

The Daily Post.



OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

PITTSBURGH:

FRIDAY MORNING, AUG. 9.

THE WEEKLY POST.

The Weekly Post, in wrappers, ready for mailing, can be had at our Counting Room. To single subscribers the price is one dollar per annum in advance.

THE ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

When Congress met on the Fourth of July the members were full of patriotism and praiseworthy desire to save their country. They went to work with vigor to save the country according to the best of their judgment. But they made one mistake at the outset, and that was in supposing that this contest could be carried upon the same principles as a political campaign. They brought their influence to bear upon the executive and the commander-in-chief, and hastened a battle, the result of which has taught the country a great and bitter lesson. The defeat at Bull's Run opened the eyes of the congressmen, and they became wiser and better men.

When they began their work their zeal outran their discretion, and they seemed to think that the rebellion would be ended by their voting of half a million of men and \$500,000,000 in money. They did not proceed with that cool and statesmanlike sagacity which the great conjunction in our national affairs demanded. They thought that the war could be fought upon the principle of bungoome and not of rifled cannon. They urged on a fight before the army was ready to fight, and the result has shown them their mistake.

The means for prosecuting the war were not produced, and yet the battle must be fought, because popular enthusiasm and congressional desire to rule everything seemed to demand it.

The battle of Manassas convinced them that it was not their business to command the war, but to furnish means to carry it on by passing measures calculated to strengthen the government, and render loans possible. The bills of the session have been passed since the congressmen ran away from Bull's Run. The errors of the early portion of the session were at once repaired when Congress saw how entirely it had misappreciated the military necessities of the contest. They have stood by the loyal heart of the country, and now, the means having been provided, the war will be left to be carried on by military men. They have made provision for the great object of sustaining the credit of the government.

Of the nearly fifty acts passed during the session just closed we do not now feel called on to speak in detail. The great measures of the session—those relating to loans, to the increase and organization of the regular army and the volunteer force, to the increase of the navy, and to the public revenue—are in the main judicious. In reviewing the acts of the session a whole, the country will award to Congress the praise due to bold and unflinching patriotism, which holds no parley with treason or traitors, to an honest desire to strengthen, in every possible way, the hands of the administration in the prosecution of the war, and to the final passage of measures of less importance. The joint resolution to legalize the war measures adopted by the President previous to the assembling of Congress failed to pass the Senate, no vote having been taken on these previous to the final adjournment.

THE PROVOST GUARD.

The "Regulars" who fell at Bull Run, in the battle ensuing with the bravest people of the nation have been pourning forth in honor of the volunteers who fell at Bull Run, we have thoroughly sympathized, and we have performed our part in swelling the tide of praise. But we think that there is a disposition to neglect the honor due to the small body of regulars who were engaged in that deadly conflict, and who stood their ground to the last. For instance, in two of the batteries of regulars there were 120 officers and men lost fully killed being much heavier than the losses suffered by full volunteer regiments numbering one thousand men. In Major Hunt's battery, Lieutenant Prentiss Oldham Craig, a graduate of West Point of 1857, and son of Col. Craig, of the Ordinance, fell dead at his gun, in the very flush and pride of his youth. In Capt. Bickett's battery the commander was taken prisoner after being badly wounded, and Lieutenant Ramsey was killed instantly while inspiring his men with his own joyous energy and bravery. Capt. Tillotson, of the Quartermaster's department, also a graduate of West Point, and for several years in the First Artillery, remained of choice among his brother officers, who were actively engaged, and fell fighting like a hero.

The instances narrated here, are a few of the proofs of the heroism of the regulars, and we are proud to chronicle them as among the most heroic incidents of the day almost without parallel for self-sacrificing bravery, in the history of the world.

New York.

The Republican State Committee, of New York, which met at Albany on Tuesday, wisely took the preliminary steps for securing a joint nomination by the Republican and Democratic Committees of a Union ticket, "pledged to a vigorous prosecution of the war for the restoration of the authority of the Constitution, and the execution of the federal laws in all sections of the country."

Bills Passed by Congress.

Among other bills which were passed are the direct and income tax; the revised tariff; increasing the regular United States army to 40,000 men; authorizing the President to call out 500,000 volunteers, defining and punishing certain conspiracies; increasing the medical corps of the navy; creating the office of Assistant Secretary of the Navy; providing for the suppression of rebellion; for the better organization of the marine corps; fixing the compensation of the officers of the revenue marine; regulating the navy ratings; providing for the appointment of assistant paymasters in the navy; increasing the pay of the regular army and volunteers two dollars per month; providing for the confiscation of property used for rebellious purposes; suspending the sub-treasury system; by allowing the public money to be deposited in State banks, besides several appropriation bills and other measures of less importance. The joint resolution to legalize the war measures adopted by the President previous to the assembling of Congress failed to pass the Senate, no vote having been taken on these previous to the final adjournment.

The Provoit Guard.

An amazing incident has occurred at Washington. In making their rounds the guard met an officer (lieutenant) of one of our regiments, and demanded to see his pass. He had none to show, but in place of it exhibited his badge of authority, and haughtily inquired if that was not a sufficient pass for an officer of his rank. He was informed that it was not. Then, you can have no other. Well, sir, it is customary to allow officers of your rank to pass on receiving an assurance that they will report themselves at the guard house; but, as you are disposed to be rather unaccommodating, I will please to let in and march round till we receive a few more strangers, when you will be conducted to the guard house. Two hours after the lieutenant was seen in the squad, near the post office, marching round, under a hot sun, in quest of a "few more," with which to return to the guard house. This will teach the young man not to put on airs.

THE DIRECT TAX BILL.

The income and direct tax bill, we ascertain, has been incorrectly published. The error has been owing in part to the confused manner in which the details of the Congressional proceedings have been reported, and in part to the haste with which the bill was passed. After it was legislated upon by the House, it was sent to the Senate, where, on a second reading, the bill was submitted to the joint Committee of Conference on the Tariff. By a plan agreed upon in the committee all further difficulties, both on the Tariff and the Direct Tax bill, were obviated.

It now appears that in the measure, as amended, the proposed tax on carriages and watches, and the excise duty on beer and spirits are entirely dropped. The direct taxes, therefore, resolve themselves into a tax of three per cent. on all incomes in excess of \$300, and of five per cent. on the incomes of non-residents. This would have been more clearly understood but for the muddiness of the Congressional report, which left it to be inferred that all the original provisions of the bill had been repealed.

This will afford to our agricultural population an opportunity of patriotically contributing their portion of the expenses of this war. The means or net profits of their farms will be subject to this tax, according to the provisions of the bill.—Hitherto the people of the cities have borne the heavy burthen of this war. They have contributed most largely of men and almost all the money. The people of the country are quite as patriotic and enthusiastic in the cause of their country, and all they lack is the opportunity to come forward in their strength in aid of this patriotic cause.

This was to be finished only by the whole people of the North devoting themselves and their means to the cause of their country. The sooner it is finished the better; but, to do it, there must be no selfishness—no disposition to hold back—no desire to save our own pockets, at the risk of losing the great blessings of the Union and a free government.

Stated.—All the bills which passed both Houses were approved by the President, who yielded a reluctant approval of that for the confiscation of property used for rebellious purposes.

Gen. Scott has pronounced Gen. McClellan to be the only man in the Federal army capable of maneuvering one hundred thousand soldiers in the field.

The liabilities of Claffin, Mellen & Co., of New York, it is now ascertained, are near four millions, of which about a million is "bank debt." The surplus of a quarter, as far as the first of January last the yearly statement showed an excess of but two millions.

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