

*High Gazette.*

TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 15, 1861.

The Florida Expedition.

When the first report of an expedition to Florida reached us we confided to our friends that it was to be an early report to the effect that Gen. Clinch was coming North to lay some of the blame of the military authorities at Washington, simply in the light of a not very ingenious story got up to amuse the idlers and quidnuncs who are always gratified, and for the time being satisfied with a sensational climax, however extravagant, or even unmerciful and impudent, it may be. We thought it not improbable, also, that both Gen. Graxson and the military authorities would be in no hurry to answer the challenge, and in the course of such stories, looked beyond home consumption and the amusement of the speculative classes we have just alluded to, and finally calculated on the effect they might have in causing the Hinchliff and Charles rebels to, so to speak, gain points by deviating their attention to another point of view, of expecting to find General Graxson here, when we should have him here from him, as in Washington, or on any part of the Florida peninsula, of the South, we rather inclined to believe that he would be found doing something important and practical, such as circumventing his watchful antagonists, Beauregard, and approaching Charleston, by some route less difficult than those hitherto attempted.

We now believe that the reported Florida expedition is a bona fide affair—the circumstantial statement of the details by the man who made it, the British seems to put beyond all question.

we confess to have no very high opinion of the wisdom that planned it, and consequently no very sanguine expectations of the advantages, military or political, which it may promise.

The New York Times, in referring to it, is probably not far wrong in saying:

"Jacksonville will be well occupied by our troops, and twice as busy as usual; and because the forces are wanted elsewhere. There is not the small,

military importance in Florida, for the rebels have no force there worth speaking of, and the State has no strategic value whatever. Had we indeed strength enough to march into Florida, we know not how to use it, and it is not likely that we could do much with it."

But we have the force to do that?

Can we afford to send 10,000 men into a kind of military Coventry merely to accomplish this object? Surely not. We trust there is wisdom in this move other than mere policy; but, for the present, we can't see it."

While we confess equal inability to see it, still we candidly wish that the wisdom may nevertheless be there, and manifest itself one of these days.

The Vote on the Enrollment Bill.

We have received the vote on the new Enrollment Bill, which passed the House on Friday last, and find that very few of those gentlemen who are commonly classed as Democrats voted for it. Of the Pennsylvania Democrats in the House, Meeker, Atwater, Synder, Randall, Gutzow, Denison, Coffroth, Dawson, and Lyle, voted against the slave amendment and the bill, while the others voted for its final passage. Mizner died before the vote was taken, but still voted against the bill. Jones died before both votes; Bates voted against the amendment, but voted for the bill; McClellan dodged the amendment, but voted for the bill. There were 57 votes against the amendment, and 60 against the bill, and all of these were either Democrats or Borderers, who, as a friend of the Administration, voted against the bill. We will hardly do after this for our Democratic friends to claim that "they are as much in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war as we are, when their representatives in Congress vote so stiffly against a war measure of the most vital necessity. Without the prospect of a large addition of volunteers to those in the field we could not sustain upon a long campaign without heavy loss of life, and the draw of the fear of it, we could not procure men for the cause. We cannot, therefore, provide any answer why the Democracy should claim to be the true "war party" of the country. And yet many of its managers have had the effrontery to do this thing quite extenuately of late. No sooner has the administration everywhere gone upon the theory of a long war, and begun gradually to incarnate the idea, than they were the best men in the country. They only differed from the Administration, in two particulars: they were honest; it was not; they were in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war; the Administration was not. We have had this same song rung unto us for months, and now, when the opportunity offers, we find the same old dandies in their way. It won't do, gentlemen, to be told that you are "for the cause." Your acts belie the fair name of your words."

The Executive-General.

The eight military positions of Lieutenant-General, Major-General, and three others during our history, General Washington, General Scott, the latter by brevet appointment; Gen. Washington was appointed Lieutenant-General and Commander of the Armies of the United States in 1778, when we diffidently with France threatened immediate war. Opened in 1799, the grade of Major-General was created for him alone, and with him, and although officially his brevet was augmented in Congress, it was never done until several years after the Mexican war. The long and brilliant services of General Scott, ranging through the war of 1812 and the Florida and Mexican wars, led to the removal of the grade by Congress under the act of Feb. 12, 1860. General Scott was succeeded in the command of the army by Gen. McClellan, who was appointed Lieutenant-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the United States in 1861, and remained in that position until his removal by President Lincoln in 1865.

Another other whistler statistic is where

Congress is a statement from the American Consul at Glasgow, that 2,000,000 gallons are annually distilled in the valley of the Clyde; this is largely consumed in Great Britain under a tax of £10 shillings per gallon, but when exported it is remitted.

The Seventeenth Congressional District.

The Hollidayburg Whig is determined that it shall not be participated in, indicating that it must be selected next summer as the Union candidate for Congress in the state of Pennsylvania, if this State is to have a Senator or Representative of this State.

The San Francisco paper states that the government has directed the military commands in the large island of Santa Catalina, which lies off the coast of California, on the southern coast of California, to make the harbor of late become important from the fact that numerous railroads have been discovered there. It is believed, however, which will no doubt be made available, that this island was to be made the refuge of rebel pirates, who were to make frequent visits to the coast of California, to capture some of the treasure ships.

A Radical Organization in Kentucky.

A meeting of Kentucky radicals

in Louisville on the 8th instant, for the purpose of organizing an anti-slavery party.

The State of Kentucky has adopted

approaches to the Union candidate for Congress in the state of Kentucky.

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