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The New Ballad of Lord Lovell.

[From the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

Lord Lovell he sat in St. Charles' Hotel,
In St. Charles' Hotel sat he,
As fine a case of a Rebel swell
As ever you'd wish to see—too—see,
As ever you'd wish to see.

Lord Lovell the town he vowed to defend,
A-waving his sword on high,
He swore that his last ounce of powder he'd spend,
And in the last ditch he'd die.

He swore by black, and he swore by blue,
He swore by the Stars and Bars,
That never he'd fly from a Yankee crew
While he was a son of Mars.

He had fifty thousand gallant men,
Fifty thousand men had he,
Who had all sworn with him that they'd never surrender to any tarnation Yankee.

He had forts that no Yankee alive could take,
He had iron-clad boats a score,
And batteries all around the Lake
And along the river shore.

Sir Farragut came with a mighty fleet,
With a mighty fleet came he,
And Lord Lovell instanter began to retreat
Before the first boat he could see.

His fifty thousand gallant men
Dwindled down to thousands six;
They heard a distant cannon, and then
Commenced a-cutting their sticks.

"Oh tarry, Lord Lovell!" Sir Farragut cried,
"Oh tarry, Lord Lovell!" said he;
"I rather think not," Lord Lovell replied,
"For I'm in a great hurry."

"I like the drinks at St. Charles' Hotel,
But I never could bear strong Porter,
Especially when it's served in a shell,
Or mixed in an iron mortar."

"I reckon you're right," Sir Farragut said,
"I reckon you're right," said he,
"For if my Porter should fly to your head,
A terrible smash there'd be."

Oh! a wonder it was to see them run,
A wonderful thing to see,
And the Yankees sailed up without shooting a gun,
And captured their great city.

Lord Lovell kept running all day and night,
Lord Lovell a-running kept he,
For he swore he could'nt abide the sight
Of the gun of a live Yankee.

When Lord Lovell's life was brought to a close
By a sharp-shooting Yankee gunner,
From his head there sprouted a red red rose,
From his feet—a Scarlet Runner.

The Situation--and What it Suggests.

The policy of the rebels clearly appears to be to concentrate their forces and keep in the field two immense armies—one in the East and the other in the West—abandoning for the sake of the advantages they hope to derive from great numbers at the two most vital points, their seaboard, and even the cities on the Mississippi river. This is the policy with which Beauregard has especially identified himself, and he illustrated it by abandoning Kentucky and Arkansas, Pensacola and Decatur, to bring together a powerful army at Corinth. In his dispatch to the Confederate War Department, which was intercepted by Gen. Mitchel, he urged the propriety of abandoning Charleston and Savannah, for the purpose of increasing his force. This policy the Richmond *Examiner* has denominated that of the back track, and its vast cost is complained of, but it is about the only thing the rebels can do. The falling back in the Peninsula and the Valley of Virginia, and from the line of the Rappahannock, shows that the policy of concentrating adopted in the West is being inaugurated in the East. When we consider the scattered condition of our own forces, we need not be surprised, notwithstanding our superior numbers in the aggregate, to hear that the armies under the immediate command of General McClellan and General Halleck find the enemy with which they are contending almost, if not altogether, their equals in force. Gen. Halleck, for instance, may look to find with Beauregard such of the recent garrison of New Orleans, as were sufficiently well drilled and compacted to be held together, while Gen. Butler's army will be of assistance to Halleck only as he occupies cities and cuts off the sources of the supplies of the enemy. Gen. Halleck has, so far as was practicable, adopted the policy of concentrating his armies, and the consequence is, instead of half a dozen columns operating on different lines, we have one grand army. The rebels having the advantage of acting on the defensive, and using the shorter lines of communication of the interior, have been able by leaving Arkansas to its fate, to throw Van Dorn's column into Tennessee, while the army of Gen. Curtis still lingers West of the Mississippi. Gen. Mitchell's column has been enabled to do the utmost irreparable damage, by the destruction of their greatline of railway communication, cutting off the armies of the East from communication with those of the West, except by routes so long and circuitous as to be almost impracticable for large bodies of men. It is believed that our flotillas now occupying the Upper and Lower Mississippi, may soon effect a junction and possess the whole river, with all the cities on its banks; thus cutting the Confederacy in two. A gunboat in front of each considerable town on the river, would hold it in subjection, and it would not be absolutely necessary to employ a very large infantry force in the performance of garrison duty. The moment we obtain command of the river, the armies of Curtis and Butler, with the exception of a few regiments, could be joined with the main body under General Halleck, and if Beauregard gets away from Corinth with his army, the occasion for this may arise. We may then, though operating aggressively and upon extremely long lines, be able to beat the enemy, even in the game of concentrating forces. Turning to the East, we find that while the enemy, by abandoning his territory in a style, perhaps unanticipated, is enabled to mass a very formidable force, he can only maintain himself by defeating, decisively, at least one of the converging columns of McClellan, McDowell and Banks. From present appearances, they are not likely to do this, and if they evacuate Virginia by process of concentration and constriction, they can be pursued by an army perfectly overwhelming, for McClellan, McDowell and Banks, will come together at Richmond.—*Cin. Com.*

A Railroad Chase in Georgia.

The Atlanta (Georgia) *Intelligencer* gives a long account of the chase which recently occurred on the Georgia State Railroad. A party of Union men, whom the *Intelligencer* describes as "Lincoln hirelings, thieves and robbers," quietly detached the locomotive and three cars of a mail train at a station near Marietta, while the conductor and engineer were at breakfast, and went off at full speed with the intention of destroying the bridges some distance up the road. One Walker, the master of transportation, immediately started with another engine in pursuit, and a lively race ensued. On the road twenty armed rebels joined in the chase, having been picked up as the alarm spread. One of the rebels who engaged in the chase describes the result as follows:

When we arrived at Kingston we found that the thieves had passed some twenty-five minutes ahead of us. We were there told that they stated that they had been pressed by the government to carry powder and ammunition to Beauregard; that Fuller and the regular mail train was behind, and would be on directly. This they did to get the switch-keys; and so plausible were their statements that they completely deceived the agent at Kingston. At Kingston we changed engines, taking the Rome engine, which was already fired up, and which was kindly offered to us by Mr. Smith, the conductor. We pursued on then until within four miles of Adairsville, where *the track was again torn up and cross ties placed upon it.*

Mr. Murphy and myself then again took it afoot at double quick, till we met the down express train one and a half mile this side of Adairsville. This train we stopped and turned back to Adairsville, where we switched off the cars and took the engine alone, Mr. Bracken, its engineer, running it. In this way we still continued the pursuit, after having to stop to remove the obstructions of cross ties, &c., that the thieves had put at interval, on the shortest curves, in our way.

We soon came within half a mile of them, and apprehensive they might turn their engine back to come into collision with us, we approached cautiously, satisfied that they could not then escape us. This they did, but their steam being exhausted almost the scheme did not succeed. Here the rascals jumped off and took to the woods. We all got off, took after them, and pursued them to the Chicamanga, about two miles off, where they crossed a ferry. Our party here divided to capture them should they take to the mountains or take up the river. In the meantime we had the railroad bridges and the railroad guarded, so that they could not escape that way.

Mr. Fuller here states, that being exhausted, he could pursue no further. The pursuing party, it is reported, have captured eight of the rascals.

The Conspiracy.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WHEELING, VA., May 7, 1862.

Messrs. Editors:—Jesse D. Bright, the Great Expelled, is at this port, on board the steamer for Cincinnati. Inasmuch as Jesse's loyalty is by many believed to be of the Jeff. Davis quality, his movements are not altogether unnoticed. A man is said to be known by the company he keeps, and consequently the Great Expelled has been judged by his associations with known rebels. The only persons who have called upon him here, are secessionists who have sons or relatives in the rebel army; some of such have been closeted with him since he arrived here. Are your readers aware that a secret and powerful effort is being made by rebels, and their sympathizers, to indice the border State members of Congress to re-enact the scenes of last year, should they fail in procuring such legislation as they demand, or fail in defeating all bills confiscating rebel property? The programme is, that in such event, they are to solemnly retire from the Halls of Congress, following in the footsteps of their "illustrious predecessors," Davis, Toombs, Breckinridge & Co. I supposed the report to be a sensation item, but from information recently received, I am led to believe that *such a conspiracy is in progress.* It would seem that the border State members are lured to this suicidal act by Breckinridge Democrats of the Vallandigham school, who hope to embarrass the administration, or drive it to a compromise, by which the slave interest shall again be elevated to power, and assume the reins of Government.

It is very probable that such a course might be productive of great results.

The retiring of grave Senators and members of Congress, who profess to be Union men, at a time when the Union cause seems to be almost certain of a speedy and triumphant accomplishment of its object—the quelling of the rebellion—would arouse the Nation, North and South, to renewed efforts. It would speak to the North in a voice louder than that which came booming in thunder tones from Sumpter, and awoke the people to a sense of their danger in April, 1861, and will again animate and unite the whole people for the final struggle.

Politicians may plot, they have plotted, but the honest people of all parties know the stake which they have in this contest, and new and startling dangers will but teach them the *true cause* of this rebellion, and the source of our greatest danger.

As a people, I fear that we have been disposed to close our eyes to the great fact, which the retirement of another score or two of slaveholders from Congress would make apparent to every honest mind—that is, slavery is determined to rule this Government or destroy it.

For one, the writer never had much faith in Border State slaveholders, who are Union men, with a but or condition, and whose primary object is to protect the slave interest. Let Mr. Vallandigham, and all who plot with him, succeed in inducing the Border State slaveholders to retire, and they may arouse a feeling which will sweep over the country with a violence hitherto unknown in our history, and produce results little dreamed of by them in their Breckinridge philosophy.

Such an act would make it manifest, that either slavery or the Union would have to go down. Which would it be?

Secession, by the accession of those who love slavery better than they do the Union, would receive some additional strength, but on the other hand, the cause of the Union would receive four fold in military power what the would lose, and be relieved of an influence which has from the beginning partially paralized the efforts of the Government to suppress the rebellion.

There are, at least, four hundred thousand able bodied men in the South, panting to fight for the Union, and for *their own liberty*, and as soon as the Border State men make it manifest that the struggle is to be to the death, who would hesitate to call to our aid those four hundred thousand men, who are acclimated, inured to hardship, and ready to risk life—if in doing so, they are assured that they will not again be delivered over to the slaveholders, whip masters, and the overseer.

Then let the rebel property be confiscated, and one hundred and sixty acres of their land be offered to every soldier who shall continue through the war, and with these two measures who can doubt the result?

From the first, we have had the means within our reach to quell the rebellion, but our people were not prepared for it; probably, after having spent eight or nine hundred millions of dollars, and having saturated the earth with the best blood of the nation, we may be able to "conquer our prejudices," and ask those to aid us, who are trembingly fearful lest the war closes and they be the only rational beings in the land, whose condition shall have neither been made better or worse by the rebellion.

We are making history rapidly, and possibly the "Border State Members of Congress" are to be the instruments to open up the way for another grand march forward. The enslaved may pray that no one should stay their going. UNION.

The Army of Gen. Curtis.

The last accounts we have of Gen. Curtis is, that he is coming down the White and Arkansas rivers on rafts. This will bring him out into the Mississippi about 200 miles below Memphis. If he there effects a junction with our gunboats coming out from New Orleans, it may be said that the river would be to all intents and purposes in our possession. Should Gen. Curtis, however, be attacked by a superior force of the enemy, his position would certainly be a precarious one. It is said, however, that there are no rebels there in any very great numbers. Gen. Curtis' army is supposed to number some 20,000 men.

Death of Henry D. Thoreau.

We learn from the Boston *Transcript*, of the 7th inst., that on the morning of that day, HENRY D. THOREAU died at his residence in Concord, Mass. He was an original and graceful writer, contributing occasionally to *The New York Tribune, The Atlantic Monthly*, and perhaps some other newspapers and magazines. His "Walden" and "A Week on the Concord Rivers" are more permanent memorials of his ability as a writer, and of his peculiarities, not to say eccentricities, as a thinker. His disease was consumption, and his last hours, says the Transcript, were among the calmest of his life.

Pittsburgh Gazette.

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TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 13.

LETTER FROM THE POTOMAC ARMY.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT, May 4, 1862.

In my last I made mention of a demonstration made by the rebels on the left wing of our army on the night of the 30th ult. At the time it was difficult to account for the motives prompting such a movement. I attributed it to a spirit of insulting bravado, but the sequel showed but too plainly that no such motive actuated them. The next day, after my letter had been mailed, it was discovered that while our attention was attracted in the direction of their large fires, built large purposely, a fatigue party had been busily engaged in throwing up a formidable earthwork, directly opposite one on which we had been for some time engaged. They had not, however, been able to mount any guns, and it is the business of our batteries along the river shore to see that none are put in position.

Yesterday morning an intelligent contraband made his escape from the rebeldom, by swimming across the Warwick, under a heavy fire from the rebel sharpshooters, who are ever on the alert to keep deserters from escaping to our lines. He reports affairs to be in a most gloomy condition among the secesh. He repeats the assertion recently made by deserters, that there are thousands in the Confederate army who are ready to desert, but dare not, for fear of our sharp shooters, who, he states, are the terror of the rebel army. A day or two since, according to his statement, the rebels had a severe fight among themselves, a Georgia and a South Carolina regiment being the combatants. The difficulty grew out of some statement made by a Georgian, that, had it not been for South Carolina, Georgia would now have been in the Union, upon which the Carolinian retorted, and a fight was the result, in which both regiments participated, and in which knives, bayonets and even pistols and muskets were used. This is a significant circumstance.

But leaving the left wing, where times are comparatively quiet, we will pass to the right, which is in the midst of more stirring and warlike scenes. Possessing myself of one of these magic "Guards will pass the bearer," I yesterday started on a visit to the Headquarters of our young General, "Little Mac." The day was a beautiful one, and my ride would have been pleasant in the extreme had not I been sensibly reminded at every jolt of the wagon, that I was not on the Fourth street road. I arrived there about noon, and, in company with a friend from the Sixty-Second Penn'a, visited the intrenchments. Here was better work than I had calculated on. The intrenchments on which our men were at work were within easy shell range of the rebel batteries, and every two or three minutes an animated piece of "secesh" came screaming over our heads, reminding us that our presence was unwelcome. This was replied to by a battery a few hundred yards in our rear, so you may imagine what a continued succession of shells was kept up during the entire day. Many of these came uncomfortably close, too, some burying themselves deep in the works, and others bursting directly over our heads, causing us all to drop in somewhat of a hurry. Fortunately no one was injured, and the work proceeded without serious interruption till evening

To speak of the size of our works, number of guns, mortars, etc., mounted, would be contrary to the rules laid down by the Secretary of War for the government of correspondents, and would only subject this edition to the risk of a seizure; but this I am at liberty to state, that these entrenchments, thrown up in four weeks, are of also and strength sufficient to withstand the combined attack of the rebel army, and that they mount guns enough of all kinds to reduce the rebel works almost without the assistance of infantry. It is customary at this point to keep the pickets within our fortifications during the day, and to throw out them some three hundred yards in advance of our first line at night. Last night the pickets were thrown out as usual, but soon found they were not in so safe a place as formerly, for the enemy kept up a continual firing all night, making their position anything but a comfortable one.

As morning began to break, and just as the pickets were about to be drawn in, three individuals were seen approaching waving a white blanket, furiously, and running at the top of their speed. They came up to our lines, and gave themselves up prisoners of war, at the same time giving us the astounding intelligence that the enemy were evacuating their intrenchments. This news was almost too good to be true, but the prisoners were forwarded to headquarters where they had a hearing, after which an order came to occupy their position.

The news came into camp with the deserters. As soon as confirmed, the bands played the "Star Spangled Banner," "Hail Columbia," and other national airs. As this is the first time we have had music since the army left, the effect was truly electrifying. Band after band took up the strain and regiment after regiment commenced to cheer, till the shout rose in one continuous swell from the entire corps. Every note and every shout seemed to say "Yorktown has fallen!"

The sixty-second, being on picket, were immediately sent to the fort, Co. L being the first to enter the works. To Lieut. Cenningham, of that company, is due the honor of planting the banner of the Union on the walls of the fort, he having rushed upon the parapet, not knowing but there was a hidden foe to receive him.

The strength of these works was truly formidable. The trenches were deep and the parapets of extraordinary thickness, while their guns which have so often belched forth their iron missiles at our brave boys, were of the largest size and most improved pattern. It was evident that their retreat was conducted with wonderful celerity, for all over their intrenchments, and camp, might be seen articles which had been much better with their owners. Officers left their tents, clothing, and trunks, and in one instance, even a sabre was left behind in the owner's hurry to get away from the Yankees. In all their hurry, however, they took special pains to leave the evacuated locality as dangerous as possible, by strewing torpedoes in large numbers about the fortification. But one exploded, however, causing the death of one and the wounding of four of the 22d Massachusetts. Their principal work, surrounding the village of Yorktown, mounted ten guns, and connected with a water battery, mounting five. These pieces were of the largest calibre, many of them being one hundred pounders.

To the right of these extended a line of works for a distance of eight miles, to the James river, all being connected by rifle pits and covered ways, so you can form an idea of what an extent this much boasted of stronghold of the enemy must have consisted. To abandon this at this time, unless to fall back on more important works, augurs but illy for the rebel cause. That their movement was a sudden one, is evident, for till within two days, they have been as busily engaged as ourselves in throwing up earthworks. And neither is their movement one of retreat to their second line, for a reconnoitering party followed them to Williamsburg, where those second lines are reported to be, and have sent word that they are still in full retreat beyond that point. I will not vouch for the truth of this report, for as yet it is merely a report, but by to-morrow, we will be able to ascertain full particulars. I forgot to mention in its proper place, that, on our taking possession of their works, we found that three of their largest guns had exploded, causing considerable damage to their works. In one instance, the entire breach of an enormous gun had been blown several paces to the rear, the concussion almost causing the dismounting of the guns near it. The magazines, of which there had been three (one was blown up yesterday morning) were well stocked with ammunition, all being in good order and ready for use. This is another proof that something caused their retreat, which as yet is behind the curtain.

It was amusing to see our boys coming into camp laden with trophies, most of which were knives and sabres of all sizes and patterns. Secession flags, scrip, clothes, letters, and even food were brought into camp, and eagerly gazed at as relics of the enemy. The letters were, to my mind, the most interesting of all the "relics." I read several. Some from wives, mothers, sisters, brothers, fathers and sons, and, almost universally, where any mention was made of the troubles which now distract the country, they breathed a spirit of undying hatred to the Union, and were full of injunctions to the brave soldiers to die fearlessly in the defense of their liberty. The following was picked up in an officer's tent, and shows in what dread our gunboats are held by the enemy. Judging from the precipitancy of their retreat, the *"brave Southern boys"* at Yorktown judged discretion the better part of valor:

YORKTOWN, VA., May 2, 1862.

Gen. McClellan, Commanding the Vandal Army: Though storm necessity compels the evacuation of Yorktown by *our brave Southern boys*, there is a day coming (nor is it far distant) when you will be forced to acknowledge that you have received one of the damnedest thrashings that ever an army got. Follow us, where you cannot get protection from your cursed gunboats, and we will prove by action what I now proffer in words.

I will bid you adieu for the present, though hope to meet you some day in the open field, where I can get one shot at your cranium.

E. T., 84th Reg. N. C. S. V.

As I write a rumor is going the rounds that Gen. Loe, with seven thousand men, has been cut off by our gunboats, and captured. Hope it's so. Brisk firing has been going on for some time, and it is supposed that our boats have been in an engagement, but nothing definite is as yet known.

When the result of our reconnoissance comes in I will write, which will probably be to-morrow or day after. G.

THE CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.

Official Reports from New Orleans--Captain Bogg's Report of his Gallant Exploit.

The official accounts of the operations of our fleet in the Mississippi have been received at the Navy Department. Commodore Farragut thus reports the results in brief:

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD,
AT ANCHOR OFF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS,
Tuesday, April 29, 1862.

"SIR: I am happy to announce to you that our flag waves over both Forts Jackson and St. Phillip, and at New Orleans over the Custom House. I am taking every means to secure the occupation by General Butler of all the forts along the coast.

"Berwick's Bay and Fort Pike have been abandoned; in fact there is a general stampede. I shall endeavor to follow it up. I am bringing up the troops as fast as possible. We have destroyed all the forts above the city, four in number, which are understood to be all the impediments between this and Memphis.

"I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"D. G. FARRAGUT,
"Flag Officer Gulf Blockading Squadron.
"Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C."

THE SURRENDER OF THE FORTS.

Capt. Porter makes the following report:

"U. S. SHIP HARRIET LANE,
April 28th, 1862.

"SIR: The morning after the ships passed the forts I sent a demand to Colonel Higgins for a surrender of the forts, which was declined. On the 27th I sent Lieutenant Colonel Higgins a communication, herewith enclosed, asking again for the surrender. His answer is enclosed. On the 28th I received a communication from him stating that he would surrender the forts, and I came up and took possession, drew up articles of capitulation and hoisted the American flag over the forts.

"These men have defended these forts with a bravery worthy of a better cause. I treated them with all the consideration that circumstances would admit.

"The three steamers remaining were under the command of Commander J. K. Mitchell. The officer of the fort acknowledged no connection with them, and wished in no way to be considered responsible for their acts.

"While I had a flag of truce up they were employed in towing the iron floating battery of sixteen guns, a most formidable affair, to a place above the forts, and while drawing up the articles of capitulation in the cabin of the Harriet Lane it was reported to me they had set fire to the battery and turned it adrift upon us. I asked the General if it had powder on board or guns loaded. He replied that he would not undertake to say what the navy officers would do.

"He seemed to have great contempt for them. I told him 'we could stand the fire and blow up, if he could,' and went on with the conference, after directing the officers to look out for their ships. While drifting down with the current the battery exploded, throwing the shot above the river. A few minutes after the floating battery exploded with a terrific noise, throwing the fragments all over the river, and wounding one of their own men in Fort St. Philip, and immediately disappeared under water. Had she blown up near the vessels she would have destroyed the whole of them.

"When I had finished taking possession of the fort I got under way in the Harriet Lane, and started for the steamers, one of which was still flying the Confederate flag. I fired a shot over her, and they surrendered. There was on board of them a number of naval officers and two companies of marine artillery.

"I made them surrender unconditionally, and for their infamous conduct in trying to blow us up while under a flag of truce, I conveyed them to close confinement as prisoners of war, and think they should be sent to the North and kept in close confinement there until the war is over, or they should be tried for their infamous conduct. I have a great deal to do here, and will send you all the papers when I am able to arrange them.

"I turned over the forts to Gen. Phelps. Fort Jackson is a perfect ruin. I am told that over one thousand eight hundred shells fell in and burst over the centre of the fort. The practice was beautiful. The next fort we go at we will settle sooner, as this has been hard to get at. The naval officers sunk one gunboat while the capitulation was going on, but I have one of the others, a steamer, at work, and hope soon to have the other.

"I find that we are to be the hewers of wood and drawers of water, but as the soldiers have nothing here in the shape of motive power we will do all we can. I should have demanded unconditional surrender, but with such a force in your rear it was desirable to get possession of these forts as soon as possible. The officers turned over everything in good order, except the walls and building, which are terribly shattered by the mortars.

"Very respectfully,

"D. D. PORTER, Commanding Flotilla.
"To Flag Officer D. G. Farragut."

CAPTAIN BOGGS' REPORT OF THE ACTION OF THE VARUNA.

Yesterday we published a private letter from Capt. Boggs, describing the brilliant action of the Varuna. We have the Captain's official report of the affair as follows:

"UNITED STATES STEAMER BROOKLIN, OFF
NEW ORLEANS, April 29, 1862.

"SIR: I have the honor to report that, after passing the batteries with the steamer Varuna, under my command, on the morning of the 24th, finding my vessel amid a nest of rebel steamers I started ahead, delivering her fire both starboard and port at every one that she passed. The first on her starboard beam that received her fire appeared to be crowded with troops. Her boiler was exploded and she drifted to shore. In like manner three other vessels, and one of them a gunboat, were driven ashore in flames and afterwards blew up.

"At six a. m. the Varuna was attacked by the Morgan, iron-clad about the bow, commanded by Beverley Kennion, an ex-naval officer. This vessel raked us along the port gangway, killing four and wounding nine of the crew, butting the Varuna on the quarter and again on the starboard side. I managed to get three eight-inch shell into her abaft her armor, as also several shot from the after rifled gun, when she dropped out of action partially disabled.

"While still engaged with her another rebel steamer, iron-clad, with a prow under water, struck us on the port-gangway, doing considerable damage. Our shot glanced from her bow. She backed off for another blow, and struck again in the same place, crushing in the side, but by going ahead fast the concussion drew her bow around, and I was able with the port guns to give her, while close alongside, five 8-inch shells abaft her armor. This settled her, and drove her ashore in flames. Finding the Varuna sinking, I ran her into the bank, let go her anchor, and tied up to the trees.

"During all this time the guns were actively at work, crippling the Morgan, which was making feeble efforts to get up steam.

"The fire was kept up until the water was over the gun trucks, when I turned my attention to getting the wounded and crew out of the vessel. The Oneida, Captain Lee, seeing the condition of the Varuna, had rushed to her assistance, but I waved her on, and the Morgan surrendered to her, the vessel in flames.

"I have since learned that over fifty of her crew were killed and wounded, and she was set on fire by her commander, who burned his wounded with his vessel. I cannot award too much praise to the officers and crew of the Varuna for the noble manner in which they supported me, and their coolness under such exciting circumstances, particularly when extinguishing fire, having been set on fire twice during the action by shells.

"In fifteen minutes from the time the Varuna was struck she was on the bottom, with only her top gallant forecastle out of water. The officers and crew lost everything they possessed, no one thinking of leaving his station until driven thence by water. I trust the attention of the department will be called to their loss, and compensation made to those who have lost their all.

"The crew were taken off by the different vessels of the fleet as fast as they arrived, and are now distributed through the squadron.

"The wounded have been sent to the Pensacola. I would particularly commend to the notice of the department Oscar Peck, second class boy, and powder boy of the after rifle, whose coolness and intrepidity attracted the attention of all hands. A fit reward for such services would be an appointment to the Naval School. The marines, although new recruits, more than maintained the reputation of their corps.

"Their gallant fire cleared the Morgan's rebel gun, and prevented a repetition of her murderous fire. Four of the marines were wounded—one, I fear, mortally. So soon as the crew were saved I reported to you in person. Every note and every shout seemed to say "Yorktown has fallen!"

"Very respectfully,

"CHARLES BOGGS,
"Commander United States Navy.
"To Flag Officer D. G. Farragut, commanding Western Gulf Blockading Squadron."

GENERAL BUTLER ON CAPTAIN BOGGS.

General Butler has addressed the following note to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, complimenting Captain Boggs:

"FORT JACKSON, April 30.

"My Dear Fox: Everything goes on gloriously, just as you said. The official report will tell you all. Commander Boggs is going home, and I wish to say a word for him, although I don't believe one is needed. He fought his ship splendidly; was not in fault for her loss; is a man of energy and determined character. Give him a good ship; he deserves it.

"My respects to Mr. Blair.

"Yours truly, BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.
"Hon. G. V. Fox, Esq., Assistant Secretary of the Navy."

REPORT OF COMMODORE FARRAGUT.

In another report to the Navy Department, Commodore Farragut says:

"April 26, in the afternoon, having been informed that there were two forts eight miles above the city, at a place called Carrollton, I determined to take a look at them and demolish them. We accordingly ran up, and to our surprise we found the gun carriages all on fire, and upon examination found the guns all spiked. It was a most formidable work for Foote to encounter on his way down—a long line of defences extending back from the river to Lake Ponchartrain, both above and below the fort, for which were twenty-nine and thirty guns each.

"Immediately on my getting above the forts I sent Capt. Boggs, who is now deprived of a command by the sinking of his ship, which he had so nobly defended, down to Fort Jackson, to communicate with Gen. Butler, directing him to demand the surrender of the forts. His demand was at first refused, but the soldiers told their officers that we were in their rear, and that they would not be sacrificed. So this morning, 29th, the gallant Bailey brought us the intelligence; in the Cayuga, Capt. Harrison, that the forts had surrendered, the ram blown up, and that the American flag floats over both forts.

"I have sent down for Gen. Butler's troops to come up and occupy this city, and will soon be at Mobile. Depend upon it, we will keep the stampede up."

A SIGNIFICANT HINT.

Commodore Farragut addressed the following note to the Mayor of New Orleans on the 26th ultimo:

"U. S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,
At anchor off the City of New Orleans,
April 26, 1862.

To His Honor the Mayor of New Orleans:

Your Honor will please give directions that no flag but that of the United States will be permitted to fly in the presence of this fleet so long as it has the power to prevent it; *and as all displays of that kind may be the cause of bloodshed,* I have to request that you will give this communication as wide a circulation as possible.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
D. G. FARRAGUT,
Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron."

THANKS FOR THE VICTORY.

"UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, OFF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS,
Tuesday, April 29, 1862.

"GENERAL ORDER—Eleven o'clock this morning is the hour appointed for all the officers and crews of the fleet to return thanks to Almighty God for his great goodness and mercy in permitting us to pass the events of the last two days with so little loss of life and blood.

"At that hour the church pennant will be hoisted on every vessel of the fleet, and their crews assembled will in humiliation and prayer, make their acknowledgments therefor to the Great Dispenser of all human events.

"D. G. FARRAGUT,
"Flag-officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron."

The Condition of Florida.

The following is an extract of a letter from a resident of St. Augustine, Florida, dated April 26:

"Our situation here now is much more uncomfortable than it has ever been, even during the Seminole war. Our supplies are very short, and we are not allowed to get anything from the country, not even beef and wood. It is difficult to obtain sufficient fuel to cook the little food we have. If things go on as they have the month past we must, if possible, leave here, where to find a resting place I know not. Of the many families that have left, I think none under the present state of things will return. There is much dissatisfaction both within and without the city. How much Gen. Benham's visit may do towards quieting matters I cannot judge.

"We know nothing of what is going on abroad. Since the taking of this place we get no newspapers, either northern or southern. For more than five weeks the only papers we have had sight of are from New York, of the 14th and 20th of March; so you may suppose we know little of what is doing. I wrote you that everything was still and quiet here, but now we are in just as uncomfortable a state as we can be. The presence of the Federal troops and the capitulation of the town seems to have exasperated the country people very much, not only toward the Federals, but also toward the inhabitants who have remained since the taking of the place; so much so that it is not considered safe for the residents here to travel the roads or even to venture a few miles out of town. We have now no beef in the market, for the butchers are afraid to go out in the country to purchase or drive in cattle; and we are very much troubled to got wood, for none of our people will venture out more than three or four miles to cut it. There are forming throughout the country numbers of guerrillas or marauding parties; after the style of the old Regulators, infesting the roads and waylaying persons who are at all favorable to the Federals, or who have shown any Union proclivities, driving them off from their places and threatening to set fire to their buildings. I doubt very much whether there are any parties this side of the St. Johns, though it has been said within the last three or four days that Daney is at the head of a party of a hundred, scouting the country about here, Pilatka and Picolata. You may judge from all this what a state the country is in—just about as bad as it was in Indian times.

"The *Herald* of the 20th says: 'The whole State of Florida is restored to the Union. The capture of Fernandina and St. Augustine, with their defences, brings back Florida under the folds of the Stars and Stripes.' That sounds very well for a newspaper paragraph; but the fact is they just hold these two places, and are not in possession of anything one mile beyond their pickets.

General Halleck's Army.

Gen. Halleck has been reorganizing his grand army, as follows:

Gen. Halleck is chief in command, and Gen. Grant second.

Gen. Grant also retains the command of the District of Tennessee, including its army corps.

General Thomas takes the command of the right wing, and is transferred to the army of the Tennessee.

The army corps under Gen. Thomas's command will consist of his own division, the Brig. Gen. W. T. Sherman, the division of Brig. Gen. T. W. Sherman, (Port Royal,) Gen. S. A. Hurlbut's division, and Brig. Gen. Davies' division.

Gen. McClernand will command the army corps consisting of his own division, General Lew Wallace's division, and one division from Gen. Buell's army corps, to be designated by him (Gen. B.,) together with the heavy artillery.

Brig. Gen. Schuyler Hamilton's division is a reserve division of Gen. Pope's army, and will remain under his direction till further orders.

Gen. Grant commands the right and reserve (army of the Tennessee.)

Gen. Buell commands the centre. (Army of the Ohio.)

Gen. Pope commands the left. (Army of the Mississippi.

Under this arrangement, the Divisions of Gen. Crittenden and Gen. Thomas are taken from Buell, and given to Grant. Buell has now only three divisions, while Gen. Grant has eight, constituting more than half the entire army, and is formally designed as the second in command, subordinate only to Gen. Halleck. The division under Gen. Schuyler Hamilton, in Gen Pope's corps, will also be given to Gen. Grant in a few days.

Doings in Congress.

Amidst the rapid and exciting events now passing, the proceedings, of Congress, however important, are likely to be overlooked.

On Friday in the Senate, not much of importance took place, except the final passage of the bill for the emancipation of the colored children of the District of Columbia, and the repeal of the "Black Code." It passed by 28 yeas, to 7 nays. All the yeas were Republicans and the opposition Democrats and Border state Union men. Mr. COWAN was unfortunately, or conveniently absent.

In the House, on Thursday, the personal liberty bill—or bill to abolish slavery in the territories, in all the forts, navy yards and in all vessels on the high seas, etc,—came near its final passage just before the adjournment. On Friday, the House spent the entire day on the bill, the Border state men and conservatives fighting the bill hard. Without coming to any decision, the House adjourned to Monday.

Fatal Duel in Kentucky.

A few days ago we published extracts from a bold speech of Col. Leonidas Metcalfe, at Carlisle, Nicholas county, Kentucky. He is a son of Ex-Governor Metcalf. We learn that on the 8th inst., a duel was fought between the Colonel and W. T. Casto, a notorious secession lawyer of Maysville, who was recently liberated from Fort Lafayette. The origin of the difficulty was the Colonel's instrumentality in procuring the imprisonment of Casto. The encounter took place one mile below Dover, Ky. The weapons were Sharp's rifles, the distance twenty-five yards. Casto had the first fire. The Colonel returned by shooting his adversary through the heart.

NEWS—GREAT, WONDERFUL, GLORIOUS.—We have a perfect avalanche of news—Norfolk taken—the Merrimac blown up—Richmond taken—such is the wonderful rush of events of the last two days. We have no room for comments, and none are needed. The news is enough to fire and gladden every heart.

THE BURCH DIVORCE CASE SETTLED.—Not many of our readers are perhaps aware that an application for a divorce by Mary W. Burch from her husband, Isaac H. Burch—the former lately and the latter now of this city—has been pending in the Circuit Court of Wayne county, Michigan. It has been decided, divorce having been granted. It should be stated, however, that the proceeding was mutual between the parties, and that this is, by their consent, the termination of all their differences.—*Chicago Times, May 6.*

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