

NEWS ITEMS.

We have further official accounts of the operations on the lower Mississippi in the report of the Navy Department made by Admiral Farragut's Secretary. On the 27th ult. Admiral Farragut, in his flag ship Hartford, engaged the batteries at Warrenton, three miles below Vicksburg, passing Warrenton safely. On the 29th a large laden with supplies came down from Milliken's Bend. During that morning the Rebel wharves and battery Vicksburg came floating down the stream; she had been dismantled and abandoned, drifted ashore and was burnt by the Rebels themselves the next night. On the 31st the Switzerland and Albatross, gunboats, joined the Admiral's vessel, and the three proceeded down the river. They looked for the wreck of the Indianola, but were told that it had slid off into deep water and disappeared. Going on to Grand Gulf, the Admiral tried the Rebel batteries there, consisting of two or three heavy guns and a field battery. Our boats were struck a few times, and one man was killed; this was the only damage. The boats anchored below Grand Gulf for the night. On the 1st inst. they went down to the mouth of Red River, destroying a great many flat-boats on the route. They blockaded the Red River until the 6th with no important result, when they went on to Bayou Sara, where they fed the fish of the Mississippi with ten thousand sacks of Rebel corn. At 3 p. m. of that day, the boat-gano to anchor five miles above Port Hudson, batteries, and the messenger floated down in a skiff during the night with the report of the trip. The health of the squadron is good. A dispatch to Cincinnati, giving further particulars of Admiral Porter's gallant running of the Vicksburg gunboat, says: "There are now eleven gunboats between Vicksburg and Port Hudson. The same dispatch states that a portion of the crew of the transport Henry Clay (which was destroyed) were seen to get on board a flat boat, and it is believed that all of them were lost. We understand, from other sources, that all the Clay's men were saved."

We have news from Newbern, N. C., to the 21st. When the steamer left it was rumored that Gen. Foster had received a reinforcement of 5,000 men, and had gone with them and a large force of troops from the Newbern garrison to drive the Rebels from the neighborhood. He had ordered all the Secesh families to leave Newbern. These Secesh sympathizers have been receiving support from the Government in various ways; but the moment they saw Gen. Foster's forces hemmed in by the Rebels and Newbern in danger, they aided the Rebels by giving them all the information they could, and by making arrangements for their hospitable reception in the event of their taking the town. The Rebel batteries on Pamlico River have been shelled and silenced by our gunboats. Gen. Hooker's brigade had arrived from Fort Royal, and the rest of Gen. Foster's troops are so anxious to return that they offer to re-enlist for the war if they can be allowed to return and fight under their old commander.

There is a point and directness of purpose in an order of Gen. Grant to Col. Lynde, that holds mischief to guerrillas and traitors on the western border of Missouri. All guerrillas and outlaws are to be cleared out; when taken prisoners they are not to be treated as belligerents, but—having organized within the Union lines against the Government—are to be considered insurgent, tried on the spot, and if proved guilty, hung or shot forth with. Bands of prowling thieves are to be disbanded, and if again caught in plundering, they also will be shot.

From Rebel reports we hear of the final destruction of the Iron Queen of the West. The Rebels had got her in first-rate trim and ran her down from Red River through the Archangel Lake Grand Lake. Here she was fouled by the Banks Expedition which is now exploring the Bayou Teche region; she had got aground and was attacked by our gunboats at Calumet, which had the good fortune to throw a shell into her and blow her up. One hundred and six Rebel prisoners, including seven commissioned officers, were captured. Among the officers is Capt. Turner, the commander of the Rebel fleet. At the same time the Rebels being hard pressed, voluntarily burnt their gunboat Diana.

The sources from which the Rebels have received early information of intended Union movements seems to have been discovered. James L. Addison, for thirty years a clerk in the War Department, and recently chief clerk in the Adjutant General's office, and his brother, who is chief clerk in the Pension Bureau are the suspected parties. With the help of John Martin, a minister of the Gospel, and his daughter (who has for a lover a Rebel captain,) this villainous machinery has gone on for two years. If the case should be clearly proved against these men, and they are not promptly swung up, sewing hemp is but waste of time.

Anonymous handbills, posted up in Mobile and other Secesh cities, demand "Bread or blood!" It is evident that the poor and common people there are rebbed to keep the soldiers in fighting condition.

The Evening Post publishes a despatch stating that the French in Mexico have been totally defeated. They had lost 8,000 prisoners, and sixty pieces of artillery. Their troops were completely routed.

THE JOURNAL. Coudersport, Pa.

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M. W. McALARNEY, Editor.

STATE CONVENTION.

The Union State Committee have issued the following call for a State Convention:

The loyal citizens of Pennsylvania, without distinction of party, who desire cordially to unite in sustaining the National and State Administrations in their patriotic efforts to suppress a sectional and unholy rebellion against the unity of the Republic, and who desire to support by every power of the Government our heroic brethren in arms, who are braving disease and the peril of the field, to preserve the Union of our fathers, are requested to select the number of delegates equal to the Legislative representation of the State, at such times and in such manner as will best respond to the spirit of this call, to meet in State Convention at Pittsburg, on Wednesday, the 1st day of July next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., on the said day to nominate candidates for the offices of Governor and Judge of the Supreme Court; and to take such measures as may be deemed necessary to strengthen the Government in this season of common peril to a common country. C. P. MARPLE, Chairman of the Union State Committee.

The following resolution was adopted by the Committee: Resolved, That it be recommended to the loyal citizens of Pennsylvania, without distinction of party, to organize in each election district of the State a Union League, for the purpose of sustaining the Government in suppressing this senseless and wicked rebellion, which now seeks to divide and destroy the Republic.

The Southern States do not belong to a few thousand slaveholders; therefore, if they will not yield to the public necessity and consent to wholesome laws of emancipation, the work will be done for them and against them and in spite of them. It is yet for them to choose the way, but the result must come. The people will have it. "Emancipation, in the shortest time consistent with law and good order," is the result. Freedom must be the corner stone of the republic, and the proclamation must be sustained.

[For the Journal.]

Representative A. G. OLMSTED is entitled to the sincere thanks of the tax payers of Potter county. He has succeeded with the co-operation of Senator Wilson of Tioga, in getting an act passed at the late session of the Legislature releasing the payment of the judgment which the State held against Potter county, for costs, in the famous or rather infamous Sharon election case. The judgment principal and interest amounted to about \$2,400. Mr. Olmsted was the Attorney of the Commonwealth in this case and has never received any thing for his services and was awaiting the payment of the judgment to secure his own fee. Of course he loses this for the benefit of the county. Contrast this with the action of the Democratic leaders who have so much to say about the taxes which the people are obliged to pay, to save their Government and country from being destroyed, by the very best friends of these leaders. And they recollect that these very men succeeded in saddling the already overburdened tax-payers of this county with twenty-four hundred dollars costs in this case for the supposed benefit of their party. And farther that they have never lifted a finger to save its being wrung from the hard earned savings of our people—and then—what then—why remember them when you go to election.

HOMER.

Our news from Vicksburg and below continues good. Six more transports have been successful in running the blockade. The Free Stone and A. D. Hines took two double-deck flat boats through the Duckport Canal. These boats are capable of carrying one thousand men each. Transports have returned from the Yazoo expedition. The Rebels under the command of Gen. Wood, were attacked by Brig. Gen. Dodge, with a part of the command of Major Gen. Hurlbut, at Bear Creek, and driven confusedly to Craney Creek.

A dispatch from St. Louis April 26, reports the defeat of the Rebel Gen. Marmaduke. He attacked Gen. McNeil at Cape Girardeau, Mo., on Saturday, with 6,000 men, but was handsomely repulsed after three hours hard fighting. McNeil was re-enforced; he has two gunboats ready, and is confident that he will again whip the Rebels if they venture another attack. A still later dispatch says he has repulsed the foe with severe loss, and that Marmaduke is in retreat—but this seems to refer to the first fight. Our loss is said to be less than 20 killed and wounded.

Gen. Burnside officially reports the expedition to California, Tenn., heretofore named, was entirely successful. Outposts destroyed the town, 100,000 pounds of bacon, 20,000 bush corn and wheat, 100 bbls whisky, 100 bbls flour, a considerable quantity of sugar, coffee, tea, mail and other stores, and 40 boats which had been used in transporting supplies. The Rebels report a loss of 90 killed. We had one wounded and one missing.

A correspondent of the Tribune at Norfolk, Va., writing on Thursday, says: "We are closely hemmed in; the enemy are on all sides of us, save our rear. This is now secure. They have a force of from 30,000 to 40,000 men. It was their original design to attack us the first day when they drove in our pickets, thinking us unprepared, but observing their error on this point, they paused to consider—and still pause."

Letter from Mr. Chase.

The following is a correct copy of the letter of Mr. Chase to the loyal National League, in response to their invitation to attend the Summer meeting:

"WASHINGTON, April 9, 1863. "Gentlemen: Imperative demands on my time compel me to deny myself the gratification of attending the meeting to which you kindly invite me.

"You will meet to send words of cheer to our brave generals and soldiers in the field; to rebuke treason in our midst, giving, in the garb of peace, aid and comfort to treason in the paucity of war; to maintain inviolate the integrity of the national territory and the supremacy of the national constitution and laws; to strengthen the hands and nerve the heart of the President for the great work to which God and the people have called him.— For what worthier purposes can American citizens now assemble?

"It is my fixed faith, gentlemen, that God does not mean that this American republic shall perish. We are tried as by fire, but our country will live. Notwithstanding all the violence and all the uncharitable accusations of traitors and their sympathizers, on this or the other side of the Atlantic, our country will live.

"And while our country lives, slavery, the chief source, and cause, and agent of our ills, will die. The friends of the Union in the South, before rebellion, predicted the destruction of slavery as a consequence of secession, if that madness should prevail. Nothing in my judgment, is more certain than the fulfillment of these predictions. Safe in the States, before rebellion, from all federal interference, slavery has come out from its shelter, under state constitutions and laws, to assail the national life. It will surely die, pierced by its own fangs and stings.

"What matter now how it dies? Whether as a consequence or object of the war what matter? Is this a time to split hairs of logic? To me it seems Providence indicates clearly enough how the end of slavery must come. It comes in rebel slave states by military order, decree or proclamation; not to be disregarded or set aside in any event as a quality, but maintained and executed with perfect good faith to all the enfranchised, and it will come in loyal slave states by the unconstrained action of the people, and their legislatures, aided freely and generously by their brethren of the free states. I may be mistaken in this, but if I am another better way will be revealed.

"Meantime it seems to me very necessary to say distinctly what many yet shrink from saying. The American blacks must be called in this conflict, not as caste, not now, even, as contrabands, but as men. In the free states, and by the proclamation, in the rebel states, they are free men. The Attorney-General, in an opinion which defies refutation, has pronounced these free men citizens of the United States. Let then the example of Andrew Jackson, who did not hesitate to oppose colored regiments to British invasion, be now fearlessly followed. Let these blacks, accustomed, familiar with the country, capable of great endurance, receive suitable military organization, and do their part. We need their good will, and must make them our friends by showing ourselves their friends. We must have them for guides, for scouts, for all military service in camp or field for which they are qualified. Thus employed, from a burden they will become a support, and the hazards, privations, and labors of the white soldiers will be proportionally diminished.

"Some will object, of course. There are always objectors to everything practical. Let experience dispel honest fears and refute captious or disloyal cavil. "Above all, gentlemen, let no doubt rest on our resolution to sustain, with all our hearts and with all our means, the soldiers now in arms for the republic.— Let their ranks be filled up; let their supplies be sufficient and regular; let their pay be sure. Let nothing be wanting to them which can insure activity and efficiency. Let each brave officer and man realize that his country's honor hangs upon him; and, inspired by this thought, let him dare and do all that is possible to be dared and done.

"So, gentlemen, with the blessing of God, will we make a glorious future sure. I see it rising before me—how beautiful and grand! There is not time to speak of it now; but from all quarters of the land comes the voice of the sovereign people, rebuking faction, denouncing treason, and proclaiming the indivisible unity of the republic; and in this Heaven inspired union of the people, for the sake of the Union, is the sure promise of that splendid hereafter.

"With great respect, yours very truly, "S. P. CHASE."

In a private letter accompanying the above Mr. Chase uses the following words, the latter of which may well be adopted as motto by every Loyal National League in the land: "What said the Roman orator when Canthine armed against his country? 'Let war each man think concerning the Republic be inscribed upon his forehead.'"

One of the results of our Marcellusboro victory was the capture of the Confederate tannery in that city, embracing a vast amount of hides and partly tanned leather, sheep pelts, etc., amounting to some 700,000 pieces, and worth more than \$1,500,000.

The insurrection in Poland continues to spread.

The Question Properly Stated.

At a meeting of the Union League of Philadelphia, on Monday evening, March 23d, the members were addressed by speakers from the Border States, whose words had no uncertain sound. Adjutant General Harrington of Delaware, said:

"The line between loyalty and disloyalty had been distinctly drawn. We demand of our citizens that they shall give up every thing which stands in the way of the Government. We would rather be called an Abolitionist than submit to treason and treachery against the Government. We have come to regard slavery as the cause of the rebellion, and it has never been a blessing to us nor any body else. We have found that where slavery is strong, rebellion is strong.

He was happy, he went on to say, to live in such a crisis. He thought that the nation would come out of the trial purer, brighter, holier, and without the stain of slavery upon the flag of the country." [Loud applause.]

Colonel Wilmer, of Kent county, was the next speaker. He announced himself a slaveholder, but he expressed it as his opinion that the political condition of his State was caused by slavery. If the Union could not be restored with slavery, then he would let his own negroes go, and those of others. He was willing that the Legislature of Delaware should pass a measure for the abolition of slavery without compensation. He would rather have the unconditional abolition of slavery in Delaware than that another person should pay for his slaves.

WHICH DEMOCRATIC PARTY.—Ex-Gov. Wright of Indiana, began his response to a serenade in Philadelphia as follows:

"He remarked in opening that a few nights ago a prominent Democratic politician had declared in the street, that if the country were ever to be saved the Democratic party was to be the saviour. He had a word or two to say about the Democratic party. There are now a genuine and a bogus Democratic party in the country, and it was important to know which Democratic party was meant when it was said that the country was to be saved by it. Thomas Jefferson was a Democrat, a genuine Democrat. He had a Vice President by the name of Burr. Burr was inside the Democratic organization and he was considered as good a Democrat as Jefferson. Jackson was a Democrat. He had Calhoun in his Cabinet. Calhoun was considered a Democrat. Stephen A. Douglas was a representative of the genuine Democratic party. John C. Breckinridge was also in a Democratic organization. It would be well to know whether the auditor alluded to was a follower of Jackson, Jefferson, or Douglas, or was he a follower of Burr, Calhoun and Breckinridge. (Applause.) When you hear men talking about the Democratic party saving this country, ask them whether they mean the genuine or bogus Democratic party. There can be no true Democrat, but the war Democrat." (Applause.)

Three million six hundred thousand dollars worth of internal revenue stamps have been sold up to the present month. During the month of March 5,300,000 pennies were coined at the Philadelphia Mint. By whom have they all been absorbed? The New York city banks now hold nearly forty millions in gold—a sum twice as large as they would hold if they were making specie payments. A rebel lady recently arrested near Washington, on her way to Dixie, had \$30,000 in treasury 6 percent certificates quitted in her underclothes. The patriotic women of Hartford, Conn., have formed a Loyal League, with the view of aiding, by all the means in their power, in the suppression of the rebellion. The English papers state that the royal plate of the Prince of Wales' marriage breakfast table was of the value of ten millions of dollars. Hereafter all persons arrested for disloyal sentiments, and refusing to take the oath of allegiance, will be sent to the rebel States. Among the prisoners captured by the negro regiment at Jacksonville, was a negro in law of that notorious traitor and accomplished thief, John B. Floyd. The Richmond Enquirer pertinently asks why Cox, Vallandigham & Co. don't stop talking against the Putitans and go to fighting against them. The President has informed the delegation of Quakers, who waited upon him, that he has no discretion in the matter of exemptions under the Conscription Act. The copper tips now so extensively used for children's shoes are manufactured at Lewistown, Maine. Three million pairs of tips, are turned out annually at the factory. The great and rich state of Illinois sells negro men for "high misdemeanor." These "misdemeanors" consist of staying in the state as long as ten days. No nearer deed is easily conceivable.

The rebel prisoners in Camp Douglas at Chicago die at the rate of fifteen per day. About the same number take the oath of allegiance daily. The small pox prevails fearfully.

The insurrection in Poland continues to spread.

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N. B. The pay for the Goods must be on hand when the Goods are delivered, as we are determined to live to the motto of "Pay as You Go."

Just one thing more. The judgments notes and book accounts which we have on hand must be settled and closed up immediately or we fear they will be increased faster than the usual rate of interest.

Dec 11.