

CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS!

The news we receive from the rebels concerning New Orleans is a remarkable one, and the only fact that appears in it clear and certain is that the city is really in our hands. The fleet passed Fort Jackson April 24th, and on the next day appeared before the Crescent City.

The rebels accept the fact of the capture, with very bad grace. The Norfolk Daily Book, of Tuesday, considers it by far the most serious reverse of the war for the rebels, as it suggests further privations to all classes of society, and threatens the supplies of the rebel army. It is impossible, from the scattered dispatches that have reached us, to extract the truth with regard to the surrender of the city. It appears that a demand for the surrender was made by Commodore Farragut, on Sunday, but the demand, the rebels insist, had not been complied with at last accounts. Gen. Lovell, after withdrawing his forces to Camp Moore, seventy-eight miles above New Orleans, telegraphed to Richmond on Sunday that Fort Jackson and Philip, passed by our fleet, were still in rebel possession, and that, though our vessels were at the city, we had not forces enough to occupy it. There is no doubt that this deficiency was soon supplied, however, by way of Ponchartraine, as the rebels themselves appear to have opened the way there for General Butler's approach by evacuating all the forces on Lake Ponchartraine on the 25th, and burning all the gun-boats they had there.

A SURRENDER DEMANDED AND REFUSED.

Washington, May 1.
The following correspondence, taken from the Richmond Enquirer of yesterday, United States Flagship Hartford, Off New Orleans, April 26, 1862, to Lieut. Excellence the Mayor of the City of New Orleans:
Sir: Upon my arrival before your city I had the honor to send you, by your Captain Bailey, U. S. Navy, in command of the expedition, a demand of your surrender of New Orleans to me as the representative of the government of the United States. Captain Bailey reported the result of an interview with yourself and the military authorities. It must occur to your honor that it is not within the province of a naval officer to assume the duties of a military commander. I came here to reduce New Orleans to obedience to the laws of, and to vindicate the offended majesty of the government of the United States. The rights of persons and property shall be secured, I therefore demand of you, as its representative the unqualified surrender of the city, and that the emblem of sovereignty of the United States be hoisted over the City Hall, Mint, and all flags and other emblems of sovereignty other than that of the United States be removed from all the public buildings by that hour. I particularly request that you shall exercise your authority to quell disturbances, restore order, and call upon all the good people of New Orleans to return at once to their vocations, and I particularly demand that no person shall be arrested, or property, for expressing sentiments of hostility to your government. I shall speedily and severely punish any person or persons who shall commit such outrages as were witnessed yesterday, by armed men firing upon helpless women and children for giving expression to their pleasure at witnessing the "old flag."

I am very respectfully,
D. G. FARRAGUT,
Flag-officer Western Gulf Squadron.

THE REPLY.

New Orleans, April 26.
Sir: In pursuance of a resolution which we thought proper to take out of regard for the women and children who crowd the metropolis, General Lorell has evacuated it with his troops and restored to me the administration of its government and the custody of its honor. I have in council with the city fathers, considered the demand you made of me yesterday of an unconditional surrender of the city, coupled with a requisition to hoist the flag of the United States on the public edifices and haul down the flag that still floats on the breeze from the dome of this hall. It becomes my duty to transmit to you an answer which the universal (?) sentiment of my constituents no less than the prompting of my own heart dictate on this sad occasion. The city is without means of defense, and is utterly destitute of force and material that might enable it to resist an overwhelming armament displayed in sight of its walls.
I am no military man, and possess no authority beyond that of executing the municipal laws of the city of New Orleans—therefore it would be presumptuous in me to attempt to lead an army to the field if I had one at command; and I know still less how to surrender an undefended place held as this is at the mercy of your gunners and your mortars. To surrender such a place were an admission of total and permanent defeat. The city is yours by the power of brute force, but by my choice or the consent of its inhabitants. It is for you to determine what will be the fate that awaits it. As to hoisting any flag not of our own adoption and allegiance, let me say that the man lives not in our midst whose head and heart would not be paralyzed at the mere thought of such an act; nor could I find, in my whole constituency, one so devoid of profane with his hands the sacred emblem of our aspirations.
Sir, you have manifested sentiments which would become one engaged in a better cause than that to which you have devoted your sword. I doubt not they spring from a noble though deluded nature, and I know how to appreciate the emotions which inspired them. You have a gallant people to administer to, and your occupation of this city—a people sensitive to all that can in the least affect their dignity and self-respect. Pray, sir, do not fail to regard their susceptibilities. The obligations which I shall assume in their name shall be religiously complied with. You may trust their honor, though you might not count on their submission to unwarranted wrong.

In conclusion, I beg you to understand that the people of New Orleans, while unable to resist your force, do not allow themselves to be insulted by the interference of such as have rendered themselves obnoxious and contemptible by their daily desertion of our cause in the mighty struggle in which we are engaged, or such as might remind them too forcibly that they are the conquered, and you the conquerors. Peace and order may be

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What a Soldier's Wife thinks of Buying Negroes.

The wife of a volunteer writes us from Lenox, (Gow's home), to inquire whether any means are to be provided for the future relief of soldiers' families. She says her husband has had no pay for four months, and adds:
"I think that Congress had better stop talking about buying the negroes, unless they can pay the soldiers regularly, so that their families can have something to live on; or, if they would take one half the amount they propose to pay to the South for the negroes, and divide it among the volunteers' families, it would be more to their credit."
There is a great deal of truth in the above extract; and if the men who are fooling away their time at Washington in babbling about benefitting the colored race, would first listen to the complaints of the whites, it might save them from the storm of popular indignation which will sweep them into merited obscurity. This woman, who has sent her husband to fight for her country, expresses just the feeling that is now becoming universal all over the land. Will the representative from Lenox, and others, take heed?

Frauds Upon the Government.

The Philadelphia North American, an Administration journal, publishes the following startling announcement in recent issue. When Democrats complain about frauds, they are denounced as traitors and threatened with mobs; but when Republicans bear such damning testimony against their own party, we must repeat it, even at the risk of property, liberty, or life itself:
"The astounding disclosures which are almost hourly being made of frauds committed upon the government, is the general theme of conversation to-day. There is no telling where the investigations of commission and committees will end. Men who have hitherto stood high in the community and enjoyed unblemished reputations, men whose patriotism the country believed in, have been shown TO BE WORSE ENEMIES TO THE COUNTRY THAN THE MOST UTRATE PIRE-EATING SOUTHERN REBELS. It is a humiliating fact, but it is the truth."
How such plain truths must cut to the quick, the worshippers of that "therapeutic" Cameron, Wells, Fremont & Co!

The Pennsylvania Troops.

Gov. Curtin has ordered that "Shiloh" be inscribed on the banner of the Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, and "Edmundston Va." on that of the First Pennsylvania Cavalry, in acknowledgment of their gallantry at the battles of those places.
The Governor has received the most gratifying intelligence from Yorktown in relation to the perfect transportation of the bare and wounded Pennsylvania soldiers to points within the State. The floating hospital will accommodate over 300 patients, and can reach Philadelphia via the Delaware and Chesapeake Canals, avoiding the roughness of a sea voyage. Surgeon General Smith says that Pennsylvania is the only state on the Peninsula fully prepared for every emergency.

The Wheeling Intelligencer of the 29th ult. announces that Gen. Fremont was on that day to leave Wheeling for the interior of Western Virginia.

Montrose Democrat.

A. J. GERRITSON, Editor.
Tuesday, May 6th, 1862.

Latest News.—A dispatch from Cairo says there is important news from Pittsburg Landing, but it is not allowed to be telegraphed. The operations of Yorktown were a ruse. The surrender of Ft. Macon was unconditional. Baton Rouge, La., has been taken by Federals. Our loss at Shiloh was 1,735 killed, 4,044 missing, 7,882 wounded, of whom 300 died. Total loss, 13,661. A dispatch says the border State Congressmen think of withdrawing, but we trust that all efforts by fanatics to drive them out will prove fruitless.

POSTSCRIPT.

May 6th.—The rebels have evacuated Yorktown, and it is in possession of our troops.

A Cession of Hostilities.

The current report to-day on the street is that the Government is in possession of information which may possibly lead to a cessation of hostilities for the present. A mediation and compromise forms the basis of this report. A special message from the President to Congress, on this subject, is even hinted at. A few hours may bring about a wondrous change in our warlike movements.

So says a despatch from Washington which appears among the news gossip in the city papers of last week. Why any such delusive nonsense should be allowed to be spread over the country without a prompt contradiction, we know not. The American people have been deluded into their present misfortunes, and all attempts to insult them with such deceitful hopes should be rebuked. There was a time in the past when conciliatory consultation could and should have saved us from our bloody ordeal; but there were too many in power, in both sections, who alike entertained hatred of each other, and of the Union—unless it could be controlled to suit their sectional notions. These hostile extremes finally reacted upon and incorporated with each other until a crew of ambitious demagogues were able to force a portion of the South into a revolution. At this act pleased any, it was the fanatic of the North, whose greatest fear was and is that the rebellion would not be extended and formidable enough to justify the satanic plea for a "military necessity" that was designed to accomplish certain unjust political ends, or disunion. But the conservative influence at the North, aided, to some extent, by the President, has kept the South divided, rendering the putting down of rebellion reasonably probable. And this is now the first thing to be done towards restoring the Union. The entire rebel force in arms must be routed, and a compromise made with a few leaders, like that made between Virginia and John Brown,—suspending them between earth and heaven, and nearest the former. We have no alternative but this, for J. D. Davis & Co. demand and will accept only a separate government, and that they can not have. If the armed foe will lay down its weapons, return home, and join in hearty endorsement of the rightful authority of the Constitution, no more battles need be fought. This we would prefer to see, but do not expect to see, until a few more Union victories shall further dispel the fever of disunion. After a "settlement" as above, with leaders, the best compromise for the mass of Southern people to get the benefit of, is the adoption of the Constitution of the United States as the Supreme Law of the whole land, not construed as John Brown, Jeff Davis, or the Devil would do by the aid of nullification, filibuster, or higher law theories, but executed