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nov19-d1f CONRAD RICHARDS.

The Ohio Statesman

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 17, 1861.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH

From all Parts of the World.

REPORTED FOR THE OHIO STATESMAN.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The English Press on the Mason and Slidell Affair.

They Demand Reparation.

Affairs in Missouri.

LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

REBELS REJOICING AT PROSPECT OF WAR WITH ENGLAND.

How the Foreign News is Received.

Government must Maintain its Dignity.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

ACCIDENT TO GEN. SUMNER.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

AFFAIRS IN KENTUCKY,

ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE SUMTER AND IROQUOIS.

&c. &c. &c.

Arrival of the Europa.

HALIFAX, Dec. 15.—The Europa from Liverpool the 30th, via Queenstown 2d, being detained twelve hours at Queenstown, arrived here today. Speculations on the San Jacinto affair are rife, but generally believed there is less cause to fear a rupture between the Governments.

Cotton opened firmer.

Tis rumored that the cabinet were modifying their instructions to Lord Lyons, which accounts for the Europa's detention at Queenstown.

A privy council was held at Windsor on Saturday. The Observer, a ministerial journal, states that a special messenger by the Europa, carries a demand of the British Government to Lord Lyons, insisting on apology and restoration to the British flag of Mason and Slidell. The same paper says, large re-enforcements are to be sent immediately to Canada. A large ship is loading with guns and ammunition for there.

The Observer says there is no reason why the Commissioners should not be restored to the ship of a British Admiral in the face of ten or twelve British men-of-war on the Potomac.

Nearly all the papers treat the question in the same spirit. The agitation increases.

LATER.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 2.—The Times city article of November 30th, says the fall of Consols 2 per cnt., and 4 to 5 in shares, while the question of actual war is undecided, is not justified by the nature of the case, and makes a comparison of the state of affairs at the commencement of the Russian war and says the position of the Federal Government is almost identical, in every commercial point, with that occupied by Russia towards us.

Russia had a hostile tariff, while we looked to her for a large portion of our breadstuffs; but in the present case, the commencement of hostilities would be by breaking the blockade of the Southern ports, set free our industry from anxiety of a cotton famine, and will open trade with eight million people in the Confederate States, who desire nothing better than to be our customers. The article concludes by saying the contrast is all in Europe's favor.

The privy councils held by the Queen was to issue an order prohibiting the exports from the United Kingdom, or carrying coast-wise, of gunpowder, saltpetre, nitriate of soda and brimstone.

The London Times understands the dispatches to Lyons, though couched in the firmest language, presumes the Federal Government will not refuse to make an honorable reparation for an illegal act.

The Times has but small hope of such disavowal, and says it becomes us to prepare for an unfortunate issue in Canada in case of war with the Northern States. It adverts to Seward's recent instructions to the people near the Canadian frontiers, the only inference was, that he was about to force a quarrel with England.

The Times advises Canada to prepare at once, by disciplining her militia, and drilling a volunteer army.

Admiral Milne's fleet on the North American stations, amounts to eight hundred and thirty-seven guns.

The French journals universally look at the Trent affair with English eyes. The news caused immense sensation at Paris, and the first general impression was that ample reparation must be made to prevent a collision.

A communication took place between the governments of England and France and a good understanding on the subject is believed to exist.

The morning Star declares the statement that instructions to Lord Lyons, demanded restitution of the rebel Commissioners or take his departure from Washington, was premature, and so exaggerated as to be virtually untrue.

The Post says it has been decided by the law officers of the Crown that the action of Capt. Wilkes was unjustifiable and a flagrant violation of the code of nations and direct insult to the country, and it is the duty of the government to demand prompt reparation. We can hardly suppose, reckless as American policy sometimes is, that the Northern States are seriously disposed; and says in one month we could sweep all San Jancintos from the seas, blockade all Northern ports, and turn to a speedy issue the war now raging. This is so obvious that we find it almost impossible to suppose the Cabinet at Washington can commit an act so madly suicidal as to reject our positive demands.

The News says there exists an undercurrent of apprehension that the American Government madly contemplates the desperate policy of seeking a quarrel with England in order to give ground for abandoning the design of subjugating herself.

The Times of the 30th ult. makes the important announcement that the cabinet came to the conclusion that the act of Capt. Wilkes is a clear violation of the law of nations, and one for which reparation must be at once demanded. Should this just demand not be complied with, we cannot doubt Lord Lyons will be withdrawn from Washington.

The Times also says it was the deliberate purpose of the American Government to seize the Commissioners, and it is understood that Gen. Scott, since his arrival in Paris, declared that their seizure had been a subject of cabinet discussion at Washington, before he left.

The Shipping Gazette believes if the demand is not complied with, declaration of war by England is inevitable.

There is no confirmation of the report that ten thousand troops will be sent to Canada.

The Paris Patrie asserts that Wilkes had no right to take the Commissioners while on a British mail steamer, and gives a report that Admiral Milne forthwith detailed three war vessels to escort mail steamers between St. Thomas and Havana, for the protection of travelers.

The Pays and Constitutionnel also censure the action of the San Jacinto.

From Missouri.

SYRACUSE, Mo., Dec. 13.—Scouts bring in news of a proposed meeting of rebel recruiting officers and the formation of a rebel camp in the timbers.

The Federal troops in this district are kept actively employed. Squadrons, companies or battalions of cavalry and sections of light artillery, if required, are ordered out by General Pope with a silence and mystery, which are always productive of good results. The commanding officer alone knows where the blow is to be struck, and the rebel spies in camp are thus thrown off the track; and the expeditions so sent out are almost invariably successful.—Scarcely a day passes without bringing news of a skirmish and the capture of squads of Price's recruits.

The expedition sent north a few days since under Major Marshall routed a band of rebels under Joe Shelby, and captured four Captains, two Adjutants, one Lieutenant and forty men, with arms, horses and wagons.

The capture of leading secession recruiting officers and breaking up of their embryo camps, is doing much for peace and quiet. Those who are disposed to lay down their arms and return to their allegiance, are suffered to do so.—Price's army is on its last legs. His men are leaving in large numbers, and if the present vigorous policy against those in arms, or who furnished aid and comfort to the enemy, is pursued, a better state of things is sure to follow.

Gen. Pope, who is now in command of the district embraced within the lines of the Missouri and Osage rivers, has established schools of instruction for commissioned officers at each cantonment, post and station, within the district, and the most rigid rules are observed for acquiring military knowledge. The school for instructions of company officers is presided over by Colonels of regiments, and the school for regimental and field officers, by brigade commanders, to whom two recitations in tactics and regulations are made. No officer is permitted to be absent from these recitations unless on guard, detached service, or sick in the hospital, and in such cases recitations are required as soon thereafter as practicabe.

Regimental and brigade officers are held responsible for the strict observance of these orders, and names of officers who are careless or unattentive, or who fail to acquire the lessons set for them, are to be reported to headquarters; and such officers will be examined by a Board appointed for the examination of volunteer officers. Division commanders will be present at least once a day at some of the recitations of schools within their divisions, and will give such strict and constant supervision as will assure them that the requirements of this order are fulfilled.

The General commanding the district will at least once in two weeks, visit every cantonment, post or station within his command, and will assure himself either by personal examination or through some officer designated for that purpose, that the officers of his command are making that progress in acquiring knowledge necessary to enable them properly to discharge the duties which ought to be expected, and, he hereby notifies officers within this district that no consideration of rank nor personal feelings will deter him from the promptest and most stringent measures against any officer who does not devote himself assiduously and earnestly to the acquisition of that knowledge which alone can fit him to hold a commission.

A cantonment has been established on Lamine River, and Major Cass, of the Sixth Iowa Regiment, appointed Provost Marshal.

All Colonels of regiments are to be held responsible for their regimental transportation, and are required to keep it in effective order and ready for the march at any moment. Any failure in this regard, when called out for the march or for review, will be considered and treated as gross neglect of duty.

The sale of liquor is positively prohibited in every camp, post or station in the district, and all liquor now at such points is ordered to be sent to some distant place at the risk and expense of the owner.

From a copy of the Army Argus, published in the rebel camp at Osceola, and edited by J. W. Tucker, formerly of the State Journal, which was suppressed in St. Louis, and who is now under thirty thousand dollar bonds for trial for treason, we learn that Gen. Price has issued an order from the headquarters of the Missouri State Guard, in which he states that the Confederate government, proposes, in accordance with the terms of the treaty between Cahill and Company, to receive into its service as many troops as may volunteer for twelve months. These are to be enlisted as State troops, and to be under the command of Major-General Price. Muster-rolls are to be sent to the Secretary of War of the rebel government, and the President will commission officers and provide for and pay the troops; but until the troops are transferred, they will be paid by the State—the rebel States, however, guaranteeing that they will be paid. A bounty of $30 is offered to every non-commissioned officer and private who will enlist, and ten cents a mile for his traveling expenses from the place of enlistment to rendezvous.

SEDALIA, Dec. 15.—Parties from the west have arrived here and report that three thousand troops, under command of General Steen, passed a point fifteen miles west of Warrensburg on the 11th, evidently for the purpose of escorting some six hundred or eight hundred rebel recruits with their baggage, provisions, etc., from Lexington to Price's army. The notorious Capt. Sweeney and his band of forty marauding rebels, captured a few days since by a detachment of our cavalry, has been brought here.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 15.—John Hogan, late Postmaster of this city, was arrested yesterday, charged with embezzling several thousand dollars from the department during his term of office. He was taken before the United States Commissioner, and held to bail in the sum of $10,000.

Gen. Halleck's order, relative to the assessment upon secessionists for the benefit of refugees from the Southwest, is not yet carried into effect, but probably will be this week.

The last installment of the Camp Jackson prisoners was sent to Cairo last evening to be forwarded to Columbus.

The Democrat learns from gentlemen just from Lexington, that Generals Rains and Stein, with six thousand rebels, were in possession of that town on Friday last; and another large bony of troops was expected to reach there yesterday.

Gen. Prentice, it is said, was on the North side of the river, with about three thousand Federal troops, and had thrown a few shells into the rebel camp and destroyed one of the two ferry boats in their hands.

His informant says he heard heavy firing after leaving Lexington, on Friday, indicating that an engagement was progressing between our forces and rebels; also, that Gen. Davis's brigade of Federal troops left Otterville on Friday, for Lexington. These statements need confirmation.

Rebel Captain Sweeney, and sixty-three other secesh prisoners reached here last night.

Interesting News from California—Funeral of Gen. Baker.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11—The steamer Golden Age sailed for Panama to-day, carrying four hundred soldiers and $86,000 in treasure.—Among the passengers is Gen. Shields, who accepts a Brigadier-Generalship.

The freshet from the recent rains extends throughout the valley and other portions of the State, doing immense damage to farmers, carrying off bridges, fences, etc. Paris of Stockton and Marysville were overflowed, as well as Sacramento. The entire number of lives lost not know. A number of brick buildings have fallen at Marysville.

The loss of property at Sacramento is estimated at $600,000. Communication with many districts is cut off and business suspended.—The weather for the past two days has been apparently settled and the waters have receded.

The funeral of General Baker is engrossing the general attention at San Francisco to day. The volunteer force, and the State military, and civil organizations, with citizens generally make the largest procession ever witnessed here.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—About $20,000 have been subscribed in this city for the relief of sufferers by the Sacramento flood. The water has been from two to twelve feet deep in nearly every house in that city. One-third of the city is still overflowed. The water is slowly receding.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—Gen. Phelps at Ship Island, Miss., on the 5th of December put forth a proclamation to the loyal citizens of the Southeast, strongly anti-slavery in tone.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

WASHINGTON, December 16.

Mr. Grimes presented a petition that in consequence of the present rebellion slavery be absolutely and unconditionally abolished.

Mr. Ten Eyck offered a resolution that the present war is for the Union according to the Constitution; that the object of the war is to save the former and enforce the latter; that it was so in the beginning, and should be so till the last; that measures extreme, radical and disruptive in themselves, involving in a common fate the loyal and disloyal, should not be resorted to; and that in suppressing treason the Government cannot prove a traitor to the organic law of the land.

Laid over.

Mr. Hale offered a resolution that the committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of providing a uniform manner for dealing with the slaves of the rebels and those made prisoners or escaping from their masters.

Agreed to.

Mr. Lane of Indiana offered a resolution that the committee on Judiciary be requested to provide a law so that the aiders of treason may be prevented from bringing suits for the collection of debts in the courts of the United States.

Agreed to.

Mr. Sumner offered a resolution that the Commissioner of Patents inquire if any additional legislation is necessary to secure persons of African descent the right to take out patents.

Agreed to.

Mr. Wilkinson offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, Jesse D. Bright, Senator from Indiana, did, on the first of March last, write a letter to Jeff. Davis [a letter was here read, introducing a Mr. Lincoln to Mr. Davis as having an improvement in fire arms]; and whereas such letter is evidence of disloyalty; therefore,

Resolved, That Jesse D. Bright be expelled from the Senate of the United States.

Mr. Cowan moved the reference of the subject to the committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE.—A personal explanation occurred between Messrs. Conway and Fouke, during which Conway charged Fouke with a deliberate purpose to bring about a personal collision without cause, and asked whether such conduct was not only unworthy a member of this House, but characteristic of a blackguard and a scoundrel. [Sensation.]

Mr. Fouke wanted to say one word in reply.

Mr. Stevens and others objected. They had enough of such things.

Mr. Fouke, amid cries of order, was understood to say that Mr. Conway was a disgrace to the nation and humanity.

There the matter ended in the House.

The House passed the bill to strike out from the pension roll the names of all persons who have taken up arms against the Government or in any manner aided the rebellion.

Mr. Vallandigham introduced the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Navy has reported to this House that Capt. Wilkes, in command of the San Jacinto, an armed public vessel of the United States, did, on the 8th of November, 1861, on the high seas, intercept the Trent, a British mail steamer, and forcibly remove therefrom James M. Mason and John Slidell, disloyal citizens, leading conspirators, rebel enemies and dangerous men, who, with their suite, were on their way to Europe to promote the cause of the insurrection, claiming to be ambassadors from the seceded Confederate States; and whereas, the Secretary of the Navy has further reported to this House that the prompt and decisive action of Capt. Wilkes on this occasion merited and received the emphatic approval of the Department, and moreover in a public letter has thanked Capt. Wilkes for the act; and whereas, this House, on the first day of the session, did propose to tender the thanks of Congress to Capt. Wilkes for his brave, adroit and patriotic conduct in the arrest of the traitors; and whereas further, on the same day this House did request the President to confine the said J. M. Mason and John Slidell in the cells of convicted felons until certain military officers of the United States, captured and held by the so-called Confederate States, should be treated as prisoners of war; therefore,

Resolved, As the sense of this House, that it is the duty of the President to now firmly maintain the stand thus taken, approving and adopting the act of Captain Wilkes in spite of any menace or demand of the British Government; that this House pledges its full support to him in upholding now the honor and indicating the course of the Government and people of the United States against a foreign power.

Mr. Vallandigham moved the previous question. They had heard the first growl of the British lion. It remained to be seen who would cower.

Mr. Fenton of New York hoped the resolution would be referred to the committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Vallandigham remarked that a former resolution approbatory of Captain Wilkes passed without being so referred. He (Vallandigham) had offered this resolution in good faith, and would stand by it.

The House then refused to second the demand for the previous question.

Mr. Fenton again moved that the preamble and resolution be referred to the committee on Foreign Affairs.

The motion was agreed to—yeas 109, nays 13.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill authorizing the raising of a volunteer force for the better defense of Kentucky.

Mr. Lovejoy of Illinois hoped the bill would not pass. According to the official returns, we have a standing army of between six hundred thousand and seven hundred thousand, which is amply sufficient for the war. We have more soldiers now than can be used. The raising of twenty thousand volunteers for twelve months, instead of for the war, should not be authorized. He did not understand that the military authorities had asked for the increase. Besides, he was opposed to the mode of raising men.

Mr. Richardson of Illinois trusted the bill would pass. The volunteers proposed to be raised in Kentucky were of the best kind and familiar with the State. The basis of operations was at Louisville, and twenty thousand men were necessary to guard the base and the line on which our army is to advance.

Mr. Wickliffe said Kentucky had furnished twenty-seven thousand men, he repeated what he said the other day, that, namely before he introduced the bill, he mentioned the subject to the Secretary of War, and also consulted the President, who, together with his Cabinet, he was informed, approved of the measure. As to Mr. Lovejoy's opposition, he knew that gentleman would vote against anything but what related to negroes.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Wickliffe said that whenever our army shall move to take Columbus, we will require every soldier that can be brought into the field to retake the place and march on Tennessee. The volunteers will not be required to serve in Kentucky alone, but to fight wherever an enemy can be found, and they will do it.

Mr. Wickliffe entered his protest against making a regular army out of these more than six hundred thousand volunteers. The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Lovejoy) was at the battle of Bull Run, and must have seen we had not men enough. The decisive battle in this campaign must be fought in Kentucky, and when fought he wanted the highways protected.

Mr. Stevens of Pa. opposed the bill on financial grounds, saying this war must be carried on in the most economical manner.

Mr. Dunlap urged the passage of the bill, and argued there must be force enough to defend Kentucky at all hazards.

Mr. Given of New York also supported the bill.

Mr. Lovejoy, in reply to the remarks of Mr. Wickliffe, said he would carry on the war to put down rebellion and let slavery take care of itself. He was not to be intimidated by any sneers or allusions to his anti-slavery sentiments. He was not afraid of the slave driver's whip. He was willing to vote in good faith men and money, but not for the proposed force at an expense of thirty million dollars when it was not needed. Some of the superfluous force on the Potomac river ought to be sent to Kentucky.

Messrs. Bingham of Ohio, Maynard of Tennessee, and Merrill of Vermont, severally spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Blair of Missouri closed the debate. In reply to Mr. Lovejoy he said we have the best reason to believe that we have not men enough in the field, for we have not been able to conquer the enemy anywhere as yet, and have not met him at any time excepting when he outnumbered us; hence we have not been able to drive back the foe one foot.

Mr. Lovejoy replied, accounting for this by the fact that the enemy will not meet us unless when he is in superior numbers.

Mr. Blair—Then why should not our army overrun the enemy?

Mr. Lovejoy—Because we have no Generals.

Mr. Blair advocated the bill.

The bill passed.

Mr. Allen introduced a joint resolution that, the Senate concurring, when the House adjourns on Thursday next it be until the 1st of January.

The resolution was adopted by 60 ayes against 56 nays.

Adjourned.

From Kentucky.

PARIS, Ky., Dec. 15.—Two of the most prominent secessionists in the county, named Abe Spears and Dan. Helber, were killed about five o'clock to-day. Helber shot a soldier through the head, killing him, when one of the soldier's comrades, in return, killed them both. The fracas originated by a man named Rodgers attempting to get out of town with contraband goods and letters for the Southern Confederacy. Rodgers was captured and is now in jail. Letters found on him are in possession of the authorities.

An attack on the town by the rebels was expected, and reinforcements have been sent for. Seven hundred soldiers will be here to-night. Everything is quiet up to this hour, 9:15 P. M.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 15.—The Commercial's Frankfort dispatch says the Southern Bank of Kentucky, at Hopkinsville, having ordered the Louisville branch to pass large sums to the credit of the mother bank in Liverpool, to be used, as suspected, for the rebellion, the Legislature authorized the branches to act independent of the mother bank until State authority be re-established.

The Postmaster at Somerset writes on the 11th that both armies are on the defensive and fortifying. A gentleman in the confidence of General Schoff writes under the same date that Zollicoffer was fortifying at Fishing Creek, five miles west of Somerset.

Dr. John Jackson, without provocation, shot and severely wounded a Minnesota soldier, who went to his house near Springfield to buy hay.—Jackson was arrested and taken to Lebanon. He will probably be tried by military law. He was the Douglas elector of the Ashland district, and the brother of him who shot Colonel Ellsworth.

Vague rumors are afloat of a fight at Mumfordsville, between McCook's division and the enemy, but are not credited.

The Enquirer's Louisville correspondent, under date of the 14th, says Gen. Johnston with fifteen thousand Federal troops on the northern bank of Green river, and Rousseau seven miles distant, preparing to join him, while another brigade, under McCook, is also moving to concentrate at Mumfordsville.

Buckner with twenty-five thousand men was covering all the hills back from Green River, and was preparing to prevent our troops from crossing the river.

General Thomas's division, on the left wing, is bearing down from the East to get in Buckner's rear. Mitchell's divison on the right wing, moves this morning toward Green river. The Confederates are actively on the move, and an engagement is momentarily expected.

Gen. Buell is in constant telegraphic communication with our advancing columns, and has employed all the railway stock of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad in forwarding troops and supplies.

All bridges are repaired, and trains run through to Mumfordsville.

Six new Ohio regiments will pass through Cincinnati this week for Kentucky.

Virginia Convention.

WHEELING, Dec. 15.—The Convention has disposed of the boundary question. They include, unconditionally, in addition to the thirty-nine counties included in the ordinance of the August Convention, the counties of Pocahontas, Greenbriar, Monroe, Mercer and McDowell.—They also take in Hampshire, Morgan, Berkley, Jefferson, Pendleton and Frederick, on condition that a majority of the votes cast at the district election, and a majority of the counties comprising it express themselves in favor of coming in at the elections to be held on the day appointed by the Legislature.

This attempt to extend the boundary is regarded by some as an endeavor to embarrass the progress of the new State movement. The Convention was yesterday discussing a section, relating to treason against the State.

Mr. Vanwinkle of Wood Co. raised the issue that there could be no such thing as treason against a State. One clause makes it treason to speak, write, print, publish or circulate anything to uphold invasion or insurrection during the continuance of the same. This clause will probably be expunged.

Mr. Ballelle of Ohio county introduced a proposition prohibiting the importation of slaves; making the duty of the Legislature to regulate in a humane manner the family relations of slaves, and providing that after a certain date, involuntary servitude, except for crime, within the new State, shall cease. Referred to committee.

The discussion on this will probably begin sometime next week.

Southern News.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 15.—The Journal's advices from Columbia say that heavy cannonading was heard all day Friday in the direction of Somerset.

The Jacksonport Herald says Col. Borland, just returned from Pocahontas, reports the Arkansas border still in danger. He says the Federals at Poplar Bluff number from six thousand to eight thousand. The scouts of the two armies have frequent skirmishes. Borland wants all the men he can promptly get.

The Cichot, Ark., Press says quite a number of letters have been opened and the contents abstracted on the mail route between Lake Village and Memphis.

Mr. Laniera was killed at Columbus, Ark., by T. Young. Young was subsequently hung by a mob.

A New Orleans dispatch of the 10th says Lieut. Shepard, commanding the rebel steamer Mobile, arrived at Brashears City with a Lieutenant and nine Federals, prisoners taken from the U. S. schooner Annie Peyton, wrecked near Saline Pass. They were sent to New Orleans.

The Louisville & Nashville Railroad has stopped receiving freight at Nashville, the rolling stock being demanded to transport troops to Bowling Green.

The Confederate States Court, at Richmond, on the 9th, decided that no change of citizenship after the commencement of hostilities can protect alien enemy's property from sequestration.

The Governor of Mississippi calls on the citizens for all weapons they have for the use of the rebel army.

Provisional Governor Johnson has issued a call at Bowling Green for twenty companies of volunteers from Kentucky.

The first battalion of Tennessee cavalry are going into quarters at Moscow, Ky.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 15, via BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—The chartered steamer Constitution arrived this afternoon.

The Constitution left Boston on the 21st of November, with the 26th Massachusetts and 9th Connecticut regiments, arriving at Ship Island on the 3d of December. All the troops were landed the next day, by some rebel steamers captured by our fleet. The Constitution remained at Ship Island four days, and sailed for Key West and Havanna.

The Battle in Western Virginia.

PHILLIPPI, VA., Dec. 15.—A force consisting of the Ninth Indiana and detachments from the Thirteenth Indiana, Twenty-fifth and Thirty-second Ohio, and Second and Third Virginia Regiments, and Riggs and Bracken's cavalry, in all about eighteen hundred men, under command of Gen. Milroy, left Cheat Mountain on the 13th for the purpose of driving the rebels from their fortified camp on the Allegheny mountains. Our forces came in sight of the enemy drawn up in line of battle in front of their intrenchments, charged upon them and drove them back. A hot fire was kept up during the afternoon by both sides, and several brilliant charges were made by our men.

Gen. Milroy withdrew at nightfall, intending to renew the attack in the morning.

During the night the rebels left their camp silently, burning everything they could not carry with them.

Our loss was twenty killed and thirty wounded. The rebel loss is believed to be not less than one hundred and fifty killed, including one field officer. We have thirty prisoners.

By this last brilliant achievement Gen. Reynolds's front has been cleared of the enemy, there being no organized rebel force within forty miles of our advance post. A detachment sent out from this place yesterday, returned this evening with ten rebel guerrillas, including the notorious Jake Kurn.

Effects of the Foreign News.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 16.—The English news produced profound sensation in commercial and financial circles, and the impression seemed general that there is great danger of war with England; but while all admit that, if Wilkes done wrong in the Trent affair, due apologies should be made; but if he was right, no humiliating concessions ought to be entertained for a moment to England or any other power.

The news greatly unsettled the markets and produced a temporary cessation of business, so that but little was done in any department.

DETROIT, Dec. 16.—The European news creates deep feeling, and the probabilities of war with England are freely discussed. There is a general desire for our Government to place itself right as regards law, when it will be sustained at every sacrifice.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 16—The news from England produced decided sensation in this section. The general sentiment is that our Government must maintain its rights and dignity regardless of English bluster.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The Express says the excitement on 'Change was intense and beyond description. Breadstuffs were favorably offered and all descriptions very firm, and many lots of cotton are withdrawn from the market.—Saltpetre advanced from 11 to 15c per lb., and few holders would name any price. Brimstone kept out of the market. Chemicals advanced. Bicarbonate of soda went up 1c. Coffee and tea all withdrawn from the market, and only offered at enormous prices. Sugar offered sparingly. Sterling exchange advanced to 40 per cent.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16.—The money article of the Bulletin says the foreign news caused a feverish and excited stock market to-day, with a downward tendency, particularly in finances.

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—The English news causes intense excitement, and the action of the home government is strongly approved.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 16—The effect of the English news in Baltimore has been to call forth a warm sympathy of the position of the President, while the rebels are rejoicing at the prospect of the aid of England to overthrow the Union. Nearly all the Irish in Baltimore have been secessionists, but they are now rallying for the Union against England.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 16.—There seems but one feeling here as regards the English news; that is, the hope that the Administration, if right, will maintain the position taken, with firmness, let issues be what they may. No one frightened but wheat buyers.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—The news from England by the Europa creates profound sensation in political circles. It is not credited that her Majesty's Government is determined to demand the release of the rebel emissaries, Mason and Slidell. If, however, such be the case, the feeling seems to be that the Government shall be sustained in its efforts to maintain the nation's honor and national integrity. The Tribune and Times will suggest the propriety of submitting the question to the arbitration of some impartial neutral power.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 16—The English news is received here with general astonishment and profound indignation at the tone of the English press and the alleged policy of the British Government—that the honor of our country must be maintained, and no concession made to English bluster.

Latest from Missouri.

ROLLA, Dec. 15—Several citizens from Arkansas have reached here during the week, and enlisted in the Arkansas company under Capt Ware, late member of the Legislature from that State. These men say there was a Union society in Izard, Fulton, Independence and Searcy counties, numbering twenty hundred men, which could have made an organized stand in two weeks more time; but it was betrayed by a recreant member, and broken up and scattered. Many of these Union men have been arrested and taken to Little Rock. Some have been hung, and a large number are now in the woods, trying to effect their escape from the State.

ST. JOSEPH, Dec. 15.—Forty of Gen. Prentiss's command returned last night, most of them sick with measles. They report that the Federals had several skirmishes with the rebels on their march, killing a few of them. When at the river opposite Lexington they were fired on by the rebels at that place and Gen. Prentiss dispersed them with shell from three 12-pounders, but there being no ferry-boats or means of crossing the river, our forces were compelled to return to Richmond for forage and provisions. It was Prentiss's resolution, however, to cross the river on Saturday at a point above Lexington, and the forces from Sedalia and Kansas City would join him.

The rebels are reported to be two thousand strong.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 16.—All the claims against the Department of the West, which originated prior to October 14th, must be filed before the examining Commission, now in session in this city, previous to January 10th, or they will not be paid by the War Department.

All commissioned city officers, and all county officers except nine, have taken the oath of allegiance prescribed by the State Convention.—None of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and but one of the State officers, Col. Mosley, auditor, have filled their oaths.

The secessionists here openly avow their joy at the prospect for a war with England, while the Unionists seem generally to hope that the Administrtion will firmly adhere to their already proclaimed positions, and not deliver up the rebel embassadors.

John Arzon, who was arrested on Saturday for embezzlement, in a card published this evening says his arrest was caused by a disagreement between him and the auditing officer of the general postoffice, which might have been prevented by a prompter examination of his accounts.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15—Gen. Sumner was thrown from his horse this morning while reviewing his troops. A rib was broken and other injuries suffered, but a telegram to McClellan this evening states he is better, and will be able to resume his command within a few days.

The rebels have an immense force and are erecting a large battery at the mouth of Occaquan Creek, so that they can fire at vessels plying between this city and General Hooker's division.

[Special to the Herald.]

The reconnoissance made a few days ago from Gen. Sumner's division, established the fact that the enemy had retired from Annandale.—Upon abandoning it, they burned a few houses belonging to persons suspected of Union proclivities.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The excitement which was at first caused by the somewhat belligerent tone of the European news, is rapidly subsiding, and there is a general belief that war with England can easily be avoided without dishonor.—The President, it is known, is strongly opposed to the adoption of a warlike policy against any foreign power under the present circumstances of the country.

It is understood here in diplomatic circles, that Mexico is preparing to make a very vigorous resistance to the invasion of her territory by Spain, France and England; more vigorous than the allies at one time anticipated.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 16.—A fire at Elyria on Sunday night destroyed twenty-three frame buildings, principally barns and shops. Loss, $10,000. Insured for $2000.

From Cairo.

CAIRO, Dec. 16.—It is reported that the rebels at Columbus have received a large number of heavy anchors and cables for the purpose of obstructing navigation on the river at that place. Great preparations are being made there, expecting an early attack.

BALTIMORE, Dec 16.—The bark Agues has arrived here. She reports speaking the English brig Mary Morton, which reported that the Sumter and Iroquois had a severe engagement and one of them, she did not know which, had put into Martinique to repair.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 15—A passenger from Mumfordsville to-day reports the bridge nearly repaired, and pickets of the two armies are near each other.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

New York Market.

[REPORTED FOR THE OHIO STATESMAN.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.

COTTON—Unsettled and excited. Middling uplands are quoted all the way from up from 36@40c; sales 900 bales.

FLOUR—The market has undergone no decided change. Holders are firm, and the tendency is upward. Sales of 14 900 bbls at $5 25@5 30 for rejected; $5 40@5 50 for superfine state; $5 65@5 75 for extra state; $5 40@5 50 for superfine western; $5 65@5 85 for common to medium extra western; $5 90@6 25 for shipping brands extra round hoop Ohio, and $6 05@6 75 for trade brands do. Canadian flour moderate business doing at steady prices. sales of 1260 barrels at $5 45@5 50 for superfine; $5 65@6 75 forcommon to choice extra.

RYE FLOUR—Quiet and steady with sales of 500 bbls at $3 50@4 40.

CORN MEAL—In fair request; prices unchanged.

WHISKY—In fair request with sales of 630 bbls, at 29½@29½c.

WHEAT—Unsettled by the political news from Europe, but prices are without decided change. The tendency of the market is upward. Sales of 800 bushels Chicago spring at $1 24@1 26; 43,500 do Milwaukee club at $1 29@1 31; 33,000 do Amber Iowa at $1 30@1 34; 19,500 do winter red western at $1 26@1 40; 36,000 do amber Michigan at $1 43@1 43; 7,500 red state at $1 33, 14,000 white Michigan at $1 45@1 50.

RYE—Quiet at 83@85c.

BARLEY—Firm; sales 5000 bushels at 71@72c for Canada East.

CORN—Market quiet and without decided change sales 53000 bushels at 67½@69½ for prime western mixed afloat; 68 in store.

OATS—Steady at 44@45c for Jersey, Canadian, western and state.

PORK—Quiet and prices somewhat unsettled; sales of 110 bbls at $12 95@13 75 for old and new mess; $8 50@9 90 for prime.

BEEF—Sales quite firm with moderate demand; sales of 1100 bbls at $4@4 50 for country prime; $5@5 50 for country mess; $11 50@12 for repacked mess; $13 75@13 87½ for extra mess. Prime mess beef firm.

BEEF HAMS—Fair demand; sales of 200 bbls prime western at $15.

BACON—Sides in good demand; sales of 475 boxes at 7c for Cumberland cut middles; 7⅞c short ribbed do.; 7⅞c for long clear do.

CUT MEATS—Dull and lower; sales at 3¾@4¼ for shoulders, and 4¾@6¾c for hams.

LARD—More active; sales small at 8¾@9c.

DRESSED HOGS—Steady, sales at 4 00@4 62½c.

BUTTER—Less active and scarcely so firm, with sales at 14@14c for Ohio and 16@22c for state.

CHEESE—A shade easier with small sales at 5¾@6c.

SUGAR—Little more doing in raw but prices without material change; sales of 196 hogsheads Cuba at 8@8¼c; 23 hogsheads Demerara 8¾c; 251 hogsheads Melado on private terms.

COFFEE—Sales 300 bags Rio at 18c; 100 bags Java at 25c.

MOLASSES—Quiet with sales of 30 hogsheads Barbadoes at 35@36; 70 hogsheads Porto Rico at 40 and by auction to-day 190 hogsheads at 34@37½; 30 bbls Cuba Muscovado at 28½c.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 16.

FLOUR—The demand for superfine flour at $4@4 05 is in excess of the offerings, it being held at $4 10, at