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GENERAL McCLELLAN.

Pursuant to announcement, the deputation of citizens of Washington charged with the duty of presenting to Major General McClellan a copy of complimentary resolutions adopted by the Common Council of that city waited upon that officer, at his residence in New York, and formally made the presentation.

General McClellan stated that it was with unusual pride and satisfaction that he received this token of the confidence and esteem of the Common Council and citizens of Washington, not only because it is Capital of the nation, but because its people were the first thrown into the path this civil war and the first to encounter its dangers. Had your people (said he) not been loyal, then our Capital would have been gone forever. History would do them justice for their noble conduct in that crisis of the country. But he hoped no necessity would ever arise to question the loyalty of the people of Washington. Their fidelity to the Union was too well known to permit any one to doubt it for an instant. It was true that he (General McClellan) had once found Washington threatened by armed Rebels and in danger of being captured.

He took very little credit to himself, so far as related to the saving of the National Capital from destruction. Whatever was done at that time was due to the noble army which he had the honor to command. To them it was due, and he knew they would feel themselves well rewarded in knowing that those who were most interested in saving Washington from the enemy were satisfied with their conduct. He felt doubly honored that so many respectable citizens of Washington had taken the trouble to come such a long distance for the purpose of presenting him with such a complimentary testimonial, and he begged them to receive his most heartfelt thanks, and also to convey to the people of Washington the assurance of his appreciation of this token of their esteem and confidence. In conclusion, he hoped that the fortunes of war would never again make it necessary that he should be called to the defences of Washington against the assaults of an invading army, either foreign or domestic.

The short speech of the General was listened to with the profoundest attention, and not until he concluded the last syllable did his audience indulge in the slightest demonstration of applause.

A general conversation next followed. The General inspected the magnificently framed copy of the resolution, and expressed himself highly pleased and gratified. Wine next came, and for an half hour or more deputation indulged in the most agreeable festivities, drinking the health of General McClellan, perpetuity of the Union, and success to the army of the Potomac. General McClellan and General Porter were asked many questions relative to the state of the country, and replied with the utmost frankness.

Some one asked if there was any doubt about the death of "Stonewall Jackson."—General McClellan replied that he thought not and expressed himself much grieved at the event. "No one," said he can help admiring a man like Jackson. He was sincere, and true, and valiant. Yet no one has disappointed me more than he has. Jackson was one of my classmates, and at college never promised to be the man he has proved himself. He was always very slow, and acquired a lesson only

after great labor. And yet his determination was so great that he never gave anything up until he had succeeded. His character seems to have changed since; for he has exhibited great celerity in all his movements while in command of the Rebel forces."

"I suppose," remarked a gentleman, "Jackson was the ablest General in the South."

"He is un'oubtedly a great loss to the Rebels," replied General McClellan. "Lee is perhaps the most able commander they have, and Jackson was their best executive officer."

The conversation next turned on the famous flight of President Lincoln from Harrisburg to Washington, and the state of the National Capital at the time of the inauguration. General McClellan, in reply to various questions, stated that at the time referred to he did not think there was much danger to the person of President Lincoln or to the Capital. Since then he had, however, obtained information which led him to believe that there really was a conspiracy to seize the person of Lincoln, and also to gain possession of Washington.—Had either event occurred, the effect might have changed the whole character of events, and resulted in the Southern conspirators becoming the de facto Government. Possession of the National Capital, he thought, would have given the Rebels a moral force equal to three hundred thousand men.

A gentleman inquired if there would be any impropriety in asking whether the rumor that General McClellan had tendered his resignation to the President was true or false?

The General promptly answered: "The rumor has not the slightest foundation in fact."

NEW STYLE OF FREIGHT.—Yesterday the steamer Cataract, stopped at Kingston, C. W., from Ogdensburg, to take on freight and passengers. In the articles transferred to the hold of the boat was a large box, marked as follows:

For the American Glass Co.
Pearl street,
New York.

[Glass—this side up with care.]

As the Company are partially responsible for this class of freight, great care was bestowed in the handling of it, and the hands were instructed to "go careful," which they did.

When the boat arrived at Sackett's Harbor, one of the hands wishing to wipe off some oil from his hands, commenced to pull at a wisp of hay, protruding from a knot hole in the aforesaid package, when, to his amazement, the side of the box flew off, and out rolled two soldiers (?) who quickly gathered themselves up, and without obstruction from the thunder struck witness of the transaction, bolted for the shore, and the last that was seen of them they were making tracks up town.

In the box was found a collar marked "4th Battalion, 10th Brigade, Royal Artillery, Market Barracks, Kingston." From this it would seem that they were deserters from the British army.

"What woman wills," says the French proverb, "heaven wills;" and the "women of America," in conclave assembled at the Church of the Puritans, in New York, resolved that peace should never be made in this republic while "women are placed at the mercy of a legislation in which they are not represented."

A convention, claiming to be composed of "loyal women," assembled in New York on Thursday. It is stated that on the platform were seen the old leaders of Women's Rights.

GENERAL HOOKER'S ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
CAMP NEAR FALMOUTH, VA., May 12, 1863.

—General Orders, No. 50.—The Major General Commanding desires to express to the troops leaving this army, by reason of the expiration of their term of service, his appreciation of their efforts and devotion. The record of their deeds, while it will prove a proud recollection in future days, will live in history, and in the memory of their comrades who still continue to serve the country and its cause in the honorable and glorious profession of arms. The Major General Commanding directs that copies of this order be furnished to each regiment that has left or is about to leave the army, and he desires that the same be promulgated to the troops, with his best wishes for their welfare. May the same spirit which prompted them to respond to the call of duty and honor remain forever in their hearts, and be transmitted, as a proud legacy to their descendants.

By command of Major Gen. Hooker.

S. WILLIAMS, Assistant Adjutant Gen.

As the formation of a regiment of blacks in the D. of C., is an undertaking which may succeed or may not, the Secretary of War has refused to authorize advances to the force that is forming, until the requisite number is obtained.

On the 1st of June the excise law, as regards stamps, goes into full operation. All instruments requiring stamps are declared null and void if not stamped according to law.

Erastus Corning, of Albany, N. Y., the railroad king, is about to retire from business. He commenced as a clerk at \$20 a month, and leaves off with a fortune estimated at \$5,000,000.

Major R. S. Smith, of the United States army, a graduate of West Point, has been elected to the presidency of Girard College, Philadelphia, made vacant by the resignation of Prof. Allen.

In Washington, yesterday, the clerks of Messrs. W. M. Shuster & Co., Dry Goods Merchants, Pennsylvania avenue, on opening the store, discovered that during the night the store had been robbed, and it was found that fifty pieces of silk, worth between seven and eight thousand dollars, had been taken.—The thieves were very choice in the goods, making a selection of the best black and plain silks, and such as cannot easily be identified. The thieves were cunning enough to remove from off the goods the private marks of the firm, and left them on the counter.

Reports from the Southern army say that General Barksdale is in command of Fredericksburg. Gen. Lee is in command of the army, and the railroad has been completed to Richmond.

Subscriptions are being solicited in the various Departments for the benefit of the negro regiment now organizing in Washington.

Mr. George Hill, is about leasing from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Co. a lot immediately above the Aqueduct Bridge, Georgetown, for the purpose of erecting a paper mill. This mill will derive its water power from the canal.