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WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 13, 1864.

Preparation.

The highly important order just issued from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, may undoubtedly be regarded as the most significant note of preparation which we have yet heard. It is a clearing of the decks for active operations. It directs that public and private property for which transportation is not furnished by existing orders shall be at once sent to the rear; that all sutlers and private citizens shall leave the army by the 16th inst.; that only members of the Sanitary or Christian Commissions and registered newspaper correspondents can remain. All furloughs and leaves of absence are stopped, and all officers and men doing duty in other corps than their own are ordered to return to their regiments. General Grant visited the extreme front of the lines on Friday. He made a close observation of the regiments and brigades as he passed along, expressing himself highly gratified with their condition. He also made a careful reconnoissance of the enemy's defensive works on the Rapidan, and returned to his headquarters the same evening.

The heavy rains will, however, delay for some days—even for a week longer—any movements which Gen. Grant may have meditated; for Virginia, we learn, has been again consigned to the reign of mud, by the recent rains. The dispatch from St. Louis, which we published yesterday, also indicates very clearly that General Sherman is acting under instructions from the Commander-in-Chief, urgently requiring the same forwardness and finality of preparation in the Western Department, which we assume that Gen. Grant's personal presence are securing in the Eastern Department.

The Approaching Campaign.

It is hard, doubtless, for editors, as well as other people, to refrain from a little military campaigning in these days of military preparation and Virginia mud obstruction. We find, accordingly, on Saturday, the New York *Times* indulged its well-known proclivities; to the extent of an editorial column, in tracing out the possible, or probable, plan of operations for General Grant in the manner following—but we will only quote a paragraph:

"It may be considered certain, it says, that Grant's plan of operation, whatever it may be, will be one, which, like his superb operations at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, will completely startle the rebels—that it will be one which nobody expected, and that will take the country, as well as the enemy, by surprise. His campaign may be in Virginia, it may be in Georgia, and it may be in neither of those States; even though it be intended to bear upon one or both of the great armies of the rebels. In Virginia, he might adopt one or other of the plans that have heretofore been tried, or, discarding them all, he might adopt the palpable one, often discussed, of debouching an army at some point south of the James, and marching by Petersburg towards Richmond. Not less than seventy thousand men, we suppose, could be thus threatening Richmond from this direction. At the same time, eighty thousand, under Gen. Meade, press Lee's lines on the Rapidan. Lee should, of course, fall back under cover of the Richmond works. Here he would undoubtedly have a very advantageous central position for striking either invading army. His relation to our forces would be somewhat similar to that of Napoleon during the invasion of France by the allied before his banishment to Elba. But Lee is not a Napoleon, and as we have learnt, lost more than his right arm in his forward movement on Jackson's death. His forces would be inferior . . . of the invading armies, so that Grant need violate no rule of strategy in this double invasion. The drawbacks on our side would be the Spring rains and the malaria, which would weaken our ranks, and the raw character of many of the regiments moving from Fortress Monroe as a base. But the great attack must be by Meade's (seized by the Committee on Conduct of the War) army. The chances of battle are proverbially uncertain, but we do not see how Lee could comfortably survive under the grindings of this upper and nether millstone. He might, it is true, evacuate Richmond, and make a new line in the southern part of Virginia. But then Richmond would become our base, and the same game might be tried with a rear movement on our part from Newbern and Weldon."

The Mexican Loan has been taken by Glyns, Mills & Co., of London, to the amount of 120,000,000 francs of six per cents at 63. The subscriptions to the loan will be opened simultaneously in London and Paris, and by way of helping it off, it is understood that the Emperor and Empress of the French have promised to head the list in the latter city. By means of this loan the old Mexican-English 3 per cents are settled by capitalizing the 20 overdue coupons, and by the payment in specie of the 21st coupon last due. The French Government will receive sixty millions at 63, as an advance on the engagements undertaken by Maximilian.

The rebel papers publish a special dispatch from Dalton, Ga., which expresses the opinion that Sherman has taken up his headquarters at Nashville, as a blind to conceal Grant's movement on Richmond, and to enable Thomas to hold Johnston in check. A dispatch from Chattanooga to the Louisville *Journal* says that deserters who left the rebel camp on the 5th report that there is unusual activity in Johnston's army and that rumors of an advance on our forces are current. Johnston made a thorough review and inspection of his command on the 1st.

Ex-Governor Marmaduke, of Missouri, died in Saline county, in that State, on the 25th ult., at the age of 72. He had always been thoroughly loyal, and in his former years was a Benton Democrat. He was a brother-in-law of the notorious rebel Governor Claiborne F. Jackson, and of his three sons, Gen. John S. Marmaduke, of the rebel army; Henry Marmaduke, now in the Southern navy, and Vincent Marmaduke, banished for disloyalty, all proved recreant to the principles of their father. Mr. Marmaduke was Lieutenant-Governor, and ex-officio Governor of Missouri.

"Grace Greenwood" will lecture at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on the 18th inst., for the benefit of the Committee on Labor, Incomes, and Revenue, of the Great Central Fair. The title of the lecture will be the "Lights of the War Cloud." The lady, whose genius has made the *nom de plume* of "Grace Greenwood" familiar in every household in America, is not only a charming and graceful writer, but an eloquent and forcible speaker.

Andrew Carney, one of the solid men of Boston, died on Sunday evening. When the Mexican war broke out Mr. Carney was a journeyman tailor, working at his trade in the above named city. Large contracts for the manufacture of clothing laid the foundation of a fortune which at his death approached to very nearly a million. Mr. Carney was liberal of his means, and several of the noble institutes of his adopted city have shared largely of his munificence.

The guerrillas have ceased their organized raids upon our lines in Fairfax, and now content themselves with prowling around in small squads of three or four, most of them in Federal uniforms, and frequently visit loyal families, where they represent themselves as Union soldiers for the purpose of gaining information.

News and Miscellany.

Several gentlemen of Boston have purchased Palmer's patent, and have organized the American Artificial Limb Company. Two or three of the subscribers to the stock have each worn for some years an artificial leg of the Palmer pattern; and may, therefore be supposed to be competent judges of the value of the invention. The War Department, it is said, has granted to Mr. Palmer special permission to manufacture limbs for the rebels. Our sharpshooters will please make a note of this alleged fact.

The Navy Department has already taken measures to have two or three fast steamers placed on the track of the rebel pirate Rappahannock. It is said that a traitor, by intentionally giving false information to the commander of the United States steamer Kearsage, prevented that vessel or the Tuscarora from being able to intercept the pirate. The sailing sloops-of-war St. Louis and Constellation are to be relieved, and steamers sent in their place in the Eastern hemisphere.

It appears that personalities have been pretty freely bandied in the New Brunswick Legislature. The other day one of the members denounced another as "ignorant and impudent," and charged him with having "fed on potatoes most of his life." One of the local papers is very indignant at this depreciation of what it calls a "valuable esculent," and thinks the difficulty of getting these nourishing tubers is greater than the disgrace of eating them.

During General Sherman's expedition, a wounded Federal officer crawled into the yard of a secesh planter, when the latter took an axe, and with a fiendishness scarcely credible, struck him on the head, killing him instantly. A small party of Federal soldiers coming up shortly after, the negroes told them of it, when they immediately shot the planter, and placed him in the house, which they burned to the ground.

A Washington dispatch says that subscriptions to the ten-forty loan are beginning to come in from the army. So much as three hundred thousand dollars were ordered on Saturday. Doubtless the recent order of Gen. Grant putting to flight the sutlers and other hangers-on that bring taunts and curses in the way of the soldier, will greatly increase the subscriptions from the army.

A dispatch from Louisville reports that 19 rebels, belonging to the 3d Kentucky rebel cavalry, of Forrest's command, have been indicted in Christian, on the 6th inst., and took the oath of allegiance. They report that on March 26, when between Mayfield and Paducah, Forrest disbanded the 3d, 7th and 8th regiments Kentucky cavalry, and permitted them to go home.

The official Navy Register for 1864 has just been issued from the Government press. It reports the number of vessels, including those still building, to be 671; among them 72 ironclads and two rams, the Avenger and Vindicator. From Dec. 31, 1852, to March 6, 1864, the navy has lost 39 vessels by capture, destruction, snagging, wreck, &c., including six iron-clads and three rams.

The plan of patriotism belongs to the family of Wm. Mercer, residing in the vicinity of Bainbridge, Ross county, Ohio, who has eight sons and one grandson in the army. Their average weight is 200 pounds, and height six feet. In short, Mr. Mercer has 48 feet and 1,580 pound of boys in the army. Their mother says she has two more that will soon be ready if needed.

Affairs at Mobile are in statu quo. A rebel letter at Richmond reports from Mobile that eight Federal vessels are still lying off Fort Powell, and ten off Fort Morgan. The ram Tennessee, that was to destroy our fleet, is, as was stated a few days ago, a total loss, and our tars are having an easy time of it.

Gen. McDowell is about to leave for California, to assume command of the forces in that State. It is understood that the President will constitute a department of California, Oregon and a portion of the adjoining Territories, and authorize the organization of ten new volunteer regiments.

The Senate Committee has long under consideration the question of consequential damages to property destroyed by troops on the march, and agreed not to pass upon their merits now, but to wait until the exigencies of war have passed, and the Treasury is more replenished than at present.

On Sunday night last a band of forty rebels stationed at Cape Lookout, took possession of the lighthouse, put the keeper and his wife in durance, and exploded a keg of powder, which seriously damaged the building. They then retired on the approach of the steamer City of Jersey.

A little boy in Chicago, having been left lately to take care of the baby, failed to keep it quiet, and hit upon the happy expedient of sitting on a pillow with which he had first covered the child's head. The mother came in just in time to rescue the infant Desdemona from death.

The new regulations in regard to army chaplains, which will become a law, leave their pay as heretofore, but place their rank intermediate between that of surgeons and assistant surgeons, without command, and entitle them to pension in case of disability.

Mrs. Carey, a colored woman belonging to Canada West, is acting as recruiting agent for the Thirtieth Regiment of Connecticut (Col. Curtis & Co.,) Mrs. McGuffy, Esq., Richard Bard, Esq., Neal Liberty; John Quinn, Esq., (of Park, McCurdy & Co.,) Mrs. McGuffy, Esq., Dr. D. M. Hostetter, D. M. Bock, Esq., and Mrs. Blackmore, Pittsburgh. A guarantee of five years with each instrument.

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REMOVALS.

REMOVAL, TEMPORARY.

WILKINS HALL.

Our friends and the public at large will not, we trust, forget that we are at present, and for a few weeks, to be found at WILKINS HALL, over the Mayor's Office, Fourth street, where we have on exhibition and for sale as fine a stock of

PIANOS, HARMONIUMS AND MELODEONS,

as ever were brought to this city, and at strictly EASTERN FACTORY PRICES!

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REMOVAL.

Third National Bank, of Pittsburgh.

On and after MONDAY, April 11th, 1864, this Bank will transact its business in the building formerly occupied by the CITIZENS BANK, corner of Wood street and Virgin alley, Pittsburgh, Pa.

ap9:3w JNO. B. LIVINGSTON, Cashier.

REMOVAL.

FRANK VAN GORDER,

Produce and Commission Merchant, has removed to No. 10 SMITHFIELD STREET, corner of First.

ap9:2w

REMOVAL.—Alderman J. DONALDSON has removed his office from No. 45 St. Clair street to JACKSON'S BLOCK, next door to the Waiting Room of the Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad, Allegheny. ap9:1w

Evening Gazette Telegrams.

Guerrilla Depredations in Kentucky.

Houses Burned and Horses Stolen Opposite Caro.

Refugees Flocking into Memphis.

Great Excitement at Anna, Ill.

A Merchant Shot by a Soldier.

A Force Sent from Cairo to Prevent Further Bloodshed.

Cairo, April 11.—Last night the guerrillas burned two houses and stole several horses on the opposite side of the river from Cairo. A squad are reported to have been seen to-day on the Kentucky shore, between here and Columbus, not more than ten miles from Cairo.

Since Forrest's late operations, a larger number of refugees are flocking into Memphis and awaiting transportation North than any previous period since the beginning of the war.

A soldier shot a merchant of Jonesboro, at Anna, Illinois, this afternoon, killing him instantly. The Provost Marshal received a telegram for assistance to come immediately. A train just started with a force to prevent further bloodshed.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Harrisburg, April 12, 1864.

BILLS REPORTED.

Senate.—Mr. Johnson, relative to increasing the pay of the Commissioners of Blair county; relative to grading Duquesne borough; Mr. Turrell, relative to the greater security of real estate; to authorize the Allegheny and New Brighton Turnpike Company to vacate part of their road; supplement to the act concerning the sale of railroads, canals and turnpikes; Mr. Fleming, relative to the First Baptist Church, Pittsburgh; Mr. Clymer, relative to special partnership; relative to the paying of bounties in certain boroughs and townships in Cambria county; Mr. Ridgeway, one to incorporate Kittanning into a city, negatived; Mr. Graham, one to protect bank creditors from frauds; one regulating the sale of liquors; Mr. Connell, one for the apportionment bill. Adjourned until afternoon.

House.—The House has been considering, all morning, the private calendar, and have not got through with the first reading. There is much agitation about the removal of the capitol to Philadelphia here. A large force is urging its passage. Adjourned un il afternoon.

Latest from Europe.

Sandy Hook, April 12th—12.30 P. M.—The steamer Virginia, from Liverpool on the 29th ult., via Queenstown on the 30th, has arrived here.

It was officially stated in London, on the 30th ult., that the Queen had announced her intention to hold a court at Buckingham Palace on the 6th of April, to receive the members of the diplomatic corps, and a second court on the 13th, to which a limited number of distinguished persons will be invited.

London, March 30.—Consols 91¼@91⅝, for money.

Liverpool, March 30.—The cotton market is dull and unchanged. The sales amount to about 5000 bales.

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We are also agents for Schomacker & Co.'s and Boardman & Gray's well known excellent Pianos, and S. D. & H. W. Smith's Melodeons and Harmoniums. Persons desiring a perfect instrument, are invited to call and examine the before purchasing elsewhere.

Among those who have purchased these instruments in this vicinity we take pleasure in referring to John Kirkpatrick, Esq., and Reformed Dutch Church, Sharpsburg; Rev. Dr. Herron, Rev. Dr. Hall, Rev. Dr. Boyd, Rev. Dr. Jennings, Rev. Dr. Wylie, Rev. Dr. Hogan, Rev. Dr. Black, Rev. Dr. Swift, Rev. Dr. Hays, Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Rev. Dr. Prestley, Rev. Dr. Hunter, Rev. Dr. Lowrie, Rev. Dr. Elliott, Rev. Dr. Wallace, Rev. Dr. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Stevenson, Rev. Dr. Hall, Rev. Dr. Herron, Rev. Dr. Bittinger