

The Lancaster Intelligencer

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1863. LANCASTER, PA., APRIL 14, 1863.



OUR FLAG. THE CONSTITUTION. AS THE WRECKED MARINER LIGHTS TO THE LAST PLANK, WHEN NIGHT AND THE TEMPEST CLOSE AROUND HIM.—DANIEL WEBSTER.

Now our flag is flying to the wild winds from the top of the mast, and the guard of its splices shall be Columbia's chosen band.

CLING TO THE CONSTITUTION, AS THE WRECKED MARINER LIGHTS TO THE LAST PLANK, WHEN NIGHT AND THE TEMPEST CLOSE AROUND HIM.—DANIEL WEBSTER.

The War News.

The long expected bombardment of the forts in Charleston harbor commenced on Tuesday last, in strict accordance with the instructions previously received by Admiral DROMONT. On Monday evening the Federal fleet made the first attempt to cross the bar, but failed. The following day, however, eight iron-clads and a large number of transports, succeeded in overcoming all obstacles, and four of the iron-clads soon afterwards proceeded to engage Fort Sumter and Moultrie and the batteries on Morris Island. During this preliminary conflict, the frigate Ironsides, mounting eighteen guns, was hit and run ashore; but subsequently got off, and was carried out of range of the Confederate fire. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the Ironsides, supported by nine iron-clads, re-opened fire upon the forts and batteries at a distance of three thousand yards. The firing was incessant on both sides until four o'clock, when the Ironsides and Keokuk withdrew, apparently disabled. The remainder of the monitors continued the bombardment until five o'clock, when the firing, which was chiefly concentrated upon Fort Sumter, gradually diminished. We have no knowledge of the casualties sustained by the Confederates, with the exception of those at Fort Sumter, where the loss is one boy killed, and five men badly wounded. Up to half-past one o'clock of the following day the bombardment had not been resumed. The Keokuk, seriously damaged the day before, foundered on the beach off Morris Island; and although there were seven iron-clads still within the bay, they craved, we are told, "no disposition to renew the conflict."

In regard to the conflicting telegrams which reach us from the Southwest, purporting to chronicle the movements of General GRAY, it is sufficient to state that the only reliable information we have is the effect that the troops are being rapidly withdrawn from before Vicksburg, and that a large portion of the army had already embarked on board of transports which were on their way up the river. General Steele's division, which was lauded at Greenville, Mississippi, with the alleged intention of marching overland to the Yazoo river to co-operate in the reduction of Fort Pemberton, and subsequently returned to the Mississippi with a quantity of beavers and cotton.

Gen. McClellan's Official Report.

The official report of General McCLELLAN, detailing his operations while in command of the Army of the Potomac from the evacuation of Harrison's Landing to his removal from command after the battles of South Mountain and Antietam, was found on our first page, and we invite for it the careful perusal of our readers. It has been withheld from the public for a long time by the War Department, and is only now permitted to be published simultaneously with the one-sided and partial report of the Congressional Investigating Committee into the Conduct of the War. The brave and accomplished young General, who twice saved Washington City from capture, has nothing to fear from the Abolition blood-hounds who are upon his track. He stands vindicated before the people and the army, and they will take care of his reputation, no matter what partisan malignity may say or do against him. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, to-day, stands second to no living man in the affections of his countrymen, and will live in history when his traducers and vilifiers will be forgotten, or only remembered to be loathed and despised.

School Superintendent.

Governor CURTIN has appointed Professor COBBURN, of Bradford county, to State Superintendent of Common Schools, in place of Hon. Thomas H. Baines, whose term will expire on the first of June.

SENATORIAL ELOQUENCE.—Jim Lane of Kansas delivered a speech at a "Union League" meeting in Washington recently. We make the following "elegant extract" from his remarks:

"As far as that is concerned, I would like to live long enough to see every white man in South Carolina in hell, and the negro occupying his territory. All this may sound to you very wicked, but to me there is no place on earth that I think now ought to be desecrated by a traitor."

If the white men of South Carolina go to the warm country he names, Lane will be sure to "see" them there, as he wishes.

The Conduct of the War.

The report of the "Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War," has just been published. The Committee consists of B. F. Wade, Z. Chandler, D. W. Gooch, John Covode, G. W. Julian and M. F. Odell, nearly all Abolitionists of the ultra stamp. Of course the document echoes the worst prejudices and theories of the Abolition party, and is intended as a partisan campaign document for the fall elections. Indeed the virulent New York Tribune has already announced its intention to issue the report in pamphlet form, for electioneering purposes. The largest portion of the document is devoted to an assault upon Gen. McClellan and his military campaigns, making him the author of all the misfortunes and disasters to our arms since his appointment to the command of the Army of the Potomac. It is an ex parte document, its details being partly wrought up to influence public opinion against Gen. McClellan and his numerous friends in and out of the army. But we predict that the labor of the Committee in this malicious work will prove unavailing, and that their vile attempts to injure the ablest General in the service will recoil upon their own heads. The Committee do not account for the disasters which have everywhere attended our efforts for the past year, while Gen. McClellan has been in retirement and the Abolition radicals have controlled the policy of the Administration.

Arrested for Treason.

Four men named Philip Huber, Gabriel Fillbert, Dr. A. F. Illich and Harrison Oxenrieder were arrested in Berks county on Wednesday last by the United States Marshal, on a charge of holding treasonable meetings in a barn in Marion township, and taken to Philadelphia. They had a hearing before the U. S. Commissioner on Thursday, and were admitted to bail on their own recognizance for trial at the next term of the U. S. District Court. We rather think the prisoners above alluded to must be "Union Leaguers," as Democrats are called in the habit of meeting in secret conclave as these new-fangled Know-Nothings, yelped Union Leaguers, do. Democrats have no concealments. Their principles are open and avowed, and any body can attend their meetings and hear all that is said, at their pleasure. They never meet in old barns and outhouses and plot treason in secret or openly, as the Union Leaguers do.

The Cameron Bribery Case.

The Committee appointed under the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 20th of January last, to inquire whether unlawful means were employed to secure the election of SIMON CAMERON to the Senate of the United States, in last January, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject. We suppose this ends the whole matter.

Connecticut.

This State has, as usual, gone for the Abolitionists, but by a much smaller majority than last year's. Buckingham is elected Governor over Seymour by about 2,500 majority. Last year it was 9,148. The Abolitionists elect three members of Congress—Henry C. Deming in the First district, Augustus Bandage in the Third, and John H. Hubbard in the Fourth. The Democrats elect one member, James E. English in the Second district. The Democracy of Connecticut have made a good fight, under all the circumstances, against the whole power of the Administration concentrated against them. They did all they could, and more we did not expect.

VAN WYCK ON FRAUD.

In a speech delivered by Mr. Van Wyck (an honest Republican) in reference to frauds on the treasury, in the House of Representatives, Monday, Feb. 23, he said: "The neck begins to chafe where the yoke of this heavy burden is borne. The administration has feared to drive such men from its door, lest hostility should be aroused against it. That which they supposed strength has been the great source of weakness. With a single exception, when has one of these men been court-martialed or punished? To-day they have injured the republic more than the South in arms. Had they been arrested and placed under the gallows or in Fort Lafayette, your army would have been stronger, and your people at home more united. No wonder that they cannot appreciate the patriotism of stealing. Your army, for a mere monthly pittance, deprived of all the luxuries, and at some times, the necessities of life, enduring all the privations which men make in making mockery of the misfortunes of the nation, unchecked and unpunished, coming gold from the tears and sighs of the people. These things produce more distrust than change of commanders or circulation of newspapers."

UNCONDITIONAL WAR MEN.

We like the men who never say die—who go for the Union now and forever—who will never consent that the South shall go. But there is a class of unconditional war men which we are not in love with. They are described in the following spicy paragraph from the New Haven Courier, a Republican paper: "These are the men who, in the honest Republican says of these villains: 'Contractors have carried on the war. The blood of our men, the graves of the wounded, the tears of the widows, the wall of the widow, have been watered with money. They have swindled the Government out of hundreds of millions. They have piled fortune on fortune, and as a distinguished officer Washington writes us, all the operations of this war are managed by political swindlers.

GEN. BUTLER IN NEW YORK.

GEN. BUTLER addressed a meeting of the New York "Union League" on Tuesday night week, at the Academy of Music. The admissions were by ticket, and the Academy was filled, a large number of ladies being in attendance. Gen. BUTLER'S speech was of the most radical character, as may be judged by the following extracts. "We quote from the Tribune: 'We have no occasion to carry on the fight for the Constitution as it was. [Cheers.] I beg your pardon, the Constitution as it is.—Who is interfering with the Constitution as it is? Who makes any attacks upon the Constitution? We are fighting for those who have gone out and repudiated the Constitution.' [Cheers.] And now, my friends, I do not know but I shall use some heresy, but I am a Democrat, as Andrew Jackson Democrat, I am not for the Union as it was. [Great cheering, "Good!" "Good!"] I say, as a Democrat, and an Andrew Jackson Democrat, am not for the Union as it was. I am not for the Union as it was, because I saw, or thought I saw, the troubles in the future which have burst upon us; but having undergone those troubles, having spent all this back again and be cheek by jowl with South Carolina as I was before, if I can help it, [Cheers, "You're right!"] Mark me now, let me not be misunderstood. There are none so slow to understand as those who do not want to mark me. I say I do not mean to give up a single inch of the soil of South Carolina. If I had been alive at that time, I would have been in the front, and the ability, I would have dealt with South Carolina as Jackson did, and kept her in the Union at all hazards; but now she has gone, and I will leave her as she comes in again, she comes in better behaved [cheers] that she shall no longer be the freeman of the Union; and, and she shall enjoy what her people never yet have enjoyed—the blessing of a Republican Government. 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