

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OFFICE: No. 23 NASSAU ST.

VOLUME XXVII. No. 173. AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

THE GARDEN, Broadway—CHILD OF THE REBEL. WALLACE'S THEATRE, 44 Broadway—RETURNED VOLUNTEER—YOUNG ACTRESS—ORIBUS. LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway—FANCION, OR THE CRUISE. WINTER GARDEN, Broadway—THE WIZARD'S TEMPT. NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—A HAND OF CARDS—MADAME—SCARLET MASKS.

NEW YORK, Tuesday, June 24, 1862.

THE SITUATION.

From despatches received at the War Department yesterday afternoon from General McClellan's headquarters, nothing of importance occurred in the Army of the Potomac yesterday. General Halleck sends the same information from his command on the Mississippi. Our correspondence from the army in front of Richmond, however, is worthy of close attention.

Our pickets returning to camp represent that indications of some important movement of the rebels in Richmond were observed. The heavy rumbling of trains and wagons were heard late at night, and the sound of martial music receding from the city. The impression seemed to be that an evacuation was taking place, but it is just as likely that reinforcements were arriving.

Final Passage of the Tax Bill. The tax bill, which has been under consideration for so long a time, passed both houses of Congress, by a decisive vote, yesterday afternoon. We republish in another portion of this morning's issue our table of the taxes imposed, with the amendments made since the bill was returned to the House for concurrence in the Senate amendments.

Congress. The tax bill finally passed both houses of Congress yesterday. In the House the vote stood one hundred and six yeas to seven nays. The bill now only requires the approval of the President to become a law.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Board of Aldermen were in session last evening, when a message was received from Mayor Opdyke, announcing that he had signed the ordinance providing additional aid for the families of volunteers from this city, but suggesting that the ordinance be amended in some respects.

By reference to the compilation it will be seen that the tax on manufactured tobacco has been changed, as also has that on cigars. Other changes in the rates levied will also be found there noted.

In the passage of the bill through the Senate a change was made, important both to the tax paying community and to those seeking offices. The amount of compensation fixed for assessors (one of the principal classes of officers) by the House was three dollars per day, and one dollar for each hundred names on the tax lists furnished by them to the collectors.

The taxgatherer, from whose presence, we have heretofore been free, will soon be in our midst. Were the object for which the taxes are levied less patriotic, the people might feel oppressed by the burden. As it is, but few will be found mean enough to grudge furnishing their mite towards the support of the government and the punishment of traitors.

Hot Work at Charleston—The Great Campaign in Virginia—Rebel Views of Rebel Blunders in the West. From the brief account which we publish this morning from rebel sources of the sanguinary battle on Monday last on James Island, within four miles of Charleston, we have every reason to believe that it resulted in a substantial Union victory, and that the apprehensions of the Charleston Mercury in reference to the rebel army on the island and the safety of the city were well founded.

With the island in our possession, our land forces can be advanced within easy shelling distance of the city across the Ashley river, and five or six miles above Sumter, Moultrie and their supporting forts and batteries. Our gunboats and land forces, in working their way through the obstructions in the channel and the shore batteries of the Stone Inlet, have turned all those solid formidable fortifications of the broad seaway to Charleston, just as a fleet of hostile gunboats would turn our heavy forts at the Narrows by going around Staten Island.

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NEWS FROM THE PENINSULA.

Gen. Hooker's Outposts Shelled by the Rebels. Brilliant Skirmish of the Massachusetts Sixteenth with the Enemy.

ADVANCE OF THE UNION LINES. The Rebels Evacuating Some of Their Positions. Gen. Jackson Being Reinforced by Gen. Lawton.

FOREIGN MONITOR, June 22, 1862. The weather continues very warm and dry. To-day the heat is oppressive. The steamer Adelaide brought to-day Mr. Senator Wilkinson and Mrs. Senator Harlan, who proceeded to White House to visit our army hospitals and minister to the sick and wounded.

Thirty arrests of charity arrived in the steamer Adelaide, and left this morning for the Army of the Potomac by the steamer from White House Point. I learn that on yesterday the rebels opened upon Gen. Hooker's advance with shell, but did no serious damage. General Hooker answered from one of our powerful new batteries, just completed, throwing heavy shells, which were seen to burst among the rebel attacking party by reason of one Professor Low's balloons, causing the rebel artillerymen to "skeddadle" in the most approved style.

Our troops are represented as enthusiastic at the near prospect of a great and decisive battle. The steamer Metamora proceeded to City Point yesterday afternoon under a flag of truce, and has not yet returned. The Richmond Dispatch says that it can no longer be denied that General Jackson has been heavily reinforced lately, and the Union columns must either combine or fall back across the Potomac.

Our Special Army Correspondence. FARM OATS, Va., June 19, 1862. A British Movement of the Rebels—A Reconnoissance—Advances of a Private—General Casey of Fair Oaks—The Killed and Wounded in the Skirmish, &c., &c. Yesterday the sixteenth Massachusetts regiment, Col. Wyman, had a severe skirmish with the enemy in front, resulting in a loss of seventeen killed, twenty-five wounded and fourteen missing, but driving the enemy back a distance of a mile, with a loss double that of the sixteenth.

For the past two days and nights our pickets have observed an unusual commotion in the rebel camp, indicating a movement of some kind. Large bodies of troops have been seen moving to the left of us, in the direction of James river, with bands playing, and work being done in their camp at night, and the sound of the packing camp equipment and the moving of stores. We wish to ascertain their whereabouts and what was going on, General Hooker concluded to send out a regiment, and drive in their pickets. He selected for this important duty the sixteenth Massachusetts regiment, which is one of the largest now on the peninsula, and most nobly did they perform the duty.

The regiment was drawn up in line of battle in front of the camp occupied by General Casey at the time he was attacked, and ordered to advance through the woods in front, and find out where the main body of the enemy were. They were under the immediate command of Colonel Wyman, about whom it will be remembered, General Andrew and General Butler had some difficulty, but were also accompanied part of the distance by General Grover.

The loss of the regiment is undoubtedly larger than it would have been had they deployed as skirmishers instead of marching through in close line of battle, as they presented in this way a splendid target for the enemy, with very little chance of missing some of them. Within five minutes after entering the woods they encountered the advance pickets of the enemy, who fired and fell back upon the reserves, who in turn fired and fell back until they had received reinforcements of a full brigade.

The regiment steadily advanced, with unbroken lines, meeting and driving back this brigade of the enemy, and also receiving the fire of a battery, until they had gone a little more, when they came in sight of the main body of the enemy, and concluded that it was intended for them to do a desperate assault on the location and force of the rebels.

This being accomplished, they returned in good order to the camp, bringing with them a number of prisoners. While this was being performed by the regiment one of our batteries was pouring into the woods on the left of them a perfect shower of grape and canister, which did terrible execution, killing and wounding about six hundred of this brigade, who were in exact ranks of our guns.

OUR SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

Arrival of the Daniel Webster and H. B. Spaulding from Portsmouth, Va. The sanitary hospital steamship Daniel Webster and H. B. Spaulding, having on board 648 sick and wounded arrived at this port at an early hour yesterday morning.

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IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH.

The City Authorities of Memphis Required to Take the Oath of Allegiance—Reported Servile Insurrection in Mississippi—Reports from Mobile and Vicksburg, &c., &c.

Memphis, June 20, 1862. The Mobile News of the 18th says nothing of the capture of Fort Morgan and no mention of an attack being made, although some naval arrangements were in progress at New Orleans, considered to be aiming at the point.

Advances from Vicksburg to the 17th, by way of Grenada, state that no active demonstration had been made by the Union fleet since its retirement. Several gunboats appeared on the 15th from below. Reports say that 5,000 Union troops, with gunboats and transports, leave Baton Rouge on Friday for Vicksburg.

The Vicksburg Whig of the 17th, says—We hear that General Lovell, staff and family have moved their headquarters to Meridian, and hopes he will not find it necessary to visit that city again. The federal advance division arrived at their old position on Friday evening. They fired half a dozen shots at the rebel battery on Sunday. All was quiet yesterday.

Colonel Shack still retains command of this city. He has issued an order requiring the Board of Aldermen, Mayor, Recorder, and all other city officials to take the oath of allegiance within three days, and in default will be regarded as sympathizers and be arrested and treated as traitors.

A Grenada (Miss.) paper of the 14th says that information from Oshtobee county states that the negroes were arming themselves rapidly for the purpose of killing all the whites. On the 18th of June a plot was discovered in time to be frustrated.

The Mobile News of the 18th says a Richmond telegram states that General Lawton, with a Georgia brigade, 6,000 strong, was to leave Wednesday to reinforce Jackson.

The Grenada Appeal of the 18th contains the following dispatch:—MORNINGTON, Ala., June 17, 1862. General Beauregard and staff are on the way to Richmond. We hear that a large portion of the Army of the Mississippi will soon follow their General. A sufficient force will be left with the invincible Boggs to check any force that the rebels may bring by the banks under Halleck.

The Grenada Appeal of the 18th says that Holly Springs was occupied by a considerable force of the enemy night before last. They made their appearance suddenly, and much confusion ensued. The Provost Marshal is among the prisoners captured. A train was attempted to take refuge for the purpose of escaping. The crowd was fired on, and Lieut. Hall and some others killed. No public stores remained at Holly Springs.

It is believed here that the Southern statements that Beauregard will take no troops to Richmond is a ruse; that most of his army is already there. The government is repairing the roads from Memphis to Cairo. The heavy force at both ends will open through in two or three weeks.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION OPEN TO MEMPHIS.

Mr. Hackett at the Brooklyn Academy. The distinguished and able Shakespearean comedian appeared last evening before a rather small though highly appreciative audience, at the above named theatre, as Falstaff, in the great English historical drama, "King Henry the Fourth."

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