The Goodhue Volunteer

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY.

J. H. PARKER : : : : Editor.

Red Wing, March, 5. 1862.

Progress of the War.

One year ago Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated President of these States, the union of which was then a question of serious doubt. Six States had at that time openly bid defiance to the authority of the Government, and others remained only to render assistance to those already seceded, by distracting the councils of the Government, until such times as they too might go One by one they declared themselves out o the Union, and took measures to make their declarations successful and efficient, until eleven of them stood in open defiance, with three others alternating between Union and Secession.

Secession had been a theme of Southern study, and an object of Southern ambition for a series of years, that is to say, it had been such to Southern politicians and speculators. During the four years from 1856 to 1860 they had had exclusive control of the Government, and how well they improved their opportunity, let the deserted army and navy, the ungarrisoned Southern forts, the Northern arsenals stripped of arms and the official pilfering of Floyd speak and tell.

This rebellion found us entirely unprepared because, although persistently threatened, it was not expected. We had not an army of fifteen thousand men, and what we had were scattered from the extreme northern portion of Maine to the extreme southern portion of Texas on the Atlantic and Gulf, and from the northern coast of Oregon to the southern coast of California on the Pacific. In the interior they were scattered in fifties and in hundreds, from the northernmost point of Minnesota to the extreme of Utah and New Mexico; thus rendering the regular army of no avail whatever, for immediate use. In addition to our other misfortunes we had not enough arms to equip ten thousand men.

On the other hand the blow was not struck by the Secessionists until they were prepared to strike. Their men were all well drilled under a State militia system, which had become obsolete with us. Every man knew his post, and was prepared to fill it.

To meet this rebellion and conquer it was no mean and insignificant undertaking, nor was it one that could be accomplished in a day. To raise a sufficient number of men to whip the traitors, although a Herculean task, was easy in comparison to the task of drilling them, clothing them, feeding them, arming them, transporting them from place to place, as circumstances might require, and furnishing the money to pay all the expenses of such an army. It was something the nation had never before been called upon to do, and it is not surprising that, in addition to the time required to regulate the whole thing, many experiments should turn out to be failures. All this vast machinery put in motion without a moments warning, could not be reasonably expected, in all its parts, at all times, to run with the regularity of clock work.

An army of over 600,000 men, at the call of the President, took the field; those men have been thoroughly drilled, well fed, well clothed and efficiently armed in the short time that has elapsed since the first call for troops. Never before, since the world began, has there been such energy displayed as has been manifested by this Government in the prosecution of this war, notwithstanding the Rice county military editor to the contrary. Country editors whose communication, and consequently whose influence extended to their three or four hundred subscribers and no further, who know about as much about war as a two year old calf does about astronomy, but who think they ought to say something, and having said it work themselves up to the belief that they have said something smart, have been grumbling and growling and snarling at the President, General Scott and General McClellan all summer because they were doing nothing; taking it for granted that because their dwarfish minds could not comprehend the magnitude of the work to be done, and could not see the progress that was being made, nothing was being done. They learned nothing at Bull Run, but have ever since been urging an "onward to Richmond" move, openly declaring that *defeat* was better than inaction. But we ought to be thankful to the Almighty that such a set of whining curs have had no influence on the action of the Commander-in-Chief. His course, his policy has not been changed. With unvaviating step he has pursued the even tenor of his ways, until now even those habitual grumblers at his inaction, begin to comprehend his masterly plan of operation. Four months ago we had not a foothold south of Fortress Monroe, except at Fort Pickens. The enemy had a complete, and apparently impregnable line of defence from the entrance of the Chesapeak on the Atlantic to the western part of Missouri, with strongholds at convenient points from which to operate, and at which to concentrate. How is it now? Commodore Dupont and General Sherman have made a landing and erected impregnable fortifications in the very heart of Secessia—in that hot bed of treason—South Carolina. Commodore Goldsborough and General Burnside have taken Roanoke Island, destroyed all opposition forces in and about Albermarle Sound, and have taken possession of the Atlantic Railroad, thus cutting off all communication between the cities of Richmond, and Norfolk and Portsmouth, which places must soon fall under the combined attack from Burnside and Fort Monroe. Price and McCulloch are driven out of Missouri—Zollicoffer, the hope and stay of rebels in Kentucky, is defeated and killed—Bowling Green and Columbus evacuated, and thus Kentucky cleared of the rebel invaders. The Mississippi gunboats, the patient construction of which caused so much complaint, are finished, and the wisdom of their construction vindicated by the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson and of Nashville. with an army of rebel prisoners; thus dispersing the rebels from their strongholds in Tennessee, and entirely breaking the back of the monster rebellion. These things have been done—done under the wisdom and foresight of the person, whoever it was, who planed the campaign. And we venture the assertion that, had the senseless advice of the editor-Generals throughout the country been followed, the disorganized mass that our army was when it returned from Bull Run would have been hurled headlong into fight after fight, until repeated defeats would have dispirited, disorganized and disbanded it, and, ere this, the Southern Confederacy would have been acknowledged an independent nation.

What may we not now expect? Would it be too much to expect Charleston, Savannah, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Memphis, Vicksburgh and New Orleans to surrender soon? And when that is done, Richmond is gone up in smoke and ashes, if she don't follow suit.

We all acknowledge that great things have been done within the last few weeks, because we can see them. When we are ready to move greater things than those will be done. But we must leave to those in command to settle the question of readiness, and patiently wait their decision.

Confiscation.

Our Legislature, at this session, has passed an act which is a virtual confiscation of the property of rebels in this State, so far as that property is represented in indebtedness from citizens of the State to them.—The law applies to all kinds of indebtedness whether secured or unsecured, and absolutely refuses to render any assistance to the parties in collecting the same, by denying the rebel a hearing in our courts. Here the law leaves the matter, and here we think the law is at fault; because it is virtually punishing the rebel by taking his property from him and giving it to another person. Now we do not at all object to taking his property from the rebel, but why should it be given to a private individual? The individual is not the party who has been directly injured by the rebellion, or if he has been injured, he has not been so injured more more directly or more distinctly than his neighbor. The Government is the party that has been directly and distinctly injured, and it is the Government that ought to receive the property. The bill ought to have provided that when it is shown that the creditor is one who comes under the base of the law, the debtor could discharge the debt by paying the same over to the Government, and that the Government might recover the same by action against the individual debtor.

Execution of the Slaver Gordon.

A disgusting and horrifying scene must have been the execution of Gordon, the Slaver With brutal indifference he spent the night previous to his execution, in singing songs, smoking cigars and writing letters; towards morning his guards discovered that he had, by some means, procured poison and was far gone under its influence. To protract his worthless life a few hours, in order that the sentence of the law might not be defeated even by death, whisky was administered in such quantities that he was carried up to the scaffold beastly drunk, and there, in that state, the letter of the law was executed.

Such exhibitions are, in the highest degree, debasing and disgusting.

Army Correspondence.

LEBANON, Ky., Feb. 20th, 1862.

FRIEND PARKER:—I promised you some time ago that I would give you a further detailed account of the "Battle of the Cumberland," in which our Regiment was engaged, and bore a very conspicuous part; but there has been so much written and said that I do not know whether anything new can be said; or one thing though, I am assured, that no pen has, or ever will, give an accurate description of the part that the 2nd Regiment of Minnesota performed on the eventful 19th of January, 1862. I undertake to say that the history of the world produces no parallel for the indomitable courage, bravery and heroism displayed by them, and all the encomiums that have been so lavishly bestowed by the friends and respective commanders of other Regiments have been but partially earned, while the praise bestowed upon us has been scant indeed; and this is owing to our modesty in not wishing to detract one particle from any Regiment that was engaged in that brilliant action. I do not wish to be understood to say that the 2d Minnesota is modest above other Regiments, but what I mean is this, that our officers in making reports have been exceedingly careful not to bring our Regiment in the foreground and give it the prominence that it deserves, neither would I give it that prominence had not the officers and friends of other Regiments claimed what they had no business to claim; I do not blame any person for giving their Regiment or friends all that is due them, but when they go farther than that and detract from our noble Regiment I take issue, and will endeavor to state facts, as I saw them transpire—it would be useless for me to give any additional items concerning the first part of the fight—all agree that the 10th Indiana opened first, and fought well, but fought retreating, for the simple reason that they were alone, and could not stand and fight against such fearful odds, neither could they do anything better than retreat. After they were reinforced by the three hundred and fifty of the Kentucky 4th they all did the best they could under the circumstances, until, as they claim, their ammunition was expended, when they took to their heels and run, the rebels pressing them close with fixed bayonets. They passed through and around our Regiment who were advancing as rapidly as possible. Zollicoffer was urging his men, or rather he was leading them on through an open field, striving to gain the dense wood that covered it, in order to give his men cover, and get them in the timber, when our Regiment seeing, and instantly divining his plans, sprang into a double quick, and gained the fence at the same time with the rebels; Zollicoffer, however, with his staff, had got over the fence and advanced about twenty feet, when he was met by Col. Fry, of the 4th Kentucky, (as brave a man as ever lived) and shot from his horse; here come the fight across the fence, and here it was that our boys showed that undaunted courage and bravery in opposing single handed and alone, (and only six hundred at that) the entire rebel force of not less than eight thousand, and stood their ground firmly and decidedly for more than fifteen minutes, when "Secesh" showed signs of falling back; their officers fearing the result ordered one of their back regiments to our right and rear, and in making this manœuver they were met and repulsed by the 9th Ohio, who were held in reserve, expecting a move of this kind; our Regiment, or at least a portion of them, had, by this time, scaled the fence and were advancing, when the rebels started on a full run for their entrenchments. All the claims made for bayonet charges are mere nonesense, come from whatever source they will; there was none made, and none ordered until our Regiment had started their main body from the field—the rest of the affair has been pretty correctly detailed. This is an untarnished statement of the part enacted by the 2d Minnesota in the battle of the Cumberland. It would be invidious to call names, every man proved himself worthy of his State. There was no more bravery nor courage in the Staff or Field than there was in the ranks, and I only wonder how six hundred men did, or could stand before the hosts of the rebels and their murderous fire, I only know that the 2d Minnesota did, and that is why I say history does not afford a parallel. Our officers stood to their work nobly, never leaving their men for a moment, while other Colonels left their men to fight alone, and one rode two miles to inform Gen Thomas that his Regiment was attacked, instead of sending some Staff officer, and leading his men in person, as did our noble Colonel. This was done by Col. Manson, of the 10th Indiana, and some papers are fool-hardy enough to advertise him for a Brigadier.

UNCLE TOM.

Minnesota Legislature.

TUESDAY, Feb. 25, 1862.

PETITIONS.

SENATE.—By Duffy, Remonstrance of S. W. Salmon and other citizens of Scott county, against any reduction of delinquent taxes. Referred to the committee on taxes.

By Daniels. Of Reuben Reynolds, and other citizens of Olmsted county, asking the passage of an act authorizing County Commissioners to provide for the bringing back the remains of deceased soldiers, and for their burial. Referred to a select committee of one.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Smith. To amend Chapter 76 of the Compiled Statutes, relative to suits against steamboats referred to Committee on Judiciary.

By Daniel, To amend Chapter 60 of the Compiled Statutes of Minnesota. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

By Miller, To amend Section 1, of Chapter 44, of the Compiled Statutes, relating to the payment of debts and legacies of deceased persons. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

BILLS PASSED.

Senate bill to amend an act to provide for the service of summons in Justice courts by publication, in certain cases, approved March 10, 1861.

Senate bill to legalize the payment of taxes in United States demand treasury notes.

Senate memorial to the Postmaster General, asking a continuation of a daily mail from Winona to Chatfield.

Smith, from the Conference Committee to whom was referred the bill "for the protection of property by law exempt from execution, &c., reported the bill to the Senate as amended by the House, amendments to be concurred in, which recommendation was agreed to.

PETITIONS.

HOUSE.—By Peterson, Of 8,000 citizens of Dakota, Goodhue, Houston, Fillmore, Dodge, Meeker, St. Louis and Washington counties, praying for the publication of certain general laws in the Norwegian language.

By Allen, Of James Starkey and twenty-four others, and F M. Stowell and seventy-five others, protesting against giving the franchises of Minnesota and Pacific Railroad to the old corporators.

By V. P. Kennedy. To amend Section 1 of Act 1 of Chapter 15 of the Laws of 1860, relating to county organization.

By the Committee on Railroads: To facilitate the construction of the Minneapolis and Cedar Valley Railroad, and to amend and to continue certain acts in relation thereto.

THIRD READING AND PASSAGE.

To regulate judicial sales of real estate, and redemption therefrom. Passed.

WEDNESDAY, February 26.

BILLS PASSED.

SENATE.—House bill making appropriations for the payment of certain military and other expenses.

Senate bill to change the name of the county of Breckinridge to the county of Clay.

Senate bill to change the name of the county of Toombs to the county of Madison.

Senate bill, to amend the act authorizing the running at large of cattle, horses, mules, and other animals, approved March, 1857.

Senate bill, to regulate the fees of Clerks of District Courts.

Senate bill, To punish wilful or malicious trespass, by imprisonment.

HOUSE BILLS READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME.

To regulate judicial sales and redemption therefrom.

The hour specified for the consideration of the bill providing for the permanent location of the seat of Government, the same was taken from the table and put upon its final passage, which resulted—yeas 7, nays 11. Those voting in the affirmative were Messrs. Baldwin, Bennett, Clarke, Cleveland, Dane, and Webber.

Those voting in the negative were Messrs. Cook, Daniels, Duffy, Irvine, Nash, Reiner, Richards, Sargeant, See, Smith, and Swift.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING.

HOUSE.—By the committee of ways and means: To authorize the collection of the Federal taxes for the year 1862.

By Burt, To repeal section 35 of chapter 7 of the Compiled Statutes, relating to Register of Deeds.

By Kennedy, To change the name of the town of Lee in the county of McLeod to Glendale. Rules suspended and the bill passed.

Senate bill to protect the wool growing interests of the State, by levying a tax on dogs.

Senate bill to amend the act providing for the service of summons by publication in Justice's Court.

Senate bill to amend the act to provide for the election and define the duties of County Attorneys in this State.

Senate bill to legalize the payment of taxes with United States demand Treasury notes.

THIRD READING AND PASSAGE.

For an act to form a new county of equal parts of Mower and Fillmore counties. Also to attach a portion of Freeborn county to Mower county. Passed.

Senate bill to change the name of William Stahler to that of William Hack. Passed.

THURSDAY, Feb. 27.

REPORTS.

SENATE.—By McClure, From the committee on Federal relations, to whom was referred the bill in relation to marriage certificates, reported the bill back to the Senate, which was afterwards laid on the table.

BILLS PASSED.

Senate bill to amend an act to provide for township organizations, approved February 21, 1860.

Senate bill in relation to the extension of Seventh street in the city of St. Paul.

Senate bill to provide for the collection and preservation of criminal statistics.

Senate bill to repeal chapter 104 of the Special Laws of 1858, approved July 23, 1858.

Senate bill to repeal chapter 76 of Compiled Statutes, in relation to suits against steamboats.

Senate bill to provide for the location of a State road from Mantorville to Red Wing.

Senate bill to prevent the commission of waste on encumbered real estate.

A communication was received from the House informing the Senate that the House had concurred in part of the Senate amendments to the school bill, and had refused to concur in two of the amendments made by the Senate, and that a committee of three had been appointed to confer with a like committee of the Senate, in relation thereto, which was agreed to.

The Chair appointed Messrs. Swift, Daniels and Webber as said committee.

The House also refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill in relation to fire insurance companies, and appointed a committee to act in conjunction with a like committee of the Senate, which was agreed to, and the Chair appointed Messrs. McClure, Nash and Smith, such committee.

HOUSE.—Senate bill to change the name of the county of Breckinridge to the county of Clay.

Senate bill to change the name of the county of Toombs, to the county of Madison.

Senate bill to amend an act to authorize the running at large of cattle, horses and mules.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING.

Senate bill to regulate the fees of Clerks of the District Courts.

Senate bill to punish wilful or malicious trespass by imprisonment.

By Carver, Memorial to the Secretary of War to have the Assistant Commissary of Subsistance at St. Paul purchase the supplies for the military posts in Minnesota, at St. Paul.

THIRD READING AND PASSAGE.

To amend section 32, chapter 17. of the Compiled Statutes, relative to the sale of real estate by religious societies. Passed.

The following message was received from the Governor:

STATE OF MINNESOTA, EXECUTIVE OFFICE. ST. PAUL, February 27th, 1862.

Hon. Jared Benson, Speaker of the House of Representatives;

SIR:—Last evening I received a telegram from Hon. Cyrus Aldrich, of which the following is a copy:

"Law passed to-day giving us two (2) members. District the State."

Assuming that there can be no mistake as to the fact, and, as but a few days of the session remain, I hasten to communicate the information to the Legislature that the State may be districted upon the principle heretofore adopted by our sister States, and enunciated by the Act of Congress of June 25th, 1842, the second section of which is in these words:

"SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That in every case where a State is entitled to more than one representative, the number to which each State shall be entitled under this apportionment shall be elected by districts composed of contiguous territory equal in number to the number of representatives to which said State may be entitled, no one district electing more than one Representative." Respectfully.

ALEX. RAMSEY.

Mr. Rogers introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of two from each judicial district be appointed by the chair, to act with a similar committee on the part of the Senate, to divide the State into two Congressional districts, and present by bill at their earliest convenience.

The following were announced as the committee:

Fifth District—Messrs. Rogers and Woodruff.

Sixth—Messrs. Severance and Kempfer.

First—Messrs. Thacher and Whiting.

Second—Messrs. Carver and Rohr.

Third—Messrs. Butler and Sheardown.

Fourth—Messrs. ornell and Richardson.

The House then went into committee of the whole, for the consideration of the regular file of bills, and when the committee rose the House took a recess till 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY, Feb. 28, 1862.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

SENATE.—By Cook, From the joint committee on taxes, reported a substitute for the bill in relation to the redemption of lands sold for taxes.

BILLS PASSED.

Senate bill to amend section 69 of chapter 70 of the Revised Statutes, in relation to answer in civil actions.

Senate bill to reduce and limit county expenses.

Senate bill to amend section one of chapter 24 of the Compiled Statutes, in relation to the payment of debts and legacies of deceased persons.

Senate bill, to authorize the State Auditor to issue duplicate State Warrants of numbers 7046, 1321, 1813, and 1323.

Senate memorial to Congress, for a mail route from St. Paul to Mankato.

Senate bill, to amend section 18 of chapter 61 of the Compiled Statutes, relating to issues and the mode of trial.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Smith, To amend section 51 of chapter two of the laws of 1861, prescribing the duties of County Auditors.

By Smith, For an act to incorporate Academies of Medicine and Surgery. Referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Miller and Reiner.

BILLS PASSED.

Senate bill to define the boundaries of Clay and Madison counties, formerly Breckinridge and Toombs.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING.

By Carver, To amend section 519, chapter 84 of the public Statutes relative to witnesses.

By Burt, From the joint committee on military affairs: to provide for the organization, support and discipline of the military forces of this State.

Senate bill to amend chapter 76 of the Compiled Statutes, relating to suits against boats.

Senate bill for an act to prevent the commission of waste upon incumbered real estate.

Senate bill to provide for the location of a State road from Mantorville to Red Wing.

The Governor informed the House that he had signed certain bills, as follows:

An act to change the name of John Bays to that of John Lamphere.

An act further to regulate the business of foreign insurance companies, doing business in this State, and guarding against insolvent companies.

BY TELEGRAPH.

CAIRO, Feb. 24.

To Hon. Gideon Welles, Sec. of Navy:

Lieut. Commanding Gwinn, with the gunboat Tyler, has just arrived from Tennessee Mississippi and Alabama, and reports the Union sentiment in South Tennessee and North Alabama to be very strong. I shall send him back to-day, and he will call for a regiment at Fort Henry to accompany the gunboat, which will aid the loyal people of those States to raise Union forces within their borders.

(Signed) A. H. FOOTE,
Flag Officer Commanding

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.

The communication from the Russian Government, on the subject of the Trent affair, was communicated to the Senate to-day. It was characterized by the strongest feelings of friendship for the United States.

[*Times* Special.]—The judgment of the court martial in the case of Col. James Kerrigan, has been approved by Major General McClellan, and a general order issued carrying it into effect. The court did not find Kerrigan guilty of treason, but of inefficiency and of conduct unbecoming an officer, in the gross neglect of his military duty, as manifested in the disorganized and disgraceful condition of his regiment. Kerrigan was adjudged to be dismissed from service.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.

[*Times'* special.]—Gen. McClellan received a dispatch an hour since from the west, confirming the report that Nashville, Tennessee, is taken by Gen. Buell's army, and stating that the rebels have fallen back on Murfreesboro, about 30 miles south of Nashville.

OFFICIAL WAR BULLETIN,
War Department, Washington, Feb. 25.

It is ordered that from and after February 26th, that the President, by virtue of an act of Congress, takes military posession of all telegraph lines in the United States. Second, all telegraphic communications in regard to military operations not expressly authorized by the War Department or the General commanding, or the Generals commanding armies in the field, in the several departments, are absolutely forbidden. Third, all newspapers publishing military news, however obtained, and not authorized by official authority, will be excluded thereafter from receiving information by telegraph, or from transmitting their papers by railroad. Fourth, E. S. Sandford is made military supervisor of telegraphic messages for the United States, and Anson Stager military superintendent of all telegraphic lines and offices in the United States. Fifth, this is not intended to interfere in any way with ordinary business of correspondence, on private business.

By order of the President,
(Signed) E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

The undersigned gives notice to the public that the military possession of the telegraph taken by order of the President, will make no change whatever in the conduct of social, private and commercial business by telegraph. The lines and business remain in the hands of telegraph officers authorized by the War Department.

E. S. SANDFORD,
President American Telegraph Co.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.

The President has approved the United States note bill, and it is therefore a law.

The *Post's* special correspondent says that new mail routes are to be speedily opened in Tennessee and Kentucky.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.

Gen. Grant declared martial law over West Tennessee, with the understanding that when sufficient number of citizens of the State return to their allegiance and shall desire to maintain law and order over the Territory all military restrictions will be withdrawn.

Postal facilities are extended to Clarksville and the mail bags will follow the flag.

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.

The special correspondent of the *Tribune* says the mortar fleet is finished.

Nothing transpired in referrence to Columbus.

Reports from rebel sources represent that a stand will be made at Columbus.

Randolph and Memphis forces are concentrating at the latter place. The streets are barricaded with cotton bales.

The reported pacification of Tennessee is denied.

Late Memphis papers contain a savage war speech from Gov. Harris.

FORT MONROE, Feb. 17.

A flag of truce to day took over fifty people to Craney Island.

We have the following Southern news.

A meeting of the cotton and tobacco planters took place at Richmond on Wednesday evening to take into consideration the voluntary destruction of the cotton and tobacco crops, in view of the fact that the efforts of the enemy were mainly directed towards robbing the South of the accumulation of these two great staples. A number of speeches were made, and a committee was appointed to prepare business for an adjourned meeting this evening.

In Congress, on Wednesday, Senator Sims, of Kentucky, offered a resolution declaring that the people of the Confederate States will to the last extremity maintain and defend their right to self government and the government established by them; to this end they pledge their last man and last dollar for the prosecution of the war until their independence is acknowledged and also that they will submit to any sacrifice and endure any trial, however severe, and firmly relying on the justice of their cause, and humbly trusting in the Providence of God, will maintain their position before the world and high heaven, while they have a voice to raise or an arm to defend. the resolutions were referred to the committee on military affairs.

A resolution was offered providing for compensation by the government for cotton and tobacco burned to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy.

The same paper, in an editorial, begins by saying that it would be criminal as well as idle to deny that the present state in the most gloomy period that the South has witnessed since the commencement of the war and goes on in an earnest manner to call on the people to stand by their country and fight to the last.

The Norfolk *Day Book* has the following by telegraph:

RICHMOND, Feb. 26.

The Lynchburg *Republican* has a special dispatch from Bristol, Tennessee, saying that the enemy had occupied Nashville Sunday.

General Floyd has saved all his command except the 20th Mississippi regiment and the Grays' and Jackson batteries, which were taken.

AUGUSTA, Ga. Feb. 26.

The Savanah *Republican* of this morning says that communication with Fort Pulaski has been effectually closed by the federals who have erected three batteries of heavy guns.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.

It is understood that the nomination of Gen. Scott as Minister Extraordinary to Mexico, has been withdrawn.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.

A bill has been prepared by the Committee on Territories, and will be reported by their chairman, Mr. Ashley of Ohio, probably to day, providing for a temporary civil government under the protection of our military and naval forces in States now in rebellion. The geographical boundaries of these territories are to be fixed by the President.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 28.

The Constitutional Union Convention of Rhode Island assembled yesterday and renominated Governor Sprague and the other State officers.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 28.

Memphis papers of the 19th say that Gen. Polk issued orders yesterday that the track of the Memphis and Ohio Railroad should be torn up and the bridges destroyed, preparatory to an evacuation of Columbus and demolition of the fortifications.

The Columbus forces are to fall back to Island number ten, about forty-five miles below Columbus, which it is said, completely commands the river, and can be fortified with heavy guns and made impregnable against any river attack.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 27.

The New Orleans *Bee* confesses the magnitude of the calamity at Fort Donelson and condemns the neglect and apathy of the Confederate Government in not sending sufficient troops westward. It says a general call to arms has become an inevitable necessity.

The Memphis *Avalanche* of the 22d inst. says the Governor of Alabama has called for twelve more regiments from that State, and if they are not forthcoming other means will be used to fill the requisition.

The Governor of Georgia also calls for twelve more regiments from that State, and says if the requisition is not filled by the 4th of March, a draft will be resorted to.

Senator Hunter has been elected President *pro tem* of the Southern Confederacy Senate and T. S. Brock, of Virginia, Speaker of the House.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.

The news in the morning papers is very meagre. The *Herald's* dispatch dated Washington Feb. 27th, says the Navy Department has received a dispatch from Commodore Goldsborough, conveying the information that the Union forces were in possession of the seaboard Railroad, and had destroyed the bridge across the Blackwater and Nataway rivers, cutting off communication between Norfolk and Richmond, and the seaboard.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 28.

Gen. Halleck in general orders states that official information has been received that the rebels in evacuating Mudtown Ark., poisoned the provisions that they were obliged to abandon, and that 42 officers and men were poisoned by eating the same. He says he cannot retaliate by adopting the barbarous mode of warfare, nor can we retaliate by punishing the innocent for the acts of the guilty. The laws of war forbid this, but the same code authorizes us to retaliate upon the guilty parties. Persons guilty of such acts, when captured, will not be treated as ordinary prisoners of war, nor will they be shot but will suffer the ignominious punishment of being hung as felons. Officers are in a measure responsible for the acts, although not themselves the advisers or abettors of the crime, will when captured, be put in irons and conveyed as criminals to these headquarters.—The laws of war make it their duty to prevent such barbarities. If they neglect that duty, they must suffer the consequences.

The *Democrat's* Clarksville dispatch of the 26th, says the rebel soldiers before leaving Nashville plundered many dwellings and business houses, and excited great alarm among the people. several rebels were shot by citizens whom they were robbing.

Gen. Nelson is in command at Nashville Gen. Buell still being on the North side of the river.

The Union sentiment is very strong, and our troops are received with the greatest cordiality.

Great indignation is expressed against Governor Harris, who was fairly driven away by Union men, they having become bold at the proximity of Union troops, and dared to assert their rights. Before leaving Harris made a speech, recommending the citizens to burn their private property, and calling on Tennessee to rally and meet him at Memphis, but no one paid any attention to him, and it is thought he will not receive any considerable reinforcements.

Gen. Crittenden's command had joined Johnston at Murfreesboro.

The Railroad bridge at Nashville was destroyed by order of Floyd, against the urgent entreaties of the citizens, which caused much indignation.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 27.

Colonel Wood's cavalry has driven the enemy out of Dent, Texas, and Howell counties, Missouri, and taken sixty prisoners.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 27.

The following dispatch was sent from headquarters to-day:

Major General McClellan, Washington:

General Curtis has taken possession of Fayetteville, Arkansas, capturing a number of prisoners, stores, baggage, &c.

The enemy burned part of the town before leaving.

They have crossed Boston Mountains in great confusion.

We are now in possession of all their strongholds.

Officers and men of the 5th Missouri cavalry were poisoned at Madison by eating poisoned food which the rebels left behind them.

The gallant Captain Dolfort died and Lieut. Col. Van Deutsch and Capt. Schman have suffered much, but are recovering.

The indignation of our soldiers is very great, but they have been restrained from retaliating upon the prisoners of war.

(Signed) H. W. HALLECK,
Major General.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.

A proclamation dated the 18th inst., and signed jointly by Commodore Goldsborough and Gen. Burnside, to the people of North Carolina, says the mission of the joint expedition is not to invade any rights but to assert the authority of the United States, and to close with them the desolating war brought upon the State by comparatively a few men in their midst. The proclamation concludes as follows:

"We invite you in the name of the Constitution and in that of virtuous loyalty and civilization, to separate yourselves at once from their malign influence, to return to your allegiance, and not compel us to resort farther to the force under our control. The Government asks only that its authority may be recognized, and we repeat that in no manner or way does it desire to interfere with your laws constitutionally established; your institutions of any kind whatever, your property of any sort, or your usages in any respect."

The roads on both sides of the Potomac were getting into good condition rapidly until a rain storm set in this evening, which has again rendered them almost impassible for loaded teams.

The *Republican* intimates there is truth in the story that Jeff. Davis has made overtures for compromise. It is said he asks a convention of all the States to definitely adjust the question at issue, and requires new guarantees for slavery.

Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts, will tomorrow introduce in the Senate a joint resolution to extend aid to Maryland and Delaware, in order that they may abolish slavery.

Mr. Cameron received his final instructions to day as minister to Russia. Edward H. House is appointed his Secretary of Legation.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 27th, 1862.

It is ordered: First that a special commission of two persons, one of military rank and the other in civil life, be appointed to examine the cases of the State prisoners remaining in the military custody of the United States, and to determine whether, in view of the public safety and the existing rebellion they should be discharged, or remain in military custody, or be remitted to the civil tribunal for trial. Second, that Major General John Dix, commanding in Baltimore, and the Hon. Edward Pierpont of New York, be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners for purposes above mentioned, and they are authorized to examine, hear and determine the cases aforesaid *ex parte* and in a summary manner, at such times and places as in their discretion they may appoint, and make full report to the war department.

By order of the President.

EDWARD M. STANTON
Secretary of War.

CHICAGO, Feb. 27.

A special dispatch to the *Times* dated Clarksville, February 23rd, gives gloomy accounts of the state of feeling there, and says there is but one Union man in the town. He is sixty years old or would have been killed lgng ago.

Hon. Cave Johnson who was a powerful Union advocate until the war commenced, is now as powerful on the other side and says the only effect of our success will be to drive the people of Tennessee into the mountains and render them desperate.

There is not a spark of Union feeling here. Nobody pretends to disguise the fact. The people of Clarksville glory in secession, but at the same time are trembling lest the town be burned. There was a large quantity of rebel stores here a portion of which was carried off and the remainder destroyed. The rebel leaders shipped a thousand negroes last week from Clarksville.

WASHINGTON, March 2.

[*Times'* Dispatch]—Gen. Buell telegraphed to Gen. McClellan last night, that the rebels have abandoned Murfreesboro, and are in full retreat towards the Tennessee river. Crossing this river will place them in Alabama, and free Middle Tennessee of every armed rebel force. Inasmuch as the enemy retreat along a railroad line, tearing up the rails as they pass, it will be difficult for Gen. Buell to catch them.

NEW YORK, March. 3.

A paper published at Lynchburg, Va., has the following: A private letter received from Centreville states that our forces had received orders to send their sick to the rear and put themselves in marching orders. By passengers who arrived on last nights train the above report is confirmed, and they also state that the women and children were ordered to leave yesterday morning. We understand through another source that the Yankees have succeeded in cutting another road through the woods to Fairfax.

ST. LOUIS, March 3.

A special dispatch to the Missouri *Democrat*, dated Cairo, March 2d, says a great light was seen in the direction of Columbus last night, and it was generally believed the rebels there have burned everything inflammable.

The Memphis *Appeal* of the 28th, has the following: We have information from Nashville up to noon, Wednesday: Buell and Commodore Foote had arrived and occupied the place. The United States flag has been raised over the dome of the Capitol, and floats there now. But one federal flag was exhibited, and that from the shop of a Yankee jeweler who had long been suspected of disloyalty.

Concerning the President's message the *Appeal* says: He is forced to confess the error of his past policy, and the extent of disasters which have followed from it. The war will soon be made on the advancing columns of the enemy, so that we will attack, pursue and destroy, instead of being attacked, pursued and destroyed. The spade will be dropped and the bayonet resumed—in other words, the policy of Fabian Davis will yield to that of Napoleonic Beauregard. In view of these facts we can see light gleaming through the dark clouds that at present envelope us, which will burst forth in ions than 60 days in full resplendent lustre.

The rebels are said to be fortifying Island No. 10, thirty-five miles below Columbus, which place they will fall back on. High ground is found on the Island which is well adapting for planting batteries to command the river.

DETROIT, March. 3.

An explosion took place to day at the oil refinery of J. H. Harmon & Co., demolishing the building and killing several persons. Four dead bodies have been recovered, among them Robert Wigham and Charles L. Dibble, two of the proprietors. Others are supposed to be buried in the ruins.

REFRESHMENTS.

Having taken the stand Opposite the VOLUNTEER OFFICE, the subscriber is prepared to accommodate the traveling community with whatever, in the line of refreshments they may want.

Board by the Day or Week, also furnished without lodging, CHEAP.

Here is the ONLY PLACE in the City where a person can call for what he wants, and pay for only what he gets.

O. ANDERSON.

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