

Union for the Sake of the Union.

In the midst of the tremendous events now transpiring; with a yet unsubdued rebellion on our hands; with a vast and still increasing national debt; with a numerous, active and unscrupulous party, whose sympathies are with the open enemies of the Union; with a currency which is descending lower and lower as compared with the metallic standard of the world, and with a condition of things in the business world, from the highest mart of commerce to the stall of the huckster in the market place, exceedingly feverish, unsettled and unwholesome, the friends of the Union cannot afford to divide among themselves on the question of a Presidential candidate.

We have a President who, notwithstanding his slowness to come up to the great demands of the times, and his unwillingness to shake from his skirts some men who are almost regarded as clogs and hindrances to the great work of restoring the Union and vindicating the cause of human freedom, has fairly won and yet holds more of the confidence of the country than any other man in the Republic. Under his administration a revolution in opinion on one great and all-absorbing question has taken place, such as the wildest and most enthusiastic never dreamed of; and, with all his seeming slowness, Abraham Lincoln has kept abreast with the mighty movement.

If he has not dashed forward like Luther, the pioneer and leader in a just reformation, he has not failed, at the right moment, to set his seal to all that has been gained, and thus made it secure. Of this nature were his preliminary and final proclamations of freedom to the slaves in all the rebellious States. No timid conservative, no half-hearted Union men; indeed no man whose sense of duty did not rise infinitely higher than the mere dictates of expediency, would have done it at all; and no man less wise would have timed it so well. Gen. Fremont would have given it to the country prematurely—and thus, by putting new wine in old bottles, would have exploded and spilled the other; but Mr. Lincoln, with that strange, innate sagacity for which he is distinguished, watched the progress of opinion as it was indicated in the stern school of terror and disruption, calamity and war, until he saw that the process was complete, and then struck the blow that shivered more shackles than any blow ever struck by mortal man.

We freely admit that the slave does not owe his deliverance to Abraham Lincoln, no more than the impotent man in the porch of the temple of Jerusalem owed his cure, and his ability to leap and walk, to Peter and John; yet it is a great thing to be even the Heaven-ordained instrument of so great a deliverance; therefore let us beware how we repudiate a man so honored.

But the question is not whether we might find a man more in accordance with the impetuous spirit of the hour—a man who would push on the war against the rebellion with more vigor—a man who would fling old fogs from him, and employ only such as are hearty in the cause of liberty and Union; but it is that we do not fall out among ourselves. Either Fremont or Butler might be that man; but could either of them unite, as Lincoln does, the whole loyal people of the country? Would either of them be so generally confided in as he is?

In this fearful crisis no man living is strong enough to give direction to the Ship of State; and it is well that it is God alone that can do that. He gave us Lincoln when we little dreamed of what lay before us; and He can guide us to a home of safety under His rule as well as that of any other man; hence we may accept it as an index of His will, that amid all the tossings of the past three years, the agonizing struggle, the lights and shadows, the hopes and fears, and the tremendous sacrifices which have marked that period, the great heart of the nation has ever turned towards that man in confidence and affection; and none the less so because that heart felt that, if he was not strong and honest, He was trusted and beloved, but not idolized, as he would have been, had he been a Jackson or a Webster. The American people, with the universal instinct of humanity, is sighing after an idol; but God in mercy has refused to give us one, either in the shape of a great captain or a great statesman, which we think is an indication that He intends to save us without one, provided we keep together in heart, in purpose, and in trust.

The Richmond Enquirer, of the 26th inst., appeals for aid to keep the soldier's families from starving, and says, "the poor have not been able to procure supplies at the shops established by the City Councils, even at the reduced prices charged by the Committee." There is a pressing necessity for immediate aid.

Now in the face of such accounts as these, which are constantly received in the Richmond papers, and in the face of an order of Lee to his army exhorting them to put up patiently with quarter rations, what can Southern allies of the Rebels expect to gain by concocting elaborate representations, epistolary and editorial, that there is a superabundance of food at the South?

To the Mechanics, Miners, and Workmen of Western Pa., West Virginia and Ohio.

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Pittsburgh Fair for the sick and wounded of our army and navy, to ask you to give the proceeds of ONE DAY'S LABOR in your ordinary avocations, to the Fair; and the appeal is made in the confident hope of a generous response. One day's work in the year will not be hard for each man to give, and yet the aggregate sum produced will be a splendid testimonial of your sympathy with the noble soldiers of the Union, who are so freely giving every day, and risking their lives for the glorious cause.

None but those who have seen the operations of the United States Sanitary Commission on the field and in the hospitals can tell how great the benefit it works out for the soldiers; and even the soldiers themselves, while their lives are being saved by the Commission, often do not know whence the aid comes.

If any one supposes that the working man, or poor man, has any less real stake in this struggle for liberty and Union than the manufacturer, merchant or land owner, he is in error. The rich man, or his sons, may become poor. Whether rich or poor, the blessings of the free institutions, watered in their planting by the blood of our Revolutionary martyrs, and cultivated to their present perfection by the wise statesmen of the Republic, belong to all, and for ourselves and our posterity MUST BE PRESERVED. Some of us must fight, others must work; and among all the modes by which we who are at home can labor for the holy cause, there is none more effective than to aid the sick and wounded soldiers. Every life saved is a man given to his country, and leaves one man at home, who would otherwise be needed to fill his place.

Every gift to help the wounded patriot is a gift to God—and the cause of Freedom, and He who came to heal the sick, and to proclaim liberty to the captive and the breaking of chains to them that are bound," promises a reward for the imitation of his works. God, patriotism, the holiest and noblest moving springs of action, call upon us to help the soldiers of the Union. Let every man respond, and let the noble workmen in iron and coal, to whom our country owes so much of her prosperity, take the lead in the patriotic effort.

It is suggested that each mill, foundry, mine, or work shop, will appoint its own committee to obtain the subscriptions and see that the sum is paid to F. Holmes, treasurer of the Fair by whom acknowledgments will be made in the newspapers and by letter.

FELIX R. BRUNOT, Chairman Executive Committee.

The Outbreak in Illinois.

The editorials of those bitterly Copperhead organs, the Detroit Free Press and Chicago Times have of late been unusually venomous and treasonable. Not long since, the Detroit Tribune published a statement, that arms were being smuggled into Canada in herring boxes—herring being imported duty free into the province—that large numbers were gathering on the Canadian frontier, and that these men were in constant correspondence with the Copperheads of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The present demonstration may quite possibly be but one development of a widely organized plan, which the Chicago Tribune has just published, and which claims to be a genuine exposé of the reorganized order of K. G. C. The new regulations add greatly to the secrecy and efficiency of the order. The Tribune says that a meeting of the conspirators was held in McCormick's block in that city, on the 8th to the 11th of March, continuing in session night and day. We cite these statements for what they are worth. They are, however, when coupled with the treasonable outbreak above described, deserving of attention.

In referring to the Coles county outbreak the same paper in its issue of Thursday remarks:— "A deputy sheriff of Coles county not long ago boasting told an informant of ours that the Copperheads of that section had arms and powder in abundance, that they meet often for drill, and could muster in a week's time four thousand men. Of course the fellow lied in the last part, but it shows that the present outbreak has been prepared for, is deliberate, and must be crushed without temporizing.

The tone of the organ of Jeff. Davis in this city yesterday relative to the Coles county emeute, was precisely similar to that of an incendiary watching from a distance the progress of the flame he has kindled. The rebel organ didn't know much about it. "The military authorities had usurped the telegraph." A falsehood. They know the fire that they have been setting for months past was beginning to burn. When the fire is extinguished the reckoning will fall on the incendiary.

SANITARY FAIR BUILDING.—A considerable portion of the material for the building to be used by the forthcoming Sanitary Fair has already been conveyed to the Allegheny Diamond. To give our readers an idea of the extent of the proposed structure, we might state that it will require sixty five cars to transport it from Cleveland to Allegheny city.—The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Rail Road Company has agreed to forward three car loads per day. Four of the persons who were engaged in the erection of the building in Cleveland have been secured by the committee, to superintend its erection in Allegheny. A number of teams have been generously tendered to the committee by citizens of Allegheny to aid in conveying the lumber from the Federal street depot to the Diamond. The U. S. Quartermaster at this post has notified the committee that they can have the use of the U. S. wagons, in case they require them. The erection of the building will probably commence next week.

Governor Edwards, of the Choctaw Nation, has issued a proclamation urging the Indians of that tribe to return to their allegiance to the government.

The American Citizen.



THOMAS ROBINSON, Editors.

CYRUS E. ANDERSON, Editors.

H. W. SPEAR, Publisher.

BUTLER PA.

WEDNESDAY: APRIL 6 1864.

Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable.—D. Webster.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1864:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Military Movements.

As Spring approaches, the people naturally feel a deep interest in the first development of the approaching campaign. The Government has called out reinforcements sufficient to organize one of the largest armies known to history. On what points will this grand army be concentrated? is the inquiry of thousands. For a while the opinion seemed to prevail that active operations were drifting to the Southwest—that in all probability there would not be much more campaigning in Virginia. Subsequently, Lieut. General Grant visited Washington city, since which the whole programme has seemed to change. It is now confidently believed that another advance on Richmond, in overwhelming force, is anticipated. In this movement Burasde, Butler, Meade and Grant will be leading spirits. There need be little apprehension of the failure of an movement in charge of these brave soldiers.

While this campaign is advancing in the East, there is little doubt but that Sherman, Banks, Gilmore, and others, will be equally active in their respective departments. Upon the whole, the opening campaign is one of unusual interest, and one on which every loyal man can look with an abiding confidence in its final and entire success.

Copperhead Demonstration.

At different periods during the present war, the Copperheads of various sections of the country, have given to the world unmistakable evidence of their hatred of the Government, and their sympathy for the cause of the rebels. In various localities in almost every State, they have, in greater or less force, attempted to resist the lawful authority of the Government. The great uprising in New York, simultaneous with Lee's advance on Pennsylvania, was one of the most daring, backed as it was by the scarcely concealed sympathy of Gov. Seymour. But notwithstanding the magnitude of that uprising, as also the sympathy it received from men who stood high in the party, out of which it sprung, the Government found itself amply able to promptly put it down. This, in connection with the fact that the Democracy were everywhere beaten at the polls last fall, had led the people to believe that there was little further danger from that quarter. But Forrest having made a bold movement into Kentucky, which, if successful, would have enabled him to reach his "friends" in Southern Illinois, presented too good an opportunity to be lost; so another demonstration was determined upon, but its treasonable character was only equalled by the cowardice of those undertaking it, who fled ingloriously on the first approach of our soldiers in any numbers. A detailed account of this disgraceful affair will be found elsewhere in our columns to-day. Do loyal Democrats still believe it possible to serve their country as loyal men should, while remaining in party alliance with those meanest of all traitors?

The Bounty Question.

In our last issue we published a law on this subject. We have since given it a careful reading. We find many things in it worthy of commendation; still, we think it would take a Philadelphia Lawyer to harmonize all its parts. There is one feature of the law, however, which will enable various finance committees to feel more comfortable than they have done for some time back. We mean the full authority given to complete all former engagements. But while this is the case, we are at a loss to see why the mode of levying the tax is not left to the several districts to determine for themselves. We understand, however, that a local bill has already passed the Senate, which will suit our county better than the general law. We can see no good reason why it should not pass the House at once. Had Legislative relief been given a few days after the organization of the Senate, we have no hesitation in saying that every district in the county, except perhaps two, would have promptly filled their quotas. Legislation, at this late day, can only partially relieve the people from the embarrassments which the absence of a just law encumbered them with. But if we are to have local legislation at all, let us have such as will allow the people to adopt that mode of raising money agreed upon by themselves. Why not give the School Board full authority to equalize the whole

burden, past and present? A poll tax of from ten to twenty-five dollars, on all subject to the draft, has been generally adopted, and acquiesced in by all. Why not allow this just mode of raising a part of the money to be adhered to? Full power, too, should be given for exonerations; and in no case, in our opinion, should the property of any one who is in the army, or who has been honorably discharged, or furnished a substitute, or paid commutation, be subject to said tax.

Some, it is true, hold that the bounty money should come exclusively from those subject to the draft, while others as honestly claim that, because they are subject to draft, therefore they should not be required to pay bounty at all; that it should be raised by those who are outside the operation of the conscription laws. The financial plan, above suggested, would be a fair compromise between these extreme views; and would, we have reason to hope, harmonize all interests. We say, then, to our legislators, let us have something tangible at once—something at once distinct and comprehensive, and much of the evil which has attended delay may yet be overcome.

To the people we say, let patience do her perfect work; and, by the time the American Citizen next reaches you, we hope to be able to publish something more definite than the general law, and more in harmony with the wishes of our people.

By the proceedings of our Legislature we observe that our members in the House, Haslett and Negley, have secured the following provision to the bill providing for the sale of the canal from Freeport to Pittsburgh. "Provided that the right to use and operate the road by said Western Pennsylvania Rail Road company between Freeport and Allegheny city, shall not be enjoyed until contracts are entered into with responsible parties for the completion of a Rail Road from Freeport to the town of Butler; and provided further, that said contracts shall be entered into within one year, and the road be completed within five years."

This proviso was strongly opposed by several of the ablest members of the House, but through the efficient efforts of our members it was adopted. Much credit is due to them for their able and successful support of this important measure.

We know it will receive the active support of our able Senator, Mr. McCandless when it comes up in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The Secretary of the treasury has communicated to the Ways and Means Committee his sense of the necessity of increased taxation.—This necessity presses more and more upon the minds of the most thoughtful and prudent men connected with the Government. The Treasury measure of the need of money from the internal revenue alone was yesterday \$250,000,000. A tax of \$1 50 on whisky is now thought to be the increase of the excise on the leading articles will be correspondingly great. Not for ten or twelve days yet will the Committee be able to report. Their labor of preparation is immensely great.

The following iron-clad war steamers will be launched between this day and the first of May next:

Table with columns: Name, Class, Where. Lists various iron-clad war steamers like the Monitor, Merrimack, etc.

Others besides these may be ready for floating off. Some of the above will be nearly ready for sea when launched.

Gen. Grant does not seem to fancy the luxurious style of living prevalent in the Army of the Potomac. He says he can maintain his physical integrity on pork and beans, as soldiers do out West, and believes it can be done by them here. Caretakers to the delicate palates of our officers are in spasms at the report that the Lieut.-Gen. is about to banish their wares from the lines.

By common consent the Hon. Josiah B. Grinnell of Iowa, a clergyman, amateur lecturer, a shepherd with a flock of six thousand fine wooled merino sheep, and the owner of a village in which not one drop of intoxicating drinks has ever been sold, has been indicated to Speaker Colfax as the fittest member of the House to take Owen Lovejoy's place in the Committee on Territories.

General Patrick, Provost Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac, sent to this city yesterday, a notorious rebel citizen and bushwhacker, charged with the murder of the son of Senator Brown, of Virginia. The proof against him is said to be positive, as the deed was witnessed by several of our officers. Col. Ingraham committed the prisoner to the old Capital Jail.

NEW YORK, April 1.—The Newberne Times of the 23d, says in reference to the denial made by rebel newspapers of the recent hanging at Kingston: We have an eye-witness who saw the hanging of 22 soldiers of the North Carolina volunteers, and was within 200 yards of the scaffold at the time of the murder.

Two steamers, the Alise and House, ran out of Wilmington through New Inlet during the night of the 12th inst. Both were fully loaded with cotton, 700 bales each.

NEW PAPER.—We have received the third and fourth numbers of the Post, a new Union paper published at Morgantown, West Virginia. It deserves a liberal support from the people of Morgantown and neighborhood.—Pitts. Gaz.

France is paying nearly half a million sterling per month for the support of her armies in Mexico.

Speech of Hon. G. Clay Smith.

This distinguished Kentuckian, who is a warm advocate of the leading measures adopted by the Administration to subdue the rebellion, delivered at Lexington on the evening of the 28th ult., a masterly address defending the justice and policy of enrolling slaves for military service. The speech was in answer to the harangue of Col. FRANK WOLFRUM, for which that officer was dismissed the service, and was enthusiastically received by the large crowd which listened to it. The following passage will give the reader an idea of its scope and patriotic tone.—

"When I went to Congress to represent my constituents, I did so with the promise to vote men and money, for the prosecution of this war, for the suppression of this most infamous rebellion, and I did so without one thought to the contrary.—[Cheers.] The enrollment bill came up—the bill for the enrollment of every white male citizen in the country, which was to provide a draft for the strengthening of our armies, and I determined to vote for it and did so. The amendment was offered to enroll every able bodied negro between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. There was no question as to the right of the Government to enroll them. All admitted the right; the most able lawyers admitted it as a proposition no man could deny. The proposition was made to pay to loyal owners \$300 for every slave sent into the armies. I sustained the entire measure and voted for it, [great applause.] Already have the States of Maryland, Missouri and Kentucky given their slaves by the hundreds and thousands to the army. The Government has the right and the power to take them, and the great loss we have already incurred in slaves is a warning to us to take now what we will never again be able to get for them. They are not worth, to-day, more than \$250 apiece, and yet every loyal man will obtain the \$300 from the Government. Some men will say that this act enforced would be a violation of the Constitution of the Commonwealth. But I defy any man to point out a clause in the Constitution of the State or a single scratch of the pen prohibiting it. What! do you tell me that it is right to tear the boy from his mother, the father from his family, the laborer from his employer, the farmer from his field and throw them into the jaws of death, and yet that it is 'unconstitutional' to use the negro in the same manner? Is it right, I say, that this should be done, simply that you may lie back in luxury and ease with twenty or thirty negroes to do your bidding? [Cries of 'No, No.'] I say that this country is for white people as well as for the negro. [Laughter.] And I would just as soon see a negro facing death with a musket in his hand, or digging in the trenches, as to see a white man in the same position. [Great applause.]

There can be no doubt that the cause of unconditional Unionism is gaining ground in Kentucky every day. It was but recently that Kentucky was on the threshold of a rebellion inaugurated by her State executive against the Government of the United States. Governor Bramlette had prepared a proclamation invoking resistance to the enrollment of the blacks, and pledging the support of the whole power of the State. Now we learn from Washington that the Governor has practically withdrawn his objections to the enrollment in question, while the speech of Green Clay Smith shows that the true men of Kentucky have at last found a brave and able leader. They have also a sound newspaper organ in the old Frankfort Commonwealth. We are now hopeful of the political future of Kentucky.—The Guthries and Prentices will not be allowed to have things their own way during the coming summer. Green Clay Smith and others who think as he does will attend the Baltimore Convention and do all they can to carry Kentucky for the Union nominee.

CAIRO, March 26.—There are reports circulated here this morning, that the rebels under Gen. Forrest, attacked Paducah, Ky., fifty miles above here, yesterday; and burned part of the town, but as telegraphic communication is cut off, no authentic information could be obtained.

The steamer Ialana, from Nashville, passed Paducah at 5 o'clock, this morning, and the Joseph Pearce, which passed two hours later, brings the following account of the affair:—

Gen. Forrest, with an estimated force of 5,000, captured the place at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, sacked and fired the city. Col. Hicks, commanding the post, occupied the fort below the city, with about 800 men. The rebels made four assaults on the fort, and were repulsed each time. Three of our gunboats opened on the city during its occupation by the enemy, much of which was burned, including the Marine Railway, the steamer Arizona, and the wharf boat.

About 3000 inhabitants of the city moved across the river upon learning of the approach of the rebels. When the Pearce passed at 7 o'clock in the morning the enemy had left. The people are returning to the city and the fires are dying out.

The amount of public and private property captured is unknown at present, but is supposed to be large. Our loss is 12 killed and 40 wounded. Two hundred and fifty to three hundred rebels are reported killed, among whom is Gen. Thompson. Twenty-five houses around the fort were destroyed by our troops, they being used as a screen for the rebel sharpshooters. The headquarters and Government storehouses were burned by the enemy.

Your reporter has gone to Paducah, and will furnish correct information as soon as possible.

DENMARK.—We learn by the last intelligence from Europe that Denmark has consented to the proposed Conference of European powers. The German Powers have not yet consented. The war meanwhile goes on.

Arrest of a Deserving Consort in Canada—How the Thing was Done.

A young man named John E. Force, who, previous to the rebellion, had filled one of the most lucrative offices in the gift of the people of Luzerne county, was among the first to offer his services, and by duplicity he managed to get a commission as first Lieutenant. While in Harrisburg he flourished immensely in Copperhead circles, but his calibre was soon measured, and he was discharged—not that he was deserving of an honorable discharge, but solely to get rid of him. Returning to Wilkesbarre, he found special pleasure in denouncing the Government and inciting resistance to the draft. This was in 1863, and in the conscription then being made, Force was drafted. Immediately he then set to work to render the draft odious, by issuing all sorts of printed appeals to the people drafted, urging them to resist the officers or fly to Canada, where they would be out of the reach of "the Lincoln despotism." Having created all the mischief possible, Force himself left Luzerne county, going direct to Canada.

Detective Franklin, by order of the Provost Marshal at Harrisburg, started to Canada, on the delicate business of finding Force, and enticing him back to the land he had disgraced, that he might receive the punishment due to traitors. Learning that large numbers of deserters from the American army were rendezvoused at St. Catharines, Canada West, officer Franklin took the cars for that locality. He reached St. Catharines on the 30th of January, 1864. After securing lodgings and announcing himself as a deserter from the Federal army, he soon fell in with Force. As their acquaintance was ripened into a sort of friendship, and as mutual sympathy was created from what appeared as like hardships borne by each, the confidence of Force in Franklin became unbounded. Franklin stated that he was the owner of a valuable printing office in Ohio, which his wife was about to sell, and then he, his wife and her sister, intended to proceed to Australia, where they would be free from the tyrannies of the Yankee Government. All this time Franklin was receiving letters which purported to come from his wife. These letters were written by Franklin himself and dispatched to Buffalo, and then re-mailed as if they had come from the ideal wife of the detective. As Franklin received these letters in Canada, he read them to Force, breathing great affection, and entering heartily into the plan of removing to Australia. Force was led to believe as he read these letters, that "Mrs. Franklin" was one of the best of wives living.

In the course of the correspondence it was made to transpire that Mrs. Franklin had a sister, who became interested in what her brother-in-law had written concerning Lieut. Force. As the correspondence went on, it was arranged that Force should accompany Franklin to Australia, while at the same time it was slyly hinted that the rebel, who are said to be 300 strong, under the command of Sheriff John S. Ohair, entrenched at Golliday Mills, ten miles north-east of Charleston. A portion of the 54th is at Mattoon, that place which threatened from Shelby and Moultrie counties.

Two companies of the Invalid corps, en route for Springfield, have been stopped at Charleston for garrison duty, and pickets are on all the roads.

In the fight on Monday four of the 54th and one Union citizen were killed. Col. Mitchell and two Union citizens were wounded. Two Copperheads were killed and several wounded.

GEN. LEE'S ARMY.—The following is the latest estimate of the strength of Gen. Lee's army. It is from the Philadelphia North American:—

The total forces under Gen. Lee's orders are said to be 130,000 men. Of these 5,000 are commanded by Breckinridge, and have been stationed between Lynchburg and Abingdon, in southwestern Virginia, and guarding the line of the Great Southern Railroad from Lynchburg to Longstreet's pickets in East Tennessee; 5,000 under Imboden and Moseley, have been maintained near the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and in Northern Virginia; 30,000 under Gen. Eizey, at and near to Richmond, at Petersburg, Weldon, Goldsboro', Wilmington, and along the railroad between Richmond and Barclay. Seven divisions of infantry, 70,000 strong; 250 pieces of artillery, with 5,000 artillerymen, and fifteen regiments of cavalry, 15,000 men, or a total of 90,000 men, are under the immediate personal command of Gen. Lee. His entire control includes the 130,000 thus recently disposed. It was estimated that Longstreet had 20,000 when his head quarters were at Bull's Gap, in Eastern Tennessee, and some portion of this force is reported to have entered Virginia.

COPPERHEAD OUTBREAK IN ILLINOIS.

A special dispatch from Charleston, Coles county, Illinois, to the St. Louis Democrat, says the Copperheads came into that town to attend court, yesterday, with guns concealed in wagons and armed with pistols. Some soldiers in the court house yard were drawn into the affray and a general fight instantly occurred. The county sheriff sprang from the judge's stand and commenced firing a pistol at the Union men. Major York, surgeon of the 54th, was one of the first victims. The court men being outnumbered at the court house, ran to the houses and stores for arms and were fired upon from the windows and ten or twelve wounded. Col. Mitchell, of the 54th regiment was wounded badly. Oliver Siler, James Goodrich, William Hart and J. C. Jeffrey's killed.

Several soldiers belonging to the 54th were wounded severely. The 54th regiment arrived in the afternoon and formed on the square. Nelson Wells, the man who fired the first shot, was instantly killed. John Cooper, a prisoner, was shot while trying to escape. Col. Brooks, with a squad of men, went in pursuit of a gang of Copperheads about seven miles distant. Captain Williams has some 20 prominent secesh, implicated in the affair, under guard at the court house. Colonel Mitchell had a conference with Hon. O. B. Ficklin and Judge Constable, who seemed very anxious that steps should be taken to prevent a further outbreak.

M'CLELLAN'S OMITTED DISPATCHES.—It is stated at the War Department that M'Clellan, in his report to the Secretary of War on his operations on the Peninsula, omitted nearly one hundred bombastic dispatches, including his great "push them to the wall" dispatch. It is not at all unlikely that an amended and correct edition of his report will soon be published.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

The Fight at Paducah. St. Louis, March 31.—The Provost Marshal General has ordered the seizure of Pollard's History of the War, Confederate official reports, life of Stonewall Jackson, life of Morgan and his men, and all publications based upon rebel information circulating or for sale in this department.

The steamer Florence sank in the Missouri river on Monday. She was valued at fifty thousand dollars, and insured for twenty-eight thousand. The steamer was laden with bacon, hemp and grain, most of which will be lost.

About two hundred wagons leave St. Joseph daily for Idaho.

The Democrat's Cairo special says the Rebel prisoners state the main body of Forrest's force has been ordered to Jackson, Tennessee.

The troops sent to Paducah returned, Col. Hicks having sufficient force to repulse any attack. During the fight at Paducah the rebels took Mrs. Hammond from the hospital and murdered her—Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Egan and Mrs. McChong were also taken and sent to the front between two fires, and kept there an hour, during which time their dresses were perforated with bullets.

While the rebel flag of truce was moving forward, they disposed their forces for action. Our men had ceased firing for fear women might be killed.

A man was arrested on board the steamer Anderson, having in his possession the freshly taken scalp of a white man, supposed to have belonged to one of our soldiers.

The New Orleans papers of the 23d inst. contains no news.

FORT SMITH, ARK., March 30.—About ten thousand effective troops have gone South from this district. The whole number in the department under Gen. Steele, now moving Southward, is from thirty to thirty-five thousand, sufficient to overpower and rebel forces opposed to them.

A scout from Price's army reports Cabell's command at seven or eight regiments, fifteen miles this side of Washington, seven or eight thousand Texans at Zennepost, Marmaduke and Shelby at Camden. The rebels are well supplied with clothing and importation horses from England have just reached them. A large number of negroes are being concentrated at Camden and Washington, and Quantrel is south of Red river.

Gov. Edwards, of the Choctaw Nation, has issued a proclamation urging the Indians to return to their allegiance to the Government and repossess themselves of what they have lost during the past three years, by associating themselves with the most accused foes that ever polluted their country.

CHICAGO, March 30.—A special to the Chicago Tribune, from Mattoon, Ill., last night, says:—

Four hundred men of the 54th Illinois regiment leave Charleston to-night to attack the rebels, who are said to be 300 strong, under the command of Sheriff John S. Ohair, entrenched at Golliday Mills, ten miles north-east of Charleston.

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In the fight on Monday four of the 54th and one Union citizen were killed. Col. Mitchell and two Union citizens were wounded. Two Copperheads were killed and several wounded.

GEN. LEE'S ARMY.—The following is the latest estimate of the strength of Gen. Lee's army. It is from the Philadelphia North American:—

The total forces under Gen. Lee's orders are said to be 130,000 men. Of these 5,000 are commanded by Breckinridge, and have been stationed between Lynchburg and Abingdon, in southwestern Virginia, and guarding the line of the Great Southern Railroad from Lynchburg to Longstreet's pickets in East Tennessee; 5,000 under Imboden and Moseley, have been maintained near the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and in Northern Virginia; 30,000 under Gen. Eizey, at and near to Richmond, at Petersburg, Weldon, Goldsboro', Wilmington, and along the railroad between Richmond and Barclay. Seven divisions of infantry, 70,000 strong; 250 pieces of artillery, with 5,000 artillerymen, and fifteen regiments of cavalry, 15,000 men, or a total of 90,000 men, are under the immediate personal command of Gen. Lee. His entire control includes the 130,000 thus recently disposed. It was estimated that Longstreet had 20,000 when his head quarters were at Bull's Gap, in Eastern Tennessee, and some portion of this force is reported to have entered Virginia.