

The Franklin Repository.

BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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Franklin Repository.

GAMBLERS AND THEIR PANICS.

The good people of Franklin county, who add steadily to their wealth by honest industry and frugality, know but little of the millions of money gambled upon the stock boards of the leading cities.

Any intelligent observer who scans the reports of stock sales in the city journals, need not be told that almost every class of stocks are daily gambled off at prices far, very far beyond their actual value.

The "bears" are those who are interested in falling prices. They have everything at stake in advancing the value of the stocks they are operating in.

All such operations are very properly called gambling, because they are not bona fide business transactions. Sales of millions of stock are reported daily, while in fact not one-twentieth part of the transactions reported are actual sales.

We have received the Valley Sentinel, a Democratic journal just started in Shippensburg by our old friend Wm. Kennedy, Esq.

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gold up, so that the profit may be large as possible and he "bulls" the market; predicts the failure of the army; the derangement of the currency; the prostration of National credit; magnifies the rebel force; declares foreign intervention just at hand, and rejoices at copperhead riots and captures and massacres like Fort Pillow.

The end is ruin, inevitable and terrible in its completeness and scope, for the higher the inflation the lower the revulsion when the crash comes. All know it; but all hope to be out in time; but the gambler's infatuation is usually stronger than his judgment, and those who acquire wealth by the fickle smile of fortune, are, in the main, those who lose it by her sudden and relentless frown.

Any day in the early part of last week the leading brokers' offices were crowded with jubilant "bears" who were struggling with all of a heartless gambler's ferocity to make the little storm a deluge; and crippled "bulls" were reeked with intense anxiety to save themselves from utter ruin.

The actual demand for gold would not make it worth over 30 per cent. premium yet; it bought and sold only when absolutely wanted; but as it is confessedly the standard of all values, and as its rise in the market produces a corresponding rise in prices generally, it is borne upward by all manner of speculative combinations, and immense nominal sales are made without one dollar of the precious metal changing hands at all.

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QUOTA OF THE 16TH DISTRICT.

We give herewith the official quota of each sub-district in this Congressional District, as ascertained on the 15th of April. It will be seen that they are based on the aggregate of 700,000 men, embracing the call for 500,000 made a few months ago, and the late call for 200,000 made on the 14th of March, and the quota are thus increased considerably beyond the table we published prior to the last call.

The credits given in the subjoined table are not claimed as correct by the government. They do not embrace any veterans re-mustered, or those credited to the district at large. Veteran enlistments were made by the Commissioners of Muster in distant fields, and therefore have not been returned to the Department promptly, as have been the credits for musters made by the Provost Marshals and detailed recruiting officers.

The draft is postponed for the present, and may be ordered at any time. We subjoin the table:

Table with 4 columns: Sub-District, No. Subjected, Quota, and Number to be Mustered. Includes Adams County and Bedford County.

Table with 4 columns: Sub-District, No. Subjected, Quota, and Number to be Mustered. Includes Franklin County and Fulton County.

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HARRISBURG.

Gov. Curtin in Washington—His Message on the Reserve and Payment of Military Damages—The Civilian Bill—Important Legislation—The Southern Pennsylvania Railroad.

Correspondence of The Franklin Repository. HARRISBURG, April 25, 1864.

Gov. Curtin went to Washington on Tuesday evening last to urge the payment of the last State militia. While he was there, Mr. Stevens called it up, but it was not disposed of. It is believed however that the appropriation will be made.

Yesterday Gov. Curtin left for Washington on a special train; but what important business called him back so suddenly is not known. It is probable however that it has some reference to a call for the militia to perform special service, or garrison duty while Grant makes his movement toward Richmond.

The Governor sent a message to the legislature on the 15th inst., relative to the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps. Its term of service will soon expire, and it is probable that as now organized it will not, as a body, re-enlist.

Such a corps would give effective security to the people of the border counties against future raids. They have already suffered greatly by rebel depredations, and treasure to the State will be lost, after the conclusion of the war, if consistent with the maintenance of her credit, with her accustomed liberality, make compensation for the losses thus sustained.

Several members from the border have been in consultation with the Governor already to prepare a bill to secure this gallant and battle-scarred corps for the defence of our State, and it will pretty certainly pass.

The claim bill has not yet passed; but it will probably be passed authorizing adjudication of the claims. The disturbed condition of the finances, and the uncertainty of future damages, make the legislature unwilling at this time to vote indemnity for losses, lest the credit of the State should be periled and future depredations swell beyond the power of the Commonwealth to meet.

The appointment and appropriation bills are about ready to pass, and will not be materially changed. The bill providing for the payment of interest in currency is a law, and both branches have passed a bill to collect the money due the State for unpatented lands.

The Connellsville and Southern Pennsylvania Railroad bill with the bill resuming the charter of the Connellsville East and South of that point, have passed the House, and will pass the Senate. They promise you a Southern through line from Chambersburg at an early day.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

In Newbern, North Carolina, recruiting for colored regiments is going on briskly.

Military affairs are very active in the West. Large numbers of recruits are leaving for the front daily.

Maj. Gen. C. C. Washburne has been ordered to the command of West Tennessee, and has left Washington for Memphis.

Gen. Rosecrans has assigned Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasanton to duty as second in command of the department, with his headquarters in St. Louis.

The people of Western North Carolina recently hung several Confederate officers and soldiers for attempting to enforce the conscription act.

Brigadier Gen. Prince, who commanded a division in the former Corps of Gen. French, has been sent to the military district of Paducah, Columbus, and Cairo.

The rebels in front of our forces around Chattanooga are very quiet. Probably their ranks have been so depleted for the reinforcement of Leo that they can do nothing more than quietly await the advance of Gen. Sherman.

Sutlers and citizens have all left the Army of the Potomac, and will not be allowed to return before next autumn. The chances are the army will then be in another place.

Memphis despatches state that Forrest is retreating into Mississippi. Chalmers and McCulloch were passing Tallahassee, and Gen. Grierson is reported to be pressing Forrest's columns.

The War Department has notified the Governor of New York that the State troops will be received by Gen. Dix, for guard and other duties around the harbor and forts of New York during the absence of the volunteer forces recently stationed there.

A despatch from Cairo gives a statement of another Rebel barbarity on the Mississippi. A Mr. A. R. Allison, of Illinois, was captured by a band of guerillas on one of the abandoned plantations, taken some distance and murdered, after being compelled to dig his own grave.

The report that Gen. Gillmore is to be relieved from the command of the army before Charleston is true and is not true. He will retain command of a bulk of the troops now serving under him, but in what field they will operate is a problem for the enemy to solve.

It is understood that the Spring campaign is now to be commenced. We have indications that the Rebels are massing a large force in Virginia; and that the diversions in Kentucky and elsewhere are only intended to cover the concentration of Rebel forces against Grant.

An officer who left Bull's Gap, East Tennessee, on the 4th instant, reports that Longstreet had withdrawn his forces, sending his infantry regiments to Richmond, and leaving three cavalry brigades, numbering 2,000 men, and an equal force of infantry, to guard the salt works near Abingdon, Va.

Deserters who have come into the lines of the Army of the Potomac report that Gen. Longstreet's Corps has joined Lee's army, and is at Orange Court House. The whole Rebel army is said to be not more than fifty thousand strong.

The Union forces at Bainesville, Kentucky, under Col. Gillespie, have defeated Hodge's Rebel Brigade, capturing seventy prisoners, two hundred horses, four hundred saddles, three hundred stand of small arms, and all their camp equipage. Eighty-five Rebels were killed and wounded.

Previous to Gen. Kilpatrick leaving his old command, a communication was received by him from Gen. Robert E. Lee, by a flag officer, through the army headquarters, inquiring of Gen. K. whether the orders found upon Col. Dahlgren, as published in the Richmond papers, were authentic and authorized by him.

The reply was a bitter and indignant denial. There is little doubt that the reason why Col. Dahlgren's body is not given up, is because of its shameful mutilation and unchristian burial.

In regard to the Red river expedition, Fleet Captain Pennock telegraphs to the Secretary of the Navy that he has received private letters stating that Banks' army met with a reverse on the 8th, near Mansfield, and fell back to Pleasant Hill. The next day the rebels attacked our forces, and were handsomely whipped.

There has been almost extensive opening of eyes among the staff and other officers of the Army of the Potomac since Gen. Grant assumed command of that army. The first thing he did was to intimate that staff officers must spend less time in Washington; the next was that the balls in camp must be given up; then came an indication that transportation would not be furnished for articles of luxury for the camp; then came the order that there must be more scouting and greater vigilance on picket; and so on after another of the deleterious customs and practices of the army are to be done away and life introduced. Go on, Gen. Grant.

Further details of the affair on the Red river have reached us from Cairo. The battle on the 8th was fought at Sabine Cross Roads. The Rebels were commanded by Gens. Magruder, Holmes and Taylor, under the chief command of Kirby Smith. The fight on the second day was at Pleasant Hill, where Gen. Andrew Jackson Smith led the Union forces, Gen. Banks being in chief command. The loss of the enemy on the first day was about fifteen hundred. On the second day they lost heavily—two to one. Among their killed were three Generals, Morton, Parsons and Greene. The fleet had advanced up the river to within eighty miles of Shreveport, when Gen. Banks, finding his rations running short ordered it back. On its way down it was attacked by the enemy on both sides of the river. A brisk fight ensued which ended in the defeat of the Rebels, with a loss of nearly six hundred killed and a large number wounded. It was in this action that Gen. Greene was killed, his head having been blown off by a shell.

A CORRESPONDENT writing to the Cincinnati Christian Advocate, March 23, 1864, says: Patent medicines are like doctors, some good, some good for nothing, but all having their friends to recommend them, and each receiving a share of public favor.

The whole number of mulattoes, slave and free, in the Union, in 1860, was 588,352, of whom 69,969 belonged to the free States, and 518,383 to the slave States—a number greater than the combined white population of Arkansas, Delaware and Florida—greater than the white population of Maryland—almost twice as great as that of South Carolina, and twice as great as the combined populations of Delaware and Florida. The mulatto population of Virginia alone exceeds the number of whites in Delaware or Florida.

REBEL SAVAGERY.

We have already given a brief account of the inhuman brutality practised by the rebels upon the troops of Fort Pillow after it had been surrendered; but the details increase in horror as they are developed. The negro troops fought most gallantly until overpowered; but they were outnumbered immensely and were overcome. A correspondent thus describes the scene after the rebels got possession of the Fort:

After the rebels were in undisputed possession of the fort and the survivors had surrendered, they commenced the indiscriminate butchery of all the Federal soldiers. The colored soldiers throw down their arms and raised their arms in token of surrender, but not the least attention was paid to it. They continued to shoot down all they found. A number of them fled to the river, and tried to conceal themselves under the bank and in the bushes, were pursued by the rebel savages, and implored them to spare their lives. Their appeals were made in vain, and they were all shot down in cold blood, and in full sight of the gunboat. I passed up the bank of the river and counted fifty dead strewn along. One had crawled into a hollow log and was killed it; another had got over the bank into the river, and got to a board that ran out into the water. He lay on it on his face, with his feet in the water. He laid there when exposed stark and stiff. Several had tried to hide in crevices made by the falling bank, and could not be seen without difficulty, but they were singled out and killed. From the best information I could get the white soldiers were, to a very considerable extent, treated in the same manner. One of the 13th Tennessee on board—D. W. Harrison—informs me that after the surrender he was below the bluff, and one of the rebels presented a pistol to shoot him. He told him he had surrendered and requested him not to fire. He spared him, and directed him to go to the bluff to the fort. Harrison asked him to go before him, or be wounded by others, but he told him to go alone. He started, and had not proceeded far before he met a rebel who presented his pistol. Harrison begged him not to fire but paying no attention to his request, he fired and shot him through the shoulder, and another shot him in the leg. He fell, and while he lay unable to move, another came along and shot him to fire again, when Harrison told him he was wounded twice, and implored not to fire. He asked Harrison if he had any money. He said he had a little money and a watch. The rebel took from him his watch and ninety dollars in money, and left him. Harrison is probably fatally wounded. Several such cases have been related to me, and I think, to a great extent, the whites and negroes were indiscriminately murdered. The rebel Tennesseeans have about the same bitterness against Tennesseeans in the Federal army, as against the negroes. I was told by a rebel officer that Gen. Forrest shot one of his men and out another with his saber for shooting down prisoners. It may be so, but he is responsible for the conduct of his men, and Gen. Chalmers stated publicly while at the Plate Valley, that though he did not encourage or countenance his men in shooting down negro captives, yet that it was right and justifiable.

THE APPROACHING CAMPAIGN.

It is hard, doubtless, for editors, as well as other people, to refrain from a little anticipatory campaigning in these days of military preparation and Virginia mud obstruction. We find, accordingly, on Saturday, the New York Times indulged its well-known proclivities, to the extent of an editorial column, in tracing out the possible, or probable, plan of operations for Gen. Grant in the manner following—but we will only quote a paragraph:

"It may be considered certain, it says, that Grant's plan of operation, whatever it may be, will be one, which, like his superb operations at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, will completely startle the rebels—that it will be one which nobody expected, and that will take the country as well as the enemy, by surprise. His campaign may be in Virginia, it may be in Georgia, and it may be in neither of those States, even though it be intended to bear upon one or both of the great armies of the rebels in Virginia, he might adopt one or other of the plans that he has heretofore been tried, or discussing them all, he might adopt the palpable one, often discussed, of debouching an army at some point south of the James, and marching by Petersburg towards Richmond. Not less than seventy thousand men, we suppose, could be thus threatening Richmond from this direction. At the same time, eighty thousand, under Gen. Meade, press Lee's lines on the Rapidan. Lee should, of course, fall back under cover of the Richmond works. Here he would undoubtedly have a very advantageous central position for striking either invading army. His relation to our forces would be somewhat similar to that of Napoleon during the invasion of France by the allies before his banishment to Elba. But Lee is not a Napoleon, and as we have learnt, lost more than his right arm in Stonewall Jackson's death. His forces would be inferior to either of the invading armies, so that Grant need violate no rule of strategy in this double invasion. The drawbacks on our side would be the spring rains and the malaria, which would weaken our ranks, and the raw character of many of the regiments moving from Fortress Monroe as a base. But the great attack must be by Meade's veteran army. The chances of battle are proverbially uncertain, but we do not see how Lee could comfortably survive under the grindings of this upper and neither millstone. He might, it is true, evacuate Richmond, and make a new line in the western part of Virginia. But the Richmond would become our base, and the game might be tried with a rear movement on our part from Newbern and Weldon."