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W. J. MURTAGH :::: ::: PROPRIETOR

SATURDAY MORNING....AUGUST 24, 1867.

Interesting Reading on Every Page.

☞ Notice.—The DAILY NATIONAL REPUBLICAN will on and after April 1, 1867, be furnished to subscribers (by carriers) in Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria at fifty cents per month, payable to the agent.

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CHARLES DICKENS.

The appearance of Mr. DOLBY, Mr. DICKENS' agent, in this country, for the purpose of making arrangements for the distinguished novelist to give readings from his own works in our principal cities, has called out numerous newspaper articles; some just views are expressed, but many foolish criticisms and ill-natured flings are indulged in by others, unworthy the American press.

To be sure, Mr. DICKENS in "Martin Chuzzelwit" and in his "American Notes" did say some severe things of us; but that was twenty years ago, and we ought to have forgotten all about it long ere this. Why is it that we are so thin-skinned that we cannot bear to be told the truth? It is said that after Mr. DICKENS was courteously and hospitably received, he turned around and abused us. It is true he did not bestow upon us unmixed praise, but that he abused us is not so clear. It is certain that in the works alluded to above he did caricature some of our people, and severely criticised some of our practices, customs and institutions. These word pictures were a little overdrawn, but it must be recollected that caricature is always grotesque, whether in prose, poetry or art. But then he abused us as a people, it is said. He drew fictitious characters and presented them as living men and women, and gave the impression that these people constituted the bulk of our population. Not quite; this is largely a creature of our imagination. Let us see: The task is by no means difficult, to find in newspaperdom such characters as Col. Diver and Jefferson Brick. Then we should not require a candle to discover among our would-be statesman the precise counterpart of the great Elijah Pogram, and the numerous other characters that dot up the chinks in Mr. DICKENS' works on America. The most superficial observer of life and character will not find it difficult to point them out any day in the week. They cross our path at many points, and strut their brief life upon the stage, and though their existence is ephemeral the race does not become extinct.

Our surest point when Mr. DICKENS was in this country, twenty years ago, was slavery, and his exposition of this institution touched us, both North and South, in a very tender point. We writhed a good deal under the caustic application which he administered, and though we have got rid of slavery we are loth to forgive him for chastising us so severely. Slavery is now dead, and the great author may, when he visits our shores again, have the opportunity to witness the fact that our institutions are fast becoming homogeneous.

But we shall do well to consider that if Mr. DICKENS had drawn unnatural and fictitious characters, and presented them as types of American life, they were no more mere exaggerations than are many of his characters in his purely English novels. If he has abused our institutions by pointing out their defects—for nothing human is perfect—he has also abused the institutions of his own land, as all familiar with his works know. We regret to see these snarling criticisms upon Mr. DICKENS on the eve of his starting for America. While we would not act the part of the flunky nor toady to this really great man of letters, we would cordially welcome this able instructor of man, and this moulder of institutions, with a cordiality that should be open and frank, and with a manly dignity, on our part, that should convince him that we can patiently bear to be told our faults. We trust when Mr. DICKENS shall come among us again he will note some improvements which have been wrought in the land during the last twenty years, and that though he may find some things to censure, he will also find many things to commend. One editor hopes that DICKENS will be wise, imitate THACKERY, and write no account of his next visit. We hope he will not imitate THACKERY, and we trust he will write a book. If there was ever material in any land at any time for such a writer as DICKENS to seize upon and give it body and form and life, that material it has. We hope, therefore, he will write a book, and that he will not forego this labor for fear of offending us Americans by anything he may choose to say of us.

ARMY APPOINTMENTS.—Samuel T. Hamilton, Second Lieutenant, 3d U. S. cavalry; Wm E. Horton, First Lieutenant, 41st U. S. infantry, B. B. Williams, Second Lieutenant, 3d U. S. cavalry.

These gentlemen, we are informed, were prepared by Prof. Fill, City Academy, No. 516 Fourteenth street, who has been successful in all whom he has prepared.

THE inspectors of revenue in New York were frightened, as some of them, according to all accounts, ought to be, in consequence of the interview which Commissioner Rollins held with the Metropolitan Revenue Board the other day. Let the guilty tremble.

FORTS RENO and Phil Kearney are in a state of siege. The Indians are driving in all small parties and stealing cattle. Col. Green lost a hundred head in a single day. The road from Laporte to Fort Phil Kearney is impassable except by large bodies.

Pen, Pencil, and Scissors.

THE QUEEN OF NAPLES died of Cholera.

AN Indianian has fallen heir to a million.

THE largest income in San Francisco is put down at $185,133.

HERNAN, the fighter, is said to be worth $100,000. He is at Saratoga with Morrissey.

AMONG the Seminole Indians they have several cases of cholera.

ADMIRAL TEGETHOFF has sailed in the Elizabeth from New Orleans for Vera Cruz.

THE Michigan Constitutional Convention has finished its work and adjourned *sine die*.

THEY have a malignant type of the yellow fever at Corpus Christi.

THEY have the cholera in Shawneetown, Illinois, and twenty deaths have occurred there.

IT IS ALLEGED that a defensive alliance has been formed between Austria and France.

THE prospect for crops in England is said to be good. The weather is fine.

THE "chicken cholera" prevails in Central Illinois.

LEAD pipes are to be used for gas conductors on the public buildings in Chicago.

VALUABLE pearls have been found in muscle-shells in the Miami river, Ohio.

THE Paradise of Calves—"The milky way."—*Ex.*

BRIGHAM YOUNG has been scolding his bishops for drunkenness.

LOUIS NAPOLEON has given $10,000 towards the North Pole expedition.

THE last "Rows" of Summer—the final regatta of the season.—*Pun.*

SIR FREDERICK BRUCE is said to have perpetrated the following conundrum:

FROM eighty to one hundred car loads of peaches pass over the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore railroad every evening.

HON. EDWARD L. BARNEY, of New Bedford, has been appointed Judge Advocate General on the staff of General Butler.

A COUNTRY BOY, who had read of sailors hearing up anchors, wanted to know if it was sea-sickness that made them do it.

THE estimated wheat crop of Goodhue county, Minn., is two million bushels; enough to feed a State, and feed it well.

THE Sultan didn't know how to shake hands when he arrived in England. General Grant thinks he was a fool for learning.

THALBERG, pianist, has obtained an honorable mention at the Paris Exhibition for his wines of Fausibppo, near Naples.

DON LOUIS FARRAGUT, the exiled Spanish hidalgo, claimed relationship with the Admiral in Paris.

EX-PRESIDENT BUCHANAN has recently purchased several lots in the Woodward Hill Cemetery, near Lancaster, Pa.

HON. ERASTUS L. BEACH, a prominent Democratic politician of Massachusetts, died at his residence in Springfield on Thursday last.

FAVORABLE reports are received in regard to the survey of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

JOHN MCCARTY, who murdered Ruth Longfort in Baltimore has been arrested in St. Louis.

THEY are arming the citizens at Fort Sedgwick for the protection of that post against the Indians.

THERE is a rumor of a London Ladies' Reform Club, the object being to stay the servile obedience to the dictates of French fashion.

A WILD woman who believes herself excommunicated by the Pope and condemned to lead a solitary life for ten years, has been caught and caged in the mountains of Wales.

THE Fulton street bridge across Broadway, New York, is regarded by the shopkeepers in that region as a nuisance, and they threaten to institute legal proceedings for its removal.

THE Ogunwka *Plaindealer* nominates Petroleum V. Nasby for President in 1868, and Josh Billings for Vice President. They are not, as yet, any bets made on their election.

SALEM, MASS., was thought, a few years since, to be one of the "finished cities," but in the last year its taxable valuation has increased $3,049,600

A YOUNG lady named Swan, aged 19, and weighing 400 lbs., has arrived at Portland. She is said to have the step of a fairy and the form of a sylph. We doubt it.

Why is an antagonist of Mr. Gladstone, in debate in the House of Commons, like a telescope? Because he (Mr. Gladstone) draws him out, sees through him, and shuts him up.

SENATOR YATES, of Illinois, weary of provincialism, intends to settle in New York. Whether he will go before the expiration of his Senatorial term has not transpired.

THE fishing interests of Deer Isle, Me., amount to about $500,000 per annum. Over one hundred sail of vessels and one thousand men are employed in the business.

A CITIZEN of Petersburg, Va., is about to test the right of that city to refuse to receive its notes, issued in 1861, in payment of taxes, &c., due the city.

NEAR Jackson, Miss., a planter lately retired to rest, leaving a beautiful field of cotton, of about fifty acres. The next morning the whole field was found riddled by the army worm.

ONE of the physicians of the London Hospital for Women and Children has shocked his brethren by advertising himself, in a private circular, announcing his charges for attendance on rich and poor.

THE St. Louis board of health having suppressed the trade in vegetables and raw oysters, has devoted its attention to the sale of unsound meats. Two meat inspectors have been appointed.

THE employees on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad are engaged in riotous demonstrations. They are stopping the trains, and doing other mischievous deeds because they have not been paid for eighteen months.

HON. HENRY A. WISE made a characteristic speech in Richmond the other day. He said that "this is a white man's land and must be kept open for the white man." He objects to all oaths to support the Constitution.

THERE was an accident on the railroad between Macon and Savannah on Thursday. A train was thrown down an embankment, and the escape of the passengers was almost miraculous. No one was hurt except the express messenger.

THE FENIANS have organized a new Congress, under the auspices of the Stephens and the O'Mahony branch of the party. They have been holding a session at 814 Broadway, New York. Two hundred delegates were present.

THE upshot of the interview between the Emperors Francis Joseph and Napoleon is that the South German States shall unite in a confederation, of which Austria is to be the head. They have also settled their future policy in respect to the Eastern question.

THE New York Commissioners of Charities and Correction have had a new steamboat built, which is to be used to carry the unknown and hospital dead of the city to the Potter's Field on Ward's Island. The boat has been named the "Hope."

THEY are intending to build a bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis. This bridge will be about two thousand feet long, of truss pattern, with between three and four hundred feet spans fifty feet above the high water mark. It will cross at a point near Carr street.

A REAPING CONTEST took place at Woburn, Mass., the other day, between Joshua Converse, aged 100, and Jeremiah Gilson, 77. The contestants used the old-time sickle, and reaped and bound their sheaves in an easy and off-hand manner.

MADAME RAISBEAUX is deeply grieved. She has read in all manner of Paris and London papers the full particulars of the glorious diamonds and other ornaments which she has received from the Emperor and Empress of Russia; but, unfortunately, those newspaper reports are all she has received.

THE New York *Commercial Advertiser*, in regard to the resident Chinese of New York, remarks that the whole region in which these Chinese live is a nursery for thieves and brutes, miasmatic to the lungs, and poisonous to every good impulse of the human soul. There is not a house nor a human body in it that does not need the daily stream of a fire engine.

PERSONS having correspondence with California should mark on their letters or newspapers the words "*via* Panama," and continue to do so until the Indian hostilities over the Plains are superseded. According to the regulations of the Post Office Department, all letters not marked "*via* Panama" are sent by the overland route, and the Indian outrages render their safe transmission doubtful.

Indian War.

A special correspondent of the New York *Herald* writes to that journal as follows from Fort Buford, Dakota Territory:

"Yesterday afternoon, about 2 o'clock, a large band of Teton Sioux made a raid on this fort. They were mounted on swift ponies, and came down from the woods and bluffs northwest of the fort. They came very rapidly, but very quietly, until they were within half a mile of the fort, where the herd was grazing. They then opened fire with old muskets and bows and arrows, killing several of the cattle, and wounding others so that they had to be killed. Among these were three choice cows, from which the major part of the garrison's milk was obtained. The long roll soon brought the men under arms, and they fell in with a will, confidently hoping and expecting a fight with the redskins. Blessed are they who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed. Company C were deployed as skirmishers, and from what we can find out, went after the Indians Indian fashion. This is Colonel Rankin's company, and as it was here all last winter, the men of that company ought to know how to go after the Sioux.

The artillery of Fort Buford was speedily brought to bear upon the Indians, and as shot and shell fell among them, their horses were seen to fly in every direction. They retreated to the bluffs; there they dismounted and threw out a sort of picket line—*i. e.* three or four Indians, who stood like trees and looked like trees—until the shells from Forts Buford and Union kicked up the dust around them, and that was the last we saw of "the poor Indian." There was no one wounded. Doubtless some sensation writer who hangs around lager beer saloons and other Bohemian resorts will report a massacre at Union and Buford—perhaps worse than that reported last winter."

THE DEPARTMENTS.

War Department.

TRANSPORTATION.—Orders from headquarters allow the quartermasters at Chicago and Baltimore to give transportation to furloughed soldiers returning to their posts, under General Order No. 3.

ASSIGNED.—Brevet Major Gen. A. P. Howe has been assigned to a post with Gen. Howard.

COURT-MARTIAL.—Orders from the headquarters of the army in this city have been issued, directing the convening of a court-martial at Willetts' Point, New York, to-day. The following officers have been assigned for duty at the court:—Major A. H. Burnham, Capt. A. H. Holgate, Capt. L. C. Overman, First Lieutenants W. H. Chase, A. N. Lee, D. W. Lockwood, and W. H. Livermore, all of the Engineer Corps.

ARMY BULLETIN.—Brevet Col. G. Chapin, 32d infantry, ordered before regimental board. Capt. F. H. Phipps is assigned to Watertown arsenal, and Lieut. Isaac W. Maclay, to Springfield armory.

Resigned.—Brevet Lieut. D. E. Porter, 28th infantry; and Second Lieut. Thos. Rafferty, 21st infantry, have resigned.

Mustered.—Brevet Col. G. W. Foster, A. A. G., and Capt. H. M. Boyce, A. Q. M., have been mustered out of service.

Navy Department.

NAVAL BULLETIN.—Acting Master Rudolph Sommers and Acting Ensign Chas. R. Flemming have been ordered to the "Peoria."

Interior Department.

MESSENGER EXPECTED.—The Indian office is in receipt of intelligence from a special messenger sent from the agency at Omaha to Washington. He will arrive in this city to-day.

RECEPTION OF THE TURKISH MINISTER.—The President, yesterday morning about 11 o'clock, received the new minister from the Ottoman Porte, Blacque Bey. The usual addresses of greeting and welcome were exchanged between President Johnson and the new ambassador. The reception took place in the Red Room at the Executive Mansion.

Treasury Department.

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS.—Director Delmar, of the Bureau of Statistics, has caused to be compiled an abstract of the reports of the examination of vessels having on board passengers, other than cabin passengers, which arrived at the port of New York during the month of July, 1867; from which it appears that the total number of vessels examined was 62, of which 38 were steamships and 24 sailing vessels. The average length of the steamships' voyage was thirteen days and thirteen hours; of the sailing vessels, forty-two days and five hours. The total number of passengers brought, 24,399, of which 14,537 were males and 9,662 females; 20,273 were over eight years of age, and 4,126 under eight years. Total number of deaths, 54, of which 35 were males and 20 females; over eight years of age 18, under 36.

The following vessels brought passengers in excess of the number allowed by law: Anton Gunther, from Bremen, allowed 232, brought 234; Rina, from Liverpool, allowed 638, brought 704, (this case was reported to the collector for prosecution;) the City of London, from Liverpool, was entitled to bring 860½, and brought 900; the City of Paris, from Liverpool, allowed to bring 742, and brought 851½; bark Stella, from Bremen, allowed 311, brought 312; bark Aristides, from Bremen, allowed 244, and brought 246½.

The Antwerp ship, G. Baccarisch, which lost 18 passengers by bowel diseases caused by insufficient food and bad water, and which had no surgeons on board, has undergone official scrutiny.

The whole course of immigration returns has lately been the subject of discussion between the director of the Bureau of Statistics and the Castle Garden authorities, and in future greater light is expected to be thrown upon this matter from New York.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

Official Account of the Difficulty at Formosa.

The Navy Department is in receipt of the following official intelligence:

U. S. FLAGSHIP HARTFORD, (SECOND RATE,)
SHANGHAI, CHINA, June 12, 1867.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to report to the Department that, in accordance with my dispatch, No. 46, current series, under date of 3d June last, I left Shanghai on the 7th instant, in the Hartford, accompanied by the Wyoming, Lieut. Commander Carpenter commanding, for the south end of the Island of Formosa, to destroy, if possible, the lurking places of the band of savages inhabiting the southeast end or point of that island, and who murdered, in March last, the shipwrecked officers and crew of the American bark Rover. On the 16th of June, on the passage down, I directed Commander Belknap, of the Hartford, to have forty sailors armed with Plymouth muskets, and forty with Sharp's rifles, and all the marines, with five howitzermen, and Lieut. Commander Carpenter, of the Wyoming, to have forty Sharp's rifles, and her marines, all properly officered, ready to land, provided with forty rounds of ammunition, and four days' rations and water; in all, one hundred and eighty-one officers and privates. The service cannot show a better drilled body of men than these.

I stopped on the 12th instant at Takao, on the Island of Formosa, to obtain an interpreter, and Mr. Pickering, a Scotchman, who had seen much of the natives, volunteering his services, they were accepted—he declining pay. I also received, as my guests, Mr. Taylor, a merchant at that port, and H. B. M. consul, Charles Carroll, esq., who humanely sent out messengers to communicate with the savages, with offers of ransom for all the survivors, if any remained, of the unfortunate crew of the Rover, and afterward went himself in the British gunboat Cormorant, Commander George E. Broad, to the bay in question, and was fired upon when attempting to land there, these gentlemen having expressed a desire to be of the expedition.

Next morning, June 13, at 8.30 o'clock, we anchored within a half mile of the shore, on the southeast side of the large open bay, indenting the south end of Formosa, a somewhat dangerous exposure of this season of typhoons, though a perfectly safe and convenient anchorage during the northeast monsoon, from October until May. The landing of one hundred and eighty-one officers, sailors and marines, provided with four days' rations and water, was made at 9:30 o'clock, under the command of Commander G. E. Belknap, of the Hartford, accompanied by Lieutenant Commander Alex. S. Mackenzie, first lieutenant, as second in command, who earnestly sought to go on the expedition.

Soon after we anchored, the savages, dressed in clouts, and their bodies painted red, were seen, through our glasses, assembling in parties of ten or twelve on the cleared hills, about two miles distant, their muskets glistening in the sun, indicating the kind of arms they carried. Their movements were visible to us on board during the most of the day.

As our men marched into the hills, the savages, knowing the paths, boldly descended to meet them, and gliding through the high grass, and from cover to cover, displayed a strategy and courage equal to our native Indians. Delivering their fire, they retreated without being seen by our men, who, charging upon their covers, frequently fell into ambuscades. Our detachments pursued them in this harassing manner out of sight of the ship, until 2 o'clock, p. m., when, having halted to rest, the savages took the opportunity to creep up and fire upon the party commanded by Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie, and the officer, placing himself at the head of the company commanded by Lieutenant Sands, daringly led a charge into the ambuscade that was laid for them, and fell, mortally wounded by a musket ball, and died whilst being borne to the rear.

The navy could boast no braver spirit, and no man of higher promise, than Lieutenant Commander Alexander S. Mackenzie. He was distinguished for professional knowledge, aptitude and tact, and suavity of manners, which inspired the confidence and affection of men, while his impetuous courage impelled him always to seek the post of danger, where he was always seen in the advance, both a conspicuous mark and an example. Several officers and men having already experienced severe sun-strokes, and the command being generally exhausted and worn out by their efforts to get at the enemy, during four hours' marching, Commander Belknap now thought it expedient to regain his picket on the beach; and during this march of two or three miles, many of the men got into such a deplorable condition from the killing heat of the sun that the Commander determined to return with them on board of ship, which he reached about 4½ m., after an exhausting march of six hours, under the sun at 92 degrees.

That afternoon the fleet surgeon reported the casualties of the day: One killed, fourteen sunstruck—four of them dangerously.

No sailors, indeed no troops, unaccustomed to beach life, ever displayed better spirit; but it was apparent that sailors are not adapted to that kind of warfare against a skilful enemy, and that they could be fitted for it only by a lengthened experience.

These considerations, together with the prostrated condition of many of the men and officers from sun-stroke, and their inability to stand another such day, decided me not to land them again, particularly as they had already done all that was practicable for them, namely: burnt a number of native huts, and chased their warriors until they could chase no longer, though at a grievous cost of life. Their coverts of green jungle and green grass being fire-proof at this season, cannot be destroyed, as I had contemplated.

I observed a bamboo hut on every clearing, and several buffaloes feeding in the distance; these indicating that the natives are not so wild and ignorant of human comforts as they have been represented.

The only effectual remedy against the barbarous outrages on shipwrecked men by this tribe, who are not numerous, will be for the Chinese authorities on the island to occupy this bay with a settlement of their own, protected by a military force, which may be effected through the influence of our minister at Pekin.

Having accomplished all that was possible, I got underway at 9 p. m., and returning to Takao on the 14th instant, there buried the remains of brave Mackenzie, with the prescribed honors, in the garden of the British consulate, Mr. Carroll, the British consul having kindly proposed his garden for the grave, there being no public burying ground at Takao. The consular flags, and those of four merchant ships, were worn at half-mast, and all the foreigners present joined in the funeral procession.

At 6.30 p. m., on the 14th instant, weighed anchor, and arrived at Shanghai to-day, expecting to meet the gunboats coming out to this squadron.

Please receive herewith the detailed report of Commander Belknap, marked A, with the reports of commanding officers of companies, of the occurrences of the 13th of June, marked respectively B, C, D, E. Also, the report of Fleet-Surgeon Beale, marked F, as to casualties.

I am, very respectfully,
H. H. BELL, Rear Admiral,
Commanding U. S. Asiatic Squadron.

U. S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD (SECOND RATE.)
AT SEA, June 15, 1867.

Rear Admiral H. H. Bell, U. S. N., Commanding U. S. Asiatic Squadron:

SIR: In obedience to your instructions, delivered on the 13th inst., concerning an attack upon the savage tribes living on the southern extremity of the island of Formosa, I proceeded immediately to carry them into execution, so far as the character of the country, the nature of its inhabitants, and the extreme heat of the climate would permit.

On leaving this ship on the morning of the date referred to, I directed Lieutenant Commander J. H. Read, with a company of musketeers, a squadron of scouts, armed with Sharp's rifles, and commanded by Master W. M. Fogler, and a portion of the detachment under the command of Lieutenant O. D. B Glidden, to land in one of the bays about three quarters of a mile to the eastward of the place at which I proposed landing, and, pushing forward through the jungle, to make for the hills, bearing away to the westward, in order to flank the enemy and unite with the main body on the summit of the hills. I then pulled into the bay to the northward of the ship's anchorage, and effected a landing without opposition or difficulty, Lieutenant Commander A. S. Mackenzie, of your staff, being the first to jump on shore.

The marines were immediately thrown out as skirmishers along the edge of the jungle which skirts the coasts, and marched down to within a hundred yards of the beach, and, after securing the boats and establishing a strong picket of seamen and marines, provided with a light howitzer to protect the flanks, all under the command of Gunner Cross, of this ship, and Gunner Staples, of the Wyoming, I moved on through the jungle towards the hills to the right of the large black rock, indicated on the accompanied plan.

* * * * * * *

As we emerged from the jungle we entered an open space of some ten acres in extent, with a few straggling huts and clumps of bushes scattered here and there over its surface. A little further on the hills could be seen rising from the plain, broken into spurs, with deep ravines between, filled with rock and a deep undergrowth of grass and small trees.

Having examined the huts, they were fired, and the command pushed on up one of the hills, to the right of the large rock marked in the plan. No enemy could be seen, except at a great distance, on the crest of the hills above us and towards our right, but a scattering fire was suddenly opened upon us from an ambush just below the big rock.

We fired a volley in return, and halting a few minutes under cover of some bushes, I divided the command, directing Lieut. Com. Mackenzie to remain quiet with his portion of the party until I could make a flank movement to the right, when, on a signal given by the drum, he would move on up the hill and rejoin me. In the meantime Lieut. Com. Read had landed with his detachment, and could now be seen on the hill on our right, at a distance of about two miles, and an occasional fire of musketry was seen to open upon the party from the hills above.

Lieut. Com. Mackenzie having rejoined us at the base of the big rock, we kept on steady up the hill, bearing away toward the right, receiving now and then a fire from the bushes in all directions, some shots close to, others from a great distance. Fortunately the enemy fired too high, and most of the bullets passed over us.

At one point a volley was poured into us at a distance of not more than a hundred yards, and Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie and Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie and Lieutenant Sands, advancing with a party of scouts, supported by the main body, charged into the ambush, but the wily foe had fallen back with wonderful rapidity, and made known their escape by loud hallooes from the thickets beyond. Only occasional glimpses of the enemy could be caught, their presence being generally discovered by sudden shots from the bushes, and flashes of sunlight reflected from their bright-barrelled muskets.

At nearly all the points from which we were fired upon we noticed small bundles of bamboo lashed to the bushes at a small angle, seemingly for protection to our running foe, and to serve as marks to guide them from one ambuscade to another.

As we advanced, the open space on the hillsides became more confined, and rocks, bushes, dense jungles, and rugged ravines offered increasing facility and shelter to the savages, and gave us no hope or chance of getting at them.

About a mile or more above the big rock already mentioned the men had become so much exhausted from the march and the intense heat of the sun that I ordered a halt, and entered a belt of jungle to give them shelter and rest. Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie and Lieutenant Sands, with a party of scouts, were posted in a small thicket above and to the left of the main body, and a strong picket of marines occupied another clump about one hundred yards below the other party; these outposts, together with the position of the main body, making, as it were, the angles of a triangle.

These pickets having been established, I sent for Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie, the second in command, to consult with him concerning a further advance. He had been with me about twenty minutes, when firing was heard in the direction of the advance pickets, and he hurried back to the front. Meanwhile Lieutenant Sands had returned the fire, and was charging towards the spot where the enemy lay concealed, when, Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie coming up, ordered a halt; the moment the latter reached the head of the line, he ordered a fresh advance, himself leading.

During this interval the main body had come out of the jungle and were pushing on to the support of the picket line, when I heard the cry, "A man wounded! Send for the doctor!" I called out for Dr. Page, who went to the front, and soon after brought Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie, lying wounded in a blanket, near the spot where I was standing, and by my order carried aboard.

The spot from which these shots came was backed by a deep ravine, and immediately to the rear the jungle came down on all sides, so that further advance in that quarter would but have exposed the command to the risk of continued loss, without any means or hope of retaliating upon the enemy. The men, too, were beginning to show great fatigue and symptoms of sunstroke; and considering the difficulty of moving either way unencumbered with sick and wounded men, I determined to fall back.

I accordingly ordered a retreat, sending the main body ahead, and falling back slowly, covered by the scouts under command of Lieut. Sands. A short distance down the hill Lieut. Com. Read joined me with his party, and was directed to fall back with the main body. A party of carbineers, under Mr. Folger, remaining with Mr. Sands. Mr. Read had destroyed several huts on the route we had taken, but failed to accomplish any other object of the expedition.

We were fired at from several places on the way down the hill, but, happily, none of the shots took effect. Before we reached the plain word was sent me of the death of the gallant Mackenzie.

Upon entering the jungle fringing the coast the different squads and companies took different routes, to guard against ambush, and our progress was slow and fatiguing, particularly to the men who carried the remains of the lamented Mackenzie.

It had been my intention to remain on the shore and attempt an ambuscade in the jungle during the night, but I found both officers and men so much worn out from exertion and extreme heat of the day, that I concluded to embark the entire command and return to the ship. Capt. Forney, of the marines, and Mate Brownell, of the Wyoming, and a dozen or more of the men, were already prostrated with sunstroke, and I feared other cases might occur before nightfall.

The route over which we passed was entirely destitute of cattle, fruit, vegetables, or any other eatable thing, and we had seen only two or three pools of dirty, stagnant water, unfit for any but a savage to drink.

That part of Formosa is extremely well adapted to Indian modes of warfare, and the burning heat of the sun at this season of the year is a greater help to the savage even than either his cunning and cruel method of fighting, or perfect knowledge of every foot of ground over which he ranges.

The officers, one and all, gave me a hearty and efficient support, and the men did their duty cheerfully and steadily.

The following are the names of the officers who went in the expedition, viz:

Lieutenant Commander A. S. Mackenzie, of your staff; Lieutenant Commander J. H. Read; Lieutenant J. H. Sands; Master W. M. Folger, Master H. Elmer, Captain James Forney, U. S. M. C.; Assistant Surgeon C. H. Page, Gunner R. H. Cross, Admiral's clerk Louis Parker, and Commander's clerk A. C. Driggs, of this ship; and Lieutenant G. D. B. Glidden; Mate G. V. Brownell, and Gunner J. L. Staples, of the Wyoming.

The British Consul at Ta-Kau, (Formosa) Charles Carroll, Esq., and Messrs. Taylor and Pickering, English subjects residing at that place, accompanied the expedition as volunteers, and rendered good service, being generally at the front. Mr. Taylor went to the assistance of Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie, when the cry of "a man wounded!" was heard.

The following named men deserve special mention for the faithful manner in which they remained by the body of the lamented dead, and brought it safely through the jungle to the boats, viz:

John Kelley, captain forecastle; Robert Knight, armorer; James Franklin, boatswain's mate; Wm. White, Captain Foretop; James McGuinness, second corporal; James Cunningham, seaman, and John M. Small, ordinary seaman. One of them, Wm. White, dropped down from exhaustion and sun-stroke the moment he reached the beach.

The gallant dead need no tribute from me; that solitary grave, in the grounds of the British consulate at Ta Kau, bespeaks a language more eloquent and touching than human utterance can express.

No one knew the worth, the high-toned character, and professional ability of the deceased better than yourself, and I but give expression to the general feeling when I add that, in him, the service lost one of its brightest ornaments, and the country one of its most zealous and gallant defenders.

I enclose a sketch of the routes taken by the expedition; also reports from Lieut. Commander J. H. Read, Lieut Sands, Assistant Surgeon C. H. Page, and Captain Forney.

I found the soundings from the ship to the shore to decrease regularly and gradually, and the beach quite steep, too; but large, flat, black rocks could be seen on the bottom here and there, which would make a dangerous one for boats in a southerly wind. I could discover no traces of human bones, or remnants of clothing worn by civilized people, in any of the huts we destroyed, or in any part of the country over which we passed.

On our return through the jungle skirting the coast we struck into the bed of a dry stream when nearly through, which doubtless runs with good water during the northeast monsoon, which would be of great advantage to a force operating there during the winter months.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed) GEO. E. BELKNAP,
Commander.

U. S. FLAGSHIP HARTFORD, (SECOND RATE.)
AT SEA, June 17, 1867.

SIR: In obedience to your order I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of the men under my command at South Cape, Island of Formosa, on June 13, 1867.

The column consisted of the following detachments, viz: Twenty-two (22) men from the Wyoming, under command of Lieutenant Glidden; sixty-two (62) men from the Hartford, under command of Master Horace Elmer; and a skirmish party of ten (10) picked men from the Hartford, under command of Master W. N. Folger. Total, ninety-four (94,) five of them being equipped as pioneers.

On reaching the place designated by you for our landing, the boats were beached, and the skirmishers, under Mr. Folger, deployed to the front. The line of battle was quickly formed, and after mooring our boats two hundred yards from the beach, we took up our line of march for the interior, striking for the high range of hills that lay about two miles from the shore line. The march was painful and tedious, owing to the dense jungles of cactus and rose vines which covered the soil, but after a tramp of two hours we gained the hills, and destroyed several small houses which had very lately been abandoned. Shortly afterwards several small parties of savages were seen on the hill-tops in our front, who fired at long range upon our skirmish line, but quickly retreated upon their fire being returned.

In this manner they kept up a sort of running fight (retreating from one hill-top to another, never allowing our skirmishers to appear nearer than eight hundred yards) for about one hour. But this chasing over rugged hills, through almost impassable chapparal, and under a scorching tropical sun, soon told on our men; and after giving them a short rest, I turned the column to the left, in order to join your command, in obedience to my original orders. The main body at this time was about one mile distant, and our march to join it was the most painful of any during the day, many of the men dropping down with sun-stroke, requiring to be helped along by their comrades. Upon coming up with you the commands were consolidated, and the rest of the movement took place under your eye, which makes it unnecessary for me to report further.

I am happy to be able to say that all the officers and men behaved gallantly, the skirmish party under Master W. N. Folger having the hardest marching, and being the only ones that were annoyed by the savages.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. READ,
Lieutenant Commander.
To Commander G. E. Belknap, Commanding United States ship Hartford.

U. S. STEAMER HARTFORD,
AT SEA, June 15, 1867.

SIR: The following memorandum of circumstances attending the death of Lieutenant Commander A. S. Mackenzie, as far as I am able to state: About 2 p. m., on the 12th inst., Mr. Mackenzie called for volunteers from the Hartford, and I joined him, with ten or twelve men then under my command, in answer to his call.

We were stationed behind a clump of bushes to keep a lookout for the enemy. A few minutes after we had taken our position, Mr. Mackenzie was sent for by you, and I was left in charge of the party. At about 2:30 p. m., we were fired on by the enemy, who had got on our flank through the undergrowth, and I ordered a charge, and returned their fire. As soon as the firing commenced, Mr. Mackenzie run up to the head of the party, and ordered a halt for that purpose, before we had advanced more than thirty yards. As soon as he had reached the front he ordered an advance, and was leading the attack when we were fired on by another party at a distance of about seventy-five yards. The enemy fired five or six shots at once, and it was one of these that struck Mr. Mackenzie. I did not know that he was seriously hurt, and left him walking to the rear to meet the doctor, who was coming up at the time.

We fired two or three volleys at the enemy and drove them back, but before we had advanced more than fifteen yards further I received the order to fall back, and it was not until ten minutes after that I learned that Mr. MacKenzie was mortally wounded.

To reach the enemy, we charged across a gully filled with long grass, which impeded our movement, and ahead of us still there was a ravine backed by dense undergrowth. It was impossible to tell the position of the enemy until we saw the smoke of his pieces, and we were obliged to fire at the flash.

We were in plain sight, an open mark for the enemy, while they were hid in their undergrowth, into which we could not see his feet.

Very respectfully,
J. H. SANDS, Lieutenant.
Commander E. G. BELKNAP, United States Steamer Hartford.

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,
AT SEA, June 17, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit a brief report of the part taken by the marines, on the 13th instant, on the Island of Formosa.

On first landing, by your order, I took charge of twenty (20) marines, deploying them forward as skirmishers. A dense and almost impenetrable thicket of brush prevented the men from advancing very rapidly. I penetrated with them to a creek about half a mile from the beach, without meeting with any of the enemy, and was then recalled for further orders. You then instructed me to leave a sergeant and five (5) men on the beach, and to advance with the main body, headed by yourself. In consequence of all further operations coming under your own observation, I have nothing further to report, except that the men behaved gallantly, and deserve credit for the manner in which they marched over such a rough and hilly country, and under such intense, scorching heat.

Orderly Sergeant Goltermeyer was of great assistance to me during the entire day, and deserves favorable mention.

A few of the men were struck down by the oppressive heat of the sun, but were not seriously injured, and are now doing their usual duty.

The entire number of marines on shore was forty-three, (43,) thirty-one (31) of which were from the ship, and twelve (12) from the Wyoming.

I have to report the loss of one (1) Springfield rifle, (I think this rifle is on board the Wyoming, by mistake,) one (1) fife, one (1) musket-sling, and two (2) canteens.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES FORNEY,
Captain U. S. Marine Corps.
Commander GEORGE E. BELKNAP, Commanding United States Ship Hartford.

U. S. FLAGSHIP HARTFORD, (SECOND RATE.)
AT SEA, June 15, 1867.

SIR: In accordance with your request, I have to report the circumstances attending the death of Lieutenant Commander A. S. Mackenzie, of the United States steamer Hartford, during a skirmish with the natives of the southern extremity of the island of Formosa, upon the 13th of June, 1867. The main body of the troops, with which Lieutenant Commander Mackenzie was connected, landed at about 10 a. m., and proceeded into the interior of the country about four miles, and had halted for rest and shade in the border of a dense jungle, at about 2 p. m., with a detachment of ten men, under the immediate command of Mr. Mackenzie, thrown out to one side to watch the movements of the enemy, who had been firing upon us. Soon after halting, Mr. Mackenzie was call into the jungle by the officer in command, for a consultation as to movements, and during the conversation the enemy recommenced firing. Mr. Mackenzie rushed to the head of his men, and in about two minutes I heard the cry of "Doctor! Doctor!" and immediately proceeded to the front, where I found Mr. Mackenzie falling, with his left hand on his right breast. I caught him by the coat-collar, and asked him where he was wounded, at the same time, with what aid I could procure, dragging him to the rear as rapidly as possible. In reply, he only looked up at me, moved his hand on his breast a little higher, and said "Page, Page, Page, I'm dead," and ceased to live at about 2.30 p. m., and about three or four minutes from the time he was wounded.

The wound was round, smooth, of about an inch in diameter, penetrating deeply the upper, interior, and middle portion of the right chest, just below the collar-bone, with no external hemorrhage of importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. H. PAGE, Assistant Surgeon.
Commander GEORGE E. BELKNAP, U. S. N., Commanding U. S. Steamer Hartford.

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