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THE BATTLE AT PADUCAH.

Gallant Defense of the Fort by Colonel Hicks.

Six Hundred Against Six Thousand.

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT'S ACCOUNT.

PADUCAH, Ky., March 29, 1864.

Few who have had occasion to pass up or down the Ohio River have failed to notice and admire this place, which is noted for the beauty of its situation, its fine wharf, commodious business houses, tasteful residences, and above all the evident enterprise of its people. Before the war it had a population of about 10,000, and was considered the most flourishing little city below Louisville, it being the principal depot for that portion of Kentucky known as "Jackson's Purchase." Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion the Secession mania took deep root in the minds of its citizens, and when, in September, 1861, Gen. Grant occupied it for the first time, the streets and houses were found decorated with Rebel flags in anticipation of the arrival of Polk's army. Of its original population not more than one-third is now remaining, those who make up the four or five thousand inhabitants which it possessed up to the time of Forrest's attack being recent arrivals from other States.

APPROACH OF THE REBELS.

Positive information was received by Col. Hicks on the 24th of the arrival of Forrest at Mayfield, 22 miles south from Paducah, and an attack was not unlooked for. Your correspondent was on that day at Columbus, having come up to that point from Memphis in anticipation of an attack upon the former place, and it was there considered certain that Forrest would attempt to capture either Columbus or Paducah, but most probably Paducah. In fact, his occupation of Mayfield indicated this place as his objective point. The forces under Col. Hicks's command were five companies of the 16th Kentucky, 311 strong; three companies of the 122d Illinois, numbering 124 men, and a detachment of the 1st Kentucky Artillery (colored), 250 men—in all 685. Any information of the strength and position of the fortifications, and number of guns, beyond what the enemy has already learned to his sorrow, cannot be given with propriety. It will be sufficient to say that the works occupied by Col. Hicks are toward the lower end of the city, and cover the roads from the interior.

NEXT MORNING (25TH).

Scouts reported that Forrest was only eight or ten miles distant, and was moving in this direction with a heavy column, which rumor broadly stated to be from 5,000 to 15,000 strong. Immediately upon learning that we were to be attacked, Col. Hicks notified the inhabitants of that fact by special order, and commenced moving them to the other side of the river. The anxiety of the citizens for the two preceding days, consequent upon the rumored approach of the enemy, now found expression in the wildest excitement, and men, women and children rushed through the streets and down to the wharf in dread of the approaching conflict. Fortunately means were at hand to transfer them to the opposite shore with dispatch, and when the first attack was made but few were remaining in the city. Knowing the great numerical superiority of the enemy, Col. Hicks ordered his whole command to the fort and awaited his appearance.

THE GUNBOATS,

Paw-paw and Peosta, which were anchored out in the river, weighed and moored toward the upper end of the wharf—the one to the mouth of the Tennessee, the other a little below. These boats have a light armament, and are known on the river as "tin-clads," their plating being only sufficiently thick to resist the missiles of small arms, and perhaps grapeshot.

THE ATTACK.

Nearly all of the woods back of the city has been cleared away, either by the hand of improvement or from military necessity, and there is an almost unobstructed view for half a mile, and in some places much further. The ground intervening between the city and the timber is somewhat undulating, but not sufficiently so to afford any considerable advantage to an advancing line of battle. A little before 1 o'clock the enemy's advance came in sight, and in a moment afterward the main body appeared in the act of forming line—his right extending toward the Tennessee and being nearest to town, while the left was partially concealed by timber at long cannon range. The men on either flank were mounted, while bodies of dismounted men who at that distance seemed to be a little in advance of the others, appeared in occasional intervals in the line which was little less than two miles long.

The enemy seems to have entered on his campaign with an accurate knowledge of what was to be done, and was evidently posted as to the strength of our garrison here as well as at Union City. There was no delay in the advance. He pushed his line forward rapidly and steadily, while at the same time a detachment from the right flank, several hundred strong, dashed into the now deserted city, and down Market street, and the other streets back of it, until, coming within rifle range of the fort, they opened a galling fire from the houses upon the garrison. But before this detachment had succeeded in getting in town, several shots had been exchanged between the enemy's artillery and ours. The gunboats had also begun to play upon them, when, upon finding the city being rapidly occupied by a continually increasing force, the fire of the gunboats, as previously concerted, was turned upon the houses occupied by the Rebels, the vessels dropping down the river until proper range could be had.

THE FIRST CHARGE.

It seems that Col. Hicks, prudently, did not strain his men at the commencement of the action, and although his fire was accurate it was delivered slowly—the range being different at almost every discharge. The necessity he was under of turning some of his guns upon the town so slackened our fire that the enemy was enabled to make a charge upon the fort. But the movement was perceived and prepared for, and the first signs of an advance were greeted with a heavy and well-directed fire, which created some confusion. The Rebels continued to advance, however, and a part of them, by veering to the right, threw themselves partially under cover of the uneven ground and the suburban buildings. On they came, with loud cheers that sounded distinctly through the now increasing roar of battle, and which were defiantly answered by our men, who now, reeking with perspiration, plied their rammers with accelerated rapidity and hurled destruction through the advancing lines. As soon as they came within good rifle range a terribly destructive fire was opened upon them, and men toppled, reeled, and fell to the ground by scores. Although the overwhelming force continued to close upon the fort it was now evident that there was much disorder among them, and presently a portion of the line gave way, when the whole force broke in confusion and retreated precipitately, leaving the ground strewn with not less than 200 killed and wounded. The discomfited Rebels were then reformed upon their original line.

As the smoke began to clear up it was discovered that the city was on fire in several places. The rail road depot was already completely wrapped in flames, having been fired by the Rebels. The shelling of the gunboats had dislodged the sharpshooters from the buildings nearest the fort, and their fire was just being directed toward other portions of the town, when a flag of truce was observed coming from the enemy's lines.

A PARLEY.

The flag of truce was borne by Lieut. McKnight, Aid to Forrest, and was met by the Post Adjutant. McKnight presented a note from Forrest to Col. Hicks, demanding the immediate and unconditional surrender of the fort and garrison, and saying that in the event of a refusal to accede to the demand he would take the fort by storm and grant no quarter. Col. Hicks promptly that he was sent there with orders to defend the post and intended to obey, as any honorable officer should. An hour was consumed during this parley, immediately after which the enemy advanced.

SECOND CHARGE.

The houses near the fort were again occupied by sharpshooters and the Rebels moved rapidly up with increased numbers and apparently a full determination to succeed. They dashed forward from behind buildings and such other objects as served to cover their advance, while the main column rushed upon the fort despite the murderous fire that opposed them. But their efforts were futile. The indomitable "six hundred" had no idea of being overpowered, and amid the answering thunders from fort and gunboats, and the unbroken rattle of small arms, the enemy was again repulsed and fled from the field disordered and whipped. Not less than 500 men dead or wounded covered the field within rifle range of the fort. A more gallant defense was never made. But the fighting did not cease with this repulse. The Rebels swarmed thicker and thicker in the buildings, and an uninterrmitting storm of lead was poured from roofs and windows, notwithstanding the houses were being perforated by shot and shell from all our guns.

Every gun in the fort was now turned upon the town, while the gunboats took an active part in sweeping the streets and shelling the houses. The enemy finding that our force was not strong enough to risk leaving the works did not re-form his whole line again, but sent his men by detachments several hundred strong into the city, some to burn and pillage and others to reënforce those who were yet firing upon the garrison. Now was the hardest trial our brave fellows had to bear. In spite of the shells that were sent crashing through the buildings, the sharpshooters, who by this time must have numbered nearly 1,000, held their positions or else falling back for a few minutes again came forward and delivered their fire.

It was now nearly night. The battle had continued from 10 o'clock to after 5 and yet the fate of the day remained undecided. The heroic garrison, headed by their resolute commander, still stood unfalteringly to their posts, while the enemy, conscious of the strength of his overwhelming numbers, seemed loth, although signally repulsed, to yield to the fact of his undeniable defeat.

Four hours had passed, during three of which there was an almost unbroken roar of artillery and small arms. In the mean time the Rebels had occupied every part of the town. The headquarters and Quartermaster's buildings, which were in the most compactly built part of the city, had been sacked and fired. The marine ways had also been fired, and the steamer Dacotah, which was on the stocks for repairs, was boarded, the crew robbed of everything, and the boat burned. Almost every store in the place was broken open, and its contents damaged, destroyed, or carried off. Clothing, and especially boots and shoes, seem to have been chiefly sought for, although an exceedingly large quantity of all styles and qualities of dry goods, groceries, and provisions was carried off. Every horse that could be found was taken, and in fact nothing that could suit taste or convenience was overlooked.

As the sun began to sink, the slackened fire from the buildings told that our shelling had not been without effect, and the Rebels could be seen from the fort as they left the houses by hundreds and moved back toward the upper end of the town, bearing their dead and wounded. Many, however, remained behind, and although the firing was now light it was continuous.

By this time the ammunition in the fort was well nigh exhausted, and it is barely possible that if the enemy had again attempted to storm the works, the small garrison might have been overpowered by sheer stress of overwhelming numbers. But his disastrous experience of that day deterred him, and his offensive operations were confined to sharp-shooting from the buildings. This was kept up until nearly midnight, when the firing ceased entirely, and the Rebels left the town. Col. Hicks's announcement to the garrison that their ammunition had almost given out, but that they would defend themselves with the bayonet, was received with loud cheers, and showed a determination to fight to the last. That was

AN ANXIOUS NIGHT

To the occupants of the fort. The knowledge that their means of defense would not, if attacked, last much longer, that the enemy was still within gun-shot of them with a force outnumbering them nearly ten to one, and that it was very probable that a night attack would be made, disinclined all to sleep, and the peremptory order of Col. Hicks that every man should remain broad awake and stand to his post was scarcely necessary. So the night passed, every man awaiting expectantly the anticipated attack and determined to win or die.

NEXT MORNING (26TH)

The enemy was found to be still in our front, but some hundred yards in rear of his original line of the day before. Everything pointed to another attack, and another day of trial for our gallant garrison. In view of this, Col. Hicks sent out several detachments with orders to burn all the buildings which had been occupied by the enemy's sharpshooters on the previous day, or that could afford them a similar protection in the event of an attack on this day. This order was promptly executed, and in less than 15 minutes that part of the town below Broadway and between Market street and the river, together with many other buildings outside of those limits, was in flames. Many of the finest business houses and dwellings were thus destroyed, and none who have formerly been acquainted with this once beautiful city can help regretting the sad but imperative necessity that called for its partial destruction. About 9 o'clock, a flag of truce emerged from their lines, and approached the fort. It covered a proposal for an exchange of prisoners, Forrest having about 500 of our men who were surrendered at Union City and 50 or 60 captured in hospital the day before. Col. Hicks having no power to exchange prisoners replied in accordance with that fact, and the Confederate officer departed. Again we waited in anticipation of an attack momentarily, when a verbal communication was sent in by Forrest, asking for a private interview in case further fighting could be obviated by negotiation.

Col. Hicks, with his characteristic pluck, replied verbally that he, accompanied by two officers of a designated rank, would meet Gen. Forrest, and two officers of corresponding rank, with or without arms, at any mutually convenient spot. This occurred after noon. No reply was received, and no attack was made, and so the day wore away—the enemy yet threatening, but apparently afraid to advance. In the meantime assistance had arrived from Cairo, 70 miles below, and our men felt encouraged but apprehensive. The night passed much in the same way as the one preceding, the greatest vigilance being exercised, and the men resting at or near their posts.

The next day (27th) the Rebels had entirely disappeared from view, but a scouting party, sent out for the purpose, found them still near, and demonstrating threateningly. On this day, many of the citizens and merchants who had anything left commenced packing their effects for the purpose of leaving the place, as it was confidently expected that the Rebels would return and complete the work of pillage and destruction.

Another anxious night wore wearily away, and the morning of the 28th dawned. Our scouts found the country filled with bodies of men varying from 50 to 100, but the main body had moved back toward Mayfield. This seemed encouraging until another report, which was apparently trustworthy, became current in town, that Forrest's army had formed a junction at Mayfield with a large force of Rebels, and was again coming in this direction. A scene of excitement now ensued similar to that of the morning of the 25th. Everything that could under the circumstances be removed (for but few draft animals were remaining) was carried down to the levee preparatory to shipping. Much of this property was carried by hand, some of the heaviest boxes of goods being thus brought from stores some several squares distant. The excitement lasted all night, and every boat that passed made large additions to her cargo and passenger list. This morning the excitement and exodus still continued, and the attack was hourly expected up till noon, when it became generally known that the military authorities had learned that the enemy was at or near Mayfield, and was threatening Columbus, and that there were no demonstrations at all making toward Paducah.

So ends thus much of the history of one of the most adventurous raids made during the war. Whether the Rebels will try their strength on any other Union post remains to be seen. It is known that they are showing a threatening front in the direction of Columbus.

A detail of the loss of property during the fight cannot be obtained, though even if it could it would be uninteresting in connection with the story of the battle. It will be sufficient to say that the value of the property carried away and destroyed by the Rebels exceeds at a moderate estimate half a million dollars. The value of the houses burned by order of Col. Hicks must be as much if not more. The enemy's loss in men cannot be accurately ascertained, but in killed and wounded will not fall short of one thousand. It is rumored that several citizens who imprudently did not leave the city with the bulk of the inhabitants were killed or injured.

J. L. M'K.

The Rebel Forrest Leaving Kentucky.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, April 8, 1864.

A special Cincinnati dispatch to *The Bulletin* says:

Notwithstanding the Rebel Buford's assurance that he intends to remain permanently in Kentucky, it is reported that Forrest is maneuvering to get out of the State, by dividing his forces into small detachments and slipping them off through byways.

FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

Cotton Arrivals—General News.

CAIRO, Thursday, April 7, 1864.

Confiscated goods to the amount of $49,000, consisting mostly of cotton and sugar, were sold here to-day, by order of the United States District Court. Eighteen hundred bales of cotton yet remain to be sold. Two hundred and two bales mixed and inferior quality in bad condition, sold at auction at 41@57¼c.

Over one hundred bales of cotton have been brought up by the naval dispatch boat New National from Red River, as have also two nine-inch Dahlgren guns, being part of the armament of Fort De Russy. These guns are part of those taken from the Harriet Lane and Indianola.

It was the steamer Joe Juges, and not the Carrie Jobs, that was sunk by the Gen. Anderson, as mentioned in a previous dispatch.

The steamer Forsythe has been released, and left for Memphis. Several thousand dollars worth of contraband goods were found in her hold. The first clerk is held for examination.

The election returns received indicate that L. Hummick, Republican, has probably been elected Judge of the XIIIth Circuit.

In the Memphis cotton market, rates for low qualities are unchanged; the better qualities tend upward. Receipts, 366 bales. Ordinary to good, 55@56c.; low middling, 57@58c.; good middling, 62@63c.; fair, 66c.

The Cairo News has been furnished with an order issued by Gen. Buford, commanding the second division of Forrest's cavalry, congratulating the troops on the success of their Kentucky campaign. He praises their conduct during the attack on the fort at Paducah, and alludes feelingly to the loss of Col. Hampton, commanding the third. He asserts that they silenced the guns of the fort, and compelled one of the gunboats to withdraw from action. The Rebel loss is set down at 50 killed and 40 wounded, and the Federal loss at 27 killed and 70 or 80 wounded. He concludes by informing his division of his intention to hold Western Kentucky.

The actual loss of the Union forces was 14 killed and 42 wounded. Rebel prisoners admit a loss of 300 killed and three times as many wounded.

The latest Memphis advices report nothing later from Forrest or Grierson. It was rumored that the former was preparing to attack Memphis.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Adjournment of the Legislature.

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, April 4, 1864.

Arrived ships Swallow, from Boston, Franklin, from New-York.

The Legislature adjourns finally at 12 o'clock to-night. The only act passed of interest outside of California is one whereby the State engages to pay the interest on $1,500,000 of the Central Pacific Railroad Company's bonds for twenty years. In approving this act the Governor expressed the belief that any future Legislature will have the power to repeal it.

SAN FRANCISCO, Tuesday, April 5, 1864.

Arrived ship Hornet, from New-York; she reports having spoken, April 18, in lat. 30 north, ship Enterprise, from New-York for San Francisco.

Lieut.-Col. Geo. H. Ringgold died yesterday. A military funeral will be given him from St. Mary's Cathedral to-morrow.

The Legislature adjourned at midnight, not to meet again for two years. Many bills of local interest were vetoed or retained in the Governor's possession.

The bill submitting to a vote of the people a proposition to issue half a million dollars of State bonds to the Western Pacific Railroad Company, and a million and a half to the Central Pacific Railroad Company, was vetoed on the ground of unconstitutionality.

Under another bill the Central Company has the interest on a million and a half of its bonds paid by the State for twenty years, as reported yesterday.

SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday, April 6, 1864.

Arrived, ships Haze, Witch of the Wave, Enterprise, Moravia, and Valparaiso, all from New-York.

Sailed steamer John L. Stephens for north-western ports of Mexico, with merchandise and mining machinery, valued at $150,000. This is the second large ocean steamer now plying between San Francisco and Mexico, each making about monthly trips.

Business generally is very dull. Blasting powder has declined to $6 per keg.

The last bill passed by the late Legislature was one donating $250 per month during the ensuing five years to Capt. Sutter, the California pioneer.

From the Red River—Large Amount of Cotton Captured.

ST. LOUIS, Friday, April 8, 1864.

The Democrat's Alexandria, La., dispatch says a large amount of cotton is being captured along Red River. It was reported that several naval officers had been captured while confiscating cotton.

Admiral Porter had issued a circular to captains and owners of steamboats in the employ of the Rebel Government as transports, stating that if they will deliver the boats to him he will afford them every opportunity to recover their property, while if they burn them they will be a total loss.

Navigation of the Penobscot.

BANGOR, Me., Friday, April 8, 1864.

The ice left the Penobscot to-night.

THE METROPOLITAN FAIR.

First Price of Admission Re-established.

GREAT THRONG OF VISITORS.

Scenes in Fourteenth Street and Union Square.

TOTAL RECEIPTS, $503,163 19.

Notwithstanding the fact that the price of admission to the Fair has, for the present, been re-established at $1, with 25 cents extra for a visit to the department of "Arms and Trophies;" 25 cents for an inspection of the magnificent collection of paintings in the Art Gallery; 25 cents to behold the antics of the Indians; 25 cents to inspect the thousand and one funny things in the Curiosity Shop, and 10 cents for a peep into the Cockloft House attached to the Jersey Department, making a total of two dollars and ten cents, there was no visible abatement in the rush of visitors yesterday, and from morning until night an immense crowd poured into the main bazaar, filling every inch of space from which any objects of interest were to be seen.

Although the doors were not thrown open a moment before 11 o'clock, still a large number of people assembled in the vicinity of the building as early as 9 o'clock, and the constantly augmenting crowd so blocked up every approach to the Fair, that it was with the utmost difficulty the lady attendants and the various employees could gain admittance.

Hundreds came and went on foot, while the cars and stages passing within a block or two of the Fair were filled beyond all reasonable capacity with visitors to the exhibition. At times, a long line of carriages was drawn up in front of the building, completely blocking up the street, and rendering it almost impossible for other vehicles to pass.

The scene outside was one of continued bustle, activity, and brilliancy—the numerous magnificent equipages dashing by—the passing to and fro of thousands of people in holiday attire, afforded one of the finest panoramic views that we have ever witnessed in New-York. Having thoroughly inspected this portion of the great Metropolitan Sanitary Fair, the crowd wended their way to the Union Square buildings, reserving the numerous attractions in that quarter for the last. The scene in and about Union Square was equally brilliant with that in Fourteenth street.

In the grand bazaar the selling was said by the ladies in attendance to be brisker than on the preceding day, and from the immense pile of greenbacks which we saw lying within the Temple of Flowers we should say that the offering to the Goddess Flora, through her fair, bright-eyed and beautiful attendants, had been very profuse.

The Roman Department, adjourning the Fire Department bazaar, on the South end, will be completed to-day, the goods for that interesting branch of the Fair having at length arrived. They comprise many extremely valuable and curious works of art, and delicate fabrics, and will undoubtedly add greatly to the attractiveness of the exhibition.

The Machinery Department, of which we shall speak again on some future occasion, is now nearly completed, and to persons of mechanical taste it must prove of an interesting character.

Among the literary curiosities presented the Fair is a work entitled "Autograph Leaves of Our Country's Authors." A collection of poems and prose by American authors in their own handwriting multiplied by the lithographic art. It opens with the "Star-Spangled Banner" in the handwriting and with the signature of Key, and closes with "Home, Sweet Home" in the handwriting and with the signature of Payne.

The work includes the manuscript of the address of President Lincoln at Gettysburg, and embraces choice selections from 90 distinguished authors, among whom are Irving, Bryant, Cooper, Longfellow, Prescott, Bancroft, Everett, Whittier, Holmes, Sparks, Allston, Motley, Dana, Percival, Poe, Willis, Channing, Mrs. Stowe, Emerson and Hawthorne. The preface is furnished by John P. Kennedy, and the work in one volume quarto of 216 pages is published by Cushing & Bailey of Baltimore, the copyright being secured for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission.

STEEL SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

☞Among the numerous articles on exhibition is the model of a steel suspension bridge, designed by Col. J. W. Adams, U. S. A., with which he proposes to connect the system of city railroads of New-York with that of Long Island, without impediment to the navigation of the East River. Col. A. proposes to make the connection from the center of travel as now existing at Chatham Square in New-York and Fulton street square in Brooklyn, and, according to his design, the whole bridge, with the single exception of the flooring, which will be of oak and pine, shall be composed of iron and steel.

The bridge will pass above the piers and wharves on the east side, so as not to interfere with their proper use, and will enter Chatham street on one side, and Fulton street on the other, without interfering with their traffic. The dimensions of the proposed bridge are as follows: Length of suspension bridge, 2,560 feet; length of trusses, 610 feet; length of iron girders, 260 feet; length of arches, 400 feet; total length of bridge, 4,230 feet; weight of iron and steel, 3,535 tons; masonry in towers, piers and arches, 8,880 cubic yards; distance between towers, 1,350 feet; center of bridge above high water in East River, 125 feet; bridge at towers above high water, 93 feet; deflexion of center cables, 97 feet; estimated cost, $3,000,000. The model on exhibition is very pretty, and during the greater part of the day, Col. Adams is present to explain his project of bridging the East River.

UNION-SQUARE BUILDINGS.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

On Friday morning, the cars and stages were filled with well-dressed persons bound for the Union-Square Buildings, and during the forenoon and afternoon, immense numbers of ladies and gentlemen thronged every department of the spacious structure.

The afternoon entertainment in the Children's Department consisted of tableaux vivants, under the direction of Mrs. Henry Beers, with the assistance of Mr. Calyo of the Academy of Music. The programme was as follows: The Circassian Slave, the bouquet, Cinderella seeing her sisters prepare for the ball, a ballad, the fortune-teller, Queen Flora with her attendants, the choice offered, the choice accepted, the gipsey encampment, a ballad, Queen Esther before the King, Miss Ophelia teaching Topsy to read, and the Goddess of Liberty receiving the homage of the nations.

The audience which completely filled every part of the spacious room consisted principally of adults, proving plainly that men and women are grown-up children, and fond of children's amusements.

As soon as the exhibition ended, the mass commenced the difficult task of promenading from booth to booth to see the rich and varied assortment of goods so artistically arranged by the ladies of taste and culture, who show their loyalty to their country and humanity by their efforts to promote the welfare of the sick and wounded soldier.

THE SKATING POND.

The skating pond is a very ingenious contrivance invented by Mrs. Anthony. It is of cylindrical form and surrounded with glass reflectors, and a large number of figures wearing skates and skating costumes put in motion by machinery, and made to resemble a fashionable party of accomplished skaters. It attracts crowds of visitors.

THE MUSIC ROOM.

In the music room is a select assortment of sheet music, musical books, and musical instruments, and at certain hours of the day a number of first-class artists discourse musically for the entertainment of those visitors who love the "concord of sweet sounds." A piece of music entitled "The Sanitary Polka," composed by Mrs. Parkhurst, has just been published and a large number of copies presented to the Fair by the publisher.

THE DUTCH KITCHEN.

The Dutch Kitchen has become a fashionable boarding-house. The aristocratic residents of our city palaces may be seen at all hours of the day and evening seated at the tables, and eating with a relish the good Knickerbocker fare set before them. The bill of fare, the quaint furniture, the antique appearance of the servants, remain the same, however, and all classes of well-behaved persons are invited to "eat, drink and be merry."

THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Many visitors pronounce this department the gem of the Fair. Without making invidious distinctions, it is proper to state the booths are stocked with a rich and costly variety of the best goods the market can supply. Yesterday, a case of goods shipped by Austin, Baldwin & Co. of London arrived, and the contents will be exhibited to-day in the booth devoted to the contributions from loyal Americans in England.

ULSTER COUNTY AT THE FAIR.

The booth allotted to the Ulster County ladies is a noticeable feature of the Fair. It is abundantly supplied with goods, and tastefully ornamented with pictures and statues. Above the booth is a blue silk banner, on which is painted a sheaf of wheat and the name of the county. It is presided over by the following ladies: Mrs. Jonathan Hasbrouck, Mrs. Jervis McEntee, Misses Sara and Lucy McEntee, Misses Cornell and Ettinge.

THE EVENING GATHERING.

Last evening there was an immense gathering of the fashion and beauty of the city and neighborhood in the several departments in the Auxiliary Building.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Watkins appeared on the stage, for the entertainment of the spectators. As soon as the play was over, there was a great rush toward the stalls, especially to the lemonade and ice cream stall, where Miss Capron and other accomplished ladies wait upon their patrons with dexterity and grace. The sparkling fountain, the fragrant flowers, the brilliant illumination, the vast variety of goods, the graceful saleswomen and the great mass of visitors formed a magnificent picture.

SEVENTEENTH WARD SCHOOL EXHIBITION.

A vocal and instrumental Concert and exhibition, by the pupils of the grammar departments of the Seventeenth Ward Schools Nos. 13 and 19, took place on Thursday evening, for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission, at the hall of the Cooper Union, which was densely crowded. The programme consisted of dialogues, declamation and singing. The singing, by the Misses Turner and Snow, evinced a high degree of cultivation. "It never rains but it pours" was well acted throughout, and received much applause.

In the humorous dialogue, "The Baron von Klingenberg," the Misses Nettie Weil and Josy Byrdsall, and Master Philip W. Strouse, sustained the principal characters. Colloquy, "Fountain of Peace," by twenty-five young ladies, was a sample of fine individual as well as concert reading, and showed careful teaching. Tennyson's "The Charge of the Light Brigade" was rendered with fine effect by Master Strouse. The most interesting feature of the evening was a military drill by a company of 40 boys. Each movement was executed with an accuracy that would have done credit to a company of Regulars, and received loud applause.

The exhibition ended with a tableau representing a pyramid with the American flag in the center. Over $1,200 was realized for the benefit of the Commission.

EIGHTEENTH WARD SCHOOL EXHIBITION.

The schools of this ward gave an exhibition for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission at the Cooper Institute on the 4th inst. Over $1,000 was received from the sale of tickets.

ICE FOR THE FAIR.

The New-York and the Knickerbocker Ice Companies furnish the Fair daily with all the ice they require, without charge.

THE RECEIPTS.

The receipts yesterday, as announced by the Treasurer at 3½ p. m., when his receipts were made up, were as follows:

From sales	$17,950 40
Tickets	20,026 20
Donations	10,613 00
Total yesterday	$48,589 60
Previous receipts	454,573 59
Total	$503,163 19

This sum includes receipts from sales of tickets, and goods, and subscriptions from all sources excepting the Fire Department, Art Gallery, Refreshment Saloon, and Union Square building, which auxiliaries will not make their returns before the close of the Fair. The Fire Department realized from subscriptions and sales on Wednesday, $2,260; Thursday, $1,001, and a like sum yesterday.

The magnificent lace Shetland shawl was sold during last evening at the Westchester Department for $1,000. The purchaser—who prefers that his name should not be published—allows the article to remain on exhibition, and states that if it is sold within a week for that amount he will give it as his own donation.

From Fort Monroe—Release of All the Union Prisoners in Richmond.

FORT MONROE, Thursday, April 7, 1864.

Two steamers, the New-York and the Express, left to-day, under flag of truce, for City Point to bring down all the Union officers and soldiers now prisoners of war at Richmond, about a thousand in number.

The Underwriters' boat Atlantic attempted to visit Cape Henry to-day to look after the wrecks, but the weather was so rough the boat returned.

The Baltimore boat arrived at 3 p. m., eight hours late.

Fires.

IN CANAL STREET.

The upper portion of the building No. 308 Canal street was seriously damaged by fire yesterday. The fourth floor was occupied by Wm. S. Demerell, manufacturer of artificial flowers, and loses $1,000 on stock. Insured. Geo. E. Fuchsel, manufacturer of hair nets, who occupied the third floor loses $200 on stock, principally by water. Insured. Fecht & Bros., importers and dealers in laces and fancy goods occupied the second floor.

Their stock is damaged by water to the amount of $3,000. Insured for $47,000 in various city companies. The first floor is occupied by Hart Bros., dealers in straw goods. Their stock is damaged by water to the amount of $1,000; insured for $10,000 in the Brooklyn and Atlantic Companies. The building is owned by Wilson & Dewey, and is damaged about $500. Insured. The fire is supposed to have been of an incendiary origin. Fire Marshal Baker is investigating the matter.

IN LAIGHT STREET.

A quantity of bags piled in front of No. 88 Laight street were yesterday fired by some unknown person and completely consumed. They were owned by Blake & Mahoney, junk dealers, and valued at $120; no insurance. The building owned by Mrs. Brigham was damaged to the amount of $150; no insurance.

RECORD OF SOLDIERS' DEATHS.

Complete List of those who have Died in and about New-York since April, 1862.

Names, Regiments, Companies, and Dates.

The following is a complete list of the soldiers who have died from April, 1862, to April 1, 1864, in hospitals and elsewhere in New-York, Brooklyn, David's Island, Riker's Island, Governor's Island, Bedloe's Island, at the forts, and on shipboard, en route to this city. The list comprises upward of 1,500 names, and has been carefully compiled by Mr. Andrew J. Case of No. 397 Grand street, the Government undertaker. To those who have lost relatives or friends, without knowing where they died, the publication will, in many instances, be found most valuable. Soldiers from nearly all the loyal States are comprised in the list.

Mr. Case took the contrat for burial of all the soldiers dying in the city and vicinity in April, 1862, and by his faithful fulfillment of it has met with the approval of Quartermaster Van Vliet, and also of the Medical Director. In each case a neat, plain, but substantial coffin is furnished, the remains are neatly prepared and taken in a hearse to Cypress Hills, where each soldier has a separate grave. The utmost care is taken to secure identification. On the coffin, and also on a piece of parchment inside the coffin, are placed the name, age, regiment and company of deceased, date of death, &c., where these can be ascertained, so that in case of disinterment there can be no mistake. Each grave has a number, such number and the records on and in the coffin corresponding with the number and similar record of name, &c., on Mr. Case's books, so that persons who discover that relatives or friends are among the buried, and who desire a disenterment, may, on application to him, ascertain where they are buried. Out of the entire number, between 400 and 500 have been claimed by friends, and in but few instances when the remains have been sought for have mistakes occurred, and in these only where from the condition of the soldier before death, his identity could not be established. In the case of the "unknown"—where neither name nor regiment could be had—such facts as color of hair, peculiarities of person, &c., are returned. During the period which this list covers, there were buried 15 "unknown":

FROM APRIL 5, 1862, TO JAN. 1, 1863.

Names.	Date of Death.
Armstrong, Myron W., Co. F, N. Y. Cav.	May 13
Abbot, Jas. G., 4th Michigan	May 26
Arnold, Sam'l H., 1st Massachusetts	June 14
Andrews, Chas., Co. D, 17th Regulars	June 16
Augustus, Frederick, Co. I, 74th New-York	June 16
Archenback, William, Co. K, 93d Pennsylvania	June 16
Adams, Chester, Co. B, 3d Michigan	June 30
Allen, William, Co. D, 98th New-York	July 10
Allen, Henry, Co. C, 34th New-York	July 21
Appleton, Chas. M., Co. R, 72d Pennsylvania	July 21
Ackley, John, Co. K, 8th New-York	July 21
Aslee, David B., Co. 5, — Massachusetts	July 25
Atkuns, Geo., Co. E, 81st Pennsylvania	Aug. 1
Albright, Isaac, Co. B, 93d Pennsylvania	Aug. 4
Ackley, John, Co. F, 4th Michigan	Aug. 7
Andrews, John, Co. C, 4th Michigan	Aug 21
Allen, George M., Co. D, 2d Rhode Island	Sept. 4
Ashmead, Oliver G., Co. H, 6th Pennsylvania	Sept. 30
Aspinwall, S., Co. I, 8th Pa. Cavalry	Oct. 4
Arnett, Herman, Co. A, 66th New-York	Oct. 22
Aldrich, John H, Co. H, 29th Massachusetts	Oct. 22
Acker, Adam, 134th New-York	Oct. 23
Andrews, Joseph, Co. C, 25th Pennsylvania	Nov. 3
Aubel, George, died at Fort Richmond	Nov. 23
Avery, Edwin C, Co. I, 161st New-York	Dec. 5
Backus, Lester, Co. D, 23d Pennsylvania	May 15
Broadwell, W., Co. B, 98th New-York	May 16
Brooks, Oben, Co. A, 93d New-York	May 19
Baldwin, Louis M., Co. —, 44th New-York	May 26
Barnes, Robert L., Co. D, 12th New-York	May 27
Bisley, Samuel C., Co. D, 96th New-York	May 28
Bird, Thompson, Co. D, 81st New-York	May 30
Barden, M., Co. K, 10th Massachusetts	June 13
Blanchard, Aaron, Co. E, 92d New-York	June 13
Birch, Nathan, Co. F, 5th New-Jersey	June 23
Bell, David, Co. D, 10 th Pennsylvania	June 26
Beck, Edward, Co. C, 37th New-York	June 26
Beekman, Frank, Co. D, 7th New-Jersey	June 29
Burr, Davis, Co. H, 8th Illinois	July 1
Beason, Sergt A. F., Co. B, 11th Maine	July 10
Burdet., Aaron, Co. E, 16th Massachusetts	July 12
Bonner, Joseph M., Co. C, 10th Pennsylvania	July 10
Barrows, Franklin, Co. I, 3d New-Hampshire	July 16
Baliff, Eugene, Co. C, 1st Long Island	July 16
Barlow, F. R., died on steamer Daniel Webster	July 17
Bond, Chas. F, 8th Connecticut	July 18
Blauvelt, W. J., New-York Battery	July 21
Barsollette, —, New-York Band	July 23
Brammly, John U. or N., Co. K, 13th New-York	July 25
Ball, John, Co. G, 2d Excelsior	July 26
Bridges, Alfred, Co. I, 3d Vermont	July 26
Beatly, Robert, Co. E, 53d Pennsylvania	July 28
Blakely, Geo. W., Co. K, 7th New-Jersey	July 28
Butler, Stephen, Co. C, 3d New-Jersey	July 28
Buckner, S. M., or K., died at New-York Hospital	July 29
Barker, Thomas H., Co. I, 2d Rhode Island	July 29
Billing, Geo., Co. D, 98th Pennsylvania	July 31
Bruner, John, Co. E, 101st Pennsylvania	Aug. 2
Bogart, Wallace, Co. A, 42d Pennsylvania	Aug. 2
Barnum, Elisktin, Co. K, 11th Connecticut	Aug. 4
Babcock, Gilbert R, Co. H, 81st New-York	Aug. 5
Banks, Philip, Co. E, 93d Pennsylvania	Aug. 7
Blunt, Henry, Co. E, 50th New-York	Aug. 24
Bebout, Andrew G., Co. G, 62d Ohio	Aug. 28
Betts, B. H., Co. D, 11th Maine	Aug. 29
Baily, W. B., or Barley, Co. D, 52d Mass.	Aug. 30
Bennett, Jas. H., Co. K, 61st New-York	Sept. 18
Blanchard, Martin, Co. G, 3d New-Jersey	Sept. 22
Broderick, John, Co. G, 8th U. S. Infantry	Oct. 6
Bernhardt, Archer, Co. A, 92d New-York	Oct. 16
Burk, Michael, Co. D, 49th New-York	Oct. 18
Baker, Peter, 2d Vermont Battery	Oct. 18
Blakeslee, Co. H, 13th Connecticut	Oct. 20
Bacon, Leander, died on steamer St. Mark's	Oct. 4
Bates, Andrew J., Co. C, 11th Pennsylvania	Oct. 27
Brown, Lewis P., Co. F, 49th Pennsylvania	Oct. 27
Bari, Alexander, Co. G, 22d Massachusetts	Oct. 31
Brady, Nathaniel, Co. G, 46th Pennsylvania	Nov. 3
Baron, Jonathan F., Co. K, 7th N. H.	Nov. 9
Bohrman, Wm., Co. E, 6th Senatorial District	Nov. 13
Bailey, B. C., Co. I, 71st Pennsylvania	Nov. 19
Bridges, John F., Co. H, 20th Maine	Nov. 29
Barrett, Wm., Co. E, 161st New-York	Nov. 30
Beckwith, J. P., Co. F, 52d Massachusetts	Dec. 2