FROM THE ARMY OF VIRGINIA.

Complete Isolation of the Army—Deficiencies of the Commissariat—Effect of Gen. Sigel's Order to Drill—Proficiency of the German Regiments—The Protection of Rebels' Property—Gen. Pope's Subsistence Order.

From Our Special Correspondent.

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST CORPS, ARMY OF VIRGINIA, SPERRYVILLE, July 21, 1862.

Never has this army been so completely isolated from the rest of the world as at present; not at Franklin, 70 miles from its depot with nearly impassable roads between; not on the march across the mountains; not in its hurried pursuit up the Valley of the Shenandoah; not at Port Republic, its limit of advance, when more than 150 miles distant from its base of its supplies. For nearly a week it has lain in camp off from every communication, without a mail, with no telegraph, with no line of transportation open in any direction. Winchester and Front Royal have ceased to be its depot of supplies, and the roads are closed by guerrillas. Warrenton, has been chosen in their place, but the road to Warrenton is barred by the sudden rise in the Rappahannock. Newspapers and letters might be reluctantly dispensed with, but bread, and sugar, and soap are articles to which a soldier considers himself entitled, and without which his list of luxuries is materially reduced. These troops long since learned to endure privations, and when they were necessary, endured them cheerfully. When they suspect they are due to mismanagement in the Commissariat, they have less stoicism of suffering. On a march it was easy to understand that they must go without; living in camp the reason is less plain. The deficiencies began to be felt before the river began to rise, and all the blame, therefore, is not to be laid on the rebellious stream.

Camp life is not fertile in incident, and by contrast with the varied excitement of the six weeks campaign in the Valley, is spiritless and wearisome to a spectator. To the troops it is by no means a period of inactivity. Gen. Sigel, while his forces were at Middletown, issued an order that the troops were to drill by companies and regiments twice a day, by brigades twice and by divisions at least once a week. The good effects of the order were visible in the review of Gen. Schurz's division, before referred to, and again in the review of Gen. Schenck's to-day, which was continued by Gen. Sigel from seven in the morning till eleven, a length of time sufficient to task the strength as well as test the drill of the troops. I am sorry to say that it is impossible to praise the drill of the American regiments in comparison with that of the German. Whatever have been the faults of the latter, and I have referred to some of them with considerable plainness, they possess a facility and rapidity in battalion movements which deserves to be commended and imitated. I should be puzzled to name an American regiment in this command which would be particularly formidable on the field from quickness of maneuvering, while there are several German regiments which execute at double quick with great precision. In the manual some of these same regiments are unaccountably deficient.

It is right to add that the men are kept in hand under their new Division and Brigade Generals much better than of old, and there is little reason to complain of insubordination or of plundering. Indeed, it is so evident that discipline can be enforced with ordinary means, in German as well as American regiments, that I am more than ever of the opinion, which I believe I have before expressed, that Bienker was chiefly responsible for the demoralization and disorders of his troops. It is claimed also, I know not with what degree of truth, that, as a rule, the German regiments have been more deficient in supplies to which they were entitled than any other. If true, it was probably the fault of their own quartermasters, but may be accepted to a certain extent as a palliation for the license of their conduct.

If any fault is to be found with the present order of things it is not that the country and people suffer from the plundering of the army, but that they are even too sonctously protected. How far the property of avowed Rebels ought to be shielded by the military force sent to subdue them may be a difficult question; but it is certain that in not a few cases this protection is given where there is no claim to it, and where it actively and materially aids the cause and forwards the plans of the Rebels. I know of instances where guards have been sent to protect the home and estate of a Rebel owner, who relying on that protection has gone off in the night to communicate information to the enemy about the very army which guarded his possessions. The soldiers who are detailed on such duty see plainly enough the practical effect of the system, and though they are often comfortably quartered and released from ordinary fatigues, they dislike the duty and discharge it with reluctance. It is the common expression of the soldiers that they did not come here for such a purpose. Better give what protection is right to be given by enforcing discipline among the troops. It ought not to be necessary to set a guard about every house any more than to station a policeman at every door in the city.

The order of Gen. Pope directing that the army shall subsist so far as possible on the country which it occupies is a just order, and is popular with the troops. Its good sense compensates for the ill effect produced by the address to his army received here a few days since, which was very generally disliked and laughed at. It is not because it is supposed to legalize plundering that the order of subsistence is liked by the army. The methods by which supplies are to be taken are plainly set forth. Its effect will be to diminish the desire and the opportunity for stealing. But here in Virginia, and especially in this corps, which has traversed no small portion of the valleys and mountains, it is impossible not to feel that the army is in an enemy's country; a fact which the tenderness of Conservative sympathizers with misguided Southern brethren is slow to accept. Three months in Virginia and three hundred miles of travel, and in all that experience not a Union man to be heard of save only the blacks, who are as universally loyal as the whites are treacherous. It is useless to attempt to disguise it. The whites of Virginia are for the rebellion. No matter how they came so, whether willfully conspirators from the start, or originally traitors by compulsion, by cheating and lying and fraud of every description, they are unanimously Rebels and bitterly hostile both to the Government and to the people of the North. The subject deserves more consideration than I can give it at the end of a letter. I refer to it only in connection with this order, and the temper and intelligent opinion and approval of the army. The soldiers and officers who are brought into daily contact with the inhabitants of the country cannot but know their sentiments and feelings. They know that every inch of ground is hostile; that they hold it only by the bayonet, and only so much of it as is within their lines; that every thicket hides a guerrilla; that assassination is proclaimed by the Governor and practiced by the people; that no means are too desperate, no device too cowardly, no weapon too savage, to be used by Southern Chivalry against the loyal defenders of the nation. They know that every citizen is a spy, and the crest of every hill is a watch-tower and a beacon for the Rebels; that the numbers of the army and every movement of the troops are instantly reported in the Rebel camps, while information about the enemy is impossible to be had, except from the negroes, who peril their lives on the chance of serving an army which only tolerates their service. Weeks and months of such experience have taught soldiers and officers that this is not a political dispute, but a war; and that it is fought not on neutral soil but in the heart of a hostile State. They welcome the order from head quarters which recognizes the fact, and which is the first evidence that the subsistence and security of the army are to be more carefully considered than the protection of Rebel property.

THE BEST MODE OF INCREASING THE ARMY.

Letter of Col. Revere, 7th N. J. V., to Gov. Olden.

MORRISTOWN, N. J., July 17, 1862.

MY DEAR SIR: Having been invalided on account of my health, which has been much broken by fever contracted in the marshes of the Peninsula, since the beginning of the present campaign, I have recently arrived here to recruit, with the hope of soon again joining my regiment, or rather what remains of it, so sadly is it reduced by battle, disease, and fatigue.

It is evident to all that the Army of the Potomac should be speedily re-enforced, and the best manner of doing so is the principal question to be considered and acted on.

From long experience in the profession of arms, which I embraced 30 years since, I am emboldened to give my ideas on this momentous question, on the success of which the safety of the Republic would now seem entirely to depend.

First, then, I have—with all due respect to the opinions of others—to say that I am in favor of immediate drafting from the militia, en masse, and the filling up of our shattered regiments now in the field, so much reduced by the ravages of war, in preference to raising new regiments, which cannot be prepared for the field in a less period than six months.

It would be most unwise to send these raw regiments, without drill or discipline, even if they can be recruited in time to enable the armies now in the field to assume the offensive, to meet the Rebel regiments of trained and valiant troops who may be ranked among the best soldiers in the world, as all our army can testify who have met them in the recent great battles of the Peninsula.

The best composition of a regiment in the view of military men, is probably one-fourth of old soldiers and the rest recruits, for the latter then learn their duties from the old soldiers, both by example and precept. Thus constituted, the regiments of the army of the Potomac would be irresistible, and its force and power in war far superior to any force the Rebels can bring into the field.

The officers of that army have now been educated in the best school—the field of war—and any lack of them can be easily supplied from the ranks of the volunteers, which contain a plentiful supply of active, intelligent, and ambitious young soldiers, inured to the hardships of campaigning and imbued in a great measure with the spirit of military institutions. Besides, we have the traditions of the regiment already to excite the ambition and pride of the new recruit, who would much rather belong to a regiment which inscribes "Williamsburg," "Fair Oaks," "Malvern," &c., on its colors, than to a new one entirely unknown to fame.

The superior advantages already acquired by drill and discipline are too apparent to be recommended, while the saving to the Government in every way is something enormous, as one regiment of veterans filled up with recruits in the proportion of one in three or four of old soldiers represents a military power of as one to two, at the least, when compared with a force composed entirely, as our new regiments cannot fail to be, of raw officers and soldiers, entirely uninured to war, and who have not received the baptism of fire.

The saving of the number of officers is also to be taken into the account, unless the country is more plethoric of its wealth than would seem to be the case at present.

Of the twelve essential conditions to the perfect efficiency of an army laid down by Jomini, the very first is to have a good system of recruiting. ("*Des Institutions Militaires.*") Nearly all the remaining ones we have in progress or accomplished, while this, the most essential of all, is, at present, entirely deficient and most faulty.

Our present mode is to receive companies at the several depots of the States, filled up to the standard by some one who receives, as a reward for bringing a company of recruits to order, a captain's commission; the lieutenants are recompensed in the same way; and the highest standard of an officer is thus diminished to the qualifications for a recruiting sergeant.

This may answer very well as long as the supply of recruits is plentiful, and small inducements are enough to insure such supply; but it has already begun to show exhaustion, and has the additional demerit of being expensive to the Government and the recruiting officer, and volunteers come too slowly in for the needs of the country and the army, and the absolute necessity of re-enforcing our armies in the field to save the threatened existence of the Republic.

The Confederates have adopted the plan, which of all others is shown by the experience of nations to be the best in a time of national danger—that of universal conscription of all persons within the military ages. They have thus concentrated a numerous army, and in the late battles were enabled to produce reserve after reserve successively, and precipitate their fresh troops upon the lines of our exhausted battalions.

Two maxims of war it would be well for every one to remember: "Always be the strongest at the point of attack," and "Victory is to the General who can produce the last reserve." The first of these maxims has been recently illustrated and exemplified in the recent battles of the Peninsula, particularly in that of the 28th of June, by the Rebels, who were at least three to one against our brave right wing, which, however, only lost its ground after a heroic and desperate resistance.

Many of our brave troops bit the dust, but a much larger number of the Rebels fell, and the contest was one of the most sanguinary of modern times. The main object of the attack, however, was not accomplished by the Confederates, and our right flank not being turned as they expected, the safety of the Army of the Potomac with the immense trains of siege and field artillery and wagons conveying enormous stores of material of war was all saved by a rapid and well conceived and executed flank march to a new base, still, however, at the cost of abandoning the offensive and assuming the defensive against the numerous and desperate hordes congregated at the seat of war by the sleepless and ever active Confederates. Upon this army now rests the hopes of the country and its principles cause, and surely every means should be used instantaneously to repair previous errors, and to secure it against the attacks of the vigilant enemies who now encompass it about with the hopes of crushing it before it can be re-enforced.

In this terrible conflict our splendid 1st New-Jersey Brigade, organized and disciplined to the highest point of efficiency by the indomitable Kearney, and deservedly acknowledged as the finest brigade in the army by all, was brought into action against vastly superior numbers, and after fighting for hours in the most gallant manner, was completely cut up—one entire regiment having been all killed, wounded, or captured with loss of colors.

To a question which is at present under discussion as to whether or no the blacks can be made effective in this war, having seen and examined personally, in the course of my experience, Sepoys, Malays, the black troops of the Mohammedan princes of the East, and those of the French in Algeria, and the British West India regiments, I say, that leaving the question of policy to men who may be far better judges, and in a military aspect alone, they can.

The main stay and backbone of all military organization, the very prop and staff of efficient armies, the true representative of their strength and power, is *Discipline*. The storied battalions of the French Republic in their contest with coalesced Europe, under Hoche, Marceau, and Pichegru in the North, and in the most brilliant campaign ever made by Napoleon—the first campaign of Italy—in the South, before they were illustrated by the names of the battles they had won, bore upon their folds, as the best motto that could be adopted, "*Valeur et Discipline*," and, as a necessary sequence to the close adherence to this precept, every succeeding campaign of the Republic and the Empire added such numerous undying names of battles fought and won, that the silk of their standards presented such a mass of gold-embroidered letters that the splendid tri-color was almost hidden from view, while they usurped the place of the old and honored motto.

Discipline is the magician's wand which converts raw and tumultuous crowds, not to be depended on before the enemy, into good soldiers, brave, self-reliant, and ready to face death itself without quailing or falling back.

Discipline enabled the Roman legionaries to conquer the world and perform deeds never equaled before or since in the history of our race, and by it a battalion is rendered the swift instrument of the intentions and plans of the general in hurling it as one man upon the lines of the enemy.

The principles of discipline are the same with all races of men. He who is constituted their instructor should cast off all the ordinary rules which govern men in peaceful pursuits, and adopt a new, stern, and severe code while teaching them to new troops.

No military fault should ever be excused in the outset, even if it should be necessary to confound the innocent with the guilty in punishing some offences; for here the old rule which says that "better that ten guilty men should escape than one innocent man suffer" is reversed.

Instant, unquestioning, and unhesitating obedience to the commands of a superior should be rigidly enforced. Prompt compliance with all the forms, ceremonies, and observances of military life should be compelled, and, above all, detail in organization, equipment, exercise, and the general performance of all military duties, should be uncompromisingly insisted on.

The most trivial matter of duty should never be allowed to be performed in a slovenly or indifferent manner, and swift punishment should follow all insubordination, negligence, or violation of the rules of the service.

And still, with all this, the instructor should never betray resentment, or passion, or private malice, while enforcing discipline, but, as in all other military duties, show that all is for the good of the service, and that no personal feeling exists whatever, for this is a thing which requires entire abnegation of self. In fact, the public military service requires that self should be lost sight of when compared with its interests.

All this cannot be learned in any other way than in the school of experience, and books can give no idea of the proper mode of enforcing discipline.

It is here that the trained soldier shows that his trade cannot be learned otherwise than by hard practice in his early youth, and if he has passed through this school, having been forced to learn to obey himself, he may aspire to teach others, what he himself can never forget.

I am aware that it is extremely difficult to teach our fellow-citizens these lessons which have so important a bearing on military efficiency, from their natural habits of perfect independence and equality, but to the inferior race they would be easy both in acquisition and practice.

One indispensable condition is necessary, and that is that the commissioned officers of colored regiments should without exception be white men.

All the British and French incigenous troops in India and Africa are thus organized. Indeed, a Sepoy or the black West Indian regiments would not serve under officers of their own color; and the Sepoys in the late rebellion, having been commanded by their own officers, were easily crushed by the white regiments in far inferior force, while so long as they were officered by natives of the British Isles, they were invincible in the field in all the wars of British India.

The most magnificent military spectacle I ever saw—not excepting the grand reviews in Russia and France—was the splendid native army of Lord Keane break camp and march on the ill-fated Cabul expedition in 1837.

An Indian army marches always at night; and being encamped, of all arms 50,000 strong, on the wide glacis of the Fortress of Bombay, extending two or three miles into the country, at the sound of the sunset gun from the fortress, every tent went down as if by magic, and the bands of the regiments struck up the old English air,

"Don't you hear your General say,
Strike your tents and march away,"

the several corps defiling to the music past the statue of Cornwallis, near which was our stand.

The irregular cavalry, with their wild faces and high plumed turbans, in shirts of glittering mail, many carrying shields of rhinoceros-hide, with metallic studs and bosses, and long, tapering lances, mounted on their private horses elegantly caparisoned in the gorgeous Eastern fashion, the fine British light-cavalry regiments, the heavy and flying artillery drawn both by elephants, bullocks, and horses, the imposing and steady appearance of the solid columns of several European regiments of infantry, one of Highlanders—as I remember, and the well drilled and equipped Sepoys, formed a truly grand sight.

But after the regular troops had passed, came a body unknown to other armies—the camp followers—which in an Indian army outnumber the regular soldiers—men and women of all castes and in all the varied costumes of the East, Hindoos, Parsees, Mohammedans, and Europeans, vehicles of all kinds and descriptions, hackneys, bullock carts, and wagons, bullocks also for the saddle, palanquins, camels, and the stately tread of the colossal elephant—all laden with some of the numerous camp equipage or material of war, mingled with the sices or grooms of the officers, leading superb steeds, and all talking and yelling amid the dust and rout, in strange contrast to the silence of the disciplined masses which preceded them, formed truly a sight which can only be witnessed in that strange country of the Arabian Nights.

My conclusions are that, having seen the marvels worked by discipline in the Sepoys, the Dutch Malay soldiers, the Turkish troops in Egypt and Syria—many of whom are blacks from Nubia—the black West-India regiments, and some others in the French service—the *chasseurs indigènes*—and having served with the Indo-Spanish troops in campaign, while in the Mexican service, as Instructor of Artillery, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the general staff—besides having seen troops of every nation, civilized and uncivilized, my conclusions, I say, are that any combination of bone and muscle, of whatever race, can be made good, hardy, and efficient soldiers, by the proper and timely application of discipline.

Who can doubt that our Southern colored men, under good discipline and efficient officers, can be converted into a powerful weapon of military offense, that have seen, as all naval officers have, the heavy guns of a man-of-war, in the heat of combat manned by a crew of stalwart Africans, stripped to the waist, at their work, amid smoke and fire, begrimed with powder, and eagerly vieing with other white gun's crews in the same battery, or the same men handling musket or cutlass, as boarders, or in an expedition on shore.

The South is now, as Prussia was in the time of Frederick the Great, "all sting," and probably every man capable of bearing arms is serving with the Confederates. As to their drill and discipline under fire it is truly splendid. Gen. Kearney, who has had more experience in war than any General now in the army, having served with the troops of Scott in Mexico, seen several campaigns in Algeria, and served with the Imperial Guard in the Italian campaign, ending with Solferino, where there were 400,000 combatants engaged, says that at Fair Oaks "the brilliant manuvering of the Southrons, with overwhelming numbers of clock-work men (I never saw such discipline under fire, even with the French), mathematically forced our center," &c., &c. He also says in the same note to me, "My loss has been terrific, except those of the 37th New-York, who helped us home, all received in victorious advance, but I, at least as the phrase goes, have the satisfaction of having counted on the field two of theirs to one of ours. Still all this, though desperate fighting, unusual in war, unsurpassed in Europe, is conducive of no results," &c.

Now I ask respectfully would it be proper or just to expose new regiments with officers and men as incompetent as must of necessity be the case with all raw levies to the organized and fierce opposition of those case-hardened veterans?

It would be superogatory to adduce here more arguments in favor of discipline, but it is certain that if our newly raised troops should be opposed to the enemy's disciplined masses, with raw and ignorant officers and soldiers, commanded by political brigadier generals, they will be whipped, and we cannot afford to lose more battles now.

I say, then, fill up the old regiments by drafting, and that immediately, and we shall have the best army that ever took the field. Let discipline be maintained, and the officers of the volunteer army be selected from those who have distinguished themselves in the old regiments, and those non-commissioned officers and privates who have shown themselves capable to be promoted to their vacant places.

I have herein endeavored to communicate to your Excellency my views on the conduct of the recruiting service, which is the most important provision for supporting the war and filling up the tremendous gaps occasioned by its ravages; and it will be further necessary that camps of instruction be established in order that a powerful reserve may be maintained to take the place of any army that may meet with reverses in the field, or that can be promptly put into a new field of operations, should it be required.

War is a costly game and involves the most tremendous sacrifices, as we all know, but to be ready in time is both economical and politic.

If my feeble voice can arouse my countrymen to the one great issue now at stake, which is our very existence as a free people, I would say that all our energies, every faculty, and every dollar that can be raised, should be pledged to the creating of a vast, powerful, and invincible military force; an army, and not a military mob. The navy we have, and luckily it has preserved the country—it needs nothing except for meddling tricksters to let it alone, and, luckily also, no one out of its ranks aspires to be Commodores in order to mislead it.

I ask your Excellency, respectfully, to excuse any faults of composition or mistakes in writing that may have been made in this letter, and that the motive may be admitted as the excuse. From feeble health I have been unable to revise this as I could wish, although writing has never been my forte, as you are well aware of.

I remain, most respectfully, your Excellency's obed't serv't,
J. W. REVERE, Colonel, 7th N. J. V.

Hon. CHARLES S. OLDEN, Governor of New-Jersey.

The Southern Way of Carrying on War.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune:

SIR: Inclosed is a letter from an old Orange County man, who has lived a few years in Virginia, where he writes from. I send it, thinking it might be interesting to your readers to learn the sufferings of Union men, and their treatment both from Union and Rebel officers and soldiers. It was brought by a lady just from Virginia. Yours, respectfully, M. P. R.

Chester, July 28, 1862.

STAFFORD, July 20, 1862.

DEAR SON AND DAUGHTER: I now take this opportunity of trying again to send you a few lines, for I don't think that you got my others; or, if you have answered my letter, we have not received it. We are all in very good health, but not good spirits. We have seen very hard times here for the last year. I can't begin to tell you the trouble we have seen. Early this Spring, they tried to make Charles and Joseph (sons) go in the army, and they would not; so they went to Bradford Co., Penn.; and a hard time they had of it. They took one of our horses, and the other they left here. By the by, we have, it is said, the best team of horses in the county, and the Rebels were determined to have them. There have been more than 60 different soldiers here searching for them. They have come here at midnight, and dragged me from the house to the stable, and drew their knives and swore they would let my heart's blood out if I did not tell where they were. But I did not know, for Charles took one of them, and the other one of my neighbors took and hid in the woods, and it was there about six weeks, till the Northern army came here. There was one who came and represented himself to be a Northern spy, and wanted a horse to get to Washington with; but he could not come the Yankee over me that way. They have searched our house from chamber to cellar, but they did not get anything from us but one piece of bacon. We kept everything hid, such as grain, bacon, fire-arms, money, silverware, clothing, &c. There were an officer and twelve armed men who came here and arrested me for a Unionist, but I was sick at the time, and lame with the rheumatism, and so they could not move me to Richmond, and I did not get well till the Northern army came here. Then I was well, and then we at night dare sit with a light in the room, and dare talk above a whisper. Before that we dare not.

I am surprised to see how the Northern officers treat the Rebels here. Why, they are trying to kill them with kindness. They will place a guard over their property, and if the army wants to use any of it, they pay them for it. But if it is a Union man, Union men must do that much for the Union. The Rebels go in and out of the camp when they please, and if he is a big man, and has done a good deal for the Confederates, he must dine with them. Jeff. Davis & Co. know every 24 hours what is going on at Fredericksburg, and every move that is made. I sometimes think that one-half of the officers are traitors to the Union. The North will never, never, never put down this Rebellion unless they manage different from what they have. I have heard the Rebels here say the North dare not hurt them or their property, and will have to pay them for their negroes that have gone away. Not much farming done here—no one to do it.

From your affectionate FATHER.

The Kentucky Rebels.

The Rebels in and around Bloomfield, Ky., brought corn, oats and hay into that town for John Morgan & Co. three days before the bandit chief and his gang arrived there. They knew all his plans beforehand, and co-operated with him.

The Louisville Journal says: We have learned from unquestionable testimony that some of the Rebels of this city, who are exceedingly careful what they say in the presence of Union men, are in the habit of proclaiming with bitter oaths to those they think they can trust, that matters in this city are rapidly coming to a crisis—that a Rebel conspiracy is fast maturing here, and that the blood of Union men will soon flow in every street. We can give the names of men who use such language as this, and we should certainly do so if we did not suppose them to be already known to the authorities.

Arrival of United States Gunboat Wyandotte from Port Royal.

The United States steam gunboat Wyandotte, Commander W. D. Whiting, arrived at this port on Thursday from Mosquito Inlet and Port Royal, sailing from thence July 26, at 7 a. m. She came to this port for repairs; has been two months engaged blockading off Mosquito Inlet.

She brings no news from Port Royal. The health of the troops remained good.

LIST OF OFFICERS.—W. D. Whiting, Lieutenant-Commanding; C. M. Schoonmaker, First Lieutenant and Executive Officer; Chas. H. Brown, W. H. Hobbs, and W. W. Messer, Acting Masters; G. B. North and C. C. Doane, Acting Master's Mates; A. M. C. Bishop, Assistant Paymaster; H. D. Burlingham, Assistant Surgeon; Cornelius Carr, Second Assistant Engineer, as senior; Wm. Marc. Geo. R. Dunkley, and Wm. Veitch, Third Assistant Engineers; T. B. Metcalfe, Paymaster's Clerk; Henry Colly, Surgeon's Steward; Horace L. Peterson, Captain's Clerk.

Guerrillas on the Tennessee.

Bands of Rebel guerrillas have made their appearance at various points on the Tennessee River. On the 22d inst. a cavalry company entered Waterloo, and destroyed in the vicinity 110 bales of cotton and five gin-houses.

The New-Albany Ledger states that a Rebel supposed to be a guerrilla, stepped into a crowd of Union men at Bon Harbor, on Friday last, and commenced a tirade of abuse against all Union men. Several soldiers were standing near, when an old man named Walls, a strong Union man, approached one of them, seized his gun, and shot the Rebel through the head, cutting out both eyes.

Late News from Nassau, N. P.

By the arrival of the British schooner Mary Harris, we have Nassau papers to the 19th.

The Bahama Herald of that date has the following:

The schooner Argyle arrived Thursday morning from Fort Royal. We have understood she has brought Southern papers to the 6th inst., and that they contain intelligence to the effect that a most signal defeat of the Union army had taken place before Richmond; that the Southerners had succeeded in completely routing them, and that, had they not been protected by their gunboats a complete victory would have been obtained; as it was, a very large number of prisoners were taken, (report says ten thousand), and a great number killed. We also hear Gen. McClellan is mortally wounded.

ENGLISH CARGOES GOING SOUTH.—The steamer Columbia (Leslie, master), arrived on Wednesday from Plymouth, England, with a cargo to H. Adderly & Co. On the following day the steamer Dispatch, from Liverpool, with a cargo to the same firm. On the same day the ship Roscoe also arrived from Liverpool, with coal and salt to Saunders & Son, and yesterday the brigantine Wild Pigeon, Johnson, master, arrived from New-York with a cargo to Messrs. Sawyer & Menendez.

CAPTURING BRITISH VESSELS.—In relation to the capture of the schooner Agnes, *The Herald* says:

"The capture of vessels in our waters has been of late of such frequent occurrence that it is useless for us to comment further on the subject, sufficient having been already said. We suppose it will some time be put a stop to, most likely to the cost of the capturers."

Reception of the Hon. E. B. Washburne—Speech at the Fifth-Avenue Hotel.

On Wednesday evening, a Committee of German citizens called on the Hon. E. B. Washburne of Illinois, at the Fifth-Avenue Hotel, to show their appreciation of his services in Washington. Among many others, the following gentlemen were present: Dr. B. Keofmann, Hermann Koster, Andreas Willmann, Sigismund Kaufmann, and Frederick Kapp. There were also present Coroner Naumann, Dr. Schwarzenberg, A. Goetze, P. Wagner, F. Rauchfauss, and others.

Mr. Sigismund Kaufmann addressed Mr. Washburne in a few remarks, expressing the satisfaction with which the German population regard his Congressional career.

In reply, Mr. Washburne said if he had secured the approbation of the Germans by his course, it was to him a matter of just pride. He believed a distinguished ex-functionary of this city had proposed to play Cromwell and clean out Congress. He would not say, in the language of Mr. Corwin, he would have been welcomed with bloody hands and a hospitable grave, but he would say he would have had a jolly time on that occasion. Congress has been denounced because it is Republican and loyal. It is well said that to call a man an Abolitionist, is the most untaling test of his loyalty.

What has Congress done? We have passed the Homestead bill, dear to the heart of every German. Then there is another act of Congress which will live in history—the act of prohibiting Slavery in every foot of territory of the United States. Congress has the right to prohibit Slavery in the Territories, and this right it has nobly exercised. But then the crowning act is that act which has stricken the shackles from 3,000 slaves in the District of Columbia. Then there is the Pacific Railroad bill, which will open a pathway to the golden sands of the Pacific. Then there is the Agricultural College bill, and the Confiscation bill; added to these are various other bills and measures.

And now what do we want? I say we want a policy. We must cry, "Havoc and let slip the dogs of war," or bow in submission to Jeff. Davis. We have played war long enough—too long. We must make use of all the means known to civilized warfare. I shall take courage when I see a general in the field, whose heart is in this cause, and who is willing to use these black men, either as laborers or soldiers, in the way they can be most useful. We want less strategy and more fighting. We want to use the bayonet more and the spade less. If the Administration is not up to time public opinion will soon bring it up to time. The men of the loyal States, whose brothers and sons have shed their blood in this contest, do not want this thing to go on this way any longer.

I have the most entire confidence in our President. He may be slow, but, gentlemen, I really think he is sure. "A lean dog for a long race" I think he will come out right. I am disgusted with the question, "What is England going to do?" What is our country to do? is the question. How much longer are we going to submit to the insults of that perfidious power? I believe we are prepared to-day to avenge every insult. Our gunboats, which will be ready in sixty days, could sweep her rotten hulks from the ocean. Our privateers could sweep her commerce from the seas, and our armies could drive hers from the continent. Why, your State (New-York) could raise a hundred thousand men in four weeks to go into Canada, in my judgment, beside raising your quota for putting down the rebellion. Mr. W. concluded with an appeal for recruits.

NORTHERN OHIO.

The Soldiers' Aid Society—Its Work.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ROCKPORT, Ohio, July 26, 1862.

The Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio, having its central organization in Cleveland, numbers now over 400 auxiliary societies, most of them in Ohio, a few in South-Western Pennsylvania, Michigan, and New-York. It is doing a wonderful amount of work for our suffering soldiers.

To portray the magnitude of its operations, or give a detailed account of the work done, would be impossible in a short newspaper article. They have recently issued their first annual report, which gives a minute account of their business transactions.

But one must be an eye-witness at this great central depot, this forwarding and commission house, this unpacking and repacking establishment on Bank street, Cleveland, to get a true idea of the systematic energy of these women.

For forwarding supplies, every sub-agent is furnished with a blank requisition, which he fills out during his tour of inspection, according to the need of hospitals, and returns per mail. The Society honors it at once, and a duplicate invoice is sent to the agent of Sanitary Commission in charge. To insure promptness, the rooms of the Society are furnished with large receiving cases, each bearing the name of the article deposited therein. A box arrives from an auxiliary. It is opened, and the contents are distributed, each article to its appointed place. The boxes, being made secure for transportation, are numbered—the number and contents registered, and removed to store, ready at a moment's call to go out on its errand of mercy. Committees are appointed for each department. Each article is stamped with the name of the Society, that no one may embezzle or dispose of these holy charities wrongfully or from ignorance. He must be a villain indeed who would appropriate an article thus marked, without consent of parties interested.

Weekly reports are published in the city papers, and newspapers and circulars sent to auxiliaries to incite to action or give needful information.

Some idea of the labor performed by these self-sacrificing women may be inferred from the fact that they have instituted Home Hospitals at the Railroad depots, where the sick soldier can be fed and cared for; also, a large hospital steamer on the Ohio, is constantly supplied, and kept actively employed in carrying stores to the Western hospitals, and returning with sick and wounded, whose wants are supplied from the same source. Hundreds of hospitals, situated in seven different States, have received their bounties, and the blessings of thousands of them that were ready to perish, have fallen upon them.

Their work has been no spasmodic effort, calling their members together for a day or two now and then to answer some specific call; but from April, 1861, to July, 1862, every day in the week, Sunday excepted, the noble women of Cleveland have thronged the Soldiers' Aid Rooms, each knowing her duty and doing it with a will. Their unselfishness and true humanity is evidenced from the fact that they have no by-laws, no constitution. No mark of a pen holds them together; no oath of allegiance binds them to faithfulness and good conduct. Yet there has been no change of officers, no special contentions, not a fraud discovered, not a dollar abstracted unaccounted for from the treasury, not even a can of fruit or lump of sugar purloined meanly and dishonestly by womanly hands. The language of each one is: "We are more than compensated for our labor when we receive the report from the suffering soldiers that they say, 'God bless them!'"

Had our Government officials and the officers of our grand armies—the paid agents of the people—been as true, to their trust, and as earnest and faithful in the discharge of their duties, as have been the noble women of the Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio, there would have been no panic at Bull Run, no massacre at Bull's Bluff, no evacuation at Manassas, no surprise at Pittsburg Landing, no silent and unexpected departures of the enemy from Yorktown and Corinth, no paralyzing defeat before Richmond. How long shall the wives, mothers, and daughters of this great country thus labor? How long shall they be called upon to lay the loved ones of their households upon the altar of sacrifice ere the politicians of our country shall be willing to say: "Let the oppressed go free," and thus put an end to this desolating and most unnatural war of all wars.

F. D. GAGE.

Crops, Insects, &c., in Ohio.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

GRANVILLE, Ohio, July 26, 1862.

I have been stopping here for a fortnight, in the midst of haying and harvesting. The crops, with the exception of oats, look well. A bug resembling a louse infests the out-fields, and prevents the head from filling. The straw is of the usual growth, with the ordinary number of heads; but these bugs plant themselves at the intersection of the head with the stalk, and suck the nourishment as it oozes from the main stem. Entire fields are thus ruined. This bug is a new customer in this region, and has taken the farmers by surprise. They will now study how to greet him when he re-appears another season. It is hatched, probably, from an egg quietly laid on the stem of this cereal soon after it emerges from the earth, by some insect that hitherto has not attracted the attention of the agriculturist. Be this as it may, wheredrom he cometh or whither he goeth, his presence is now a fixed and lamentable fact, and by his works he is known.

The deficit in oats is made up in corn and wheat and potatoes, of all of which there is a good yield. The grass crop is abundant, and is being rapidly put into the mow and stack in first-rate condition. Much attention is now given to the raising of sheep. Most every farmer has more or less of a flock, and of excellent quality. The wool this year brought from 47 to 50 cents per pound, and I hear that the fleeces average in this vicinity four pounds. Indeed, a great many go as high as six and seven pounds. Add to this the lambs, and not always coming singly but in doublets and triplets, and one is not at a loss how to figure the farmer's gain in this agreeable branch of his business.

As I passed along I noticed that the Western Reserve and its crops looked well; but they look better hereabouts in the center of the State. It is really delightful at this season of the year to linger and loiter among these clearings and woodlands, full to overflowing of whatever contributes in this latitude to the prosperity and happiness of us all. And it will be fully appreciated if the traveler has just come from the old, worn-out and fetid counties which line the other side of the globe. Here everything has the look of morning and life, there the day seems to be dragging to its close, and the evening of death silently settling its black pall over all. This country infuses her own vigor and vitality into everything animate and inanimate. She enlivens every of our feelings, keeps alive and quickens our patriotism, and makes every being that has a soul fit for immorality cling fast to his country, right or wrong, in this hour of her extremity.

These Western lands are destined to be the abode of freemen, and their products are to fill the granaries of the Old World. There is too much intelligence and virtue, too much health and strength for despotism or monarchy, or any other kind of rule or regime to prevail, that does not emanate directly at all times and under all circumstances from the people themselves. Nor will they now brook intervention in any form from abroad in our great family quarrel, nor condescend to notice it even in any other way than by a flat refusal to be interfered with in the slightest degree, no matter from what amiable quarter such uncalled-for kindness may come.

Gov. Todd and staff are hard at work to fill up the quota, and the great pulse of this young and strong-handed Commonwealth beats true to duty.

MUTINY AT SEA.

The Bark Reindeer—Capt. Hewett, Second Mate and Three Men Killed—Four Wounded.

BOSTON, Thursday, July 31, 1862.

A letter from the ship Minstrel, from Adra, at Malaga, dated 13th inst., states that when 30 miles S. E. of Malaga, fell in with the bark Reindeer, from Cette for New-York, in distress. Boarded her, and found Capt. Hewett, the second mate and three men killed and four wounded, and the bark on fire, the work of two of the crew, who had mutinied on the night previous. Took off the dead, wounded and survivors, and brought them to Malaga. No mention is made of what became of the mutineers.

Another letter states that the mutineers on board the bark Reindeer were two Spanish sailors, who robbed the captain of $100, and escaped in a boat.

A letter received on Thursday morning by Elwood Walter, esq., Secretary of the Board of Underwriters, New-York, dated Malaga, July 12, states that

"A fearful tragedy has just occurred on these waters. On Wednesday, the 9th instant, at 1 o'clock a. m., the American bark Reindeer, Captain Hewitt, of and for New-York, with a cargo of salt, from Cette, being then about thirty miles to the south-east of the port, two Spanish seamen of her crew surprised and murdered the second mate, carpenter, cook, and one seaman, wounded the captain, chief mate, and two others, and took forcible possession of some $400 in specie, and a watch which was in the cabin, stove one of the boats, and left the vessel in the other one, having first set fire to the bark fore and aft. At 8 a. m. the ship Minstrel, of Boston, Capt. Clifford, and the British brig Susanna, Capt. Grove, hove in sight, and proceeded alongside of her, and rendered every possible assistance. Their endeavors to extinguish the fire, however, proved ineffectual, and at 4 p. m. Captain Hewitt and surviving individuals of the crew of the Reindeer were transferred on board of the Minstrel, bound from Adra to this port, where they arrived this afternoon. Active measures are being made by the American Consul and the local authorities in order to procure the capture of the assassins, who are reported to have landed on this coast, a few miles to the eastward. The conduct of Capts. Clifford and Grove is deserving of the highest praise.

Walter Brown's Monthly Wool Circular.

The Domestic Wool Market during the month of July was extremely active, especially in the wool-growing districts, and prices have further advanced—the tendency still being upward. It is the opinion of many that good Wools will soon be worth 60c. ⅌ lb in the Eastern markets. The great advance in exchange, the high value of specie as compared with our rapidly increasing paper currency, must necessarily influence the prices of Wool, which is a direct representative of specie. The fact that Cotton is selling at unprecedented rates, cannot fail to produce its effect on the Wool market. The new call for additional troops will, in due time bring new and large orders for clothing. Manufacturers also are already doing a successful business, and, under the present tariff, have before them the most brilliant prospects. Everything seems to conspire to force Wool into a high range of figures, and yet, notwithstanding all these considerations, the future is in reality greatly obscured, and the immense uncertainties of war are oppressing the minds of the people to such an extent, that it may have