Richmond Dispatch.

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MONDAY MORNING.....AUGUST 25, 1862.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXIII. RICHMOND, VA., MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 25, 1862. NO. 46.

FROM THE RAPPAHANNOCK LINES—THE PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY—POPE ABANDONING HIS WOUNDED.

An officer from the Rappahannock river gives us some highly important intelligence from our operations in that vicinity. The positions and movements of our army need not be mentioned; but we can state that the enemy is in full retreat and closely pursued by our troops. On Saturday morning heavy and continued cannonading was heard at Orange Court-House up to the time that the train left. At Stevensburg about 10 o'clock A. M., on Wednesday, a party of our cavalry encountered a large body of Yankee cavalry and a brisk skirmish ensued. The enemy retired slowly and in good order, and were pursued to within two miles of the Rappahannock, when a charge was made with great gallantry by the Confederate horse and sixty odd of the Yankees were taken prisoners. On Thursday a portion of our troops were engaged with the enemy at Kelly's mill and another portion at or near Beverley's Ford, the artillery on either side contending for some hours late in the afternoon, without, however, any material result as far as known.

It was supposed that Pope had fallen back as far as Warrenton, and would not give battle this side of that point, if at all. He abandoned a large number of his wounded at Culpeper C. H., estimated at not less than two or three hundred. These men had been wounded in the battle of Cedar Run Mountain, of the 9th of August, where the Yankee prisoners confess to having been thoroughly "used up" by old Stonewall.

A melancholy picture of desolation and devastation is exhibited by the county of Culpeper. An unbridled license has prevailed among the Yankee soldiery, and the country is now almost a desert.—Unoffending citizens have been impoverished in a single day, their negroes all carried off, their fencing destroyed, their sheep and hogs and cattle butchered, their grain entirely consumed, their horses all stolen. A farmer, whose house Milroy made his headquarters, had a magnificent field of corn, from which he expected to realize 1,000 barrels. The Yankee General refused, in insolent language, to spare his crop, and gave his bivouacs a *carte blanche* to plunder. The result is that not five bushels can be made from the field. In some instances colts only a year old were forcibly carried off, despite the entreaties of their owners, and old hens with flocks of chickens have been killed.—Many a family has been left in a condition verging upon absolute want and starvation.

Our informant says that the scene of joyous delight manifested by the inhabitants at their deliverance surpassed anything he ever witnessed. Ladies brought pails of water on their heads to distribute among the worn and dust-covered heroes of the South. Old men wept for joy. The girls waved their handkerchiefs and cheered the army from early morning till late in the afternoon, and all praised God for their deliverance.

From passengers who came through from Orange Court-house on the Central train last night we learn that a severe engagement took place at the Rappahannock river, a few miles below the railroad bridge, on Saturday morning, commencing about sunrise and continuing some four hours. The enemy attempted to dispute the passage of our troops across the river, and a heavy artillery fight resulted, in which we lost about one hundred and fifty in killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy was believed to be much greater. The troops engaged on the part of the enemy were the army corps of Gen. Burnside. The enemy were finally driven back and our forces crossed the river, capturing about four hundred prisoners. A report was also brought by passengers that our cavalry had advanced as far North as Bristow Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, within seven miles of Manassas Junction, and that our troops had occupied the town of Warrenton, but these reports seem not to be well authenticated. It was further stated that our troops were pursuing Burnside in the direction of Fredericksburg, and that the main body of the latter's army had reached that town, as early as Saturday night. Those familiar with the distance between the two points will at once detect the improbability of this statement.

To sum up the information as received by us, we accept the conclusion that the Federal forces have retreated in the direction of Washington and Fredericksburg; that the fight of Saturday at Rappahannock river was an effort to cover that retreat; that they were defeated with the loss of prisoners stated, and that our army, having crossed the river, is pursuing them northward. Any speculation as to when the foe will be overtaken, or where the next fight will occur, would be uselessly consuming space in our columns.

YANKEES IN GLOUCESTER.

From gentlemen who arrived in this city yesterday from the lower end of King and Queen county, we learn that a Yankee force of some three or four thousand landed at Gloucester Point on Saturday morning, and took up the line of march in the direction of Fredericksburg. This force consisted of infantry, cavalry, and a battery of artillery. The sudden and unexpected appearance of a Yankee force in that locality, suggests an inquiry as to the whereabouts of McClellan and the remnant of his army who left Westover in the early part of last week. It is pretty certain that his army has never reached Fredericksburg. A gentleman, who lives on the Rappahannock river, and who left his home on Friday afternoon, assures us that no troops had passed up the river since Burnside's corps. It is, therefore, not at all improbable that the force landed at Gloucester Point on Saturday is but the advance guard of the army that recently evacuated the banks of James river.

SKIRMISH IN FREDERICK COUNTY.

A skirmish occurred on the morning of the 18th inst. in the neighborhood of Taylor's Furnace, about 12 miles north of Newtown, Frederick county, in which Capt. Rinker, a gallant officer of the 19th Virginia cavalry, was killed. Hearing that a band of Yankees were depredating in that locality and arresting loyal citizens, Capt. Rinker started in pursuit, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Funk, who was in quest of conscripts. At daylight on the morning of the 18th they came upon the enemy, and attempted to dislodge them from a house and barn. In the effort Col. Funk, Capt. Rinker, and five men, were cut off from the others of the party. The skirmish lasted nearly a half hour, during which Capt. Rinker fell. Col. Funk exhibited that coolness which has distinguished him on former occasions as an officer of the "Stonewall Brigade."—The party succeeded in capturing four traitors.—Our loss was two killed and one wounded, and four horses. The enemy had eleven killed and wounded, after which they fell back to Winchester.

It is stated by parties who recently escaped from Winchester that there are now in that place about 1,800 Yankees, consisting of three months men from New York. This class of troops are all that now occupy the lower part of the Valley. It is also said that their treatment of the people is better than that of their predecessors, and that they declare their intention to return home as soon as their term of enlistment expires.

ONE OF PIERPOINT'S SHERIFFS CAPTURED.

A private letter from Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah county, dated the 18th inst., states that a noted Confederate scout, with five associates, a few days previously, entered the enemy's lines and captured the Sheriff of Berkeley county, under the Pierpoint dynasty. It is said that this official had in his possession some thirty thousand dollars that he had collected from the people of that county.

AFFAIRS IN PRINCESS ANNE AND NORFOLK COUNTIES.

Advices from Princess Anne and Norfolk counties to the 6th inst., say the negroes are running off every day. In the former county at least 2,000 had run off. Mr. Wm. Worden lost several, and carried off their master's carriage, and Mr. J. W. Worden lost seven, who took his mules with them. Mrs. L. Old lost forty negroes. Some of the runaways, fearing that the Yankees may abandon them from Virginia, have returned to their masters.

CONFEDERATE STATES CONGRESS.

(ADJOURNED SESSION.)

SENATE.

Not in session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, Aug 23, 1862.

House met at 12 o'clock, and was opened with prayer by Bishop Early. Journal of yesterday read.

The following gentlemen have been appointed by the Speaker, under the resolution of Mr. CLARKE, of Ga., to investigate the management of Military Hospital: Messrs. Wright, of Ga.; Farrow, of S. C.; Goode, of Va.; Smith, of N. C., and Bell, of Mo.

On motion of Mr. HOLT, of Ga., Hon. Mr. Hastridge was added to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. MILES, of S. C., introduced a bill to authorize the grant of medals as a reward for courage and good conduct on the field of battle. Also, a bill to change the organization of the engineer corps of the Provisional Army. Also, an act to authorize the appointment of additional officers of artillery for ordnance duties. Also, a bill concerning partisan rangers. Also, an act to regulate promotions in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, and to amend the act entitled an act to provide further for the public defence, approved April 16th, 1862.

Mr. BONHAM offered a resolution of thanks to Col. Thomas G. Lamar and the officers and soldiers of his command for their brilliant victory over the enemy at Secessionville. Agreed to.

Mr. VILLERE offered a resolution requesting the President to take some steps to secure the exchange of Pierre Soule, now a prisoner at Fort Warren.—Resolution adopted.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of Tenn., the House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the President's message and accompanying documents, Mr. CURRY, of Ala., in the chair.

Mr. KENNAN, of Ga., being entitled to the floor, addressed the House in support of the Conscript bill. He alluded to some statements made by the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. FOOTE, in his speech of yesterday, relative to the correspondence between the President and the Governor of Georgia, on this subject. He understood the gentleman to justify the action of Gov. Brown. He wished to know if the gentleman approved of the act of the Governor in his order to the militia officers of the State to disregard the Conscript Act passed at the last session of Congress. He held here, and at home, that that act of the Governor of Georgia was unpatriotic, and would not be sustained by the people of his State.

Mr. FOOTE would inquire of the gentleman if he did not know that Gov. Brown's opposition was limited to a determination to resist the seizure of his militia officers?

A colloquial discussion then ensued between Messrs. KENNAN and FOOTE, which consumed some half hour.

Mr. HERBERT, of Texas, obtained the floor, and addressed the Committee in support of the proposition of Mr. FOOTE for increasing the army 200,000 by a requisition upon the States. He spoke of the effect of the Conscript Act upon the people of his State. The "Lone Star" had been unfurled twice, and if the extension of this bill was persisted in, it would be unfurled for the third time.

Mr. SEXTON, of Texas, regretted the tone of his colleague's remarks. He knew that the people of Texas felt themselves allied and identified with the other members of the Confederacy, and he was satisfied that the gentleman did not reflect the sentiment of Texas when he spoke of a disposition to raise the standard of revolt.

Mr. WRIGHT regretted the necessity that required him to take the floor, especially in opposition to his colleague (Mr. HERBERT.) It was true he had not been in Texas since the passage of the Conscript bill, but he had been with the army at Tupelo, where he had mingled freely with ten thousand of the soldiers of his State, and among them all he had not found one dozen who did not cordially acquiesce in the bill.

Mr. GAITHER, of North Carolina, said that it was known that he voted against the Conscript measure, but had acquiesced in it, and had advised his people to do the same. The people had responded to it, but it was not a favorite mode of raising troops in his State. He was not in favor of repealing the present law, but for carrying it out in all its provisions. But the question was not on its repeal, but whether it should be extended. He thought the army should be increased at least 200,000. How should this be done? By an extension of the Conscript law, or by voluntary enlistment? He preferred the system of enlistment.

Mr. COLLIER, of Va., thought the discussion of this bill out of place at the present time, and expressed himself in favor of at once filling up our regiments to the proper standard by some efficient and expeditious means, so that our armies might continue to drive back the enemy as they had driven them back of late, until their own country had been made to feel some of the effects of war, as Virginia had felt them.

Mr. CHILTON, of Ala., sustained the Conscription bill at some length, and spoke of the necessity that existed at the time of its adoption.

At the suggestion of Mr. HOLT, of Ga., Mr. FOOTE withdrew his proposition, and the question then recurred upon the resolution of Mr. JONES, of Tenn., for referring the Message and documents to appropriate committees, and the vote being taken, the resolution was adopted.

Mr. BARKSDALE, of Miss., introduced a joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Van-Dorn, the officers and soldiers of his command, and the citizens of Vicksburg, for the heroism and gallantry displayed by them during the seventy days' siege of that city. The resolution was passed.

Mr. FOOTE gave notice that he would on Monday introduce similar resolutions, tendering thanks to Capt. Brown, of the Arkansas, for his brilliant and unparalleled engagement with the Federal fleet on the Mississippi.

Mr. CLOPTON, of Ala., offered a resolution to instruct the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation, if any, is necessary to protect the Government and people of the Confederate States against the disastrous consequences of a counterfeited currency. Adopted.

Mr. HARLEY, of Ark., offered a resolution respecting the monthly pay of soldiers in our army.

Mr. STRICKLAND, of Ga., offered a resolution to put in operation the mint at Dahlonega, in the State of Georgia. Also, a bill to amend the Sequestration Act, passed August 30, 1861.

Mr. TRIPPE, of Ga., presented a joint resolution in relation to the discharge of non-commissioned officers and privates in certain cases. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. READ, of Ky., offered a resolution that the office of Sergeant-at-Arms be created, and that this House proceed to elect such officer on Monday, the 25th of August. This resolution was withdrawn without action upon it.

Mr. MOORE, of Ky., submitted a resolution of thanks to Gen. Breckinridge and his officers and soldiers for the brilliant victory over the enemy at Baton Rouge. Adopted.

Mr. CROCKETT, of Ky., offered a resolution that the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to report to this House what number of additional troops would be raised by the extension of the Conscript bill. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. PERKINS, of La., offered a resolution that the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety of providing by law for the relief from duty in the civil service, and as clerks in the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments of the army, of all persons between the ages of 18 and 35, and employing in their places those who have become disqualified for active service. Referred.

Mr. SINGLETON, of Miss., offered a resolution that the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the Conscript Act that when a substitute deserts the principal he required to take his place. Referred.

Mr. BELL, of Mo., presented a bill entitled an "Act to provide for the raising and organizing, in the State of Missouri, of additional troops for the Provisional army.

On motion, the House adjourned.

ITALY.—Affairs in regard to Garibaldi's movements were unchanged.

Garibaldi received the King's proclamation from the hands of the deputation sent to him in the midst of his friends. He repelled the entreaties of the deputation to regard the proclamation.

The London *Times'* correspondent says that Garibaldi has gathered together at Naples about 300 adventurers from the main-land. Altogether his force does not exceed 850 men and boys. They were at first unarmed, but afterwards supplied by strategem with a few hundred muskets. Garibaldi was in no lack of money—more than three millions of francs having been sent from Mazzinian and Garibaldian committees in England.

Garibaldi has issued a proclamation urging the young men of Italy to arms in spirited terms. Victor Emmanuel has issued a counter proclamation, denouncing revolutionary schemes, and threatening the rigor of the law on those who disobeyed. He declared that he himself would move in the matter of Rome at the fitting time. These events attracted great attention towards Italy. The English journals generally regret Garibaldi's course.

The Papal Minister of War has represented that the French army takes on itself the entire responsibility of whatever may occur on the frontier of the Pontifical States or in the provinces of Formone and Velori.

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies Signor Kalli disapproved of the order addressed by the War Minister to the army, and expressed his belief that civil war in Italy was impossible. The impatience of those who desired Rome for the Capital was not culpable, but generous.

The Minister of War replied that he was convinced he had represented the sentiments of the country and the army. He continued as follows: "Transports of discord do not compromise the King, but the Government was obliged to disavow their promulgation. The army will always be faithful to the King, and do its duty on all occasions. Everything possible will be done to avert civil war, but care must be taken that the mass of the nation will not be persuaded." (Loud applause.)

Communications from Palermo, the Leghorn Journal, of [illegible] state that the Garibaldian party [illegible] Sicily [illegible] Antonio [illegible] Garibaldi [illegible] Italy [illegible] Sicily [illegible] Italy [illegible] Sicily [illegible] Italy [illegible] Sicily