

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1863.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE CONFESSIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF A NERVOUS INVALID.

We are glad to inform the public that the Rev. THOMAS H. CULLEN, late of Tioga, Penn., has accepted the Rectorship of St. Paul's Church, Bloomsburg; and that he expects to hold his first service on the first Sunday in March, being the first day of the month.

12 Chambers Encyclopedia, part 56 of "Great Britain" is on our tables and containing articles such as *Great Britain, Greece, Gaul, &c. &c.*

Also *Book of Days*, part X—*from May 16, to May 30*—containing articles on *Abuse*, *Tallyrand*, *Anne Boleyn*, *St. Augustine*, *Calvin*, *Charles II*, *King Arthur*, &c.

J. B. Lippincott & Co., 22 & 24 North Fourth St. Philad.

Army Correspondence.

CAMP NEAR BELLE PLAINS, V.I.

JULY 15, 1863.

COL. JOHN G. FREEZE,

My Dear Sir—

There has been no important movement in the Army of the Potowmack, excepting for special mention, since my last letter. The troops generally have gone into winter quarters, although they have no strongholds to do so. It has become a characteristic to make themselves comfortable, if only for a short time.

Opinions are divided as to the probability of a move from this place. All the roads leading to and from the different fortifications are being corduroyed, which is the only plan of making them passable in this rainy season. One day's rain will prevent important military movements.

It is not probable that we will be moved to the Peninsula at the present, because the same reasons that retarded our movements and delayed our ranks before, exist at this season more than any other.

Besides, our guns have been ordered further south. I do not think another serious attempt will be made against Fredericksburg. If—with a complete and confident army we failed to carry those densely woods, how can we expect to do so with our army to a certain extent, dislodged by the enemy, have improved—and strengthened their works, made rifle pits along the banks of the river, and prepared whatever was defective in their former positions? It was madness, *extreme* madness, to attack them in their position they *would result in a new!*

But following these formidable works to be taken, we have bent upon our difficulties. Heavy rains would be a Fredericksburg every step of woods, and river, and streams would be a point of defense, until we should reach the Chickahominy again, and again at the battles of the Potowmack. And bearing their arms—their advantages of position, near their supplies while we leave ours further behind—they apparently own the cavalry—We would have to overcome mud, snow, rain and all the disadvantages of a winter campaign.

To increase our difficulties, we *cannot* remore rifle. In the spring all the nine months then go home, and to my regiments of New York troops who enlisted for two years. Therefore the older two years men, but I am not positive, this leaves only the regiments of the three years regiments, which are so sadly reduced as to become almost ineffective.

For these facts you can draw your own inferences. From the beginning I have been hopeful, and did all my power to keep others so; but a deep gloom has settled upon the army. From every side, day after day, comes tidings of disaster and defeat. Two men for over six months, have been unpaid. To add to their discontent, a proclamation has been issued, freeing millions of blacks, placing them in the army and many, on the same footing as white men; notwithstanding the protests of the latter, and the disgust the soldier has for the Negro. Two weeks have gone by since that proclamation was issued, and as a war measure, it has not had the least effect upon our cause, other than to increase discontent.

My duties requiring it, I have been in almost every corps and division of the army of the Potowmack, and have found both officers and men opposed to the present policy of the Administration. I have yet to find *any man* in favor of the Proclamation. Hundreds of officers are resigning, and numbers of others would do so, could they get an honorable discharge. Every officer of a certain Pa. Regiment sent in his resignation, and the Government refused to accept them.

McClellan, as ever, is the army's idol. The least rumor of his reinstatement produces an intense enthusiasm among the men. It may not be generally known that on his removal, one entire Corps stacked their arms, and the rest of the army were ordered out under arms to preserve order. Fortunately the tumult was quieted without bloodshed. The President, I sincerely believe, always *has been*, and *is now*, his friend; and his removal was only to satisfy Haleck, Stanton and Chase. Of those who so strenuously demanded his removal, I wish to ask, what have gained? Fredericksburg can tell!

The views above expressed are only those of an individual whose means of information are not beyond those of the humblest private in the army. We don't pretend to know the plans of our Generals but being thinking animals, we cannot refrain from drawing certain conclusions from what we see. My sole object is to place before the people of my county, the state of things as I see them. My *jugement* may be wrong, but my *intention* are correct. No one wishes more ardently to see the prospect brighten, our army victorious, rebellion crushed—and peace restored throughout the land, than Yours

ARTILLERIST.

ALB GRIMSTY STONE.

The most interesting article in the public press is the *Emancipation Proclamation* of the State of Illinois, where he has just received all kinds of General, Military, and Naval, and Civil, and Commerical and Naval supplies, of every description.

ALSO,

A Provision Store is attached to the Post Office, and will supply all kinds of supplies of every description, and will supply

of Commerical, Commercial, and Naval supplies, and will supply all persons having claims against the state of Illinois, or the state of New York, or any other state, or the United States.

OUR RECEIPTS FOR DECEMBER.

TO THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

John Wm. Clark, Auditor.

John Wm. Clark, Auditor.