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Mr. Stanton's Dispatch.
WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, Oct. 21, 1864.

"CEDAR CREEK, VA., 11.30 a. m., Oct. 20,
1864.—Lieut. Gen. Grant, City Point, Va.:
We have again been favored by a great victory
—a victory won from disaster by the gallantry
of our officers and men.

"The attack on the enemy was made about
3 p. m. by a left half-wheel of the whole line,
with a division of cavalry turning each flank of
the enemy, the whole line advancing. The
enemy, after a stubborn resistance, broke and
fled, and were pushed with vigor.

"The artillery captured will probably be over
fifty pieces. This, of course, includes what
were captured from our troops in the early
morning. At least 1,600 prisoners have been
brought in; also, wagons and ambulances in
large numbers.

"This morning the cavalry made a dash at
Fisher's Hill and carried it, the enemy having
fled during the night, leaving only a small
rear guard. I have to regret the loss of many
valuable officers, killed and wounded—among
them Col. Jos. Thoburn, commanding division
of Crook's command, killed; Col. J. Howard
Kitchen, commanding brigade, wounded; Col-
onel R. G. McKenzie, commanding brigade,
wounded severely—would not leave the field.

"I cannot yet give exact details. Many of
our men captured in the morning have made
their escape, and are coming in.

"Ramseur, commanding division in Early's
army, died this morning.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
"Major General Commanding."
Gen. Grant's appreciation of the victory at
Cedar Creek is expressed in the following dis-
patch:

"CITY POINT, VA., Oct. 20, 1864, 8 p. m.
"Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of
War:—I had a salute of one hundred guns
from each of the armies here fired in honor of
Sheridan's last victory. Turning what had
all fair to be a disaster into a glorious victory,
I stamp Sheridan what I have always thought
him, one of the ablest of Generals.

"U. S. GRANT, Lieut. Gen."

The Medical Director reports that seven hun-
dred and seventy slightly wounded have reach-
ed Winchester from the field, and all wounded
that are able to bear transportation will be
forwarded immediately to Martinsburg.

The telegraph line is now working to Atlan-
ta, but no late reports have been received by
the Department. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

M. Babinet, of the French Institute, is said
to have discovered the means of cooking with-
out fire. He has just laid before the French
Academy the result of his experiments. His
recipe is, place your food in a black pot covered
with sundry panes of glass, and stand it in the
sun. The water soon boils, and the food is
said to be of better flavor than when cooked in
the ordinary way.

Henry B. Middleton, the son of R. W.
Middleton of Washington, and master-at arms
aboard the U. S. gunboat Daniel Smith,
died at Augusta, Ga., on the 29th of Septem-
ber, 1864; of disease contracted while a pri-
soner.

A Proclamation.

It has pleased Almighty God to prolong our
national life another year, defending us with
His guardian care, against unfriendly designs
from abroad, and vouchsafing to us in His
mercy many and signal victories over the ene-
my, who is of our own household. It has
also pleased our Heavenly Father to favor
as well our citizens in their homes as our
soldiers in their camps, and our sailors on the
rivers and seas, with unusual health. He has
largely augmented our free population by
emancipation and by immigration, while He
has opened to us new sources of wealth, and
has crowned the labor of our workmen in
every department of industry with abundant
rewards. Moreover, he has been pleased to
animate and inspire our minds and hearts with
fortitude, courage, and resolution sufficient for
the great trial of civil war into which we have
been brought by our adherence as a nation to
the cause of freedom and humanity, and to
afford to us reasonable hopes of an ultimate and
happy deliverance from all our dangers and
afflictions.

Now, therefore, I Abraham Lincoln, Presi-
dent of the United States do hereby appoint
and set apart the last Thursday of November
next as a day which I desire to be observed by
all by fellow-citizens, wherever they may be,
as a day of thanksgiving and praise to
Almighty God, the beneficent Creator and
Ruler of the Universe. And I do further
recommend to my fellow citizens aforesaid,
that on that occasion they do reverently hum-
ble themselves in the dust, and from thence
offer up penitent and fervent prayers and sup-
plications to the Great Disposer of events for
a return of the inestimable blessings of peace,
union, and harmony throughout the land
which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwell-
ing place for ourselves and for our posterity
throughout all generations.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand and caused the seal of the United
States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this twen-
tieth day of October, in the year of our Lord
one thousand eight hundred and sixty four,
and of the independence of the United States
the eighty ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
By the President,
WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

The Richmond Examiner, quoted in the
Northern papers, says:—"We referred yester-
day to information received direct from Nor-
folk, in regard to the fleet now fitting out for
the capture of the forts below Wilmington.—
We should have added that the fleet consists
of the iron frigate Ironsides, which was sta-
tioned for some time at Charleston, the new
iron clad ship of the line Dictator, whose ar-
mament is of the heaviest calibre and greatest
range, (some of her guns are said to throw
shell within a fraction of six miles) two moni-
tors and an immense number of wooden vessels
of war, ammunition and picket boats, etc."

The recent death of Mr. Bates calls to mind
the fact that two of the most successful and
wealthiest bankers in London; were both Amer-
icans.

WAR NEWS.

The latest advices from Missouri represent
fighting to have occurred between Price's ad-
vance and Gen. Curtis's command on the Lit-
tle Blue river, ten miles from Independence,
which lasted a whole day. Gen. Curtis, it is
stated, holds a good position and will be able to
stand a regular engagement should Price con-
tinue the conflict.

Sheridan claims that at least sixteen hundred
Confederate prisoners have been brought in;
but the correspondent of the New York World
puts the number at probably a thousand.

Concerning Gen. Hood's late movements the
telegrams are silent. Gen. Forrest has disap-
peared from the scene entirely since he crossed
the Tennessee River in the vicinity of Florence;
whilst the whereabouts of Gens. Wheeler and
Roddy and the other chiefs of raiding parties,
would seem to be unknown.

The Washington Chronicle says: "We
should dislike exceedingly to believe the state-
ments of the Louisville Journal, respecting
Kentucky loyalty. It declares that "every-
body knows that thousands of persons have
been drafted in Kentucky who have desired
to remain at home, but who, if compelled to
fight at all, prefer fighting on the rebel side."
It then goes on to say that "we are assured,
and believe, startling as the fact may seem,
that our draft, got up with so much trouble
and expense, and creating such deep and wide-
spread dissatisfaction and disaffection has giv-
en more men to the rebel than to the Federal
cause, and the evil is becoming worse and
worse every day."

Three or four blockade runners have been
captured this week on the lower Potomac,
while the flotilla was occupied in destroying
the small boats along the shore in both Mary-
land and Virginia. The prisoners were sent
up to the guard boat off Alexandria. On
Thursday night a blockade runner was cap-
tured at Point Lookout and was brought up
to Washington, and committed to the Old
Capitol.

A letter from New York says:—"The talk
on Change is, that Secretary Fessenden in-
tends to urge upon Congress the necessity of
adopting a law authorizing the payment of
duties in greenbacks, with a view of reducing
the expenditures of the government by put-
ting down the price of gold."

The Skowhegan (Me.) Clarion, speaking of
the stoppage of the Skowhegan Farmer, says
that unless the price of paper materially falls,
more than half of the newspapers will have
to stop, as they cannot go forward much long-
er at the loss they have been subjected to for
the last six months.

The St. Albans Bank and the First Nation-
al Bank of St. Albans will both redeem their
bills as usual. The recent robbery has not af-
fected their solvency.