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Selected Miscellany.

From the New York Times, Administration.

The Western Department.

Fremont—His Achievements and His Shortcomings—By Whom He is Surrounded and by Whom He is not Seen.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.]

ST. LOUIS, Friday, September 20, 1861.

The New York and other papers throughout the country appear to be very much engrossed with the case of Gen. Fremont, and the merits of his late proclamation. Most of the journals that I have read assume that the proclamation of Gen. Fremont, liberating the slaves of traitors, and the supposed personal difficulties between the General and Col. F. P. Blair are the only questions brought before the Government at Washington. These assumptions are erroneous.

For the purpose of correcting this error, and presenting the real causes of complaint, (as I understand them,) I ask a place in your columns.

I will give a brief history of events: Gen. Fremont was assigned to the command of the Department of the West on the 2d of July. Gen. Lyon was then in the Southwest and the Department at St. Louis virtually without a head. Gen. Fremont did not reach St. Louis until the 25th of July. The Cabinet at Washington, (and I believe Gen. Fremont,) had been written to and telegraphed that it was all important that the commander should at once enter upon his duties. But the only information we could get was that the General had gone to New York to await the arrival of his wife from California, and could learn nothing more until his arrival at the time above mentioned. Whether this delay was the fault of Gen. Fremont or of the Department at Washington I know not, but this I do know, that by this delay great interests were neglected in Missouri.

When General Fremont did arrive, dispatches were said to be awaiting him from Gen. Lyon, (then at Springfield,) urging his need of men and supplies.

On the 26th of July Major Farrar, aid to Gen. Lyon, and Captain Cavender, called on General Fremont to urge the wants of Lyon's command. About the same time Major Phelps, the well known member of Congress, came to St. Louis as a special messenger from General Lyon, to explain to General Fremont the condition of the South-west, the great strength of the enemy and the want of reinforcements and supplies for Lyon's army.

About this time Pillow, at New Madrid, and Hardee, at Greenfield, were threatening Bird's Point and Pilot Knob, and to those points the attention of the Commanding General was also called by messengers from our camps. To meet all these demands required more troops than Gen. Fremont had at his command, and it was a matter of judgment how the troops he could control should be disposed of.

Prominent citizens of St. Louis known to be high in the confidence of the Government, some of them personal and political friends of General Fremont, called on him and urged the necessity of sending troops to Lyon. They suggested to him that the South-west was the natural route for Governor Jackson to return to the State and try to recover the Capital; that if the rebels could depart, or force Lyon to retreat on St. Louis, they could expect large reinforcements to meet them on the Osage, and thus insure the re-establishment of the rebel government at Jefferson City; and that as by the South west was the only really feasible route for a rebel army to reach the Capital, the movements of Pillow and Hardee were only feints, intended to divert attention from the movements of McCulloch and Price, where the blow was to be struck.

These arguments did not convince General Fremont, and he decided to reinforce Bird's Point instead of General Lyon, and, with an energy that I could not disparage, called in troops, made his preparations, and in one week after his arrival left with a force of 5,000 men for Cape Girardeau and Bird's Point, taking some heavy artillery for their defense. While due credit was awarded to the General for his energy in getting up the expedition, yet there were some criticisms ventured among old-fashioned men at seeing the General go down to the boat in an open barouche drawn by four horses, and to see him go aboard a magnificent steamer, chartered for the exclusive use of the General and suite. But then the Duke of Marlborough fought well, if he was extravagant.

After an absence of three days the General returned to the city to meet more appeals in behalf of General Lyon, and to receive more certain intelligence of the great strength of the enemy in the south-west. The General's answer to these appeals was want of troops to send.

I am told that it was suggested to the General that Wyman's regiment and Stevenson's regiment, both stationed at Rolla, could be spared and sent forward, and that if any troops were required to guard the stores at Rolla, Home Guards at St Louis could be sent out to perform that duty.

I am also told that Colonel Wyman, who commanded a splendid Illinois regiment, wrote to the General begging that he might be ordered forward. But no troops were sent, and Lyon and his Spartan band were left to their sad fate. Our only consolation is, that, at Wilson's Creek, they made a record of glory that shall never die.

Intelligent officers engaged in the battle express the opinion that two more regiments would have gained us a splendid victory, and saved south-western Missouri from the desolation which has followed. Many good and true men in Missouri, with no unkind feeling to General Fremont believe that the defeat of Lyon was Fremont's fault.

A second cause of complaint has been found in the selection of a staff, composed, in great part, of Italians and Hungarians, some of whom can not speak our language, and who can have but an imperfect knowledge of the best mode of warfare in our extended West, especially with an enemy composed, in great part, of roving guerrillas. Added to this annoyance is his Hungarian body at his quarters, with all the paraphernalia of an European palace.

The third objection is the great difficulty of seeing the General on important business. I have known Colonels of regiments spend three, four and five days in St. Louis, seeking an interview with the General, to tender regiments for the public service. Some of them gave up the case as hopeless, and went home "without the sight." When perseverance was crowned with success, and regiments were accepted, I have known them wait for necessary orders two or three days. This last delay may have been the fault of his staff, but if so, the General should provide against such delays in his own office. Among the Colonels referred to as offering troops but delayed, I will name Col. Turner, Col. Tindell, Col. Glover, Col. Foster, Col. Hays, and Col. John S. Phelps.

Governors, Congressmen, and leading men of the West have failed to obtain interviews with the General when calling on business of importance to the public service. If this statement is doubted by your readers, let then inquire of Gov. Gamble, Gov. Yates, ex-Governor Wood, Senator Browning, and others who have tried the experiment.

A fourth cause of complaint is neglect to protect northeast Missouri from Martin Green's band of marauders. They were allowed to sweep over several counties, disarming and robbing the Union men of those counties before any effort was made to check them. It was a still greater neglect to leave Col. Mulligan without reinforcements at Lexington, when it had been known in St. Louis for ten days before Price reached Lexington that he was marching on that place with a large army.

A fifth cause of complaint is his extravagance with the public money in all his expenditures; one of these expenditures being the surrounding of the city of St. Louis with fortifications that will, if completed, cost a million of dollars.

A sixth cause of complaint is the importation of contractors and others from California, some of them as follows: Major Wood, once connected with the Express Company in California, *Private Secretary;* Mr. Beard, Contractor for earthwork about St. Louis—estimated amount of contract $255,000; Mr. Haskel, said to be of the late firm of Palmer, Cook & Co., contract for wagons and horses to an enormous amount; Major Selover, formerly auctioneer in San Francisco, dealer in and seller out of contracts generally; and Col. Adams, of California, contract for building two propellers, forty floating batteries, &c. There are some other Californians here said to have contracts on a smaller scale.

Now, I do not wish to disparage California or any of her citizens, but is it not strange that a digger of ditches has to be brought from California, and the work let out to him by contract? Is it not strange that the contract for wagons shall be given to a Californian, not a mechanic, instead of going direct to the wagon makers of the West? Is it not strange that a contract for boats and batteries in St. Louis, is given to a Californian? *and that all these fat jobs are let out privately?* No advertisement, no competition.

In alluding to these matters, I make no charge of corruption against General Fremont; but I do fear that he allows his confidence to be imposed upon. Such operations, if continued, will drain the treasury faster than Secretary Chase can replenish it.

To sum up then, in brief, the causes of complaint that have gone up from Missouri against Fremont, are his neglect of the gallant Lyon; his neglect of north east Missouri; his neglect to reinforce Lexington until the enemy were upon it; his exclusiveness and neglect to see Governors and Colonels on important business; and his extravagance in the expenditure of public money.

So far as his proclamation was concerned, it did not meet the hearty approval of Union men in Missouri. They thought it too important a step to take, and too great a political issue to make, without consulting the President; they thought it showed weakness to proclaim martial law in Missouri, without the power to enforce it.

At the very date of his proclamation, some of the bounds within which martial law was to prevail were in the hands of the enemy; within a week thereafter, St. Joseph City, and the railroad leading to it, were under the control of Secession. Hence, his proclamation was a mere "paper blockade," and calculated to bring its author into ridicule before our enemies. But while this was the opinion entertained, it was not made cause of complaint at Washington. Our people care not for such trifles. They would put up with a new proclamation every day, if they could see any evidence of generalship in the marshaling of our armies, and in meeting and overthrowing traitors. Yea, more; they would stand the squandering of a few millions of the public money, if done by a dashing and victorious conqueror.

But to see the court style of Princes set up in our midst—to see our General surrounded by those not only ignorant of our institutions and the geography of our country, but ignorant of our language—to see the first men of our country, calling on important business, denied interviews with the Commanding General—to see the Public Treasury bleeding, and nothing done to relieve us from the sweeping march of traitors through our State—these are among the causes of our complaint. These are the grievances of which true Union men—with no desire but the public good, with no wish to injure Fremont, but from duty to the country and the cause—have complained, and will continue to complain, until the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States remedies the evil, and gives us a man better calculated to direct the grand army of the West.

A change in this Department will be made—it rests with the President to decide whether it shall be made "*before* Manassas" or "*after* Manassas." Such are the convictions of CANDOR.

The Rebel Army.

Forney's *Press* of Thursday, in its Washington dispatches, gives the following interestin items in reference to the rebel army upon the Potomac:

THE POSITION OF THE ARMY.—The pickets and scouting parties from the army of the Potomac, together with the observations made by those who are daily going up in the balloon, have given the fullest assurance that the enemy remains in full force in front of our advanced pickets. Their cavalry is also on the scout, and our pickets have, by the approach of superior numbers, been forced in on some points, only, however, to take their advanced positions again. It is remarked by experienced officers, that the situation now much resembles that of Solferino, in the length of the lines, the number of the troops on either side, and the general characteristics of the country. It is intimated that General Beauregard has actually selected positions to carry out the details in an exact counterpart of that battlefield. But of this I have no positive assurance. It does appear evident, however, that no engagement can take place now without the whole length of the army being drawn into the conflict, as they are now face to face for a distance of nine miles.

THE REBEL ARMY CLOTHING.—Capt. Thomas, of the Quartermaster's clothing and equipage department, has on exhibition at his office a considerable amount of clothing belonging to the rebel army, which was captured at the time of the advance of our troops on Munson's Hill. Some of the coats and pantaloons for the officers were of the finest French cloth, and of the most substantial character.

They were captured in a rebel wagon, together with a number of muskets, sabres, pistols and several Colt's patent six-chamber rifles. The clothing is elaborately adorned with tinsel.

☞ Hon. Willie P. Mangum died at his residence in Orange county, North Carolina, on the 11th inst., aged sixty-nine years. Mr. Mangum has suffered with paralysis for several years past, and his death was probably hastened by the loss of his only son, who was killed at the battle of Manassas. Mr. Mangum had served as a member of the North Carolina Legislature, as a Judge of the Supreme Court, a Representative and a Senator in Congress. In 1836 he received the vote of his State for President. During Tyler's administration he was President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and acting Vice President of the United States.

☞ For your wall and window paper, buff and green Holland, window rollers, cord and tassels; school, medical and blank books, stationery, &c., go to Werden & Co.'s, No. 26 East Washington street, opposite Glenns' Block. 3-dawlt†

From the National Intelligencer, 22d.

The President and Gen. Fremont.

We regret to observe that a portion of the Republican press in the North and East (we are glad to say a small portion) betray a disposition to raise questions of political discrimination, and to agitate topics of sectional sensibility, in the presence of the more immediate and grander issues which deserve to engage the attention of the whole loyal population, as they must continue to engage the plighted faith and activity of the National Government. We allude to the dissent which certain journals have expressed from so much of the President's recent "open order" to Major General Fremont, as restrains and modifies the proceedings of that officer under his proclamation declaring martial law in Missouri.

We remark that the exceptions taken to the propriety of the President's ruling in this matter proceed in every case from such newspapers as have been heretofore distinguished for the zeal and virulence with which they have assailed not only the political extravagance of "Pro-Slavery leaders," but the entire social system of the slaveholding States, so far as that system depends on the institution of slavery. And to such extent is this animosity carried by one most intelligent journal at the North that simply because certain papers, not heretofore in direct political sympathy with the Administration, and charged with being too favorable to the cause of the secessionists, have expressed their warm approbation of the President's decision in this regard, it intimates the hope that the President will find in this very fact an admonitory lesson by which to "learn whither he is tending." As if praises rendered from any quarter to the strict observance of a law passed by the late Republican Congress ought to be a source of shame to a Republican President.

We cite this single case to show the origin and political *animus* of the criticisms passed upon the conduct of Mr. Lincoln in this discharge of his duty under the Constitution and the laws, and that too by journals which have been among the first to urge a total putting away of partisan distinctions in the face of the perils besetting the very existence of the Government.

It has been proclaimed by the Administration from the beginning of the hostilities forced upon it, and by the National Legislature in providing ways and means for their vigorous prosecution, that this "deplorable civil war" is waged with a single eye to the restitution of the national authority, and with no purpose of subverting the social institutions of any State. In this spirit it was that both branches of Congress, with a unanimity unparalleled in a matter involving questions so delicate, and still warm with the passions of cotemporary politics, passed the resolution of Mr. Crittenden, affirming "that this war is not waged on their part in any spirit of oppression, or for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, or purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights of established institutions of any State, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired: and that, as soon as these objects are accomplished the war ought to cease."

True to the letter and spirit of this declaration, the present distinguished Secretary of the Treasury, in his spirit-stirring address to the people of the United States, calling for their material aid in carrying on the war, held the following appropriate language:

"Is it unreasonable to hope that the auspicious result of peace may be hastened by the reflections of the citizens of the States in insurrection? That they will review their action; weigh their own welfare; consider the disposition of the people of the whole country, to recognize all their constitutional rights and to allow them their full share in the benefits of the common Government, and renew that allegiance to the Union which, in an evil hour, they have been tempted to throw off? Will they not reflect that the war into which the Government of the Union has been constrained, is not a war for their subjugation, but a war for national existence, and that an auspicious result to the Union will benefit as largely the States in insurrection as the States which have remained loyal?"

It passes our comprehension that any loyal citizen should impute as a fault to the President the fidelity with which he seeks to keep the faith of the Government in this regard. We know that the disunion and secession press has been swift to predict that the Administration would prove recreant to its duty and its pledges under this head, but we had never supposed that professedly loyal prints would be forward to second the justice of such representations, by confessing to any surprise or regret at a decision which forever defeats expectations so discreditable to the sincerity of the national Government under its present Administration. Those who think it a matter of reproach to the President that he has, by his firmness, won the praise of his political opponents, might well be reminded that in falsifying his constitutional engagements, so as to merit the applause of some anti-slavery extremists, he would only justify the predictions of the most envenomed among those in arms against the Government. And we are free to express the belief that such a dereliction of duty on his part would not please the latter any less than the former; for the Secession leaders know full well that any such policy would be fatal to all hopes of restoring the Union, and that the contest, by degenerating into a purely sectional conflict between slaveholding and non-slaveholding States, would henceforth lose that national prestige which now gives to the Government its highest claim to the support of all loyal citizens, without regard to State lines, as without regard to former political differences. If the contest should ever lose the character now impressed upon it by the whole theory of the Constitution, and by the direct legislation of Congress, it would pass into an entirely new sphere of ideas, and would demand new civil as well as new military arrangements to conduct its operations. Under these circumstances, with the new combinations that might be expected to result from such a dissolution of the political elements, already deeply stirred by the agitations of the times, we should indeed have "confusion worse confounded" in our distracted land. It would be to superinduce, in the worse possible form, a condition of things in which—

Chaos umpire sits
And by decision more embroils the fray
By which he reigns.

And those who assail the firmness of the President for maintaining intact, as far as possible in this revolutionary crisis, the Constitution of the country and the law of Congress, appear to forget that to allow a different course on the part of the Major Generals under his command, would be virtually to abdicate his functions as the Executive head of the nation, and as the Commander-in-Chief of all the forces now in the field. It has been well said by a New York cotemporary, which ardently sustains at once the Administration and the Government—we allude to the *World*—that "unity of action is indispensible to military success, and unity in military movements can be attained only by by submitting them all to one directing mind." Those who dissent from the wisdom of the President's order, restraining the proceedings of General Fremont within the limits of the law of Congress, are ready, it seems to acquiesce in the parceling out of the national authority into as many Major Generalships as we have Major Generals in the field. These latter, in their several military districts, and not the President as their constitutional Commander-in-Chief, are to control, without let or hindrance, all military operations, and decide questions of civil or social law which neither the Constitution nor the laws of Congress have remitted to the adjudication of the one or the other.

It can not be doubted, as has been well said by another of our New York cotemporaries, that an advancing army will necessarily make what use it can of all property of "rebels in arms," and in doing so will, without waiting for the processes of courts, seize and consume provisions, transfer to its own use all arms and munitions of war, horses, wagons, and available goods, and, of course, under this general rule, as the Government has already declared, rights to slave property, "dependent on the laws of the States within which military operations are conducted, must be necessarily subordinated to the military exigencies created by the insurrection, if not wholly forfeited by the treasonable conduct of parties claiming them." This may affect the virtual freedom of many slaves; nor do we see how a people in arms can expect any other result than this in the immediate localities where the war is carried on. But this, which may be called an incidental effect of the war, is a very different matter from confiscation of property, as that phrase is ordinarily and properly understood, to the perfection of which a legal proceeding is necessary, involving a conviction for treason, or a decree of confiscation on account of treason by a competent court.

It must be obvious to all who pause to reflect on the relations of slavery in this conflict, that, so far as they may be suspended or destroyed by war, it must be mainly due to such incidental effects as are likely to result from the exigencies of military movements made in States "wholly or partially under insurrectionary control." Even if the liberation of slaves were an avowed object of the war, it could be accomplished only in the track of a liberating army, as mere edicts of emancipation would be utterly powerless, except so far as they were carried into effect by the law of force against the wishes and interests of the parties concerned as slaveholders; and the theoretical contradiction of any such policy, proceeding as it would on the principle that "the boon of freedom" is to be given only to the slaves of "rebels in arms" against the Government would seem to discredit the philosophy as well as the feasibility of the scheme it proposes.

And as the scheme could not be carried into execution without to some extent impairing the tenure of slave property held by loyal masters (for what would be the condition of the loyal planter with the slaves of neighboring rebels set free around him?) it follows that any such theory is as partial and inadequate, when viewed in its governmental as in its philanthropic relations. It only remains, therefore, for the patriot, equally with the humanitarian, to sustain the hands of the President in the just and legal attitude he has taken, in conformity with the Constitution and the laws under this head. And the more vigor and determination he shows in the maintenance of his own honor and of the plighted faith of the National Legislature in this matter, the greater will be the respect he must receive from the great mass of the loyal population, upon whom his Administration in this day of trial depends for its support.

War Localities in Missouri.

Localities in Missouri are becoming so noteworthy by everyday events of the war that we give some special descriptions and distances. There are three railroad routes leaving St. Louis for the interior of Missouri which do not cross the Missouri River.

The Iron Mountain Railroad in the mineral region, takes a course toward the south-west part of the State, being completed eighty-seven miles, to Pilot Knob.

The Pacific (Mo.) Railroad takes a course north-west, striking the south bank of the Missouri at Franklin, thirty-seven miles from St. Louis. Here the south-west Branch diverges toward the southwest part of the State, and is completed to Rolla, seventy six miles from St. Louis.

The main route leaving Franklin pursues the south bank of the Missouri eighty-eight miles beyond Franklin, to Jefferson City, which point is one hundred and twenty-five miles from St. Lous.

Jefferson City, on the Missouri river, is the Capital of the State, distant by water from St. Louis one hundred and fifty-five miles. Sedalia is sixty-four miles beyond, and is the present terminus of the Pacific Railroad, which is to be completed to Kansas City, on the Missouri River.

Sedalia, where the cars reach, is between Georgetown and Warrensburg. Both these points are of present special interest, as it is reported that Price and McCullough, and perhaps Hardee, with united forces—some say forty thousand—are between these towns.

Georgetown, the capital of Pettis county, is situated on an extensive plain and near Muddy Creek, the west bank of Lamine river; it is thirty-seven miles W. S. W. of Booneville and near Sedalia station, one hundred and eighty miles from St. Louis.

Warrensburg is the capital of Johnson county, on Black river, near the mouth of Postoak creek, ninety-eight miles W. by N. from Jefferson City. It bears about the same distance to Lexington northwest of it as Georgetown bears to Booneville, which is northeast.

Lexington, on the south bank of the Missouri river, capital of Lafayette county, is one hundred and twenty miles by the road from Jefferson City.

Glasgow is below, in Howard county, on the north bank of the Missouri, seventy-two miles by land northwest of Jefferson City.

Booneville is further down on the Missouri river, being forty eight miles northwest of Jefferson City.

Above Lexington, about five miles from the Missouri river, is Liberty, capital of Clay county.

Westport and Kansas City, the latter three-quarters of a mile below the mouth of Kansas river, are near the boundary line of Missouri and Kansas.

Independence is about fourteen miles this side of Kansas City.

The North Missouri Railroad crosses the Missouri river at St. Charles and at Sturgeon, 130 miles from St. Louis, approaches within twenty miles of the Missouri river at Glasgow; it proceeds directly north, intersecting the east and west Railroad from Hannibal to St. Joseph at Hudson. Distance from Hannibal to St. Joseph, 206 miles; from St. Louis to Hudson, 168 miles; from St. Louis to St. Joseph, 304 miles. Atchison City, on the Missouri river, is 20 miles below St. Joseph, and Leavenworth 20 miles below Atchison City.

Chillicothe, in Livingston county, is on the Hannibal Railroad, a point nearest Lexington by that route.

Richmond, Capital of Ray county, 7 miles north of Lexington, is where ex-Councilman H. A. Edwards was missed from the Groesbeck regiment; perhaps he was taken prisoner. The enemy, at Lexington, learning of the arrival of reinforcements of Gen. Sturgis from Chillicothe, seized the ferry boat and sallied out toward Richmond to cut off the aid to Mulligan. Sturgis by forced marches was compelled to retreat up the river to Kansas City.

Wells County Democratic Convention.

The Democracy of this county met in convention at Bluffton on the 21st of September. The *Banner* says it "was respectable in numbers and enthusiastic in spirit." Judge Garton was called to the chair and J. G. Smith was appointed Secretary. L. P. Milligan, Esq., of Huntington, addressed the convention in an able, eloquent and patriotic speech.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the civil war by which our country is at present distracted, is the natural offspring of misguided sectionalism engendered by fanatical agitators North as well as South; and that the Democratic party, having equally opposed the extremists of both sections, and having at all times zealously contended for the administration of the General Government within its constitutional limits, is in no way responsible for calamities that have resulted from a departure from its doctrines, and a disregard of its warning and advice.

2. *Resolved*, That in this National emergency, the Democracy and other Union men of Wells county, banishing all feelings of passion or resentment, will recollect only their duty to the whole country; that this war should not be waged in any spirit of oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of the States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that so soon as these objects are accomplished, the war ought to cease.

3. *Resolved*, That the volunteer soldiers who, at the call of their country, promptly went forth to do battle in defense of its Constitution and laws, are entitled to our hearty thanks for the gallant manner in which they have discharged their duties.

4. *Resolved*, That the freedom of speech, the liberty of the press, the right of trial by jury, and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, are the great bulwarks of American liberty; that no citizen can be legally deprived of the benefit of the writ of *habeas corpus*, except by Congress and then only in case of rebellion or invasion when the public safety may require it; that we regard free speech, and the right to fully, freely and temperately investigate all the acts of the Administration, as among the inalienable and most sacred rights of American citizens—a right which we expect, being responsible for the abuse thereof, to exercise and enjoy, and a right which no good citizen would seek to destroy or withhold; and that it behooves every loyal citizen to see that it is not destroyed, either through the forms of law or by attempted violence.

5. *Resolved*, That the General Government has no powers except those specified in the Federal Constitution; that all other powers are reserved and belong to the States respectively, or to the people; that the preservation of this Government, whether in sunshine or storm, depends altogether on a strict observance and adherence to the powers of the one and an entire and total non-intervention with the rights of the other; that every department and every agent of the General Government should always act within and never outside of the powers thus delegated.

6. *Resolved*, That the Indiana *State Sentinel* and Bluffton *Banner* be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

General Fremont.

We republish from the New York *Times*, an Administration print, an interesting letter from St. Louis, detailing the operations of General FREMONT since he assumed the command of the army of the West. That paper states that the author "is one of the earliest and best known citizens of St. Louis—one distinguished for his public spirit and intelligence—who is neither politician or contractor." No man in the army was more highly extolled by the Republican press than General FREMONT when he was called to his present position, and for whom a brilliant and successful career was promised and expected. To-day the same press are unanimous in expressing their want of confidence in him. Personal popularity is oft but a bubble which a slight puncture vanishes. But a few weeks ago General SCOTT was by universal consent regarded as the great Captain of the age, but since the defeat at Bull Run his name is scarcely mentioned. Success, with or without merit, makes reputation. As an interesting record for the future we quote the comments of the leading Republican papers of New York upon the present status of General FREMONT.

The *Tribune* cautiously and properly remarks, "Let no one be condemned till the facts shall have been ascertained; but whoever is responsible for this cruel blow, no matter how exalted or how strong in the public favor, must be deprived of the power to work further mischief." The *Times* significantly writes:—We leave the case to the Administration, believing firmly that they have the honesty and the fearlessness to deal with facts as they find them, without favor or affection. It is a sad day we have reached if the Executive of the Nation, who has nothing to hope for, nothing to live for, but the country's welfare, dare not do his duty on an occasion so momentous and in a crisis so grave."

The *Post* mildly observes: "We have of course no desire to prejudice the case of General FREMONT, but he owes to the public and to his own fame some explanation of the fact. Has not the greatness of his plan interfered with the vigor of his performance?" The *Commercial Advertiser* bluntly declares: "That document (the proclamation) was only in keeping with his whole career in the West, as showing that he meant to take the reins of authority in his own hand and ride roughshod, so to speak, over President, Cabinet, Congress, law, Constitution—everything, in fact. He was to be the 'coming man,' in the great valley—

Beneath whose broad footsteps the Ganges went dry,
And the mountains recoiled at the flash of his eye.

Unfortunately, our Cæsar has been as barren of great deeds as he has been presumptive in language and haughty in bearing. It strikes us that it would be time enough to put on airs after clearing the rebel hordes out of Missouri."

The Cincinnati *Gazette* of yesterday, thus puts the Pathfinder upon trial:

Up to the time of Gen. Fremont's advent to the command of the Western Department, the operations of the National forces had been successful. Since then they have been continually disastrous. A great part of Missouri has been overrun by rebels from the other States, and the disaffected, the doubtful, the timid, and the large class of poor vagabonds, whom a demonstration of strength on the part of the Government would have restrained at home by fear, or would have drawn to the strong side, have, by the weakness of the National forces, and the superior strength and vigor of the rebels, been carried into the rebellion. Missouri has now not only to be relieved from invasion, but to be conquered. * * * * * The leaving of Lyon's little army to be sacrificed by a superior force, whose approach was long announced, requires an explanation. The assumption that Gen. Fremont had not the means to reinforce him will not answer. That fact must be shown. It is due to the reputation of the commander, as well as a duty to the Government, that a formal inquiry should be made.

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The sacrifice of Col. Mulligan's command and position, when the whole country was expecting day after day to hear that he was reinforced from St. Louis, imperatively demands a formal inquiry. To say that just at that time the Government ordered six regiments from the Western Department to Washington, is altogether inadequate to answer this inquiry. The public want to know, and the Government should want to know, how many men Gen. Fremont had in St. Louis; and if in spite of the Government's infatuated draft for six regiments for the defense of Washington, he could not as well have sent a force to relieve Col. Mulligan, as to have taken the field with a large army, after the Government had been disgraced and weakened by his capture.

The *Gazette* justly remarks that "these matters demand a formal inquiry, as well in justice to Gen. FREMONT as for the satisfaction of the Government and people. No general assertions will answer. Nor will any great projects of an advance into the South be accepted as a satisfactory excuse for defeat and disasters at home. Nor will a proclamation, however right in principle, be accepted as a sufficient consideration for failure in action.

The Governor's Proclamation.

The appeal of the Governor to the patriotism of the people of Indiana will, without doubt, meet with a cordial response. Indiana has already done nobly. More than her quota of the five hundred thousand men authorized by Congress is either in or is ready for service, and volunteering is now progressing rapidly all over the State. Col. FITCH's regiment will be full in a short time, and so will Col. DUNHAM's, the raising of which was authorized but a few days ago. In a few weeks, Indiana will have sixty thousand men enrolled and in the service of the Federal Government. In addition a large force will be raised in the Southern border counties for home protection, and who, if occasion requires, will do efficient service. In no State has there been more energy displayed in responding to the calls of the Government, if it has been equaled. The patriotic and loyal sons of Indiana will do their whole duty in the present crisis of the country. If the same zeal had influenced the National Administration in its conduct of the war that has distinguished our State Administration in performing its duty, the Federal forces would not be occupying the humiliating defensive position that they now do, and the people along the borders would not stand in fear of attacks from the enemy.

Spirit of the English Press.

The tone of the English papers received by the last arrival is more than usually bitter. For example, the London *Morning Post* (Ministerial) says: "Secession is now an accomplished fact. * * A reign of terror has been inaugurated in the North. * * In fact, more outrages have been perpetrated upon individual liberty in the Northern States than even King BOMBA attempted to commit in Naples." And the London *Economist* remarks in reference to the Northern States, that liberty is "far more likely to be promoted by their defeat, than their victory." Some of the other journals talk no better.

To the People of Indiana.

In the progress of events, this wicked and unnatural rebellion, having for its object the overthrow of our Government, and the subversion of our institutions, has extended into our neighboring State of Kentucky. On several occasions within the last few months the people of Kentucky, by overwhelming majorities, have declared their loyalty to the Union, and their determination to adhere to the Constitution. There is, however, within her borders, a desperate and factious minority who are determined, at all hazards, to plunge the State into revolution and all the horrors of civil war.

To this end they have inaugurated a reign o terror, and throwing off all restraints of law, proclaim a war of destruction and desolation against the lives and properties of all loyal and Union-loving citizens.

In this atrocious attempt to coerce a loyal State into rebellion, they are aided by large bodies of armed men from Tennessee and other seceding States. These rebel troops have entered the State from the south-east through the Cumberland Gap, from the south-west, occupying Columbus and other points, but chiefly from the direction of Nashville toward Louisville, seizing and holding the Nashville and Louisville Railroad up to within forty miles of Louisville. A glance at the map will show the immense importance of their position, and the advantages they have gained. From their camps south of Louisville they can communicate by railroad with every seceding State but two; and can thus transport to their aid, in a few hours, men and munitions of war, from every part of the South. It is the determination of the invaders and conspirators to subjugate the loyal people of Kentucky, and seize for plunder and vengeance the wealthy and populous cities on the border of Ohio and Indiana.

It should require no argument or appeal now to arouse the people of Indiana to put forth all their strength. When our State was in her infancy, the brave men of Kentucky came to the rescue of our people from the scalping knife of the savage, and their blood is mingled with our soil on many a field. And shall we not stand by Kentucky now, in her hour of peril? Not to do so, were base ingratitude and criminal folly. We can best defend Indiana by repelling the invader from Kentucky, and carrying the war thence to the heart of the rebellious States.

Indiana has already done as well as any other loyal State, and better than many. Her troops are to be found in every camp from the Potomac to the Missouri, and wherever their valor has been put to the test they have been found equal to the occasion. But because other States have not done their whole duty, it would be worse than madness for us to refuse to do even more than ours, to crush out this rebellion and bring about the speedy restoration of the Union, and peace with all its blessings. We have done much, but we can do more, and the sooner it is done, the quicker the conflict will be ended. There is no curse like that of a lingering war. If, with the immense superiority in wealth, population and resources of the loyal States, their power was promptly exerted in anything like an equal ratio with the efforts made in the seceding States, this rebellion would be speedily extinguished. Let Indiana set the glorious example of doing her whole duty, and show to the world how much can be accomplished by the brave and loyal people of a single State.

To this we are prompted by every consideration of hope, interest, and affection, all that we are, all that we hope to be, is in issue. Our cause is the holiest for which arms were ever taken, involving as it does, the existence of our Government, and all that is valuable and dear to a free people.

If other considerations are required than those of duty and devotion to our cause, they may be found in the fact that the war has reached our own borders, and that if the energy and insolence of the rebels are not promptly met and punished our own soil is not secure from pollution by an army of traitors.

I therefore call upon all men capable of bearing arms, and who can leave their homes, to cast aside their ordinary pursuits and enroll themselves in the ranks of the army. Let the farmer leave his plow, the merchant his store, the mechanic his workshop, the banker his exchange, and the professional man his office, and devote themselves to their country, and by enrolling themselves either in the services of the General Government or under the military law of the State, be prepared to defend their country and their homes. Every man in the State capable of bearing arms should be in the service of the General Government or the State. Let personal ease and private interests submit to the overruling necessities of the hour, and let us show to the world by the sacrifices we are willing to make in person and property, that we are worthy of our sires, and deserve to retain the inheritance they have bequeathed to us.

Upon those who remain at home, I would urge the solemn duty of making provision for the families of those who have or may hereafter enter the army. The soldier in the field should have the sweet assurance that his wife and children, and all who are dependent upon his labor for a living, would be provided with sufficient food and clothing. Such an assurance would nerve his arm in the hour of battle and enable him to bear with cheerfulness the hardships and privations of a soldier's life. It would be a lasting disgrace to our people if the family of any soldier should want for bread or raiment while our country is full to overflowing with the necessaries of life.

In a time like this, we should give freely of our substance for the relief of those whose husbands, fathers and brothers are periling their lives in battle.

I therefore earnestly recommend that every town, township and neighborhood take efficient and systematic steps for the accomplishment of this purpose.

October 1, 1861. O. P. MORTON, Governor of Indiana.

Frank. Blair's Letter to Postmaster Blair.

The following is the letter of Col. BLAIR to his brother, the Postmaster General, which occasioned the arrest of the former by Gen. FREMONT for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." Col. BLAIR was in favor of the appointment of FREMONT to his present command, and is a political and was a personal friend. Under these circumstances there can be no doubt but his strictures upon the management of General FREMONT since he assumed the command of the army of the West are justified by the facts in the case:

ST. LOUIS, September 1, 1861.

DEAR JUDGE: I wrote you quite fully about our affair here by Judge Gamble, and I am more and more convinced of the views I stated to you in that letter. Affairs are becoming quite alarming in the northern part of the State as well as in the south. Men coming here to give information are not allowed to approach Fremont, and go away in disgust.

I have felt it my duty to tell him what they say, and he throws himself behind the reports of his officers, who are trying to prevaricate and shield themselves for neglect of duty, and he still clings to them, and refuses to see for himself. I told him he would not escape responsibility in that way, and he would very soon find an army of 10,000 strong on his hands in North Missouri, threatening St. Louis and diverting his attention and occupying the forces he desired to use against McCullough and Pillow. He talks of the vigor he is going to use, but I can see none of it, and I fear it will turn out to be some rash and inconsiderate move adopted in haste to make head against a formidable force which could not have accumulated except through gross and inexcusable negligence. Oh! for one hour of our dead Lyon. Many have been disposed to blame Fremont for not sending reinforcements