

A Singular Disclosure from Richmond--A Confession of Weakness.

The New York Post publishes some passages from a significant letter just received in New York from Richmond. The Post asserts the letter to be written by a person then and still a resident at the South, and who has excellent opportunities for knowing the matters whereof he speaks.

The Secretary of the Treasury Mr. Memminger, is doing all he can to uphold the credit, so he is paying the interest of the Confederate debt for part of which specie he has paid from twenty-five to thirty per cent. premium, although the greater part of it came from robbing the old United States mint at New Orleans and from the Post Office receipts.

The Number of Troops in the Field. Then our army is by no means as well organized as it ought to be. On paper we have 400,000 in the field; but we have not quite 200,000 and part of them even indifferently armed, a great many of them badly fed and clothed.

A signal proof of the small confidence the Southern people have in their strength and in their ability to fight out this war was the rejoicing with which the news of the capture of Mason and Slidell was received here, and the disappointment when they were given up.

Troops Poisoned Like Rats--Occupation of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Gen. Halleck has sent the following dispatch to General McClellan: "Gen. Curtis has taken possession of Fayetteville, Arkansas, capturing a number of prisoners, stores, baggage, etc. The enemy burnt a part of the town before leaving. They have crossed Boston Mountain in great confusion. We are now in possession of all their strongholds."

Another dispatch says: "Our army is waiting for supplies, and will not be likely to move for ten or twelve days. Our troops took possession of Fayetteville at 11 o'clock, a.m., yesterday. The ruins of the town were smoking when the troops entered. Price and McCulloch are beyond the Boston Mountains. A Louisiana and Texas regiment are with McCulloch. The rebels are demoralized."

The Northwest corner county of Arkansas is Benton. Directly south of it lies Washington county, of which Fayetteville is the county town. It lies about fifteen miles from the Indian Territory west, and about twenty-five miles from the Missouri line north. It is not probable that Curtis will pursue the fugitive and cowardly Price any farther, as nothing could be gained by it, unless it were to retake Fort Smith and occupy Van Buren.

We hold Nashville. The citizens sent down a boat asking the gunboats to go up, and the gunboats have gone. The rebels evacuated in the greatest haste, leaving guns, transportation, gunboats and everything. Gov. Harris left with them, taking away the State records. The rebels are reported concentrating at Murfreesboro. A person just from Nashville, de-

Affairs in Tennessee.

CHICAGO, February 28.--A special dispatch to the Tribune from Cairo says: Reports from Murfreesboro state that Gen. Buell had surrounded the rebels, at that place, so that none could escape. The rebels offered to surrender their position if allowed to march out with the honors of war. Buell refused, and demanded an unconditional surrender; said he would allow them two days for consideration, and if the place was not surrendered at the expiration of that time, he would open fire upon them. The time expired this morning.

CHICAGO, Feb. 28.--A special dispatch to the Tribune, from Cairo, says that the rebel army, in its retreat from Nashville, left 1,600 sick and wounded, destroyed the bridges and burned all the steamboats but one, which escaped. The Texas soldiers fired the city in many places, but the citizens extinguished the flames. A great majority of the property owners remained. The excitement was intense.

Gov. Harris made a speech, in which he said: "I have no doubt that the President has designated Hon. Andrew Johnson to be a Brigadier General, and he proceeds to Tennessee to-morrow to open a military provisional government of Tennessee, until the civil government can be re-constructed. Gen. Buell will be nominated to-morrow a Major General of volunteers."

The following dispatch was received to-day from Commander Foote, dated Cairo, March 1st. Lieut. Commanding Phelps, sent with a flag of truce to-day to Columbus, has this moment returned, and reports that Columbus is being evacuated. He saw the rebels burning their winter quarters and removing their heavy guns on the bluffs, but the guns in the water batteries remain intact. He also saw a large force of cavalry drawn up ostentatiously on the bluffs, but no infantry was noticed as heretofore in our armed reconnaissance a few days since.

Large fires were visible in the town of Columbus and upon the river banks below, indicating the destruction of the town, military stores and equipments. [Signed,] A. H. FOOTE, Flag Officer. It is believed here our army has, by this time, occupied Columbus.

Latest from Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., March 4.--A special to the Missouri Republican, from Springfield, Mo., says:--On Wednesday night, Capt. Montgomery, of Wright's battalion, with his company, was surprised at Keitsville, Barry county, [this is in Southwest Missouri, about forty miles from Springfield.] by 800 rebels, supposed to belong to Mc Bride's division, but who represented themselves as Texan Rangers. They fired into a house occupied by our men, killing two and wounding one.

One of the rebels was killed. The balance left, taking with them about seventy horses. Two wagons loaded with army stores were burned. The same night at Major Harbin's farm, two miles beyond Keitsville, Colonel Ellis and Wright, with an adequate cavalry force, were sent to Keitsville. Gen. Price had burned several public buildings at Fayetteville, Ark., including the Arsenal lead factory, several flouring mills, and 100,000 pounds of flour.

Many of the inhabitants along the road have been deceived by the lies of Price that all would be butchered. A strong Union feeling has been exhibited among those remaining. Our soldiers of 1812 brought out a Union flag long kept concealed. They say that the combined force of Price, Van Dorn and McCulloch will again overrun the country, which keeps thousands from avowing their sentiments. Gen. Price, after a hot chase, is cooling off on Boston Mountain, and Ben McCulloch is on this side of him.

The Death of General Lander.

General Lander died this afternoon at Paw-Paw, Western Virginia, from the debilitating effects of his wound, received at Edward's Ferry. His body is on the way to this city, where his widow (formerly Miss Jean M. Davenport, tragedienne) resides. Gen. Shields succeeds Gen. Lander in command.

The Occupation of Nashville--How it was Done--Rebel Stampede, &c.

Latest Cairo specials to Cincinnati papers are as follows:--CLARKSVILLE, Feb. 24, via CAIRO, Feb. 25.--A flag of truce arrived here yesterday from Nashville. The rebels have destroyed all the bridges, pitched their cannon into the river, and evacuated the place. A deputation of prominent citizens asked that private property be respected, and our army take possession. General Mitchell's division was then within nine miles of Nashville. Gen. Nelson is up the Cumberland, and will arrive at Nashville to-night.

Major General Grant is at Clarksville. The rebels are reported concentrating at some point south or southeast of Nashville. Northern and eastern Tennessee are now safe. The weather is delightful for movements, being as warm as May in Ohio, and the roads are rapidly drying up.

[SECOND DISPATCH.] We hold Nashville. The citizens sent down a boat asking the gunboats to go up, and the gunboats have gone. The rebels evacuated in the greatest haste, leaving guns, transportation, gunboats and everything. Gov. Harris left with them, taking away the State records. The rebels are reported concentrating at Murfreesboro. A person just from Nashville, de-

scribes the rebels' stampede as a perfect panic. The Mayor made a speech, saying he was still secession to the backbone. "But," said he, "you see how it is; the game is up, and we must either surrender the town or have it burned."

When he left they were trying to get away their pork, of which they had large quantities stored there. The Texas Rangers committed all manner of excesses, on their own friends even, and then left in wild confusion.

The Work Finished in Tennessee--Andy Johnson Provisional Governor--Columbus Probably Occupied.

WASHINGTON, March 2d.--Official information to the War Department, from Nashville, represents that the military work in that State is about completed, and that it only remains to effect a civil reorganization of the State government. It is believed that the U. S. forces will occupy Columbus to-day.

The rebel forces, under Albert S. Johnston, are being steadily pressed backward by General Buell. Cotton, to the value of one hundred thousand dollars, has fallen into our hands at Nashville, and the Treasury Department has taken measures to have it brought to New York.

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The Advance of Gen. Banks' Division--Object of the Movement.

BOLIVAR, Md., Feb. 23.--General Banks' army occupied Harper's Ferry, unopposed on Wednesday, with all the necessities for a permanent occupation. The advance took possession of Bolivar Heights, and yesterday pushed its reconnoissances to Charlestown, captured a few prisoners.

Loudon Heights are also occupied, in order to prevent any flank movement by the enemy. To-day Charlestown was occupied by a strong force, and will be held against any attack. The plans of the commander are not known, but the movement is probably intended to cover the reconstruction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and bridges and may perhaps mean more. A train of cars passing between stations was fired at to-day by a rebel battery, but no harm was done.

The troops are in excellent condition, and will be protected from inclement weather. No accident occurred in transporting the troops over the river. The pontoon bridge was a complete success. Hundreds of refugees have returned to their desolated homes, and those remaining are overjoyed at our presence.

Nothing reliable has been heard from Winchester, but the current reports say it has been considerably reinforced. A small body of the enemy are supposed to lie South of Loudon Heights, four or five miles back from the river, but they are not of sufficient strength to cause any alarm.

Gen. Banks' Division Near Charlestown.

CHARLESTOWN, Va., March 2.--Gen. Banks' division rests in the vicinity of Charlestown. No disaster or accident has occurred since its concentration and departure from Sandy Hook to cause any anxiety to friends at home.

Three inches of snow fell to-day. The hitherto rancorous secessionists now pay marked respect to the United States uniform. The citizens who had been compelled to succumb to the rebel force, are elated with the prospects of the future. It is gratifying to perceive that the country throughout which the army passed, bears marks of the usual agricultural industry. It is apparent that the future cereal crops of this prolific grain have not been neglected, as might be supposed. The town and country are destitute of important articles of consumption.

There is no lack of break, meat and coarse clothes. Hundreds of contrabands are hourly seeking refuge within our lines, but they are allowed to roam at large without care; in fact, but little notice is taken of them, except to prevent their return beyond our posts.

The general reports from Winchester are conflicting, and but little reliance is placed upon them, coming as they do from refugees and contrabands. The military commanders undoubtedly are better informed than the public, and are consequently prepared for any emergency which may arise.

Considerable flour, accredited to the rebel army, has been seized, but private property has been strictly respected. Martinsburg has been occupied by the U. S. troops.

Death of General Lander.

WASHINGTON, March 2.--Gen. Lander had every attention which his old and well tried friends around him could bestow. His death was somewhat sudden. It was not till five o'clock this afternoon his wife received intelligence of his illness. She immediately took measures for obtaining a special train to proceed thither, but before the arrangements were completed, Secretary Stanton called in person, and with much feeling and delicacy acquainted her with the fact of her husband's death. Secretary Chase and other distinguished friends subsequently visited her in her affliction. General Shields succeeds General Lander in command.

Direct from Nashville.

The city is entirely quiet. Even the bitterest secessionists acknowledge our military authorities treating them cruelly kind. All admit the vast superiority in arms, equipments and appearance of our troops, and say that so far, there has been the most admirable discipline displayed.

Shocking Death.

Mrs. Hannah Warden, of Richland township, Guernsey county, Ohio, was found recently lying with her face in the fire, and literally burned to death. Her husband, Isaac Warden, Jr., had been away from home all day, working at his father's, and on coming home at night found his wife lying with her face in the fire, her head almost burned up. It is thought she must have fainted and fell in the fire.

ACQUITTAL OF COL. ANISANSEL.

We learn, says the Wheeling Intelligencer of Monday, that a dispatch was received in this city yesterday, announcing the acquittal of Colonel Anisansel, of the First Virginia Cavalry, of the charges preferred against him of cowardice in the face of the enemy. From the best information we can gain we believe that to be reliable. A court-martial has had the case under consideration for some time.

The Prince of Wales has contributed £100, Lord Hastings £400, Lady Hastings £200, and Durham Cathedral £200 to the sufferers by the Hartley colliery disaster. More than £600 has been collected on the London Coal Exchange, but it is estimated that £20,000 will be needed for the effectual relief of all who have by this accident been deprived of means of subsistence.

Very Important from the South--Martial Law in Richmond--The Escape of the Nashville.

Martial law has been proclaimed in Richmond and Norfolk by President Jeff. Davis, and the distillation of intoxicating liquors and Union sentiments positively prohibited.

The rebel steam sloop of war Nashville has arrived at Wilmington, North Carolina, having run the blockade at Beaufort, North Carolina.

Captain Pegram arrived in Richmond yesterday, and states that he hoisted the United States colors as soon as he saw the North Carolina coast, and ran up within a mile of the Federal blockading vessels. As soon as he got by them he hoisted the Confederate flag at the main mizzen and fore, and ran in under the guns of Fort Macon, hotly pursued by a Federal steamer, supposed to be the Monticello, which vessel fired thirty shots, doing but little injury to the Nashville.

The Nashville brought important dispatches and a valuable assorted cargo from England, including ten thousand reams of bank-note and postage-stamp paper. John Minor Botts, Mr. Stearns and Mr. Wardwell, friends of our prisoners, together with many others, have been arrested in Richmond and thrown into jail, on the charge of being Union men.

More Rebels Captured--Gunboat Engagement in Tennessee.

CHICAGO, March 3.--A special dispatch to the Tribune says that a very bright light, of a large conflagration in the direction of Bloodville, was seen from here on Friday night at nine o'clock. On Saturday night the sky was brilliantly illuminated by the reflection of a large conflagration directly in the line of Columbus, apparently as far distant.

Another special dispatch to the Tribune, dated Cairo 2d, says that a gentleman arrived from Charleston, Mo., brings intelligence of the capture of forty men of Jeff. Thompson's band and four small one-pounder guns near Sikestown.

The gunboat Lexington had an engagement a day or two since with a rebel battery at Savannah, Tennessee. The Nicholl's House, at Bloomington, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss \$35,000; insured for \$20,000.

Evacuation of Columbus--The City Laid in Ashes by the Rebels.

St. Louis, March 4.--A special dispatch to the Republican from Cairo, dated the 3d, says that Columbus has been evacuated and burned by the rebels. The gunboat Benton, with General Colham and Commodore Foote, went down the river to-day on a reconnoissance. They found the rebels had fled, having removed their guns and laid the town in ashes. Everything was destroyed that could not be carried away. The rebels have retreated to Fort Randolph. The whole town of Columbus is nothing but ruins. The guns have also been removed from the Island below.

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Rebel Cavalry Routed--The Captures on the Upper Potomac.

CHARLESTOWN, VA., March 6.--Last night a squadron of the First Michigan Cavalry advanced as far as Perryville, on the Winchester turnpike, and ambushed, and surprised a party of rebel cavalry, putting three of them hors du combat and routing them. The Michigan party returned with nine cavalry horses fully equipped as trophies, among them the celebrated black stallion rode by Col. Ashby. Not a man was lost.

The amount of forage and provisions captured by our right wing since its advance into Virginia is estimated to be worth twenty thousand dollars. This includes four thousand pounds of bacon stored for the use of the rebel army at Leetown and Lovettsville, now held by the Union army.

The success of the movement on the Upper Potomac has been complete. Gen. Shields passed through Charlestown on his way West last night.

From Correspondents.

LETTER FROM SALT RIVER.

HEADWATERS OF SALT RIVER, } March 4, 1862. }

COLS. JONES & JENNINGS.--It has been a considerable length of time since you have had anything from my pen. Probably you may have thought me dead; but I am happy to inform you that I am still 'alive and kicking.' The old welcome 'Messenger' still makes its regular visits to cheer us up in this benighted land. The course the Messenger has taken, and the able manner in which it sustains the Government pleases us Douglas men well. We consider the Messenger one of the best papers that we read. Jim, I congratulate you upon the able associate that you have connected with you, and I feel confident that the Democracy of little Greene will sustain you well. Long may you both wave! I have nothing of much importance to write to you from this territory. We have all been engaged in the prosecution of the war, in order to bring it to a speedy termination, though I must not forget to mention a very distinguished arrival here a few days since. Hon. Simon Cameron landed here with a regiment of slaves, all under arms. We had a considerable fight with him; but Simon was soon made to 'pull down,' when he and his whole cargo struck for Hayti. Alas, poor Simon! what a dreary time he will have of it! 'Uncle Abe' has put his foot down firmly. A few more removals of this kind would crush out Rebellion. The removal of Cameron, I have no doubt, saved thousands of precious lives. Just such fanatics as these have plunged our beloved country into civil war; and one thing is now certain, that this war will put an end to Abolitionism and Secessionism. Both are alike disturbers of the peace, and should be punished. Let those leading traitors that have plotted treason in the South, and are now under arms to overthrow the best Government on earth, be hung like dogs, and the Abolition fanatics that are howling in Congress be hurled out, and the Government will be sustained and the Union restored without the further shedding of blood. Why allow these fanatics to howl about the abolition of slavery, emancipation, &c., etc., when the Congress of the United States declared that this war was not for the liberating of the slaves, but for the sole purpose of putting down rebellion and restoring the Union as it was, and then the war was to cease? Now, if this is the purpose of the war, are not these men disturbers of the peace? aiding and abetting traitors in their efforts to overthrow the government? Although not in arms against it, they are constantly aiding the South, giving their arguments to further the madness of the Southern people, and do it all under the false cry of 'Union.' The truth is, they are not for the old Union as made by our fathers, but for a Union to suit their own pious notions. No, they don't want the old Union restored, unless slavery is blotted out. Such men care nothing about the present Constitution and the Union of Washington, Jefferson and the other patriots of the Revolution.

The appointment of Secretary Stanton gives us general satisfaction. He is a man of firmness and integrity, and will be a terror to the rascals that have been sapping the Government. 'Uncle Abe' did well in selecting so good a man, Stanton; surely is the man for the times. I see, from reading the proceedings of Congress, the Abolitionists are attacking Gen. Halleck and refuse to tender him a vote of thanks for his constitutional proclamation in Missouri on the 23d. Now, are not these pretty men to be allowed a seat in the Congress of the United States? If Halleck had set the Constitution at defiance, and declared the object of the war to be the abolition of slavery, then these fanatics would have extolled him to the skies. But because he stands by the Constitution of his country, and bares his breast to his enemies, Mr. Lovejoy refuses to give the hero and patriot a vote of thanks. Now, should not such men as these receive such treatment as the traitor Bright? But, thank God, the day is not far distant, when, if Congress don't expel them, the people will. But, in spite of the Lovejoys, Sumners & Co., this Government will be sustained and the Union restored on the old Constitutional basis. Of this I have not a doubt; a few more Fort Donelson victories will close the war.

I see, from the proceedings of the Legislature at Harrisburg, that Col. Hopkins is in hot pursuit of the rascals that repealed the tonnage tax. Success attend his efforts! Let the robbers be branded.

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We had a grand celebration here on the 22d, in honor of the Father of his Country. Washington's Farewell Address was read. The patriotic lessons taught in this sacred document were received with marked attention, especially that portion that refers to fanaticism. Washington was far-seeing, and saw the evils that might grow out of it. If the old hero was allowed to raise from the tomb to-day, he would behold the workings of it. The country that he spent his life to make and build up, now drenched in blood, and the Union that he warns us to cherish in the utmost peril. He would behold a set of traitors at the South, with arms in hand, with the flag of their country under foot, endeavoring to tear down the fair fabric of human liberty, that he shed his blood to establish. He would behold a set of men in Congress crying that the old Constitution 'was a leauge with hell and a covenant with the devil;' and that the old Union was not worth preserving with the South, &c., &c. He would behold the old Union bleeding at every pore. Methinks I see the tears gushing from his patriotic eye, and hear him saying 'oh, ungrateful people, have you forgotten your revolutionary fathers? Have you forgotten Yorktown, Valley Forge, and Bunker Hill?'

But I have written more than I intended to when I commenced; therefore will close by saying that I wish you good success, and that you may be well sustained by the generous Democracy of little Greene. Yours respectfully, W. S.

THE AFFAIR AT BLOOMERY GAP.

CAMP CHASE, VA., Feb. 15, 1862.

Messrs. Editors: Although not being a regular correspondent of your paper, I think I may take the liberty of writing you the news. Gen. Lander being informed that a band of rebels was stationed at Bloomery, Hampshire county, Va., determined to have them routed. Brig. Gen. Kimble's brigade was selected to put the expedition through. It consisted of the 13th and 14th Indiana, 84th Pennsylvania Infantry, and the 1st Virginia Cavalry. We took up the line of march at 5 o'clock, P. M., on the 13th inst., and at a distance of eight miles we took supper and rested till 3 o'clock next morning. We then resumed our march, and daylight found us at the scene of action. The rebels being informed of our approach, had abandoned the town, and fled to the woods and mountains scattered in every direction for the purpose of bushwhacking. At first we thought there was no enemy to contend with. The Cavalry took the Winchester road, and at a distance of four miles found the rebels concealed in the mountains, behind rocks and stone fences. Then the ball soon opened in earnest. The Infantry came up in double quick time to the assistance of the Cavalry. Our regiment, being in front, was the first to assist the Cavalry. We were thrown out as skirmishers, and scoured the mountains in every direction. The 14th Indiana skirmished the opposite mountain, but to little or no effect, as the rebels had got out of their reach. The other regiments were stationed on another road, and took no part in the fight. Our regiment and the 1st Virginia alone participated in the fight. The firing commenced at daylight, and continued at intervals till 10 o'clock, resulting in a complete victory of our forces. Thirty-three rebels were killed, and fifty-seven taken prisoners, sixteen of whom were commissioned officers--one acting Adjutant General, one Colonel, one Chaplain, four Captains, and the rest Lieutenants. It was a guerrilla fight. From the best information we could get of their number, it was part of four regiments. We could not tell the exact number of their force, as it was scattered in every direction, and running at full speed. The 1st Virginia Cavalry suffered all the loss we sustained, and strange to say, there were only two killed, and three slightly wounded, when volley after volley of shots had been fired into our ranks. One of the killed was Robert Carroll, of Washington township, Greene Co., Pa., the other name I did not learn. We captured their entire Quartermaster's stores, together with several guns and ammunition, and some wagons and horses, and burnt a large bomb-shell factory. We then repaired to the houses that the Seesh had formerly occupied, and took breakfast--it then being 12 o'clock, M. Company F, of our company, was not behind in any movement that was made during the whole engagement. Our officers acted nobly, and also the men of our company. They were even cheered by the General not in connection with the regiment, but personified us as a company, although our whole regiment acted nobly. The Chaplain before mentioned was captured by Orderly Sergeant Eli Brant, Serg't J. L. Garrison, Corporal G. W. Shough, Joshua Rice, Frank Taylor, of company F, and myself. When we halted him, he plead innocent. We asked him why he wore a uniform? He said he was compelled to do so. Let them get behind a tree or rock, then they are ready to shoot you. After partaking of breakfast, we started for camp, and arrived here at 10 o'clock A. M., after marching through mud half-knee deep, a distance of forty miles, fighting four hours or more, and double-quick some six miles. This was all done in the brief space of thirty hours. I hear no complaint among our boys, notwithstanding the long march in such a short space of time. Our regiment had the honor of taking the prisoners away, on account of the bravery they displayed in the engagement. Before the fight, our regiment threw overcoats, haversacks, and all unnecessary clothing aside, and went into them like men. I must mention one thing, before I close, i. e., the gallantry displayed by our Colonel, James Evans. He nobly led his regiment throughout the whole engagement, and was in the front line with us, commanding our company being absent, the command of our company fell on Lieut. A. A. Stout. He acted gallantly, and displayed great bravery. Our Captain, George Gray, also displayed great bravery. Yours respectfully, VINCENT STEPHENS.

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