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Latest News by Telegraph TO THE BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

GLORIOUS NEWS.

OFFICIAL REPORT

GEN. SHERIDAN'S DEPARTMENT.

GREAT SUCCESS OF HIS EXPEDITION

Capture of Staunton, Charlottesville, Amherst, Columbia, and other Important Places.

DESTRUCTION OF CANAL LOCKS.

The Railroads from Lynchburg, Staunton and Gordonsville to Richmond Rendered Useless.

Canal Boats with Provisions and Ammunition Captured.

14 PIECES OF ARTILLERY TAKEN.

NUMEROUS PRISONERS CAPTURED

Rebel Com. Hollins was Killed.

&c., &c., &c.

WAR DEPARTMENT, March 13th, 10 A. M.

Major General Dix, New York:

The following report of General Sheridan has been received by this Department. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

City Point, Va., 7 P. M., March 12th.—Hon Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War.—The following despatch has just been received. U. S. GRANT, Lieut. Gen'l.

Headquarters Middle Military Division, Columbia, Va., Friday.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, Commanding Armies United States:

General—In my last dispatch dated Waynesboro', I gave a brief account of the defeat of Early by Custer's division. The same night this division was pushed across the Blue Ridge, and entered Charlottesville at 2 P. M., the next day. The Mayor of the city and the principal inhabitants came out and delivered up the keys of the public buildings. I had to remain at Charlottesville two days. This time was consumed in bringing over, from Waynesboro, our pontoon trains.—The weather was horible beyond description and the rain incessant. The two divisions were during the time occupied in destroying the two large iron bridges, one over the Rivanna river, the other over Morse's creek, near Charlottesville, and the railroad for a distance of eight miles in the direction of Lynchburg.

On the 6th of March I sent the first division, General Devin commanding, to Scottsville, on the James river, with directions to send out light parties through the country and destroy all merchant mills, canal-locks and bridges on the Rivanna river, these parties to join the division at Scottsville. The division then proceeded along the canal to Duguidsville.

We hoped to secure the bridge to let us across the river as our pontoons were use less on account of the high water. In this, however, we were fooled, as both this bridge and the bridge at Vardwicksville were burned by the enemy upon our approach. Gen. Merritt accompanied this division.

The Third Division started at the same time from Charlottesville, and proceeded down the Lynchburg Railroad to Amherst Court House, destroying every bridge on the road, and in many places miles of the track. The bridges on this road are numerous, and some of them five hundred feet in length. We have found great abundance in this country for our men and animals. In fact the canal has been the great feeder of Richmond.

At Rockfish river, the bank of the canal was cut, and at New Canton, where the dam is across the James, the guard lock was destroyed and the James river let into the canal, carrying away the banks and washing out the bottom of the canal.

The dam across the James at this point was also partially destroyed.

I have had *no opposition. Everybody is bewildered by our movements.*

I have had no news of any kind since I left. The latest Richmond papers was of the 4th, but contained nothing.

I omitted to mention that the bridges on the railroad from Snoop's depot to the other side of Staunton, to Charlottesville, were utterly destroyed. Also, all the bridges for a distance of ten miles on the Gordonsville railroad.

The weather has been very bad indeed, raining hard every day with the exception of four day's since we started. My wagons have, from the state of the roads, detained me.

Up to the present time, we have *captured fourteen pieces of artillery,* eleven at Waynesboro' and three at Charlottesville. The party that I sent back from Waynesboro' started with six pieces, but they were obliged to destroy two of the six for want of animals. The remaining eight pieces were thoroughly destroyed.

We have captured up to the present time, twelve canal boats laden with supplies of ammunition, rations, medical stores, &c.

I cannot speak in too high terms of Gens. Merritt, Custar and Devin, and the officers and men of their commands. They have waded through mud and water during this continuous rain, and are all in fine spirits and health.

Commodore Hollins, of the rebel navy, was shot near Gordonsville while attempting to make his escape from our advance in that direction.

Very respectfully, your ob't ser'vt.
(Signed) P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General Commanding.

Later from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE HANSA.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The Hansa from Liverpool on the 1st has arrived.

The Times hopes that the public have fully digested the official intelligence of Mr. Seward's proposition of terminating the American war by a combined attack of the belligerents on some foreign power, most probably England, rather than France. We must admit that the scheme of an extrinsic policy which the Confederate envoys seemed chiefly to favor, shows considerable ingenuity to aid Confederate interests. By the time such extrinsic policy had been carried into execution and ended, the Federals would have become accustomed to live without the Confederates, seeing in a Southern republic only a kindred State and natural ally. Seward has most considerately forewarned us, and it will be our fault if we are not found forearmed.

Sir Frederick Bruce succeeds Lord Lyons at Washington.

Napoleon's preface to the life of Julius Cæsar, is published in all the London journals. The Pope has ordered its immediate examination when published.

Consols closed heavy at 89¾ a 89⅞. United States 5-20's declined ¼, and the rebel loan 2 per cent. on the receipt of the Africa's advices.

The Liverpool Flour market closed dull and prices nominal. Wheat closed quiet but prices steady. Corn inactive; mixed 26s7d a27s.

Beef closed dull; pork quiet; tallow inactive but steady. Sugar closed steady; Coffee inactive.

From Havana and Mexico.

Attempt by Rebel Pirates to Capture an American Ship in the Harbor of Havana.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The steamer Liberty brings Havana advices of the 8th and intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 31 instant, and from the city of Mexico to to February 28th. Nothing definite as to the reported capture of Oaxoca by the Imperialists has yet been received. The city of Oaxcala was captured by the Imperialists on the 17th ult. The Spanish and Italian Ministers have arrived at Vera Cruz.

The reported outrages at Matamoras on Union refugees, and on the American consulate, are confirmed.

A bold attempt by rebel pirates to capture the American steamer Shooting Star was attempted on the night of the 4th instant, in the harbor of Havana, but it failed. The attempt was repeated on the next night, when, with the assistance of the authorities, a boat containing twenty-five men was captured, but on being taken ashore, the pirates were liberated.

The steamer Francis has been receiving arms at Havana, for what purpose was not known.

The pirate Maffit had been honored by a dinner given him at Havana by sympathizers with the rebellion.

Later from New Orleans.

AN EXPEDITION SENT INTO THE INTERIOR OF LOUISIANA—THE EXPEDITION AGAINST MOBILE.

NEW ORLEANS, March 7, via Cairo, March 13.—General Bailey's expedition from Baton Rouge into the interior of Louisiana and Mississippi consists of 3,000 cavalry with a strong support of artillery. At last accounts, the expedition had occupied Clinton, Louisiana. This section of country contains a majority of loyal people, and it is believed that this occupation is designed to be permanent.

General Baldy Smith accompanied Gen. Canby in his recent trip to the vicinity of Mobile. He has not yet been assigned to any command.

Large bodies of troops are leaving here for the vicinity of Mobile. There are also indications of movements in other directions.

The steamships Guiding Star and Cromwell have been temporarily taken by the military for the transportation of troops to Mobile.

THE REPORTED DISMISSAL OF OUR CONSUL FOR MATAMORAS.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The report current for a few days past that the United States Consul had been ordered to leave Matamoras is without foundation in fact. The Consul, Mr. S. Pierce, resigned his office last year and the subsequent closing of the consulate was a matter of course.

In view of the complications incident to the war in Mexico and the blockade of the Rio Grande, the United States Government has since that time preferred to be represented at Matamoras by a commercial agent instead of a Consul. This class of officers have no political functions, and do not require an *exequatur* or official recognition by the Government of the country in which they reside. Mr. E. D. Etchison was appointed such commercial agent in September, 1864, and in December, 1864 was recalled for other than political reasons, and Mr. Amizi Wood, who now holds the position, was appointed in his place. Dispatches have been received from Mr. Wood within a few days, showing him to be at his post and in the uninterrupted discharge of his functions.

MOSBY'S GUERILLAS.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Last night Mosby's guerillas came down to Munson's Hill and Bailey's Cross Roads, about seven miles from Washington, and within three or four miles of our fortifications. They stopped at A. B. Munson's house and took six of his horses, leaving but one old blind animal. An unfortunate contraband was taken back to his master. This is the second night visit Mr Munson has had from these depredators and thieves, but this time they omitted to capture his son, as they did on a former occasion. The guerillas number about thirty. They were fresh from a conflict with a squad of our cavalry, which they had defeated, leaving two dead and two wounded on the field, and taking the others, with the exception of the commanding officer, prisoners.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The President to-day appointed Brigadier General B. W. Brice, of Ohio, Paymaster General United States Army, to date from the 29th of November last, vice Andrews, retired.

THE 7-30 LOAN.

PHILADELPHIA, March 13.—Jay Cooke reports sales of the 7-30 loan to-day amounting to $5,240,700, including one subscription from Memphis of $200,000, and one from New York of $1,627,500.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

SHERMAN'S GRAND MARCH.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.

Union Troops Reported to have Reached Salisbury.

THE BATTLE NEAR KINSTON, N. C.

Enemy Repulsed with Heavy Loss

DEAD AND WOUNDED LEFT ON THE FIELD

MANY PRISONERS CAPTURED.

&c, &c, &c.

PHILADELPHIA, March 13.—The Bulletin has a special dispatch from Washington, which says that a letter dated at Gen. Cox's headquarters, near Kinston, N. C., March 10th, and received here at noon today, states that on the day before, the 9th instant, Bragg again attacked Gen. Cox's forces, making three separate assaults, which were repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. Ruttger's Division of the 23d Corps captured one piece of artillery with two hundred prisoners. The enemy fled in confusion, and all of their killed and wounded fell into our hands.

Official Bulletin.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, March 13, 9:30 P. M.

Major General Dix, New York:

The following dispatches have been received by this Department:

(Signed) EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., March 13, '65.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

The following has just been received:

WISE'S FORK, March 10.

To Lieut. Gen. Grant:

The enemy made a heavy attack upon our centre and left to-day, but was decidedly repulsed, and with heavy loss. His dead and badly wounded were left upon the field. We also took several hundred prisoners.

Our loss is small.

General Couch is only twelve miles from here to-night, and will be up early in the morning.

We took prisoners from Lee's and Stewart's corps. They say that two corps are here and the rest of Johnston's army is coming.

(Signed.) J. M. SCHOFIELD, Major General.

SOUTHERN NEWS—EXTRACTS FROM RICHMOND PAPERS—HAMPTON CLAIMS A VICTORY OVER KILPATRICK.

CITY POINT, VA., March 13, '65.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

The following items are taken from today's Richmond papers:

"We have some good news this morning. News of a victory in South Carolina. It is announced in the following official dispatch from Gen. Lee. Though the dispatch is rather scant in its particulars, enough is given to show that Kilpatrick was badly worsted:

HEADQUARTERS, March, 10, 1865.

To Hon. John C. Breckinridge, Sec'y War:

Gen Hampton attacked General Kilpatrick at daylight this morning and drove him from his camp, taking his guns, wagons, and many horses, several hundred prisoners, and relieving a great number of our own men, who had been captured. *The guns and wagons could not be brought off for want of horses.* Many of the enemy were killed and wounded. Our loss not heavy. Lieut. Col J. S. King was killed and Brig. Gen Haine and Cols. Hagan and Morrison, and Majors Davis, Ferguson and other, were wounded.

(Signed) R. E. LEE, General.

"It will be observed that the locality of the fight is not named in the dispatch.—This is for prudential reasons. Sherman has no communication with the North, and it would be imprudent to publish where he was, as it would only be giving news to Grant of his *progress.* Matters are beginning to look decidedly better for us in the South. In the last three days we have had news of two victories—one in North Carolina, and one in South Carolina."

FROM THE VALLEY.

"We alluded in our last issue to the movement that was being made for the purpose of re-capturing our prisoners who were taken from Early in the recent fight near Waynesboro', and who were being conducted under guard to Winchester. The following official despatch tells of it:

HEADQUARTERS, March 9.

Hon. J. C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War:

General Rosser reports that on the 6th, with a few of his men he attacked the enemy near Harrisonburg, who were guarding the prisoners taken at Waynesboro', and captured a few prisoners. On the morning of the 7th he again attacked them near Reid's Hill, having detained them for a day and a night at the River, he caused them to retire in haste, abandoning the only piece of artillery they had, and their ambulance. He annoyed them a good deal and enabled a good many of our men to escape. R. E. LEE.

"The Northern papers claim to have captured about one thousand prisoners in the fight with Early, and report that most of this number had reached Winchester."

FROM GEORGIA.

"CHARLESTON, N. C., March 8th.—The Southern Express Company's Messenger from Augusta, brings advices to the 3d instant. No news of interest had transpired west of the Savannah River.

The Georgia Senate had passed a resolution declaring that it does not concur in the recommendation of Governor Brown for a Convention—yeas 20, nays 7.

"Several extensive fires had occurred in Augusta, supposed to be the work of an incendiary."

"About 400 Yankee prisoners will leave Richmond this morning on their return home by flag-of-truce boat. Among the number are 33 officers, including Gens. Kelly and Crook, recently captured."

(Signed) U. S. GRANT, Lieut. General.

LATER AND IMPORTANT FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

Bragg's So-called Victory—The Enemy Make Several Charges and are Repulsed with Heavy Loss—Our Forces Concentrating Near Kinston.

NEWBERN, N. C., March 11. Via Philadelphia.—The enemy, elated with the capture of *two or three small guns and a line of skirmishers* in our front made several charges yesterday, of the most reckless character, in which they were repulsed each time with heavy loss.

Our forces were entrenched and now are within three miles of Kinston, to which point the railroad is now completed.

The enemy continue to receive reinforcements, and evidently intend to make a stubborn resistance at Kinston.

Gen. Couch's division from Wilmington, communicated with Major General Cox last night, from Beaver Dam, a point he had just reached, which is eight miles from Gen. Cox's headquarters, and Gen. Couch joins Cox's forces this morning, and indicates that a battle would be looked for to-day. The enemy show signs of weakness, and will fall back to the other side of the Neuse river, and make a stand in Kinston. The enemy are reported to be from fifteen to twenty-five thousand strong.

A rebel ram is stationed at Kinston to protect the bridge across the Neuse river which is quite an extensive structure.

It is reported by deserters that General Lee and Major Gen. Breckinridge from Richmond visited Kinston and gave instructions to the commander there.

Major General Schofield remains in the field with Major General Cox, giving every movement his personal attention. The enemy are evidently much alarmed and mystified in regard to General Sherman's movements. We expect to hear from him in a day or two.

General Cox has issued an order congratulating his troops on the heroic manner in which they met the enemy, and have successfully sustained themselves thus far.

General Markland, Military Mail Agent, has arrived at Morehead city with a large mail for Gen. Sherman's army, which he is waiting to deliver by way of Newbern.

From the North Carolina Times, Extra.

NEW BERNE, N. C., Friday March 10, 1865.

CAMP NEAR SOUTHWEST PASS, Thursday, March 9.—On Monday evening the 6th, Col. Savage's cavalry command left camp Palmer, and advanced on the Trent road towards Kinston. Gen. Foster's old soldiers will recollect how heavily this road was blockaded at the time of the Goldsboro' expedition in December, 1862. This time it was still worse, as the obstructions had been made with more deliberation and system. Still they made their way on, cutting through some obstructions, flanking others, and building a number of bridges, the latter part of the work being superintended by Major Taylor, with whom bridge building is a specielity.

The same evening Capt. Graham, well-known in North Carolina warfare, had a skirmish with a rebel cavalry outpost at Gum Swamp. I have not learned that any loss was sustained on either side, except that during the skirmish one rebel soldier deserted and came over to Graham's command. He reported the rebel force in Kinston and vicinity at about 10,000. How much credit we should give to his statement our readers may judge for themselves. During the night, or early on the following morning, a small body of Colonel Classen's command, occupied the point where the Dover and Jackson roads, so called, meet the Trent road from Newberne. They charged the enemy's skirmishers, and drove them across South West Creek to the shelter of their works at Jackson's Mills, a distance of a mile and a half. These works are said to be four miles and a half from Kinston. General Foster passed them on his return to Goldsboro,' and his soldiers will generally remember something respecting their appearance.

At twenty-five minutes past twelve Lieut. Wood, of the 34 New York Artillery, having placed his guns in position, near the railroad on the east side of South West Creek, opened fire upon the enemy's works opposite. These works are upon the same stream with those of Jackson's Mills, and to the northward of them. The enemy replied, and the firing continued from both sides with more or less intermission during the day.

Meanwhile another section had been posted on the Trent road, and opened fire upon the works at Jackson's Mills—There, too, firing continued from both sides with some intermission throughout the day.

Lieut. Wood's artillery were supported by the 9th New Jersey, a regiment which gained an enviable reputation long ago—The artillery on the Trent road was supported by that portion of Col. Classen's command already mentioned. Late in the afternoon, they were relieved by Col. Upham's brigade.

During the night the skirmishers of the 15th Connecticut were pushed forward to within one hundred yards of the rebel works.

Wednesday morning commenced quiet, the firing being very light on both sides during most of the forenoon. During the forenoon, intelligence arrive that a movement was in progress with a view to turning the left of our line.

To meet it, Col. Upham ordered the 27th Massachusetts into the woods, south of the road, and had them formed in line of battle, facing nearly South.

About half-past eleven, as I was at Col. Upham's headquarters, seated upon the ground and writing for the Times, with a board for my writing table, a sudden and tremendous volley of musketry saluted our ears. It came from a point nearly in our rear, threatening the capture or destruction of the entire brigade. Crowding my letter into my pocket, I started back, but not till I had seen that Col. Upham had met the emergency by the most prompt and well timed orders that the nature of the case admitted. But the attack was of too precipitate a character to allow of new dispositions to meet it, and after a brief but determined contest the rebels swept that part of the field.

Those who escaped generally reached our right, being cut off from the main body on the left to which they belonged. Had it not been for the determination with which the Massachusetts 27th and Major Clarkson's cavalry contested the ground for those few moments, your correspondent would inevitably have shared the fate of many a braver and better man. The friends of Captain Bassett will regret to learn that he was shot upon the skirmish line, a few minutes before the rebels made their attack. He was thought to be mortally wounded. A stretcher was sent down to bring the body to the rear, but on account of the sudden attack it never reached him.

The attacking force is understood to have been Hoke's division. About two hours after their attack was made Colonel Savage made a raid in their rear, capturing about 65 men, five ambulances and a Surgeon.

A short time previous to the attack above alluded to, General Carter visited the skirmishers in front, in company with two of his staff, (Colonel Upham and your correspondent) though avoiding unnecessary exposure, the enemy had undoubtedly noticed our approach, and the firing was very sharp for awhile. The General was as cool and quiet as when leisurely out of danger, smoking his pipe and making his observations as if unconcerned for his own personal safety. At one time, as the shells were passing pretty close to us, said he to one, "You had better get behind that tree." No one took his advice, but at just the time it would have taken us to reach it, the splinters flew from it, telling what would probably become of us had we taken it for anything else than the jocose remark for which it was intended. During the fighting that followed soon after, General Carter's personal daring brought him at one time between the enemy's fire and our own, where his horse was shot, and he greatly exposed. He escaped from danger by bringing his own men forward, scorning to retire.

Soon after, an attack was made upon our right, but it was splendidly repulsed. During the afternoon the firing was heavy on the left.

The loss is not heavy so far. Previous to the attack of yesterday, probably a dozen would cover the whole loss in killed and wounded. The medical officer of Gen. Carter's staff, when the fighting was the heaviest, estimates its loss in killed and wounded up to this time, at fifty or sixty.

During the fight yesterday, Lieutenant Colonel Scott, of the 17th Wisconsin, suddenly and unexpectedly ran upon five rebels. Assuming a bold front, he ordered he ordered them to surrender.

One of them replied, "I am hungry and tired, I will do most anything for something to eat." Two others declared they would not. "Yes, you *will,*" said the Colonel, "come *here.*" One fellow then tremblingly took aim at Col Scott. "You drop that," exclaimed the Colonel, "and come right here." He did as he was told. "Now hand me that *gun.*" He obeyed again. The Colonel now having a weapon to use, took aim at the others successively, and by the same cool effrontery already indicated, brought them all to his side, and took them in triumph. Strange to say he was without his pistol, having no weapon to commence with but his sword and his boldness.

This morning skirmishing has been quite lively on our part, and our skirmish line has been pushed forward so as to regain most of the ground we lost during the first onset of yesterday.

Prisoners now report the rebel force in front at from 13,000 to 15,000. They are said to have received large reinforcements night before last. They all report that Gen Bragg is in command.

Our men are in the best of spirits, and longing for an opportunity to repay the enemy for the injury that they inflicted upon us at their first onset yesterday.—They appear to have the most perfect confidence in their officers.

A few minutes before the attack upon Upham's brigade a letter was picked up by one of the skirmishers, addressed to a rebel soldier. It was dated "Rocky Hill, March 1." I make the following extracts: "There seems to be some excitement among the people about the Yankees advancing from Wilmington. It is reported that a small portion of cavalry are a few miles behind our troops and cleaning out the country as they go. It is said that they have taken 2,000 prisoners. * * * The South seems to be completely paralyzed. It seems to me our people have completely given up * * * I see no other chance but subjugation."

NEWBERN, March 7, via Philadelphia, March 13.—Major Gen. Schofield has arrived here, having left Wilmington on Monday last. We have no news from Sherman, and the enemy's papers appear to be equally ignorant. The roads are bad, which, no doubt, delays his progress.

A letter has been received here from a young man who has been in Salisbury prison for two years, *stating that he was liberated by the Union forces.*

The enemy are in considerable force at Kinston. Lee's corps, from Hood's army is reported there.

Yesterday the enemy captured some of our skirmishers near Kinston. Major Osborn, of the 15th Connecticut Regiment is reported wounded and a prisoner. Our captures will offset the enemies' thus far. Gen. Bragg is in command at Kinston.

Major General J. D. Cox is in command of our forces, who are confident of success when a general movement is ordered. The weather is very warm with occasional showers of rain.

THE TOBACCO DESTROYED AT FREDERICKSBURG.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—It is known here that Mr. Singleton of Illinois, recently made a contract with a Government Agent to sell a certain quantity of tobacco, but it is not so clear that the article recently destroyed at Fredericksburg was part of this venture. It is a mistake in the rebel papers to say that the tobacco was to be exchanged for bacon, for the latter is included in the term contraband of war as applied to exchanges for products of the rebel States. Fredericksburg was not one of the designated markets or places of purchase, and therefore to send the tobacco thence into our lines would have been a violation of blockade, and had it been broken, foreign ships would have doubtless claimed the privilege to trade at the same port.

The Potomac flotilla settled this question by destroying the tobacco.

The Executive order based upon the law of Congress, designates New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Pensacola, Port Royal, Beaufort, N. C., Norfolk, and Fernandina, as places of purchase of products of insurrectionary States. All persons, excepting such as may be in the civil, military, or naval service, having in their possession any products of the States declared in insurrection, which the Treasury agents are authorized to purchase; and all persons owning or contracting such products therein, are authorized to convey the products to either of the designated purchasing places.

Persons having sold and delivered to a purchasing agent the products of an insurrectionary State, in accordance with the regulations, is permitted by the military authority commanding at the place of sale to purchase from any authorized dealer at such place or any other place in a loyal State merchandize and other articles not contraband of war not prohibited by order of the War Department, in coin, bullion or foreign exchange, to an amount not exceeding in value one-third of the aggragate value of the products sold by them. Had the tobacco been taken to Norfolk instead of Fredericksburg the sale could have been made in accordance with the Executive order, under the law of Congress, without loss to the parties interested.

ARREST OF BOUNTY JUMPERS.

NEW YORK, March 13th.—There were only one hundred and sixty-eight bounty jumpers arrested on Friday at Hoboken instead of seven hundred as reported.

CAPTURE OF NOTORIOUS GUERILLAS IN KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, March 13.—An expedition of fifty men, of the 30th Regiment, sent from here on Saturday, surrounded yesterday morning, a barn in Webster, Meade county, capturing the notorious guerilla, Sue Munday, also Jerome Clark, Magruder and Henry Metcalf, after some resistance, in which three of our men were slightly, and a fourth mortally wounded. The prisoners were brought in here this morning and lodged in the military prison. Magruder is suffering from a recent wound, and is not likely to recover.

DEPREDATIONS BY DESERTERS IN NEW JERSEY.

ATLANTIC CITY, March 13.—A number of houses in Atlantic county have been robbed by a gang of marauders supposed to be deserters. On Saturday night they plundered a farm house, when the neighbors pursued the marauders and a fight ensued during which two of the robbers were killed. They were clad in the uniform of marines. An unknown gang have been living in the caves in this neighborhood.

MARINE DISASTER.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 13th.—The schooner Sea Gull, laden with oysters, came ashore at Brigantine Beach.—She was full of water, boats gone and no one on board, having evidently been abandoned.

From the Front.

Heavy Firing at Dutch Gap—Great Freshet in James River.

[From the Washington Star.]

The steamer Cossack arrived here this morning from City Point with the mails and passengers, in place of the James T. Brady, which has been withdrawn from the route for repairs.

Saturday night considerable heavy firing occurred at Dutch Gap, and yesterday morning several gunboats went up the James river. The cause of the firing had not transpired when the Cossack left City Point.

The water in the James river is now two feet higher than was ever known before, and it is believed by some that the Dutch Gap canal can now be made available in the water does not fall too suddenly.

Since the occupation of Suffolk by our troops the rebels have sent a force in that direction, according to the statement of deserters, to resist an anticipated attack on the Weldon road from that direction.

Several cases of small-pox have recently occurred at Fortress Monroe, but not sufficient to create any alarm.

The Cossack brought up from Point Lookout seven deserters from the 9th Virginia cavalry. These men crossed the river on Saturday in a small boat, and came into our lines with their arms and equipments. They encountered a number of Mosby's guerillas on the bank of the Rappahannock, when a sharp fight ensued between them and the guerillas. The guerillas were finally driven off with the loss of two killed, and the men made their escape, one of the party bringing his family, consisting of a wife and two children, with him.

The 1st Maryland rebel cavalry has been disbanded, and a number of the men have connected themselves with a detachment of Mosby's gang, who are now operating in the vicinity of Fredericksburg.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF IRELAND.

Mr. Maguire, in the British Parliament thus speaks of Ireland:

He solemnly and sincerely declared that there was in Ireland discontent and disaffection, which nothing under heaven but just laws could change. The Lord Lieutenant, a few days ago, expressed his disgust at seeing that people were leaving the country in such large numbers, and carried with them a feeling of hostility to the British government. Let them look at the case straight in the face, and not shrink from a consideration of the question.

The feeling carried to America by Irishmen would have an influence upon the policy of American statesmen. The Irish emigrants and their children born in the States outnumbered the population of Ireland. They were active and energetic, and many of them commanded the press and the platform. They were animated by hatred of England, and he asked them into what calamities might they not precipitate the two countries. [Hear, hear.] He hoped that the Government, instead of troubling themselves about complications in distant parts of Europe, would endeavor to heal the sore that existed in the heart of the empire. Royal visits would not meet the wants of Ireland.

They would only be as court-plaster over a deep seated ulcer. The Irish people would be glad to see Her Majesty or any member of her family; but the starving people who saw the utter hopelessness of any effort for which there was not reward, did not want the sunshine of royalty or the glitter of pageantry. What they wanted was just laws, that would liberate their arms and give them a field for their exertions. [Hear, hear.]

IRON ARCHITECTURE.—Ironwork requires a style of architecture to itself. It must have its own style, otherwise it is very costly, or quite out of place. The finest piece or specimen of iron architecture I know of is the Amsterdam Crystal Palace, opened last year in Amsterdam. This is really a magnificent iron building, and is well worthy of a visit by those who are studying iron architecture. Mr. Outshoorn, the architect, has not ignored the great strength of iron compared with brick or stone, and has designed this building accordingly. The winter garden now being erected in Dublin is good in iron architecture, and will be very pleasing to the eye—especially to those who have seen our Exhibition building in 1862.

Mr. Owen Jones is, in the opinion of many, the best iron architect. He has designed many beautiful iron constructions, and if he were consulted more frequently by engineers on the architectural appearance of their works, we should have much that would be greatly admired. Architecture is almost altogether ignored by many engineers: their great ambition is to cover large areas and long distances by one span, and then consider it a great work. Many of our railroad stations are covered with an immense roof of one span, with a complete failure as to ornamental appearance, but a perfect success as to a look of bigness. Many of these roofs might be constructed very much cheaper, and be perfect pictures in ornamental appearance.—*Report of Society of Engineers.*

Among the papers found in Early's baggage, recently captured by General Sheridan, was a letter from Jeff Davis, addressed to Early, *in reply to a petition of the soldiers to have the war brought to a close, as they had fought four years and accomplished nothing.* Davis' reply is characteristic. He enclosses a copy of the petition to Early, and simply expresses a hope that it does not represent the feelings of a majority of his men.

Deacon Phillips, of Starbridge, Mass., died at the age of 104 years and 8 months; was the oldest man who voted for Mr. Lincoln last November, and received thereafter the written thanks of the President.

The British Parliament, as a general representation by "Knights, citizens, and burgesses," has endured exactly six hundred years. It was summoned by Henry III., in 1265.

A Chinese thief having stolen a missionary's watch, brought it back to him the next day for instructions how to wind it up!

From Hilton Head.

THE DISASTER TO THE HARVEST MOON—SHERMAN'S TRIUMPHANT PROGRESS.

Correspondence of the Washington Star.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., March 5, 1865.—The Flag Steamer "Harvest Moon" was blown up and totally destroyed in the Great Peedee river, off Georgetown, S. C., only a few days ago. Admiral Dahlgren was on board at the time of the occurrence, which was about 8½ o'clock in the morning. There was very little loss of life, only one man known to have been killed, and not more than two or three are known to be injured in any way. The "Harvest Moon" was struck just abaft the bows and sunk very shortly after.

Georgetown, S. C., has been occupied by the marines of the squadron under command of Lieutenants Stoddard and Williams.

Persons who have very recently made their escape from Florence, S. C., make the usual report of great suffering and destitution of the masses to sustain life among our prisoners in the hands of rebels. The stockade in which our prisoners were confined at Florence, S. C., was under the superintendence of a Colonel Iverson, who commanded a Georgia Regiment—probably a son of Ex-Senator Iverson. His treatment towards the prisoners entrusted to him is represented as cruel in the extreme, and among other things, it is reported that when our men were about to embark recently from Charleston to Florence they were subjected to rigid searchings, and any monies found in their possession taken away by this rebel officer, with the promise that they would receive rebel scrip—four dollars for one of greenbacks in exchange.

The promise, however absurd, the conditions of exchange were not redeemed by Iverson. The men are dying at the rate of fifty or thereabouts a day in the rebel prisons, about two thousand having died within the last two or three months around about Charleston, S. C., alone.

The people are very properly impressed with a sense of Sherman's ability to accomplish success, and through dread of his approach at Florence all our prisoners confined there were to have been moved to Salisbury, N. C.

The United States steamers Mingoe, Pawnee and Nipsic are at Georgetown.—Two iron clads are still at Port Royal.

GEN. EMORY ASSIGNED TO THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY OF THE SHENANDOAH.

WINCHESTER, VA., March —Major General Emory of the 19th Army Corps has just assumed command of this department of the Middle Military Division, known as the Army of the Shenandoah.

The command comprises all the artillery, cavalry and infantry in the angle, the points of which are Cumberland, Harper's Ferry and Winchester. General Emory has already issued stringent but necessary orders for the government of trade and the issuing of passes to residents and non-residents in order to prevent certain abuses which ought long ago to have been remedied. There is already a perceptible change for the good in the department, with the promise that when the new system of affairs gets fairly to work everything will be conducted according to regulations.

A MAN WHO HAS NOT SLEPT FOR FOURTEEN YEARS.

At present there is a soldier at the Chestnut Hill Military Hospital, Philadelphia, who has not slept for a single moment for fourteen years and six months. This may seem incredible, but nevertheless, it is true, and can be verified by numbers of persons. The individual is an intelligent man, naturally, and has the benefit of a moderate education. His name is C. D. Saunders, Orderly Sergeant of company G, 13th Virginia Volunteers. He entered the service of the United States, on December 28, 1863. He is in the 45th year of his age. His health has been generally excellent during his life.

In 1848 he was attacked with cholera, and since that period with lung fever on two occasions. In the summer of 1850 sleep forsook him, and since that time he has never felt the least drowsy. He has always led a temperate life. His wife and children reside in Putnam county, West Virginia. Since he entered the Union army he has been on seven raids and four charges, during which time he informs us that he never felt tired or sleepy. He was in the four charges made beyond Harper's Ferry, Va., on the 18th, 19th and 20th of last August, and yet he did not feel the least sleepy. Why it is that he cannot or does not sleep is as much a mystery to him as it is to many scientific gentlemen, who, having had their attention called to him, have been astounded in their attempts to investigate the cause.

Upon one occasion, at his request, a number of curiously inclined gentlemen watched him for forty-two days and nights, consecutively, in order, if possible, to arrive at the cause of the wonderful phenomenon. These gentlemen took turns with each other the progress of watching, so that if he should chance to sleep it would be observed. Some of the watchers became drowsy, and it was as much as he could do to awaken them.

This singular man was sent to Philadelphia by order of the field surgeon. He was admitted into the Chesnut Hill Hospital on the 17th of November last, suffering from chronic diarrhea and rheumatism. He has nearly recovered from his physical disability; his appetite is good, but yet he does not sleep. He retires to bed, the same as other soldiers, but he cannot sleep; he simply receives physical rest. This brief narrative of a most wonderful phenomenon may seem fabulous, but the reader is assured that it is the truth.

CRINOLINE ABANDONED.

According to a Parisian expositor of the fashions of the day, crinoline has received notice of its final banishment from aristocratic circles. It particularly draws the attention of the followers of high ton to the fact that at the ball at the Tuilleries, on Wednesday evening, her Imperial Majesty, dressed with her usual exquisite taste, exhibited *une grande retrait en faveur des entravées,* a delicate way of expressing the absence of that detestable cage which adds so much to female dimensions. The Empress' example, it appears, has been imitated by all those who have pretensions to mingle in the circles of fashionable life.

The consequence is that the impediment to the free circulation of the guests is now in some measure removed, and the grand staircase of the Tuilleries, which has lately been almost impracticable at a certain hour of the evening, when the early party departs and the later visitors present themselves, is now ascended without the usual difficulty. At one of the representations at the Theater Compiene the crinoline was voted an absurd and enormous nuisance. The ladies only found seats. The cavaliers were compelled to stand the whole of the evening.

At the ball on Wednesday evening the Duchess de Persigny and Madame Say were the theme of general admiration.—Their toilet was pronounced irreproachable. They, too, had renounced the repudiated crinoline. A struggle has commenced between the pro and anti-crinolinists, the former being still in the majority. The dress-makers will not let the fashion of exaggerated wide circling robes and over-crowded decorations go out if they can help it.—*London Morning Post.*

At three o'clock on Sunday morning the wires of the Western Union Telegraph Company were connected with the Pacific line, and communication established direct between New York and San Francisco—making a circuit of nearly 4,000 miles.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

Private letters from Rockport, Ind., speaks of a great discovery recently made near there. Col. Wood lately bought a farm at Grandview, five miles from Rockport, and on prospecting for oil, struck a vein of lead and silver, eighteen inches thick, which yields two ounces of pure silver and eight ounces of pure lead to every pound of ore. What the extent of the vein is, is unknown, of course. The region abounds in coal, and no doubt in oil; and I believe it is not generally known that the finest coal, west of Pennsylvania, is to be had at the Rockville mines. They have only been open for a short time, and are scarcely known outside their own county.

The London Builder says: "Trials were made a few days ago in Prussia of a new method of warming railway carriages by steam. The boiler for the purpose is placed in the baggage van, and the steam passes through tubes into wooden cylinders in the coupe of each carriage. Safety-valves are provided to carry off the excess of pressure, which is limited to one fourth of an atmosphere, (about 2 3 4 lbs.) and a lever is placed in the carriage so that the temperature can be regulated according to the will of the occupant. The experiment, it is said, succeeded perfectly."

The St. Louis Press learns that a wager of $300 a side was made in Alton last week that if the rise in the river is as great this spring as it was in 1858, the Mississippi would break through into Long Lake, opposite the mouth of the Missouri, and thus leave St. Louis eleven miles from the river. The gentleman who offered the bet is the owner of the land which is being cut through by the current of the Missouri, and he states that a quarter of a mile breadth of land only is left as a barrier.

The launch of the celebrated iron-clad frigate Dandenberg, whose keel was laid in October, 1862, will soon take place. The keel of this vessel was laid about the same time as the iron clad Dictator, which has been in active service some months. The Dandenberg is 5,000 tons burden, length 378 feet, breadth 58 feet, depth 32 feet; she is casemated, pierced for 8 broadside guns and 4 in two turrets placed upon the casemate, armor plates 6½ inches thick.

Captain Kennedy, the hotel incendiary, is confined in the famous "Room No. 1," at Fort Lafayette. This is a military confinement, but as the prisoners occupying this room are not allowed the freedom of the parade ground, it is considered as a fit place for the more dangerous. The result of the court martial in his case is not yet announced in orders, but we understand he was found guilty of the charges of spy and incendiary.—Kenned