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COMMISSION, &c.

SOLAR OIL WORKS COMPANY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, Office, St. Clair Street, near the Bridge. Sole agents for all CARBON OILS manufactured by this Company. CRUDE OILS, of all descriptions, wanted. Address A. WEAVER, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer. my16dtf

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SCHOMAKER & LANG, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, and Wholesale dealers in GROCERIES, FLOUR, GRAIN, PRODUCE, &c., No. 229 Liberty street, Pittsburgh, Pa. oct31-y

JAMES DALZELL & SON, MANUFACTURERS OF LARD OIL, and COMMISSION MERCHANTS for the purchase and sale of CRUDE AND REFINED PETROLEUM, Nos. 69 and 70 Water st., Pittsburgh. Advances made on consignments.

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JOHN I. HOUSE & CO., WHOLESALE GROCERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, corner of Smithfield and Water streets, Pittsburgh, Pa. my7

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A large assortment,
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These Chimnies are intended for the fast flame, which heating all parts of the glass equally, does not cause it to crack.
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ADVERTISING AT REASONABLE RATES.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 31.

Gen. Banks Going to Texas.

"Occasional," of the Philadelphia *Press*, mentions the departure of General Banks for New York, on Monday; there to organize a great expedition for a winter campaign somewhere. The writer, from "information derived from various sources, and inferences drawn from sundry facts," confidently expresses the belief that Texas is its destination. He says:

"The attention of the Government of the United States has, for a long time, been earnestly directed towards Texas, and the importance of extended military operations to restore the Federal authority in that State has been strongly and persistently urged by several delegations of loyal Texans, under the solemn assurance that a large portion of the people of Texas are only waiting for an opportunity to return to their allegiance, and establish, within their boundaries, one or more *free States*."

Only a few days ago Galveston was captured by a squadron of our navy, and is now firmly held. This gives an admirable base of operations for a great and effective campaign in that important region. Nothing can be more important than for the government to entrench itself strongly in Texas, which is not only an empire in itself in extent, but the key to all that part of the continent embraced in New Mexico, Arizonia, Southern California, Sonora, as well as all that portion of Mexico lying south-west of the Rio Grande, and thus cut off all possibility of any further extension of the domain of slavery. With Texas in our possession, we can, without any difficulty, extinguish the rebellion west of the Mississippi, and hold at least half the cotton region of the continent.

The Germans of Western Texas are loyal, and will welcome our army with joy and enthusiasm; and aid greatly in the work of restoring that State to its proper place in the Union.

IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH CAROLINA:

The Attack upon the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

FORT ROYAL, Friday, Oct. 24, 1862.

Encouraged by the perfect success of the recent enterprises at St. John's river and the Bluffton Saltworks, and true to the promise that he made his troops, of giving them active employment on assuming command of the Department of the South, Gen. Mitchel has just prosecuted a third expedition, of greater magnitude and of more important aim; which, while yielding fresh laurels to our arms, I grieve to say, has only partially achieved its object, and adds another long list to the names of martyrs in the Union cause.

THE DESIGN OF THE EXPEDITION.

The special design of this enterprise was to destroy the railroad-work bridges of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad between the Pocotaligo, Tullifiny and Coosawhatchie. These streams are all tributaries of the Broad river; and to approach them it was determined, after a careful study of the topography of this peculiarly impracticable and most difficult country for military operations, to make a landing at Mackey's Point, at the junction of the Broad and Pocotaligo rivers, a distance of twenty-five miles from Hilton Head, where our troops could be debarked in safety from our gunboats, and a march of eleven miles would take them to the village of Pocotaligo, at which place it was supposed the enemy would make a stand. The attack was intended as a surprise; and while our main force was to advance, as stated, in a smaller body, it, too, was commanded by Col. Barton, of the Forty-Eighth New York Volunteers, was to create a diversion by penetrating to the Coosawhatchie bridge by the steamer Pocotaligo, conveyed in boats to Mackey's Point, and thus cut off the enemy's retreat in that direction.

The writer then describes the details of the plan and the embarkation of the forces and the expedition. About fifteen vessels, comprising gunboats, transports, and schooners, were employed in the transportation of the troops to the scenes of action.

The entire land force, was composed of portions of the first and second brigades of the Tenth army corps, respectively commanded by Brig. Gens. H. M. Brannan and A. H. Terry, the former being senior officer, therefore commanding the expedition.

DEPARTURE FROM HILTON HEAD.

At eight A.M. of Tuesday, the 21st, the expedition was ready for departure, but did not leave until midnight, as nothing could be accomplished by reaching its destination before daybreak. The night was misty. And one or two of the vessels ran aground, delaying their arrival at the rendezvous for some hours beyond the time which had been fixed.

Meanwhile the tug Starlight was dispatched with some boats of the Paul Jones and a small company of soldiers of the Seventh Connecticut, under Capt. Gray, in captive, the rebel pickets at Mackey's Point and at a plantation on the Pocotaligo river, a few miles distant. This portion was only partially successful. At the plantation, Lieut. Banks, of the enemy's picket, and three men, were made prisoners, but through the incompetency of a negro guide, the guard at the point escaped, giving warning of our approach. From the rebel officer who was taken, Gen. Brannan learned that our attack had been apprehended by the enemy, and for several days they had been preparing for the encounter.

LANDING OF THE TROOPS.

The tedious process of getting the troops ashore in small boats was commenced soon after six o'clock A. M., on Wednesday, and by ten o'clock, men, horses and guns were landed, excepting the detachment of the 3rd Rhode Island Volunteers, who were on the gunboat Marblehead, which was aground all day some miles down the river.

The line of march was taken up soon afterwards, the section of Lieut. Henry's battery being at the head of the column, with Hamilton's of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment. Advancing slowly over an admirable road for seven miles, we halted, during the march, if unconcerning the enemy, who had prudently receded from a meeting until it should take place beyond range of our gunboats, although the nature of the ground over which we passed afforded many excellent positions for defence.

THE FIGHT.

The road alternated through dense woods and through marshes, only passable over a narrow causeway, into at one or two points. Cheering a position at the opposite end of the causeway, the enemy opened a furious fire of shot and shell upon our advancing column, which was promptly met by the battery under Lieut. Henry. Immediately the order was given by Gen. Brannan for his brigade to form line of battle, the centre resting on the causeway. After a brisk fire of both musketry and artillery the rebels retired to the dense woods in their rear, tearing up the causeway-bridge, which delayed the advance of our artillery until it could be repaired. Meanwhile, the First Brigade pressed on to the woods, which they penetrated, driving the enemy before them, and closely followed by the Second Brigade, under Gen. Terry, who came up with a cheer, and were quickly in the engagement. Here the fight, it may be said, fairly commenced—the enemy's sharpshooters picking off our men rapidly. The artillery fire from our side was not slackened while the bridge was being repaired; and it was not long before the batteries went forward to the work in support of the infantry.

The action began between 12 and 1, and lasted about an hour, ending in the retreat of the rebels to another position at Frampton's plantation, which lies two miles beyond. The enemy were closely followed, and after a fight more hotly contested than the first, our troops were again victorious; the second time driving the rebels from their well-chosen position, and two miles beyond, which brought them up to Pocotaligo Bridge, (not the railroad bridge,) over which they crossed, taking shelter behind earthworks on the farthest side. To this bridge our troops nearly approached, but found further progress impossible, as the bridge had been cut by the enemy on his retreat. This fact we construe into a clear acknowledgment of his defeat. Although these events are this briefly stated, it required upwards of five hours of impetuous and gallant fighting to accomplish them. At no one time was the entire field of combat in view from a given point, and I therefore find it impossible to speak in detail of my own regiment. Both brigades participated in the action, and both Gens. Brannan and Terry were constantly under fire, leading and directing the movements of the men, awakening enthusiasm by their personal bravery and the skillful manner in which they maneuvered their commands. Frequently, while the fight was progressing, we heard the whistles of the railroad trains, notifying us of reinforcements for the rebels, both from Charleston and Savannah, and even if we had had facilities for crossing the river, it would have been unwise to have made the attempt in view of these circumstances. Gen. Brannan therefore ordered a retreat; which was conducted in a most orderly manner; the regimental retiring in succession, thus carrying off their dead and wounded, and leaving no arms or ammunition on the field.

Of the exact force of the rebels, of course, we know nothing, although Gen. Brannan was of the opinion that it equalled our own. Certainly, their artillery exceeded ours by four or five pieces, and this we have from the seven prisoners taken, one of whom, William Judd, belonged to Company B, Second South Carolina Cavalry, whose horse was also captured. This prisoner informed us that Gen. Beauregard commanded in person.

COL. BARTON'S DIVISION.

While these events were taking place between the main forces on either side, Colonel Barton, of the Forty-eighth New York, with 300 of his own men and 50 of the Third Rhode Island regiment, under command of Captain Jo. H. Gould, went up the Coosawhatchie river, conveyed by the Pocotaligo, to within two miles of the town of the same name. Landing this force here, a march was made to the village through which runs the railroad. Arrived there, they commenced tearing up the rails, but had scarcely engaged in the work when a long train of cars came from the direction of Savannah, filled with troops. This train was fired into by our party, killing the engineer and a number of others. Several soldiers jumped from the cars while they were in motion, and were wounded. One was taken prisoner—thirty muskets were captured, and the colors of the Whippy Swamp Guards taken from the color-bearer, who was killed by our fire.

The work of tearing up the rails was not accomplished in time to prevent the onward progress of the train, and our men afterward completed the job—also cutting the telegraph wire, and bringing away a portion of the wire with them. Col. Barton next attempted to reach the railroad bridge, for the purpose of firing it, but was unable, as it was protected by a battery of three guns. Fearing that his retreat might be cut off by the enemy's cavalry, he gave the order to retire to the steamboat, which was done successfully. His men had nearly all embarked when the cavalry boldly came directly under the guns of the Planter and Pocotaligo, and fired upon both steamers. After a few rounds of canister dispersed them, and the only damage which they inflicted was the serious wounding of Lieut. J. B. Blanding, of the Third Rhode Island Artillery.

THE RETURN.

Nearly all Wednesday night was passed in bringing the wounded from the battle-field and placing them upon the transports. This humane work was personally superintended by Gen. Terry and Brigade Quartermaster Corrigell, of Gen. Brannan's Staff. As fast as the boats were filled they returned to Hilton Head, and by Thursday night the whole force had re-embarked. Before our last regiment left Mackey's Point the enemy's pickets had reappeared; but not in sufficient force to molest us.

WHAT THE EXPEDITION ACCOMPLISHED.

Although the main object of the expedition failed of success, THE THE benefits conferred were not of trifling value. We have made a thorough reconnoissance of the heretofore unknown Broad River and its tributaries, and ascertained the character of the country, which is knowledge of immense importance, in view of future movements in that direction. We have also demonstrated the necessity of heavy reinforcements if the Government desires Gen. Mitchel to strike heavily in his department.

From Gen. Sigel's Army.

Dispatches, dated Oct. 28, just received from your special correspondent at Gen. Sigel's headquarters, say:

A person just arrived within our lines reports that the force at Warrenton is between 20,000 and 30,000 strong, and has four troops at New Baltimore. While the rebels are retreating, re-inforcements are being sent up the valley to their army. A scout from Warrenton Junction reports the force there to be about 600 cavalry and infantry—no doubt part of the force formerly reported at Warrenton. A deserter from the Georgia Volunteers says the re-enforcements before mentioned are miserably clad, and are armed with Enfield rifles. At Gordonsville, about 2,000 troops were stationed. The army at Richmond number about 5,000. Other fortifications were being constructed north of the city during the visit of Lee's army to Gen. McClellan.

Scouts returned from Leesburg this morning say that no force, either Union or Secesh, was there this morning. Capt. Conger, who was wounded in the recent fight near Catlett's, and is at a farm house near Bristow, has been heard from again to-day. His wounds are not as dangerous as at first supposed, and he is doing well. The Surgeon of the 5th Ohio Cavalry attends him. From Warrenton and that vicinity nothing new has been brought in. The rebel force reported by Capt. Reonie was at Upperville and not at Purcellville, and consisted of Wilkes's division, 7,000 strong. It is believed that this advance through Ashby Gap is to cover a general movement of the Confederate army, probably a retreat.

Washington Cor. N. Y. Tribune.

The Attack upon the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

FORT ROYAL, Friday, Oct. 24, 1862.

Encouraged by the perfect success of the recent enterprises at St. John's river and the Bluffton Saltworks, and true to the promise that he made his troops, of giving them active employment on assuming command of the Department of the South, Gen. Mitchel has just prosecuted a third expedition, of greater magnitude and of more important aim; which, while yielding fresh laurels to our arms, I grieve to say, has only partially achieved its object, and adds another long list to the names of martyrs in the Union cause.

THE DESIGN OF THE EXPEDITION.

The special design of this enterprise was to destroy the railroad-work bridges of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad between the Pocotaligo, Tullifiny and Coosawhatchie. These streams are all tributaries of the Broad river; and to approach them it was determined, after a careful study of the topography of this pecul