

THE PRESS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1865.

THE FALL OF WILMINGTON.

The official announcement of the capture of Wilmington was quietly received by the public. Since Fort Fisher was gallantly stormed, we have regarded Wilmington as virtually taken, and when Fort Anderson was evacuated, it was understood that the city would be abandoned. But though there is so little excitement over this victory, the appreciation of its value is profound and universal.

The assertion attributed to General Lee that the South should long ago have given up the defence of the coast cannot be his, for no one knows better than he the importance of Wilmington to the rebellion. It would not have been difficult for Charleston and Savannah had been in our possession, and that these cities were long garrisoned after their ports were effectually blockaded, was simply because they were so important to the safety of Wilmington. This port the rebellion could not have given up earlier without wittingly striking at its own life. It is yielded to us now without much fighting, because Sherman's power, going forth thirty leagues before his army, wrestled it from the reluctant foe.

Wilmington, and, true to the desperate policy they have chosen, they have thrown it back to the Union, as they threw Charleston and Savannah. Still the same old plan has been followed. General Sherman, and Bragg combined their scattered troops, and gradually an army is forming, in front of Sherman, on which almost the last hope of the enemy is staked. That he will defeat this army he does not doubt. There is no general expectation that he will world than Sherman boasts in his four veteran corps.

Through Wilmington the rebellion drew three-fourths of its European supplies. It was a port through which, though we captured many cargoes of iron and brass, the blockade runners successfully ran the gauntlet of our fleet, and so immensely was the rebellion benefited by the aid of Europe, that the expense of defending the coast could not be met. Wilmington was economical. It is probable that Europe has sent through Wilmington more guns and powder than the entire South has manufactured. In losing this port the rebels must now depend upon the meagre resources of the interior, and the facturing and exhausted States for material to repair the waste of war.

The following additional voluntary contributions were received for the purchase of arms and supplies by the recent campaign in all of the following places:

- Congregational Church, G. W. Smith, pastor, has collected \$40.00.
Methodist Church, G. W. Smith, pastor, has collected \$40.00.
Episcopal Church, G. W. Smith, pastor, has collected \$40.00.
Total amount received \$120.00.

GENERAL CANTY'S ARMY.

BY ORDER OF CAPTAIN OF THE 12TH MASS. VOL. INF. REG'T. DIVISION, SIX ARMY CORPS, AT FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA, FEB. 26, 1865.

For the sake and information of the friends and relatives of the worthy slain and wounded of the 12th Mass. Vol. Inf. Reg't. Division, Sixth Army Corps, at Fort Monroe, Virginia, on the 25th inst., I send the names of the same:

- Alfred Whitley, private, Co. E, left arm and right leg.
John W. H. Adams, private, Co. F, killed, and in hands of enemy.
Major West, sergeant, Co. F, shot through abdomen since dead.

THE SOUTH.

Who are the people of the United States have been given a lesson in the history of the rebellion, and the lesson is a bitter one. It is a lesson that will be remembered for many years to come.

TERRIBLE RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

Three Cars Thrown Over an Embankment near Altoona.

TWO PHILADELPHIANS KILLED-MARY PERSON INJURED.

Altoona, Feb. 24, 11.30 P.M.—The last Western express took to-day on the Pennsylvania Railroad track to-day. The engine broke down at Altoona, and the train was thrown over an embankment. Two persons were killed, one of them a Philadelphia man.

WILMINGTON.

THE DETAILS OF ITS CAPTURE.

HOW OUR ARMY CELEBRATED WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

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