

Correspondence.

Letter from 3d Reg. P. R. V. Corps.

Dear Friend—At your request, and to fulfill my promise to you, I have prepared for you a copy of the report of the day of rest to the soldiers as given in the columns of the Standard.

THE AMERICAN.



SUNBURY, PA. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1861.

H. B. MASSER, Editor and Proprietor.

THE NEWS FROM THE FLEET AND ARMY.

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OFFICIAL ELECTION RETURNS.

The Return Judges having met in this place on Tuesday last, to count the Army vote, in addition to the former returns, the following is the result, as copied from the official papers:—

For President Judge.

Alexander Jordan, 2840

J. W. Maynard, 2326

Jordan's majority, 514

For Associate Judges.

William Turner, 2582

Abraham Shipman, 2613

William Deppin, 2549

Joseph Nicely, 2508

Maj. for Turner over Deppin, 33

For Assembly.

J. Woods Brown, 2662

Edward Y. Bright, 2473

Brown's majority, 189

For Register and Recorder.

J. A. J. Cummings, 2539

Jacob B. Masser, 2493

Peter W. Gray, 75

Cummings' maj. over Masser, 46

For Treasurer.

William E. Irwin, 2626

Joseph Yankin, 2492

Irwin's majority, 134

For Commissioner.

Samuel Stahlacker, 2605

George Christian, 2452

Stahlacker's majority, 153

For Auditor.

William Hammel, 2623

Isaac H. Resler, 2399

Hammel's majority, 234

For Public Debt.

According to an article in the New York Times, the increase of the public debt is far from being so rapid as has been supposed.

Instead of one million of dollars per day on the average, it has been only about seven hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Chase had in reserve a few days since about \$175,000,000 of the loan of July 17th; he had issued but \$56,000,000 of the 7 3/8 per cent. treasury bonds, and owes the associated banks but \$25,000,000 on account of advances for which bonds have not yet been issued.

The expenditures from the treasury may average a million a day; but these are met in part from revenue. Thus, during the months of September and October the sum of three and a half millions was received for customs in that description of paper at our various ports. At the same time \$5,350,000 was exchanged at various points for 7 3/8 Treasury bonds, making about \$8,850,000 out of it to be deducted from the aggregate expenditures for that period. Of the demand notes, it is considered that less than twelve millions are in actual circulation at present. The total funded debt of the United States on September 1st was \$75,705,000; including Treasury paper, the entire obligations were \$131,552,000. On the 11th instant this aggregate had increased to \$157,082,000, or including the advances made by the banks, \$182,082,000, an increase of \$50,430,000 in twenty two days, or in round numbers \$200,000 per day.

THE LATE ELECTIONS.—In New York the Union State Ticket has been elected by about a hundred thousand majority.

In Massachusetts, Gov. Andrew, Republican, is re-elected by 32,000 majority.

New Jersey has been carried by the Democrats.

In Maryland the Union candidate for Governor, A. W. Bradford, is elected by a heavy majority. In Baltimore city, out of a vote of 20,000, the Union majority was 16,000.

In Wisconsin the Democrats are said to have gained largely in several counties, and the result for Governor is in doubt.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL POLK.

F. W. Hunt, of the Ohio State Journal, recently escorted a Southern lady to Columbus, Ky., the headquarters of General Polk.

He has written a long letter, giving his experience. We extract the following:

We found General Polk in much more comfortable quarters than General Pillow, and rather more exclusive in his company.

He is a fine, large, gray-headed man, rather amiable looking, but distant. My case was presented, and the permission readily granted to be present to deplore this war, and wondered what the people in the North intended by it.

He thought that they ought to stop it at once, as they could gain nothing by its continuance, &c. I asked him how he would stop it.

Gen. Polk. "By giving us all that belongs to us."

Gen. Polk. "All that has always been acknowledged ours."

Gen. Polk. "Do you want Missouri?"

Gen. Polk. "Yes, that is ours, undoubtedly."

Gen. Polk. "Do you want Kentucky?"

Gen. Polk. "Of course, the Ohio river has always been considered the line."

Gen. Polk. "But Kentucky don't want you?"

Gen. Polk. "You must have her."

Gen. Polk. "You want all of Virginia?"

Gen. Polk. "Of course."

Gen. Polk. "You must have Maryland?"

Gen. Polk. "Most certainly."

Gen. Polk. "What will you do with Washington?"

Gen. Polk. "Any trouble about Washington arises from its unfortunate position. We don't want it; I remove it if you want it; but Maryland is ours."

Gen. Polk. "Well, General, you will never get Washington?"

Gen. Polk. "Their camp news was always encouraging, even to the whipping of Jeff Thompson at Fredericktown. He reported his battle there in a very laudatory style. He was marched upon from both sides, and moved out twelve miles toward Greenville. He then turned back and formed a line of battle, one mile from Fredericktown. Here," he says, "my enemy came out two to one, and we were, when I left, 11 to 1."

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BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA.

In The Press of October 21st, the following description of the chief town situated upon the Port Royal river, which the Federal forces will take possession of as soon as the outer forts are stormed, is thus described:—

"The necessity for the seizure of this port by the Federal forces has been often discussed in certain quarters, and has been found to be a measure which would be highly advantageous to the Government. It is situated in an arm of the sea called Port Royal river, about fifteen miles from the Atlantic. The harbor is one of the safest on the whole Southern coast, and has sixteen feet water at low tide, and over nineteen at full on the bar, at its entrance. Situated immediately south of the line of railroad, at a distance of twenty miles, running between Charleston and Savannah, it would afford an easy base for land operations against either. Either could be much more easily taken by land operations than that of Beaufort, and so it is that it means to be under value in any future series of assaults upon these hot-beds of treason. Its distance from Charleston is less than fifty miles, and twenty five from Savannah.

"The great desideratum gained by an attack upon it is that it can be taken with little or no loss of life, and so it is that it is held landward against a most formidable force. The British took it and held it for a long time during the Revolutionary war, deeming it a point of the greatest importance. Its collector, under Mr. Buchanan's Administration, refused to give his adhesion to the secession of South Carolina, and he was arrested for high treason. He subsequently succumbed to force. It must not be confounded with the North Carolina Beaufort, more than a hundred miles northeast of it."

"There is another entrance by which Beaufort can be reached, called St. Helena Sound. It communicates with Beaufort by a narrow inlet, which schooners of but very shallow draught can enter. Indeed the whole surroundings of Beaufort consist of a series of these sea inlets, which produce such magnificent cotton, the best and finest staple known to commerce. Among these are St. Helena, Hunting, and Port Royal inlets, and Beaufort. Beaufort can be easily fortified so as to be held both landward and seaward. Access is given, by its occupation, to the richest cotton region of the South. Not only the cotton planters of South Carolina, but the richest cotton districts of Georgia can be reached. Above all, the great advantage is afforded that the port of Beaufort, which is to be still secretly but strongly attached to the old Government of their fathers."

THE REBEL GARRISONS.

The garrisons are believed to have been South Carolina regiments, assisted by several additional regiments which were sent from Richmond. The manner in which these forts were constructed and garrisoned may confirm the statement that the enemy was apprised of the destination of the fleet, perhaps even before it left Hampton Roads. The batteries at Beaufort consist of three batteries, the principal fortification on Hilton's Head was designated Fort Walker. It was situated on low land, and at the time of the arrival of the Fleet was partially concealed by trees and underbrush. Adjoining it were other batteries of smaller size, but so constructed as to prove a formidable bar to the entrance of the Union vessels. Fort Beauregard was of considerable importance, having been mounted with heavy guns.

THE REBEL FLEET HEARD FROM.

GALLANT ENGAGEMENT AT PORT ROYAL.

REBEL BATTERIES ON SHORE DEMOLISHED.

Total Route of the Rebel Navy.

An Action of Seven Hours—Our Vessels Attacking Beaufort.

THE REBEL FORTS.

In anticipation of the arrival of the Great Expedition, the Rebels for some time past have been engaged in erecting batteries upon the point at Hilton's Head, and upon the opposite neck of land. The entrance to Port Royal lies between the two batteries. The principal fortification on Hilton's Head was designated Fort Walker. It was situated on low land, and at the time of the arrival of the Fleet was partially concealed by trees and underbrush. Adjoining it were other batteries of smaller size, but so constructed as to prove a formidable bar to the entrance of the Union vessels. Fort Beauregard was of considerable importance, having been mounted with heavy guns.

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THE COAL OIL TRADE.

Many who read the accounts of oil wells in Pennsylvania and the States, are, perhaps, curious to know of the business of procuring oil in this way profitable or otherwise. The editor of the Rural Argus, a paper published in the western part of Pennsylvania, has recently visited the oil regions, and gives the result of his observations in a late issue of his journal.

Among other remarks he says that the price of oil is so low that nothing short of a flowing well will pay. And even a flowing well, he asserts, may endanger the financial standing of its owner by compelling him to incur great expense in the purchase of barrels before any return can be had. He adds, moreover, that innumerable troubles attend the business at every stage of its progress. A few have made themselves rich by it, and a very few more will do the same thing, while a vast majority of those who have invested in it and who will yet do so, will it is thought, never realize one per cent. on the investment.

OUR EXPORTS OF HEADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS, this year, will reach in value, \$200,000,000. Is Cotton King!

Telegraphic News.

THE GREAT FLEET HEARD FROM.

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