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The Pittsburgh Gazette.

Leading Matter from Yesterday's Evening Gazette.

BEN. WADE ON McCLELLAN.

In the fall of 1861, Mr. Chandler and myself telling that the army was laboring under some ifficulties somewhere, by reason of which progress was made, went off to the army to atisfy ourselves, and if possible discover where e difficulty lay. It was at a time when the ty capital of the nation was almost in a state siege, when foreign nations began to look on us as a conquered people, and when all the ends of the government were overwhelmed th storms and humiliation. Starting under e effect of this state of things we went down the camp and found a man who was the Gen- al-in Chief of the whole army of the United ates. We found him in command of 190,000 the best men that ever marshaled under the nner of battle. Never was an army got to- ther, comprising the patriotism and intelli- nce that were found under that General. It s the first rally of the patriotic host—the wer of the Republic to save the nation from struction. Go and converse with the soldiers d you will find men there more worthy to vern than many who are elected to govern em.

I told you that there were 190,000 of such men the "grand army." A military man of France id that the like was never seen on the face of e earth. Such bravery and with such sup- rt! He said that a French army of the same rength would subsist upon what was wasted. nd yet the rebels were almost in sight of the pital, flouting their rattlesnake flag in our y faces. How could you ask us to submit to his degradation without at least knowing the ason for its necessity? We had an interview th Gen. McClellan, and remonstrated with m for permitting the disgrace and dishonor of at great nation. We exhorted him, for God's ke, to at least push back the defiant traitors. hy can't you do it?

"Oh, I have not men enough?" [Laughter.] How many men have you? I know you have 90,000.

"Well, you have got nearer the number than here have." [Laughter.]

And more; I know that you have 190,000. ew sticks; pray tell, are the rebels?

"Oh, they are at least 220,000 or more, and ey are behind fortifications stronger than ose of Sebastopol."

Well, I could not dispute with him on that oint, because I had not been there to see, but did not believe a word of it, neither does y Democrat in the United States believe it. [Laughter.] I simply told him that to have got ogether such a number of that kind to have sup- lied themselves with formidable arm r, the re- els must possess some of the qualities of Christ making bread.—[Great laughter.]

Believe it or not," said McClellan, "I have it on the best authority. A gentleman dined ith me yesterday direct from Beauregard, and e reported that number."

Where is that gentleman now?"

Sent for him, said he.

Well, I can guess. I think he is dining with eauregard to-day and telling him exactly how many men you have got. [Laughter and pro- nged applause.]

Then we complained to Abraham Lincoln, and ged the necessity of making some change in he command of the army; but Mr. Lincoln re- lied that McClellan was a good General, whom e would not do to disturb, and with this we were ompelled to leave the White House, with the attlesnake flag flaunting its contempt in our very faces.

Well, Congress met and we turned to that body with the same hope that an impression would be ade. There were 200,000 fighting men by this me in the Army of the Potomac. I know the xact numbers from the records of the War of- ice, and I speak by the book. And there was enemy confronting our splendid host, and here was not a man over 40,000 of them.

We waited upon General McClellan, a man who personally knows what he is about [tremendous pplause] and asked him if he knew anything bout this enemy that is so dishonorable and utting us to shame. He answered that he posed greatly to their satisfaction. The Govern- ors of the rebel States had communicated to their Legislatures the number of troops that heir States respectively had furnished, and now that the Governors could not be likely to deceive and the number, for each one would be ispersed to make his State look as large as pos- ible. Gen. Butler had gathered these facts and epeating them, all together there were but 40,000 f them all, in round numbers!

I then waited up a Gov. Johnson, protesting gainst this state of things, and asked him to go down to General McClellan and remonstrate gainst this disgrace. We went together, and hat did we find? We found General McClellan onstructing some pontoon bridges, so that they ight have the means of a safe retreat, in case omething should happen! [Great laughter and pplause.] Knowing that there were 200,000 of ur men against 40,000 rebels, I was somewhat ndignant, and told General McClellan that I ould burn those pontoon bridges in the faces f the soldiers, and let him know that they had ot to whip the enemy or be lost. But that olley did not suit General McClellan. I was, plainly—unmilitary and injudicious.

Now there are some circumstances that led me o doubt his being a true man. I will not call im a traitor, but I will give you facts and you an judge whether he was a traitor or steward.

We took the testimony of the corps command- rs. Calling up each one as questioned about he situation. General M'Dowell, what do you now about the strength of the enemy? Their reply was that they were not permitted to get any such information. Should a deserter or contraband come into our lines the corps com- anders are forbidden to question him about the enemy; but the order was imperative to send the witness off to Washington to be exam- ned by General McClellan. [Laughter.]

What does all this mean? General Sumner an you tell us what this means?

No, I cannot tell, but such is the peremptory rder."

The only explanation of which such an order as susceptible, was that General McClellan de- ired to exclude the facts from everybody else, o that he could exaggerate the number of the nemy and thus deceive the President, Congress nd the country. [Indignation.] I cannot ome to any other conclusion. He had some urpose in that, and I leave you to judge of it in the light of the many other curious facts in his General's military career on the Potomac.

When General McClellan was solicited, for the sake of a distressed country, to cross the river, e hesitated, doubted and said it was dangerous— great laughter,] *it might bring on a general ca- pement!* [Renewed laughter.]

Why, General McClellan, I thought that was hat you desired, as you are so strongly fortified ere in this American Sebastopol. I thought you ould be glad to get him out of his entrench- ents and meet him on fair terms! But no, he ould not move.

At 24 at night got so desperate that he could stand it any longer, except Gen. McClellan himself, and there just like him. [Applause.] old Abe finally got up his k'bosh, and gave cClellan positive orders to move on a certain day.

What did this "Young Napoleon" do then? e did what he had never done before—obeyed n order of war! He gathered in twelve of his ost, and managed to get eight of them to ide it inexpedient to move; that it was ex- emely dangerous. Four of them stood out- ght. and begged General in Chief to be rst, and begged by a large majority that voted it. ay; but he had a large majority that voted it. ayes.

Old Abe was inexorable, and said to Mc- llan, "Go, or I will find some one who will ove." Upon this, he made a movement, growl- g and grumbling about getting some bad up, d you know the result.

There it is, (pointing to a stick of timber with a sh and painted black, lying on a table to his ft) "Quaker gun!" General McClellan and what new fortifications they had, mounted with such guns as that, and some of the rthworks were inadequate to any kind of ar- ery.

The victorious legions of Gen. McClellan came ck, and then it was that the campaign down Peninsula was planned. I desire the facts be carefully noticed, so that Mr. Lincoln may be relieved of the charge of robbing Gen. McClellan his troops, and so interfering with him that he uld do nothing.

It was at this time that we insisted upon the ction of the forces into army corps. Up to period that necessary work had not been ne. It is true that we were not educated in ese military science, but we consulted the book and d did displace some of his favorites.

And more; I know that you have 190,000. ow many men have you? I know you have 90,000.

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