

BALTIMORE

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

VOLUME L.—NUMBER 15.

BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1865.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

Latest News by Telegraph

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

GLORIOUS NEWS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

THE WILMINGTON EXPEDITION.

FORT FISHER IS OURS!

The News Carried by Assault after Two Days' Bombardment by the Fleet!

2,500 Prisoners and 72 Guns Captured.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

BLAIR'S MISSION TO RICHMOND.

THE WANTS OF THE NORTH.

The Capture of Savannah and its Consequences.

SAVANNAH, GA., A YANKEE TOWN.

&c. &c. &c.

Official Bulletin.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

January 17—10:40 A. M.

Major General Sherman reports that the following official dispatches have just been received at this Department:

Headquarters U. S. Army on Federal Point, N. C., Jan. 15, Fort Monroe, Jan. 17, Brigadier General J. A. Rawlins, Chief of Staff:

General—Have the honor to report that Fort Fisher was carried by assault this afternoon and evening, by General Ames' Division and the Second Brigade of the First Division of the 24th Army Corps, gallantly aided by a battalion of marines and seamen from the navy.

The assault was preceded by a heavy bombardment from the fleet and was made at 3:30 P. M., when the 1st Brigade, General Curtis, of General Ames' Division, effected a lodgment upon the parapet, but full possession of the work was not obtained until 10 P. M. The behavior of both officers and men was most admirable.

All the world's South Fort Fisher are now ours by our troops! We have not less than 1,900 prisoners, including General Whiting and Colonel Lamb; the command of the fort.

Especially in officers. I am not yet able to form any estimate of the number of our casualties.

(Signed) A. H. TERRY, Major General, Commanding Expedition.

(SECOND DISPATCH.)

FORT FISHER, Jan. 16, 9 A. M.—General A. D. S. A. reports that on the 14th, it was decided to risk an assault on Fort Fisher—General Rawlins' division with Colonel Abbott's brigade, to hold our line, already strong, across the peninsula and facing Wilmington, against the Rebel force, which the main body of the land force, and four hundred marines and sixteen hundred sailors on the east end. After three hours of heavy navy fire the assault was made at 3 P. M. on the 15th.

General Curtis' Brigade led, and as soon as it got to the west end of the land force, followed by Pennimaker's, and the latter by Bell's Brigade. After dark, and severe loss, at five P. M. we had possession of about half the land force. General Abbott's Brigade was then taken from our line facing Wilmington and put into Fort Fisher.

On pushing it forward at 10 P. M., it took the rest of the work with little resistance—the garrison falling back to the point of the peninsula, where they were followed and captured, among them the three leading brigades, General Curtis' and Colonel Lamb, both wounded.

I think we have quite 1,900 prisoners, and I hope our own loss may not exceed 500, but it is impossible to judge in the command of the three leading brigades, General Curtis' and Colonel Lamb, both wounded.

The land fort was a formidable one, the parapet in places being 10 or 15 feet high, but the men were at it nobly under a severe rain of shot and shell, and sailors went up gallantly, but the musketry fire from the east end of the land fort was so severe that they did not succeed in entering the work.

The navy fire on the work, judging from the holes, must have been terrific. Many of the guns were injured. How many there were on the point I cannot say, perhaps 30 or 40.

C. B. CONYERS, Major General, Chief of Engineers.

Another dispatch estimates the number of prisoners captured at 2,500, and the number of guns at 72.

General Grant telegraphs to this Department that in honor of this great triumph achieved by the united valor of the army and navy, he has ordered a salute of one hundred guns to be fired by each of the armies operating against Richmond.

C. A. DANA, Assistant Secretary of War.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

FORT MONROE, Jan. 17.—Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy—The Atlanta is just in from Wilmington. Fort Fisher and the works on Federal Point are in our possession.

The assault was made by the army and sailors on Sunday afternoon, and by 11 P. M. the works were ours—Losses heavy—Lieutenant T. W. Preston and

THE LATEST

APPEARS NOT SATISFACTORY TO THE REBELS—JEFF DAVIS FOOLERY WASTED!

General Whiting and Lamb, Rebels, are prisoners and wounded. The Vanderbilt is on her way North with dispatches. Two 15-inch guns were borne on the Monitor.

(Signed) E. T. NICHOLES, Commander.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

FORT MONROE, Jan. 16.—The steamer California arrived in this harbor at a late hour last evening, bringing the intelligence of the success attending the expedition against Fort Fisher, and the capture of Major General Terry, which sailed from here on the 6th instant. All the transports composing the fleet, after an exceedingly stormy voyage down the coast, assembled in the harbor of Beaufort, N. C., and were there re-loaded and provisioned.

On the morning of the 12th, orders were issued by Admiral Porter to immediately get under weigh, and the whole fleet of naval vessels and transports proceeded to Fort Fisher, arriving there on the morning of the 13th inst. At 10 o'clock A. M., the transports commenced landing under cover of a heavy fire from the fleet, and by noon were all safely landed on the beach.

The smaller gunboats of the fleet rendered most efficient service in shelling the fort, where the rebels occasionally appeared in some force. Simultaneously with the disembarkation of the troops, the iron-clads and other vessels of the fleet under Admiral Porter, moved up and opened a heavy fire on Fort Fisher, the monitors and iron-ships taking the advance, and at short range poured their fire into the fort. The rebels made but feeble responses and it was evident that several of their guns had been dismounted.

The next day, Saturday, Admiral Porter renewed the bombardment of the fort, but with what result was not known. The fire of the rebels appeared to be confined to only five guns, and officers of the navy were of opinion that seven guns had been dismounted. Several steamers which left the fleet of Fort Fisher, on Saturday night, arrived here to-day, but nothing all ready to make the final assault.

[Note—This account is correct not later than the official dispatches and covers only the operations of Friday and Saturday.—Reporter.]

THE NEWS IN RICHMOND.

Rebel Account of the Capture of Fort Fisher.

Second Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The Richmond Whig of this morning contains the following account of the capture of Fort Fisher by the naval and land forces of the United States:

FALL OF FORT FISHER.

The following account of the fall of Fort Fisher, commanding the entrance to Cape Fear river, was received this morning, and occasions in this community a sensation of profound regret.

The capture of this fort is equivalent to the closure of the harbor of Wilmington by the enemy's fleet. It is situated about 15 miles below the city, but the main defense of the entrance to the river, and its fall therefore will prevent in future the arrival or departure of blockade runners.

How far this reverse may prove injurious to our cause remains to be seen, but at present we regard it as an unfortunate and disastrous event. The following is the official report:

HEADQUARTERS, N. V., Jan. 16.

Hon. J. A. Rawlins:

General—Reports that the enemy's bombardment of Fort Fisher finally all day yesterday, at 4 P. M. their infantry advanced to the assault, a heavy demonstration at the same hour being made against their rear by our troops. At half past 4 P. M. Gen. Whitney reported that their attack had failed and the garrison was being strengthened with fresh troops. At 10 P. M. the fort was captured, among most of its garrison. No further particulars are at this time known.

(Signed) R. E. LEE, Major General.

(Signed) C. A. DANA, Asst. Sec'y of War.

Southern News.

CHANGES IN THE REBEL CAHNET—GOV. FOOTER SET LIBERTY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The Richmond Whig of the 17th, to-day, states that the Hon. Pierre Soule arrived in Mexico on a mission for the Confederate States.

Street rumors in Richmond say that Mr. Seddon has been removed and that Gen. Breckinridge had been made Secretary of War. Other changes are talked about, but nothing official is known.

The rebel House of Representatives declared by resolution yesterday in the case of Gov. Foot, that under all the circumstances of the case, it is expedient that the military authority discharge him from custody, and it is presumed he has been placed at liberty.

ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 17.—Rebel deserters who came into Knoxville on the 12th, state that Vaughn with 700 men, all he has left, was at Bristol on the 9th. Breckinridge with his command had gone to the Valley of Virginia, and was thought would not return. The report was that the rebels had commenced repairing the damage done to the rail works by Stoneman.

The most perfect quiet now exists throughout East Tennessee.

Brig. Gen. Ammen has resigned, and Brig. Gen. Tilton is now in command at Knoxville.

GOLD MARKET.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The Block market is very heavy to-night. Gold is very active. Sales after call at 214½ and 215.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

Return of F. P. Blair, Sr.—He is in Excellent Spirits—His Interview with the President—The Cabinet—The Navy Department—The War Department—The State Department—The Treasury Department—The Post Office Department—The War Department—The Navy Department—The State Department—The Treasury Department—The Post Office Department.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—About 2 P. M. Mr. Blair, Sr., son arrived from Mexico, bringing Francis P. Blair, Sr. He was accompanied by one, and second, and a private carriage, which was driving directly to his residence here. This evening he called upon the President and spent several hours with him.

To a gentleman who addressed him upon the subject, he remarked that he had an interview with the President, but it was merely such a one as could take place between gentlemen and two old friends; that what passed he would not divulge to any one beyond the President, and that his position was highly satisfactory, and might be known in proper time.

And staff arrived this afternoon and proceeded to Willard's. To-night, on his arrival being known, he was called upon by many ladies, and he was accompanied by his wife and daughter to the Congress-ional Hotel, where he will give a reception to the friends of the Union, and his friends allow that he will not be likely to do us any good, can not possibly result in the least injury to the Union, and he is not at all likely to be heard of in anything that would do his Government any good or our army any harm.

The would be Mr. Blair to cast a lead into the enemy's camp. Let him visit our commissary warehouses, and even give his name to the Ordnance Department, the Treasury, to Congress, to the Legislature, and we would not object to his visit. Let him go to the Ordnance Department, and our old files might recall the memory of happier days. We can show him some of our old files, and make him know that we are not so much changed by his present practices. At any rate, we do not feel disposed to get into a silly passion with him, but we shall not give him a passport to Mr. Blair, nor will we give him permission to point malignantly against the President.

RELEASED FROM REBEL PRISONS.

In addition to the 1,900 prisoners and arms released on Saturday from Richmond, were a Major of the Ninth Kentucky Cavalry, and the Lieutenant Colonel of the Second West Virginia Cavalry, who received him very cordially.

That in a military point of view his release is a great favorably, and that with that of any other General in the Army of the Potomac, General Butler was several hours with the President this morning, who received him very cordially.

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