

## NOTICE TO OUR PATRONS.

The proprietors of THE PALMETTO HERALD have been granted permission to publish a daily paper from the office of the Savannah News. It is designed to remove the establishment there, and to issue a live daily paper, devoted to such news as is not contraband. Subscribers to THE PALMETTO HERALD can have the money refunded them for the unexpired term of their subscription, or receive the daily instead, for a proportionate time. Confident that we have fully met the expectations of our many kind patrons, in the publication of a weekly newspaper, we invite a continuance of their custom, and promise our best endeavors to make a daily one interesting.

## SAVANNAH.

### EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PULASKI HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA.,  
Dec. 29, 1864.

The last PALMETTO HERALD briefly announced the glorious news of the capture of Savannah, by Gen Sherman's brave army, reserving particulars for this week's issue.

#### CAPTURE OF THE CITY.

On Monday afternoon and night the enemy shelled our lines with great spirit but with what object could not be divined by our officers. The fire was so hot and uninterrupted, and so absurd, viewing its results, that the suspicions of our forces were excited, and the opinion gained ground that it was a mere demonstration to cover a sortie, or an evacuation of the town. The latter hypothesis was soon generally adopted, because the known weakness of the rebels would prevent them from assaulting our lines, unless Hardee desired to destroy his army at one swoop, so a careful watch was maintained on the enemy's lines, and everything kept in readiness for instant defensive or offensive movements. Early in the morning of Sunday, Gen. Geary pushed forward a column to feel the enemy's lines, and found them evacuated. He immediately took possession of the first line of works, and with another portion of his command pushed on towards the city, and entered it close on the heels of the retreating rear guard of Hardee's army. On the march, and before the city proper was reached, Mayor Arnold and some of the Aldermen met and surrendered the city, without conditions, but expressed the confident hope that their trust in the magnanimity of an honorable foe would not prove unfounded. Gen. Geary received the surrender unconditionally, and assured the Mayor that the lives and property of the citizens would be respected. He then entered and took possession of the city, sending a detachment to occupy Fort Jackson. This was found to be in flames at different points, but the fire was quickly extinguished, and everything preserved intact.

When our colors were raised above the parapets of Fort Jackson, the rebel ram Savannah hoisted the stars and bars and opened a desultory fire upon the fort and our troops outside. As all the guns were found spiked, no return from the heavy artillery could be given, but a light battery was subsequently brought to bear and the ram peppered. Her sides were

thick and invulnerable to all such attacks and she received no damage. She afterwards fired a few shells at the city, but occasioned no injury. On Tuesday night she closed her brief career by blowing up after the officers and crew had escaped. At ten o'clock troops from all the corps were in the city, and the parks were soon occupied by them, and every one was comfortably situated before dark. The headquarter officers took pleasant residences, and were soon at home in the town.

The capture of the city gave us thirteen locomotives, about one hundred and ninety cars, thirty-two thousand bales of cotton, worth fifteen millions of dollars, and a large quantity of munitions of war, stored in the various magazines attached to the numerous works about the city—One hundred and fifty pieces of ordnance mostly of a heavy calibre, also fell into our hands, as trophies of the glorious victory.

The commissary supplies found will be distributed among the poor of the city, who have been left in an exceedingly destitute condition. The gas and water-works were found to be in good working order, and are to be kept in operation.

Brig.-Gen. John W. Geary, commanding the 2d Division, 20th Army Corps, has assumed command of the city, aided by an efficient staff. His experience as Mayor of San Francisco, and his ability and energy fit him for his office, which requires force of character and tact to fill, and proves him to be the right man in the right place.

All the rebel navy was destroyed rather than to fall into our hands, except one or two small vessels. These with a couple of merchant steamers were captured, and are now in running order.

Gen. Sherman's army is in splendid spirits after their long and successful march, and are ready for another triumphant campaign, as soon as their brilliant leader shall give the word. Their behaviour since their occupation of the city has been most commendable, and has extorted from our bitterest foes acknowledgments of surprise and praise.

The Navy, under Commander Balch, of the Pawnee, are busily engaged in removing the obstructions in the Savannah river, below Fort Jackson, and in a few days communication with the city will be easy and unembarrassed. Already one of the monitors has passed the obstructions and now lies a short distance below the city. We hope soon to learn that Savannah has been declared a "free port," and open to the commerce of the world.

#### MASONIC.

On Monday evening an extra meeting of Clinton Lodge, No. 54, was held at Masonic Hall, corner of Bull and Broughton streets, Bro. Simon E. Byck, W. M. Last evening it was my privilege to attend a meeting of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 231, at the same hall. There were present representatives of Massachusetts, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Colorado, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, and perhaps other states, all meeting in perfect amity. To-night a regular meeting of Georgia Chapter, No. 3, is to be held, and in one or two nights Solomon's Lodge, the oldest in the country except St. John's of Boston, will hold a regular communication. Com. R. T. Turner, one of the oldest Masons of the city, is H. P. of the Georgia Chapter, and W. M. of Solomon's Lodge. All the officers of Ancient Landmark Lodge were present last evening, and the occasion was a most interesting one.

#### MEETING OF CITIZENS OF SAVANNAH.

The following memorial has been addressed to the Mayor of Savannah:

To HON. R. D. ARNOLD: Mayor of the City of Savannah: We, the citizens of Savannah, believing that the interest of the city demands that immediate action be taken to get the voice of the people upon matters relating to her present and future welfare, respectfully request that a meeting of the citizens be called on Wednesday, 28th inst., at 12 o'clock, in the Exchange Long Rooms, to give them that opportunity to express themselves in reference to the City's welfare: H. Brigham, John M. Cooper, J. G. Mills, A. Wilbur, James M. Prentiss, C. H. Bulkley, James F. Cann, H. A. Richmond, J. T. Thomas, F. Grosclaude, T. J. Walsh, S. W. Wight, John Treanor, P. McCahey, W. F. Sergeant, J. S. Rogers, J. V. Connerat, J. H. Peck, M. Turner, James E. Cope, E. J. Gowdy, A. S. Hartridge, Thomas Pepper, Martin Duggan, Michael Murry, John C. Durgan, Jas. Heaghy, P. Gleeson, Jas. Sullivan, A. Sullivan, H. J. Dickerson, Robers Erwin, Thomas Lyon, Jno. F. Hamilton, Simon Gerstman, H. D. Jordan, Michael Larvin, R. Morgan, H. W. Lathrop, H. J. Bogardus, J. A. Douglas, S. H. Eckman, A. Emslein, Wm. Lattimore, D. H. Baldwin, H. Meinhard, G. Brown, G. B. Lamar, Jno. H. Deppish, John Daly, John G. Cook, S. M. Lafitteau, John R. McIntire, W. W. Wash, Walter O'Meara, Charles Farrell, W. L. Vroom, Capt. J. McMahon, Jno. Gammell, J. W. Gleason, M. A. Cohen, Wm. H. Starke, J. A. Gaudey, Alfred Haywood, Wm. S. Rockwell, J. George, Addison S. Clark, S. O. Potts, J. D. Rowland, E. J. Purse, Isaac D. LeRoche, Augustus Boullineau, C. C. Casey Geo. W. Wylly, J. W. Coats, J. R. Thompson, Alex. White, E. Sheftall, W. H. McLeod, A. Freeman, T. R. Mills, and many others.

To this the Mayor has replied by publishing the following call:

TO THE CITIZENS OF SAVANNAH: In conformity with the request of the Aldermen of the city, and of the citizens at large, I hereby call a meeting of the citizens to take place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday the 28th December, 1864, at 12 o'clock, M. R. D. ARNOLD, Mayor of Savannah.

#### PERSONAL.

Major-General Foster and lady, Major Strong of his staff, Brigadier-General Hatch, Col. W. T. Bennett and Lieut. VanWinkle of his staff, and Brig.-Gen. Saxton arrived here yesterday, Capt. Thorndike, of the latter's staff had previously come up.

Capt. Jno. L. Kelly, A. Q. M., so long in charge of marine transportation at Hilton Head, has been appointed to the same position here, and has his office in Alderman Soullard's cotton-commission store. Capt. Silas Spicer, also from Hilton Head, is Harbor Master.

#### GEN. SHERMAN

Has his quarters in the house of Mr. Chas. Green. He is daily visited by hundreds of people, but refers the business, except in important cases, to subordinate officers. He is in good health, and is adored by his army, who believe they can do anything under his lead.

#### BRIG.-GEN. JOHN W. GEARY,

Commandant of Post, has his office in the Railroad Bank building, and is gradually getting an acceptable system of thorough military government in operation.

#### BRIG.-GEN. EASTON,

Chief Quartermaster, has his quarters in a fine house on the corner of West Broad and South Broad Streets. He has charge of every building and all quartermaster's property in the city, but the assignment of buildings is in charge of Capt. Cadwallader, A. Q. M.

Gen. Howard is at the house of Mr. Molyneux, late British Consul here, and Gen. Slocum is at the residence of Hon. John E. Ward.

Other officers are quartered throughout the city.

#### THE SAVANNAH DAILY LOYAL GEORGIAN

Is the name of an able daily paper just started from the office of the News, by Capt. M. Summers, A. Q. M. It is probable that another daily paper will be started in a day or two.

DECEMBER 30, 1864.

If THE PALMETTO HERALD comes out a day or so later this week, the excuse to the public must be the importance of chronicling Savannah news correctly.

The Republican has already been revived by Mr. J. E. Hayes, of the Tribune, who came through with Gen. Sherman's grand army, and the Loyal Georgian has been merged in it. Another daily paper is to be started in a day or two, by the proprietors of THE PALMETTO HERALD, who have received permission to occupy the Daily News office for that purpose.

Yesterday a review of the 17th Army Corps occurred, and I take from the Republican the following notice of it:

The Seventeenth Army Corps, Major General Frank P. Blair, commanding, whose review by Major General Sherman was postponed for the 27th on account of the inclemency of the weather, was reviewed yesterday forenoon by Gen. Sherman on Bay street. The Corps presented a brilliant appearance as their solid phalanxes of veterans marched by our office, and although we were unable to witness the whole review, yet if the entire Corps marched as well and preserved as true soldierly bearing as the Division in the advance, both Gen. Sherman and Gen. Blair may well feel proud of such a stalwart military organization. Two things were noticeable, tidiness and military precision, and as we fondly lingered at the window to witness the end of the long-imposing line moving on steadily up Bay street, the bayonets glistening in the sun, we recalled the image of the lamented, the illustrious, the brave and unbleeding hearted McPherson, who prior to assuming command of the "Army of Tennessee," had commanded the 17th Corps.

On Tuesday last the public meeting was held, alluded to in my previous letter. The Mayor made the following address:—

Fellow Citizens of Savannah.—At the request of the Aldermen of the city of Savannah and of a large number of the citizens I have convened you together, this day, for the purpose of giving expression to your views and sentiments in the trying state of affairs in which you are now placed. It is for us no longer a crisis. The crisis is past, and it is for you to decide upon the particular line of action each and all of you may determine to pursue. Our action is to be determined solely by our situation, as we have no authority or power to speak for others outside of our limits. But we are the judges of our own situation, can speak for ourselves, and ought so to do, by all the considerations of prudence, and I will say, common sense and humanity, to mitigate, if we can, the effects of the heavy blow which has fallen upon us. Our city contains twenty thousand inhabitants, without food, without fuel, without any remunerative industrial pursuits, without any place of refuge, cut off from all connection with the country. The heart sickens at the sight thus presented.

It is our duty to mitigate, as we cannot avert, the terrible suffering by all the means which reason and common sense may dictate, regardless of all abstractive views. I have weighed the matter anxiously, and have arrived at a positive conclusion that there is but one course to pursue.—But it is not my province as calling the meeting, to say more at present. When the city was taken, through me, as Chief Magistrate, you asked protection. You all know that it was granted to you, and we all feel deeply indebted to Brig.-Gen. Geary for his conduct as Commandant of this city. Having convened you and expressed in part my views, it remains for you to appoint a Chairman of this meeting.

The following Resolutions, reported by a Committee, were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, by the fortunes of war, and the surrender of the city by the civil authorities, Savannah passes once more under the authority of the United States: and, whereas, we believe that the interests of the city will be best subserved and promoted by a free and full expression of our views in relation to our present condition, we, therefore, the People of Savannah, in full meeting assembled, do hereby resolve,

1st. That we accept the position, and in the language of the President of the United States, seek to have "peace by laying down our arms and submitting to the national authority under the Constitution," "leaving all questions which remain, to be adjusted by the peaceful means of legislation, conference and votes."

Resolved, 2d. That laying aside all differences and burying by-gones in the grave of the past, we will use our best endeavors once more to bring back the prosperity and commerce we once enjoyed.