



The Jeffersonian.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1861.

New Sheriff.

Governor Curtin has appointed Henry C. Wolfe, Esq., of Stroud township, Sheriff of Monroe county, vice James N. Durling, deceased.

The Milford Demagogue Again.

The Milford Herald, of the 7th inst., comes out in a long slatterbang article, in which, in the outset, he attempts to demolish us, but, in the end, discovering his failure, turns around and most piteously asks for quarter, which he shall have, when we shall have given him our opinion of his last effusion.

questions, Mr. Herald: how do you answer them? If you want the negroes to help the rebels, then you are no better than they.

Teacher's Meeting.

In accordance with a call by the County Superintendent of Monroe county, a number of the Teachers of said county assembled in the Academy, on Saturday, December 14th, 1861, for the purpose of organizing County and District Institutes.

Resolved, That education exerts a greater influence in Society than wealth.

Resolved, That those Teachers who fail to attend these Educational Institutes manifest a lack of interest in their profession, which goes far to evidence a want of competency for its duties, which should be noticed by the County Superintendent and Directors in selecting Teachers.

On motion, adjourned to meet in the Academy at Stroudsburg, on Saturday, January 11th, 1862.

All persons friendly to education, both male and female, are cordially invited to attend the Institutes.

CHAS. M. KINNEY, Secy's. DAVID S. LEE.

Correspondence of the Jeffersonian.

Camp, near Fort Lyon, Va. Dec. 14, 1861.

ED. JEFFERSONIAN;

Dear Sir—Your excellent and welcome paper made its appearance in this camp a short time since, and I will now try to inform you of the state of affairs in this part of "Dixie."

P. MAYO, 2nd Michigan Regiment.

Love of Negroes.

Gen. Lane, in a recent speech, in Boston, related a humorous incident, showing how the slave-owners cling to their human property.

HEAD QUARTERS 4th Reg. P. R. V. C. CAMP PIERPONT, Va., Dec. 10, 1861.

Dear Brother.—In person I am to you a stranger, but in Christ we are brothers.

A short time since the body of a young man, who was formerly a member of Company F. of this Regiment was sent to the home of his parents, in the bounds of your charge, and through a letter written by Mrs. Adjutant John Nye, to her husband, I learned that you preached, in respect for his memory, and for the spiritual benefit and consolation of his surviving family and friends, a funeral sermon.

An extra train had left Augusta with supplies for the sufferers, thousands of whom roamed the streets, and assistance to fight the fire.

Later and fuller particulars. Fortress Monroe, Friday, Dec. 13, 1861.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The Connecticut, from Galveston, Ship Island, Key West, Savannah, and Fortress Monroe, reached New York on Tuesday morning.

By way of Fortress Monroe we had yesterday a report to the effect that Fort Palski had been abandoned by the rebels and taken possession of by our troops.

Among a variety of news from rebel sources, none of which can be relied on for accuracy, is an item stating that the Union troops, 5,000 strong, on Friday last, attacked Col. Johnson's force at Valley Mountain, and were repulsed with great loss.

The Union troops in Kentucky, now re-enforced by at least 10,000 men from Indiana, are within a short distance of Bowling Green.

All the troops at Tipton, Mo., were on the 16th ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice.

The very latest news from the Sumter is from St. Thomas, under date of Dec. 1. The intelligence is as follows:

The latest invention of which we have heard is a chewing machine—in other words, a little mill intended for toothless people and for those who cannot properly masticate their food.

Great Fire in Charleston. The First Ward Destroyed.

ASSISTANCE SENT FROM AUGUSTA. Ten Millions of Property Destroyed.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 13, 1861. Via BALTIMORE, Dec. 14, 1861.

An incendiary fire broke out in Charleston at 9 o'clock on the evening of the 11th. At 5 o'clock the next day it was still raging.

Nearly all that part of the city from Broad street on the South-East Bay on the east, and King street on the west is said to be destroyed, including the Catholic Cathedral, the Circular Church Institute, St. Andrew's Hall, the Theater, and the Executive Rooms.

A telegraphic dispatch to the Norfolk Day Book to day, from Charleston, S. C., states that a fire broke out in that place on Wednesday night, which was supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The theater, Floyd's coach factory, opposite the express office, the old executive building, and all the houses between that point and Queen street, are burned.

At last accounts from Charleston, up to 5 this morning, the fire had crossed Broad street, and was sweeping furiously on.

The telegraph lines to Charleston are down; consequently we are not able to state whether the fire has ceased or not.

Still Later. Branchville, Thursday, Dec. 12-5 p. m. The fire is still raging.

The express train left Augusta this afternoon with provisions to supply the wants of the sufferers, and men to assist in controlling the fire.

Latest from the Fire at Charleston. Baltimore, Dec. 15, 1861.

We learn from the captain of the Norfolk boat that he was informed by the captain of the steamer Illinois, which had arrived at Old Point from Port Royal, that he passed within six miles of Charleston Harbor at 10 o'clock on Thursday night, and that a tremendous conflagration was evidently at its height in that city.

The reflection on the clouds exceeded anything he ever saw, and the whole bay, with the dark outlines of Fort Sumter was brightly illumined. It did not appear like a reflection from smouldering ruins, but from a raging, uncontrollable conflagration.

This is later than the Norfolk Day Book's dispatch. Fortress Monroe, Friday Dec. 14-4 p. m.

The United States steam transport Illinois, Capt. Rathbon, has just arrived from Port Royal, which place she left on Wednesday the 11th inst at 6 o'clock.

When passing Charleston the entire city was on fire. The scene is reported as having been awfully sublime. The angry flames seemed to devour everything within reach.

According to this statement the fire must have raged two days before the fact was published in the Norfolk Day Book of yesterday.

Rebel Forces in the Field. The recent Messages of the rebel Governors, and other official documents put forth by the State authorities, enable us to form a pretty correct estimate of the strength of the rebels now in the field.

State Authorities No. Georgia, Governor's Message, 27,000 Louisiana, Governor's Message, 25,000 S. Carolina, Governor's Message, 19,000 Virginia, Governor's Message, 83,000 Tennessee, Gov's Proclamation, 35,000 Kentucky, Estimated, 10,000 Missouri, Price's Proclamation, 5,000 Alabama, Estimated, 22,000 Mississippi, Vicksburg Sun, 21,000 Florida, Estimated, 10,000 Texas, Estimated, 30,000 N. Carolina, Governor's Message, 35,000 Arkansas, Report of Adj of State, 24,000 Maryland, Estimated, 3,000

Total 319,000

The National Hospitals.

The "COMMITTEE ON HOSPITAL SUPPLIES" appointed by the "Philadelphia Association of the United States Sanitary Commission," respectfully appeal to their fellow-citizens to aid them in accomplishing the work they have in hand.

A reference to the Address recently issued by the Association under which we act, will explain the nature of this work and the means by which it must be prosecuted.

The specific duty confided to us is to procure supplies for the Government Hospitals. These Hospitals, connected with the several departments of the army, in the District of Columbia, in Eastern and Western Virginia, in Kentucky, Missouri, and elsewhere, already contain a very large number of sick and wounded soldiers; and the number will increase as the season advances.

For reasons already before the public, the Government has been unable to make adequate provision for the comfort of these gallant men. This office has been devolved upon the patriotism and munificence of the people, and especially upon the generous aid of our countrywomen. Nobly they responded to the appeal.

Large contributions of clothing, edibles, and delicacies, have been forwarded by them to the Hospitals. The "LADIES' AID SOCIETY" of Philadelphia, started into being with the war, on the 26th of April last, and is still pursuing its philanthropic labor with an efficiency and liberality deserving of the highest commendation.

Similar Societies in this city and the interior of our State have emulated this example, and done much to promote the comfort both of the sick and the well of our army.

But the demand far outruns the supply. We make our appeal to the public at large, therefore, to come forward to the help of this object, and especially do we appeal to the loyal women of the country. The mission is one which belongs very much to your sphere. It can be accomplished only by your agency.

And to so full justice toil will require a combined effort on a scale to which no approximation has yet been made, notwithstanding the ample labors of the past.

There must be many thousands even of the women of Pennsylvania, who have not hitherto felt the necessity of giving their personal attention to this matter. We beg to assure you that there is something which every one can do, so the cause needs the prompt and faithful help of all who love their country and wish well to its defenders.

We see no reason why every village in our State should not have its "Ladies' Aid" or "Woman's Relief" Society. Such Societies might be formed in the churches and schools of our larger towns, and in all the rural districts. Where an organization cannot be readily effected, individuals and families might engage in the work. No time should be wasted upon mere routine.

The winter is upon us. Our soldiers are suffering. Every woman who can knit a pair of socks, or of thumb and finger mittens; who can buy or beg a blanket; who can procure a box of farina or arrow root, or put up a jar of jelly, should go about it at once.

We ask of druggists, grocers, millers, farmers, and manufacturers, that they will contribute of their several stores for this object.

This Committee, at an early session, put on record a resolution to the effect that its first care should be given to any Hospitals which the Government might establish in Philadelphia or elsewhere in Pennsylvania. It is now officially announced that four large edifices in our city have been rented by the Government, and will be ready to receive the Hospital furniture by the 12th inst. Several hundred patients are expected here as soon as the proper arrangements are made for them.

This statement will show how urgent is the case which we are presenting to our fellow citizens. We ask their instant and generous co-operation. And we respectfully request the editors and publishers of the newspaper press, daily and weekly, secular and religious, to circulate this Appeal, and lend their aid in providing for our sick and wounded soldiers.

All articles not otherwise appropriated to this Committee, will be distributed under the direction of the United States Sanitary Commission, which has a general oversight of all the camps and Hospitals.

A list of the articles chiefly needed may be found in the appendix to the Address already mentioned. But as the present Appeal may reach some persons who will not see that Address, the list is subjoined as follows:

ARTICLES MOST WANTED. Blankets for single beds; sheets; quilts, of cheap material, about seven feet long by fifty inches wide; knit woolen socks; mittens with thumb and finger; woolen or Canton flannel bedgowns, wrappers, undershirts, and drawers; handkerchiefs; towels; small hair and feather pillows and cushions for wounded limbs; slippers; queensware.

Delicacies for the sick—such as tea, coffee, sugar, crackers, spices, sage, tapioca, farina, arrowroot, corn-starch, cocoa, pickles, dried beef, condensed milk, and nicely dried fruit, whiskey, brandy, wine for wine whey, &c. Jellies should be carefully prepared to avoid fermentation, and most securely packed. Many articles of clothing have been injured, in packages heretofore sent the Commission, by the breaking of jars and bottles. Over every vessel containing jelly, strew white sugar to the depth of half an inch, and paste stout paper (not branded) over the mouth. Jellies sent in stone bottles arrive in the best condition, and there is no difficulty in removing the contents for use. Every bottle, &c., containing jelly should be labelled. Aromatic spirits and waters; light easy chairs for convalescents; nicely made splints for wounded limbs; sheker and backgammon boards, and like articles for the amusement of wounded men; books, for desultory reading, and magazines, especially if illustrated, will be useful.

All articles should be closely packed in wooden boxes, or in very strongly wrapped bales, and clearly directed. On the top of the contents of each box, under

the cover, a list of what it contains should be placed; a duplicate of this list should be sent by mail. Arrangements for free transportation should be made, or freight paid in advance. (The Express companies will generally convey goods for this purpose at a reduction on the usual rates.) Packages may be sent to the depot of the Commission, care of the chairman of the Committee, on the Depository, as follows:

"CHARLES J. STILLE, Esq., Sanitary Commission, 1235 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

The Depository will be open a part of every day for the reception of articles.—Contributions in money may be sent to Caleb Cope, Esq., Treasurer, Philadelphia Sanitary Commission, Philadelphia.

COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES.—S. V. Merrick, Chairman; Samuel Powell, Thomas T. Tasker, Fairman Rogers, M. L. Dawson, John Weish, Dr. Joseph Parrish, Rev. Dr. Brainerd, Rev. Dr. Hutter, Dr. Caspar Morris, Charles J. Stille, Jacob Alburger, William H. Ashburn, Ellis Yarnall, Thomas Kimber, Jr., Rev. Dr. William H. Furness, Judge Sketcheley Morton, Judge William Strong, John H. Towne, Dr. Edward Hartshorne, F. Frayley, William M. Tilghman, Arthur G. Coffin, Dr. James M. Corse, Dr. Lewis Rodman, C. B. Barlay; Charles Hartshorne, Secretary.

Philadelphia, December 10th, 1861.

Another Desperate Fight in Virginia. A Nine Hours' Battle—Another Union Victory—200 Rebels Killed, and 30 Taken Prisoners—Thirty Union Men Killed.

Cincinnati, Sat. Dec. 14, 1861. A special dispatch from Cheat Mountain to the Commercial says.

"On yesterday one of the hardest and best fought battles of the war was fought at Allegheny Camp, Pocahontas County, Va., between Gen. R. H. Milroy, commanding the Union troops, and Gen. Johnson of Georgia, commanding the Rebels."

"The fight lasted from daylight till 3 p. m. The Union loss is about 30 and the Rebel loss over 200, including a Major and many other officers, and 30 prisoners."

"Gen. Johnson was shot in the mouth but not fatally. The 12th Georgia Regiment suffered the most. Gen. Milroy's force numbered 750 men from the 9th and 13th Indiana, and the 25th and 32d Ohio, and the 2d Virginia."

"Gen. Johnson's force numbered over 2,000 men. The 9th Indiana Regiment fought bravely to the last. After driving the enemy into their barracks no less than five times, our forces retired in good order. The rebels set fire to their camp and retreated to Staunton. Gen. Milroy has driven the last army of the rebels out of Western Virginia."

Military Execution.

William H. Johnson, private of Company D, 1st Regiment Volunteer Cavalry, court-martialed and sentenced to death for desertion, was shot at 3 o'clock, Friday, Dec. 13th, in presence of the whole of Gen. Franklin's division. The ground chosen (on the Leesburg turnpike, near the Fairfax Theological Seminary) for the execution was such as to afford all in attendance a view of the solemn proceedings. The troops were marched to the spot to funeral music, and formed into a hollow square. The display was unusually imposing, and the utmost decorum characterized the movements of the men.

Everything being in order, a procession, headed by Capt. Boyd, Provost Marshal of the division, and consisting of a company of mounted cavalry from the regiment to which the prisoner was attached, followed by the twelve men on foot from the same regiment, who had been designated as executioners, a wagon containing a plain coffin, and another in which Johnson rode, accompanied by a priest, chaplain of the 31st Regiment New-York Volunteers, moved slowly through the open columns of the troops, the bands of the several regiments playing the dead march.

All eyes were fixed upon the doomed man. His countenance indicated severe depression, but he sat steadily and composed, apparently intent upon the counsels of the priest. His features were not indicative of his great crime, and it is said that his character has not heretofore been stained by any marked misdeeds.

During an interview last evening with several officers, he was in excellent spirits, and appeared to have no realization of his impending fate. Indeed, it was the general impression in the army that he would be reprieved, especially when it was rumored that he was insane. Gen. Franklin having telegraphed the circumstance to the Commander-in-Chief, he immediately directed three of the best physicians in the army to make a medical examination. Their report is as follows:

Gen. Franklin's Headquarters. Dec. 13, 1861—12 1/2 p. m.

Sir: In pursuance of your order, we, the undersigned, have made a careful examination of the prisoner William H. Johnson, under sentence of death for alleged attempt at and respectfully report that we find him of sound mind.

FRANK H. HAMILTON, Brigade Surgeon & Pres't of Commission. ALEX. N. DOUGHERTY, Brigade Surgeon.

GEORGE BURR, Brigade Surgeon, Gen. Slocum's Brigade.

The procession having gone the rounds, it was drawn up in the center of a hollow square which had been formed by the military. The coffin was removed from the wagon, and Johnson seated upon it, in full view of the whole assemblage.

The priests performed a last mass, and the death-warrant was read to the prisoner by the Provost-Marshal, as it had been to the several regiments by the colonels. Johnson being told that he might speak if he had ought to say, exclaimed, in tremulous tones: