THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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SHERMAN.

HIS ADVANCE AT MILLEN.

The Rebels Abandon Their Prison Camp at Millen on Dec. 2.

Sherman Reported Four Miles Distant.

Reconnoissances on the Savannah River and Preparations Making to Cross.

Details of the Battles of Waynesboro, Griswoldville and Grahamsville.

THE DEVASTATION OF GEORGIA.

Rebel Description of Atlanta as Sherman Left It.

Withdrawal of the Column from Before Macon,

&c., &c., &c.

Our Special Washington Despatch.

SHERMAN APPROACHING THE SEA COAST—RELIABLE INTELLIGENCE FROM THE EXPEDITION—ITS SUCCESS PLACED BEYOND DOUBT, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1864.

In addition to the admissions of the Richmond papers of the 5th inst., that General Sherman's main army had reached Millen, the authorities have information, of unquestionable reliability, that General Sherman's main army had already passed Millen, without a battle, and without the expenditure of any ammunition except what was used in the two or three skirmishes of detachments already reported. Having passed Millen, there is no opportunity for any rebel force whatever to interrupt his march to the point upon the coast for which he originally set out, and where the supplies and mails for that army will arrive simultaneously with its arrival. The complete success of Sherman's great enterprise is now beyond a shadow of a doubt, and it has been demonstrated that all that remains of the armed rebellion is comprised in the two armies of Hood and Lee, both of which will soon be rendered powerless.

THE REBEL ACCOUNTS.

THE MARCH TO MILLEN.

OUR COLUMN OF THE ARMY EAST OF MILLEN.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. 5.]

Two important statements have reached us. One is that a portion of Sherman's army has passed Millen. *The enemy has not entered the town.* The other statement is to the effect that the column which has been lingering for some time in the neighborhood of Macon has left the country and gone off to the main body. What and where is the main body? These are questions which *we are unable to answer*, but we presume that it is the column which is represented to have "passed Millen." Whither is it going? This also is a question which cannot be answered with certitude; but our own belief is that Sherman will now make all speed for Brunswick, on the coast, and probably may reach it with some of his army.

This is not yet altogether sure. His long delay, his lingering and hankering between Macon and Augusta, have given the Confederate generals time to collect large bodies of troops at important points, and before Sherman sees the blue water in all human probability he must fight one or more general actions. It is not impossible that such a battle may take place to-day or to-morrow. At any rate, this campaign is evidently drawing to its close, and the end will be the reaching of the coast by Sherman, or his defeat and perhaps his surrender at some point near to that where he now is.

SHERMAN WITHIN FOUR MILES OF MILLEN ON DECEMBER 2—THE OCCUPATION OF THE PLACE ASSUMED TO BE A FACT.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 5.]

Sherman's whereabouts is not positively known. It is not certain that he has even yet reached Millen, *though the fact is assumed. At four P. M. last Friday the telegraph operator at Millen announced that Sherman was within four miles of the place*, and that he himself was on the point of bidding it a hasty adieu. Nothing has been heard from there since. He had then been within twenty miles of Millen for nearly a week.

SHERMAN'S POSITION ASCERTAINED.

[From the Savannah Republican, Dec. 1.]

The whereabouts of Sherman's main body has been satisfactorily ascertained, and *his movements yesterday indicated anything but decision of purpose* as to his destination. Without entering into particulars, we would simply say that *the signs are that many people who have been unduly alarmed at the idea of his taking them in his line of march will be agreeably disappointed.*

Important movements are on foot to meet him wherever he may go; but these will be developed at the proper time.

THE ARMY REPORTED MAKING FOR THE SAVANNAH RIVER.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Nov. 30.]

It must be confessed that for the past week Sherman has been *very successfully acting the part of an artful dodger, confounding all calculations, and exciting general apprehension* by his eccentric movements.

The latest reports indicate that he is *moving towards the Savannah river.* But there is little reliance to be placed in any indication of intentions as yet. Until he shall get out of the triangle in which he has been manœuvring since he left Atlanta, we can infer nothing with certainty, from any of his movements, as to his ultimate course. *He may turn upon Augusta* and seek to force his way through South Carolina, or he *may push for Savannah* or Brunswick.

PREPARATIONS TO CROSS THE SAVANNAH RIVER.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Dec. 1.]

It is reported that a party of Sherman's scouts visited Domara's ferry on Sunday. They remained some time in that vicinity taking observations. It is thought by many that *Sherman will endeavor to cross the Savannah river at that point.*

SHERMAN "BROUGHT TO A HALT" OR TAKING HIS EASE.

[From the Savannah News, Nov. 29.]

Sherman seems to be *making no progress* in his invasion of the State. He is no nearer the coast than he was several days ago. He *appears to be hesitating*, and acting altogether as though he were caught in a bad box and don't know how to get out. Afraid to go forward, and *cannot go back*, his men and animals tired and hungry, with our forces rapidly closing in around him—all these things excite the liveliest hopes of his utter destruction.

THE REBELS DEPENDING ON THE SWAMPS AND MARSHES TO BROWN SHERMAN'S ARMY.

[From the Augusta Constitutionalist, Nov. 30.]

It is very generally conceded that Sherman, avoiding both Augusta and Macon, has *gone on his winding way*, either to Savannah, Brunswick or Port Royal. To reach either Brunswick or Savannah, he has to traverse a barren waste of land to meet, as he approaches his destination, swamps impenetrable to an army, save by causeways, which could easily be destroyed before him. One good word, indeed, is at his option; but then he may find a foe in that redoubtable opposition which he little dreamed of, and which may sing his march. Should he attempt to reach Port Royal, he will *probably cross the Savannah at Zetler's ferry.* On the South Carolina side, Samuelsburg is opposite this ferry, the soil is porous and marshy. There, too, he may possibly encounter masked batteries and other obstacles too numerous to mention.

Somehow, we are, in common with our fellow citizens, strongly of the opinion that *Sherman and his robbers are marching to doom.* We know some very good news and see some very excellent signs. Be patient; the fruit is not yet ripe.

WHEELER'S OPERATIONS TO THE 30TH ULTIMO.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Dec. 1.]

Wheeler was still engaged in fighting the federals on Wednesday. Results unknown.

When General Wheeler struck Kilpatrick's raiders at Big creek they killed over three hundred horses to prevent them from falling into Wheeler's hands.

[From the Savannah Republican, Dec. 1.]

General Wheeler manages Kilpatrick with all ease, and with a less force has whipped and driven him in every engagement. He has taken one stand of colors, which is evidence of the vigor with which he has pressed him.

DICK TAYLOR BELIEVES JOE WHEELER.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 5.]

It is reported that General Dick Taylor has been put in command of our cavalry now operating against Sherman.

THE BATTLE OF WAYNESBORO.

WHEELER REPORTED TO HAVE DEFEATED KILPATRICK ON NOV. 28, AT WAYNESBORO.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Nov. 30.]

It is rumored that Wheeler fought all day Monday, near Waynesboro, with the federals, with success, *capturing our two thousand prisoners.*

Everything indicates that there will be stirring times below in a few days. The prospect now is that *a heavy battle will take place.*

From a gentleman who left Waynesboro Tuesday morning, we learn that the country around that place is strewn with dead Yankees and horses. He also stated that the railroad bridge over Brier creek was not burned; neither was the railroad cut this side of Millen.

[From the Augusta Constitutionalist, Nov. 29.]

About one hundred and fifty of the Yankee cavalry went to Waynesboro on Sunday and set fire to the town, but Wheeler arrived in time to prevent much damage, and following the raiders, whipped them severely. There had been no enemy within twelve miles of the Georgia railroad, and the trains have resumed their regular schedule. We have captured a considerable number of horses and completely scattered the organization of the raiders. The movements of the enemy are narrowly watched, and every movement of Sherman is known to our commanding officers.

[Waynesboro is a station on the Augusta and Savannah Railroad, thirty-two miles south of the former city. It is on the main and direct road from Warrenton—the last position of Slocum's column positively reported—to Savannah or Beaufort. It is only about twenty miles due north of Millen. If our cavalry had reached this point on the 28th ult. it is safe to estimate that the infantry had reached Millen at least by the 2d inst.—ED. HERALD.]

THE BATTLE OF GRISWOLDVILLE.

[From the Richmond Whig, Dec. 5.]

We have already copied from the Georgia papers some particulars of the battle with Howard's corps at Griswoldville, nine miles east of Macon, on the Central railroad. The Confederate force consisted of three brigades of militia, two regiments of State line troops and the Athens and Augusta battalions, all under the command of General Phillips. He attacked the enemy about twelve o'clock on the 22d. The enemy fell back one mile on the Central railroad, towards Savannah, where they had erected three lines of fortifications.

General Phillips pursued them to their breastworks, when he ordered a charge, driving the enemy from his defences. The enemy made several desperate efforts to recapture the works, but were repulsed each time with heavy loss. General Phillips held his position. The enemy withdrew during the night. The Macon *Telegraph* says:—

We learn that the militia forces behaved with distinguished gallantry, advancing upon the enemy's breastworks in perfect order, and with no straggling. They charged through an open field to within fifty yards of the Yankee works, and maintained their ground until ordered to withdraw.

The Athens battalion, commanded by Major Cook, and the Augusta battalion, under Major Jackson, both under the immediate orders of the former officer, were distinguished for the cool and steady manner in which they bore themselves in the battle. These troops, as well as the militia forces, acted like veterans, and faced the destructive fire of the enemy with as much firmness as would have been displayed by the forces of Hood or Lee.

A REVIEW OF THE CAMPAIGN.

THE HERO TURNED FUGITIVE.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, Dec. 5.]

Sherman's campaign, which was daringly conceived, has been timidly prosecuted. Instead of that bold dash into an unarmed State which was expected to prove resistless by its impetuosity, and to disperse opposition before it could gather, we have cautious reconnoissances, timid feints and slow movements. The trouble has been not so much to resist or avoid Sherman as to find him. He left Atlanta on the 16th of October. On the 25th he evacuated Milledgeville; on the 27th he was supposed to be at Sandersville; a distance of about one hundred and twenty-five miles in two weeks of time, since leaving Atlanta, without any important object gained on the way.

This tardy and unsuccessful march reveals the difficulties with which Sherman has found himself confronted. That they were in great measure unexpected by him we are bound to suppose. They have gathered strength, too, by his own delays. In his case caution has proved the parent of danger. It has given us time to concentrate our means of resistance and to obstruct his path with daily increasing obstacles. Sherman seems to have realized his peril, and to be concerned now only to make his escape. The hero has turned fugitive. Renouncing his anticipated conquests, passing by Macon after a weak and irresolute attempt at capture, shying from Augusta altogether, he is solicitous only to worm his way between and hasten to the sea.

Should he succeed in his last and forlorn endeavor—should he manage to escape to the coast by outrunning or evading his pursuers—his most complete success in this regard would be a almost lame and impotent conclusion" to his grand undertaking. It will be a manifest, palpable, humiliating defeat. Sherman, when he set out, had a far different design than that of merely reaching the Atlantic shore. The change of base would be but an incident of his enterprise. Nay, in itself, and of itself, it would be a great and damaging inconvenience to him. Could he succeed in securely possessing himself of the interior cities of Georgia, a station on the coast in railway connection with the interior would be eminently advantageous to him. With Macon and Augusta in his hands, Savannah and the Savannah river and the interlying railroads would complete his felicity. But, failing in his hopes in the up country, the seashore is desirable only as affording him a refuge from his present peril. When arrived there, he will be where he does not wish to be, and whence his first care will be to get away. He will only have made such a raid as Kilpatrick did, when, setting out from the Rappahannock to capture Richmond, he retreated down into the Peninsula for safety, whence he was compelled to return from his bootless enterprise to his place of setting out by the aid of transports.

Sherman had no purpose when he started, nor has he now, of abandoning his own military department. The campaign he is on is his own conception; and no general put in charge of a great department has been ever known to abdicate his position to play second in some other. It was not Sherman's object to make his way to the Atlantic to assist Meade, leaving Thomas heir to his far higher honors and responsibilities in the West. If he shall succeed in penetrating the circle that now surrounds him, and escaping to Port Royal, his first anxiety, like Kilpatrick's, will be for ships to take him away. Steam to Annapolis, and steam to Nashville, if Nashville be not already fallen, will be all too slow to quiet his impatience and to mollify his chagrin. While his own course through Georgia will have been that of an arrow through the air, or a ship over the sea, leaving no track behind; while his exploits and his honors will have been those of the baffled fox hounded from the barnyard, or the disappointed wolf chased and pelted by the shepherds, he will return to Tennessee to find Hood, we trust, in possession of the State. He will return to find that his campaign into Georgia, so boastfully entered upon, has but lost the territories won by his predecessors.

We do not by any means share in the idea expressed by some, that Sherman's purpose was to make a lodgment on the Atlantic for co-operation with Grant. Nor do we share in the feeling that such a lodgment, if effected by his present movement, will be a blow to our fortunes. There has never been a time when Sherman could not have carried his army to Grant by a shorter and better route, and in less time than by his present road. Two weeks from Atlanta found him only half way to the coast. Comparatively unimpeded at first, in an open and firm country, with no stream that could not be forded, he has made the speed we have stated. The rest of his journey will be through a sea of troubles. Swamps, and marshes, and rivers, and artificial causeways, obstructed and defended at all points; his front, his flanks and his rear assailed night and day by large and increasing armies, he will have to make his road and fight his way, if he can. Suppose he shall be successful. Suppose he shall even make his past speed. Four weeks will have elapsed from the day when he set out from Atlanta to that on which he takes refuge at Beaufort or some other, with the remains of his army. How many of his soldiers will have been killed and captured on the way; how many will have straggled and deserted; how many will have broken down under the marchings and fightings and vigils, only the official reports may tell. They will number many thousands. Four weeks in time and many thousands of men will have been expended to place a footsore and weary army in an Atlantic port. A sea voyage of six hundred miles, along our most dangerous coast and around our stormiest capes, would remain to be made—and made in the tempestuous season of the year—before Sherman's forces might reach Grant. What fleet of transports, and what length of time would be required, the reader may estimate.

Suppose he had taken the other route—a route always open to him. By rail from Atlanta to Annapolis would be but four days. The great facilities for railroad transportation possessed by the enemy would enable them to move ten thousand men per day safely and pleasantly. If Sherman's present column contains fifty thousand men, it could have been transported to Annapolis in a week without the loss of a man. A day's steam would suffice to City Point. Suppose we double this time. Suppose we say two weeks would have been required to move Sherman to Grant by the line we now refer to. Does any one imagine, if such junction were the object sought, that a four weeks' march through Georgia and a long sea voyage in winter would have been the preferred route? Two months of the best time, or two weeks at the most, were months of weariness, losses and peril, over two weeks of recreation and safety.

It is obviously not supposable that Sherman's march was undertaken to effect a junction with Grant. It is not probable, if he shall succeed in reaching the salt, but having failed to accomplish his main object, that he will tarry in the East for Meade's sake. He will hasten, as we have said, back to Tennessee, as fast as paddle-wheels and driving-wheels can bear him on. He will not take the near cut through Georgia as his way back! He would sail the continent first!

But we fervently trust that Sherman will never see the Atlantic. His situation is already full of peril to him, full of hope to us. His own people have hushed their vain prophecies and extravagant boastings of success, and have sunk into silence and into terror. They are alarmed that he is so slow in making his appearance on the coast. They have left caring for the cities he was to have conquered, and are trembling for him. They have been sending up rockets and bluelights along the shore to encourage his efforts and to guide his way. But Sherman does not see them. He is far back among the pines of Georgia, with many a weary waste and swamp and barren between him and the friends who so anxiously await him. Nor signal lights alone. "Trustworthy intelligence," says the Charleston *Mercury*, of Wednesday, "was received yesterday that a fleet of some eighteen Yankee transports had ascended Broad river." This was an expedition for Sherman's relief—a party sent to meet him, or to open his way to Beaufort. But these solicitous friends failed to find him. They found, however, the confederates, by whom, indeed, they were soundly chastised and driven back, but without a word from Sherman. He is beyond the sound of cannon and out of the sight of rockets. His last words in setting out were:—"Do not mind me; I am all right." But they do mind him; and they fear that he is not all right. They have cause.

Our own people, however, are staking too much on the capture of Sherman. Many speak as if a great positive calamity will have befallen us if Sherman shall reach the sea. This is not the true view. A great opportunity will have escaped us for a brilliant and inestimable success. In that view we shall have suffered a misfortune. But Sherman will, nevertheless, have suffered a defeat and failure full of shame to him and advantage to us. Not only the thousands of his men whom, at the least, we shall capture and destroy, will be so much gained, but he will have lost the last weeks of the campaign and given to Hood an opportunity of incalculable value to us. We hope for the very largest measure of success against Sherman; we are thankful for what is already secure.

THE CO-OPERATING COLUMN.

The Grahamsville Battle.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF FOSTER'S FIGHT IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

To General S. COOPER:—

GRAHAMSVILLE, Dec. 2, 1864.

A force of infantry, artillery and cavalry, under General Foster, attempted to gain the railroad at this point, but were met and repulsed.

A force of marines, under Admiral Dahlgren, attempted to gain the railroad at Coosawatchie, but were met at Lee's creek and repulsed.

W. T. HARDEE, Lieutenant General.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE BATTLE.

[From the Savannah Republican, Dec. 1.]

In our issue of yesterday we mentioned the fact that a considerable force of the enemy had landed from transports in Broad river and were advancing on the railroad in the direction of Grahamsville. During the night we had transported an effective force to that point, which, uniting with that already on the ground, marched forward yesterday, under the command of Major General Gustavus W. Smith, of the Georgia State troops, to meet the enemy.

The enemy, numbering, as near as could be judged, five thousand men, with sixteen pieces of artillery, attacked Gen. Smith at a place called Honey Hill, three miles east of the village of Grahamsville, at eleven o'clock A. M. Our strength consisted of fourteen hundred muskets and seven pieces of artillery. We had some few embrasures for open batteries, and slight intrenchments on the right and left; but our line was necessarily extended, owing to the superiority of the enemy in numbers, and much of it was both light and unprotected. This, however, only emboldened our men to greater deeds, and they fought the battle throughout with an energy and resolution worthy of veterans. The fight lasted until dark, and the enemy made several desperate charges against our line; but it stood firm, and repulsed every attack, finally driving back the enemy's right and centre; but their left stood unmoved at the close of the action. For four or five hours these men maintained the fight without relief. Late in the day General Robertson arrived with the Thirty second Georgia, a battery of artillery and a company of cavalry, in time to render most effective aid. Night came in to close the engagement, which was conducted with vigor on both sides. Thus far it may be set down as a drawn battle, though, in view of the great disparity of numbers the honors of the day are certainly due to the confederates.

We have been unable to learn the details of General Smith's forces, though it is believed that the Georgia militia constituted the greater portion of them.

Our loss was between eighty and a hundred killed and wounded; the enemy's loss is officially reported to be much greater.

P.S.—At night seven or eight transports, loaded with reinforcements, were reported going up Broad river, which gives assurance that the fight will be renewed to-day.

THE DEVASTATION OF GEORGIA.

Atlanta.

ATLANTA AS ABANDONED BY SHERMAN—THE REBELS AGAIN IN POSSESSION.

[Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

ATLANTA, GA., Nov. 20, 1864.

You have heard before this that the federals have burned and evacuated Atlanta; but for information of the refugees and exiles who have been driven from their homes, allow me to trouble you with a few lines, as all will be anxious to know whether their homes have been spared by the vandal hands. There is not a house standing on Whitehall street from Rowark's corner to Wesley chapel on Peachtree street, and on Marietta from the street running from the Baptist church, down Decatur street a short distance below Colonel Cowart's building, on Decatur street. All the railroad depots are burned, including the passenger depot. All the hotels, foundries, railroad shops, government works and mills are burned. As I came into the city on last evening I observed only three buildings of note standing west of the Macon road—Colonel Colyer's, Hammock's and Dr. Sells'. T. M. Clerk's house is the only building standing between Poter's street and the railroad. Col. Poter's house and the two houses south of it are standing. All the houses on Marietta street are burned except a short space from Dr. Powell's to Robinson's house, opposite the State depot. Except Norcross', Mills', L. Dean's and B. O. Jones', no houses are burned on Peachtree street beyond Wesley chapel. Inman's, Holbrook's, Ludale's and Nox's buildings are burned. Colonel Glenn's and Ranson's dwellings are not burned.

Colonel L. P. Grant's and Dr. Grant's houses are burned, also Colonel Gartrell's house. The jail is burned, and all the buildings between that and the Fair Ground, only three or four houses are burned on Mcdonough street, one of which is Mrs. Rucker's; the house adjoining and just above Wm. Watkins is burned; the Female College was pulled down to put up a fort on the spot. Engine houses Nos. 1 and 2 are unhurt, also the Masonic and City Halls; the City Hall was saved by the appeals and petitions of Mrs. Polecmbe, who lives only a few steps from it. The churches are all unhurt, except the new Episcopal and Pain's churches. Most all of the residences in the city have been burned that were unoccupied. Just think of it. A city four months ago with a population of twenty thousand, now about six hundred and seventy-five or eighty men—the balance women and children. There are some fifteen or twenty negroes left in the place—the balance have all been sent North. They have burned all the fencing around the cemetery and most of the palings around the graves, and bursted open the vault belonging to Mr. Gordon, containing the remains of his wife and the bodies of three or four other persons, looking for gold and other valuables that they supposed had been hid in the vault.

Among the old citizens remaining is Drs. E. N. Calhoun and Dalvigna, Pat. Lynch, Bill Harville, J. E. Bartlett and John Sisey. Dr. Dalvigna succeeded in saving the Medical College from the flames. Mark Bell's calico house is unhurt. The citizens say that the Yankee army left here swearing that they intended to split and quarter the Southern confederacy and plant their colors upon the walls of Savannah. A great many of their soldiers are said to have left here with a great deal of reluctance, dreaded the trip. It is said that some of the Kentuckians went off in handcuffs; they have some fears of meeting with Generals Lee or Beauregard. Their teams, or transportation, are reported to be in a bad condition. Respectfully,

Z. A. RICE.

DESOLATION MARKING SHERMAN'S TRACK.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Dec. 1.]

Gentlemen from Sherman's rear state that his line of march is marked by dead animals, broken wagons, bodies of men, stragglers, &c.

Yesterday morning the train on the Georgia railroad brought down about one hundred prisoners, who were said to have been captured somewhere in the neighborhood of Warrenton.

They are supposed to be a portion of Sherman's army that had straggled away from the main body, and fell an easy prey to our forces.

They were all hearty looking men.

The trains run up on the Georgia road as far as Greensboro.

The work of repairing the road to Atlanta will be commenced as soon as practicable.

It is stated on reliable authority that the Yankees appropriated *over two thousand horses and mules* in Glascock and Warren counties.

BURNING OF EMORY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel, Nov. 30.]

A gentleman from Newton county states that *several of the largest plantations in that section were completely destroyed* by the federals, swept clean of everything, and all the houses thereon burned, except those occupied by negroes.

Emory College, Oxford, was also destroyed, and all the buildings connected with the same, together with their contents. This college was the property of the Methodist Church of this State. Several fine libraries belonging to the various college societies, besides the one belonging to the college itself, were among the property burned. Also a large and extensive mineralogical cabinet, fine chemical apparatus, &c.

As the federals approached the town they were fired upon, and one of their party killed. The college was burned in retaliation.

It is estimated that the property cost nearly half a million before the war.

DETAILS OF THE MARCH TO MILLEDGEVILLE.

[Correspondence of the Augusta Constitutionalist.]

IN THE FIELD, Nov. 26, 1864.

While in Milledgeville, Sherman made his headquarters in the Executive mansion. Our informant saw and was introduced by Governor Joff. Davis and Kilpatrick. The State House was not burned, but much mutilated. The penitentiary, arsenal, &c., were burned. The magazine was blown up by the rear guard as they left the city, Friday, ten A. M. We heard the double report, and thought them signal guns. The bridge was also burned, but General Ferguson had constructed pontoons for his wagons to cross.

From the best authority General Kilpatrick commanded the left wing of the enemy, which passed along the county line road, from Milledgeville to the shoals of the Ogeechee, where they encamped on Friday night. They spread out some six or eight miles on either hand, pillaring and burning as they went. Seven miles below this place a ruffian presented a pistol to the breast of a lady, demanding her gold and silver. She told him she had none, and called upon an officer in the crowd for protection. Without specially granting it he informed her rather egotistically that he was General Kilpatrick, and permitted his men to go on and plunder and abuse as much as they pleased. They burned the gin houses of a number of our largest planters, with hundreds of bales of cotton. Among them Judge Thomas', Colonel Turner's, the Sassnette, Dr. Green's, the Dickinsons, &c. They burned no cribs or dwelling houses, and we have no reliable information of the destruction of a single mill or factory in the country, though they passed by a number. They took nearly all the horses and mules in the country, whether bid or not, for they scoured the swamps, killed some hogs and most of the poultry. The productive interest of the country has suffered seriously, irreparably, we fear. All the young negro men and some women they captured, where they were not run off. Many of these have returned, and are still coming back as they can escape.

Our escaped prisoners say that General Howard's corps went down the road from Milledgeville to take the Oconee bridge. It was he, probably, that General Wayne repulsed. Whether he returned to Milledgeville or crossed on pontoons below we are not apprised. General Sherman, with artillery and infantry, went to Sandersville. His van arrived there on Saturday at noon, being on the road two days and a half from Milledgeville, according to escaped negroes. At this rate it will take him about seven days to reach Millen from Sandersville, and seventeen days to reach Savannah—plenty of time for all the forces of the Carolinas and Georgia, with Dick Taylor from the west, to surround, flank and destroy him. I believe it to be of more importance to accomplish this than to hold Richmond.

MACON BELIEVED TO BE SAFE.

[From the Macon Telegraph, Nov. 26.]

We are happy to announce that Macon is considered safe. The commander of the post has declared the city upon a peace footing, and the order of Major General Cobb, ordering out every man capable of bearing arms, is withdrawn. This will be pleasing intelligence to those families whom the exigencies of the occasion forced from their homes. We trust they will at once return, and thus escape the many inconveniences which are the inevitable fate of the refugee. The city is perfectly quiet and orderly. We expect in a few days everything will resume its usual appearance. The storm of war which threatened us has passed—come home and bask in the sunlight.

MACON THE PRESENT CAPITAL OF GEORGIA.

[From the Savannah Republican, Dec. 1.]

Governor Brown and his officers of State have made Macon, for the present, the seat of government. The Governor's headquarters are at the City Hall.

WITHDRAWAL OF SHERMAN'S REAR GUARD FROM BEFORE MACON.

[From the Richmond Whig, Dec. 5.]

The only telegraphic information at the War Department last night, except despatches relating to the disposition of troops, was a telegram from Macon, stating that the Yankee force which had been operating in the vicinity of that city had been withdrawn, and gone in the direction of the main body.

The indications are that Sherman will direct his course towards Darien or Brunswick.

SHERMAN RETIRES FROM MACON AND MASSES HIS ARMY—HIS OBJECTIVE POINT DARIEN.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 5.]

When Sherman advanced on Milledgeville, one of his columns moved against Macon. Official information was received here last night that this column had disappeared from the neighborhood of Macon. It is now, no doubt, moving to join Sherman in the neighborhood of Millen; and it was *for this that Sherman has been waiting. His forces being massed*, he will strike out for his objective point, which, it is believed, is Darien, near the mouth of the Altamaha river, fifty miles south of Savannah.

DESTRUCTION AT CLINTON, GA.

[From the Macon Telegraph, Nov 26.]

We hear but two houses in Clinton were burned by the enemy. One was the dwelling of the enrolling officer of Jones county, R. W. Bonner, and the other an old shop used as an office by the late Dr. Bowen.

REPAIRING THE DESTROYED RAILROADS.

[From the Savannah Republican, Dec 1.]

The Central Railroad Company have gone to work in earnest, with a large force, to repair their road, which is now in running order from Macon nearly to Gordon.

We learn that it is the purpose of the company to go to work immediately and repair the West Point Railroad, which it is thought can be completed in one month's time. The Etowah iron works will also be re-established at once.

THE REBELS IN CANADA.

Projected Raid on Detroit—Preparations of the Authorities.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 7, 1864.

Information of a most positive character has been received that a raid upon this city is being organized by the rebel refugees in Canada.

In consequence of the receipt of this information the civil and military authorities are making every preparation to receive the raiders.

Col. Hill, the military commander, in a note to Mayor Barker, published this morning, recommends that immediate measures be taken to organize and arm the militia regiments for local protection.

A large number of special policemen have already been enrolled, and other active and vigorous measures are being taken for the protection of the city.

The Burleigh Case.

TORONTO, Dec. 7, 1864.

Burleigh was again before the court to-day. Evidence was offered showing that he belonged to the rebel service, which defence will be strongly urged by his counsel. His case was adjourned until to-morrow.

The Convention of the Cigar and Tobacco Manufacturers.

Some three thousand persons connected with the cigar and tobacco trade were yesterday assembled at the Cooper Institute for the purpose of devising measures to effect a modification of the Tax law. The Convention organized at ten o'clock in the forenoon by nominating Mr. Joseph Hall temporary chairman, Mr. John F. Lee was appointed secretary, whereupon the credentials of the various delegations were presented. A committee on organization was appointed, composed of the following members:—L. M. Brown, of Connecticut; Henry Switzer, of Massachusetts; David Campbell, of New Jersey; D. H. McAlpin, of New York; Mr. Tellhausen, of District of Columbia; F. H. Bousey, of Missouri; Wm. H. Nassau, of Pennsylvania; W. S. Houlton, of Rhode Island; G. W. Gail, of Maryland; C. Schett, of Ohio.

Delegations were present from the following organizations:—

Cigar packers of New York, Cigar Makers' Protective Union of New York, German journeymen cigar makers of New York.

Cigar manufacturers and dealers of Poughkeepsie.

Manufacturers and growers and dealers in tobacco of Broome county.

Manufacturers, dealers, jobbers and planters of tobacco of Egg Harbor city.

St. Louis Cigar Makers' and Tobacconists' Society, St. Louis.

Cigar, tobacco and snuff manufacturers and dealers of Philadelphia.

Cigar, snuff and tobacco manufacturers of Boston.

Tobacco dealers of Baltimore.

Manufacturers and dealers in cigars and tobacco in the District of Columbia.

German New York Central Organization of Cigar Manufacturers.

Cigar manufacturers and dealers of Trenton.

Mr. Wm. E. Lawrence was elected permanent President of the Convention, and as Vice Presidents the following gentlemen were elected:—F. W. Tellhausen, District of Columbia; Joseph Hall, Henry Burh, New York; Wm. H. Nassau, Pennsylvania; David Campbell, W. A. Brenzinghofer, New Jersey; J. W. Crane, Charles E. Mangel, F. Yager, G. W. Gail, Maryland; Samuel Segfy, Massachusetts; James Gallager, Connecticut; August Schott, Henry Otten, Ohio; W. T. Hunbeon, Rhode Island. Messrs. Edward Burke and A. R. Foughery were appointed secretaries.

On motion, a committee on resolutions was appointed, composed of the following members:—A. R. Boon, Baltimore; W. A. Brenzinghofer, New Jersey; Mr. McAlpin, New York; Mr. Schrader, Pennsylvania; Joseph Wellhaus, G. W. Gail, Baltimore; Daniel Campbell, F. M. Brown, Thomas Hare, Edward Berris, Boston; F. H. Buse, St. Louis; Peter Lorillard, New York; W. H. Nassau and M. Grimm, of St. Louis, and a resolution was passed that all resolutions shall be referred to the above committee.

A paper, to be submitted to Congress, was read by Mr. BURKE, which was referred to the Committee on Resolutions. The paper is to be published.

A committee of one from each State was appointed to effect a permanent organization, which is to be located in New York. This committee was composed of the following members:—D. H. McAlpin, of New York; James Gallager, of Connecticut; Valentine Grimm, of Missouri; Daniel Campbell, of New Jersey; A. R. Foughery, of Pennsylvania; W. S. Hunton, of Rhode Island; B. F. Parlens, of Maryland, and G. H. Switzer, of Massachusetts.

This organization is to be called the Central Tobacco and Cigar Manufacturers' Association.

The Convention adjourned to ten o'clock A. M. to day.

During the evening a meeting took place at the Astor House, where the leading members of the Convention had a supper. Among the persons present were several government officials, among others Messrs. Schaffer and Harvey, government inspectors; Mr. Steinbrenner, the assessor; the officers of the Convention, Mr. Hoyt, the tobacconist; Mr. Crawford, Mr. Rash, the President of the German manufacturers; Mr. Moores, Mr. Hunton, of Providence, and others. After supper several toasts touching the tobacco interest were offered and responded to.

Among the statistics presented in Mr. Burke's paper, which was submitted to a long debate, mention was made of the fact that during the past year not less than 429,390,770 pounds of tobacco were produced in this country.

THOMAS.

The Rebels Opening the Siege of Nashville.

They Establish Lines Within Three Miles of the Capitol.

Skirmishing Between the Union and Rebel Forces.

Correspondence Between Generals Thomas and Hood.

An Exchange of Prisoners Proposed and Declined.

The Rebel Papers Claim a Victory at Franklin,

&c., &c., &c.

The Nashville Despatches.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 6, 1864.

Captain M. Forrest, of the rebel cavalry corps, was recognized by some of his former companions to-day taking observations of our works at or near Fort Gillem. He was dressed in citizens clothing.

Another member of the Tenth Tennessee cavalry was captured this morning while in the act of deserting to the rebels.

The rebel cavalry have possession of the residence of Mrs. A. V. Brown, and are intrenching themselves on this side.

The rebels have also taken possession of a hill near the Hyde ferry road, and are planting a battery upon it.

There has been heavy cannonading since four o'clock this afternoon.

The guns of Fort Negley are shelling a rebel force in their front to prevent the enemy erecting batteries.

Two of our men were wounded to-day by rebel sharpshooters, near the residence of Mrs. Acklin.

The river is six and a half feet deep on the shoals, but is falling.

SECOND DESPATCH.

NASHVILLE, Dec 6, 1864.

Very little of interest transpired yesterday.

Artillery skirmishing continued through the day.

The daily routine was varied by the reception of a flag of truce, sent in by General Hood, which was received by our pickets on the Franklin pike at about eleven o'clock this morning.

The bearer of the flag of truce had the following letter from General Hood:—

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE AND GEORGIA, IN THE FIELD, Dec 5, 1864.

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES FORCES, Nashville, Tenn.:—

GENERAL—I have now in my possession a large number of federal prisoners, captured during the recent campaign, which I propose to exchange with you for an equal number of Confederate prisoners, belonging to this army, in accordance with the cartel used by Major General Sherman and myself in the exchange of prisoners, which took place in September last at Jonesboro, Ga. Should you agree to this proposition an officer of my staff will meet any one that you may designate, upon the Franklin pike, between the lines of the two armies, to arrange the place, time and other necessary details connected with this exchange. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. B. HOOD, General C. S. A.

To this letter General Thomas sent the following reply:—

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, NASHVILLE, Dec 5, 1864.

General J. B. Hood, Commanding Confederate Forces on the Franklin Road:—

GENERAL—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of this date, making a proposition for the exchange of prisoners of the Army of the United States now in your possession for a like number of Confederate prisoners belonging to your army in my hands. In reply I have to state that, although prisoners from your army, they have all been sent North, and are consequently now beyond my control. I am, therefore, unable to make the exchange proposed by you. Very respectfully, yours, &c.

GEORGE H. THOMAS, Major General commanding.

All sorts of rumors prevailed all over the city when the news that a flag of truce had come in got abroad.

The general supposition was that General Hood had demanded the surrender of Nashville.

Generals Milroy and Rousseau are at Murfreesboro, which is amply garrisoned and defended against any rebel force which may attack it. Yesterday a body of rebels attacked block houses six and seven, near Murfreesboro. They were gallantly fought by the garrison, and soon a body of troops was sent by Milroy from Murfreesboro, who attacked the rebels with such effect that they were driven off in confusion, losing six pieces of artillery and a number of prisoners.

Matters at the front to-day are quieter than usual.

No artillery that can be seen has yet been placed in position by the rebels.

The headquarters of General Hood are said to be at Brentwood, six miles south of this city, on the Franklin pike.

Captain Alex. Marshall, Battery G, First Ohio artillery, was injured in the recent battle at Franklin.

The Louisville Despatch.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 6, 1864.

A special despatch to the *Journal*, dated Nashville, December 6, says the rebels lost at Franklin ten general officers, among whom were Generals Gorsn and Quarles, not previously reported. General Cheatham escaped capture only by the fleetness of his horse.

The Louisville *Journal* learns that General Cooper's brigade of white and a brigade of colored troops, the latter of which garrisoned Johnsonville prior to its evacuation, both of which were cut off from the main army when General Schofield retreated from Franklin, have arrived at Clarksville.

The Nashville train arrived here on time this evening.

Passengers who left Nashville this morning at six o'clock report that all was quiet there at that time. There had been some slight skirmishing the previous night.

The steamers Prima Donna, Prairie State and Magnet, captured yesterday on the Cumberland river, were recaptured to-day by the gunboat Carondelet.

Wounded Soldiers of Eastern Regiments at the Battle of Franklin, Nov. 30.

H. H. Colbert, C, 77th Pennsylvania, arm.
P. Kavanah, C, 178th New York, neck.
John Dooley, A, 1st Pennsylvania cavalry, shoulder.