

THE BIG BLUE UNION.

JOHN P. CONE, EDITOR.

MARYSVILLE, KANSAS.

Saturday, July 5, 1862.

THE CELEBRATION YESTERDAY—500 PEOPLE PRESENT.

The Barbecue and Celebration of the Fourth at this place was participated in by a goodly number of patriotic people, old and young. A delegation was in attendance from Irving, and other parts of the county and adjacent country was well represented. Some five hundred persons, it was estimated, joined, either by their presence or more active efforts or both, in the proceedings of that ever memorable Anniversary Day, the Fourth of July.

The procession was formed and according to programme marched to the grove near the Barbecue grounds, where had been prepared the stage for the speakers and readers of the day and seats for the ladies. The exercises were then commenced by an address and the reading of the Declaration of Independence by Dr. J. H. McDougall. An oration was then delivered by Rev. C. F. Parker, of Irving. We were not present at the commencement of the address, but from what we did hear of it we can say it was a most excellent one. He believed the moral strength and courage of the United States to be sufficient to triumph over traitors, to crush out of existence their foul rebellion. Although the loyal army is composed of "Yankees" and "mudsills," it has the ability and unswerving determination to prosecute the war successfully and regain for the nation a lasting peace. Delivered in an easy and natural manner, it was, throughout, an earnest, effective, able and patriotic address. W. W. Jerome, Esq., from Irving, was called on and replied in a short and spirited speech, after which the assemblage adjourned for dinner to the barbecue grounds, where was displayed under the cool shade of the forest oaks the culinary efforts of our citizens, and where was partaken, by the assembled people, of a well-arranged and bountiful dinner. Adjourning to the rostrum, toasts were next in order, and several very worthy ones were read by the toast-master, R. S. Newell, and well responded to by gentlemen present. Volunteer toasts and speeches were offered by C. F. Brooks and Dr. C. J. Lee.

The Ball in the evening at the American, we understand, was a perfect success. The supper more than sustained the former reputation of the proprietor, Hutchinson, in preparing dainties for the "festal board." The social intercourse was of course pleasant, and the dancing kept up until the small hours, or, to use an old expression, changing the phraseology slightly—they danced all night, till nearly the break of day, and went home with the girls about sun up.

WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.—A good many worthy people are anxious in regard to the future disposition of the liberated slaves—those escaping and freed by the present war—and are exercising their minds as to the method best calculated to be of service to our own race and the negro also. What appears to us as a very good scheme is a proposal made by the Spanish Government to ours, a short time since, to the effect, that that Government would take all the negroes who escape from their masters and remove them to St. Croix, or some of their possessions in the tropics, free of charge. It then proposes to put them under an apprenticeship of three years, permitting them to receive regular wages; and at the expiration of their apprenticeship to free them unconditionally. The correspondence in reference, or accompanying the proposition, was referred by the State Department to the House Judiciary.

E. CHESEBROUGH, ARCHISON.—The Business House of this gentleman has been established some three or four years, and during that short period has earned the reputation of being one of the best Wholesale and Retail establishments in the State. It does business in a large and commodious building, and its several branches are carried on with complete system and attended to by efficient and attentive clerks. Merchants of this place who have bought at this House express themselves well satisfied with their bargains. Read the advertisement of Mr. C. in another column.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—An exchange says: The Supreme Court of Iowa has just delivered a very important decision. It is to the effect that county and city subscriptions of bonds to railroad companies, are illegal and void. The case decided was entitled "the State, on the relation, etc., of the Burlington and Missouri railroad company, vs. the county of Wapello."—The point decided, (the opinion of the court being unanimous and delivered by Judge Lowe,) is that the Legislature of Iowa has never conferred upon the counties of that State, the power to issue bonds in payment for stock in railroad companies, and that such bonds are therefore invalid. City bonds, of course, fall within the same principle. Decisions similar in principle to the above, have already been made by Judge Love, of the U. S. District Court, and the question is now pending on appeal from Judge Love's decision to the United States Supreme Court.

A LEADER OF THE DEMOCRACY.—Vallandigham, of Ohio, who, with thirteen other members of Congress, recently issued an address to the Democracy, is thus shown up by Edgerton, of the Sixth District:

"My colleague, during the dark days of the last session of the Thirty-Sixth Congress, when this House was filled with traitors—when State after State had gone out of the Union—my colleague, in my presence, and in the presence of others, said that the troops of Ohio, before they should march through his District to coerce the South, would have to march over his dead body. True it is, that he denies it; but in that his memory is at fault.—There are others who heard it, who are now members of this House."

A Front Royal correspondent of the Gloucester Advertiser says that a few nights since as General McDowell was examining the picket lines, he narrowly escaped being shot. When the guard demanded the countersign he merely replied that he was McDowell, and insisted on passing the lines, when the pickets fired upon him. The shot passed by him harmless, but struck one of his aids, wounding him in the leg and killing his horse. No blame was attached to the guard, and the General thanked them for doing their duty. They belonged to the New York 26th.

A DEMAGOGUE DESCRIBED.—The danger to our institutions is not so great from traitors in the field, with arms in their hands, as it is from the nimble-tongued, slippery hypocrites who go forth apologizing and countermanning every energetic measure of the administration as tyrannical and wrong, and endeavoring to deceive the people and stir them up to hostility against this wise, this just, this most moderate administration.—Extract Hon. B. F. Wade's Speech.

The Democracy are cut up into three factions. One, under the leadership of Jeff Davis, is making war upon the government and nation. Another under the leadership of Vallandigham, (Jeff's right hand man in Congress) is rendering aid and comfort to Jeff's party, as it can conveniently under the guise of the "Democratic Union" party. The third, under the leadership of Dickinson, (since the death of Douglas) is working and fighting for the Union. It remains to be seen what shape these different factions will take.

Gen. Francis Train uttered a string of rather sharp sayings in a speech in which he recently delivered in London, upon foreign intervention. "The almighty dollar," said he, "has furnished you with many a snper. The almighty Cotton has also stimulated your sarcasms, but in future we intend to make you respect the almighty Union! The reserve power of America is terrible! Every soldier is a voltaic battery, every officer is a steam engine in breeches—for the future, to be of American manufacture."

Mr. Seward's famous "irrepressible conflict" speech was delivered at Rochester, October 25, 1858. The essential feature of it was an iteration of the sentiment pronounced by Mr. Lincoln at Springfield four months before. Mr. Seward said:

"It is an irrepressible conflict between opposing forces and it means that the United States must and will, sooner or later, become either a slaveholding nation, or entirely a free labor nation."

Eighty-five rebel regiments were engaged in the battle of Fair Oaks. Total rebel loss they report at 6,897.

New Music.—We have received three nicely-executed pieces of sheet music from H. M. Higgins, Publisher, Chicago, Ill., entitled respectively, "Happy Hours," "The Needle Song," "Year of Jubilee or Kingdom Come." Also from the popular music dealers and publishers, Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, Mass., the following: "Weep no more for Willie," "Musings by the Sea Shore," "Rest! where shall we Rest," "Voice from the Old Church Bell." (The subject of this piece was suggested to the author on viewing an old church on the Fairfax road in Virginia; it had been the house of God, afterward the fortifications of some rebel troops, but now a deserted and dilapidated old building. The windows were broken in, the doors torn from their hinges and the old bell, having been thrown from its gudgeons, seemed to say "My mournful song, farewell now, O farewell long.") "Levni Waltz," "Jasmine Potpourri," "Bell Flower Waltz," "Yankee Volunteers Marching into Dixie." The frontispiece of the last is a highly colored engraving of the "bold sojer boys" on the "double quick."

A FRESH STOCK.—The House of N. Edwards has just received from the River a new and select assortment of Goods, and is still receiving articles in the Grocery, Dry-Goods and general-everything-wanted line, of the latest style and best quality and which will be sold at the most reasonable prices. The Stock of Mr. Edwards was purchased for cash, and he informs us that he never made better bargains than in the selection of his present new arrivals. Make it in your way to call at his House and examine the Goods; you cannot fail to be suited and then to purchase.

A. E. LOVELL'S NEW GOODS.—Mr. Lovell returned from the River by yesterday morning's coach, after making an addition to his purchases of a fine assortment of Drugs, Medicines, Summer Clothing, &c., &c. Give Mr. L. a call and we will warrant that you will find things to your liking.

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.—Rev. Charles Parker will preach at the M. E. church at 10 1/2 o'clock to-morrow.

Capt. Bowen's company will assemble or muster here on Friday next, preparatory to going into active duty. The Captain starts with tomorrow's coach on business to Ft. Leavenworth in relation to his company.

Company A, Capt. Abernathy, Co. D, Lieut. Todd, acting Captain, of the Kansas Eighth, passed through here from Kearny for Ft. Leavenworth on Monday and Tuesday last.

Thos. P. Cone, editor of the Big Blue Union, has received a captain's commission.—*Leav. Conservative.*

Slightly mistaken, Messrs. Thomas M. Bowen of this place, has received a captain's commission in the Kansas Ninth; but the editor of the Union has received none that we've heard of.

Shocking Disregard of the Feelings of our Southern Brethren.

The Government has steadily persisted in its original purpose of prosecuting the contest upon the broadest possible grounds of humanity and magnanimity. The utmost deference and respect have been shown to the rights of persons and property. Not a spy has been executed—not a deserter shot—nor hardly a traitor hung. Rebel property has in every case been respected, preserved and protected from pillage by the Union troops. The rebel wounded have been attended carefully and skillfully by our surgeons and nurses.—No distinction has been made between them and our own soldiers, in the hospital or on the field. And in every possible way the Government has sought to fulfill the pledge made to foreign powers by Mr. Seward at the beginning of the war, that this contest should present an instance of magnanimity and forbearance without example in the history of all civil wars.

In return for all this, the rebels have steadily and systematically imitated the worst excesses of the worst savages in the worst ages of the world. *The history of Indian warfare presents nothing more fiendish, more utterly unworthy of a civilized community, than the conduct of the rebels, in this war.* Their treatment of Union men, their persecution by pillage, imprisonment, and even murder, of all who have not joined in their rebellion, their horrid butchery of the wounded on the field of battle, and their brutal usage of prisoners who have fallen into their hands, brand them as beyond the pale of civilization, and to be regarded as insane savages rather than men entitled to the rights of civilized warfare.—*Louisville Journal.*

THE WAR NEWS.

Our latest papers give an account of a desperate two days' struggle before Richmond, which commenced June 26th. The account says that over 125,000 men were engaged. The loss on either side is given with no certain accuracy. A correspondent of the New York Times in making an estimate of the Federal loss in the first day's fight, says: "The list of over 200 hundred names of those killed and wounded, which I have, will show that the estimate of 200 as the sum of the loss, is wide of the mark. Our loss is, indeed, slight, considering the amount of fighting done during the day, and the result accomplished. But it cannot fall below 500, and may be found nearer a thousand. I should estimate it at six or seven hundred." Below are the telegraphic details:

From a Tribune extra, New York June 29.—A company of Bucktails was surrounded and captured. Retreat of our right wing. Over 125,000 men engaged. All civilians ordered away from the White House, which was afterwards burned.

A most determined battle was fought on the right wing, Thursday and Friday, which is claimed by some of our officers as a successful strategic movement, into which the enemy had unwillingly been drawn, and which will soon result in the capture of Richmond and the entire rebel army.

The attack was made by the enemy in immense force, who crossed the Chickahominy near the railroad above Mechanicsville Thursday afternoon. They fought desperately, but were unable to drive our men a single rod, though they outnumbered us ten to one. The only forces engaged that day was Gen. McCall's division.—The battle lasted from two till nine, P. M., when the division was ordered back.

Gen. McClellan was on the field and expressed himself satisfied with the result.

Another correspondent says of Friday's battle: twice all along the front did the rebels attack our lines, our rifle pits, and redoubts. Porter, with fifty cannon, and Sumner's Hooker's and Ayres' guns mowed them down with a death harvest.

Their loss in killed and wounded was horrible.

At night ten guns were taken from us by a sudden flank attack, covered by the thick smoke which hung around.

Comte de Paris captured a rebel Major, who belonged to Jackson's army. He said he had been in the Valley of the Shenandoah all winter, and came here yesterday with part of Jackson's army. The rest of it arrived this morning, and the whole of it was here.

Thomas Meagher's Irishmen came over the hill stripped to the bare arms, and were ordered to go in. They gave a yell and went to work, and the result was, the enemy fell back to the woods. Thus matters stood up to 11 o'clock yesterday (Saturday) morning.

Major Russell, of the regulars, a kinsman of Gen. McClellan, is killed. Col. Pratt, of a New York regiment, is also killed, and Lieut. Cols. Black and Switzer.

Our loss in officers is very marked indeed. The disproportion in numbers was so extraordinary, and the obstinacy of our troops unyielding, that our losses were inevitably large.

The artillery in both Porter's and Smith's divisions piled the rebels in heaps. The fire was terribly effective.

The Missouri river is again on a regular "tara." The St. Jo. Herald says "she is nearly as high as in April last, and, to use a term which is very expressive, and intensely western, the 'old gal is just a bulging.' Elwood is again in danger.—The June fresh is upon us and it is no slight freshet either."

It must be very hot down South. A contemporary says that a small negro boy in-judiciously leaned up against the sunny side of a house and fell asleep. In a few minutes he began to soften, and in three-quarters of an hour he ran over the yard. His mother dipped him up and put him in a wash tub.

The way the Summer coats spread themselves throughout the hot days of this week at the next door west of us—Edward's—was a capign, and made "the local"—when he didn't get one—sigh "O for a lodge in some vast wilderness, some contiguity of overshadowing apple-trees." The new style went like hot cakes.

MILITARY CRITICISMS.—Under this head, the Missouri Democrat says:

The campaigns of Napoleon have been criticized by many military men; by his own Marshals and Generals, and by those who served against him. Over and over again, it has been demonstrated that if—why must that if be always in the way?—that if he had done thus, or so, he would have escaped the humiliation of Elba, and certainly the indignity of exile at St. Helena. Criticisms and opinions we have had on the campaigns of the great Captain, enough, quite. Let us bow to them with all deference, we who "never set a squadron in the field, nor the division of a battle know, more than a spinster." But the criticisms which we daily see upon the conduct of the campaign in Virginia, coming from veterans of the quill, put us still more in reverential mood. The President—or his Secretary of War, which is the same thing—has done nothing but blunder; blundered in meddling with McClellan, blundered in the route to Richmond by the Yorktown peninsula; blundered in placing so many troops for the defense of Washington; in not withdrawing more from the Shenandoah valley; in leaving McDowell at Fredricksburg; blundered in all things done, in all things not done. He should have had a larger force in the Virginia valley; he should have withdrawn more for the advance on Richmond. McClellan should have had twice the force he has; Banks ought to have been strengthened so as to hold Stonewall Jackson in check, and cooperate effectively by an advance.—Washington, the capital, should have been protected by an adequate force on the Rappahannock; yet all the troops in the various commands should have been put in McClellan's column for the advance on Richmond.

We are patient in reading or listening to all these miscellaneous and contradictory cavils. Why should anybody be otherwise. What has been will be hereafter. Men will talk with the assumption of wisdom, on subjects they know nothing about. They will discourse by the hour to prove how much better it would have been, had this thing been done thus, or that thing been done so. In short, had they had the management of all the affairs of the universe, the sidereal clock in the heavens would have kept true time, and not have bedevilled so many old watches by its eccentricities.

The Republicans of Iowa have called a State Convention to be held at Des Moines, on the 23d day of July, for the purpose of putting in nomination a Secretary and Auditor of State Treasurer, Attorney General, and Register of the State Land Office.

Hillyer and J. W. Robinson, the impeached State officers, refuse to vacate their seats, on the ground that the Court of Impeachment was illegal; and Gov. Robinson sustains them in this course.—An interesting trio. "How long, O Lord, how long?"

Big Gen. Rufus King has been assigned to the command formerly under Fremont in the Shenandoah valley, and this command together with those of Banks and McDowell, been placed under General Pope.

NOT "CONSERVATISM."—Some one asked Gen. Cass the other day in Detroit: "General, what may we do to save the Union?" "Anything." "May we abolish slavery?" "Abolish anything on earth to save the nation." Why don't some of the extra "conservatives" charge Gen. Cass with being an "abolitionist?"

The greatest horse show ever known, according to promise, is to be held at Chicago on the 2nd of September next.—Fifteen thousand dollars are offered in premiums.

CENTRALIA NURSERY

We have at Centralia, Nemaha county, Kansas, about 40,000 apple trees, all grafted, and of all varieties that have been raised in the west. They have been grown here on the open prairie. If any trees will do well in Kansas there must. Also a quantity of cherries and different varieties of strawberries, Laxton Blackberries, &c. We shall be ready during the Fall of 1862 and Spring of 1863 to supply the people of Northwestern Kansas with trees grown here, on favorable terms. Apple trees, 3 year's growth from graft, 4 to 5 feet high and stocky, 30 cents, and other trees in proportion. We will take in exchange for anything in our Nursery, all kinds of farm produce and stock. Give us a call as you are going to the river, and examine for yourself. Bring along a load of corn, wheat, pork or anything you have to spare, and take home trees when the proper time for transplanting comes. Some prefer transplanting in the Fall—others in the Spring—only yourselves. JUNE, 1862. BAKER & SQUIRE.

WANTED,

At this office, a good faithful boy from 14 to 16 years of age, as an apprentice to the printing business. An apt and industrious boy will receive good inducements.