

THE PILOT.



GREENCASTLE:

Tuesday Morning, March 31, 1863.

MONEY WANTED.

As the 1st of April is at hand, we would be pleased if those who can make it suit—and we hope all who are indebted can—would call and pay their arrears, on or before Wednesday next.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THE PAPERS.

Religious papers and tracts might be made of much more use than they are at present if the subscribers, after a careful reading of them, would send such periodicals to the soldiers.—Lying in camp week after week, accustomed to the same dull routine of duty, anything in the shape of reading matter is highly prized. Local papers are almost as welcome as letters.—Now, we conceive that just here, much good might be done by their christian friends at home. Every christian family gets, or should get, at least one religious paper. Now, after the pages of these papers are read by every one about the house, what is then done with them? Sometimes they are filed away for future reference—sometimes put away in some old chest only to be brought to light at the first applebutter boiling, to be used by the good house wife in covering the crocks. Now, how much better would it be to put these periodicals in the hands of the soldiers. Shall they be put away on garrets, while so much good might be done by them in the army.

Money is of no use, unless kept in circulation, so religious truth can produce no good if kept concealed. The press is mightier than the pulpit. Let the people think of this, and we are sure the soldiers will have plenty of good and profitable reading matter. It will fit them for the perils of battle—for death itself. Think, oh think, how grateful the wounded and sick in our numerous hospitals, will be; their burdens will be lightened, and their thoughts be turned in the proper channel to obtain salvation and eternal life.

UNITY OF SENTIMENT.

Since Congress has adjourned, and local elections are over, we trust that party dissensions will be healed for a time at least. We are on the eve of stirring events. We will soon be called upon to witness a bloody drama, the like of which the world has never known. If our country is to be preserved, and the Union and the Constitution maintained, the work, we think, must be done before the next twelve months have revolved. Recent intelligence from the so-called Southern Confederacy, destroys all hopes of a peaceful settlement of our national difficulties, which some may have entertained. The southern leaders will be content with nothing but the separation of the country and recognition of their government. The only alternative left is, that of war. This the loyal people of all sections of our country believe. Whatever opinions some may have held heretofore, it is now the settled conviction of almost every one that the war must go on, and in order to insure the success of the Union cause it must be prosecuted with vigor. Honest differences of opinion may arise in regard to essentials. It is quite reasonable to suppose that such will be the case. It is impossible to bring people to think precisely in the same channels that their neighbors do. But with reference to the main object of the war—the crushing of the rebellion—all citizens of the loyal States should be united. We earnestly hope that the acrimonious discussion engaged in by the press and politicians, will now cease.

While such angry disputations can do no good, they may nevertheless be productive of much harm, in presenting to the foes of our country the semblance of a division in the North, and the probability of resistance to the Federal authorities. We do not believe that this event will take place. We have more faith in the sound, common sense of the people. It would be much better, however, if the newspapers, on all sides, would conduct their debates in a less harsh and less objectionable manner. If this were done, we conceive a great moral support would be given the government, in the unity of sentiment of three-fourths of the people of the North, in regard to the chief and original purpose of the war—the suppression of the rebellion.

Above all, let us not be drawn into the folly of the Jewish sedition. While the proud Roman legions were battling at the gates of Jerusalem, the people were hopelessly divided, some crying for one leader and some for another, and the Holy City fell a prey to her ruthless enemy. Let this be a warning to us. A desperate foe is now trying to destroy our government, and let us be careful that party feuds do not open the gates to our enemies.

We owe it to the memory of our fathers, to the patriots who have fallen in battle, and to our friends and the soldiers of the Republic, now in the field, to stand by the "Union and the Constitution," "and the good old flag."

THE FRANKLIN FIGHT.

As the history of the fight at Franklin, Tenn., is being revealed, we are gratified to learn that Brig. Gen. C. C. Gilbert is relieved from the blame of the failure of the expedition under Col. Coburn. As we are informed, the reconnaissance was undertaken against Gen. G.'s advice, against a force which he had reason to believe was larger than the whole of his command; that the brigade under Coburn, when withdrawn, left him so weakened that it was impossible to afford the assistance which it is generally believed he should have sent.

When the fight began between Colonel Coburn and the rebels, with the enthusiasm and ardor peculiar to volunteers, our men rushed on, regardless of danger, carrying the enemy before them. The rebels seemed to be completely whipped, running for their lives, throwing away their guns, and every evidence of complete demoralization. This proved to be strategy on the part of the enemy—for the impetuosity of our men, as well as their commanders, led them to follow further than prudence would dictate. Just where the disaster took place, the roads came together, in a very dense cedar wood. Our men took the middle road, neglecting to shell the woods or reconnoiter the side roads, but taking the center road, were completely surrounded by the enemy, emerging from the side roads and woods on either side, so that when Coburn determined to return, he found batteries planted on either side to cut off his retreat. General Granger, who was in command of all the forces on that line, exculpates General Gilbert entirely of all blame.—*Louisville (Ky.) Democrat.*

LETTER FROM THE ARMY.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, }
March 21, 1863.

DEAR PILOT:—Last Tuesday, 17th inst., was a beautiful day. A wafting zephyr, almost sufficiently violent to be denominated a wind, yet pleasant in its spring-like coolness, oscillated the nude boughs of the sparse oaks yet standing "solitary and alone" in this vicinity. The migrating birds, as northward-bound, they sailed above us, gave occasional chirps to remind us of approaching spring; and frequently stopping to rest their wearied pinions, in groups, carolled those familiar warbles which suggests to one, such sweet thoughts of transient innocence and solemnity! With our arms akimbo, and our rifle at an order, we were standing sentinel over a small squad of prisoners. The guard was chatting familiarly with the guarded, when a roar, like distant thunder, suddenly echoed and re-echoed through the vales contiguous to the historic Rappahannock. Directly it was followed by another; and soon another, then another. It was certainly artillery firing, and its irregularity told too plainly that it was no salute. But we finally resigned ourselves to patience, waiting for morrow to explain the cause of this unexpected interruption of the prolonged monotony of camp life in the army of the Potomac. Morrow came, and with it the desired explanation. It was a cavalry raid across "the river" by Gen. Averill. Of its brilliancy and complete success, you will be made acquainted before this reaches you. It was one of the most daring cavalry fights that ever occurred on this Continent, and perhaps stands only second in the general category of the world's wars! It was a real hand to hand, sabre contest, and most of the wounds were those made by blades.

Gen. Averill, after reconnoitering on this side, crossed the river at Kelly's Ford. The water was very high, and the ammunition had to be carried across in the feed bags of the horses. After the rebel dismounted sharpshooters were dispersed, and the abatis there constructed, removed our entire force successfully crossed over, and then advanced. They encountered Fitzhugh Lee's famous brigade, engaged them and completely routed them. But what the need of our stating particulars with which the reader is as well acquainted as ourselves? Gen. Averill having desecrated rebel fortification, he "smelt around awhile and conceiving he discovered 'a mice,'" as Gen. Meade expressed it, he returned and recrossed the river.

It is said that Capt. Moore, of Hooker's staff, who accompanied the expedition, engaged singly a rebel officer. By his superior proficiency in fencing he successfully parried all the rebel's hasty and violent visitations; and when a convenient opportunity presented itself, offended a thrust that completely bisected the hand of his opponent. Gen. Averill, too, with one blow, decapitated a rebel, who, with sinister intentions, boldly approached him. Many other interesting particulars are told of this raid, which the want of room will not admit us to enumerate here. A stigma of cowardice has been resting on the cavalry arm of our service, which we hope this fight will effectually and forever remove. The rebel mounted dare-devils, too, who so frequently harass our lines, and plunder our stores, have received a merited punishment for their maraudings, and a rebuke to their presumed unrivalled courage, which, we think, will render these dreaded visits less frequent in the future.

We must say something about the ingenuity of the "yankee," as manifested by the various

schemes in which he undertakes to send whiskey to his friends in the army. It is well known that "whiskey" is an article "contraband of war," while all other "good things," if sent, are dutifully transmitted. Hence, all boxes, before delivered are examined, to see whether they contain any of this contraband article, and all boxes, too, are brought to Headquarters where this examination is executed; and, moreover, it is the duty of the Provost Guard to perform the manual labor connected with the business. Hence, we are witness to all that takes place. One day after opening a box, we discovered amongst its contents, a large fluid can, with the following, "Dr. Staff's Blood Purifier and Fever Bitters. Directions:—Take a half cup full every morning, and if a warm day repeat the dose before dinner," (Geo. ——— thinks, whether warm or cold, it ought to be taken before every meal, and three times between times). We attracted the sergeant's attention to this can, who, after smiling at its size and label, ordered the bayonet to perforate it. It was down, and what sweet-scented "Bitters!" Remarkable chemist, Dr. Staff! The can was confiscated. On another occasion a mysterious bladder was found, and on examination contained the "contraband article."—Sometimes a "fat-bellied" bottle is found in a large roll of butter. Sometimes baked in a cake, and sometimes sewed up in some piece of vesture. Does the reader ask—what becomes of the whiskey? They say it is sent to the Hospitals; that is, all I can say.

All kind of rumors are afloat respecting the nine months' men. One day we are going home the 1st of April, to be subjected to the impending conscription. The next, all detached men are to be called in, to increase the number for an approaching battle. To-day the whole army is soon to take shipping, the 5th corps remaining in the recently constructed forts to guard the railroad, the dock and Government buildings about Acquia landing.

It is snowing, and altogether it is a dreary day.

A number of suffering mules, with closely-drawn feet, and tails stuck between their rear legs, are simultaneously braying the serg's call, and we must attend the cry.

Ever,

M. D. R.

THE WAR ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

Official News from the Fleet.

Washington, March 25.—The following despatches were received at the War Department this morning:—

Cairo, March 24.—Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:—I have just received a communication from Lieutenant-Commander K. R. Breeze, dated Black Hawk, March 20. The Hartford is below Warrenton. [Warrenton is a few miles below Vicksburg.]

Admiral Farragut's Secretary came on board this morning, on his way to Admiral Porter. It will take him a week, at least, to communicate and get back. He says the Hartford passed the fort at Port Hudson, but the other vessels were repulsed, and one they saw in flames. It is believed that the Mississippi was the ship destroyed.

A. M. PENNOCK,

Fleet Captain Commanding Squadron.

The Yazoo Expedition.

Cairo, Ill., March 24, 7-50 P. M.—Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:—I have just received a communication from Lieut. Commander K. R. Breeze, dated Black Hawk, March 19th. The Admiral has got through Steel's and the Black Bayou with five ironclads, and with the Price into Deer Creek, and is making all haste for the Yazoo River.—Doubtless he is there now.

General Sherman and his troops are following him up.

A. M. PENNOCK,

Fleet Captain and Commander of Station.

Cincinnati, March 25.—The Yazoo expedition has come to a stand still. The *Commercial's* special, from Greenwood, says the *Chili-cotte*, in the last engagement, was temporarily disabled by shot battering the slides to her port-holes so that they could not be moved.

Battery Wilson has been dismounted, and the gun returned to the gun-boat. The De Kalb and our forces are acting on the defensive.

Fort Pemberton is being strengthened by the Rebels, but is nearly under water, and the widening of the breach in the levee at the head of Yazoo Pass, it is thought, will drown them out completely. That work is being done by troops from Helena.

Quimby's Division was on Coldwater River on the 20th, and with good weather would reach Greenwood in two days. The guerrillas trouble the boats in that river and the Tallahatchie, and killed three or four soldiers. The most important intelligence is the discovery of a new pass from the Mississippi through the Sun Flower into the Yazoo River. Through this a large force can be thrown on Yazoo City, which being taken they can go up the Tallahatchie to Greenwood, and co-operate in the reduction of Fort Pemberton.

The Monitor gun-boat Lafayette is reported up the Yazoo above Haines' Bluff. Other gun-boats have gone up. Stirring news is expected from that quarter.

The reported evacuation of Hains' Bluff is not credited. The Rebels will not abandon that till forced to, or after deciding to evacuate Vicksburg.

Confirmation of the Union Fleet Passing Port Hudson.

Cairo, March 25.—Later news from Vicksburg confirms the report of the arrival of the United States gunboats Hartford and Albatross, of Admiral Farragut's fleet, at the mouth of the canal on the 20th instant.

An officer from on board had arrived at General Grant's head-quarters, bringing despatches. Seven of Admiral Farragut's boats had run the blockade of Port Hudson. After coming up for some distance all but two returned. They had probably gone to the mouth of the Red river.

General Banks had not yet come up with his land attack when the fleet ran the blockade. The boats will pass into Lake Providence as soon as the current in that direction permits.

Reports from Greenwood on Wednesday afternoon, state that the fight had not yet been renewed. Both parties were making active demonstrations. The Rebels were mounting new guns and otherwise strengthening their position.

300 Rebels Killed and Wounded and 500 Hundred Captured.

The Nashville *Union*, of March 22, says:—We learn that the engineer of the freight train which arrived late yesterday evening, after the arrival of the passenger train, stated that there was more or less skirmishing on our front yesterday, in which one of our divisions was engaged. Late in the day a lot of prisoners, said to be five hundred in number, were brought in, and three hundred Rebels were said to have been killed and wounded.

Our army is said to be in splendid condition, and impregably fortified. The correspondent of the Cincinnati *Times*, who came up on the passenger train from Murfreesboro' yesterday, confirms the report of the skirmishing, and informs us that a battle was in all probability now progressing, far more terrible than the previous one. Either a bloody struggle is going on, or the Rebels are attempting to make a retreat by feigning an attack.

A Raid in Tennessee.

A party of guerrillas, last week, made a raid on the Railroad north of Grand Junction, Tennessee, tore up the track, destroyed cars, captured a few prisoners, and then ran.

Nashville, March 25.—A Rebel cavalry force under Forrest, Wheeler and Wharton, crossed Harpeth river this morning, six miles above Franklin, and a part of the Rebel force attacked our troops at Brentwood, nine miles from Nashville, on the Franklin road. Our troops, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bloodgood, consisted of part of the Thirty-third Indiana, and Twenty-second and Nineteenth Wisconsin regiments, in all 300 men. After a feeble resistance, with only one man killed and four wounded, they surrendered to the enemy, and all the Government property was captured.

General Green Clay Smith, who was sent to Franklin, came up with the Rebel force, and pursued them to within six miles west of Brentwood, when he met the entire Confederate force, numbering 5000. Although he had only 500 men he succeeded in retaking all the wagons and ammunition, but, being attacked by superior numbers, he was compelled to destroy them. He then fell back when reinforcements reached him. The Rebels had, in the meantime decamped.

We lost an officer and about fifteen men, killed, wounded and missing. The Rebels lost some fifteen killed and wounded, and over fifty prisoners have been brought in.

The Confederate Cavalry have been within four miles of this City, on the Harding and Charlotte pike, to-day.

Louisville, March 25.—We have had the usual quantity of exciting rumors respecting Rebel movements to-day, but none of them are traceable to any authentic source, and no advices have been received at Head-quarters of any change in the Rebel States since last night.

The *Democrat* says the Rebels, in large force, under Breckinridge, are at Harrodsburg, and that the United States forces, under Gen. Carter, are falling back on Frankfort.

Breckinridge is reported to have issued a proclamation, stating his intention of enforcing the Southern Conscription Act, and rumor says that act is being rigidly enforced in those portions of Kentucky by the Rebel forces.

Death of General E. V. Sumner.

Syracuse, March 21.—Major General E. V. Sumner died this morning at the residence of his son-in-law, Colonel Teall, of congestion of the lungs. He was sick for a few days only.

SKETCH OF GENERAL SUMNER.

General Edwin V. Sumner was a native of Boston. He entered the army as Second Lieutenant of Infantry March 3d, 1819; was promoted to First Lieutenancy in 1823; appointed Assistant Commissary of Subsistence in 1828; promoted to a Captaincy of Dragoons in 1833, and appointed Major of the Second Dragoons

in 1846. He received a brevet as Lieutenant Colonel for his conduct at Cerro Gordo, where he commanded the Mounted Rifle Regiment, and was wounded. He recovered rapidly and took part in the subsequent battles in Mexico, receiving a brevet as Colonel for his gallantry at Molino del Rey. In 1848 he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the First Dragoons, and in 1855 Colonel of the First Cavalry. In 1857 he commanded and was distinguished in an expedition against the Cheyenne Indians in Kansas. He was the first Brigadier General in the regular army appointed by President Lincoln, having received his commission March 16th, 1861. Soon afterwards he was made a Major General of Volunteers. He commanded a division and afterwards a corps in the Army of the Potomac, and took a prominent part in all the great battles it was engaged in. After the battle of Fredericksburg, he was relieved at his own request, and a few days ago was assigned to a very important command west of the Mississippi. He was a thorough soldier, and had probably seen more hard service than any officer of his age living. By his death the nation loses one of its best Generals.

HIS LAST ORDER.

WAR DEPT ADJ. GEN.'S OFFICE, }
Washington, March 19, 1863. }

It is a remarkable fact, that the following official order, appointed Gen. Sumner to succeed Gen. Curtis, is published for the first time in the journals, to-day, simultaneously almost with the reception of the news of his death:

Official General Orders, No. 57.—First, Major General Samuel R. Curtis, United States Volunteers, is relieved from command of the Department of the Missouri. Second, Major General Edwin V. Sumner, United States Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Department of the Missouri.

By order of the Secretary of War.

L. THOMAS, Adjutant General.

PASSING EVENTS.

Files of The Pilot.—We have several files of last year's *Pilot*, which we will sell cheap.

Counterfeit.—We saw the other day a new counterfeit \$20 note on the "Bank of Delaware." It is not mentioned in the Detectors.

At Home.—Lieut. Rowe, of company K, 126th P. V., was at home last week. The hardships of the campaign have not impaired his health. He looks heartier than ever.

The remains of Orderly Sergt. S. D. Hoover, of company A, 13th Reg. I. O. V. U., was taken through this place, on last Friday to Waynesboro', where he formerly resided. He was killed, we believe, at the battle of Stone River, Tenn.

The action of the Town Council in regard to the extension of the Borough, was not approved by the Court, at the special term held on the 26th inst. The ground taken by the Court, we believe, that there was not the requisite number of petitioners residing in those parts of the township proposed to be added to the Borough.

Deserters.—A large squad of deserters from the Federal Army, were taken through on the cars from Hagerstown, where they had been collected, from time to time by the Provost Guard. These men disgraced the uniform they wore, not only by deserting, but denouncing the Government, and as the cars moved off cheering lustily for Jeff Davis. We hope they will get their deserts.

Schools.—The following teachers will open Summer Schools, at the places and dates named:—Mr. S. H. EAY, Western School House, 13th o April. Mr. Geo. H. GERTZ, Irwin's new building, middle of April. Miss M. G. BURGESS, Ger. Ref. Lecture room, March 25th. Miss A. E. HADY, S. W. School House, Tuesday, April 7th. Miss J. DAVISON, S. E. School House April 6th. Miss ANNA FLEMING, residence of her parents on North Carlisle Street. Miss MARTHA HAYS, Antrim School House April —.

Travel and Trade Restricted.—From all we can learn, we believe that travel to points south of the Potomac has been interdicted.

We have been told that all boats, skiffs and light craft of whatever sort found along the river have been destroyed by military authority. This has doubtless been done to put an end to the smuggling of goods across the river. It is said that an illicit trade of this kind has been carried on at some points ever since the commencement of the rebellion. The people of "Dixey" will realize more fully than ever the horrors of war.

Colored Recruits.—T. A. CHESTER, Recruiting Sergeant, took from this place, on Saturday last, seven colored recruits for Gov. ANDREWS' Massachusetts Colored Brigade.—*Repository & Transcript.*

General C. T. Campbell.—This gentleman, accompanied by Lieut. M. W. Houser, arrived last week. He is getting well of his wounds, but appears to be somewhat thinner in flesh than usual. We are pleased to inform our readers that his appointment, as Brigadier General, has been confirmed recently. No one was more deserving of promotion than he.—*Ibid.*

At a meeting of the Teachers District Institute of the township of Antrim and Borough of Greencastle, the President appointed a committee to draft and report a series of resolutions on the state and condition of the country. The committee at the next regular meeting submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted: WHEREAS, Our beloved and once happy country has hitherto been to us all a kind and nourishing parent, under whose liberal and beneficent hand we have enjoyed all the immunities and privileges that a country could bestow upon its people: And whereas, That country is now struggling with one of the most unholly, inhuman, and unright-