

From the Richmond Examiner. The Camps on the Potomac.

ON THE OCCOQUAN, SEPT. 11, 1861.

PERSPECTS OF A GENERAL ACTION.

From what can be learned in the camps, gathered at headquarters or concluded from the events of the last few days, we are now equally and positively certain that no attack is designed on our part on Arlington Heights or immediately on the works of Washington.

If the enemy should accept the gaze of battle which we have offered persistently for nearly a week past, or we should be able to execute a general action by heavy skirmishing on our lines, the end of our advanced movements will be sufficiently gained.

EXTENT OF OUR LINES.

The prisoners we captured at Hall's Hill—some six or seven—will be sent down to-morrow. They say that the enemy has been preparing to give us battle, skirmishing still continues on our lines, and the shots of the pickets are heard nearly every morning before breakfast.

THE HAMPTON LEGION.

The Hampton Legion is at one of the extreme points of the advance, and in a position in which some brilliant work may be expected from this gallant corps at any time. It is improper to anticipate the results of an expedition of picked men of the legion which left yesterday, and from which news is now hourly expected.

SICKNESS IN THE CAMPS—FORTITUDE OF OUR SOLDIERS.

We must recur to the painful subject of sickness in our camps; so distressingly it is manifested wherever we move. The average of deaths is not as large as might be expected; but the nameless mounds of the graves of our beloved soldiers in the shadows of the woods, or on the broad hill sides of the valley of the Potomac, are not infrequently sad and touching spectacles to the traveler.

Do not imagine, however, that the sickness that overshadows our camps has either demoralized or depressed one jot the spirit of our noble army in its firmness, its patriotism, its virtue, and its devotion.

The Express says: No communication has been allowed with the prisoners, but it is understood from officers of the frigate that over 300 of the subalterns and private soldiers have decided that under no circumstances would they again resume arms against the U. S. Government.

THE CROWNING ACT OF THE WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER.

The Baltimore Advocate of Friday says: Yesterday morning the military police of the city were ordered to stop the sale of Confederate flags, badges and envelopes, and also the likenesses of President Davis, Generals Beauregard, Lee, Johnston, and all persons citizens of the Confederate States.

Of the progress of our camps we may make a few suggestions, which seem to us to be practical, although unprofessional. In the first place the unsanitary and positive filth of the dumps are subjects of a reproach, which we would be glad to avoid, but which truth requires to be administered.

The hospital tents are wanting in the arrangements made to keep the sick from the camp, and are such a disadvantage to the service, although for the moment they are accepted as hospitals, it not being unusual for the regimental surgeons to have to go to the distance of twelve or fifteen miles each day from his camp to visit his patients distributed over the country.

TWO FORTY HATTERAS PRISONERS AT NEW YORK.

We learn from the New York papers that on Wednesday the prisoners taken at Fort Hatteras were transferred from the frigate Minnesota to Fort Wood, on Bedloe's Island, and to Castle William, on Governor's Island.

This morning, about 9 o'clock, the steamboats Bates and Sarah A. Stevens went off to the frigate for the purpose of taking the rebels to their prison home. At a few minutes of 10 o'clock the embarkation commenced, and a more interesting sight has seldom been witnessed on the waters of our bay.

A new style of cravat, red and white, called the "Secession cravat," and much in vogue with young men and lads just now, also falls under the ban, and a number of persons found wearing them were ordered to substitute something else.

Faction of our Forces in the West.

We have late intelligence from our army in Western Virginia, giving the position of its several divisions, which every day grows more critical.

Since the battle at Cross Lanes General Floyd was waiting for supplies. In addition to the 98 Yankee prisoners, with some Union men, brought down to Richmond a few days ago, the train on Saturday brought down fifteen prisoners who had been captured since the rout of the enemy at Cross Lanes.

Gen. Floyd's position, at last accounts, was the Gauley river, about one mile and a half beyond it. The enemy were in full force, under Gen. Cox, at Gauley's Bridge. On the other side of the river Gen. Wise was strongly posted in the vicinity of the Gauley road.

The present critical position of the two armies in the West is quite characteristic of the resources and expedients of strategy in which the campaign in this portion of the country has been almost exclusively conducted.

HEALTH OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

President Davis has so far recovered from his recent severe attack of illness as to have been able, on Saturday afternoon, to take an airing in his carriage. It is hoped that in a few days his health will be sufficiently restored to permit his resumption of the active business habits.

SUSPECTED OF BEING A SPY.

H. Kelly, who claims to be a Baltimorean, was arrested on Friday within our military lines at Manassas and brought to this city, on suspicion of being a spy of the Illinois army. Kelly made his way through the enemy's lines without obstruction, and avers that the object of his visit to Virginia is to engage in some mining operations with a party residing in Fredericksburg.

MORE YANKEE PRISONERS.

Sixteen mercenaries reached this city on Saturday evening from Western Virginia, and were consigned to proper quarters. They were captured at the battle of Cross Lanes, and regarded with evidently uneasy apprehensions the unexpected realization of their "on to Richmond" battle cry.

RECAPTURE OF HIRSHMAN.

Three (out of eleven) Yankee prisoners, who escaped about two weeks ago, were recaptured and brought back to their old quarters on Friday. They didn't appear to have been much benefited by their little excursion into Virginia.

for forbidding the sale of the pictures and badges was Gen. Dix, and would be certainly carried out. They were released in the evening on the condition that the articles were not to be exposed for sale.

James B. Waters' establishment was also visited, and he was compelled to take all Confederate papers from the windows. Henry Taylor had to pursue a similar course, and in fact, every establishment in the city where any of the articles were offered for sale was compelled to remove them.

All day the police were busily doing this dirty work. Some of them felt that they were engaged in a low business, and in some few instances apologized for their conduct, remarking that want of bread alone, compelled them to be the tools of their superiors.

What a dignified spectacle!

A Government proscribing the dress of its citizens, and issuing little infant schools!

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From the Richmond Examiner. The New York Democratic State Convention. The Times Democrat Expects.

SYRACUSE, Sept. 5.—The New York State Democratic Convention this morning, by a vote of 114 against 87, reconsidered the vote of yesterday admitting both of the New York delegations.

The question now recurring on the adoption of the majority report admitting the Tammany delegation only, great excitement was produced.

There is tremendous excitement.

SYRACUSE, Sept. 5, P. M.—The Committee on Resolutions reported a series of resolutions setting forth that the watchword of democracy was: "The Union must be preserved." That the claim to relinquish State allegiance was unwarranted by the Constitution, and at war with its letter and spirit; that Secession is revolution; that the seizure by the seceding States of the forts and property of the Government, followed by privatizing, precipitated the country into the present war; that it is the duty of the people to rally to its support, until the struggle ends with the triumph of the Constitution and the restoration of the Union; that we hold next in guilt to the fiction in arms, the Northern agitators; that it was the duty of Congress to encourage loyal citizens South, by simple guarantees of just and honorable concessions; that it is the duty of the Government, while putting down rebellion, to offer to the loyal people in the disaffected States a Convention of all the States, for a revision and amendment of the Constitution; that the democracy of this State regard any attempt to prevent this conflict into a war for the emancipation of slaves, as fatal to all hopes of the restoration of the Union; that we protest against the doctrine that any power except the Representatives of the people can suspend the writ of habeas corpus.

The resolutions also protest against the passport system and against Government establishing State police; against the assumption of the Government to repress the dissemination of a free press by the refusal of mail facilities; and, finally, against the President's doctrine that the States derive their authority from the Federal Government.

The last resolution concludes thus: That a Democratic victory in this State would be hardly less auspicious than the triumph of the Federal arms in the field, and therefore we hold those trying to create dissension in the ranks of the Democracy not only treasonable to its principles, but disloyal to the country.

A number of loyal and spirited speeches were made opposing any peace proposition, except at the cannon's mouth, but guaranteeing to the South all their constitutional rights. The resolutions were mainly adopted.

RESTRICTION OF THE PRESS.

Mr. Bridgers, in the General Assembly of North Carolina, has submitted to a committee of that body the question whether some restraint upon the Press is not necessary? The State Journal thinks it is very necessary.

THE CHARLOTTE BULLETIN.

The Charlotte Bulletin, from which we copy the above, approves of the proposed restriction, and also adds the recommendation "that the work of suppression be commenced at Raleigh."

LONG LIVE MR. BRIDGERS!

Let the work be commenced on the State Journal.

VIRGINIA SALT.

The following correspondence may be of some importance to many of our readers in the up country.

DEMOCRAT OFFICE, Abingdon, Va., Aug. 30, '61.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 22nd is just at hand, and I hasten to reply. Salt, in any desired quantity, can be had at the works 15 miles N. E. of this place. The price, heretofore, has been fifty cents (50c.) per bushel of 60 lbs. I learn, however, that after this week there will probably be a small advance in price—say 10 cents per bushel.

Respectfully, ALFRED A. BAKER.

E. B. DRAKE, Esq., Statesville, N. C.

We understand these Salt Works to be located about 100 miles, a little west of North from Statesville.—Irish Express.

Our thanks are due to Dr. Wyatt for a dish of sugar raspberries and cream. The Dr. has vines which bear raspberries every month in the year except one or two.

One of the collectors who received contributions for the amount of \$200 for the proposed Sabbath School Celebration in May last, desires us to state that the funds were given to the Brown Rifle Guard, being by common consent, the best appropriation that could, under the existing circumstances of the times, be made of them.

NOTICE TO THE LADIES.

We have been requested to state that the regular meetings of the Ladies' Seaman's Association for Brown Rifles, are held every two weeks at Town Hall. The next meeting will be held Wednesday 25th instant, at 9 o'clock, A. M., at which time it is desirable there should be a full attendance.

Death of Hon. W. P. Mangum.—This gentleman died at his residence in Orange county, a few days since. He had been a long sufferer from paralysis.

Mr. Mangum was for a long time one of the first men in the State, in ability, influence and usefulness.

It was a mistake about the loss of the Federal steamer, Harriet Lane. She only made a very narrow escape, having to throw overboard all her guns. She is now at Philadelphia, undergoing repairs.

The Charlotte Bulletin copies another of Mr. J. W. Thomas' Northern claims, this time against Elias G. Cohen, of Charlotte, for \$1400.70. The Bulletin says Mr. Thomas passed through the Northern States on the credit of his Union speeches, made in North Carolina before the State seceded. That was smart under practice; but unfortunately for Mr. Thomas, our people are not in the humor to endorse it.

A private letter from a member of the Brown Rifle Guard, of Sept. 5, speaks of the Salisbury Brass Band, now in the service of the 4th Regiment. Mentions the death of two men, one from Capt Andrews' Company and the other from Capt Whitaker's Goldsboro Company. Says the health of the Regiment is rapidly improving. We quote from the letter as follows:

We were paid off yesterday, for the time we were at Fort Johnson, and for one month since we were sworn in as regulars; and they promised to pay all that is due us the first of next month.

This is what we call tardy work. How the men have got along without their pay is wonderful.

Handsome Contribution.—O. G. Ford, Esq., and T. G. Hyde passed through this place last Tuesday, with five or six hundred dollars worth of provisions, clothing, bedding, &c., &c., for the Scotch Irish Greys, one of our Brown Companies at Manassas, Va., presents from the homes of the men. He also carried on three fine three year old North Carolina bacon hams, a present for General Beauregard, from one of our patriotic Scotch Irish farmers—Messrs. Ford and Hyde's visit will no doubt be welcome to the Greys, for their wants are probably not as well attended to as they should be. Among the articles taken down was one pair of socks knit by a lady with only one arm.