CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTER FROM PARIS.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

PARIS, Friday, August 12th, 1870.—The events which have taken, not only Paris, but all Europe by surprise, will have long since reached you in all their astounding suddenness and unexpectedness, and will doubtless have occasioned the same astonishment in America as they have everywhere else. Here, it seems little less than impossible to realize all that has occurred within the space of hardly more than a week. Never was there such a complete reversion of all antecedent expectations.

It seems only yesterday that the Emperor took his departure, leaving the capital in a state of such profound tranquility that a few policemen seemed to be all that was necessary to maintain order. He told us, indeed, at parting that the war would be "long and difficult." But the universal interpretation put on his words was that the war would be neither long nor heavy, and not to be traversed without much cost and sacrifice. That the "road to Paris" was much shorter, and might prove the easier of the two for the enemy, was a thought which, I verily believe, it never entered into a French brain to conceive. Some hard fighting on the frontier, and a march, which, though it might be slow, would be sure, and always in the right direction, were the only news which it was thought possible could reach us for some weeks to come. Even if reverses should arrive, it was taken for granted that they could only happen on Prussian soil and that although there might be occasionally an ebb and flow of flux and reflux sometimes in the tide of war, it was always to be at a distance, and that the faint echoes only of the struggle should ever and then give animation to the slumbering and deserted capital. Such were our prospects, as I said, little more than a week back.

Success in Paris.

And what are they now, and what are the scenes which I now see passing around me? There is no need to "go to the frontier" to know that France is at war, and to learn, too, that that war is near at hand. The sight and sound of it meet you at the corner of every street. The military movement of one kind or another going on in Paris at this moment is tremendous, and seems to supersede every other. Everything—soldiering if you are one or other is visible, and the same, or nearly the same, must be the case all over France. Fast events may be said to crowd upon us as follows: First, there was the general expectation, or rather assumption, that France was to assume the offensive, as a matter of course. This was supported and sustained by the advance of the Emperor, the "capture of Saarbruck," as it was too grandiloquently termed, and the announcement that the Prince Imperial had received, for the first time,

Baptism of Fire.

I read the despatch which announced these tidings on the walls of a French watering-place and everyone seemed to take them as a matter of course, and expected that things would go on in the same way to the end. There was, to be sure, a little; scolding on the part of opposionists at the *coup. de theatre* of the Prince riding at the head of his troops, but this generally dismounting to pick up spent balls as coolly as if they were pebbles by the sea shore. But still the war was carried into the enemy's country, and there, it was taken for granted, it was to remain.

The Reaction.

Imagine the state of affairs and feelings, and then imagine, if you can, the terrible rebound. The weak and contemptible Prussian forces on Saarbruck seemed to be all that the Prussians were waiting for to carry out long-preconceived and deeply-matured plans. The events which followed can convey the impression of a long-ask and far too greatly extended and disconnected line being suddenly attacked, and, as it were, "doubled up," at certain points, and at one concentrated action. This is the very acme of strategy and good generalship, and the Prussians have shown that they have leaders who possess these qualifications. With the quickness of thought, and with an *élan* for which one did not give German troops credit, a succession of blows were struck, evidently by combined and concerted movements, from Wissembourg and Woerth to Forbach, always apparently with superior forces, and in a moment the French right was so nearly being "turned" that the whole of the loose straggling line as far as Saarbruck itself, and the extreme left, was compelled to retreat with all speed, and above all, with a confusion and demoralization and loss of confidence in its commanders, from which it is only just now beginning to recover.

Incapacity of the Civil Government.

The way in which this great disaster was met by the authorities in Paris proved that the civil government of the country was in just as weak and incapable hands as the command of the army. All the public utterances of the Empress and the Ministry will be long since known to you. The judgment universally passed upon them here is that they were a tissue of weak and inflated absurdities, the only effect of which was to heighten and aggravate the alarm of the public, by showing that nothing better was to be expected from such Legislators in Paris than from such generals as commanded on the frontier. The only right thing the Ministry did was to convoke the Chamber, and thereby, as was instantly foreseen, to sign its own death warrant. It fell on the moment it was known that it would have to appear in the Chamber, and forthwith, as a matter of course, it fell on the Emperor, and was dismissed with contempt and execration. The name of Ollivier will probably be henceforth only known in France as that of a weak tool and instrument of the Emperor, who took advantage of the innate vanity of the man to lure him from his party and set him up in the eyes of the nation as the make-believe of a "responsible" and "constitutional" Minister. He has fallen with his master,—for that the latter *has* fallen already from the command of his own armies the telegraph must by this have told you. The question is whether he is yet to fall further; and that question can only be answered from the frontier. There is but one opinion on the point that the Emperor cannot come back to Paris *without* success; and even after success his position will be sufficiently difficult. The indignation both of Paris and the country is, I think, thoroughly roused.

The Accusation Against the Emperor

is this: Your have rashly precipitated a war for which it now appears that you were neither as well prepared as you led us to believe, and in the conduct of which yourself and the generals appointed by you have displayed the grossest incapacity. The consequence is that you have disgraced our arms and brought the enemy upon the soil of France. That is the accusation, and though it will be allowed to lumber for the moment while the enemy is at the gates, it will be brought up again hereafter, let what may happen. You may read the feeling in every act and gesture around you. The only cry you now hear in the streets from national guards, from volunteers marching to enroll themselves, from the people who salute them as they pass, is that of *Vive la France! The mass of the Emperor is never mentioned.* From what I see of the present aspect of things, I do not apprehend disorder in Paris, unless in case of very great reverses. Do not attach too much credit to what you hear took place two or three days ago. There was no "fighting in the streets," nor any "charging of the people" by cavalry. An immense crowd, full of irrepressible curiosity, assembled round, and would have almost invited the Chasseurs on the first day of meeting, had it not been simply pushed back by the troops and the precincts cleared. That is all as yet. If there be more reverses, Napoleon will fall as the late Ministry fell—of itself. The present Imperialist Cabinet is simply wonderful; that is all. But the whole nation is arming, and will not, I think, be readily disarmed again, let the fate of war be what it may. The decisive moment seems to be pending at Metz. But it is vain to speculate on events which may be fulfilled long ere these lines reach you.

BUFFALO AND NIAGARA FALLS.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

Editor Philadelphia Evening Bulletin:

DEAR SIR: It is said that Trenton Falls should be seen before Niagara to be fully appreciated. However the visitor may distinguish them in character he may yet be well satisfied in taking this course of travel, and, with the most agreeable memories of the Trenton Falls, start upon an eleven-hour trip to the neighborhood of the great cataract on the route of the New York Central Railroad is through a rolling, attractive country, highly cultivated, and with a rapidly augmenting population. This is, to a great extent, native and intelligent, as the mixed classes upon trains are generally destined to States and cities further west. After passing Syracuse and assigning the charming lake district for a future season, the through traveler makes his next prolonged stop at Rochester.

Here the Genesee river is crossed just above the Falls, which are almost as high as selected from the train as a handsome back scene in a spectacle by the occupants of the buses. Here Messrs. Jerome, Dr. Massey, and Buffalo, occasioning great disturbance to parties which were so comfortable and happy as to be unconscious of the passage of time, and to know of nothing but what was going on; do not realize at first; and then they wonder at, though they remember until life's close.

So might this flood have poured to fill the parched bed of uncreated seas if the Eternal had worked by the power of elements instead of by the still, small voice.

So might it pour now if its task were to cut a trench in the granite for the barrier of infernal fires. Flowers not upon its awful brink. Birds flit playfully in the mists which rise before its wall of whiteness. Rainbows span it when there is no tempest but in the surging depths, and greet the eye at noon from the gulf below. Nature's terrors are veiled in her loveliness, and while the excited mind is almost lost in the wider range of thought and sentiment which the scene occasions, it cannot but have a keener perception of those sweet unities of her most distant effects, those delicate chords which art apprehends so lovingly, and, almost in the attainment of, she.

The Falls of Niagara gain in the appreciation of most visitors by their frequent observation. Distances are not at first realized, and the imposing impressions of others are generally set unless preparation for a visit. A stranger should commence calmly, and let different points of view develop his enthusiasm and feeling by natural processes.

Of these points of view, such as are upon the American side at or near Goat Island give interesting and impressive detail, but all general views are reserved for a trip over the Suspension Bridge to the Canadian bank, where, from the Clifton House, opposite the American Fall, all the way up to the margin of the Horse-shoe Falls, an uninterrupted survey is enjoyed.

The size of Goat Island is generally a surprise, as it is a mile in circumference, and covered with so primitive a forest that were it not for the roar of waters on either side, the visitor might imagine himself far in the recesses of the hills. Paths lead through the wood, and a road almost as much used as the thoroughfare of the Biddle Stairs, the Prospect Tower and the Grape Vine Stairs. These latter are small islands at the upper end of Goat Island, and have been but recently connected by bridges with it. They permit a fairer view of the various rapids above than can be elsewhere obtained. Two or three mills on Goat Island and the American shore are in an annoyance to the eye, and not less to the patience in the half-dollar fee demanded at almost every point of interest as well as artificial interest.

This is most severe for the brief visitor, as, in many cases, one payment gives future free access which he does not stay to avail himself of. The Canadians are not a whit behind our countrymen, and the Museum which they hold is newer and better visited at once to have future plots for the capture of the tourist averted. Competition stimulates an unrelenting persistence and persuasion on the part of cab drivers, shop-keepers and photographers, and concession to these only depends upon physical weakness, female persuasiveness or personal vanity.

The hotels at Niagara are all good, and have done a fair business this season, although patronage was at first rather light. A reference to bridal couples might be considered personal, as all your readers who have not been to Niagara on such a trip probably intend going at the first opportunity, and will wish to feel that, should the Falls of Niagara be merely incidental to the depth of expression with which their companion can say: "How lovely!" or "How grand," there will be no observant correspondent to remark upon it. A. G. H.

OUR POTISVILLE LETTER.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

POTTSVILLE, August 23, 1870.—We Pottsvillians are great workers. If we have a fault in that direction, it is that we work too hard. We are apt to overdo matters. "Rest and be thankful" is a phrase we are slow to learn. We are such haste to turn to account the blessings we receive that we too often forget to stop and give thanks for them. Our manufacturing establishments close on the legal holidays of the Jews, the holy days of the Roman Church, the "harvest-homes" and merry-makings of our Saxon ancestors, are covered into one day of general thanksgiving, and half of us do not even observe that. It is quite possible, therefore, to find an occasional one who is not so thoroughly imbued with the spirit of work that he is unable to perceive the fitness, if not the essentiality of occasional relaxation, nor begrudges a day, when the harvest is ended and the summer work can no longer urgent, on which to make merry with his friends and acknowledge his gratitude for the blessings of the year by sharing those blessings with others, and increasing his own happiness by adding to theirs. And yet there is a mo re fitting token, a better representative offering for an American harvest-home, than the grain indigenous to American soil; the plant which awakened Joel Barlow's rustic muse, and inspired many an unknown Indian bard with songs like the rustling music of its own green leaves; whose individual beauties were finally bound up together in one bright sheaf, to be praised wherever *Hiawatha* goes—the Indian *nondamin*, the European maize, the American *corn!* We know the story of its birth, as told by the imaginative Indian story-tellers and repeated in poetic beauty by Longfellow. We know the veneration in which it was held by them and the ceremonies connected with its growth and harvest, and it does no discredit to the superior intelligence of the white man to drop his wisdom for a little while and recall, in some degree, the traditions and observances which were the strength of the woods and fields, and which carry us back in imagination to the time of our fathers and to the bright side of the life of their red predecessors.

A Corn Party.

The thought was suggested by a visit to the farm of Messrs. Dobson & Bright, on the occasion of the celebration of the Feast of Mondamin, an annual ceremony there, but better known by its English name of a "Corn Party." Unfortunately, it was celebrated on the hottest day we have had for three weeks, and the ride of twelve miles in an open wagon was very disagreeable. But the route lay through some of the most romantic scenery of which this country can boast, and the dust and heat were soon speedily dispelled, on arriving at the farm, by ablution in the cold waters of a mountain stream.

The first exclamation of each new arrival, after washing the dust out of his eyes was, "What a crowd of people!" Truly, the hospitality of our hosts seemed to be boundless, and all of their friends were not those they could be blessed with more than most people can claim. No ordinary house could hold such a crowd, no barn was large, and on the capacious "barnfloor"—a spot whose memory is thronged with pleasant associations to all whose childhood was passed on a farm—was spread a feast to which Ceres and Pomona both contributed most of the tables groaned under their united offerings. Corn was, of course, the principal dish, and everybody ate and praised it; those who could not find room at one of the long tables took an ear of corn and retired to some more convenient spot to gnaw it at their leisure, for the order to "eat corn"—an order which few found it hard to obey.

The rustic meal concluded, the tables were cleared away and the ballet took its station; for the young folks would dance and the elders must look on; while they did in a way that was successful in increasing the general gayety, if it could not be set down as authority on modern steps and figures. Some of the old folks danced from amusement in playing croquet on the lawn, or watching the dances from the hayloft in the barn, or pistol practice in a neighboring grove, a sport in which the ladies took an active participation, to the dismay of the sterner sex be it said, came out a little ahead. The call to an open-air supper interrupted the sports, but did not end them; they lasted not until the low hanging sun warned the guests of the long drive before many of them, that they consented to leave a spot at which they had spent the day so pleasantly. Then came the ride home through the twilight—dear to lovers—and then, "tired eyelids closing over tired eyes."

West Falls.

A favorite spot for pic-nics is West Falls, a romantic gorge on the west branch of the Susquehanna, about eight miles from Pottsville. Here, in times of flood, the stream goes roaring down the ravine, tumbling over high rocks and through narrow gorges, and making a scene of great beauty and grandeur. But when the stream is low the water trickles in threads and streamlets between the rocks, and falls in silvery spray over their smooth faces, and lies in quiet crystal pools at their feet; and the pic-nic parties who visit it then spread their feasts on tables of stones, washed clean and smooth by waters not long since subsided, and go skipping from rock to rock along the bed of the brook for half a mile, from the smooth water above to that, below, without wetting a foot, except, perhaps by an incautious step on a treacherous surface or a tilting stone. Here are many beds of velvet moss and huge rocks hidden by waving forests of fern growing on their surfaces, in a way that makes one wish he could transfer rock and all to his garden; and curious trees and bright berries, and, in the autumn, leaves of the most gorgeous possible tints, and, as an offset to these, gloomy caverns under overhanging cliffs, all in miniature; and dark thickets of tangled hemlock, and, shutting in all, high mountain- sides which, although not lofty, are very romantic. If you wish to see a romantic spot visit the West West Falls.

There is no local news to-day. WYCO.

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TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

THERE are now 3,000 employés in the Treasury Department at Washington.

A SCHOOL TEACHER at Bath, England, on Tuesday murdered his two daughters and poisoned himself.

A FIRE at Dubuque, yesterday, destroyed a planing-mill and portion of a lumber-yard, causing a loss of $50,000.

SAMUEL SHELLABARGER was nominated for Congress yesterday by the Republican Convention of the Athens district, Ohio.

THE Democratic Convention of Wyoming met on Monday, and nominated Colonel John Warfield as Delegate in Congress.

SINKING FUND bonds purchased by the Treasury, to the amount of $120,000,000, were destroyed by burning them yesterday.

THE German Sanitary Committee at San Francisco have remitted an additional $15,000 to Berlin. The French Sanitary Fund in that city amounts to $10,000.

AN engine and baggage car were thrown from the track of the Old Colony railroad, at South Braintree, Mass., yesterday morning, and badly smashed. John Works, a brakeman, was killed.

AT Sacramento, California, the printers of the *Union*, *Record* and *Bee* newspapers are on a strike. They demand 45 cents per thousand, and the proprietors refuse more than 40. The papers appear as usual.

A NEW edition of the "Chi Phi," a secret order composed of undergraduates of leading colleges, is now in session at Reading. Thirty delegates are present, and orators of interest to themselves are under discussion.

THE "Irish National Brotherhood" is the title of a new organization formed at St. Louis, intended to take the place of Fenianism. The officers are said to be Fenians, but the various societies will be carried on under the firm name of the Brotherhood.

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The *Eastern Budget* states that the Italian Government will occupy Rome without delay, if the Pope does not succeed in suppressing the disorder.

Cardinals Antonelli, Barnabo, Matthieu, Rauscher and Hohenlohe have left Rome. It is said that the Italian envoys will be the papal dogma of infallibility.

The Battle of Gravelotte.

LONDON, August 23.—Special to the *New York Herald*.—The following official account of the great battle at Gravelotte, on August 18th, was received this morning in London from a Prussian special correspondent who witnessed the battle at headquarters, and stood by the side of King William all day:

The first realization we had at Pont-a-Mousson where I found myself on August 17th, of the extent of the battle which had been fought on Tuesday and Sunday last at the front, was the circulation of the official orders for the first. It was surmised that these had been wounded in all minishes, but on the 19th, later in the morning, I encountered a long procession with ghastly wounds walked about the marketplace in front of the quarters assigned to the groups of their newly arrived comrades, and told the story of the disaster. Poor fellows! A sorely sad story it was to them, many of whom they had been from the field without having heard of any result. Groups among these groups and the narrative of the men all amounted to their having been sent to conquer a hundred paces further than their own, and that their division had been cut up.

The battle was fought although there was some dissatisfaction suggested by their leaders, against the wishes of the generals of the nations or listeners who accused any one they drew rather on the left, that they had not left the field of victory. It was, however, thought the division had as an available organization been practically annihilated by the bitter fight.

On August 12 the wounded from the preceding day began to pour into Pont-a-Mousson. They were brought in long uncovered grain trucks, lying on straw, and the only vehicle which overlooked the main street, and consequently the entire field of operations, was the counted more than 90 of these long carts, each holding on an average about 10 men.

It was about 9 o'clock when they passed amid flies of French inside to conceal their joy in the end being reached, and the sufferings at an end. The first corps was the other side of the account. The streets began to swarm with the Prussian troops with their long columns of red trousers, and now and then camea batch of unwounded prisoners, or a wounded prisoner in carriage with a French general. It was followed by a vast crowd of French, and for a little time it seemed as if there might be a confusion between the inhabitants and the Prussians, so eager was the momentary communication between Prince Frederick Charles and General Steinmetz.

The fortress of Metz is enclosed on all sides. The communications between Metz, Chalons and Paris are entirely in the possession of the Crown Prince are at Bar-le-Duc.

MacMahon, however, is still retreating to cover Paris.

LONDON, August 22.—It is reported that the Crown Prince of Prussia has withdrawn from his advance on Paris, and gone to the support of the Prussian army on the left bank of Metz.

BERLIN, August 23.—The German forces in France have now left Metz, leaving a garrison, and, as reinforced and redistributed, will go into battle on the following order: First Army, under General Steinmetz, composed of the 1st, 7th, 8th and 9th Prussian Army Corps, amounting in all, to 200,000 men and 28,000 cavalry.

Second Army, under Prince Frederick Charles, composed of the 2d, 3d, 4th, 10th and 12th Prussian Army Corps, Corps of Prussian Guards, Hesse Corps, and a division of troops the Grand Duchy of Hesse. This is the strongest of the three armies, and contains the mixed corps of Baden and Wurtemberg troops, under General Von Werder, and consisting of eight regiments of infantry, five battalions of riflemen, four regiments of cavalry and nine batteries of artillery. The Second and Eleventh Prussian Army Corps, containing the Sixteenth Infantry and Fifteenth Cavalry Regiments, and thirty batteries of artillery. The total of the German forces in France is 620,000 men, divided into sixteen army corps. Up to this time 300,000 of the Landwehn have entered almost all of which are now in the field, occupy places in the rear, and relieve the regular soldiers of garrison duties, so that they may join their those regiments in the front. Orders have been issued to call out the veteran reserves, and these were called out at the commencement of the war.

PARIS, August 23.—Reports from Strasburg show that the bombardment of the city has so far done little damage. The French in Strasburg, however, have shelled Kehl, on the other side of the Rhine, with effect, and the place has been destroyed.

The people of Paris have addressed a letter to General Trochu expressing the utmost confidence in him, and their hopes for an energetic defence of the city.

The Siecle says Victor Hugo has asked permission to serve in the National Guard, and that General Chanzet has also demanded active service in the French army.

A correspondent of *Le Temps* says there is no hope for a triumphant issue to the war unless the Emperor and Prince Imperial cease their interference and return to Paris. The Prince Imperial is already popular among the everybody, and lets out important secrets.

PARIS, Aug. 23.—The Corps Legislatif yesterday, when Count de Palikao announced the receipt of a despatch giving reassuring news, Deputy Keratry interrupted him to ask whether the despatch was from Bazaine. Count de Palikao in reply said the despatch was dated on the 19th, but the uproar of the Deputies was so great as to drown the answer touching the authorship of the message. Deputy Keratry then proposed that nine members of the Chambers be chosen to form part of the Committee of Defence. Members of the party of the Left immediately gave signs of approval, but the majority hesitated. Keratry claimed that the state of affairs urgently demanded it. Some of the members of the majority rose as approving, and were met with cheers from the Left, which was accepted as establishing the urgency of the case. After the tumult had subsided, Count de Palikao declined the proposal. The Chamber was then adjourned.

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