Daily Telegraph

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

HARRISBURG, PA.

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 29, 1864.

A Home for the Soldiers' Orphans.

Governor Curtin, in his message to the Legislature, which body the copperheads in the Senate will not permit to proceed to business, refers to an offer of money which the Pennsylvania Railroad Company had made to the State, but which he (the Governor) could not accept for want of power. After this reference, his Excellency suggests that power be granted him to accept the money thus tendered, as it is presumed that the company still considers its tender binding; and that when the State is put in possession of this sum, that other moneys be appropriated, the whole to be applied to the creation and support of a school or an asylum for the orphans of the heroes who perished in the war to crush rebellion. The whole subject is one of a greater importance than most people will at first sight be led to admit, while the expense of the enterprise, however large it may appear as thus presented, will never reach a sum to make the institution a burden to the State. Indeed, such an institution would not require an existence at most of more than fifteen years, supposing that the war will not last many months longer. The orphans of the men who have already fallen in battle while contending for the Government, would all be in a condition, in fifteen years hence, to care for themselves, or at least to be placed where they could earn their own living. Hence, there can be no argument offered against this enterprise, on the score of cost. Considering the obligations under which the State rests to those who went forth to maintain its honor and secure its existence, there should be no hesitancy, when the proper time arrives, promptly to provide for the creation and the support of this institution.

It is not out of place, in advance of any legislative action on this subject, to discuss the locality best suited for the erection of such an institution. As an institution purely identified with the military reputation and liberality of the people of the Commonwealth, its location should be such as at once to make it a mound to the full credit of Pennsylvania. With view of the subject, then, we are confident that all disinterested men will agree with us, that an asylum such as it is proposed Governor Curtin to erect, should be located where it would be constantly under the vigilance, and, if necessary, supervision of the State authorities, Executive and Legislative. Hence, we insist that the capital of the State is the proper locality for the asylum proposed to be established. The facilities afforded for access to the capital—the advantages of the country by which we are surrounded—the health of the region of Harrisburg—with other advantages which it is unnecessary at present to enumerate, all combining to make it almost absolutely necessary that this establishment be located in our midst.

—However premature it may now seem thus to discuss this matter, we deem it due to the State and its capital that thus early the attention of the people of Pennsylvania should be called to the project. We have every reason to believe that an attempt will be made, if no agitation of the subject is had, to combine the purposes of this enterprise with others of a similar character, which are controlled by individuals entirely, and which reflect their credit alone upon a locality. What is aimed at by the establishment of the institution proposed by Governor Curtin, is to found one that will be recognized as the work of the State. We will return to this subject when it comes properly before the Legislature.

"Crockadile Tears for the Soldiers."

The buffoon of the House, and the most disgustingly blatant of all the demagogues that ever disgraced the Legislature, Rex of Montgomery county, attempted yesterday to create a sensation in that body, by offering a resolution condemnatory of the State and national authorities for the manner in which the returning veterans are received and accommodated at this post. We have no apology to offer for the gross neglect of duty which lies at the door of some of the subordinates at this post, nor will we attempt to deny that the reception of our returning heroes has been shabby in the extreme. But then, the idea of Rex attempting to make capital for his party out of the neglects of individual officers is supremely ridiculous and impertinently preposterous. The idea of such a miserable, foul mouthed villifier of patriots, heroes and a good Government, seeking to pass a resolution of censure for wrongs to the soldiers which he and his party have exceeded a thousand fold. Bah! While Rex was laboring to accomplish his dirty object, not actually to vindicate the soldiers from wrong, but, if possible, really to bring disgrace to the Government, Mr. Bigham, of Allegheny, administered a most withering rebuke to the tribe of which Rex is a contemptible adherent. Mr. Bigham fully exposed the hypocrisy of the whole movement, and the House contributed to the rebuke of Rex by refusing to entertain his motion. A substitute was offered in lieu of Rex's resolution of censure, which will bring this whole subject before the public. Whenever the soldiers must depend upon such a thing as Rex for defence or justice, they will cease to be heroes, and will have sunk as utterly low, as is Rex, in the public estimation and respect.

In all candor and sincerity, and with no desire to assail any man in authority, but with no fear, either, of offending the guilty, we would ask, whose duty is it to see to the comfort, the subsistence and the shelter of the returning veterans? We cannot close our eyes to the fact, that there are Major Generals, Staff officers, Captains, Lieutenants and every grade of officials at this post to attend to "military affairs." And yet, when a regiment of veterans arrive at Harrisburg, either during day-light or dark—in sunshine or rain—it is nobody's business to give them quarters—nobody's business to issue them rations—nobody's business to pay them off. The men are left to lie down in the mud—they are forced to repose on the steps of the capitol or a cellar door. In one instance, while these veterans were huddled together in the soldier's retreat, they were driven out on the written order of a Major General, at the point of the Provost Marshal's bayonets. These are facts. We cannot close our eyes to them; and it is time that the Government take hold of these neglects, if we expect men to peril their lives in its defence. Somebody is to blame, and we demand that that somebody be exposed. If it is not the business of the innumerable officers at this post to attend to the wants of the soldiers—to see that they are quartered, subsisted, paid, &c., then the officers in question are a set of idlers, consuming the substance of the people without a fair return in service, and they should all be expelled from the employment of the Government forthwith.

We trust that the committee appointed to inquire into these neglects and abuses will sift the whole business thoroughly. But the attempt at exposure by such men as Rex only adds to the insult and injury of the soldier. Yet, in the meantime, we trust that a knowledge of these proceedings will reach the proper department of the Government, and that the officers guilty of these damnable wrongs will be held to a strict accountability.

What is Wrong at Headquarters?

A few months since we called attention to the fact, that the delay in settling military claims in the Departments at Washington, was inflicting misery and almost starvation upon thousands of widows and orphans.—Since we thus called attention to this fact, many of our cotemporaries have engaged in discussing the same subject, until the fact has been developed that there are thousands of families throughout the country, whose husbands and fathers have been killed in this war, or have perished from disease, and who are suffering for want of the back pay which was due them at the time of their death.—They find it utterly impossible to get any attention to their claims from the authorities at Washington. We know instances of precisely this kind. Widows, whose husbands have fallen on the field of battle, and who have nothing whatever, for themselves and their children to live upon, would be made comfortable if they could only get the pay which was due to their husbands when they fell. Yet all their applications have been utterly fruitless. They cannot even get answers to the inquiries which are made on their behalf.

Surely this ought to be promptly remedied, and we trust our representatives in Congress will see to it at once. The people tolerate the procrastination which ordinarily retards the transaction of all official business, with a patience which they would not display to any set of men charged with the conduct of private affairs. But it is hardly possible that the same patience will attend the delay in settlement of the claims of widows and orphans, or disabled men, made such by the war. The people demand that these claims be at once adjusted and liquidated.

THE ONLY POLITICAL GENERAL produced by the effort to crush the slave-holders' rebellion, is one whom the enemies of the government and the friends of slavery are plotting to invest with civil power. There is not a hero in the army—not a brave, true-hearted man, who before the rebellion was a Democrat, and who is now laboring for the cause of the Union, that is half so adulated as the man whom the Democracy are gilding preparatory to his being set up as a candidate for popular favor. When in command, this man was more prompt to obey the behests of his partizan associates than follow the orders of his superiors in authority. Since his relief from duty, his name is the theme of praise in rebeldom, and his fame is the sheen of glory to a party whose avowed purpose is to frustrate the efforts of the government to crush rebellion with the force of arms, simply because the object is to save the prestige of slavery by compromising with treason, in order that the influences of that institution may be unimpaired for the uses of Democracy. This is the political General of the war. His name alone conduced to the creation of partizanships in the army. His followers in politics deny the rights of citizenship to those who gave him all the notoriety he possesses, (save that of his notorious sympathy with the political enemies of the government,) and yet we are constantly reminded that the "abolitionists have made this a political war." Out upon such hypocrisy!

EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND.—The emigration statistics of the port of Liverpool show the total exodus of the past year to have been 137,982 to all points—and increases of 76,668 upon the year 1862. The emigration from Ireland to the United States is still increasing in volume. It is stated that there are not emigrant ships enough to bring the people over who are waiting for a passage to this country. The boarding houses in Liverpool are reported full of emigrants ready to embark for the United States.

SOME SO-CALLED LADIES OF VICKSBURG took pains to exhibit their disgust at hearing the prayer of the President read in the Episcopal Church in that city by a loyal clergyman, on Christmas day, by leaving the church. The commanding general recognized their unladylike conduct as an insult to the Government which he represents, and at once issued an order banishing from the Federal lines all who were parties in the performance.

BANNOCK CITY, Grasshopper Creek, Idaho Territory, has near its location the greatest gold digging in the world, yielding $500,000 per week. If this doesn't make Idaho populous, then greenbacks have overcome all love for the yellow dust.

THE London *Times* says it is almost certain war will be averted in India and Japan.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE TELEGRAPH.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, January 29, 1864.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock. Mr. JOHNSON as Speaker *pro tem.*

The Journal was read and adopted.

The Senate refused to ballot for Speaker, as but eighteen Senators appeared present.

A long discussion ensued, participated in by Messrs. LOWRY, HOPKINS, LAMBERTON, TURRELL, DONOVAN and CONNELL.

After which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, Jan. 29, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock; and the whole of the session was spent in the consideration of the bill relative to the payment of the interest on the State debt, which was advocated by Messrs. BROWN, ETNIER and COGHRAN, (Erie,) and opposed by Messrs. BARGER, SHARRE, RICE, PERSHING and HAKES. The bill was passed finally.

Adjourned.

By Telegraph.

From Tennessee.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 29.

The Knoxville correspondent of the *Gazette* says: On last Friday our cavalry, under Gen. Sturgis, advanced in the direction of Bainbridge, forty miles from Knoxville. On Saturday morning we drove the enemy's videttes out of the village.

A portion of our infantry, under General Parks, also moved up, but on learning that the enemy was in full force beyond Bainbridge, they fell back to their former position. On Sunday morning, the enemy seeing that they had drawn our cavalry as far as possible, made a desperate attack on our lines, with Head's and Bushrod Johnson's divisions, led by the Hampton cavalry. Observing their desperate determination, Gen. Sturgis ordered Col. M'Cook, commanding a division of Elliott's cavalry, to charge on the enemy. This charge turned the fortunes of the day, which up to that time, had been decidedly against us. Our total loss was about 150.

On Sunday we fell back to Strawberry Plains six miles from Knoxville, and on the 19th General Sturgis fell back to Knoxville. On the same evening he crossed the Holstein river with a view of intercepting the enemy at Scavicklville.

Gordon Granger's troops on the 20th were moving in the same direction, where a battle was pending. Great anxiety was felt at Knoxville for the result of this battle, and there was a kind of panic among the people.

General Foster was confident of thwarting the enemy, although it is pretty certain that Longstreet had been heavily reinforced. Several of the prisoners taken belonged to regiments that were fresh from Richmond.

FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.

The steamer Australasian has arrived with Liverpool dates to the 10th.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The government investigation into the case of the privateer Rappahannock, late the war steamer Victor, has resulted in proving certain officials at Sheerness guilty of gross neglect of duty, and violation of the neutrality laws. The government is determined to prosecute the principal offenders.

Mr. Rumble, principal engineer and inspector of machinery afloat, was brought before the magistrates, and bound over on heavy bail. No proceedings have yet been taken against the others.

The case of the Pampero, seized on the Clyde, had been transferred to the Scottish court of sessions as an exchequer case, and would be shortly debated.

The steamer Germania took out several heavy siege guns of large calibre for Federal use. Three persons were summoned to the Liverpool police court on the 15th, charged with enlisting men for the rebels. Only one appeared, and the evidence showing his complicity, he was bound over to appear. The defendant's counsel denounced the case as the most trumpery one ever got up, and condemned the Federal espionage.

DENMARK.—The King of Denmark made a brief speech pledging himself to defend Danish rights.

Austria and Prussia have taken steps in the Diet without a pacific tendency.

FRANCE.—The opposition speeches in the Corps Legislatif has given rise to clamoring rumors in Paris. It is stated that the Emperor is greatly offended, and there are some rumors of a possible coup de eclat. The Emperor in a significant speech said that God had too visibly protected France to permit the spirit of evil to call forth agitation.

News From New Orleans.

THE FREE STATE GENERAL COMMITTEE AND GENERAL BANKS' PROCLAMATION—A CONVENTION TO BE HELD TO FORM A STATE CONSTITURION, &C.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.

The steamship Empire City (United States transport,) Captain Baxter, from New Orleans, January 18, arrived at this port yesterday forenoon.

New Orleans papers of the 17th and 18th inst., are to hand by the Empire City.

The Evening Star, from New York, arrived at New Orleans on the evening of the 17th inst.

A Young Men's Union Association was organized in New Orleans on the night of the 16th inst. J. P. Sullivan is the President.

The Free State Union Association of the First district held a well filled meeting the same night.

The New Orleans *Times* says:

At its meeting on Friday night, the Free State General Committee memorialized General Banks, praying him to so far modify his proclamation as to have the election for delegates to a convention to form a State constitution, as well as for State officers, on the 22d proximo. Yesterday the memorial was presented, and the prayer, we rejoice to learn, was readily granted.

Michael Regan, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth New York Volunteers, fell overboard on Friday night, below Donaldsonville, from the steamboat J. S. Pringle, on her passage from New Orleans. Every effort was made to recover his body, but without success.

Destruction of Railroad Property.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 29.

The depot of the Camden and Amboy railroad company in Camden was entirely destroyed by fire at six o'clock this morning.

Nine freight cars, five cars loaded with Government hay, three emigrant cars, one hospital car, two cars filled with hogs and sheep, and a horse and mule, together with a steam fire engine, waiting transportation to New York for repairs, were destroyed.

The loss has not yet been estimated.

Debate in Boston.

BOSTON, Jan. 29.

At an anniversary meeting held last evening, a spirited debate occurred between Wendell Phillips and Mr. Lloyd Garrison, upon the Administration. The former emphatically condemned, while the latter as explicitly approved the policy of Abraham Lincoln.

GEN. GRANT'S DEPARTMENT.

The Rebels Badly Whipped at Florence.

DEFEAT OF THE REBELS NEAR FLORENCE.

Official Dispatch from Gen. Thomas.

CHATTANOOGA, Jan. 27, 1864.

Major General Halleck, General-in-Chief:

Col. Borne, with a force of four hundred and fifty men of the Twenty-eighth Kentucky mounted infantry and the Fourth Michigan cavalry, attacked the camp of Home Guards, Col. Culbertson commanding, and routed them, destroying their camp, a considerable number of arms and other property. Col. Borne returned to his camp without any casualities in his force.

Johnson's brigade, of Roddy's command, crossed the Tennessee river at Bainbridge, three miles, and Newport Ferry, six miles, below Florence, intending to make a junction with a brigade of infantry which was expected to cross the river at Lamb's island, Brown's ferries, and then proceed to Athens, to capture our forces there.

We engaged them, killing fifteen, wounding quite a number, and taking some of them prisoners. Among them are three commissioned officers.

Our loss is ten wounded.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major General Commanding.

MEADE'S ARMY.

WHOLESALE DESERTIONS FROM THE ENEMY—LIVELY SKIRMISH WITH GUERILLAS—APPREHENDED REBEL RAID, &C.

Mr. William Young's Dispatch.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Jan. 28.

It is reported that one hundred and thirty deserters came into our lines yesterday in one squad, the pickets leaving their posts and coming with them.

George Bigelow, of the Sixth Ohio cavalry, was killed yesterday near Warrenton by guerrillas, under circumstances that render his death nothing less than cold-blooded murder.

Six of Strother's rebels were captured yesterday not far from Stevensburg by the Third Indiana cavalry, which was subsequently attacked by a superior rebel force and lost ten or twelve Indianians. The skirmish was lively but short.

Major White, of the Fifth New York Cavalry, has just returned from a reconnoissance with dismounted men over the Neck between the Rappahannock and Rapidan, but encountered no more serious obstacle on his march than mud. Bushwhackers had been somewhat demonstrative previously.

The Irish Legion are to have a ball at Fairfax Station to-morrow evening.

General Augur reviewed the troops of General Tyler's command at Fairfax Court House yesterday afternoon.

General Davies, of Kilpatrick's cavalry division, went to Washington to-day, on a short furlough.

Citizens of Warrenton profess to have information that an extensive rebel raid into that town is contemplated to-morrow.

FROM THE SOUTH.

NO CHANGE AT CHARLESTON—BLOCKADE OF THE MISSISSIPPI—A FIGHT BETWEEN NEGROES AND YANKEES—LONGSTREET'S ARMY—THE STARS AND STRIPES TOASTED AT RALEIGH BY DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS, &C., &C.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 28.

The Richmond *Examiner* of Jan. 25 contains the following:

CHARLESTON, Jan. 23.—The firing on the city has almost entirely ceased. Only nine shots have been fired since 9 o'clock last evening. The position and number of the fleet are about as usual.

FROM MISSISSIPPI.

MERIDEN, Jan. 23.

Advices from Vicksburg state that the Mississippi is blockaded at Greenville and Milliken's Bend by our batteries. Very few transports go down, and provisions are raised to exorbitant prices.

The steamer Ben. Franklin was taken to Vicksburg recently by a gunboat, with the crew in irons. She was detected crossing ordnance stores to the Louisiana shore.

A fight has occurred at Booma, Warren county, between negroes and whites. The negroes killed a number of Yankees, when reinforcements arrived, who charged on the negroes, took their artillery and opened on them with grape and canister. Several hundred were killed.

FROM TENNESSEE.

RUSSELLVILLE, Saturday, Jan. 23.—Advices from the front are encouraging. Our cavalry were within four miles of Knoxville, having captured 500 cattle, 100 wagons and a large amount of other property.

An editorial is printed in the *Examiner* on the Presidential election in the North, discussing the importance of the event to the people of the South, bearing upon adjusting the difficulties.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

From North Carolina papers we gather the following;

The Raleigh *Standard* says that Gov. Vance has tendered the seat in the Confederate Senate, made vacant by Mr. Davis, to Hon. Wm. A. Graham.

The Raleigh State *Journal* says the Stars and Stripes were toasted at a supper given Christmas Eve in that city, at which Holden, of the *Standard*, Pennington, of the *Progress*, and Gov. Vance were present. The Petersburgh (late Raliegh) *Register* comments sarcastically upon such proceedings at the very capital of the State.

Calvin C. Depper, the merchant prince of Newbern, where he has been engaged in business for the past thirty years, and who has given upward of $65,000 to charitable purposes since the war, to the poor refugee families seeking an asylum in the Union lines in Newbern, besides the chief supporter of the orphan schools, has given a bounty of $25 to each recruit raised in his native town in Connecticut, retires from business and leaves for the North, in accordance with an order of expatriation. His departure was the occasion of an imposing demonstration, which was mingled with the tears of the helpless poor, who are deprived of one to whom they could always apply for assistance.

Arrival of the Isabella.

CAIRO, Jan. 28.

The steamers Isabella and Empire City came up the Mississippi river to-day. The latter is from Hat Island. The steamer Luzerne was sunk at Crawford's Landing in 16 feet of water, but can be raised. Her freight was on barges and is safe.

The Starlight, sunk at Hanging Dogs Island, can be raised with most of her freight. Two or three barges belonging to the above boats were lost. The amount of damage is not ascertained.

Markets by Telegraph.

PHILADELPHIA, January 29.

There is a firmer feeling in Flour, with sales of 700 bbls. Pennsylvania extra family at $7 50@7 75; and 1,000 bbls. choice Ohio do at $8 50; receipts and stocks light. There is little or no Rye Flour or Corn Meal. Wheat market less active; red $1 72@1 75; Kentucky white at $2. Rye dull at $1 40. Corn advanced 1c; sales at $1 11. Oats 87@88c. Cloverseed in demand at $8 75@9; Timothy at $3 50; Flaxseed $3 25. Petroleum at 29@30c for crude; 44@46½c in bond; 52½@55c for free. Whisky unsettled and could not be sold to any extent over 80c.

Stocks active and firmer; Pennsylvania 5's 95; Reading Railroad 57¾; Morris Canal —; Long Island 41; Pennsylvania Railroad 74; Gold 156¾; exchange on New York par.

NEW YORK, January 29.

Cotton is dull at 83c. Flour dull and declined 5 to 10c; sales of 4,000 bbls. at $6 40@6 60 for State; $7 40@7 55 for Ohio; Southern unchanged but heavy. Wheat dull, with a decline of 2c; sales of 33,000 bush. at $1 53@1 59 for Chicago Spring; $1 58@1 60 for Milwaukie Club; and $1 65@1 69 for red. Corn dull, and quotations are nominal; mixed held at $1 23@1 24; buyers offer $1 22. Provisions are quiet and unchanged. Whisky dull at 78c. Receipts of flour 16,693 bbls.; wheat 75,000 bush.; corn 9,655 bush.

New York Stock Market.

NEW YORK, January 29.

Stocks better; Chicago & Rock Island 143; Cumberland preferred 50¾; Illinois Central scrip 126½; Michigan Southern 88; New York Central 137; Pennsylvania Coal 78½; Reading 114¼; Hudson River 138½; Canton Company 37½; Virginia 6's 49; Erie 107¾; Galena & Chicago 111½; Cleveland & Toledo 137½; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy 121½; Michigan Central 132½; Harlem 100¾; Cleveland & Pittsburg 110½; Terre Haute & Alton 62¾; Pittsburg & Fort Wayne 87; Toledo & Wabash 57; Chicago and North Western 24; Gold 156¾; Coupons 1881, 107; Five Twenties 107; One Year Certificates 97⅞; Treasury 7 3-10's 107⅞.

DIED.

On Friday morning, 29th inst., (of inflammation of the lungs,) at the residence of his mother on Fourth street, Mr. HENRY MCMANUS, aged 21 years.

The funeral will take place on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.