

of the enemy attacked the Federal pickets, but were repulsed with a loss of thirty.

At 3 o'clock on the morning of February the 13th, the army advanced in line of battle, and at day-break the 4th Iowa took full possession of the town. Price had left at 2 o'clock the same morning, leaving six hundred sick men and large quantities of forage, luggage and wagons behind him. He had twelve thousand effective troops and fifty pieces of artillery.

It was reported by high military authority that Gen. Curtis captured most of G. n. Price's staff after leaving Springfield, including his Chief Adjutant.

Gen. Curtis pursued Gen. Price, who, on the night of the 16th, was about seventy miles south of Springfield; several skirmishes took place in the defiles of the mountains, in which a few Federals and many Confederates were reported killed, and more wounded. Gen. Curtis took a large number of prisoners; more, it was reported, than he knew what to do with.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS.

The tariff of exchange of prisoners prepared by Gen. Price, and accepted by Gen. Halleck, provides that where the same grades cannot be exchanged for each other, two of the next lower grade will be substituted; that is, one major-general for two brigadiers, or four colonels, or eight lieutenant-colonels, or sixteen majors, or thirty-two captains, or sixty-four lieutenants, or one hundred and twenty-eight non-commissioned officers, or two hundred and fifty-six privates. No distinction is to be made between first and second lieutenants, nor between sergeants and corporals. Alternations of grades are to be made, when necessary, on the same basis.

Musicians, wagoners, and others, are to be exchanged as privates or non-commissioned officers according as they are rated in the service.

On the morning of the 13th of February, as per dispatch, the last regiment of the 1st brigade of Gen. Hunter's division left Leavenworth for Fort Scott.

The brigade consisting of the First, Fifth and Sixth Kansas regiments, and Fifteenth Wisconsin, was under the command of Acting Brig.-Gen. George W. Deitzler, who commanded the Kansas Brigade in the battle at Wilson's Creek.

Gen. Hunter would accompany the Second Brigade, which would consist of the Ninth and Twelfth Wisconsin regiments, Third Ohio Cavalry, and the Third Kansas. It was thought that Col. Charles Doubleday, of the Second Ohio, would be made acting brigadier-general of this brigade.

Gen. Hunter was urging forward all his preparations with unceasing assiduity, and had telegraphed to the War Department for the immediate forwarding of all regiments and supplies designated for service in Kansas.

Gen. Jim Lane had not accepted the appointment of Brigadier-General, nor reported himself for duty. Gen. Hunter and staff had paid him, as Senator, visits of ceremony; and it was understood that if he did not accept the appointment and report for duty within a given number of days, the President had notified him that his appointment would be cancelled.

Mr. Holmes, Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, arrived in Washington on the 14th, in fourteen days from Santa Fe. Gen. Sibley had issued a proclamation in which he stated that "A wicked war was waged by the United States for the subjugation and oppression of the Confederate States, by force of arms." He was, at latest dates, marching on Fort Craig, which is two hundred miles south of Santa Fe, his force consisting of three regiments of Texans, with heavy artillery. Col. Canby was concentrating all available troops to meet him. Everybody in New Mexico capable of bearing arms, regardless of profession or business, had been summoned to arms. Gen. Hunter had ordered the two Colorado regiments, called out by Gov. Gilpin, to proceed to the relief of New Mexico. The governor, superintendent of Indian affairs, and all other Federal officers, had gone to Canby's camp. Great excitement prevailed throughout the territory, and an order had been issued for all arms and munitions of war in the hands of private citizens to be turned over to the quartermaster's department.

Later accounts state that Gen. Sibley's command of three thousand Texans, with eight field-pieces, advanced as far as Santa Barbara, and then, for some unaccountable reason, retired in the direction of El Paso.

Col. Canby, with one thousand three hundred regulars and two thousand Texan volunteers were after him.

Gen. Lander, in a communication from Pawpaw, Va., on the 14th, announced that the Baltimore and Ohio railroad was opened as far as Hancock that morning, also the telegraph, and that he had made a forced reconnaissance with four hundred cavalry, and broke up the enemy's camp at Blooming Gap, taking seventy-five prisoners, including seventeen officers; among whom were some colonels, lieutenant-colonels, majors and captains. Thirteen Confederate and two Federal soldiers reported killed.

Gen. Halleck issued an order about the middle of February, to the effect that all persons who are known to have been in arms against the United States, or have aided rebellion by word or deed, be arrested. Those accused of the destruction of railroads, burning of bridges, or firing into trains, will not be released on any terms, but will be held for trial before a Military Commission. Notoriously bad and dangerous men, though no specific charge of disloyalty can be proven, will be kept in custody. Prisoners not included in either of the above classes will be released on subscribing the usual oath, and giving good security for future good conduct. The bond in no case to be less than ten thousand dollars, varying according to the wealth and influence of the party. Persons engaged in recruiting for the rebel army are to be arrested and held prisoners of war. It is also ordered in all future elections that every voter be required to take the oath of allegiance. If officers at the polls receive votes of persons not taking the oath, they will be arrested and tried for a military offence, and the election be declared null and void.

A bill has been reported by the Naval committee, in Congress, providing for ten grades of naval officers, viz: Five Flag Officers; eighteen Commodores; thirty-six Captains; seventy-two Commanders; one hundred and forty-four Lieutenant Commanders. Lieutenants, Masters and Flag Officers to be appointed only after they have received the thanks of Congress and upon the President's recommendation for services in battle.

From Mexico.

There were, as per accounts received from Vera Cruz on the 15th of January, at that place, in all, of the allied powers, only sixteen thousand men, but there were already before that city and the capital, fifty thousand Mexicans, principally between Puebla and Chiquihuite. There had been several insults and outrages committed on the Spanish residents of Puebla. The Mexican Government had increased the taxes twenty-five per cent, and established an income-tax of two per cent. The three allied powers addressed a note to Uruga, asking permission to encamp at Tejeria and Medellin, which was granted.

Brigadier Gen. Milans del Bosch was sent with dispatches to Juarez, accompanied by a naval officer from the French fleet, and one from the English. They bore the ultimatum of the allied powers, and their return was anxiously awaited to know if the question was to be decided pacifically or through force.

The ultimatum agreed upon by the allied powers was as follows:

MEXICANS—The representatives of England, France, and Spain fulfil a sacred duty in giving you to understand their intentions from the moment that they trod the ground of your republic. The faith of the treaties broken by the various governments which have succeeded each other among you, and the individual security of our citizens, continually menaced, have made necessary and indispensable this expedition.

They deceive you, and would make you believe that behind our pretensions, as just as they are legitimate, come enveloped plans of conquest and restorations, and of interfering on your politics and government.

Three nations who accepted in good faith, and acknowledged your independence, have the right to expect you to believe them animated by no cowardly intentions, but rather by others more noble, elevated and generous.

The three nations that we come representing, and whose first interest appears to be the satisfaction of grievances inflicted upon them, have a higher interest and one of more general and beneficial consequences; they come to extend the hand of friendship to a people to whom Providence has been prodigal of all its gifts, and which they behold with grief wasting its forces and extinguishing its vitality through the violent power of civil wars, and of perpetual convulsions.

This is the truth, and those charged with the expression of it, do it, not with the voice

of war and threats, but that you yourselves shall work out your own good fortune, in which we are all concerned. To you, exclusively to you, without intervention of foreigners, belongs the task of constituting yourselves in a permanent and stable manner. Your labor will be the labor of regeneration, which all will respect, for all will have contributed to it—some with their opinions, others with enlightenment, and all and every one with their conscience. The evil is great, the remedy urgent. Now or never can you make your prosperity.

Mexicans! Listen to the voice of the Allied Powers, the anchor of salvation in the destroying tempest through which you are rushing. Deliver yourselves up to their good faith and righteous intentions. Fear nothing from restless and turbulent spirits, which, should they show themselves, would be cowed by your firm and decided attitude. Meanwhile we shall preside over impassively the glorious spectacle of your regeneration, guaranteed through order and liberty.

So will it be understood, we are sure, by the supreme government to which we address ourselves. So will it be understood by the enlightened of the country, to whom we speak; and as good patriots, you will all agree to the laying down of your arms, and that reason alone shall be put forward, which is the power that ought to triumph in this the nineteenth century.

(Signed) CHARLES LENNOX WYKE,
HUGH DUNLOP,
E. JURIEN DE LA GRAVIERE,
DUBOIS DE SALIGNY,
EL CONDE DE RENS.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 10, 1862.

Attached to the ultimatum was a dispatch from each of the plenipotentiaries, stating their claims. That of the Spanish government was:

1. That a representative of the republic be appointed and sent, with all possible dispatch, to Madrid, to give full and complete satisfaction for the expulsion of his Excellency Don Joaquin F. Pacheco, minister plenipotentiary of her Catholic majesty in Mexico.

2. That the treaty of Mon-Almo to be fulfilled without the least delay.

3. That the indemnifications due the Spanish subjects who suffered losses in consequence of the crimes committed on the plantations of San Vicente and Chicocuaque, and in the mines of San Dimas, shall be liquidated. That the right of Spain shall be acknowledged to exact retribution for the damages caused by insults and grievances since committed, and that those who executed these crimes shall be punished in an exemplary manner, as also the authorities who did not prevent them, and that an absolute promise shall be made to avoid the repetition of the same.

4. That the government of Mexico shall make payment of the claims of the Spanish bark Concepcion, unjustly seized—granting for this payment four days from that on which the ultimatum is received.

To the notes of claims was added that their mission was not limited to that alone, but extended to the noble and generous end of aiding the Mexicans, without humiliating them, to arise from the prostration in which the allies found them.

It was decided at the conference in which the ultimatum was agreed upon, that payment should be exacted for recent expenses and damages incurred which shall hereafter be examined and found just.

Gen. Prim had issued the following address to the Spanish troops in Vera Cruz:

"SOLDIERS:—Her Majesty the Queen has graciously, by royal decree of November 13th last, conferred on me the command of the Spanish forces destined to operate in Mexico, deigning at the same time to invest me with powers as her minister plenipotentiary.

Your first operations have been fortunate, and, without having to lament the loss of blood, I find you in possession of Vera Cruz and San Juan d'Ulloa, and at the commands of a distinguished general.

Allow not this important victory gained to abate your wariness. If the bravery of the Spanish arms is proverbial, sons of Spain also are they against whom, perchance, we shall have to fight.

If their internal discords and their dissensions divide and perturb them, none the less therefore deserve they the consideration of nations which through good fortune enjoy peace and stable governments. Order, then, and respect to the land in which we find ourselves! Behold ye who judge us as invaders and rulers that we come not here with the spirit of conquest, nor blinded by ambitions of any kind—that only have we come to enforce the good name of our country, as nobles and gentlemen, to demand reparation of insults inflicted, and as generous and true men to contribute to the peace and development of a people worthy of happiness and prosperity.

At our side come with the same object the valiant sons of enthusiastic France, and the no less brave soldiers of England. Treat them and esteem them as worthy companions, and be our banners powerful emblems that 2,000 leagues from Europe extend the ties that bind us in this undertaking. So hopes your commander general-in-chief.

CONDE DE RENS."

Later reports stated that the commissioners sent to the City of Mexico by the Allies with their ultimatum, returned to Vera Cruz on the

28th, and gave a very flattering account of their treatment along the route, their reception at the capital, and their sumptuous entertainment by Juarez, Minister of the Treasury, who, after due consideration of the ultimatum, expressed an earnest desire to avoid further hostilities, acknowledged a breach of treaties, and offered the most satisfactory security for the future; that he also dispatched with the Commissioners, Senor Zamacona, invested with full power to treat with the Allied plenipotentiaries as regarded preliminaries. Juarez further proposed that the allied ministers should proceed to Orizaba, where they would be met by Mexican commissioners prepared to treat with them in detail; but that he at the same time exacted as a preliminary that the whole expeditionary force of the allies should re-embark, except a guard of two thousand men to accompany the ministers to Orizaba, and remain with them there during the pending of negotiations. The allies, it was stated, refused to comply with the conditions specified by Juarez, so far as re-embarking the troops, and decided, in case of his manifesting any obstinacy on that point, to march at once with their entire force for the capital.

General Miramon arrived at Vera Cruz on the 27th on the British steamer Arago, and before he left the ship, he was arrested by a party from one of the British frigates in the harbor and took on board the Commodore's ship, the Challenger and was detained as a prisoner.

The general opinion seemed to be that the British authorities were going to hold him responsible for the \$400,000 in specie which he seized while it was under British seal and protection, after his fall from the Presidency. It was rumored that General Almonte was shortly expected to arrive with instructions relative to the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico, the idea of which was not at all relished by the people.

Great sickness is reported to have existed among the allied troops.

The County Court and the Poll Tax.

The County Court for this county, met on the first Monday, the 3d day of March, but in consequence of the election being held on that day, there was no business done, and the court adjourned till next day. Under existing laws there were but few matters for consideration, the principal of which was, the division of the county into road districts, and the appointment of supervisors for the collection and application of the poll tax, for road purposes, provided for by an enactment of the Legislative Assembly last winter. How much good will result from the measure remains to be ascertained. We are no advocate of poll taxes of any kind, particularly when no others are levied. In this instance, if not mistaken in our opinion, it will operate somewhat unequally; but the law-making power has thus ordained and every good citizen subject to its provisions will of course comply without being to the expense of testing the constitutionality of the law. We trust there will be a fair trial of the experiment, and if not successful and satisfactory, that it will be superseded by a more popular and effective measure for attaining the desired end.

Judge Kinney's Court.

The Third Judicial District Court, Hon. Chief Justice Kinney presiding, is now sitting at the Court House in this city, having commenced its session on Monday last. In charging the grand jury in attendance, J. T. Caine, Esq., foreman, the judge instructed them to be vigilant in searching after law-breakers, that they might be brought to justice, and some of them may have a call more potent than Baxter's to the "unconverted" before or after the adjournment of the court.

We were in the court room a short time on Tuesday and found the Judge dispatching business with his usual promptness and efficiency. All the civil cases on the docket are expected to be disposed of to-day.

In justice to Judge Kinney, whose official acts have been so universally approved, we deem it but proper to state that in his charge to the grand jury, while he enjoined diligence and vigilance in the discharge of their duties, he instructed them not to interfere with or inquire into any matters pending in either of the Probate Courts in their respective counties, in the Third District, or of which they had taken cognizance. He is still sound on the question of jurisdiction.