

LANCASTER, PA., DECEMBER 3, 1861. GEO. SANDERSON, EDITOR. A. SANDERSON, Associate.



Now our flag is long to the wild winds free, Let it float over our father land, And the grand old stars and stripes shall be Columbia's chosen banner.

WAR NEWS. Public attention is beginning to be attracted towards the various naval and military expeditions, which have been for some time in process of organization, and are now said to be nearly ready for active service.

The military portion of the expedition, it is said, will be commanded by General B. F. Butler. Another and still more formidable expedition, under General Sherman, is also fitting out, to which the regiments now concentrated at Annapolis are to be assigned.

Information had been received at Port Royal of the occupation of Tybee Island, at the mouth of the Savannah river, by a detachment of marines from the gunboats Peconah, Seneca, Augusta and Flag. No opposition was offered to the landing of the troops on the island, the works upon it having been wholly abandoned before the arrival of the gunboats.

By the steamer from Fortress Monroe, which reached Baltimore on Thursday we have some reliable intelligence, via Norfolk, from Pensacola. Fort Pickens had not been breached as reported, but General Daug is described as being hopeful of early success, and as concentrating at intervals a terrible fire upon the fort.

On the other hand we learn that Col. Brown had destroyed the Navy Yard with hot shot and shell, and that Pensacola had been evacuated by order of General Bragg. It was feared however that Col. Brown would eventually be forced to surrender.

The Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia—Judges Allison and Ludlow—have decided the contested election case in favor of ROBERT EWING and ALBERT LAWRENCE, the Democratic candidates for Sheriff and Clerk of the Orphans' Court, and have approved their official bonds.

The defeated candidates—through their Counsel—have filed a petition contesting the election on new grounds. The Court appointed the 7th of December for a hearing of the complaint.

SLAVE PROPERTY. In anticipation that the report of the Secretary of War will recommend the emancipation of slaves belonging to rebels, the Philadelphia Bulletin, among other arguments in its favor of the bill, advances the following: The most valuable property of the Southern people is their negroes. They are recognized as property by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

BEAUREGARD vs. DAVIS. There is quarreling in South Carolina. The President and his Commander-in-Chief are said to be "wide as the poles asunder" in their war policy. Davis is for the defensive attitude; BEAUREGARD is bent on attacking the assailant. The modern Abolitionists represents a party who demand an attack on Washington and the capture of Maryland; his master thinks the present limits of the confederacy large enough for his supervision, and would feel quite satisfied in being able to hold his own. Thus divided in policy, of course they must clash in time of action. This it seems they actually did at the battle of Manassas. The recently published abstract of Gen. BEAUREGARD's report of that engagement, made public by the General's own consent, states that previous to the battle he forwarded to Davis a statement of his plans, including a proposal "to join the armies of the Shenandoah and Potomac with a view to the relief of Maryland and the capture of Washington." The report, however, says that the plan was rejected by the President. The document further states that on the 13th of July, when contemplating an attack on Gen. McDowell, BEAUREGARD telegraphed the War Department for a junction of Gen. Johnston's forces with his own, and that it was not until after several repetitions of the request, during the course of four days, that the President consented to order Johnston to his assistance. The promise given to the position in the abstract of the report, and the persistence of his publication by BEAUREGARD previous to the formal publication of the complete document by the proper authorities, indicates plainly an intention on the part of the General to throw the responsibility of the failure to attack Washington on the shoulders of Davis, while the extraordinary delay on the part of the government in publishing the report is strong evidence that Davis shrinks from giving publicity to evidence that would bring upon him the anathemas of all rebeldom. It was at least prudent to keep the report under seal until his re-election to the Presidency was secured. This antagonism between the President and the General has created an opposition in the press. The Charleston Mercury takes sides with BEAUREGARD, and throws the whole blame of the "inactivity" of the army on Davis. The Mercury asserts, on its certain knowledge, that President Davis on the battle field ordered the pursuit of the Federal troops to be arrested at the battle of Ball Run, and that General BEAUREGARD, in a letter to the Congress at Richmond, "complained bitterly of his not being enabled or allowed to realize the fruits of his victory at Manassas, by following up the enemy." The Richmond Dispatch takes up the matter in the interest of Davis, but is evidently embarrassed with the consciousness of handling a bad case, and can say little more than that the President "has acted with the best motives, and perhaps had sufficient reasons for an inaction, which, with the light possessed, appears totally inexplicable."

Such is the condition of affairs among the rebel leaders. Davis, in attempting to control the army, has lost, to a large extent, the confidence of the people. BEAUREGARD, in submitting to his domination, has probably become practically his master. The inactivity of the rebel President perhaps arises from causes that Davis perfectly comprehends, but which the people themselves would be very backward to appreciate. It may be that, with respect to the coveted capital, the President, more than the General, has considered the after question—what to do with it?—or it may be that the ruler in chief foresees that the natural process of abolition going on in Maryland might in a very few years render her a troublesome appendage to his government. Or, far more probable than either, it may be that Mr. Davis so well knows the impossibility of either capturing Washington or conquering Maryland, and still more of holding those positions if taken, that he deems it better to let the utopia alone. We apprehend the difference between Davis and BEAUREGARD consists in this—that Davis knows well the Federal strength and the rebel weakness, while BEAUREGARD comprehends neither. He may be a little wiser after a lesson or two from Gen. McCLELLAN.

RECEIVING HIS PAY. When Mr. CHESTER offered his compromise resolutions in the United States Senate last winter, and which had been adopted, would have secured continued peace and prosperity to the country, no man opposed them with more bitterness than Mr. Wilson, the Massachusetts Abolition Senator. Nothing but "no concession," were the words of his speech. It appears by the subjoined article, which we take from a Republican paper, that the valiant Senator is now receiving his pay. Like all other Senators and members of Congress who obstinately refused to listen to peace propositions, he is piling up a princely fortune at the expense of the people. What are these leading Republicans for the sufferings of the people so long as they can profit largely by the war? But to the article we have been speaking of:

"A LARGE CONTRACT.—Senator HENRY WILSON, of Massachusetts, has a contract for receiving one million pairs of army shoes.—Two five cent a pair, we are told, says the Boston Post, by those who are familiar with the modus operandi of giving out contracts, is a small sum to make on a pair that sells for \$2.25. This leaves the Senator the snug little sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars."

"The New York Tribune says: 'A gentleman in St. Louis writes us that Gen. Halleck's order respecting fugitive slaves is, so far as Missouri is concerned, the most retrograde step taken since the war began, and fully carries out the objects of the most rabid Slave States.'"

Gen. Halleck ordered the fugitive slaves to be turned out of his camp, and that no more should be received. His army has a certain work to do, namely, to suppress rebellion, and cannot afford to waste its time and energies in either catching runaway negroes or protecting them from capture. Gen. Halleck is wisely determined that the operations of the army under his command should not be obstructed by a crowd of fugitive slaves, who, in many cases, were mere spies of the enemy.

DEATH OF COL. WATMOUGH.—Col. John G. Watmough died at his residence, in Germantown, on Thursday morning, of cancer, which originated from a wound received in the war of 1812. Deceased took an active part in the late war with Great Britain. He was wounded in the attack on Fort Erie on the 15th of August, 1814, from which he never recovered. In 1830, Col. Watmough was elected to Congress, and subsequently was made High Sheriff of Philadelphia. He also held the position of Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia.

SHERIFF OF PHILADELPHIA.—Robert Ewing was commissioned Sheriff of Philadelphia, by Governor Curtin, on Friday last, and immediately entered upon the duties of his office. Justice, though tardy, has at length triumphed, and the vile machinations of a band of Philadelphia rascals have signally failed.

There are seventy mills in New England now engaged in making cloth for the Government, and the value of the goods is \$20,000,000.

THE REBEL GOVERNMENT suffers from swindlers as well as ours. The New Orleans Merchants' Journal declares that the hugest swindling is done by army contractors, and asserts that the money they have cheated the Confederate Government out of, by the sale of useless and unseaworthy steamers, bad medicines, poor uniforms, and miserable provisions, since the commencement of the war, would have furnished clothing for the 100,000 men on the Potomac.

MAGNITUDE OF THE WAR. Although as yet we have had no very decisive actions, when compared with some of the bloody battles of the past, yet in magnitude of preparation, the present civil war in America has scarcely a parallel in history. Some of our "engagements" and "skirmishes," too, have not been so very insignificant, and when compared with many conflicts in our own wars with England, will take rank far above them. The Albany Evening Journal has made the following interesting compilation from history, citing a few incidents from the war of 1812 to show what petty affairs, relatively, were some of the most brilliant victories achieved by our arms:

The first "battle" of any importance was that of Brownstown, near Detroit, fought on the 26th of August, 1812. Our force was only 600, that of the British and Indians combined, 750. Our loss was 18 killed and 63 wounded; that of the enemy 100.

At the battle of Queenstown, two columns of 300 men each, did about all the fighting on the 16th of September, 1812. In the report, it is stated that the British, in their report, say: "One third part of the men killed have saved all." As it was, some looked on, while "many fled into the woods," leaving the rest to their fate.

At the battle of Fort Erie, the English threw 2000 red ball shot without hurting a man.—Our loss was only 4 killed and 7 wounded. Brigadier Gen. Smith abandoned his favorable position of advantage on the West, because, although he had been preparing the ground, part of the summer, and had energetically drummed up volunteers, he had succeeded in collecting only 1500, and he did not think the odds could be successful unless he had 1500 more.

At the battle of York our force was 1700; that of the enemy 700 English and 100 Indians. Our loss was 306 killed and wounded, 1000 prisoners. This was one of the most brilliant of our victories, yet it is not to be compared with the battle of Belmont or that of the Bluff, either as regards the number engaged or the result.

At the battle of Sackett's Harbor, the enemy's force 1000; ours, 500. His loss in killed and wounded was 150; ours, 154. He took 12 trophies taken by our troops were the British flag and 200 muskets. Over the latter hung a human scalp.

Gen. Perry's victory on Lake Erie was esteemed a "big thing" in its day; yet his whole force consisted of only 54 guns and two masted ships. That of the enemy was 100 guns and 12 masted ships. Our loss in killed and wounded was 123; that of the enemy has never been definitely known.

At the battle of Chippawa our loss was 323; that of the enemy 514. At the battle of the Clouds our loss was 84; that of the enemy 582. At the battle of Baltimore the enemy's force numbered from 1000 to 8000; ours were probably less than 1000. Our loss was 170; that of the enemy some 700 in killed, wounded and missing.

Even the battle of New Orleans is insignificant to eyes that have witnessed a reconquest of the Potomac, 16,000 strong, and a review of 70,000 troops. The British, including sailors and marines, was about 14,000; that of Gen. Jackson, 3200 on the left bank of the river, and about 800 distributed in positions back of it. Our loss was seven killed and six wounded; that of the enemy, 700 killed and 1400 wounded.

It is safe to say that, notwithstanding the trophies of the war, and the laurels of the victors, a greater number of lives have been lost within the past five months than during the War of 1812.

THE NEW BLOCKADE. The work of sealing up certain Southern ports with sunken ships is to be prosecuted with energy and dispatch. The Government is purchasing an immense number of old-fashioned vessels, and ordering them to be sent to some of the harbors of the South. Some of them have served thirty or forty years of service, and are still staunch enough to float safely and comfortably around the globe. No difficulty is encountered in procuring all the vessels that are wanted, and, in fact, the only approach to those of the North, whose inhabitants have been chiefly instrumental in getting up the rebellion, will be a comparatively closed against commerce, at a point where the blockade is to be effected. A fleet will be detached from the dull blockading service and put to livelier business. Of the effectiveness of a "stone blockade" there is no doubt. "The Whin" is a vessel "leading" to the mouth of the Chesapeake, and is now in the Savannah place, and can be perfectly barred by five or six vessels. When these are sunk in the mud, by our own gravitation, and the vessel is left to rot, and before January, the work will be done. A great war fleet will be detached from the dull blockading service and put to livelier business. Of the effectiveness of a "stone blockade" there is no doubt. "The Whin" is a vessel "leading" to the mouth of the Chesapeake, and is now in the Savannah place, and can be perfectly barred by five or six vessels. When these are sunk in the mud, by our own gravitation, and the vessel is left to rot, and before January, the work will be done.

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