



Wm. M. BRESLIN, Editor and Proprietor. LEBANON, PA. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1861.

RESIGNATION OF GEN. SCOTT.

Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, retired from the active duties of his position as Commander-in-Chief of the American Army, on Friday last. The following is his letter of resignation:—

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Washington, D. C., October 31, 1861. The Hon. S. Cameron, Secretary of War. Sir: For more than three years I have been unable, from a hurt, to mount a horse or walk more than a few paces at a time, and that with pain. My only relief has been in the use of medicine, which has done me no good, and which has, in fact, done me more harm than good.

At four o'clock in the afternoon the Cabinet waited upon the President and attended him to the residence of General Scott. On being seated the President read to the General the following order:—

On the 1st day of November, A. D. 1861, upon his own application to the President of the United States, Brevet Lieutenant General Winfield Scott is ordered to be placed, and hereby is placed, on the list of retired officers of the Army of the United States, without reduction in his current pay, subsistence, or allowances.

Gen. Scott was born on the 13th of June, 1776, in Petersburg, Virginia, and consequently is in the 86th year of his age. In consequence of Gen. Scott's retirement the command of the armies of the United States devolves upon Major General McClellan. The office of Lieutenant General is held by Gen. Scott for life by act of Congress, and dies with him, if not subsequently revived by Congress.

A Washington correspondent, says:—There is no indication of a forward movement of the army for some days. Preparations are still going forward on an immense scale, and before the tenth of this month they will all be thoroughly completed.

Late accounts from the West report that about 150 of Gen. Fremont's body guard, under command of Major Zagonyi, made a dash at Springfield, Missouri, on the 25th ult., and drove out 2200 rebels. They routed them—cleared the town of them, and hoisted the national flag upon the Court House. Our loss was sixty-four killed, wounded and missing, while that of the rebels was fifty to sixty killed, and forty to fifty wounded.

It is said that John C. Breckinridge has published a manifesto to the people of Kentucky, dated at Bowling Green, in which he resigns his seat in the United States Senate, and states that he "exchanges with proud satisfaction his term of six years in the Senate for the musket of a soldier." This may be true and it may not.

The number of land forces now in the service of the government to suppress the rebellion is estimated to exceed 512,000 men. The great naval and military expedition, intended for operations on the Southern Coast, has at last left for its destination—wherever that may be. The fleet sailed from Hampton Roads on Tuesday morning last week, in fine style, the weather being all that could be desired.

The abolition wing of the Republican party are all siding with Gen. Fremont, and against the administration, in the trouble between them. The Lancaster Examiner, the organ of Thaddeus Stevens, of last week, says:—

"Gen. Fremont will come out of this struggle with the people who are in earnest to put down this rebellion, on his side. It will not do for the Administration at Washington to cry out 'ex travaganza' to help carry out the spite of the Blair, who millions upon millions have been squandered so near home, without ever striking an effective blow, except to make Washington safe."

From the official reports of both sides we learn that the number of troops engaged at the Battle of Ball's Bluff was, Unionists 2100; Rebels 2500. The number of killed, wounded and missing on our side is about 900; while the rebel loss is 900. The battle was a terrible one; in fact the most so of any engagement yet had during the war.

In another column we publish a letter from Thurlow Weed, to his paper, the Albany Journal, dated at Washington. Mr. Weed has for many years been one of the "big guns" of the opposition, and his writings have always been noted for their reliability. In the war between the administration and Gen. Fremont, he sides with the former, and it appears has abundant reasons for so doing.

Interesting from the Upper Potomac. DARNESTOWN, Oct. 29.—On Sunday last the pickets of the 29th Pennsylvania, which regiment was stationed on Muddy Branch, discovered a scow floating down the Potomac, near Virginia shore. Private Magee, with others procured a skiff, crossed the river, and intercepted the scow on its downward passage. It was found nearly full of water, but contained thirty-one guns with fixed bayonets, twelve haversacks, and three knapsacks. From certain indications it is believed that this was the principle boat used in transporting Gen. Baker's command from Harrison's Island to the Virginia shore, and which went down loaded with the dead and wounded of the battle of Ball's Bluff.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS IN THE ARMY. At the solicitation of Gov. Curtin, Rt. Rev. Bishop Wood has forwarded to Harrisburg the names of several Catholic Chaplains for Pennsylvania regiments, the object being to place them in the army. On Wednesday, a commission was sent from the Executive to Rev. M. F. Martin, of Pittsburgh, who has been appointed Chaplain in Col. Owen's regiment. He left last Friday for the seat of war.

A letter written by Garibaldi to the United States Consul at Antwerp, settles the question with reference to the coming of the Italian Liberator to this country, at least for the present. He regrets his inability to take part in the struggle of the Government against the rebellion, and thinks that, should the war continue, he may yet overcome all obstacles, and hasten to the defence of the Union.

FIRST EMPLOYMENT OF COAL AS FUEL. As an evidence of the vast difficulties experienced by introducers of new articles, from the prejudices of a community alone we may mention a fact in relation to the employment of the useful material of coal as a fuel. When coal was introduced into England as a fuel, the prejudice against it was so strong that the Commons petitioned the Crown to prohibit the "noxious" fuel. A royal proclamation having failed to abate the nuisance, a commission was issued to ascertain who burned coal within the city of London and in its neighborhood, and to punish them by fine for the first offence, and by demolition of their furnaces if they persisted in transgressing. A law was finally passed making it a capital offence to burn coal in the city, and only permitting it only to be used in the forges in the vicinity. It is stated that among the records in the town of London, a document was once found purporting that in the time of Edward

I a man had been tried, convicted and executed for the crime of burning coal in London. It took three centuries to entirely efface this prejudice.

A Sheriff's officer was sent to execute a writ against a Quaker. On arriving at the house he saw the Quaker's wife, who, in reply to the inquiry whether her husband was at home answered in the affirmative, at the same time requesting him to be seated, and her husband would speedily see him. The officer waited patiently for some time, but the fair Quakeress coming into the room, he reminded her promise, that he should see her husband.

Thurlow Weed on Fremont. WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Since it cannot be concealed or denied that General Fremont's conduct in Missouri has been the subject of official inquiry, as is now the occasion of Executive vituperation and of popular solicitude, I have made it my business to obtain, from various but reliable sources, information from which the people, as coming, as I have, to a conclusion unfavorable to General Fremont, it is scarcely needful to say that I had, in doing so, to "conquer" my "prejudices." My relations with General Fremont have been intimate and pleasant. I believed him eminently upright and patriotic. I thought him well fitted for the high command with which he was invested; and he went forth with his heartfelt aspirations that he would render good service to our country and win glory to himself.

He surrounded himself with a numerous staff, none of whom were residents of Missouri, organizing, simultaneously, a body guard, consisting of nearly three hundred horsemen, through whom access to the chief is as difficult as the approach to a monarch in the darkest ages of despotism. He has appointed and commissioned, without the shadow of authority, more than fifty officers, with the rank of colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major, captain, &c. Col. Andrews, the United States paymaster, was required to pay these officers, and upon his refusal to do so, was threatened with imprisonment. He was also directed to make an illegal transfer of \$100,000.

A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE. The Memphis Argus gives the following account of a miraculous escape from starvation of a gentleman residing in Lauderdale county, Tennessee, near Hale's Point. Last week he was out hunting in a large bottom in his neighborhood, and he observed a wild goose fly out of a large cypress stump, which was some twenty feet high. His knowledge of the habit of these geese led him to believe that the goose had a nest in the stump. On the outside of the stump were a number of vines, which he pulled up to peep in and get possession of the eggs. After he had succeeded in gaining the top of the stump, he discovered a large number of eggs some six or eight feet down inside. The nest, he supposed, was on a firm foundation, and he accordingly let himself down on the inside; but when he struck the substance on which the nest was built, he discovered that he had no foundation, and soon found himself sinking to the bottom of the tree.

The indebtedness of the quartermaster's department, for Gen. Fremont's command is over four million and a half. The disastrous condition of things is attributable to the "malign influences" of Californians with whom General Fremont became unfortunately connected in mining operations, and who hurried from the Pacific on learning that he was intrusted with a high military command. These ill-omened men, some or all of whom had a dark record in California, seem to have obtained either a voluntary or constrained control of the quartermaster and commissary departments of Gen. Fremont's military districts. The results and consequences are fatal alike to the interests of the country and the usefulness and reputation of the commanding general.

A Blind Bigamist.—Justice Foljambe, at Cleveland, Ohio, on Monday, had a case before him in which a blind man named Thomas Bishop, twenty-eight years old, living near Zanesville, was charged with bigamy. It appears from the evidence that on the 10th of September last he was married, under the name of William Gibeout, by the Justice Foljambe, to a blind girl from Huron, seventeen years old. They stood at the American House until September 17th, when he was married by the Rev. Mr. Starkley, to another blind girl from this city. He left with her next day, carrying off all the property of wife No. 1. He staid with wife No. 2 at Steubenville one night, when he deserted her, carrying off every thing she possessed in dresses, jewelry and money. On the 25th of the same month he was married in Marietta, under the name of August Cook, to another blind girl, with whom he lived four days, when he robbed and deserted her also. He then rambled about the

country, returning to Zanesville a day or two since, when he was arrested for bigamy. Justice Foljambe sent him to jail in default of \$1,500 bail.

Obtaining Husbands under False Pretences.—A law against obtaining husbands under false pretences, passed by the English Parliament in 1770, enacts—That all women, of whatever age, rank, profession or degree, whether virgins, maids or widows, who shall after this act, impose upon, seduce and betray into matrimony any of his majesty's male subjects, by virtue of sents, paints, cosmetic washes, artificial teeth, Spanish wool, iron shoes, bolstered hips, or high-heeled shoes; shall incur the penalty of the law now in force against witchcraft and like misdemeanors, and the marriage upon such circumstances, upon conviction of the offending party, shall be null and void.

Miss Kate Lawrence, daughter of Byron Lawrence, Esq., one of the wealthiest, and most influential citizens of New York City, took the white veil at the Ursuline Convent, at Morrisania, on Monday week. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of distinguished persons. The young lady was heiress to a large fortune and surrounded by the luxuries of the world, and the example she has given of religious zeal is rather remarkable.

Murder in New Jersey.—Large Amount of Property taken from the Body—Mysterious Case.—The body of an unknown man, some few days ago, was discovered by a citizen of Middletown, N. J., floating in the water. The corps was well and fashionably dressed, and in one of the pockets was found \$110 in gold, besides some loose change. An inquest was held, and so much money being found upon the deceased, it was supposed that the murder could not have possibly been done to gain, and the verdict was that deceased had come to his death by some unknown means. The Coroner, however, advertised the case for further information.

READING ANS COLUMBIA RAILROAD.—The Stockholders of this Company at a meeting held last Monday, at Michael's Hotel, in Lancaster, decided by a unanimous vote to authorize the President and Board of Directors to issue bonds to enable the Company to build the eastern end of the road, from Ephrata to Reading. Twenty miles of the road are nearly ready for the laying of the track.

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late Southern news inform us of the death of Gen. Sam Houston, of Texas. His ancestors emigrated to America from Ireland, and he was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, on the 2d of March, 1793. At an early age he emigrated to the then frontier regions in Tennessee. In 1813 he enlisted as a private in the United States army, and by the gallant service attained the rank of Lieutenant. After the close of the war, he resigned his bounty and commenced the study of law, establishing himself, when admitted to the bar, at Lebanon, Tenn. In 1821, he was elected major general of the Tennessee militia; in 1823, he was sent to Congress, and in 1827 he was elected governor of Tenn. In 1829, he resigned that office, and on account of domestic afflictions and other causes he deserted the haunts of civilization, and sought a residence among the Cherokee Indians, with whom he remained for several years. Then wending his way to Texas, he became actively identified with the rebellion of that State against the republic of Mexico, and in 1836 he was elected its first President. After its annexation to the United States Gen. Houston was chosen one of its first United States Senators, and his career in the Senate is familiar to every politician in the country. A few years ago a younger political aspirant gained the good will of the Texas Legislature, and prevented his re-election, but by an appeal to that people in gubernatorial canvass, he proved that his ancient popularity had not been undermined, and he was elected by a large majority. At the commencement of the present rebellion he was bitterly opposed to Secession, but the latest authoritative exposition of his views that has reached the North intimated that he had been unable to resist the pressure of the conspirators, and that recently he had become an advocate of their infamous cause.

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