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AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

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SOLAR OIL WORKS COMPANY, OF PENNSYLVANIA. Office, St. Clair Street, near the Bridge. Buy and sell CARBON OILS on commission—cash or time. CRUDE OILS, of all descriptions, wanted. Address J. WEAVER, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer. my16:6m

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Having put up machinery of large capacity and of the best quality, we are prepared to do heavy Jobbing, and solicit work in this line, trusting that by promptness and the character of our work, to merit public patronage.
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Particular sized or shaped SPIKES and RIVETS, large or small, made to order at short notice.
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These Chimnies are intended for the flat flame, which heating all parts of the glass equally, does not expose it to cracking.
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50 hf. bbls. do;
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SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 1.

General Buell.

We did hope that the country was done with this man, whose incompetency, or worse, has caused such losses to the service in time, life and property, and so much depression of heart among the true friends of the Union. But the Cincinnati *Gazette*, of Thursday, makes the following statement, which we fervently hope is founded in error:

So far as is now known, Buell still has command of the Army of the Ohio, and the Kentucky neutralising influence is exerting itself to retain him. General Rosecrans' command is now announced to be that of a new Department of Tennessee, east of the Tennessee river, and running back for quantity. Gen. Grant has a Department west of the Tennessee river. General Wright has command of the Department of the Ohio, which includes Kentucky; and General Buell, so far as heard from, the command of the Army of the Ohio, which seems to swallow up all the troops in Kentucky. The only progress made seems to be the release of Rosecrans from the weight of Grant. But this is done at the cost of another Department, a thing which seems especially designed to introduce confusion into military operations.

It seems to be true that a new department, called the Department of Tennessee, has been formed, and that it is of this that General Rosecrans has the command; but it does not appear from anything we have seen what are its boundaries, except that it lies east of the Tennessee river. The old department of the Ohio has of course been curtailed greatly by this new arrangement, and perhaps is now altogether north of the field of active operations.

That General Rosecrans has gone to take command of the army which Buell did command is true, if we may put any confidence in the announcements made by telegraph; and it was very recently announced that General Buell had been ordered to Annapolis, where there is a camp of instruction. Moreover, the Louisville *Journal* has, for a few days past, been complaining bitterly of the removal of Buell, and eulogizing him as among our ablest generals. All these things taken together lead us to believe that his removal from active service in the field is final. It certainly was so announced; but if the fact be as stated by the *Gazette*, it only proves that the Kentucky politicians are the real rulers of this country. But we do not yet believe it.

Condition of the Rebel Army--Prospect of a Battle.

A letter from the Army of the Potomac, dated the 28th, says:

A young man of much intelligence, who has been in Richmond during the war, and who left there but a short time since, arrived at Gen. Keyly's headquarters yesterday. He was in Winchester last Saturday evening, and represents the condition of the army at that point as awful beyond description. He says the small-pox and typhoid fever are ravaging fearfully, and that at least fifty or sixty are dying daily. He counted in one spot 56 dead bodies which had remained unburied for two or three days. No troops, he says, are in Martinsburg, and but very few cavalry between there and the river. The main portion of Gen. Lee's army is between Bunker Hill and Winchester, where the next great battle will probably be fought.

Nothing could be seen indicating a design on Gen. Lee's part to retreat. Rebel officers think their present position a very strong one—far stronger than on the field of Antietam—and that they can hold it against all the forces it will be possible for McClellan to bring against them. There is no doubt that Bragg is hastening to the relief of Gen. Lee. If McClellan does not offer battle soon, he will have two armies to contend with, and the story of the Peninsula will again be told. But everything indicates that Gen. McClellan is fully up to the requirements of the moment. A battle great than Antietam will without much doubt be fought before the close of the week. Bunker Hill in Virginia may become as glorious in the history of this nation as Bunker Hill in Massachusetts, and God grant that, as the one commenced the war of the Revolution, the other may close the war of the Rebellion.

The Iowa Election--How Her Soldiers Vote--Republican Majority 20,000.

A special dispatch to the Chicago *Tribune* says:

Mr. Kasson's majority for Congress in this district by the home vote is over 1,000. The soldiers' vote will make it 2,000 more.

Mr. Grinnell falls by 500 votes in his district, counting only the home vote. The soldiers give him more than 1,000 majority. All the other Republicans are elected by the home vote. Nearly all the State has been heard from, with 40,000 soldiers' in the field.

Iowa gives the Republican State ticket a majority of at least 6,000, which will be swelled to 20,000 by the soldiers vote.

The 32d regiment has left the barracks here for Davenport.

SPEECH FROM THE FRENCH CONSUL AT MOBILE.—The French residents of Mobile, Ala., last week presented M. Portz, Vice Consul there, with a cane. In a little speech acknowledging the compliment, the Mobile *Tribune* says that "he regretted that the South had not yet been recognized by his Government, but from his full conviction that France would always be found in support of a rightful cause, he was satisfied that this act of justice would not be long delayed, and that this hope was now stronger than ever in his mind, from the tenor of his recent advices."

This is good "neutrality," of course!

A DUEL recently took place in Charleston, S. C., between Col. W. R. Calhoun, of the 1st Regiment South Carolina Artillery, and Maj. Alfred Rhett, of the same regiment, in which the former was shot through the body and died an hour afterwards. Both of the gentlemen were of the first and most fiery families of that State. The quarrel originated while the bombardment of Fort Sumter was going on.

THE BAPTIST OF NEW JERSEY.—That large, intelligent, and patriotic denomination, in Convention yesterday, in Trenton, N. J., unanimously passed the following resolution: *Resolved*, That we fully and heartily approve the recent proclamation of the President of the United States, declaring forever free all the slaves in any section of the country that shall be in rebellion on the 1st day of January next.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—Washington gossip says that the President is busily engaged in the preparation of his message, and declines to receive all visitors except such as call on important business.

THE Richmond *Examiner* says coal has advanced to a ruinous rate in that city, and what is worse, the supply is giving out, and no more can be had.

The Advance of the Army--Plans at Headquarters and Plans at Washington.

The correspondent of the New York *Times* writes from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, at Berlin, seven miles below Harper's Ferry, on the 28th:

The movement of the army into Virginia will no doubt be regarded with interest by the country, and you will look forward, hopeful or anxious, to the developments of the fall campaign. I am not yet able to give you any definite forecasting of what the plan of operations will be; but I can safely say that for a week, at least, no positive advance movement will be made, as it will require that period to mass the whole army here on the south side of the Potomac. The reconnoissances that will doubtless be made in the interim will probably go far to determine what strategic movements will be made *afterwards*. Much, of course, depends on the present position of the enemy—and of that we really know very little. The reports you read as to his presence at or retreat from Winchester, or elsewhere, are but scattering and unsure surmises, that merit little confidence. If the rebels have really retreated from Winchester down to Gordonsville or the line of the Rappahannock, I can say that the plan of operations *will not be what it was when our advance was initiated, on the hypothesis that they were still in the Shenandoah Valley.*

If they have retreated to Gordonsville, it remains for the army of the Potomac, in conjunction with the forces under other commanders operating below, either to advance in a direct attack on the rebels in their strongholds, or, as I intimated in my last, to threaten Richmond and call down the Confederate army to the defence of their Capital, by a movement on our part by way of the Peninsula. Opinion among the military men here is divided between these two opposite modes of operation. There are those who favor the first—who point to the fact that four railroads and a canal, traversing our lines laterally, are within our command to transport supplies and form depots along our route—and who consider a direct and rapid march on the rebels at Gordonsville or Richmond entirely practicable. Others, and those, too, of the highest immediate surrounding of the Commanding General, regard such an expedition as full of peril, and aver that the approach by the south side of the James river is the true and only route to Richmond. I confidently believe that *if the matter were left to McClellan's own judgment, he would ship the whole army again to the Peninsula.* But it is felt that the country would not stand such a move, and besides, you will remember the campaign is directed, (I have occasion to see how this is stated and absolute that it is so,) not from headquarters here, but from Washington, and Washington also says Nay.

I fear me these antagonistic councils and views will bring us all the weakness which antagonism always produces. Many, many have lost no faith in the plan of campaign which they assume we are entering upon; and those who are really courageous, and intelligently so, are in the minority. Many, also, even of the bravest and hopefulest, see, with pain and fear, the enormous disadvantage at which the oncoming bad season will oblige us to fight. On the 17th of September, the battle of Antietam was fought; it is now the 28th of October, and nothing done; for the army is wanting, wanting, and would continue so to the millennium if we were to spend the whole interval in preparation. *One week after the battle of Antietam we could better have marched to Richmond barefoot than we can now do with all our clothing and supplies!*

It would be easy for me to give you rose-colored views and anticipations. I prefer to give you the truth; we have had some experience as a nation what *that* is worth. It is possible that the event may give the lie to the fears and forebodings of the prudent, or, if you will, the timid. If so, we shall all be happy, and this record of present moods will only be of historic interest of what *was* felt once.

The British Pirate "290," alias the Alabama, and her Victims.

The bark Ascor, Captain Jones, from Fayal Oct. 8, arrived here this morning with the captains and crews of most of the whalers which had been burned by the British pirate Alabama. We were particular in our inquiries among the captains whether the "290" and the Alabama were identical, and from them all the answers received agreed, that the "290" is the Alabama, and no other vessel; the stories, therefore, that the "290" had run the blockade at Mobile are incorrect.

She is a British vessel, with a British register, is manned by a British crew, and is commanded by the infamous Semmes. Three of the other officers are said to be rebels, but of this there was no proof. The vessel is 220 feet long, 32 wide, has two decks, and registers 1,170 tuns British measurement. She is a full-rigged bark, and her propeller is arranged to be hoisted out of water when she is not under steam.

Her armament consists of two 64s, four 32s, and two rifled pivot guns, one forward and the other aft; but she has not a 1000-pounder, as has been reported in the New York papers. Under steam she will go about twelve knots, and with a whole sail breeze going free, she might make about the same rate under canvas alone.

She is a wooden vessel, apparently built in a hurry, and is not remarkably well found. Her crew all told numbered 72 men, but did not appear to be under much restraint. Any of our gunboats, if properly handled, would blow her out of water. Such is the opinion of the men who have been on board of her.

Captain Osborne, of the ship Comulgee, informs us that his ship was forty miles west of Flores, on September 6th, lying to, cutting in a large whale, when the Alabama, under British colors, ranged alongside and took possession of her. Captain Semmes said that he respected private property, but the thief, notwithstanding this statement, stole all the watches, nautical instruments, and everything of value, whether personal or belonging to the ship.

The crew were transferred to the Alabama, and the captain and officers were placed in irons 52 hours. During this time the pirate, under canvas alone, stood in toward Flores, and when near enough sent all hands in the Comulgee's boats to find their way ashore. As before reported, the ship was plundered of sails, provisions, &c., and then set on fire. She had 270 bbls. of sperm oil on board when she was captured.

The boats reached the shore in safety, and reported subsequently some of the operations of the pirate to the British ship Cairngorm, so that our Government might hear of them as soon as possible.

On the 9th of September, the pirate fell in with the schooner Starlight, Capt. Doane, within five miles of Flores. She was under canvas, and fired three times before the schooner hove to. Capt. Doane had $350 in specie on board, which, with his watch and nautical instruments, were appropriated by Semmes. Capt. Doane was put in irons, where he remained 78 hours. The schooner had 27 passengers on board, who, with himself and crew, were all landed at Flores.

The bark Ocean Rover, Capt. Clark, was captured Sept. 9, and had 900 bbls. sperm oil on board at the time. Like all the others, she was set on fire, and