

# Daily Journal.

## OFFICIAL REPORT

*Of the Affair between the Steamer and the Sewell's Point Battery.*

WASHINGTON, May 23.

The following official report of the action between the U. S. steamer *Star* and the *Sewell's Point Battery* on the 19th inst., has just been received.

U. S. STEAMER *STAR*, May 19.  
*Flag-Officer S. H. Stringham, Commander of the Home Squadron:*

From the time I reported to you yesterday I kept a strict watch on the movements of the enemy in and about the *Sewell's Point Battery*. Several noises were heard during the night, but not distinct enough for me to trace them. At half-past five p. m. I heard distinct blows, as if from an axe securing timber platforms for gun-carriages inside of the embrasures, and immediately I ordered a shot to be fired over them. The rebels immediately hoisted a white flag, with some design on it, and fired a shot that cut the fore spencer guys near the gaff. I immediately went to quarters, and returned their fire, which was continued by them. I expended fifteen round of grape, twelve ten-inch shot, thirty-two ten-inch shell, ten shell for thirty-two pounders, and forty-five thirty-two pound shot; making a total of one hundred and fourteen shots, which I think did some execution among the rebels. I only desisted for want of ammunition, having only five eight-pound charges remaining for the pivot-gun. I regret that want of ammunition compelled me to retire, as I am satisfied I could have silenced the battery in a short time.

I cannot too highly praise the courage and patriotism of the officers and men under my command. They acted nobly, and with great coolness, as the repeated frings above will show. The action continued from 5.30 to 6.35 p. m., a duration of one hour and fifteen minutes.

The battery is masked, thirteen embrasures having been erected behind a sand bank. The rebels had three rifled cannons, and fired several volleys of Minie balls, which struck the ship. The ship was struck five times by the rifled cannon shot, in the hull and upper works. The damage can be repaired by ourselves.

I herewith enclose the report of the medical officer of the ship, by which you will perceive that two men were slightly wounded during the action.

I cannot close this communication without calling the attention of the Flag-Officer to the valuable services of Lieutenant Daniel L. Brains, who had charge of our pivot-gun, and who, during the whole action, displayed great coolness and skill in the management.

HENRY EAGLE, Commander.

A PATRIOTIC TENNESSEE MATRON.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, writes:

Mrs. Cooley, an old lady from East Tennessee, arrived here yesterday, traveling a distance of 1,500 miles for the purpose of seeing the President and his Cabinet in relation to our national troubles. She reports a terrible state of affairs in her section of the State; says there are but few Union men, and that they are daily in dread of being murdered by the infuriated mobs continually rising there. Mrs. C. hopes to return immediately, and by telling the truth, to convince many of her neighbors of the errors of their ways. She is delighted with her visit, and says the people of East Tennessee have no conception of the great unanimity and determination of the Northern people.

## Yancey Heard From.

The *Chicago Tribune* publishes the following letter, from which it appears that Yancey "still lives."

DECATUR, Ill., May 16, '61.

"At Effingham I heard an extract read from a letter from Mr. Yancey to a citizen of that county, in which this arch traitor was rejoicing in the belief that the North is full of men like himself. He said that the South had for some time past been organizing in our prominent northern cities 'Golden Circles'; that these circles, to a man, were sworn to the interests and designs of the Southern Confederacy; that in New York city there were twelve thousand enrolled, and a like proportion in Philadelphia, Boston, Albany, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago, *et. al.* He also encouraged his old friends in this state to believe that these associations would rally to the support of the Confederate army on call—that they were fully equipped and posted in all that was doing and wanted.

"This to me looks much like a game of brag, and I could not even believe that the letter was genuine; but whether it is or, it is in full accord with the designs of these traitors and their efforts, and it would not be amiss to keep an eye upon all such who have hitherto been known to have been connected with this secret treasonable compact."

MR. LINCOLN'S BENEVOLENCE.—The President, while seated in his new barouche with Mr. Cameron, awaiting Mr. Chase, at the Treasury Department, to proceed to the funeral of Col. Vosburg, espied, on the steps of that building, a poor looking, deformed young man, with crutches, whom he called to his side and questioned as to his condition. The lad responded promptly to the Presidential queries, and, with tears of joy, pocketed a gold piece which Mr. Lincoln gave him—probably the first he had ever possessed. Such acts of liberality and disinterested charity are frequently practised by our executive, who can never look upon distress without attempting to relieve it.—*Wash. Cor. Phil. Press.*

THE SOUTHERN LOAN IN EUROPE.—A good story is current in Wall street, resting on the authority of a passenger who returned by the Persia. The commissioners of the Southern Confederacy had an interview with a partner of the principal American banking house in London, on the contemplated loan. After hearing all they had to say on the matter, he quietly asked: "What States do you represent?" The seven were enumerated. "Well, gentlemen," says he, "when you are prepared to pay the honest debts already incurred, and repudiated by Florida, Mississippi, and Arkansas, you may have my assistance in incurring new obligations."

## Troops Sent to Assist the Settlers.

From the Davenport (Iowa) Gazette.

The people of Page and Fremont counties, on the borders are in great alarm. The Missourians close by are fully organizing, have their blue Lodges in every neighborhood, are well armed, and making threatening demonstrations. Citizens of Page and Fremont counties have appealed to the Governor for aid. He has sent to their assistance Captain G. M. Dodge, of Council Bluffs, with a company of forty men, and will at once forward arms. Mr. W. H. Kin-man, of Council Bluffs, was last night in Davenport, and will go to Iowa City this morning to get the piece of artillery there, and at once forward it and the cavalry accoutrements at Iowa City to Des Moines, to be sent thence to the borders.

## Circular to Express Agents.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN EXPRESS CO. }  
BUFFALO, May 21, 1861.

TO AGENTS.—You are hereby requested not to receive for transportation by this company, express matter of any description, destined for any point, or person, in either of the States which claim to have seceded from the Union; you are not to receive any arms, warlike equipments, military stores, or supplies, for transportation out of the State in which your office is located, without the written consent of some officer of such State, or the United States. In case any such property, or any goods contraband of war, come into your possession, as agent of this company, you will at once give notice thereof, by telegraph and by letter, to the Superintendent of the division in which your office is located, and retain such property subject to his instruction.

Attempts have been made to smuggle goods contraband of war, over the lines of this Company, to points in or near to the border of some of the rebel States. It is our duty and our determination, as loyal citizens, to detect and expose all such disloyal acts; the Managers of this Company, therefore, request all of its superintendents, agents, messengers and other employees, to be diligent in detecting, and faithful in reporting every attempt made to render aid and comfort to the enemy, through the agency of this Company. Any known delinquency in any of these respects, on the part of an employee of this Company, will be cause of immediate dismissal from its employment. Yours, respectfully,

LIVINGSTON, FARGO & CO.

The Hartford Courant thus speaks of the sanguinary and cannibalistic character which the Southern press is wont to give to the present war.

"Such is to be the character of the warfare. The Tribune corps, if they are caught, will probably be substituted for Virginia oysters. Henry A. Wise will probably invite his friends to a barbecue of Wendell Phillips. Jeff. Davis, as he is now reported to be ill, will have to be contented with a little weak Garrison soup. Roger A. Pryor will use a bowie-knife to carve up some roasted Potter; and the whole will be followed by a desert of such delicate food as some young and tender abolitionists will afford. Oh such jolly feasts those rebels will have! The ambrosia and nectar of the Gods will be but dry bread and dish-water to the symposium for which the Southern palate craves. And unless the North immediately decide by a unanimous vote that it is the duty of nineteen millions of people to adopt a course of living which shall put our bodies in the most superior condition for being eaten, unless each man regards it as a religious obligation to make himself as fat as possible within thirty days, we shall hear one universal complaint South of Mason and Dixon's line that we are depriving them of their rights.

THE "FLOATING BATTERY."—The Charleston correspondent of the Philadelphia American says of the famous floating battery: About a certain "floating battery"—the machine we built to take Sumter. It leaked. It was placed on a mud bar near Sullivan's Island; Major Anderson fired a few shots at it. After the "glorious victory," it was found to be nearly knocked to pieces. The guns were hastily removed, and the thing towed around (by means of the "navy") to the Ashly river. The tide has filled it with mud and sand, and that is the end of the poor old floating battery. I have endeavored to find out how much it cost, but that is one of the items carefully concealed from the inquisitive public.