

THE AMERICAN UNION.

MARTINSBURG, VA.,
SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 6, 1861.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons not to sell any intoxicating liquor to soldiers on any occasion whatever.

By order of
MAJ. SPIER, Provost Marshall.
July 5, 1861.

NOTICE.—Persons having information of importance in reference to the operations of the army under General Patterson, are requested to send the same to Capt. William B. Sipes, editor of the "American Union." A responsible name must in all cases accompany the communication.

TERMS OF PUBLICATION,

The "American Union" will be issued daily when the movements of the army render this possible. It will be sold at the office at TWO CENTS PER COPY—the proceeds to be devoted to the payment of the expenses of the office. Not more than ten copies will be sold to one person.

WANTON DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

If evidence were wanting to prove the insane wickedness of the leaders of the present Southern Rebellion, it could be found in abundance by visiting that portion of Virginia through which the Baltimore and Ohio R.R. passes. The wanton and useless destruction of property in this region is so great as almost to baffle exaggeration.—Splendid bridges have been utterly destroyed, and locomotives by the score have been burned. We are confident that we do not exaggerate when we say that it will require ONE MILLION of dollars to replace the property thus destroyed within the limits of the borough of Martinsburg alone; and in other localities the destruction has been equally as great.

Why was all this done? What did the rebels hope to gain by introducing this Vandal-like system of warfare? We confess that we cannot answer these questions. The Railroad might, it is true, have been used to transport troops to and from Washington city, but its destruction can only retard for a few hours, and not prevent, such transportation. There are other great Rail Roads connecting the East and the West, and these can fill every purpose that the Government requires. We venture to say that the movements of our troops in this locality, and in Washington, have not been retarded a single day by the destruction of all this Railroad property.

The evil done to the people of Virginia and Maryland is, however, incalculable. All trade through this region is stopped, and all business is destroyed. Coffee is now selling in Martinsburg for from 25 to 30 cents per pound, and other groceries in proportion. ~~Vegetables cannot be had at~~

all, because the Baltimore market has been rendered entirely inaccessible. Such is the condition of things now, and it requires no prophetic vision to foresee that they must daily become worse and worse. So far as our observation has gone, we are convinced that the harvest in Virginia could not, under any circumstances, have been more than ordinary; and now it is certain that a great portion of the grain in the border counties must be wasted. It is actually going to ruin on the ground for want of the labor necessary to gather it.

The progress of great armies is always marked with destruction, and the people of the Old Dominion must actually suffer as much in this respect from their own troops as from the Union soldiers. In view of all these facts, we most firmly believe that thousands in this region will suffer for the necessaries of life before the end of the present Summer, and how the poor are to live through the coming winter, God only knows. For all this present and prospective misery the instigators of the present most unholy rebellion are responsible. They are to be held accountable for the destruction of as happy communities as the sun shone upon, and for plunging a prosperous and beautiful nation into civil war with all its attendant horrors. The day of reckoning for these men will come. It will come not only from the thousands who are now in arms against them, but from the myriads whom they have deluded and deceived in the Southern States.

Capt. E. M. Price, the master of transportation, employed by the rebel forces in removing the machinery from Harper's Ferry, arrived at Richmond on the 20th of June, and reported to the Richmond Enquirer that "Col. J. B. Hoge, with one hundred and thirty rangers, killed twenty-three Yankees, and brought their scalps to the quartermaster. He routed the rest and drove them across the Potomac." The science of scalping has hitherto been confined to the savages of the forest, but it would appear that it is proposed to adopt this barbarous practice down in Dixie.

We understand that the Rev. Mr. Fulton, Chaplain of the Scott Legion, Col. Gray, commanding, will preach to his regiment tomorrow, (Sabbath) morning, 7th inst, at half past ten o'clock, D. V., and also to the 7th Pennsylvania regiment, Col. Irwin's in the afternoon. Mr. F. was one of those who assisted in raising the Stars and Stripes over the Court House on the fourth inst.

"The reign of Old King Cotton being over," says a Pennsylvanian, "now let us see what we can do for Old King Coal."

MAJOR GENERAL PATTERSON'S COMMAND.

The following is a statement of the various regiments and corps under command of Major General Patterson:

Generals of Division; Maj. Gen. Cadwallader, Maj. Gen. Keim.

First Brigade, Col. Thomas, U. S. A. Second Cavalry, Col. Thomas; Philadelphia City Troop, Capt. James; Twenty-Third Regiment, P. V., Col. Dare; Twenty-first Regiment, P. V., Col. Ballier; Sixth Regiment, P. V., Col. Nagle.

Second Brigade, Gen. Wynkoop. First Regiment, P. V., Col. Yohe; Second Regiment, Col. Stumbaugh; Third Regiment, Col. Minier.

Third Brigade, Gen. Williams. Seventh Regiment, P. V., Col. Irwin; Eighth Regiment, P. V., Col. Emley; Tenth Regiment, P. V., Col. Meredith; Twentieth Regiment, P. V., Colonel Gray.

Fourth Brigade, Gen. Negley. Fourteenth Regiment, P. V., Col. Johnson; Fifteenth Regiment, P. V., Col. Oakford; Twenty-fourth Regiment, Col. Owens.

Fifth Brigade, Colonel Longnecker. Ninth Regiment, P. V., Colonel Longnecker; Thirteenth Regiment, P. V., Colonel Rowley; Sixteenth Regiment, P. V., Colonel Ziegler.

Sixth Brigade, Colonel Abercrombie.—Eleventh Regiment, P. V., Colonel Jarrett; First Wisconsin Regiment, Colonel Starkweather. The Fourth Connecticut Regiment, belongs to this brigade, but has been left at Hagerstown. The First Pennsylvania Regiment is at Frederick, Md.

Outside of the Brigade:—Captain McMullin's Rangers; Doubleday's siege battery; Perkin's light field battery of six pieces. Rhode Island Battery, 6 pieces rifled cannon.

LT. SMITH, U. S. A.—We were in error when we stated in our first edition that Lieut. Smith, of the regular Army had command of the company, attached to Gen. Negley's Brigade, which was surprised by Col. Stewart's rebel cavalry on the 2d instant. Lt. Smith had been detailed to direct the movement of the company, which was commanded by its own officers, and when the attack was made upon it he displayed great courage and coolness. He was no way to blame for the misfortune which befell the command.

In this connection we cannot avoid calling the attention of our Volunteers to the necessity of exercising the greatest vigilance and caution when marching through the enemies' country. Every advantage will be taken by the rebels and the least negligence may cost many lives.

A RAPID MOVEMENT.—About noon to-day intelligence was received to the effect that the enemy was collecting on the South and West of our lines, in considerable bodies. An order was issued to throw out of some of the Regiments to meet them, and in a few minutes the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 16th, and 20th left their Camp at "double quick time."

The forces marched some miles out on different roads, but did not discover any large body of the enemy. One rebel was shot by company A, of the 16th, and the 20th took several prisoners. We are unable to give any further particulars at present.

Nearly all the cannon in use by the rebels have been rifled—from the United States.