BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

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

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Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

STARTLING NEWS.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

SOUTHERN PEACE COMMISSIONERS

STEPHENS AND HUNTER ARRIVED

They Come Under a Flag of Truce in Front Gen. Grant's Lines.

They Seek Admission as Peace Commissioners.

&c., &c., &c.

Southern Peace Commissioners.

CITY POINT, Jan. 31.—Via Washington, Feb. 1.—Yesterday a flag of truce boat appeared on the line in front of Petersburg, occupied by the ninth corps, and a message was sent in for permission to allow A. H. STEPHENS and R. M. T. HUNTER, Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy, to pass through the lines for the purpose of proceeding to Washington, supposed to be for the purpose of proposing terms of peace to, or seeking a conference with the Government at Washington.

Owing to some misunderstanding they did not come through the lines, but it is expected the matter will be arranged and that they will arrive to day, and at once be conveyed to Washington on a special boat.

This is the only event of interest which has occurred for a week. The troops are being inspected and are drilling by squads, companies and regiments, occupying most of the time of the officers.

(Signed) W. D. McG.

PEACE COMMISSIONERS FROM THE REBEL STATES.

SOUTHERN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEPARTURE OF COMMISSIONERS FROM RICHMOND.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Richmond Sentinel of Monday says.

Messrs. A. H. Stephens, R. M. Hunter and James A. Campbell, left Richmond yesterday morning on their way to Washington, to confer with President Lincoln on the subject of putting an end to the war, if possible.

The circumstances under which these gentlemen have departed on their mission, are understood to be as follows:

Mr. F. P. Blair having sought an unofficial and confidential interview with President Davis, departed for Washington with an assurance that our President would be willing at any time, without any obstacle of form, to send agents or commissioners to Washington to confer about terms of peace, if informed in advance that said commissioners would be received.

On Mr. Blair's second visit to Richmond, he brought the consent of Mr. Lincoln to receive and confer with any agents informally sent with a view to the restoration of peace.

The three gentlemen who left yesterday were therefore selected by the President, and they have gone without formal credentials, and merely as informal agents to see whether it be possible to place a conference for peace on any basis which may serve for attaining so desirable a result.

It is possible that success may attend these efforts, but wisdom and prudence demand that we indulge in no confident expectations on the subject, and that we relax not one moment in every preparation for the ensuing campaign.

From the choice made by the President, we may rest assured that no means will be left untried to effect peace, if it be possible to obtain it. But if the three eminent citizens selected for the purpose shall fail in their attempt, one good result will certainly have been reached.

All discordant counsels on this subject will have become reconciled and it will no longer be in the power of the factious or the timid to persuade the people that peace can be reached by any path other than that opened for us by stout hearts and stout hands.

FROM GEORGIA.

The Richmond Whig, of Jan. 30, has the following:

MACON, Jan 28.—Private advices from Savannah state that Sherman commenced his movement in South Carolina on the 17th instant, with three columns, the main column moving towards Charleston, and taking nearly all his transportation. Two other columns, in light marching order, moved by separate roads towards Branchville.

General Hill has issued an order requiring non-combatants to leave Augusta.

A Petersburg despatch published in the Richmond papers is as follows:

DEPARTURE OF THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 29.—Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, Commissioners, are in this city and will be passed by flag of truce through Bushrod Johnstons line's to-morrow. Their mission creates much comment in all circles.

(From the Times Special Correspondent.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, Sunday, Jan. 29, 1865—10 A. M.

For many days the weather has been intensely cold, and many cases of frost-bitten feet, ears, cheeks, &c., on our picket lines are reported. To day the intense cold has moderated, and though the sun shone brightly and the air was calm, the rails were solid and travelers many.

In front of Col. Hartman's brigade, of Wilcox's division, Ninth Corps, about noon to-day, a flag of truce was displayed on the parapet of the enemy's works, a few rods to the right of the crater. The bearer of the flag stated, that "Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, and Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, were desirous of proceeding to Gen. Grant's headquarters; that they were expected, and would have approached our lines via the James River, but were unable to do so, owing to the ice in the stream."

The message sent by the bearer of the Confederate flag of truce was sent at once, to the headquarters of the 9th Corps.

The news that Messrs. Stephens and Hunter were awaiting permission to enter into our lines flew like wildfire through the camps. They were distinguished men; they had made names for themselves before the war began, before acquiescing in the severance of the Republic, and the Union soldiers, who are reading men, knew it. Curiosity is one of the failings of the Union soldiers, and, as the news of the flag passed from camp to camp, tents were evacuated, from bomb-proofs temporarily buried soldiers emerged, pickets brought their rifled muskets to an "order," and all, not otherwise engaged, covered the parapets of the works of the main and picket lines. As you know, for many days there has been a tacit understanding along this part of the line that there should be no firing; but, until to-day, the members of the corps did not think it conducive to their health to exhibit themselves prominently.

The white flag, however, brought both Unionists and Confederates within plain, point-blank shooting range of each other, and waiting for a reply to the rebel request, they showed themselves in clouds on the works of the contending armies. "How are you Fort Fisher?" says the Yanks; "Good-bye, European importations;" "Have you heard from Hood?" "Did you know that your Virginian, Thomas, had presented to Old Abe a "worsted Hood?" and many other remarks of a like nature.

The "Confeds" seemed to take it all in good part, and made, in some instances, quite happy replies, such as, "Fort Fisher may be gone up, but why don't you take Fort Crater?" "Gwin's a fool, and we don't care a d—n for anything more from Europe;" and "Hood's hoodwinked old Thomas, and you'll hear from him directly, I reckon."

So they passed the time intervening before the reply came. Men who, a few moments later, might be engaged in mortal combat, whiled away the closing hours of the beautiful Sabbath in seemingly friendly intercourse. But does any one dream that, if in the midst of this sort of national gathering, the order had been given, "Prepare for action," any of the soldiers, so jocose and free from care, would have disobeyed the command? No! But, shoulder to shoulder, they would have repeated the lesson they have been endeavoring to teach the foes of their country for these long years. In the soldier's life there is sunshine and shadow, but, alas! the shadow predominates.—The Union soldier lives on in the hope that through the shadow will finally break the sun of peace, reflecting against the bank of adversity's clouds a rainbow of victory, telling in unmistakable colors of a "Union" conquered and thereafter indivisible.

As the bright orb of day neared the western horizon, and glanced upon the lofty spires of the yet unconquered "Cockade City," an officer from the headquarters of the Ninth Corps neared our foremost line. All were on the tiptoe of excitement; but soldierlike, the gallant Col. kept his own counsel; and, improvising a flag of truce from a white handkerchief, proceeded to scale the works; and, with one companion, advanced to the neutral ground.

After some minutes' waiting, he was met by four officers of the Confederacy, and a conference was held within a stone's throw of the scene of the terrible tragedy of the 30th of July last. What the result of this interview was, was not made public; but, it is believed that no word had been received from General Grant, and as a consequence, the "distinguished gentlemen" from Georgia and Virginia would have to bide their time, perhaps until to-morrow.

As the flags receded from each other, the thousands who covered the works suddenly disappeared, walking into their tents, crawling into their holes and descending into their bomb-proofs, to speculate upon the meaning of such a seeming urgent desire on the part of the Vice-President and ex-United States Senator to enter the Union lines. Speculation upon this subject is not only rife among the soldiers, but among other thinking men, and the most extravagant propositions are put forth. Of course it is useless to speculate. It may be that the visit of these noted Southern gentlemen will be productive of good; but time alone will tell.

From Fort Monroe.

RETURN OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GRANT FROM FORT FISHER—GEN. SHERMAN'S CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

FORT MONROE, January 30.—Lieut General Grant arrived here to-day from Fort Fisher on the gunboat Rhode Island. The hospital steamer Tonawanda also arrived here to-day from Fort Fisher with 130 rebel wounded. She brings no news of importance.

Fort Monroe, Jan. 31—The steamer Warrier, Capt. Mott, arrived here to-day from Fort Fisher. Up to the time of her sailing on Sunday last, nothing of importance had taken place, further than that several of our gunboats were up Cape Fear River in the vicinity of one of the rebel forts, probably with a view of bombarding it.

The steamship Cahawba, Capt. Johnson, also arrived here this afternoon from Hilton Head, S. C., with over 500 rebel prisoners captured by Major General Sherman in his late campaign. The Cahawba sailed last Saturday (28th ult.) and brings mails and dispatches. The intelligence from General Sherman's army is highly gratifying, complete success having attended thus far the opening of the campaign in South Carolina. The main portion of the army, as already stated, moved direct from Savannah, and the other portion, consisting of two corps marched from Beaufort. Both were steadily advancing against Charleston, and at last accounts our forces were within forty miles of the city.

The enemy were offering resistance at every point, but were being gradually driven from each available position for defence. Although the enemy was destroying everything as they retreated, yet our troops were finding an abundance of forage and subsistence.

The lines of Gen. Sherman's army were being gradually contracted, but it was thought that no general battle would take place until our troops reached the immediate vicinity of Charleston, where the main body of the rebel force in South Carolina would no doubt make at least one terrible effort to save the State and city from the encroachment of Sherman's hitherto victorious army.

ACTION ON THE AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

ALBANY, Feb'y 1.—Governor Fenton sent a message to the Legislature to-day, urging the immediate adoption of the Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, abolishing slavery. A resolution to that end was introduced, but it lays over until to-morrow.

PROMOTION CONFIRMED.

WASHINGTON, Feb'y 1st.—Brigadier General George G. Meade, U. S. A., was to day confirmed by the Senate as Major General, to date from the 18th of August last. The Senate were occupied on this nomination for about three hours.

FIGHT WITH GUERILLAS—CORRECTION OF A REPORT.

LOUISVILLE, January 31.—The Journal is now informed that the reported murder of seventeen discharged soldiers, Saturday, at Bloomfield, was incorrect. Ike Ludwig, a notorious guerilla, was caught and executed that day by Captain Terrill, of the Union Home Guards.

In the afternoon Terrill had a fight with Captain Colter's guerillas, several miles from Bloomfield, and repulsed them and dangerously wounded Colter.

MISSOURI CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 1.—After three day's spirited debate in the Committee of the Whole, the State Committee have amended and adopted the third section of the State Constitution defining the qualification of voters. The section takes a wide range, and among many others embrace the following provisions: "No person shall be deemed qualified to vote who has been in armed hostility to the United States after the 31st of July, 1861, to the government of this State, or has ever given aid or comfort, countenance or support, to persons engaged in such hostility or disloyalty, communicating with them, advised other persons to join them, manifested adherence to them or expressed a hope for the triumph of their cause over the arms of the United States, or has ever, except under overpowering compulsion, submitted to the authority or been in the service of the so-called Confederate States, or has been connected with any society inimical to the Government of the United States or this State after said 31st of July, or been a guerilla, or bushwhacker, a harborer of such as left the State so as to avoid the draft, or enrolled himself as a Southern sympathizer, or having exercised the franchise of this or any other State thereafter, under a claim of alienage obtained exemption from military service—these provisions not to apply to any act done against the United States while the white person doing such act was in the service of a foreign country.

From the Southwest.

Price's Rebel Forces on the Upper Red River, Starving, Cold and Naked—Gen. Kirby Smith at Shreveport.

CAIRO, Ill., Jan. 30.—A Natchez letter, dated the 23d inst., to the New Orleans Delta, has the following:

News from the Trans-Mississippi Department says that the rebels are fortifying Grand Ecore, and have an entire division stationed there.

One division of rebel cavalry has been sent to Texas lately, with orders to be dismounted for infantry service.

The headquarters of the rebel General Kirby Smith are still at Shreveport, but there is no considerable body of rebel troops garrisoning them.

The main body of the old army of Gen. Price was reported to be at Fulton, on the upper Red river, near the border of the Indian country, suffering all the horrors of starvation, cold and nakedness, having returned from their recent campaign very poorly supplied with the necessaries of life, a large quantity of which they anticipated securing.

The brigades of Generals Fagan and Parsons were stationed at Camden, Ark. They compose all the troops of General Price's army that have returned to Topeka, from whence the Missouri expedition originally set out.

Desertions from Price's army were very frequent, and his entire force was in a dreadfully demoralized condition.

The New Orleans cotton market was unsettled and almost at a complete standstill. Middling was quoted at 80c. Superfine flour was selling at $11 25. Sugar and molasses were in light supply.

Kentucky.

Activity of Guerilla Bands—Sharp Fighting with the Robbers, &c.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 31.—Capt. Clark, of the Fourth Missouri rebel cavalry, entered Danville with forty men on Sunday, at nine o'clock, and after swapping horses with several of the citizens, helped themselves to boots and shoes and other things that they stood in need of, when they departed.

They were followed by Captain Bridgewater and 70 or 80 Unionists, who overtook them about four miles from Harrodsburg, where a fight occurred.

Two of the rebels were killed and four or five wounded. Two of Bridgewater's men were wounded, but none killed.

Major Jones, with a band of two hundred guerillas, is reported to night within nine miles of Elizabethtown.

Quantrell, of Kansas notoriety, is said to be co-operating with Jones, and has a force of two hundred and ten men.

On Friday afternoon Captain Berry, leading five guerillas, approached within a short distance of Bardstown.

They were fired upon by a party of Union soldiers, and it is reported that Berry was killed.

On Saturday evening the outlaws being reinforced, made another raid upon the place, but were repulsed after a brisk fight.

The same day Sue Mundy's guerillas dashed into Bloomfield, surprised a party of seventeen discharged soldiers, captured fourteen of them, and killed them on all the spot. The guerillas allege in justification for this act that our soldiers had executed one of their band, named Dudley, a few days before.

THE GEORGIA PEACE MOVEMENT.

A CERTAIN CLASS OF GEORGIANS ADVOCATING RECONSTRUCTION AND GEN. SUPPRESSED.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, Jan. 2.]

We are gratified to learn that Governor Brown is strongly opposed to the reconstruction convention movement which a few disloyal at l whipped men and colonial enemies are advocating with activity and zeal.

THE INTERRUPTION OF MEETINGS DISAPPROVED BY THE REBEL SECRETARY OF WAR.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, Jan. 2.]

The Augusta Chronicle contains a letter from Mr. Glenn, or as the Chronicle, for greater effect, styles him, General Glenn, confessing to his having interrupted a public meeting in Georgia, because of the improper objects which he supposed to be contemplated. If we are not mistaken, Mr. Glenn holds no Confederate commission. Having, however, informed the Secretary of War of his late proceedings, the Secretary has replied in terms of strong disapprobation of them.

Another Accident on the Hudson River Railroad—Five Cars Smashed—One Person Injured.

An accident occurred on the Hudson River Railroad, yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon. The 4 P. M. train, from Albany, for this city, ran off the track two miles above Hamburg, owing to the breaking of an axle of one of the cars. Five cars were smashed, but only one person (named Simmons, a brakesman) was hurt, and he was dangerously injured.

REPORTED EVACUATION OF MOBILE.

CAIRO, Jan 30.—A steamer had arrived at New Orleans from Mobile bay, bringing a rumor of the evacuation of Mobile. The report was received from the dayship on the 20th.

The steamer Magenta, from New Orleans on the 28th, has arrived. She reports all quiet along the river.

PETROLEUM EXCHANGE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The new Petroleum Exchange was opened here to-day.

THE SPANISH MERINO SHEEP.—At the late meeting of the wool-growers's association, of Vermont, a resolution was passed to the effect that, as great improvements have been made in breeding the Merino sheep since its introduction into the United States, that the name Improved Spanish Merino be adopted, as the most appropriate to the thoroughbred Spanish Sheep in New England, and that agricultural societies be requested to designate them as such.

☞ General Banks says that Napoleon would, upon a convenient pretext, plant the French flag upon the west bank of the Mississippi. Let him plant if he can. We will soon dig it up for him.

THE MEETING AT THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.

As soon as Mr. Beecher had concluded his address on Tuesday evening last, amid the applause that followed, loud cries were heard from all parts of the hall for "Chase," "Chase," mingled with an occasional call for "Stanton." The Chief Justice moved off as gracefully and quietly as he could, and evidently did everything in his power to avoid speaking, but the calls continued so incessantly and grew so general and persistent, as to leave him no choice but to speak, which he did about as follows:

I will not refuse, fellow-citizens, to respond to the call you so kindly, yet persistently make, but my words must be very few.

We came to this hall to-night to hear Mr. Beecher, and we shall not, I think, soon forget what we have heard, or the man to whom we have listened. I have been, as you all have been, equally gratified and instructed.

To me, indeed, it has been a peculiar pleasure to be here. In all the strenuous endeavors of the earnest and faithful men of Maryland, to put away from among them the great evil of slavery, they have had—as all like minded men in other States have had—we trust, sympathy, and in every proper way, my hearty and zealous co-operation. [Applause.] I know something of the trials they have gone through, and of the difficulties they have to encounter. [Applause.] Until now since the adoption of the New Constitution, which has made Maryland forever a free State, I have not had an opportunity of congratulating them on the good result of their labors.

I am glad to do it to-night, when I can join to these congratulations my yet warmer felicitations on the yet greater event of to-day. (Great applause.)

Five or six hours ago I was, for a few moments, in the hall of the House of Representatives at Washington. All were looking in earnest suspense to the result of the vote which was to determine the fate of the proposition submitted to the Legislatures of the States to amend one of the Constitutions prohibiting slavery throughout the Republic.—(Applause.) Many hoped—many feared—all were uncertain. I was obliged, in order to be here, to leave the hall before the taking of the vote; but I had hardly set foot in this city of Baltimore before I heard the tidings, just come over the wires, that the resolution had received the necessary two thirds majority, with seven to spare! (Great applause.) I felt that it was better to hear on the soil of Free Maryland of the great transaction which assures to us a free America than to listen to the announcement of the vote in the Capitol. (Loud applause.)

Let us thank God, fellow-citizens, for this good, this most auspicious event; but let us never forget that it was the earnest efforts of those who made Maryland free this event at this time would have been impossible.—(Long continued applause.)

I must say no more. Let us go home, laying up in our hearts the lessons of this day, resolved, with God's help to do our whole duty in the new crisis which is beginning for our country! [Renewed applause]—during which Mr. Chase retired, and the band playing Hail Columbia put an end to the evening's ceremonies.

FROM HAVANA.

Pirates Released—West Indian News—Affairs in Havana.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

HAVANA, Jan. 25, 1865.

By the English steamer Elder, from St. Thomas, we have dates from the Republic of San Salvador to the 12th ult. The Presidential election had taken place without any popular disturbance and resulted in the re election of Senor Duenas.

The Government has placed at liberty the pirates John Bradshaw and Thomas Reynolds, who were arrested on their way, in connivance with others, to take forcible possession of one of the California steamers. The tribunal has declared that the Government has no right to inflict any punishment, although they confessed their intentions, and they have therefore been liberated. The British Vice Consulates have been suppressed by order of the English Government.

The indigo trade is reported buoyant, and business to be generally increasing. Considerable harm has been caused to the cotton crop by the rains, and it will therefore be smaller than was anticipated, though larger than was expected at one time.

From Jamaica we learn that the Jamaica Bank has ceased to exist. All its business has been turned over to the Colonial Bank, and a compensation has been given to the shareholders of £10,000 sterling. Business is dull, and on the 9th ult. additional duties were imposed on various articles, among them tobacco, 2s per pound on cigars, 1s6d on leaf and 1s6d on cigarettes and snuff.

From Trinidad we hear of excessive rains, though the prospects of the sugar crop were good. Up to Dec 10 there had been exported 30,580 hhds., 6,700 tierces, and 5,575 bbls. of sugar; 15,000 hhds. and 197 tierces molasses, 611 hhds. rum, 7,110 pounds coffee, 773 bales and 30 carroons of cotton.

The French man of war Amazarathe had arrived at Santa Lucia, demanding the delivery of four deserters from the French navy. This was denied, the courts declaring that they had committed no crime, were free from the moment they trod upon English soil.

We have had no news in regard to the sugar crop of Grenada.

Considerable anxiety is felt here in regard to the non-arrival of the Spanish mail steamer from Cadiz. She was due here the 19th instant, or at most the 20th.—There is a report that she is lost, but it can have no possible foundation. As I write, a steamer is situated on the Moro as being in sight, which may prove to be the one I refer to.

We have received with joy the glorious news of the fall of Fort Fisher. The chief importance to Havana of the victory is in the closing of the port to blockade runners—the blockade is now in the mouth. However, the principal trade here of this island is with the port of Galveston.

The English steamer Vulture arrived on the 22d from Nassau. She is a fine steamer of 705 tons, and made the passage in 25 hours. As she came in she carried the Confederate flag at the fore. The Gen. Whiting, of which I wrote you in my last, carried a larger with C. S. S. S. Co. This I am told means Confederate States Steamship Company. There was a report at the dock while passing the Admiralty ship, and that the salute was returned—it was not returned. However when the C. J. Lamb passed this ship, I am credibly informed she saluted, and it was while we returned by the firing of the ensign three times. Our Government ought to investigate this matter, as it shows favor to the C. J. Lamb, it was the flag of the so called Confederate States that was saluted. In the case of the Gen. Whiting it would have been the English.

On the 23d, a grand Bazaar, or Charity Fair, was opened in the presence of H. E., the Captain General. The object is the enlargement of the Orphan Asylum and increase of the funds. The chief attraction is a prize given by the Countess Villanueva of a set of diamonds—diadem, earrings, necklace and bracelets, valued at $10,000. There are many other valuable prizes, some of which have come from abroad. We have had cloudy rainy weather lately, which still continues.

DRESS AND DISEASES.—There is no truth more truly established among medical men than that disease flourishes as much as honesty do. When thin shoes prevail, consumption is the prevailing epidemic with females in every fashionable community of the country. When low necked dresses are in the ascendant, sore throat and quinsy are the raging maladies. When "bustles" and "bishops" make their appearance, spinal affections become "the rage." The reign of corsets is denoted by enlarged lungs, dyspepsia, and a general derangement of the digestive organs. Indeed, so intimately are dress and disease connected, that a doctor says that all he needs to determine what a majority of the women are dying of, is to have an inventory of their wardrobe handed to him.

WESTERN SENTIMENT AS TO PEACE MISSIONS.

Extract from a Chicago letter to the N. Y. Times:

I am glad to see that you are protesting against the fitting backward and forward between Richmond and Washington of the whole tribe of self-constituted peace commissioners. Out here we vote them unmitigated nuisances, and are astonished that they are tolerated by the President. The people of the West, in common with the whole country, have suffered so much in blood and treasure that they are not in favor of a peace now which shall come short of a full accomplishment of all the purposes of the war—indemnity for the past and security for the future.

I may safely say that I speak for nine-tenths of the loyal people of the West when I aver that they want no peace until the rebel capital has fallen, and the rebel leaders are fully humbled. We want them conquered—subjugated—so totally defeated that we shall never hear of another rebellion in all coming time. We want no temporizing—no half way measures—no toleration of the cause of the war—no compromises. We have spent too much precious blood for this, and it is worth even more to secure the great end for which we have fought. We say let the war go on until all rebeldom shall lay down its arms. Let the blows fall thick and heavy, until resistance is impossible, and then give them such terms as traitors deserve, tempered with that mercy which has characterized the acts of our Government throughout.

Magnanimity is all very well; but we trust that the President and his advisers will not be drawn into a display of that virtue which will abroad be interpreted as an evidence of failing strength and resources, and a want of power to effectually crush the rebellion. If the rebels are sick of the fight, let them come as suppliants, not as the dictators of terms of peace. Let them come to us, not we go to them.

SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.

The circumstances attending the tragic death of the rebel General (Bishop) Leonidas Polk, finds a singular coincidence in the fate of Marshal Moreau, once one of Napoleon's ablest officers, but a traitor to his country after the banishment to Elba.

It is said that at the battle in which Leonidas Polk was killed, General Sherman, espying a group of rebel officers upon a neighboring eminence engaged in scanning our lines through their field glasses, called an artillery officer, and, pointing toward this group, ordered a few shells to be thrown in that direction. In obedience to this order, a few projectiles were immediately fired into this group, one of which was seen to burst, and strike one of the number. It subsequently appeared that Gen. Polk was the victim to his own temerity by venturing within range of our artillery.

Moreau fell at the battle of Dresden, in August, 1813, under peculiar circumstances. He had just returned from the United States, and, at the solicitation of the Emperor Alexander, consented to take up arms against his own country. Ney and Murat had each gained the rear of the Austrian column, on both flanks, and, with their famous cavalry, charged the enemy's line so successfully as to determine the victory.

About noon, on the last day of the fight, Napoleon noticed a group of officers on an eminence a half mile distant. Supposing they were watching his manœuvres, he called a captain of artillery, and, pointing to them, said:

"Throw a dozen bullets in that group—perhaps there are some little Generals in it!" The officer obeyed, and it was immediately seen to produce some agitation. One of the balls struck Moreau's leg, cutting it off below the knee, passed through his horse, and carried away the other leg. It was not known who was the victim until the advance guard, in pursuing the enemy, came upon a little spaniel, roaming over the field, moaning piteously for its master. Around its neck was a collar engraved with the words, "I belong to Gen. Moreau."

So perished these two general officers under circumstances almost parallel—both in rebellion against their country, and seeking its overthrow.—*North Union.*

AMERICAN CARPET FACTORIES.

The first carpets were made in this country about the year 1821—ingrain carpets, the factory in New York city. In 1831 the establishment was removed to Little Falls, N. Y., and an attempt made to manufacture carpet by power looms, which proved unsuccessful. In 1839, a Yankee named Erastus B. Bigelow invented a power loom for ingrain carpeting which was purchased by the Lowell Company, and his inventions are now in universal use.

Messrs. Crossley & Sons, the great English manufacturers, purchased his patents for twenty thousand pounds, and still use them in their mills at Halifax and Kidderminster. Their carpet manufactory at Halifax, England, is the largest in the world, and employs four thousand four hundred work people. They manufacture nearly every description of carpet, and the product is estimated at many millions of yards annually.

There are at the present time only some six large establishments employed in the manufacture of carpets in this country.—Four of these employ a capital of six and a half millions, while the aggregate annual capacity of manufacture of three of them is four million five hundred thousand yards of carpeting of various kinds. Of the four companies just alluded to, one manufactures only Wilton and Brussels carpets and rugs, another only ingrain and three-ply; another ingrain, Venetian and Brussels; while the fourth manufactures velvet, Brussels, ingrain, three-ply and Venetian, besides a variety of rugs.

One of these companies uses one million two hundred and fifty thousand pounds of wool annually, five thousand pounds of worsted yarn, and three hundred thousand pounds of flax or tow yarn. Another five tons of wool and two of jute and linen yarns. Another, with a capital of a million and a half of dollars, has two hundred and eighty eight power looms, and produces over two millions of yards of carpeting annually.

In 1857 it was estimated that there were over five thousand power looms in the various carpet factories of the United States, and that there are probably more at present.

From one thousand three hundred to two thousand persons find employment in one of these large factories. The sales often reach to several millions of dollars annually. During the first two years of the war the carpet manufacturers found their business better than usual, money being plenty and the people inclined to buy largely. But the unsettled state of financial affairs during the last two years have been felt in this business quite seriously. Though the present tariff almost prohibits the importation of foreign carpets, the duties upon materials are at the same time so high as to vastly increase the expense of manufacturing.—*Commercial Herald.*

DAMAGE FROM SODA IN WASHING.—Thirty years ago the linen parts of shirts were worn out before the cotton; now it is the reverse, and both perish much sooner than they used to; the cotton does not last a third as long, in the experience of some of our acquaintances. This hasty rotting of cotton fabrics is ascribed to the hasty processes of bleaching, and to the excessive use of soda in washing—but, in the worst cases, chiefly to the latter. A prudent housekeeper should watch to prevent her servants from using soda to save themselves labor, servants have been known to buy it with their own money, for that purpose. As for those who depend on laundresses, there is no remedy but to find, if possible, a laundress who makes clothes last well. The use of a good washing apparatus should abate this mischief.—*American Artisan.*

From Alabama.

The 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry on an Expedition—The Pursuit of the Rebel General Lyon.

The following interesting narrative is extracted from a private letter from Capt. W. F. Colton, of the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, dated Huntsville, Ala., January 19th:

"I wrote last on the 7th instant, and then expected to come to Huntsville, there to rest a couple of weeks. Well, we came to H., but our dreams of rest were vain, for the day after we got here we were ordered out by Gen. Wood, commanding the 4th Corps, now at Huntsville, and started that night, the 11th instant, marched east over the Huntsville mountain into Flint river valley, and at 4 A. M., halted to feed and rest near the 'shallow Ford,' which we were to cross in the morning.

We were after General Lyon (rebel), who was returning from a raid into Kentucky. In the morning we tried the ford, but it was entirely too deep, owing to the recent heavy rains in the mountains; so we went up the valley, marching a great deal in swamps, and camped at sundown near a ford higher up. The next morning (13th) we were able to effect a crossing, the river having fallen a great deal since the first attempt, and found ourselves on the 'Peninsula,' a long, narrow tract of swamps and hills, lying between the Flint and Paint Rock rivers, both of which empty into the Tennessee, six miles apart, below Guntersville. On the Peninsula we found a small party of guerillas, which we chased, and shot one and captured two. That afternoon we fed our horses near what was once a small town by the name of Vienna, but which had been burned by our forces to prevent its harboring the guerillas.

That night we went into camp near the mouth of Paint Rock river, and sent the advance guard, under Lieut. Hinchman and Sergt. Lyon, to the river to communicate with the gunboats which were patrolling the Tennessee river to prevent Gen. Lyon's forces from crossing. Lieut. Hinchman ascertained from the Captain of the gunboat Thomas that Gen. Lyon and some three hundred of his men had crossed in flat boats and on rafts during the few preceding nights. The next morning we crossed the Tennessee river on the gunboats Thomas and Grant (we had but one hundred and eighty men.) After feeding, on the south side of the river, we took up the march at 3 P. M. on the road to Warrenton, where General Lyon had been in the morning.

Four miles from Warrenton we learned he had marched that morning in the direction of Lebanon, and would camp at Red Hill, some ten miles out; so we turned off from the Warrenton road to the right, and marched around so as to get in his front, i. e., on the other side of the rebel camp from which direction they could not expect us. At 11 P. M. we halted to feed our horses and rest, and at 1 A. M. on Sunday, the 15th instant, we marched and went down the mountain, we were on Land mountain, which is not very high here, four miles south of Lyon's camp, and at 5½ A. M., in the darkness which precedes the dawn, our advance charged his first camp, where all were soundly asleep in fancied security, with neither guards or pickets out. Leaving my battalion to take charge of the prisoners and captured horses, Colonel Palmer went on to Gen. Lyon's headquarters, at the house of a Mrs. Noble.

Sergt. Arthur P. Lyon, of my company, had command of the advance guard, and surrounded the house with his men, entered, and knocked at the General's door, which was opened by the General himself. 'You are my prisoner, General,' said Lyon (sergt.) and led the General to the front porch. 'Please allow me to go into room for my clothing,' said the rebel leader. 'Yes,' said the sergeant, 'but be quick.' The general entered his room, and Sergeant Lyon followed him to the door. In a moment it was very dark the flash of a pistol was seen, Sergeant Lyon dropped dead on the threshold, and before our men could rush to the spot, the general was out and made his escape. Thus an honorable soldier, Sergeant Lyon, trusted a dishonorable one, although high in rank, and perished a victim to the treachery of a rebel.

Sergeant Lyon was one of the bravest of the brave, and always commanded the advance guard of the regiment. By his many fine qualities he had endeared himself to every one in the company and regiment, and we cannot but feel his loss deeply. He knew not fear, and knew no such word as fail. Invariably, when leading our advance, the sight of an enemy, no matter how strong, was followed by a charge, and never was that charge unsuccessful.

No more will his bright, cheerful face be seen by the fire of our nightly bivouac, no more will his impetuous charge carry fear into the heart of the enemy. His poor mother, how can I send the sad news to her! He was the only son of his mother, and she was a widow! We feel his loss the more because from you I believe it is the first man who has been killed in action since Lieut. Burgin was killed at the battle of Missy Creek, Dec. 1863. Sergeant Lyon's body was sent home yesterday in a metallic case, and in charge of two guards.

In that charge we dispersed General Lyon's command to the mountains, captured ninety-five prisoners, including two captains and four lieutenants, one twelve pound boat howitzer with carriage and caisson complete, and about one hundred good horses, besides a great deal of plunder which they had brought down from Kentucky, such as boots, shoes, hats, silks, calicoes, ribbons, shirts, gloves, leather, notions, etc. That morning we marched back to the Tennessee River, crossed it at Guntersville on the 'Thomas' and 'Grant,' 'Blenker,' and 'Stokes' Rivers, and were soon across the river a few miles north of the mouth of Paint Rock river. It was dark when we went into camp.

The officers on all the boats were very pleasant, of course our position in camp were very much improved in our position, the gun we captured I hauled up to the front, forward of our tents. On 'Grant' a few days before, on the 12th, 10 M we embarked again at Bridgeport, and steamed down stream twenty miles to Whitesburg, distant ten miles from Huntsville, by a lovely spike, this saving us a march of 70 miles by land. This was on Monday. We camped at Lacey's, one and a half mile from the landing, and the next day marched through Huntsville with our prisoners, one gun, and colors flying. In the city we turned over the prisoners and gun to Capt. Kuldenbaugh, Provost Marshal of the 4th Corps.—*Pittsburg Post.*

FOSSIL REMAINS.

In a paper addressed to the Academy of Science, M. Van Beneden gives an account of certain human remains discovered by him in a grotto situated in the valley of the Lesse. These remains, consisting of nearly complete skeletons, he considers as having been buried there by the waters during some great cataclysm. The grotto is situated at forty metres above the level of the Lesse. All the bones are dispersed in the mass of earth, the long bones always in a horizontal position.

A skull in perfect preservation was found under a stone embedded in stalagmite. This skull was half filled with stones not much smaller than the occipital foramen, through which they had penetrated. In front of the cranium there was an omoplate, clavicles, ribs, long bones, vertebræ of children and adults. Bones were found firmly wedged between stones, so as to leave no intermediate space. Such effects, the author thinks, could only have been produced by water. In the midst of a solid bed of stones there was another cranium, the patrietal bone of which was fractured.

The bones situated where water could penetrate during the winter were either reduced to atoms or would fall to dust on being touched; the others were in a perfect state of preservation. These human bones were found together with those of bears, but not of the *Ursus Spelæus*, being rather nearer to the present species,) of oxen, horses, reindeer, beavers, several beasts of prey, birds, fish, (trout and pike,) bellows, and the *Cervus Elaphus*, which still lives, together with helices, in the immediate vicinity.

Mixed up with these bones there were flints of the most primitive form, bits of coal, calcined bones looking as if they had just come out of the fire, and fragments of very old pottery. There were also some of the antlers of the reindeer, with marks upon them evidently made by human hands, but not forming any particular design. The ground where these remains were found presented no signs of having been disturbed, and there was no communication from without with the grotto except by the entrance only. The skulls alluded to denoted a well developed human race.—*Gallignani's Messenger.*

CORNELIUS O'DOWD ON AMERICANS.

There is a rough, unvarnished Yankee that I like much. I like his self-reliance, his vigor, his daring earnestness, and I don't dislike his intense acuteness, and I forgive his ill humor with England. It is your travelled Philadelphian, your literary gentleman from Boston, or your almighty swaggerer from Broadway, that I cannot stomach. This he-ringed and gold chained mastodon is positively odious to me—His imitation of the usages of society is at times awkward and ridiculous, as to afford a cruel mockery of our actual civilization, and I long to see him in backwards, and fancy the time when he will go back to his native woods and prairies, and be as wildly fantastic and barbarous as nature intended him.

These people are not the nation, they are not even like it. They are the offshoots of an over wealthy and purse proud society, who, not daring to exhibit their impertinences where they are known, come over to Europe to display themselves in all the extravagancies of a mistaken culture. "When a good American dies he goes to Paris," it is said, and I am almost tempted to wish that he would wait for his immortality on his own side of the Atlantic. Such people have helped to make the Continent hear, and done very little to make it pleasanter.—*Blackwood.*

MYSTERIOUS POISONING CASE IN NEW YORK.—The New York Tribune of yesterday says: Coroner Gamble was yesterday notified that two families, residing at No. 194 Washington street, had been taken suddenly sick, and the belief was that they had been poisoned. He proceeded to the above locality, and there learned that early yesterday morning the family of Mrs. Margaret Grady, consisting of herself, her daughter Bridget, and Ellen Powers, living on the first floor, were taken with violent pains in the head and stomach, accompanied with violent vomiting.

Mrs. Ann Morrison, residing on the floor above, came to their aid, and after rendering all the assistance in her power returned to her apartment. In a short time she, too, was taken sick, with symptoms precisely similar to those of the Grady family. Her daughter—Mary, aged 7 years, Sarah, aged 5 years, and Maria, aged 12 years—were taken sick soon after the mother. On the return of Mr Morrison from laboring on the docks just previous to his wife's sickness he found his family living on the floor in a helpless condition. He immediately procured the services of a venal physician, and on their arrival in time were administered.

Mrs. Grady at first grew better, but Mary Morrison died early the day, and there is certainly no chance for the recovery of her sisters. Mrs. Morrison, last evening, was doing better, and will probably survive. The medical gentlemen in the case state that they have no suspicion of having eaten anything unusual preceding their sickness, and the medical