

THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1865.

PRICE TEN CENTS.

THE HERALD OF THE UNION.

WILMINGTON, MARCH 28.
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. Watkins appeared last night in two new plays. The "Peasant Peacock" is one of the best dramas we have witnessed for a long time. Mrs. Watkins won new honors by her charming impersonation of the heroine, Lucy Loveknot. The character is one peculiarly suited to her versatile talents—high comedy, with touch of sentiment to give it zest. The language of the play is sparkling and telling, and overflows with pathos—many portions of it is poetically beautiful. Mr. Watkins was most excellent in Perkin, and elicited shouts of laughter by his comicalities.

At the Farce, Mr. W. treated the audience to one of those rare bits of eccentric comedy, a thing so seldom seen on the stage now-a-days. We think the management would find it profitable to repeat last night's bills, for we feel assured from the enthusiasm it evoked, that it would attract a crowded house. To-night Mr. and Mrs. Watkins appear in the beautiful domestic play of "Smiles and Tears," in which they have established a high reputation. The lady will sing several of those delightful ballads in the rendition of which she stands without a rival.

FUNERAL OF MR. TAYLOR.—The funeral of Mr. Alfred Taylor took place yesterday noon, from his late residence on Front street, and was attended by a numerous delegation of the Masonic, fraternity and Fire department, together with many other mourning friends.

THE REBEL PRIVATEERS.
A PIRATE STEAMER ON THE 14TH INSTANT.

Private intelligence received from Nassau, N. P., to the 14th instant, is to the effect that on that day a rebel pirate lay off the harbor, having been refused admission by the authorities. Her name was understood to be the Confederate States, but nothing was publicly known concerning her identity. The description is as follows.—She is eight hundred tons burden, is black-hulled, and is low and black. She has two funnels and two propellers.

THE PIRATE TALLAHASSEE.

BOSTON, March 29, 1865.

Captain Pettigrove, of the British bark Sea Gem, at this port, states that the rebel pirate Tallahassee was in Bermuda, March 12, under another name.

THE REBEL RAM STONEWALL CORNEED.

Authentic and reliable information has been received here, that the Spanish government have forbidden the further repairs or fitting out of the rebel ram Stonewall at Ferrol, and as she is not now in condition to proceed to sea, this is equivalent to a termination to her career as a rebel cruiser.

Great Freshets in the North.

Immense damage was caused in the north by freshets which set in with the rain storm of Thursday, the 10th inst. All the winter accumulations of snow and ice in the higher regions were let loose, and rushed seaward, sweeping every obstacle before them and overflowing the lowlands for miles. The Hudson river at Albany reached a greater height than it had for many years past, and along the river front of the city the water overflowed the streets to a depth of several feet. Several miles of the down track of the Hudson river railroad were under water. In the interior of Pennsylvania along the Susquehanna river and its tributaries the impetuosity of the flood and the devastation caused by it were frightful. Bridges, store houses, farm houses, barns and vast quantities of lumber were carried off; the canal banks were destroyed, the railroads placed several feet under water, putting a complete stop to the running of the cars, and many miles of country were submerged. Telegraphic communication between Philadelphia and Harrisburg was totally interrupted, supposed from the wounding away of the poles by the flood. The lower part of the latter town was then overflowed, the water in the Susquehanna river at that place being thirteen inches higher than in the great flood of 1846. In other portions of the country also the streams have been rendered unusually high.

The Damage to the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, March 21.]

We learn from the Lynchburg Virginian that a reconnaissance was made over the Orange and Alexandria Railroad on Tuesday last, and it was found that the road was not injured as much as anticipated. All the bridges between Rockfish depot and North Garden, a distance of twenty-four miles, were left untouched; and also all between Rockfish and Tyee river, a distance of eighteen miles, escaped destruction. They burned six bridges, aggregating one thousand three hundred feet. They tore only about one and a half mile of track about Arrington depot. The depots at North Garden, Covington, Rockfish, Arrington and New Glasgow were burned.

The Rebel Commodore Hollins not Dead.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, March 21.]

The friends of Commodore Hollins will be pleased to learn that the report of his death is not correct. Despatches received in the city contradict the report emphatically.

FROM WASHINGTON

THE POLICY OF SECRETARY McCULLOCH.

The Finances of the Government to be Placed on a Specie Basis.

WASHINGTON, March 20, 1865.

The report that the Secretary of the Treasury had decided to anticipate immediately the May interest on gold bonds is premature. It will not be done at present, or unless speculators should run up the premium on gold beyond a legitimate rate.

While Secretary McCulloch is determined so to administer the finances of the government as to gradually bring them to the specie basis, yet he will not do this so abruptly as to produce a commercial panic. The decline in the gold premium, from causes outside of any policy of the Treasury Department, has already been more rapid than is regarded as beneficial to the financial interests of the country and of the government, and nothing will be done to accelerate this decline, which will doubtless go on, but it is hoped, more steadily than it has of late. The unsettling of values consequent upon this decline has already unfavorably affected government securities and subscriptions to the seven-thirty loan, though it is believed that this effect will only be temporary and limited.

Mr. McCulloch's policy will be such as is indicated by a due regard to the interests of the people and the government, and of a conservative character, equally opposed to undue inflation or a too speedy and disastrous contraction.

PAYMENT OF GEN. SHERMAN'S TROOPS.

It has been decided to pay General Sherman's army in full to the end of February, as soon as it arrives at a point where it can rest long enough for payment to be made. This will give six months' pay to nearly the whole army. The men were last paid up to the 31st of August, and they will now be paid up to the 28th of February. Secretary Stanton has decided that this mark of approval—almost the only one in his power—of their noble, brilliant and patriotic deeds during the last six months of their service, shall be promptly accorded.

EUROPE.

THE NEWS OF THE CAPTURE OF WILMINGTON IN ENGLAND.

SECTION XI.—Its Fall not Unexpected.

THE EFFECT OF THE LEGEND NUMEROUS UNION MIGRATIONS.

England and France Declining Hostility to the United States.

AC., &c., &c.,

By the arrival of the Australasian at New York on the 23d inst., with Liverpool dates of the 11th and Queenstown of the 12th, we have very interesting news.

THE FALL OF WILMINGTON ANNOUNCED IN ENGLAND.

The news by the *Era* of the fall of Wilmington was not unexpected, and the effect there fore was not so great as it otherwise would have been.

Federal securities improved under the news, but the rebel loan was only a shade lower, having declined in anticipation.

At Liverpool and Manchester there was increased interest in the cotton trade.

REBEL SYMPATHIZERS SECEDING.

The London *Army and Navy Gazette* says the news by the *Era* is of a character generally to tax the faith of those who believe that the Confederates will maintain their cause in the field. Lee's communications are alreadest on all sides. Grant, as if preparing for a rush, has contracted his lines and is awaiting General Thomas' infantry from the west—*Food and his Federates being built in numbers*.

WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

NON-ENEMY.

The London *News* denounces those who cultivate a poison of distrust in regard to America, and says: It is time to introduce a little reason into the discussion of American affairs. That claim on England by the United States, and on the United States by England, should have grown out of the war was inevitable. We have seen it stated within these few days (in the *London Times*) that it is the business of English statesmen to see that we are not placed under the "ponerance" of having claims urged upon us that we cannot admit. It is needless to say that no rational Englishman expects such a service from our public men. Our government has only to persevere in its present course, acting fairly and honorably, and repelling all unjust pretensions. It will then command the support of a united and patriotic people, and we shall not need to disquiet ourselves, although our neighbors should become unreasonable.

The London *Star* makes the following remarks: The gossip which is maintained in the city about the probability of a war with America contradicts the report emphatically.

ca is probably in some cases assiduously plotted for business purposes; but any genuine alarm appears to be confined to those who were the most scrupulous confederate partisans. They seem to feel that, having exhibited as much hostility as they possibly could against the United States, a hostile sentiment on the part of that nation may be expected in return. But they may calm their fears. The policy of great nations is not shaped in accordance with the perversions and animosities of individuals. The course of the British government during the war has been determined by the policy and interest of the country at large, and not according to fanatical sympathies of a portion of the people. So will it be with the American government, should the rebellion be soon put down. The fire eaters in New York may utter loud threats especially if they perceive from the tone of the journals which supported the south that a contemptible fear has now taken possession of them; but the government of the United States and the vast majority of the nation will be too heartily glad of peace when it comes to think of bolstering up a quarrel against a nation fifty times more formidable than the south.

SHERMAN'S FAME IN FRANCE.

[From the *Opinion Nationale* (Prince Napoleon's organ) March 10.]

The wild despair which induced the Carolinians to set fire to their metropolis will not win for them the sympathies of the civilized portion of the world, for they have never been anything but mere rebels against a just government. Their cause has never been that of liberty, their watchword is "slaves and slavery." The line of conduct adopted by Sherman is well calculated to force the South to return to the path of duty. The General has baffled the plans of his enemy by the skill of his tactics and the energy of his movements, whilst by his moderation and justice he has aroused in the insurgent population a love of the old federal flag. The progress of the liberating army (*armée libératrice*) towards the North, will decide the fate of the rebel capital. Richmond will be the last retreat of Mr. Jefferson Davis, and the last rampart behind which rebel slavery will find shelter.

NO MORE SHIPMENTS OF REBEL WAR MATERIALS.

It is asserted that a remonstrance has been sent to the French government by the United States Minister in Paris, as to the clandestine shipment of Confederate recruits on board the Rappahannock, stationed at Calais. These men had arrived from Liverpool, having been part of the crew of the Southern ship *Flosila*.

THE FRENCH LEGISLATURE ON THE WAR.

In the French Senate on the 9th March the Marquis de Boissy condemned the French intervention in Mexico, but strongly expressed a wish that the war between the Federal and Confederates might be carried on to the complete annihilation of both parties, rather than the hasty peace which would result in the release of rebels and prisoners by the conclusion of peace. [Loud expressions of disapprobation.] The Marquis de Boissy hoped, in conclusion, that the Emperor and his dynasty would long continue to reign.

M. Chanoine d'Auge regretted the impulsive wishes respecting America.

LIVERPOOL, March 12—Evening.

The London *Times* editorial thinks if the Confederate government remains firm, and there is no renewal of the experience, the Washington government will endeavor to draw back the States singly by negotiations with each one separately, and that Lincoln may be more conciliatory than to the Richmond Cabinet.

REBEL NEGRO SOLDIERS.

[From the Richmond *Whig*, March 21.]

A large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled on the Capitol Square, yesterday, to witness the promised parade of the first company of negro troops raised under the recent act of Congress, but owing to the fact that the new recruits have not yet been supplied with their uniforms and equipments, the parade has been postponed. We learn that the recruiting is going on rapidly. A refugee from Taqueri County offers to buy ten negroes who are willing to volunteer, and will emancipate them for meritorious service.

THE PARADE OF THE FIRST COMPANY OF NEGRO TROOPS.

The Battalion of colored troops from Camps Windham and Jackson, under the command of Dr. Chambliss, including the company of Capt. Grimes will parade on the Square, Wednesday evening at 4 o'clock.

This is the first company of negro soldiers raised in Virginia. It was organized about a month ago by Dr. Chambliss from the employees of the hospitals. The men were on the lines during the recent raid.

SLAVE TROOPS IN THE SOUTHWEST.

[From the Richmond *Advertiser*, March 21.]

Mobile *Press* of a recent date, have reliable information that Kirby Smith has twenty-five thousand negro troops armed, equipped and organized under their masters and operating in the Trans-Mississippi Department. The muster-roll of that department contains over one-hundred thousand names, of which eighty thousand are effective for service. We should prefer to hear that Gen. Kirby Smith was moving some portion of this immense force to this side of the Mississippi river.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

HEADQUARTERS, NEAR PETERSBURG,

March 13th, 1865.

Some deserters who came over this morning reported that a force of Union cavalry had occupied Burksville, a small place where the Richmond and Danville and Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroads intersect each other. If this is true, the last rebel lines of railroads have been damaged, and lively times may soon be expected around here.

MOBILE.

THE RECONNAISSANCE OF THE HARBOR AND OBSTRUCTIONS.

Gen. Canby Moving on the City, &c., &c.

NEW ORLEANS, March 17, 1865.

General Canby is now near Mobile, and the grand attack by the land and naval forces upon the city will be made within five days.

FORT GAINES, March 8, 1865.

A daring reconnaissance to the obstructions in front of the city of Mobile was made to-day by General Granger's despatch boat Laura. She left Fort Gaines about half-past twelve. On board were Major-generals Canby, Granger and Baldy Smith, of the army; Rear Admiral Thatcher and Captain Franklin, of the navy; together with Captains McAllister, Palfrey, Gray, Eaton and Barrett, of General Canby's staff.

Nothing of interest occurred until the Laura arrived opposite the upper obstructions. Ahead, and not more than a mile distant, were Spanish River Battery and Battery Gladden. To the left of the latter were two "turtle" iron-clads. Beyond the batteries were three or four gun-boats. The Morgan lay to the right of the rams, and the city of Mobile, not more than three and a half miles distant, was clearly visible beyond all.

The Laura was drifting quietly along, while those on board were reconnoitring, when suddenly a wreath of smoke was seen to rise from Battery Gladden; and the next instant a Brook's rifle seven inch shell hissed and whirred directly over head, clearing the Laura about twenty feet, and disappearing in the water about one hundred yards beyond. It was a splendid line shot.

The Morgan was the next to fire, and her shot was nearly as good as the other, as it struck the water a few feet abreast of the Laura, and ricochetting over her, clearing her but a very short distance.

Another shot from Battery Gladden, far inferior to either of the preceding, appeared to be the signal for the batteries on each shore to open. These were light field pieces. Not a single shot took effect.

The distinguished officers on board the Laura not caring to remain a target for field practice, gave orders that she should return. Up to this time no flag had been raised on the boat; but as she turned to steam beyond range, the Stars and Stripes were hoisted, so that the retreat was made with "flying colors."

There is no doubt but that the Laura was recognized as the headquarters' despatch boat, as every effort was made on the part of the enemy to disable her, while the officers of the gun-boats, beyond the obstructions, probably indulged the hope that she would pass them when she could cut her from returning, and then capture her.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

POSITION OF THE REBEL FORCES IN LOUISIANA.

GENERAL COOPER'S AGENT AT THE MISSISSIPPI.

New Orleans, Friday, March 17, 1865.

Gen. Kirby Smith remains at Shreveport. Gen. Buckner is at Natchez, and Gen. Thomas at Alexandria. Their respective forces were with them, and they are waiting for an attack from our troops.

Judge Geary, a Texas lawyer, has been sent by the Richmond Government to the Trans-Mississippi Department to take charge of the rebel edition trade. He announces that no cotton shall leave his department unless the twenty-five percent, assessed by the Federal Government is taken off.

Free trade is to be extended along the line of the Mississippi River, and liberal permits granted for supplies.

The steamer *Morning Star* left the bar on the 15th inst. for New York.

Cotton is quoted at \$3. @ 72; for good ordinary to middling. Sugar, molasses, flour and grain are without material change.

MOVEMENTS OF THE REBELS IN THE SOUTHWEST.

Cairo, Ill., March 22, 1865.

Memphis advices of the 20th inst. state that a number of Rebel deserters and refugees had arrived there.

Major Bradford had been assigned to the command of selected body of desperadoes from the rebel Southwest Department to bushwhack along the banks of the Big Black and Mississippi rivers.

The Memphis Bulletin has information that Forrest, with three thousand cavalry, is at West Point; Jackson at Venango, with three thousand cavalry, and McRae at Kalmar, and Olmsted at Tishka, with one thousand each. They are poorly mounted, but have abundant supplies.

Cotton was quoted at Memphis at fifty cents, for middling. The receipts for the week, exclusive of special permits, amounted to six hundred bales. Supplies were permitted to leave Memphis.

THE SEVEN-THIRTIES.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, March 23.

JAY COOKE reports the sales of Seven-Thirties to-day at \$3,054,750, including one of \$214,000 from Cincinnati, and one of \$150,600 from Philadelphia. Also, 2,145 individual subscriptions, \$