

THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

WILMINGTON, MARCH 14.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Subscription Agent.

Mr. J. L. Barlow has been appointed agent for the circulation of THE HERALD OF THE UNION. He will receive and collect all subscriptions, and personally attend to the delivery of the paper. By this arrangement we hope to avoid the annoyance, equally as great to ourselves as to our subscribers, of the non-delivery of their papers. Mr. Barlow is the only person authorized to receive subscriptions in the city, and he will be personally responsible for the delivery of THE HERALD OF THE UNION. Orders may be left, as heretofore, at the counting room of this establishment, where Mr. Barlow may be found.

THE LADIES' AND THE CITIZENS' MEETING.—We understand that seats will be reserved in the dress circle for all ladies who desire to attend the grand citizens' meeting at the theatre to-night.

STORES OPENED.—By the published order which appears elsewhere in this paper, it will be seen that General Hawley has perfected an arrangement with Colonel Heaton, the Treasury Agent, by which all citizens who have taken the oath of allegiance, are permitted to resume business, under certain restrictions. We are informed that a number of stores and shops will be opened for business to-day, and others within a few days. This is a good time for all such as intend resuming business to hand in their advertisements. Nobody will know they are opened unless they advertise. Advertisements should be handed in before 3 o'clock of the afternoon of the day previous to the one on which they are desired to appear.

EVERYBODY WILL ATTEND THE CITIZENS' MEETING.—It is expected that representatives from the Sound and other regions about Wilmington will be present at the Citizens' Meeting to-night. We have not seen a citizen of the town who has not expressed his intention of being present. Of course everybody will be there.

THE CITIZENS' CLAMOR FOR BUSINESS.—The eager throng that besieges Col. Heaton's (Treasury Agent's) office from morning until night, indicates a universal desire on the part of citizens to resume business. If that is the case let them manifest the same by attending the Citizens' meeting to-night at the Theatre, and adopt such measures as shall persuade the government of the sincere and earnest loyalty of the people, and induce the early removal of the blockade of this port and the re-opening of this river to the commerce of the world.

Mrs. A.—A fine band of music will be in attendance at the citizens' meeting to-night to disperse the old-fashioned music of our fathers and our people, and so justly popular.

Talks and Speeches.—We have received a note regarding as follows:

The Herald of the Union has absorbed a little of the paper he would use. I discovered that the first flag raised was over the stone of Joe H. Bell. "We are always willing to do an act of justice. We therefore willingly print the above. But we would suggest that those who advertise are usually the ones first seen by the printers as well as everybody else—always unintentionally."

THEATRE.—The Lady of Lyons was played at the Theatre last night to a large and well-attended audience. The management of the Theatre having kindly and patriotically given that building for the occasion. There will be no performance to-night, there will be no performance to-night.

THE CITIZENS' MEETING.—Some fine speaking may be expected at the Citizens' Meeting at the Theatre to-night.

The Seven-Thirty Loan.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14.
J. Cooke reports the subscriptions to the 7 3/8 loan received to day, at \$3,368,340. The largest Western subscription was for \$150,000 from Pittsburgh, and the largest Eastern \$750,000 from New York. There were 2,352 individual subscriptions for small arms.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, March 11, 1865.
Jay Cooke, the subscription agent, reports the sales of the 7 3/8 loan to day, at \$4,130,000, including a subscription of \$231,000 from New York, and 3,000 individual subscriptions of \$50 and \$100. Total subscriptions for this week, \$20,077,450.

SHERMAN.

COMMUNICATION ESTABLISHED BETWEEN WILMINGTON AND FAYETTEVILLE.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE GRAND CAMPAIGN.

INTERESTING INCIDENTS OF THE MARCH.

BURNING OF THE OBSERVER OFFICE AT FAYETTEVILLE.

Sherman's Headquarters at the Fayetteville Arsenal.

&c. &c. &c. &c.

At the reception of intelligence in this city of the proximity of Gen. Sherman's column, Gen. Terry directed General Dodge to send a boat up the river to open communication. General Dodge dispatched the tug *Dropsie*, under the charge of Captain Henry Ainsworth, Port Captain, with a sufficient guard. The vessel got under weigh soon after noon on Saturday, and went through to Fayetteville without stopping, arriving there early on Sunday morning, but a few hours after Sherman's arrival.

The passage up the river was unopposed until within ten or fifteen miles of Fayetteville, where some small detachments of rebel cavalry opened out with musketry from the banks. But as Captain Ainsworth had taken the precaution to cover his little craft pretty securely with cotton bales, no damage was done by the firing, and even her headway was not stopped.

On reaching Fayetteville Captain Ainsworth communicated his dispatches to Gen. Sherman in person, whose headquarters he found established at the Arsenal. The army had halted in and about the town.

The numerous crowd of refugees, negroes, deserters and prisoners in Sherman's train, are to be immediately sent to this city for final disposition.

The office of the Fayetteville *Observer* was set on fire during the day, and burned to the ground with its contents.

No other damage was done in the city, the military officers having adopted rigid measures to protect all private property.

Captain Ainsworth, at Fayetteville, at night, fell on Sunday evening, and arrived here yesterday morning.

From various sources we compile the following additional interesting incidents of this remarkable campaign.

The grand army of Sherman encountered more or less resistance throughout the march to Columbia, but nothing that could rise above the dignity of a scout skirmish at any time. It was expected the rebels would make a stand at Columbia, and the plan was to somewhat entrench and fortify. At first a resistance was offered there, but it was soon to be only the resistance suggested by a scout to a main body of troops. Feeling this Gen. Sherman pressed them very urgently, and as soon as he could get within reach commenced putting shells into the city's explosion. This surprised the rebels, and they retreated. There was some opportunity for the rebels to retreat, which they did with much propriety, and they were able to make arguments begun to be felt.

At the time the shells were thrown the streets of one portion of the city were filled with flying and drays loaded with gaiters, intended to be hauled into the country. The burning shells caused a panic and a stampede among the drivers of these vehicles, who cut the traces of their animals, and in many cases, made off on horseback. Subsequently, the negroes seeing this vast amount of abandoned cotton, or more likely, driven to it by some skulking rebel officer, cut the bands and scattered it loose in all directions. A fresh breeze blowing at the time caught it up and sent the fleecy masses in all ways, blowing it upon the levees, in the branches of the shade trees, on signs and awnings, and in every conceivable place. On the following day some of the soldiers' flaming about the city set fire to one or two rickety old tenements. The flames from these fires quickly caught in the inflammable material that was so profusely scattered, and in a moment it was beyond all control. The angry flames spread along

from trees to trees, and from house to house, consuming like the steady mansion and the lofty cottage, the corner grocery and the pretentious establishment of the opulent merchant, shops, offices, churches, factories, foundries, vast printing houses, where there were hundreds of presses but recently employed in printing rebel money, foundries devoted to the mechanism of implements of war as well as of agriculture. Everything alike was levelled until the entire city, save a few scattered houses in the suburbs, was a smoking ruin.

In the midst of the territory in which the fire was raging stood a building filled with all manner of ammunition. Soldiers were ordered to remove the dangerous material before the flames reached it. Bravely they went at the work, and faithfully they labored. Wagon-load after wagon-load was got away, and yet more remained. The flames rapidly cleared the spot, but the noble fellows never shrank. The lives of thousands perhaps might be lost should that ammunition explode. At last the alarm is given, "the building is on fire!" Still the faithful fellows toiled on regardless of the danger. Recklessly at last they held to their duty, until the explosion that could not be wholly averted or delayed came. The poor, brave men died at their post, and nothing remained of them but unrecognizable, blackened fragments. About twenty-five it was thought were killed outright by the explosion, and as many more were very seriously wounded.

In front of the building at the moment was a six mule wagon loaded with shells. The wagon took fire, the team ran up the street with fright, hauling the burning vehicle behind them, scattering bursting shells at every man's door. What a day of horror! What battle field can produce a more fearful scene!

In Columbia were captured a large number of prisoners, stragglers and others, six guns, large supplies of small arms and ammunition, and immense stores of provisions.

In advancing from Columbia it became necessary, in a humanitarian sense, for Gen. Sherman to provide for such of the homeless, friendless, destitute people as threw themselves upon his protection. He therefore gave orders for none to be refused permission to go with the army, and ordered the wagon masters to give them transportation, as fast as wagons were emptied. About three hundred white families left Columbia with the army, and are still with it. They are provided for as well as can be. Regular detachments are made to forage for them, and their provisions are thus furnished as regularly and in as much abundance as for the soldiers.

From Columbia an immense throng of negroes, men, women and children, also followed the army away. At the present time it is estimated that Sherman has with him between three and four thousand of this unfortunate class.

On leaving Columbia Sherman moved directly up the Broad river, stopping at Charlotte. The rebels at this time were holding the east bank of the Catawba, from Charlotte down to Union. When they discovered that he was going to Camden, they withdrew from that place, all but a few home guards, and concentrated everything at Charlotte. This was probably what General Sherman wanted them to do, and when they did it he halted, swung his left flank entirely around so as to "face" eastward, and then again advanced, crossing the Catawba, between the two towns. His line was then formed with the 15th corps on the right, the 17th and 20th and the 14th on the left, with Kilpatrick's cavalry covering that, the exposed flank.

The route of march now lay across a succession of broad marshy streams, which, owing to the prevailing rainy weather, were greatly swollen and difficult to cross. The rebels in small numbers and some sly attempts to impede the march of the army, crossing these streams, but without the slightest success in any instance. A wagon bog would do Sherman's men for a pothole boat when a bridge was missing, and thus with entire stream was quickly crossed.

Having reached Johnston at Charlotte, Sherman now made a halt and a direct march for Cheraw, at which place was a good bridge, and where he decided to cross the Great Pedee. Johnston saw the movement, and made haste to have his forces ready to frustrate the design. There was a race, but the rebel had a decided advantage in having a railroad to facilitate the movements of his troops, and so it happened that when Sherman approached Cheraw he found Johnston in possession with fresh troops, and strengthening the works defending that place, which had been blown up some time previous. But this did not disturb the equanimity of the great campaigner, who immediately threw up his forces and made dispositions to attack. In the morning deserters came knocking in in droves, all telling the same story of the utter demoralization of the rebel army, and the "back that lack" control which the officers had over the men.

These reports, too, explained the fact that when Sherman attacked early that next morning, he found the rebels' line small, their guard and a few senior reserves, the grey-headed men—to defend the town. These he glibly brushed off, thinking that they had no time to destroy the bridge. It then was ascertained that Johnston, finding his men deserting his standard so numerously, was afraid to risk a fight, even on the defensive and in works, and at two o'clock in the morning beat a precipitate retreat, abandoning everything, even to his guns, twenty-one in number, which fell to the hands of our troops. Hampton's Legion, which had been dancing

along the front of our army up to this time, were cut off by the rapidity of the movement, and were unable to cross the bridge. They then fell back into the rear and for a time made a little pretension of harassing the rear and right flank; but their efforts were futile and were not continued after crossing the Great Pedee.

Johnston withdrew such of his men as he could entice away to Rockingham, and there put them on cars and took them back to Charlotte in disgust. Upwards of six hundred of them deserted to Sherman at Cheraw, and these reported that the rebels' arms and accoutrements were piled up with other deserters and stragglers. They represent that the rebel army of Johnston is literally broken up; no spirit whatever remaining in the men.

Six hundred senior reserves were captured at Cheraw. These took the oath of allegiance and were released. We also secured at that place large quantities of small arms and ammunition, and an abundance of provisions.

The army halted at Cheraw two days to rest the men, level off the rebel works, take in supplies, destroy the public property, and make a slight change in the formation of the line, the 17th corps taking the left of the line, exchanging places with the 15th.

From this point on nothing of interest occurred on the march. A small brigade of rebel cavalry hung on the rear, but kept at a safe distance, and a single company of rebel scouts rode along the front, occasionally sending off a courier to announce the progress of the Yankees.

The general headquarters of the army reached Laurel Hill, in Richmond county, this State, on Wednesday night last, the 8th inst. The left was then considerably in advance, having reached Lumberton, twenty seven miles from Fayetteville. The army merely halted in this position over Wednesday night, and on Thursday morning moved on toward Fayetteville, which place was entered on Saturday evening.

At Cheraw a very singular and very serious accident occurred. Gen. Howard's headquarters were, standing in the highway near to a powder magazine. A couple of soldiers noticing a little handful of powder on the ground, set fire to it, not observing that it communicated with a train leading to the magazine. Of course a terrific explosion occurred almost instantly. A pile of about two hundred loaded shells also exploded. The explosion was frightful both in its effects and the shock it produced. Nine persons were killed outright by the affair, including one of the earliest fellows that touched off the train, and about thirty others were wounded. A number of horses and mules were disabled and killed, some were mangled and mangled, and a number of horses terribly shattered. The survivor of the two that caused this mischief was promptly arrested, and will be held to a strict accountability for it.

The Fall of Fort Fisher. Letter from Captain Coles of the British Navy.

(Correspondence of the London Times.)

Sir—The fall of Fort Fisher, as you truly remark, presents points of deep interest to the country and to those who study the art of war. I am convinced to a very great extent of the soundness of Admiral Porter's conclusions for there can be no doubt that Fort Fisher was a much more formidable work than the Malakoff, with the advantage of modern ordnance and science. But when he draws an excellent comparison between the prolonged and honorable resistance of the Malakoff against the allied forces of Great Britain and France and the rapid capture of Fort Fisher by the Federals, I must beg to differ, as there is no analogy in the events; for, while Fort Fisher was captured by a handful of men, under the fire of the guns of the Federals, the Malakoff was taken after the attack was made in earnest by the Malakoff Tower, was held by the fire of the guns of the allied fleets. We were wont to at the sea faces of a fort with an enormous force of wooden ships, and the Malakoff was never pierced by a single shot. It was a magnificent feat of wooden ships, and a far greater number of guns in a far more desperate waste of power, doing up a large part of the fort to comparative inactive specimens of a great stronghold. This fact suggested to me the necessity of having some machines better adapted for the offensive purposes at war than our olden three deckers, like the *Victoria*, and I then proposed Monitors, or rather "Lady Nancy" rafts, for this purpose. How the negroes were really been anticipated by the fall of Fort Fisher, although it may be said the Monitors did not succeed at Charleston. But an attack by sea to be successful must depend upon being able to penetrate a gunnery superiority of guns against any portion of a ship's hull, so as to render its offensive powers, when the other contingent and ordinary works must fall. Detail, if not evacuated, as in the case of Fort Fisher. But in the Charleston affair there were only 23 guns all at brought to bear against some 100 guns, besides the difficulties of an intricate channel and confined waters. At present I will leave the question of forts and ships, as now the great interest of this country is ship against ship, for it is in the open sea we shall have to test

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