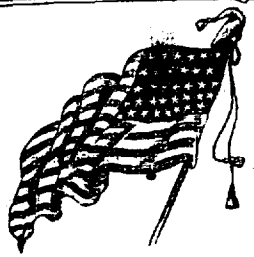


Daily Telegraph.



Forever float that standard sheet! Where breathes the foe but falls before us!

OUR PLATFORM.

THE UNION—THE CONSTITUTION—AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW.

THE UNITED STATES LAWS ARE PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY IN THE PENNSYLVANIA DAILY TELEGRAPH.

HARRISBURG, PA.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1861.

CHARLES J. BIDDLE. We are forced to allude to this man again, for the purpose of reminding him that the regiment which he deserted for an opportunity to vent his spleen against a Republican administration, has covered itself with immortal glory, and is now hailed as the hero regiment of the Keystone State.

FORTIFICATIONS.

The report of Gen. Barnard, Chief Engineer of the Army, which has just been submitted to Congress by Mr. Secretary Cameron, shows that the defenses around Washington consist of forty-eight works, mounting three hundred guns; that the whole defensive perimeter occupied is about thirty-five miles—exceeding by several miles the famous fieldworks of Torres Vedras, the most extensive fortifications of this kind known in modern times.

THE CONFEDERATE FORCES.

A contemporary has made an estimate, which it seems to be nearly correct, of the strength of the Confederate forces now in the field. It is based upon the recent messages of the Governors of the seceded states and other official documents put forth by those states.

Table with columns: State, Authorities, Number. Lists estimated troop counts for Georgia, Louisiana, Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Texas, Arkansas, and Maryland.

THE SUCCESS OF GEN. MCCALL.

The success of the skirmish ordered by Gen. McCall, at Drainesville, has roused up the army on the Potomac. The troops on that line were almost impatiently waiting and watching for an opportunity to strike an effective blow, and when the brilliant achievement at Drainesville was announced in the different camps, it is reported to have produced the most unbounded enthusiasm among the men.

COL. BLACK, of Gen. Morell's brigade, offered his sixty-second Pennsylvania regiment, on the occasion of the review at Hall's Hill, a reward to that soldier who should present the neatest appearance in person and arms.

THE MASON AND SIDDELL CASE.—We apprehend that the instructions sent to Lord Lyons by the British ministry were predicated upon an assumed state of facts, so differing from the real facts, that Lord Lyons will be obliged to wait for fresh instructions before the case can be brought to any definite diplomatic issue in this country.

CHRISTMAS!

It would be difficult for a loyal American citizen to think of a really merry Christmas, at this time with all the attending circumstances of our national embarrassment so fearfully before us, and with all the clangor and preparation for war so distinctly borne on every wind that blows.

Battle of Drainesville.

On Thursday evening orders were given to Gen. E. O. C. Orde, commanding Third regiment Penn'a. Reserves, to advance in the direction of Drainesville for the double purpose of obtaining an amount of forage known to be that part of the country and to rout a body of rebels supposed to be in the vicinity of the village. The brigade consisted of the Sixth Penna. Reserve Corps, Col. W. Ricketts' Ninth Penn'a., Col. F. Jackson's Tenth Penn'a., Col. John C. M'Callmont's Twelfth Penn'a., Col. John H. Taggart, the Bucktail Rifles, commanded by Lieut. Col. Kane, and a detachment of five companies of the First Penn'a. Reserve Cavalry, commanded by Lieut. Col. Higgins, and Capt. Easton's Battery of four guns, (No. 12, 12, 12, 12) four and five thousand men.

THE PRESENTATION TO PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENTS.

The Pennsylvania regiments commanded by Col. Black and McLean, belonging to acting Major General Fitz John Porter's division, now encamped at Hall's Hill, about six miles from the city, were presented with flags authorized by the last Legislature, and presented to all the Pennsylvania regiments, by the Hon. Edgar Cowan, and accepted on behalf of the regiment by Col. Black, in a neat and patriotic address.

TROOPS FOR CANADA.

The English steamers Persia and Australasian passed here at five o'clock this evening, with troops for Quebec. The Australasian was twenty miles astern of the Persia. They were to sail on the 16th inst., with eleven hundred soldiers, five thousand stand of arms, three hundred tons of stores and two batteries of artillery.

XXXVIIth Congress—First Session SENATE.

Not more than twenty-one Senators were present at the session to-day—the majority of them, as well as many members of the House, having left to enjoy the holidays at home. The Attorney-General has respectfully declined to give to the Senate his opinion on a private claim, alleging precedent as well as want of power as a justification for a non-compliance with the request.

Additional Foreign News per Edinburg.

The following is the latest intelligence furnished by the steamer Edinburg, which passed Cape Race on Saturday night. London, Dec. 12.—The Journal de Havre, the Semphore of Marseilles, and the Grande of Bordeaux, advise the French Government to preserve strict neutrality in case of war between England and America.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

From our Evening Edition of Yesterday

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Skirmish Near New Market Bridge. TEN REBELS KILLED AND A NUMBER WOUNDED.

A REBEL OFFICER KILLED.

A NEGRO COMPANY ENGAGED.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

LARGE FIRE AT YORKTOWN.

DEDICATION OF A CHAPEL TENT.

The Fire at Sewall's Point.

ANTICIPATED ATTACK ON HATTERAS.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 23.

The skirmish yesterday was a slight affair—Two companies of the 20th New York regiment started from Newport News at 9 o'clock, A. M. and proceeded to New Market Bridge to look for a man who had been lost in the woods the day before as we had heard. While near the bridge the found themselves surrounded by rebel cavalry and infantry numbering 700 men, but succeeded in cutting their way out without any loss.

Reinforcements were sent for to Camp Hamilton, and the remainder of the regiment was dispatched forward. The naval brigade under command of Col. Wardrop, was also under arms, and went as far as Hampton bridge. Four companies of cavalry were also ordered out, but their services were not required. Six of the 20th regiment were slightly wounded. Ten of the rebels are known to have been killed, and a number wounded. Seven bodies were found this morning, one was that of an officer, and was taken to Newport News.

He wore buttons lettered A. M. M., perhaps Alabama Minute Men, and his name is supposed to have been John Hawkins. It is reported that a whole company of negroes was engaged and two of our men are known to have been shot by them. Gen. Mansfield and Acting Brigadier General Wheeler highly complimented the troops engaged for their coolness and bravery.

The bark Leland City arrived here last night from Boston with two hundred and forty-nine prisoners of war released from Fort Warren, who are to be exchanged for an equal number now held at Richmond. The steamboat George Washington took them to Craney Island this afternoon under a flag of truce. Mrs. Brown, and two daughters and servant, of Missouri, and Mrs. Ingorsoll of Michigan, were also passengers for the south.

A large number of letters and several boxes of clothing for the prisoners of war were also sent over. The Richmond prisoners are expected here in a day or two. The gunboat, Young Rover, stationed at the mouth of the York river, reports an extensive conflagration in Yorktown, about a week since. A chapel tent, 42 by 28 feet, sent to the 16th Miss. regiment, by its friends in Boston, was dedicated with religious services yesterday afternoon, in which chaplains of all denominations participated.

The steamer Cour De Lion arrived from the Potomac last night with four launches in tow. The first raft for about three weeks fell last night. The walls were previously quite dry. A great light was observed on Friday night, over toward Sewall's Point. It created some excitement at first, as it was thought that the flames might be at the beach at Norfolk. We learn by a rebel flag of truce to-day, that the light was caused by a fire occurring in a large rebel storehouse, which spread to the beach back of the Point. No account of the damage done was received, although it was believed to be extensive.

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Comptroller Dennison has returned from Washington having succeeded in securing the return of forty per cent of the money advanced by the State for the expenses of the war. The amount is one million one hundred and thirteen thousand dollars.

FROM CINCINNATI.

The Commercial's Frankford dispatch says that the Hon. W. C. Anderson, formerly member of Congress, died there to-day.

FROM MISSOURI.

Success of the Command sent Against Lexington.

Burning of an Iron Foundry used by Rebels in Casting Cannon.

CAPIURE OF TWO CAPTAINS, ONE LIEUTENANT AND SEVERAL HORSES.

DESTRUCTION OF RAILROADS BY REBELS.

St. Louis, Dec. 23.

Despatches received at headquarters state that the command sent against Lexington by Gen. Pope burned two ferry boats in the possession of the rebels, and destroyed the iron foundry at that place which has been employed in casting cannon.

Two Captains, one Lieutenant and several horses were captured. WARRICKTOWN, Mo., Dec. 23.—The destruction of the North Missouri Railroad is complete, as was at first stated. At short distances all the way from here to Hudson the track is torn up, the ties burned, and the rails broken or bent so as to be useless.

Wellsburg Station was burned, with all its contents. The large bridge over Davis' Fork, on Salt River, west of the town of Mexico, and the bridge crossing Quiver River, were burned, and all the culverts either burned or torn down and cars of all kinds destroyed.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE STEAMER PERSIA OFF CAPE RACE.

DEATH OF PRINCE ALBERT.

Earl Derby Approves the Policy of Government Relative to the Trent Affair.

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 23.

The steamship Persia passed here this evening, with 1100 troops, bound for the River Du Loupe or Bic. She left Liverpool on the 16th inst., with which date she brings papers. Prince Albert expired of gastric fever at noon on Sunday.

The Liverpool Mercury of the 19th states that reports prevailed in London that the Earl of Derby had been consulted by the Government and approved of its policy in reference to the American difficulty. It is suggested to ship owners to instruct the captains of outward bound ships to signalize any English vessels that war with America is probable. This suggestion is strongly approved of by underwriters.

The Australasian sailed from Liverpool on the 18th with troops for Canada. The First Division of the Tenth Brigade, garrison artillery, embarked per Niagara for Halifax. It is understood that ten companies of engineers are to be sent to British America. Vienna advices to the 10th state that, during the Emperor's stay in Vienna he liberated all the political prisoners.

PARIS, Dec. 13.—Borges, the brigand chief, has been executed.

LONDON, Friday Afternoon, Dec. 13.—Consols opened at yesterday's prices, but lapsed to 90, and then reached to the opening price, 90 1/2. Railway shares have been dull in the absence of business, but closed a share better. Bank shares steady. Miscellaneous shares dull at previous rates.

The arrivals of American wheat and flour are heavy, and a small business is doing with prices in favor of buyers. PARIS, Dec. 13.—The Bourse is heavy and Renten closed at 87 1/2. [The Persia brought no despatches for the Associated Press, and the above items are gleaned from the London papers.]

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Three Legged Monster, Fighting Shoemaker and Tailor, FIFTY CHARACTERS, Giants, Dwarfes, Monstrosities, Curiosities, &c.

Books for Children, Indestructible Pleasure Books with Colored Pictures, BIBLES, PRAYER BOOKS &c.

A STOLEN HORSE AND WAGON, THE undersigned hired a Horse and Wagon on Wednesday the 11th inst.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE, THE undersigned having been appointed by the Orphan's Court in and for the County of York.

THE PEN MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD, THE LARGEST STOCK OF GOLD AND SILVER PENCIL AND PEN CASES.

HYMN BOOKS! HYMN BOOKS! New School Presbyterian Hymn Books, Old School Presbyterian Hymn Books, Lutheran Hymn Books, Methodist Hymn Books, German Reformed Hymn Books.

RUBBER GOODS! Rubber Balls, Rubber Watches, Rubber Toys generally at BERGNER'S CHEAP BOOKSTORE.

JUST OPENED, A LARGE STOCK OF FURS! RICH DARK SHADES, VERY CHEAP GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

HAY! HAY!—Superior baled Hay for sale by JAMES M. WHEELER.