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NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

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LONGSTREET'S MOVEMENTS

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&c., &c., &c.

Mr. Lincoln's Presidential Log Rolling—War Movements South.

[From the Richmond Examiner, March 12.]

The military operations—if they deserve that title—of our invading enemies begin to wear an unsettled, uncertain and desultory aspect. The grand, combined, deliberate movements which were to have slowly but surely crushed the life out of the "rebellion" have become small, nervous, sudden, spasmodic. Sherman's immense expedition for the conquest of Mississippi and Alabama has disastrously collapsed before Forrest's handful of Confederate horsemen; and the next thing we hear of it is that the troops destined for Mobile and Montgomery are steaming way up the river to try their luck somewhere else—possibly to reinforce Meade; possibly to be shipped to Fortress Monroe, and essay another campaign on the peninsula or the southside. * * *

When Grant told his men lately that most of Johnston's army was gone from their front, and that there was nothing to prevent them from proceeding to Atlanta, and so overrunning Georgia, taking Charleston and Richmond in the rear, the unsuspecting men set boldly forward, expecting surely to plunder the barns and meathouses of North Georgia; but, behold! at Tunnel Hill they found some resilient "rebels" actually standing still and offering battle. It was not in their programme; nor did it accord with their inclinations; and scarcely tarrying long enough to ascertain whether it was a serious opposition or not, they thought it best to go back to their intrenchments on the Chickamauga. So, also, the army of Florida was shamefully cheated into a still more perilous advance by the representation that there would be nobody to dispute it; the gallant fellows were to have nothing to do but drive away the cattle and destroy the corn, and so cut off that source of supply from the scanty commissariat of the Confederates. How were they to know that Lieutenant General Hardee, with twenty-five thousand men, would meet them full in front, and charge and cut and stab in that savage kind of way? They are not very sure, indeed, whether it was Hardee, with twenty-five thousand, or Lee, with fifty thousand; they did not stay to identify, or to count with any closeness or precision. One thing they are sure of—that they were sold, over twenty hundred of them slaughtered or wounded, *and all, as it now turns out, to gain three votes for Lincoln in the coming Presidential campaign.*

In fact, the whole war at present has itself become a Presidential campaign. The proclamation that a "rebel" State may come in whenever one-tenth of its inhabitants undertake to govern the other nine-tenths is regarded as a trump card for Lincoln. And this was the grand design of that mighty advance of Sherman upon Mississippi and Alabama. He was to occupy so much of the country that a tenth part of the people of those States might be encouraged (or compelled, it mattered not which) to pretend that they were erecting a new State within the enemy's lines, *and so turn the flank of Chase and checkmate Fremont.* Grant also was to plant and cultivate a "free" State of Georgia, with its capital in Atlanta, and leaving Milledgeville out in the cold, was *to furnish Presidential electors for Georgia in the grand, real campaign of the year.*

Everywhere the around our borders the wavering and shifting proceedings of the enemy partake of this semi-equivocal, log-rolling character. It is not, perhaps, so much that the rogues want seriously to hurt us; this is only their method of stumping the South. Seeing that we will not act as rational beings, and give up our rebellious pranks in good time for the usual election of Presidential electors, this is merely a mode they have adopted of getting hold of ten men in every hundred of us, who will take in hand to govern the other ninety for their own good; *and organizing States behind Yankee bayonets, vote for Lincoln and save us all.* It is altogether in mercy and loving kindness they are coming in now, to see whether there be, peradventure, ten just men whose pious "loyalty" may possibly save the rest. They had not expected such obstinate resistance to their beneficent design, now in this last stage of the "rebellion." Pickett spoils their game in North Carolina, Polk and Forrest in the Southwest, Johnston in Georgia, Finnegan in Florida, and as for South Carolina, that most impracticable little State, there seems no hope of it at all; though, indeed, it is a wonder they have not formed a "loyal" State there with runaway negroes on the sea islands. The Presidential campaign in the South is, so far, a failure.

But although this may be the present theory of the war in the mind of that absurd nation with which we have to do, we must take a somewhat different view of it. *The Confederacy cannot much longer afford to have their country made the theatre of this species of Presidential electioneering.* If we have not yet been able to convince our enemies that their politics and their platforms are nothing to us henceforth and forever, it is clear that something more remains to be done. According to the present system they may carry on their war to an indefinite or infinite length. They are suffering not little; it is not their lands that are wasted, nor their houses that are robbed and burned down, nor their women and children who are cursed and buffeted and starved and turned out homeless and naked on the world. With their vast resources in men and money it costs them little or nothing to hover around our borders and watch for some weak undefended point where they may dash in and burn a province or sack a city. The plunder and ravages they commit, if it do not altogether pay its own expenses, yet suffices, being duly magnified and exaggerated by their press, to keep up the value of their paper money and deter the collapse of their finances. To them this kind of war is cheaper, on the whole, than peace; for peace with us would be sudden and signal ruin to them, both financially and politically. There can be no end of the war on these terms. Yet there is an absolute necessity, and clear moral duty upon us, in justice to the suffering and heroic Confederate people, to put an end to it. Things cannot go on this for ever, and some remedy there must be. According to the present system it is clear that our enemies believe we even still to be playing at President making. *They do not yet understand that we are resolute to be rid of them forever, and determined rather to die than to live with them in the new political commingle again. To some persons, carnally pondering this matter, there seems one way and no other—it is to take no more prisoners, and, as a necessary corollary, to admit of no surrenders on our part. Stupid and absurd as our enemies are, it will at length understand that this is no mere game of President making when they find that the penalty of falling into our hands is death; when they perceive that our soldiers go into the field each man with his life in his hand, meaning to conquer or to die.*

Message of the Governor of Georgia.

[Telegraphic despatch to the Richmond Examiner, March 12.]

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., March 10, 1864.

Governor Brown's message was read to the Legislature to-day. He recommends a vigorous state policy on the questions of relief to soldiers' families, cotton planting, illegal distillation, impressments of provisions, removal of slaves and desertion from the army. The following is a synopsis of his remarks on general subjects:—

He commences by saying that the *late action of Congress has shaken the confidence of the people in their justice or competency.* In our financial affairs the compulsory funding of seven hundred millions in forty days, at a less rate of interest than that pledged on full notes, resembles repudiation and bad faith. *The discussion of important measures in secret sessions is declared a blighting curse, convenient for concealing what will not bear the light. He declares the new military bill unconstitutional,* and says the conscription of citizens will not fill the army, but they will stay at home on details, thus depriving the State of her active militia, and placing civil rights subordinate to the military power. *The suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, under pretended necessity, confers upon the President powers denied by the constitution,* which limited the power of Congress to suspend the action of the writ only in an implied and limited way by expressed declaration in favor of personal liberty. The Congress cannot confer judicial powers upon the Executive, and that warrants issued by the President are plain violations of the constitution, and if this act is acquiesced in the President may imprison whom he chooses—it being only necessary to allege treasonable efforts—and no court dare investigate the case. *The Legislature is earnestly recommended to take prompt action to stamp the act with the seal of their indignant rebuke.*

The Governor reviews the causes of the war, expresses his opinion as to who is responsible for it, and how peace should be sought, and occupies half the message in showing its unchristian character. The Northern democrats and moderate republicans he exonerates from causing it, and says the responsibility rests exclusively with the wicked *republicans, who denied the compact of the constitution, declared an evil slavery Bible and an anti slavery God.* When these obtained possession of the federal government the South was compelled, in self-defence, to sever the compact of sovereign States, which wicked men promised to restore by the paradox—force. Under this pretence habeas corpus was trampled under foot—the ballot box overawed—armies raised to hold the North and subject the South. *A change of administration in the North must come before we can have peace.* Revolution defends the right of State sovereignty. Self-government did not provoke war, and an amicable adjustment has been refused.

Lincoln has declared that Georgia and other States are in rebellion to the federal government, the creature of the States, which they could destroy as well as create. In authorizing war he did not seek to restore the Union under the constitution as it was, by confining the government to a sphere of limited powers. They have taken one hundred thousand negroes, which cost half a million of whites, four thousand millions of dollars, and now seek to repudiate self government—subjugate Southern people and confiscate their property. The statement of Lincoln, that we offer no terms of adjustment, is made an artful pretext that it is impossible to say when the war will terminate, but that negotiation, not the sword, will finally terminate it. *We should keep before the Northern people the idea that we are ready to negotiate when they are ready and will recognize our right to self-government and the sovereignty of the States. After each victory our government should make a distinct offer of peace on these terms, and should the course of any State be doubted, let the armed force be withdrawn and the ballot box decide.* If this is refused even a dozen times, renew it, and keep before the North and the world that our ability to defend ourselves for many years has been proved. Should Lincoln boast of his numerical superiority, let him be reminded of the reply of King Ben Hadad—"Let not him that girdeth on harness boast himself as he that putteth it off."

Rebel News of Longstreet's Movements.

[From the Richmond Examiner, March 14.]

We have some interesting intelligence from Longstreet's command. Indications were, a few days since, indicative of an early engagement between the two armies of the East Tennessee department, but they had all disappeared. The enemy came as far up as Morristown, in considerable force—also on the Chucky river, but on the appearance of an advance of our troops, they retreated hurriedly in the direction of Knoxville. The latest intelligence received from them reported their rear at Strawberry Plains.

There are no federal forces on the Bean's Station valley road nearer than Blain's cross roads.

Everything is quiet in the direction of Cumberland Gap. The garrison at that point is quite small, and keep close in their fortifications, as the scouts of Jones hover close around them.

A rumor was in circulation that Grant had sent twenty-five thousand men into Kentucky, via Nashville, from Chattanooga, to meet the anticipated advance of Longstreet's army. He is certainly dreaming.

Our troops are in admirable health and full of enthusiasm, and have plenty of supplies.

General Sherman's Expedition.

DEMOPOLIS, March 7, 1864.

The enemy's army, thirty thousand infantry and one thousand five hundred cavalry, left Canton on the morning of the 2d inst. Sherman pushed on to Vicksburg, leaving McPherson in command.

Richmond Markets.

[From the Richmond Examiner, March 14.]

The city markets have been almost bare of meats and vegetables for a fortnight. The country people have evidently postponed their visits to the city until the approaching "All Fools' Day." A few shad, from North Carolina, have been brought to market this week, and sold at $10 to $20 each.

The wood dealers have lately advanced their retail prices. Oak is now selling at $44 per cord; pine $35, delivered.

Successful Blockade Running.

[From the Charleston Courier, March 8.]

MORE ARRIVALS.

Two more swift steamers, with valuable assorted cargoes, mostly on government account, have arrived at a Confederate port in safety.

IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH WEST.

DESPERATE FIFHT AT YAZOO CITY.

Reported Capture of Harrisonville, on Red River.

A New Expedition from Vicksburg on Foot.

ADMIRAL PORTER IN THE RED RIVER,

&c., &c., &c.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 14, 1864.

Advices from Vicksburg to the 10th say that everybody among the troops is on the *qui vive*, preparing for another grand expedition. The troops are in excellent spirits and eager for marching orders.

There was quite a battle at Yazoo City on the 5th between the negro troops stationed there and a large force of rebels who made an attack upon the place. The rebels gained possession of part of the city, but the gunboats coming up, opened fire upon them, encouraging the negroes, who charged and drove the rebels back. Our loss was slight. The rebel loss is unknown.

General Veatch and staff arrived here to-day. He is *en route* for General Dodge's division, at Huntsville, Ala.

Upwards of five thousand bales of cotton arrived from below yesterday. Receipts by wagons continue large.

CAIRO, March 16, 1864.

General Sherman and staff passed through here to day *en route* for Louisville.

The steamers Lancaster, Celeste and Silver Wave were fired into recently on the White river. One man was killed and one wounded.

Mr. DeB. Randolph Keim's Despatch.

CAIRO, Ill., March 13, 1864.

Upon my departure from Sherman's expedition, after the occupation of Canton, the two corps were with instructions to divest the country in the vicinity of everything useful to the enemy, and this being accomplished, were ordered to return to Vicksburg, for movements of equally as great importance as those from which they had just returned. By the 6th of the present month these corps had returned to the city. Many of the troops that had re-enlisted before the setting out of the expedition, and were then on the eve of returning home, were suddenly called into action by thus delaying their furlough. Before starting, however, they were promised an immediate furlough upon the accomplishment of the movement. They went to Meridian, consummated the design of the raid, by the destruction of railroads, and, as would be expected upon reaching Vicksburg again, met the fulfilment of these promises. As a consequence, a number of regiments have already been furloughed and reached here, and by this time are receiving the happy congratulations and admiration of their friends at home. To-day the Eleventh Iowa and Sixteenth Wisconsin, Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild, arrived, and will immediately leave by rail for their respective States.

From a letter in one of these regiments I learn that while the boat was about to leave the levee at Vicksburg a well confirmed report of the capture of Colonel Coates' expedition, composed of the Eleventh Illinois infantry and the Eighth and ——Louisiana African regiments, was in circulation. This force was sent up the Yazoo river on steamboats some weeks since, with instructions to threaten and keep the region in the neighborhood of Yazoo City in a state of alarm, in order to necessitate the presence of at least a brigade of rebel cavalry, thus weakening the opposition to our troops than setting out from Vicksburg. This was accomplished. After cruising about in the river and landing at several places Colonel Coates succeeded in capturing Yazoo City, which he occupied. The report states that the transports lying in the river were then laden with cotton and permitted to return to Vicksburg, with orders to return in ten days with a supply of provisions and forage. After the boats were fairly beyond recall the enemy, in overwhelming numbers, bore down upon Coates, who, after a severe but brief action, was obliged to surrender, for, as the transports were gone and his command surrounded, there was no chance of retreat. But eleven men had returned up to the time of starting of the steamer. Further developments may mitigate the sweeping character of the capture.

The same steamer also brings information of the capture of Harrisonville, on the Red river, by Admiral Porter's fleet. No particulars are given. This, however, indicates that the navy is not entirely inactive, and employed in other purposes besides the shelling of woods and routing river guerillas. It may be stated in this connection that guerilla firing is growing less every day; and the present rapid rising of the Ohio and Mississippi, as well as the affluents of the latter lower down, will shortly drive them all into the back country.

Official Despatches from Admiral Porter.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1864.

CAPTURE OF COTTON, SUGAR, ETC.

Admiral Porter encloses a communication from Lieutenant Commander Thos. O. Selfridge, of the Conestoga, in which he states that, learning there was a large amount of cotton belonging to the rebel government under a small guard of soldiers not far from where Old river in tersects the main levee, he landed on the morning of the 13th of February, with forty-five seamen and some contrabands. After marching six miles he found the cotton, and would have captured the guard but for the accidental explosion of a musket. On his way back he was considerably annoyed by Texan cavalry. He took thirty-two bales of cotton, twenty mules and several horses, and captured as prisoners Col. C. H. Tyler and Maj. J. F. O'Brien, of the rebel provisional army. The day before he destroyed twenty-four hogsheads of sugar near Cross river, which was too bulky to take on board.

SHARP SKIRMISH AT WATERPROOF.

The Navy Department has received a communication from Admiral Porter, in which he encloses one from Lieutenant Commander Green, on the United States steamer Rattler, off Hurricane Island, February 15. He says:—"I have informed you in a previous letter that a detachment of about two hundred negro troops has been stationed at Waterproof, making it a depot for negroes, cattle, &c. This has aroused the indignation of the rebels, and on the 14th a force of about eight hundred cavalry, of Harrison's command, made an attack upon the post, driving in the pickets and pressing the troops very hard. Fortunately for them the Forest Rose was present. Captain Johnson immediately opened a rapid fire on them, which drove them back. He got his vessel under weigh, and shelled the enemy wherever his guns would bear. They hastily retreated to the woods. This lasted from three to half-past five o'clock P. M. At eight o'clock the enemy attempted to make a dash into the town; but Captain Johnson, who was well posted as to their approaches, drove them back. Eight dead rebels and five prisoners were left in our hands. Our loss was five killed and two wounded. Captain Johnson says some of the negroes fought well; but for want of proper discipline a majority did not." Lieutenant Commander Green arrived with the Rattler after the fighting was over. He then proceeded to Natchez, reported the facts to Commander Fest, and asked him to send up reinforcements.

The next morning he despatched two hundred men and some howitzer ammunition to Waterproof. Upon arriving at Waterproof, on the 15th, he found that in the morning the enemy, who had been reinforced in the night, and whose forces now consisted of two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry and four pieces of artillery, had again attacked the post. The Forest Rose, whose commander was ever on the alert, was ready for them. A few well directed shells stopped them from planting their battery on the plank road, and drove them off in confusion.

The attempts of the remainder to advance were frustrated by the Forest Rose.

Captain Johnson says:—"Captain Anderson asked repeatedly for me to take his troops on board and throw them across the river, while in every request I declined, and could only tell him to fight. After I got the enemy to retreat he felt more easy, and discontinued his requests to cross. I do not think Captain Anderson was intimidated; but by the bad discipline of his officers and the incapacity of his men he became panic-stricken."

The ram Switzerland arrived about the close of the fight, and joined them.

The rebel loss, as far as known, was seven killed, a number wounded, who were taken off, and several prisoners—among them a lieutenant—who were taken to Harrison. Our loss was three killed and twelve wounded. In the two days' fight the Forest Rose expended two hundred and seventy shell.

Under date of February 16 he says:—"I have received a despatch from Johnson dated the 15th, at ten o'clock P. M., which says that the rebels have made another and final attack on Waterproof. He sent a few shells, which caused them to retire. They retreated toward Harrison, burning the bridges behind them. The rebels cannot stand the fire of the gunboats."

Later he says everything is quiet; but they have information that the rebels are making preparations for an attack on the contraband camp opposite Vicksburg. The negro troops at Waterproof have been committing many outrages.

Capture of Forty Rebels Near Port Gibson.

CINCINNATI, March 16, 1864.

Information from Vicksburg reports that a portion of the Marine Brigade, under Captain Crandall, recently surprised a rebel camp east of Port Gibson, capturing forty-seven prisoners and releasing five Union soldiers taken at the Big Black.

General Dodge's Expedition.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 11, 1864.

Lieutenant General U. S. GRANT:—

After occupying Decatur, Dodge pushed west to Courtland, thence to Moulton, driving the enemy, capturing many prisoners and stores, ammunition, salt and stock.

T. S. BOWEN, Assistant Adjutant General.

THE SHERMAN EXPEDITION.

Official Despatches from General Sherman and General Butterfield.

THE DESPATCH FROM GENERAL SHERMAN.

VICKSBURG, Feb. 27,
Via CAIRO, March 10, 1864.

Lieutenant General GRANT, care of Major General Halleck:—

GENERAL—I got in this morning from Canton, where I left my army in splendid heart and condition. We reached Jackson February 6, crossed the Pearl, and passed through Brandon to Morton, where the enemy made dispositions for battle, but fled in the night. We posted on over all obstacles, and reached Meridian February 14. General Polk having a railroad to assist him in his retreat escaped across the Tombigbee on the 17th. We stayed at Meridian a week, and made the most complete destruction of the railroads ever beheld—south below Quitman, east to Cuba Station, twenty miles north to Lauderdale Springs and west all the way back to Jackson. I could hear nothing of the cavalry force of General William Smith, ordered to be there by February 10. I enclose by mail this, with a copy of his instructions. I then began to give back slowly, making a circuit by the north to Canton, where I left the army yesterday in splendid condition. I will leave it there five days in hopes the cavalry from Memphis will turn up there. I will have them come in. W. T. SHERMAN, Major General

THE DESPATCH FROM GENERAL BUTTERFIELD.

Major General Butterfield, under date of Cairo, March 11, has addressed the following to Lieutenant General Grant, or General Halleck:—

General Sherman arrived yesterday at Memphis. His command is all safe. Our total loss in killed, wounded and missing is one hundred and seventy only.

The general result of his expedition, including Smith's and the Yazoo river movements, are about as follows:—One hundred and fifty miles of railroad, sixty seven bridges, seven thousand feet of trestle, twenty locomotives, twenty-eight cars, ten thousand bales of cotton, several steam mills and over two million bushels of corn were destroyed. The railroad destruction is complete and thorough. The captures of prisoners exceeds all loss. Upwards of eight thousand contrabands and refugees came in with various columns.

Loss of the Danish Bark Corinthian—Five Lives Lost.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1864.

As the steamer Salvor, Captain Robinson, of the New York line of steamers, was *en route* for Washington and Georgetown she collided with the Danish bark Corinthian, Captain Ostenne, bound for New York, with a cargo of iron. The collision occurred before daylight, about twenty-two miles off from Cape Henlopen, and was attributable to the lights carried by the bark, causing a mistake as to her character. The Salvor struck the bark a little forward of the forerigging and she went down immediately. The captain, two mates, one passenger and three seamen were secured from the Corinthian; but, on account of the darkness and the rapidity with which the bark went down, the steward, three seamen and a boy were lost. The Salvor was but slightly damaged, her bowsprit being broken and other unimportant damage to her hull.

Affairs in Colorado—Indian Fight Near Arkansas.

DENVER CITY, March 16, 1864.

Spring inauguration has already commenced. Trains are arriving and the coaches from the States are full. New discovered quartz lodes are reported daily, and cause an influx of Eastern capital and machinery with improved process for saving gold.

A good supply of water from the heavy snows in the mountains, for mining and agricultural pursuits, makes the prospects of Colorado bright for the coming season.

From Governor Evans we hear of an Indian fight near Arkansas, between the Arrapahoes, Cheyennes and Utes. The latter were victorious. We also learn that the Sioux have threatened war on the whites in the spring. The military authorities will take precautionary measures.

The Engineers' Strike in Illinois.

CHICAGO, March 16, 1864.

The old engineers have resumed work on all the roads except the Rock Island, Alton and St. Louis, and Illinois Central. Upon these roads passenger trains are running as usual.

IMPORTANT FROM MOBILE.

Rumors of Admiral Farragut Returning to New Orleans with His Fleet.

Mutiny Among the Rebel Garrison of Fort Morgan.

THIRTY OF THE MUTINEERS SHOT.

Influence of General Sherman's Movement,

&c., &c., &c.

By the arrival at this port yesterday of the steamship Creole, Captain Thompson, from New Orleans on the 9th instant, we learn that the attack on Fort Powell, near Mobile, had been suspended for the present, and that Admiral Farragut has withdrawn his fleet.

Our Naval Correspondence.

OFF MOBILE, Feb. 29, 1864.

Admiral Farragut has as yet made but little progress in his attack on Fort Powell, and there is a rumor that he is going to withdraw his fleet from here, as he is satisfied that the city cannot be taken by water, owing to the various reasons which I gave you in my last.

THE MUTINY AT FORT MORGAN.

I have heard that thirty out of the forty rebels who were condemned to death for mutiny at Fort Morgan have been shot, and that the second officer in command was one of the party. The other ten were reprieved. The following are said to be the particulars of the affair:—A large number, among them the officer second in command, had agreed to surrender the fort to the Union fleet, and arrangements were making for that purpose, when one of the mutineers relented and divulged the whole plot to the rebel General Maury, who quietly gave orders that a force should be sent down from Mobile for the purpose of arresting the whole of the garrison at Fort Morgan. This was done, and forty were proved to have been concerned in the plan. These were placed in irons, tried by court martial, and the whole sentenced to be shot. Strong efforts were made by the citizens of Mobile to obtain a reprieve for them from the rebel authorities at Richmond; but the order came that the sentence should be executed, and within the last two weeks it has been carried into effect upon all except the ten who were reprieved.

My informant stated that General Maury had ordered that the whole plot should go on as if it had never been discovered, and that on the night that the surrender was to be made one of our gunboats approached the fort for the purpose of making the transfer. The signals agreed upon by the parties were followed to the letter, both from Fort Morgan and the gunboat; but the latter, noticing a rebel steamer near the fort, suspected that all was not right, and attempted to return; but this was no sooner perceived from the fort than all the guns which were originally mounted, as well as three others, placed there for the purpose, opened upon her, and one statement is that she was forced ashore and destroyed, while the other is that she was completely riddled. I give you the whole of this as I heard it from intelligent refugees from Mobile.

THE MOVEMENT OF GEN. SHERMAN.

The return of General Sherman to Vicksburg has puzzled the people of the South as much probably as those at the North. I heard that General Sherman said that he could take Mobile city, but that he was not ready yet.

Rebel Accounts.

AFFAIRS ABOUT MOBILE.

The Mobile *Register* of February 27 notifies the public that supplies of cooked provisions, bread, meats, poultry, or "anything most convenient," furnished for the men in Fort Powell, will be sent down daily from the city. The day previous the gunboats fired four hundred and seventy shots and shells at the fort, "doing it no damage." After one of the return shots from the fort two launches were lowered, and the crews were engaged in plugging, after which, the *Register* says, the gunboat hauled off. Up to eight o'clock on the morning of February 27 there was no firing on account of the foggy weather. Three mutineers, who were to have been executed at Mobile the 27th, were respited to the middle of March. The *Register* advises those who revel in high prices to make the most of their time, which is short. "The day when a supper for a dozen at a restaurant only brings $1,000, and a landlord obliges you with poor food and worse lodging at $20 per day, of all such extravagances, is nearly over." The Congress has applied a remedy for this pernicious plethora, "short, sharp and decisive," and a collapse is to succeed which will be sudden enough for the financial health of the country. "Yet," says a Georgia contemporary, "the medicine will cure if the patient has a good constitution. Thirty or forty days will suffice for the diagnosis and the treatment."

GENERAL SIGEL'S DEPARTMENT.

Ewell Moving Into the Shenandoah—Other Rebel Movements in the Valley—Officers Dismissed the Service, &c., &c.

MR. THEODORE C. WILSON'S DESPATCH.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
March 14, 1864.

The rebels have stationed an increased number of troops at different gaps in the mountains to intercept refugees coming within our lines. For this reason there has been a considerable falling off in the number of such incomers during the last few days.

It is reported that the Union feeling in Rockingham county and that neighborhood is daily increasing in strength. It is also reported that there is quite a large number of Unionists in and in the vicinity of Staunton.

As yet no order has been issued setting forth the organization of General Sigel's staff. The old officers, nevertheless, still retain the positions they held under General Kelley.

PRISONERS.

Last week fifty-two rebel prisoners were sent from Wheeling to Camp Chase.

DISMISSING THE SERVICE.

The following named officers having been tried by court martial and found guilty of the charges preferred against them, are now dismissed the service:—

Captain Andrew J. Barr, Ringgold's battalion, Pennsylvania cavalry.

Harvey H. Young, same.

First Lieutenant Charles C. Theaker, Battery D, First Virginia light artillery.

First Lieutenant Edward Bayles, Fifteenth Virginia infantry.

SEMMES' BROTHER.

A brother of the notorious Captain Semmes lives on his plantation, near Cumberland, Md. It is reported that the brother is a loyal man.

SHARP PRACTICE.

Some people in this department, without our military lines, have adopted a new mode of giving aid and comfort to rebels in arms. Instead of allowing these fellows to visit their houses to procure food and drink, they keep them away by leaving bundles of eatables and bottles of milk in the bushes by the roadside, between their own and neighbors' houses. Not unfrequently our men come upon these evidences of disloyalty. Of course the neighbors deny all knowledge of such transactions. Still it is evident the bushes do not naturally bear such peculiar fruits.

A RICH MAIL CARRIER CAPTURED.

Yesterday a blockade runner (James R. Robinson) was captured at Sir John's run, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, seven miles from Hancock. He was sent to Cumberland, and on carefully searching him Assistant Provost Marshal Lieutenant Robinson found sewed in the back of the prisoner's coat several letters of importance. One of the letters was dated from Harrisonsburg. It was written by a woman to her brother in Baltimore, requesting her brother to forward a large package of spool cotton, as the same was worth four and a half dollars per spool in Harrisonsburg. There is some indication that this blockade runner is a member of the Seventh Virginia cavalry. If this is so, it will probably turn out that he is a spy.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT WESTERN VIRGINIA,
March 15, 1864.

A report comes in that the whole of Ewell's corps is moving over into the valley of the Shenandoah. As to how much reliance can be placed in the report none in official circles appear to know. Perhaps it is that Lee is merely sending a portion of his army over into the valley to subsist it there for a short time to come, or until such time as his railroad communication is again complete, and he can get rations as heretofore.

McNeil's men and a portion of Imboden's command are reported to be in the neighborhood of Romney. The rebels are making extraordinary efforts to prevent deserters and refugees from getting within our lines. Besides, they are also active in securing supplies of cattle, sheep and hogs, stripping farms of these, and leaving the residents of the localities in which they operate destitute alike of subsistence and "paper money" of any kind.

The weather continues showery, and rather unfavorable to military expeditions.

GEN. GILLMORE'S DEPARTMENT.

Arrival of the Steam Transport Daniel Webster.

The steam transport Daniel Webster, Captain Sherman, arrived at this port yesterday morning from Port Royal, by the way of Fortress Monroe, after a passage of seventy-two hours.

There is no news of importance. All quiet along the coast.

Mr. Galen R. Osborne's Despatch.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., March 12, 1864.

AFFAIRS AT HILTON HEAD.

Hilton Head is terribly dull. With the veterans at home on furlough and the fighting men away in Florida, we are left here with no food whatever for excitement.

GENERAL GILLMORE'S REPORT OF THE SIEGE OF FORT WAGNER.

General Gillmore is at present engaged in the preparation of his report of the Morris Island campaign. It will be a complete history of the siege operations against Wagner, Gregg and Sumter, and will make, when published, a volume of two hundred octavo pages. It will be illustrated somewhat after the manner of his report of the reduction of Pulaski.

GENERAL GORDON'S TRIAL.

The court martial in the case of General Gordon has not organized, owing to the non arrival of Gen. Foster from Florida.

BULL'S BAY.

Seven army transports and seven naval vessels, the former laden with troops from Gen. Terry's command, sailed from Stono Inlet for Bull's Bay on the 11th. They shelled the shore a few moments, landed a few men, stayed a few hours, and then came back. In the vicinity of Charleston our forces, it seems, are only feinting away.

FROM FLORIDA.

The transport Delaware, just in from Jacksonville, reports no fighting in Florida during the past week. A strong force under Colonel Barton, Forty-eight New York Volunteers, occupied Pilatka on Thursday. Pilatka is a small village, one-third the size of Jacksonville, and located on the St. John's river, about seventy five miles from its mouth. Only two or three families remained there to welcome our troops, and green grass grows in the streets of the town.

Operations in Florida.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

HEADQUARTERS, LIGHT BRIGADE,
DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, March 7, 1864.

In your paper of the 28th ult. I observe, with equal surprise and pain, that in your report of the recent operations of the United States forces in Florida, and particularly of the battle of Olustee, you are led to say that "General Seymour neglected to throw forward skirmishers, and the troops, therefore, advanced in force into a trap set by the rebels; and that the Fortieth Massachusetts infantry (mounted) regiment, which had been brought under a severe fire, hastily retreated, leaving their dead and wounded in the hands of the enemy." Unconsciously you have done a grave wrong to a gallant and accomplished soldier and a splendid regiment. General Seymour took every military precaution. There was no panic or retreat of the Fortieth Massachusetts. On the contrary, it was on the field during the whole fight, and formed part of the rear guard in the retreat. General Seymour has not been placed in arrest, and General Vogdes has not been appointed to any command in this district. BRONTE.

CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

The Programme of the Procession, Dinners, &c.

This being St. Patrick's Day, the anniversary of the Patron of Ireland, the customary celebration will take place in this city, and it is expected that it will be of a character quite equal to, if not better, than those of former years. The most extensive preparations have been made for a grand parade of the Hibernian civic and military associations, and if the day be fine there will undoubtedly be a most imposing procession, as twenty different societies will turn out in full strength, dressed in their neat regalia and uniforms. The direction of the entire affair will be in the hands of Grand Marshal Denis Meagher, assisted by a number of experienced aids. The following is the programme of the procession, showing the names of the societies and the order which they will hold in the procession:—

Sixty-ninth regiment, under Colonel James Bagley.

T. F. Meagher Club, Edward Mulligan, Marshal, between Scammel and Grand streets, right resting on Grand.

Father Mathew T. A. B. Society, No. 1, of South Brooklyn, Thos. Lalor, Marshal, between Scammel and Gouverneur streets, right resting on left of T. F. Meagher Club.

Immaculate Conception T. A. B. Society, John J. Tharry, Marshal, between Gouverneur and Montgomery streets, right resting on left of Father Mathew Society.

Longshoremen's U. B. Society, Daniel Hagerty, Marshal, between Montgomery and Clinton streets, right resting on Immaculate Conception T. A. B. Society.

Quarrymen's U. P. Society, Charles Allen, Marshal, between Clinton and Jefferson streets, right resting on Longshoremen's Society.

Father Mathew T. A. B. Society No. 3, of Brooklyn, E. D., John McCloskey, Marshal, right resting on Jefferson street.

Hibernian Benevolent Society, James Kavanagh, Marshal, between Jefferson and Rutgers streets, right resting on Father Mathew Society.

Ancient Order of Hibernians of New York, James Sandford and John Tucker, Marshals, in Canal street, right resting on East Broadway.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, of Long Island, John Crummy, Marshal, in Canal street, right resting on left of New York Ancient Order.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, of Melrose and Morrisania, J. McCann, Marshal, in Canal street, right resting on left of Long Island Ancient Order.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, of Weehawken, N. J., Cornelius Healy, Marshal, in Canal street, right resting on left of Melrose Ancient Order.

St. Peter's Total Abstinence Benevolent Society, Patrick Nihan, Marshal, right resting on Rutgers street.

Father Mathew Total Abstinence Benevolent Society, No. 2, of New York, James Cavanagh, Marshal, between Rutgers and Pike streets, right resting on left of St. Peter's Society.

Harry Benevolent Society, Michael Daly, Marshal, right resting on left of Father Mather society, No. 2.

St. Bridget's Mutual Benefit and Benevolent Society, James Cullen, Marshal, right resting on Pike street.

Father Mathew T. A. B. Society No. 2, of Brooklyn, Stephen Quin, Marshal, right resting on left of St. Bridget's Society.

Father Mathew U. B. T. A. B. Society, Edward L. Carey, Marshal, between Pike and Market streets, right resting on left of Father Mathew Society No. 2, of Brooklyn.

Father Mathew U. B. T. A. B. Society, Branch No. 1 James Crumley, Marshal, right resting on left of the parent society.

St. Anne's T. A. B. Society, Bernard Grogan, Marshal, right resting on Market street.

Father Mathew T. A. B. Society No. 3, of New York, Jas. H. O'Neill, Marshal, right resting on left of St. Anne's Society.

Shamrock Society No. 1, Richard Halpin, Marshal, right resting on left of Father Mathew Society No. 3.

St. James R. C. T. A. B. Society, John Dwyer, Marshal, right resting on Market street.

United Sons of Erin Benevolent Society, Michael Kean, Marshal, between Market and Catharine streets, right resting on left of St. James Society.

Hibernian U. B. Society, Philip Kerns, Marshal, between Catharine and Oliver streets, right resting on Catharine street.

CEREMONIES AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

At half-past ten o'clock this morning a grand high mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral, by the Very Rev. Wm. Starrs, administrator of the diocese. At the usual part of the mass the Rev. Francis E. Boyle, of Washington, D. C., will pronounce a panegyric on the Apostle of Ireland.

DINNER OF THE FRIENDLY SONS.

In the evening the Ancient Order of Hibernians, known as the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, will eat their eighteenth anniversary dinner, in honor of St. Patrick. The affair will come off at Delmonico's, Fifth avenue, at six o'clock "sharp," James T. Brady presiding. It is expected that the Sons will do honor to their illustrious parent, as Delmonico has orders to deck the thing up in his handsomest style, and several distinguished personages are announced among the speakers.

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PATRICK

are also to give a grand dinner at the Astor House, the edibles to be on the table "at seven precisely." This affair will, doubtless, be most elegant, as no expense has been spared in the preparations. The Knights have resolved to make this dinner something above the usual style, and Mr. Stolzin is fully prepared not to disappoint them. General Meagher will be the principal speaker, and it is not at all improbable that Major General Meade will also be present, and "speak a piece" in his usual "short, sharp and decisive" manner. The knights expect him, and will tender him an enthusiastic reception if he should make his appearance.

THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY OF BROOKLYN

will likewise give a banquet at Montague Hall.

LECTURE AT MORRISANIA BY REV. J. P. WOODS.

A lecture on the interesting subject of "St. Patrick, Ireland's Apostle," will be delivered in St. Augustine's church, Morrisania, by the Rev. J. P. Woods, at eight o'clock this evening. As the proceeds will be for the benefit of the church there will, doubtless, be a crowded attendance.

F. O. J. Smith Arraigned for Adultery.

BOSTON, March 16, 1864.

The Boston *Journal* states that F. O. J. Smith was arraigned a few days since before the Maine Supreme Judicial Court on a charge of adultery, to which he plead not guilty, and gave bonds for his appearance for trial.

IMPORTANT FROM NEW ORLEANS.

Active Operations in the Department of the Gulf.

General Banks to Take the Field Immediately.

Army and Naval Movements Against the Red River Country.

Capture of a Fort by Admiral Porter on the Wach