THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1786. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 15, 1863. VOLUME LXXVI---NO. 182

COMMISSION, &c.

HENRY MACKROWN. WILMER LINHART.

MACKROWN & LINHART, FLOUR and GRAIN FACTORS, PRODUCE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, for the sale of Flour, Grain, Pork, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Eggs, Cheese, Beans, Tallow, Grease, Feathers, Potatoes, Pot and Pearl Ashes, Seeds, Linseed and Lard Oils, Dried and Green Fruits, Timothy, Clover, Flax and Grass Seeds. Cash advances made on Consignments. ap4:1y. No. 207 Liberty st., Pittsburgh.

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JAMES DALZELL & SON, MANUFACTURERS OF LARD (OIL) and COMMISSION MERCHANTS for the purchase and sale of CRUDE AND REFINED PETROLEUM, Nos. 69 and 70 Water st., Pittsburgh. Advances made on consignments.

HOLLAND RIDDLE, successor to JNO. M'GILL & SON, No. 183 Liberty street, Pittsburgh, GENERAL PRODUCE, GROCERY AND COMMISSION MERCHANT. Consignments respectfully solicited. fe26:dly

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MEANS & COFFIN, Successors to M'Candless, Means & Co., WHOLESALE GROCERS, corner of Wood and Water streets, Pittsburgh, Penn'a. jy3:dly

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JOHN L. ROSE. EDWARD ROSE.

JOHN L. HOUSE & CO., WHOLESALE GROCERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, corner of Smithfield and Water streets, Pittsburgh, Pa. jy7

COOK, FERTIT & CO. COMMISSION MERCHANTS, and dealers in PRODUCE, FLOUR, BACON, WOOL, GRAIN, &c., No. 13 Smithfield street, Pittsburgh. may15:1y

EDWARD HEAZLETON, WHOLESALE GROCER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT, East corner of the Diamond, No. 18, Pittsburgh. mh14:1yrs

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A 6 octave Chickering, rosewood, round corners..... 150 00
A 6 octave Hallet, Davis & Co., rosewood..... 145 00
A 6 octave Stodart, mahogany..... 80 00
A 6 octave Swift, " 75 00
A 6 octave German, " 60 00
A 6 octave Needham, " 50 00
A 6 octave Loud, " 40 00
A 6¾ octave English, " 90 00
A 5 octave, " 15 00

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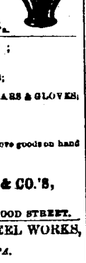

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MONDAY MORNING.....JUNE 15, 1863.

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Morning Edition, by mail, per year		$8 00.
" "	month	70.
" "	week	12.
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Evening Edition, by mail, per year		6 00.
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Weekly Edition, single copies, per year		2 00.
" "	clubs of 5 to 10, "	1 50.
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[From Saturday's Evening Gazette.]

The Defense of our Homes.

We await with some degree of anxiety the meetings already announced by our several home military organizations, for this evening, to recruit their ranks, with a view to the permanent defence of our homes. It will be seen, this evening, who are in earnest, and who are not. We have not lost faith in the patriotism of our people.

In order to open the case to those who hesitate because they cannot see the "emergency," or because it will "interfere with their business," or because they are afraid the government is "setting a trap to get them in for the war"—we have a word to say. It is not necessary that the rebel cavalry should be seen on the hills surrounding our city, or occupying Morgantown, to demonstrate an "emergency" to intelligent and prudent men. If they know that the capture and destruction of this city enters into the rebel plans, and that ten or twelve thousand rebel cavalry, with plenty of artillery, under a bold and dashing leader, might successfully accomplish that plan, they should see an imminent "emergency." In regard to the government "setting traps" to get the citizens of Pittsburgh and vicinity gulled into an unexpected and involuntary period of military service, we have only to remark, that the thought is unworthy honorable men, and we think none such should entertain it; it is impugning the honor of the President, the Secretary of War—himself almost one of our citizens—and that of Gen. Brooks, who is in command of this Department.

So far as we have learned the intentions and wishes of Gen. Brooks, it is his desire to carry out his instructions, according to the order of the Secretary of War. He desires to take immediate steps for the permanent defence of our city—to do this promptly, and so as to involve the least possible sacrifice of time to the citizens who shall volunteer to that end. To render the crude forces efficient and reliable, he desires to bring them together at once, in the immediate vicinity of the city, and equip and drill. Meantime a strong corps of laborers will be employed in throwing up intrenchments and digging rifle pits—and this duty will not be devolved upon the citizen volunteers with arms—"citizens for labor, and soldiers for defence," will be the motto. When the volunteer forces have thus been brought together, and organized and drilled, so that the General may see what force he has to depend upon, they will be discharged, to return to their business, liable only to a call, perhaps once each week, for inspection and drill. The General Commanding desires to make the defense of our homes as light a duty as possible, compatible with the public safety. To this end volunteers will be kept away from their business just as short a time as is possible. The military duty, it is hoped, will be very light, after an organization is effected.

The Government will subsist the volunteers while in service, and the pay will be precisely the same as in the regular service. In order that the property holders, manufacturers and business men may bear their proportional share of the expense, it is urged with great force that, while the volunteer contributes his all—his time and services—those whose families and property are thereby protected should contribute liberally to reimburse him in part. It is therefore proposed that a fund be subscribed by the citizens to pay our brave volunteer defenders, while in the service, and trust to an appropriation by Congress to reimburse them. We have no doubt that our manlad men and institutions will see the necessity of providing a suitable and ample military chest, as a loan to the government until Congress meets.

We can honestly and earnestly urge this subject upon our citizens. Let each forget self, and sacrifice something to the common defence. We still think that the people will act promptly.

The Situation at Vicksburg--Security of Grant's Position--A Sortie--Visit to a Mine--The Fourth of July to be Celebrated in Vicksburg.

As the chief point of interest in our military operations, the eyes of the public are still directed toward the Western Sebastopol of the Rebellion, and the leaguer, inexorable as fate, which imprisons Pemberton and his army in their stronghold. The rebel chieftain, a renegade Pennsylvanian, is not wanting in the spirit and desperation which will hold out to the last, as we can judge by a speech he made after the fight of the 22d ult., which has been published in the Jackson *Mississippian*. He said:

"You have heard that I was incompetent and a traitor, and that it was my intention to sell Vicksburg. Follow me and you will see the cost at which I will sell Vicksburg. When the last pound of beef, bacon and flour; the last grain of corn; the last cow and hog and horse and dog shall have been consumed, and the last man shall have perished in the trenches, then, and only then, will I sell Vicksburg."

But even such brave words will not go far under certain circumstances of adversity—will not supply the inevitable exhaustion of provisions and ammunition, nor resist the sure progress of the works of a vastly superior force. The telegraph almost daily brings some fact or facts which show unmistakably that the day of doom to Vicksburg and its defenders cannot be far off. The latest, for instance, a dispatch from the rear of Vicksburg, dated the 8th, says:

The siege is regularly progressing. Our forces gain new positions from day to day, only to find equal difficulties presenting themselves from other quarters. We are mounting and advancing new large siege guns as fast as possible.

There are many indications that the rebels are becoming in want of both food and ammunition. All deserters coming into our lines, and there are plenty of them, tell the same story of suffering and destitution in Vicksburg. The women and children are compelled to stay in caves to avoid slaughter by shells, and of those in the caves some have been slaughtered, a circumstance of great horror.

We subjoin the following interesting letter from a correspondent of the N. Y *Tribune*, which describes the situation and progress of affairs up to the 6th inst., two days before the date of the above dispatch, and which will give a good view of the respective positions of the assailed and the assailants:

The Vicksburg problem is still unsolved. The ultimate reduction of that stronghold is in my own mind as certain as any future event. But how and when it is to fall, whether by starvation or storm, or the wear and tear of constant cannonading, whether to-morrow or next month, is entirely a matter of conjecture.

BUT TWO POSSIBLE SOURCES OF DELIVERANCE.

There are but two possible sources of deliverance to the besieged. If Johnston could muster a force of 30,000 men within 20 days, pass the Big Black and assault us in the rear, it is just possible that the army of Vicksburg might cut its way through, effect a junction with its ally, and thus escape. To attempt a diversion with any less force would be sheer madness. Suppose that Gen. Johnston, by weakening the columns of Bragg and Beauregard, and rallying the scattered and demoralized forces of Loring and Bowen, collected an army of 30,000 men.

Suppose that by desperate fighting and unwearying labor he succeeded in storming the strongholds at the Big Black now held by Osterhaus, who is one of our best Generals, or getting through the net-work of obstacles on the Baldwin's Ferry road, he would only succeed in bringing a jaded and dispirited army face to face with one of the largest, best equipped, and most determined armies in the country, intrenched in a cordon of fortifications almost as formidable in position as those which protect Vicksburg. He would have to fight an enemy capable of re-enforcing from all points, without any concerted plan with the besieged, and with a strong probability of being whipped in detail.

A SORTIE.

Pemberton's army might make a desperate attempt to break through Uncle Sam's net between McClernand's left and Warrenton. There has been some little apprehension of this in official circles. On the night of the 1st of June, we were wakened by a sharp firing of musketry, mingled with heavy cannonading. The first supposition was that the enemy were attempting to cut their way out. It proved to be merely a sortie upon Benton's miners. Two or three men were wounded in the sally, but our artillery immediately opened upon them and forced them to retire. I look upon such an attempt at escape as hardly probable, and only as an alternative of an army utterly despairing of all other means of deliverance. If Pemberton succeeded in cutting his way through our lines before Sherman and McPherson could arrive, he would still be obliged to flee in total and fatal rout, or to fight the whole combined army. In either alternative nothing but ruin complete and irremediable would be the consequence.

POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER ASSAULT.

It is possible that Grant may feel justified in making another assault, rather than to await the slow progress of the siege. Our army is slowly lessening the space which divides it from the enemy. McPherson's approaches are very close, as are those of Burbridge and Benton, in Carr's Division, and those of Gen. Hovey.

VISIT TO A MINE.

A few days since, having a curiosity to get a near view of the rebel earthworks, I determined to explore one of the mines now in operation. Since this approach is in plain view from the enemy's works, I believe I am not violating any confidence by describing one of them. As the constant fusillade of sharpshooters rendered the visit extremely unsafe during the day, and the moon was at the full, I selected the close of the evening as the most propitious time for the enterprise.

With the guidance of Lieut. Adams, carefully shunning every crest, and threading the windings of ravines, I soon found myself among surroundings which plainly betrayed the presence of the enemy. The slopes of the hollows on the side next the rebels were excated and burrowed into by the soldiers as a refuge from canister shot and spent minies. The picket guard were lying musket in hand just under the crest of the hill, in dead silence or talking in suppressed tones. Except for the occasional far off rushing sound of bombshells, the air was completely still. I learned that, by creeping up the hollow to the left and emerging at a point where the storm of bullets had been sweeping the hottest, I would strike the trail of our pioneers.

Picking my way through the shadows of the excavation and the line of pioneers at work like beavers with pick and spade, I came at length to the extremity next the enemy, where the moonlight streamed in obviously from above. At the farther end, a line of rifle pits intersects the mine, partly sheltered by cotton bales. Cautiously looking over the embankment, I found myself apparently a good deal less than a hundred yards from the Vicksburg intrenchments. The grim battlements, three in number, loomed up in the uncertain light, immediately in front and almost on either flank. This silent scene was a slumbering gulley, soon to be on fire and resonant with concentrated musketry and cannonading. Here occurred the sortie and sharp engagement that alarmed us a night or two after.

As to the number and whereabouts of these rifle pits, it would be unwise to speak, as some of them may be as yet undiscovered. They may prove of advantage, but their success is extremely problematical.

FOURTH OF JULY IN VICKSBURG.

A number of observatories are being extemporised, which will command a large portion of the enemy's works and a part of the city. A tall tree, stounded by means of a ladder, in General Hovey's Division, affords a fine view of the city. We have constant proof of the fact that the garrison is on very short allowance and cannot hold out long. Great quantities of dead cattle have been seen floating in the river below the city, and many are being turned out of the works into our lines. Thirty-three prisoners, who were let out under pretense of killing beef, all gave themselves up, and represent matters in the city as in a most deplorable condition. Recently, it is said, the rebels have been firing old nails and pieces of chain—a fact which indicates either a refinement of cruelty or exhaustion of ammunition. The army expects to celebrate the 4th in Vicksburg.

ANOTHER piece of rebel gasconade and falsehood may be read in our dispatches, copied from a Richmond paper, stating that Kirby Smith had taken Milliken's Bend, and cut off Grant's supplies. Our own advices, by a steamer which left Milliken's Bend later than the date of the rebel dispatch, show that so far from having captured, the rebels had been repulsed and driven back with great loss in their attack on that place. They may have surprised our troops, and driven them toward the river at first, but whether by the aid of the gunboats or not, certain it is that our men, both white and black, were victorious in the end, and drove the assailants away.

BLOCKADE RUNNERS.—A correspondent of the New York *Tribune* at St. Johns, N. B., vindicates the citizens of that town against charges of blockade running, and shows that most of the contraband trade from there is done by Americans who pretend to be loyal. Steamers are sent from Boston and New York to St. Johns, their names changed, contraband goods are put on board by Yankees, and the boats clear under a British register for Nassau, the common rendezvous for pirates and thieves of all nations. It is a pity the Government cannot get hold of some of the enterprising villains engaged in this business, the Judases who subscribe to the National loan with one hand and stab the Nation's heart with the other.

FIVE THOUSAND one hundred and fifty emigrants arrived in New York city last week, and 49,652 have reached that port since the 1st of January. Only 20,688 arrived during the same period last year.

THE New Orleans *True Delta* newspaper, established by the late John Maginnes, was sold at auction on the 23d ult., to Dr. Kennedy, for a long time the editor of the paper, for $15,817.50.

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