United States.

The only reason we can assign for this late and abrupt change of opinion, is that if slaves are men they must be taken and held as prisoners of war, and if the present war shall continue, it may not be long until our army, by holding them as such, will have more prisoners than soldiers.

How is it now? He found the "machine" running without soldiers, the revenues undiminished, and at least a hope everywhere prevailing that a state of prosperity would soon be restored to the country.

Quite a difference.—Some time ago the Secretary of War, General Cameron, awarded a beef contract to a number of political jugglers, headed by his chief associate, George M. Lauman, of Reading.

Then, too, if the exigencies of the campaign required so supervening a proceeding, these contracts and bidders might be destroyed—as property. For example, when cannon are about to be abandoned to the enemy, a prudent general causes them to be spiked—and so thoroughly spiked as to be forever worthless, as cannon, to the foe.

When the war is over, these contraband negroes will have to be treated like other articles contraband of war, taken from the enemy. They can never be given up to their former owners, nor ever paid for under any settlement; because everything contraband of war, taken during the contest, is absolutely and hopelessly forfeited.

A random shot, which we felt constrained to discharge at the Wide Awakes, in our issue of the 22d ult., intended solely for home consumption, it seems actually hit, and almost killed, the editor of the Jefferson Star, and thus threatening the total destruction of the School Department of our sister county, of which he is Superintendent.

Hon. Wm. M. Meredith, of Philadelphia, has been appointed Attorney General by Gov. Curtin, in the room of S. A. Purviance Esq., who resigned to preserve his "self-respect" at 1.

A Bankrupt Law

An understanding that numerous petitions are being sent all over the country, following the passage of the bill, when this next to July next, to pass a general bankrupt law.

We hope that no one will allow himself to be drawn into this scheme. Remember the Act of 1842 by which \$400,000,000 of debts were ignored, yet a large number of those who took the benefit of the Act in 1842 have since become able to pay those they defaulted out of their just dues.

Some of our readers will no doubt recollect that Mr. Seward asserted, in his speech at the Astor House in New York, on the 22d of December last, that in sixty days from that time our troubles would all be over; that about the same time General Cameron asserted in the Senate that this bluster in the South was all for political effect, and would soon blow over; and that Mr. Lincoln in his speech at Pittsburgh in February last, said that there was "nothing wrong" and "nobody hurt;" and still later, on the 8th of March, Senator Douglas, in his speech on the President's Inaugural address, emphatically declared that that document contained and meant nothing but peace, and he so accepted and endorsed it.

How is it now? He found the "machine" running without soldiers, the revenues undiminished, and at least a hope everywhere prevailing that a state of prosperity would soon be restored to the country. It now takes 250,000 soldiers to run the "machine," the revenues down to nothing, and all kinds of business prostrated, and unrelieved by the faintest hope.

Some time ago the Secretary of War, General Cameron, awarded a beef contract to a number of political jugglers, headed by his chief associate, George M. Lauman, of Reading, for which the government agreed to pay \$8 per hundred, live weight—equal to 14 or 15 cents per pound for the beef.

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FROM CAMP CURTIN

The following letter was intended for our last paper, but failed to reach us in time. We hope our intelligent correspondent will always be "able to report" and never feel the want of an inclination to tell us of the scenes in and about the Camp. We are sure our readers will join us in this wish.

I have had it in view ever since we came to Camp Curtin to give you an occasional account of our employments and enjoyments as "hold soldier boys;" but a multitude of causes have thus far prevented me from putting my design into execution.

We have now been here about seven weeks, and it is uncertain how much longer we may remain. Our boys are a little impatient to be sworn into the service, get some pay and some clothing, but we hope in the early part of this week, we will be examined, sworn in, and be supplied with raiment.

We learn here that some strange rumors concerning us reach our friends at home. You may safely treat every report in disparagement of either of the Companies from Clearfield county, as idle and unfounded. They have as good a reputation at headquarters as any in Camp.

To day is hot and sultry, and I am consequently not in a literary mood, or I would endeavor to describe some of the incidents occurring here which illustrate Camp life. Perhaps on some future occasion I may be able to furnish you with something more interesting than this.

At a meeting of the Raftmen Rangers, held at Camp Curtin, May 30, 1861, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted without a dissenting voice:

Resolved, That the rations supplied to this Camp are in great quantity and excellent in quality, and that as soldiers, our expectations of Camp comforts are more than realized; and we hereby tender our thanks to the commanding officer of the Camp, and those acting under his immediate supervision, for the efforts they have made, and are now making, in our behalf.

Resolved, That we are fully satisfied from assurances given us, that Gov. Curtin, and those acting in connection with him, are making every reasonable effort to have us fully equipped and well armed, as soon as it is in their power to do so.

Resolved, That we enter upon our duties as soldiers, with a full sense of the responsibility of the solemn oath we have taken; and as men, who are enlisted for a term not exceeding three years or during the war, we pledge ourselves to fight in defence of our flag, until its starry folds float proudly from every fortress and city in the Confederate States.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Raftmen Journal and Clearfield Republican for publication.

Names of Officers and Privates of The Raftmen Rangers

- W. A. DAVIS, Captain. W. B. HARRISON, 1st Lieut. JAMES M. WELLS, 2d Lieut. Addleton, William Littlefield, B. Frost, Jones, John McKee, Peter J. McVicker, G. H. McDonald, G. B. McClosky, S. A. McLaughlin, David McQuaid, Isaiah Morrow, Ephraim Mowton, A. I. Mortimer, Samuel McLean, Chas. R. McNeiland, Hiram Mason, E. P. Norris, John H. Pettigill, R. R. Pifer, Peter Ross James F. Reed, Samuel Rex, R. J. Rish, John Robertson, Alex. Riley, Thomas Smith, Porter Spencer, Wm. H. Smith, Philander Spencer, Jas. J. Straub, D. E. Shaver, Dan. Shirk, Joseph Scott, G. P. Shingo, Peter Thompson, T. J. Taylor, G. W. Wilson, Wm. F. Wilson, John H. Williams, D. F.

THE WAR NEWS!

From the Baltimore Sun, May 21st.

The Marlboro' Gazette states that a company of the federal troops entered Port Tobacco, Md., on Saturday or Sunday last and intended camping there. Some of the citizens of that county are suspected of having requested the Government to send the troops there, on the plea that they were required for the protection of the Union men.

Nearly one hundred regiments have thus far been accepted for the war from the States of New York, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. The contingents from the other States will bring it very near two hundred.

A general order has been issued from the War Department, granting to the volunteers now enlisted in the service of the United States the same money allowances for clothing for the regulars.

One of the rifle companies from Arkansas now in Virginia, is commanded by Captain Crockett, a grandson of the famous Davy Crockett. The company carry a banner upon which appears the inscription: "Be sure you're right; then go ahead."

The prizes brought up to the navy yard at Washington, on Wednesday, are valued at \$32,472—the British schooner Troop Wind, laden with tobacco, worth \$22,472, and the schooners Gen. Knox and Virginia, laden with timber, each to the amount of \$1,000. The former was captured down in Hampton Roads, and the two latter down at the mouth of York river. They are now at the yard awaiting the order of the District Court of the United States.

The National Patriot learns from a private letter that Taylor, of the First Tennessee Regiment, who killed Lieut. Davidson, of the same corps, at Lynchburg, Va., a few days ago, was tried by a court-martial at Richmond, and sentenced to be shot. The sentence, it is said, was promptly executed.

Hardly had the soldiers been there five minutes till they had arrested and under guard as many secessionists, namely:—a tavern-keeper named Wells; Mr. Knotts, a merchant; Charles Matthews, supervising agent on that section of the B. O. R. R.; Dr. Grant, defeated secession candidate for the Legislature, and one Snodgrass, a constable. These men all seemed to expect immediate execution, right on the spot. They were arraigned before Col. Kelly, who released Wells, Knotts and Grant; on their taking the oath of fidelity, but retained Matthews and Snodgrass.

It was rather surprising to see the secessionists, "Snake Hunters," as they style themselves, on a boat. As certainly as they would see a man anywhere within sight a squad of them would seize their guns and start after him on a run, and before very long would bring him in for they were sure of their game if they got eyes on it. The prisoners were all treated with the utmost courtesy, but nevertheless some of them looked terribly frightened.

The two bridges burned were over Buffalo creek, and were common open pier railroad bridges, all iron except the sills and the cross-ties of track, both of which were consumed.

The anxiety about the splendid iron bridge over the Monongahela is especially very great. It was said in Mannington that the Union men of Fairmont were guarding it. Sunday night several bridges between Mannington and Glover's Gap, were guarded by citizens of the former place.

The military headquarters has information that one of the Fire Zouaves was killed and another wounded near Alexandria last night.

Acquia Creek is fifty five miles below Washington, and flows through Stafford county, Virginia, into the Potomac. It is the terminus of the Fredericksburg and Patuxent Railroad, and is on the direct line of communication with Richmond. Its possession is, therefore, of the greatest importance to the rebels, and it will probably not be relinquished without a stubborn resistance.

The Richmond papers of Thursday give the details of Jeff. Davis' journey from Montgomery to Richmond. Jeff. Davis, accompanied by his aid, Col. Wigfall and lady, and Robt. Toombs, of Georgia, left Montgomery by the cars on Sunday evening last. They made no special stoppage on the way, and owing to a previous severe indisposition of Jeff. Davis, it was desirable that his trip should be as private as practicable.

A sentinel at Cloud's Mills, on the outskirts of Alexandria, was shot and killed last night, and another wounded—it is supposed by rebel scouts.

Further and more definite particulars of the skirmish in Virginia last night have been received. It appears that a force of Federal cavalry and infantry, the former commanded by Lieutenant Tompkins, and the latter by Lieutenant Gordon, attacked the rebels at Frintax Court House at day break. The infantry force consisted of only forty five men, our troops met the picket guards of the rebels at a point about four miles this side of the Mill, and made an unsuccessful attempt to secure them. The pickets fled and conveyed the alarm to the rebel camp. Our cavalry then charged into the town encountering a vigorous resistance. They were fired at from houses on both sides of the streets, and from all quarters of the town.

Lieut. Tompkins' horse was shot under him, and in falling beneath the animal the Lieutenant's ankle was sprained. The cavalry were finally completely inclosed by a company of rebel infantry, who beset them in front and rear, and poured in volley after volley upon them. Lieut. Tompkins and his men finally fought their way out, bringing with them no less than seventeen rebels as prisoners. All of these except five afterwards escaped, but the five were safely brought in.

Some of the staff officers of the Fifth Regiment of New York were with the Federal troops, and several were wounded but none mortally. It is reported on the authority of Lieut. Tompkins that not less than thirty of the rebels were killed. The force of the rebels at that point was about fifteen hundred men. This feat of arms is considered very gallant, and the conduct of Tompkins is highly praised.

At Petersburg there were not less than five thousand troops, and these were reported to have moved to Norfolk on Wednesday. The city is strongly fortified. Park and lawn are very high. A North Carolina regiment arrived on Sunday—1,200 men. They were received with great enthusiasm. At Manassas Junction there were ten or fifteen thousand troops, on Monday these troops were encamped. At Winchester there were 3,000 troops, and at Harper's Ferry 15,000.

An officer from Montgomery, said that Gen. Beauregard would reach Norfolk on Monday. Jeff. Davis was unwell, but would come on as soon as possible. Business is prostrated everywhere. Stores closed and the people despair and full of fight. The crops look promising.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH

According to the New Orleans Delta, the State of Louisiana had in the field on the 25th ult. 7,350 men, besides 4,000 in awaiting orders, and 5,000 armed and equipped for home protection.

Col. Van Dorn has by letter informed a committee of the citizens of Memphis that at an early day he will place troops on the Rio Grande frontier for ample protection.

Four steamers passed Vicksburg on the 23rd, and Confederate troops from New Orleans for Fort Smith, Arkansas, to be commanded by Brigadier-General Ben McCulloch.

The convicts in the Virginia Penitentiary are now employed in making gun-carriages, wagons, axes, picks, flint-shirts, cloth for uniforms, army shoes, tents, wheelbarrows, and fitters for the wounded.

Col. Gains, of Pensacola, offers to be one of twenty to raise \$50,000 in land, to be given to the soldiers from that county who may be engaged in any battle for the Confederate States.

It is stated that a vessel (the Eliza Ross) has safely arrived at Savannah, from Europe, with rifle cannon.

The Mobile Tribune is informed that an agent of the French government is in that city for the purpose of obtaining facts relative to the condition of the South.

The government clerks at Montgomery received orders to prepare to remove to Richmond on Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

BY LAST NIGHT'S MAIL

A Great Man Has Fallen!

We are advised by the Pittsburgh Dispatch of yesterday, that the Hon. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS died at Chicago, Ill., at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 2d inst.

His remains would be taken to Washington city for interment, where his first wife, and one or two children are buried.

His death was not unexpected—having been seized with a malignant fever on reaching Chicago some weeks ago, and for several days the telegraphic dispatches have been indicating a fatal result.

Mr. Douglas was a really great man. Intellectually, he had no superior, as is demonstrated by the many official positions he has so conspicuously filled, as well as by the position he has so long occupied before the country.

The nation may well mourn his loss. Says a cotemporary: "He was liberal to a fault—indeed reckless in pecuniary expenditure—and although at one time reputed to be very wealthy, it is stated that he leaves his second wife and her child in penury." He was about fifty years of age.

We have no further war news by last night's mail. Both parties are evidently preparing for a desperate struggle, and from the indications the country will not wait long.

STATEMENT OF THE CLEARFIELD COUNTY BANK, for the month ending May 31, 1861:

Table with columns for ASSETS and LIABILITIES, listing various bank items and their values.

JAS. B. GRAHAM, Cashier. Clearfield, Pa., May 31, 1861.