

SECOND EDITION.

BY TELEGRAPH.

OPERATIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON.

Important Despatches from Admiral Porter.

INTERESTING FROM KNOXVILLE AND VICKSBURG.

Another Arrival from New Orleans.

An Effective Blockade at Wilmington, North Carolina.

TO-DAY'S WASHINGTON NEWS.

Proceedings in Congress and Legislature.

DESPATCHES FROM ADMIRAL PORTER.
WASHINGTON, March 16.—Admiral Porter encloses a communication from Lieut. Commander Thos. O. Selfridge, of the gunboat Conestoga, operating on the lower Mississippi in which he states that, having learned there was a large amount of cotton belonging to the rebel government, under a small guard, not far from where the Old river intersects the main levee, he landed on the morning of the 13th of February, with forty-five seamen and some contrabands, and after a march of six miles, found the cotton, and would have captured the guard, but for the accidental discharge of a musket.

On their way back they were considerably annoyed by Texas cavalry. He captured 32 bales of cotton, 20 mules and several horses, and took prisoners Col. C. H. Tyler and Major J. F. O'Brien, of the rebel provisional army. The day previous he destroyed 24 hogheads of sugar at Cross River, which were too bulky to be taken on board.

Admiral Porter also encloses a report from Lieutenant Commander Green, of the U. S. steamer Battler, dated off Hurricane Island, Feb. 15th. He says, I have informed you in a previous letter that detachments of about 200 negro troops have been stationed at Waterproof, making it a depot for negroes, cattle, &c. This has aroused the indignation of the rebels and on the 14th a force of about eight hundred cavalry of Harrison's command made an attack upon the post, driving in the pickets and pressing the troops very hard. Fortunately for them the Forest Rose was present. Capt. Johnston immediately opened a rapid fire upon them, which drove them away. He got his vessels under way and shelled the enemy wherever his guns would bear.

They hastily retreated to the woods. This affair lasted from three to five o'clock P. M. At eight P. M. the enemy attempted to make a dash into the town, but Capt. Johnston, who was well posted as to their approach, drove them back. Eight dead rebels and five prisoners were left in our hands. Our loss was five killed and two wounded.

Captain Johnston says that some of the negroes fought well, but, for want of proper discipline, the majority did not.

Lieutenant-Commander Green arrived with the Battler after the fighting was over. He then proceeded to Natchez, reported the facts to the commander of that post, and asked him to send us reinforcements.

On the next morning he despatched 200 men and some howitzer ammunition to Waterproof. Upon arriving at Waterproof on the 15th, he found that in the morning the enemy, who had been re-inforced in the night, and whose forces now consisted of two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry and four pieces of artillery, had again attacked the post.

The Forest Rose, whose commander was ever on the alert, was ready for them. A few well-directed shells stopped them from planting their batteries on the plank road, and drove them off in confusion. The attempts of the remainder to advance were frustrated by the Forest Rose.

Captain Johnston says "Capt. Anderson asked repeatedly for me to take his troops on board and throw them across the river. Every request I declined and could only tell him to fight. After I got the enemy on the retreat, he felt more easy, and discontinued his requests to cross. I do not think Anderson was intimidated, but by the bad description of his officers and incapacity of his men, he became panic-stricken."

The ram Switzerland arrived about the close of the fight and joined them. The rebel loss, as far as is known, was seven killed and a number wounded, who were taken off. Several prisoners were captured, among them a Lieutenant, and taken to Harrisonburg. Our loss was three killed and twelve wounded. In the two days' fight the Forest Rose expended 270 shells.

Under date of February 16th he says—"I have received a despatch from Johnston, dated the 15th, at 10 P. M., which says the rebels have made another and final attack on Waterproof. He sent a few shells, which caused them to retire. They retreated toward Harrisonburg, burning the bridges behind them. The rebels cannot stand the fire of the gunboats."

Later, he says everything is quiet, but they have information that the rebels are making preparations for an attack on the contraband camp opposite Vicksburg. The negro troops at Waterproof have been committing many outrages.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.
[Special Despatch to the Bulletin.]

CINCINNATI, March 16.—A despatch dated Knoxville, March 15th, states there has been some skirmishing near Morristown, but important in its results. Col. Sam. Jones is reported killed.

Longstreet is at Richmond, but his army, commanded by General Buckner, is at Bull's Gap.

FROM MISSISSIPPI.

[Special Despatch to the Bulletin.]

CINCINNATI, March 16.—Late information from Vicksburg is to the effect that news had been brought in by negroes that a portion of the Marine Brigade, under Captain Grandall, recently surprised a rebel camp twelve miles east of Port Gibson and captured forty-seven prisoners, their arms included, Captain Lewis releasing five of our own men who had been taken at Big Black a few days before.

LATER FROM NEW ORLEANS.

New York, March 16.—The steamer Croche has arrived from New Orleans with dates to the 9th inst.

A small Mexican steamer, the Algodon, was sunk in the Mississippi river on the night of the 5th, by collision with the steamer Dudley Buck. All on board were saved.

The New Orleans Chamber of Commerce has been revived. There is no war news.

Cotton was dull. Sugar and Molasses quiet and steady. Exchange on New York dull at 12 1/2 discount. Gold 102 1/2.

MOVEMENTS OF BLOCKADE RUNNERS.

HALIFAX, N. S., March 16th.—The new blockade runner Floire arrived here this morning from Bermuda, for repairs, after a few days voyage. She was unable to enter the port of Wilmington, and reports the blockade runner Will-of-the-Wisp as being beached off Wilmington.

The new British flag-ship Duncan with Admiral Hope aboard arrived at Bermuda on the 12th. The Floire brings no Bermuda papers. There are no signs of the expected steamship Arabia. The weather is clear and beautiful.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Despatch to the Bulletin.]
WASHINGTON, March 16.—The new call for troops accords with General Grant's plans. He asks for large armies, if it is expected that the war can be closed this year.

It is the intention of the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House to get a vote on the Gold bill at an early hour to-day.

The House Committee on Election this morning took up the case of Kline against Myers in Philadelphia. Mr. Steele appeared for Kline in the opening argument.

One hundred and twenty-five rebel prisoners who have taken the oath of allegiance went North by the train to-day.

[Correspondence of the Associated Press.]
WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Deficiency Bill which has now become a law contains the following appropriations:

For completing the repairs of Government Warehouses on Staten Island, \$10,000. For alteration of Custom House, Cincinnati, \$25,000. For alteration of Custom House, Louisville, \$15,000. For completion of Custom House, Dubuque, \$30,000. For repairs and preservation of Custom Houses, Marine Hospitals and other public buildings, under the supervision of the Treasury Department, \$10,000. For erecting Naval Hospital, Kittery, Me., \$25,000. For extension of Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, \$75,000. For erecting Naval Hospital, Washington City, D. C., \$25,000.

XXXVTH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1864.
SENATE.—A large number of petitions for increase of mail and railroad facilities between New York and Philadelphia were presented, and referred.

Mr. Howard (Mich.) introduced a bill to organize the Invalid Corps of the Army. Referred to the Committee on Pensions.

Mr. Wilson (Mass.) introduced a bill relating to deserters. Referred.

The Committee on Appropriations bill came up in order, and a debate ensued on the clause authorizing twenty-five Congressional pupils.

House.—Mr. Fane introduced a bill to promote the efficiency of the U. S. Artillery. Which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Cox (Ohio) from the Committee on the Rules, reported a resolution referred to the committee, to inquire into the expediency of establishing a new committee on Mines and Mining.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) from the same committee made an adverse report on the proposition for a new Committee on National Banks and Banking.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) from the Committee on the Rules, reported an amendment thereto, so as not to permit any member to vote in the House when he was not within the bar of the House before the result of the vote was announced. This was tabled.

The House concurred in the Senate's amendment to the Post Office Appropriation bill. These amendments appropriate \$50,000 for the payment of letter carriers, and \$1,500,000 to meet any deficiency which may exist in the Post Office Revenue.

The House resumed the consideration of the Gold bill.

The House adopted the amendment offered by Mr. Hubbard (N. Y.) yesterday, viz: Provided that the obligation to create a sinking fund by the act of Feb. 25th, 1862, shall not be impaired.

Mr. Higby (Cal.) opposed the Government going into the market to sell gold in hand and huckstering to buy it on paper at less than cost.

Mr. Kelly (Pa.) said he had changed his views and would now vote for the bill before the House.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.
HARRISBURG, March 16, 1864.

SENATE.—The following petitions were presented: Mr. Stein, one for the extension of the charter of the Allegheny Bank.

Mr. Kelly, one from two soldiers of the war of 1812, for relief.

Mr. Insley, one enabling parties interested to testify in their own suits.

Mr. Glaze, one against the taxing of dogs, and one to protect wool growers.

Mr. McCherry, one legalizing bank payments.

Mr. Smith, one against the incorporation of a city in the suburbs of Pittsburg.

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By Mr. Myers, an act to lay out a State Road in Bedford county.

By Mr. Myers, an act relative to the pay of Jurors in Cambria county.

By Mr. Myers, an act to extend the term of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas in Bedford county.

By Mr. Myers, an act incorporating the Etta Insurance Company of Philadelphia.

By Mr. Myers, a further supplement to the act to enable the Governor to appoint Notaries Public and for other purposes; also an act to open Oxford street in Philadelphia; also a supplement to an act to incorporate the Cokesbury Railroad Company.

By Mr. Keane (Schuylkill), an act for the relief of Catherine Wolf, widow of an old soldier of 1812.

By Mr. Brown (Warren), an act relative to Plank Roads in Crawford county.

ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY.
LOUISVILLE, March 16.—Gov. Bramlette has just issued the following address to the people of Kentucky:

Fellow Citizens:—In view of the disturbances of the popular mind, produced by the enrollment of slaves for the army, in Kentucky, it is deemed prudent to make the following suggestions for the benefit and guidance of the loyal people of Kentucky:

"Your indignation should not move you to commit acts of violence nor to unlawful resistance. Standing, as we have stood and will ever stand, for the Constitution, the Union and the enforcement of the laws, we must rely on the efforts of rebellion to overthrow our Government, and on the gallant soldiers in the field, and meet and correct unjust or unconstitutional legislation by legal appeals to the constitutional tribunals of the Government, and through the ballot box in the constituted modes committed to them who pervert or abuse the trust."

"This is the only true mode of maintaining the Constitution, the Union, and enforcement of the laws. The mere act of enrolling the names of slaves does not affect any right of citizen. No draft has been ordered, nor do we know that a draft will be ordered, nor may it be. We should abide by and maintain the law, and pursue the modes provided for the remedy it affords."

"If any violence or wrong to the person or property of the citizens be committed, it is the duty of any officer or soldier, against the known laws of the land, make your accusation in the mode prescribed by law, and use your utmost endeavors to correct the officer or soldiers under his command so accused, and hand him or them over to a civil magistrate for trial."

"The Executive officially advised of the facts, the Executive will prefer charges and demand a Court-Martial. In the Union, under the Constitution and in accordance with law, assert and urge your rights. It is our duty to obey the law until it is declared by judicial decision to be unconstitutional. The hands of the Government are not to be used for public use will be entitled, under the imperative mandate of the Constitution, to a just compensation for his private property so taken for public use."

"Although the present Congress does not do justice, yet it is safe to rely upon the justice of the American people, and an appeal to them will not be unheeded or unanswered."

"Peace restored and the unity of our Government preserved, will drive to ignominious distance those who, in the agency of our conflict, perverted their sacred trusts to the base uses of partisan ends and fanatical purposes."

"Uphold and maintain your government as constituted, and obey and enforce its just demands as the only hope of perpetuating free institutions."

(Signed) "THOS. E. BRAMLETTE,
"FRANKFORT, Ky., March 15th, 1864."

ANOTHER UNION VICTORY IN NEW JERSEY.
[Special Despatch to the Bulletin.]

BELMONT, N. J., March 16.—The City election yesterday resulted in a complete triumph of the friends of the Union. The whole Union City Ticket, including Common Council, City Clerk, Treasurer, and other city officers, was elected by an average majority of 102. Last year the whole Democratic ticket was elected by 30 majority. The result is most gratifying, and shows unmistakably the way in which the current of honest public opinion is setting.

The handwriting on the wall is plain, visible, and the people are determined that they will sympathize, in thought, word or deed, with rebels in arms or their Northern allies, the Peace Democrats, shall receive any token of confidence in positions of honor, profit or trust.

FROM BOSTON.
BOSTON, March 16.—Eight hundred soldiers, mostly veterans, from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 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MARKETS.
NEW YORK, March 16.—Cotton quiet; Flour, quiet, 8,000 bbls. sold at unchanged prices; Wheat dull, Corn, quiet; and unchanged; Whiskey quiet at 80 cents.