



ELIAS SMITH...EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday,.....October 23, 1861.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

It is not pleasing to be compelled to make as many explanations and excuses for not publishing the News regularly each week, as we have had to of late in order to satisfy those who do not fully comprehend the difficulties that exist and have not yet been fully overcome inhibiting the manufacture of a sufficient amount of paper, as many do not seem to understand why they cannot have their papers every week with the same regularity as formerly.

The subject, however, is getting to be more generally understood, and the signs are decidedly more favorable for obtaining the necessary material for the manufacture of paper than they were six weeks ago; but there is much yet to be done before a supply for the winter can be produced.

That large amount of rags expected from Ogden has not been received at the mill, and other promises have not been fulfilled. When they are, and a few other things shall have been provided, the difficulties will be overcome, and things will move along as they should without hindrance, and decidedly more satisfactorily than they have during the last three months.

From present appearances we may not be able to publish another number till the first week in November, but a better state of things in that respect is hoped for, and every reasonable exertion will be made for its attainment.

GOING SOUTH, BUT NOT SECEDING.

The development of the resources of Washington county and the entire Southern part of the Territory has long been considered of great importance to the people residing in these valleys, but the settlements formed there for that purpose have not flourished to the extent desired from various causes, not necessary now to state. In view of the great demand there will be for cotton and other products of a warmer climate than Great Salt Lake and surrounding valleys, in the event that the civil war in the East should continue for a number of years, it has been deemed expedient by the First Presidency, to materially strengthen the settlements that have been made in Washington county and make others where facilities for so doing exist, that the objects desired may be more speedily attained than by the course hitherto pursued.

To accomplish the desired objects as soon as practicable, a company, numbering over three hundred men with their families, have been either selected or have volunteered to go there this fall, as the winter, below the Rim of the Basin, is the best season of the year for building, fencing and opening farms for cultivation the ensuing year. Of this company, about two hundred are from Great Salt Lake City and county, some fifteen or twenty from Davis and Weber, a few from Tooele, about sixty from Utah, thirty from Sanpete and a few from Juab, Millard and Beaver counties.

With some of those going, we are not acquainted and cannot testify as to their fitness for the enterprise, but those from this city and county are among the most energetic and enterprising citizens; and, if they fail in turning that part of the Territory into fruitful fields, it may be considered an impossibility, so far as industry, ingenuity and perseverance can be made subservient to that end.

Those of the company who can get ready by Monday next, the 28th inst., will start on that day, according to present arrangements, and the others will follow as fast as they are in readiness and their circumstances will permit.

WANTED.—We wish to contract for the delivery of FIFTY CORDS OF WOOD, before the setting in of winter.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS.

It is not possible, for the want of space, to give but a very short historical summary, in this number, of what has occurred in the East, since the 16th of September, the date of the latest advices we have been able to publish, for reasons so well understood that it is unnecessary to state them again. Many important events have transpired that were exceedingly interesting on their first announcement, but in these troublous times when important events follow each other in such quick succession the news of a day becomes stale on the morrow, and few things seem to attract much attention in the State, excepting those connected with the civil war raging there, and not likely soon to cease.

To make the history of the times as continuous as possible under the very unpleasant circumstances known to exist, which have prevented the regular publication of the News of late, the following items are selected from the many that would have been interesting in their season had they then been published:

On the afternoon of September 15th some four hundred and fifty Confederates attacked the right of the Federal forces under Col. Geary, of the 28th Pennsylvania, three miles above Darnestown, Md., opposite Pritchard's Mills. A spirited contest ensued, which lasted two hours. The Confederates were defeated and driven from every position they occupied with a reported loss of eight or ten killed and a number wounded. Federal loss, one killed.

A battle was fought at Blue Mills Landing, Mo., Sept. 17th, of which the following is said to be an authentic report:—

Lieut. Col. Scott, with five hundred and seventy men of the 3d Iowa regiment, and one piece of artillery, left Cameron on Monday, the 15th, in pursuit of the rebels, who left St. Joseph on the Friday previous. Scott arrived at Liberty, Clay County, on the morning of the 17th, and moved from that place at 1 p.m. At three o'clock he fell in with the enemy, four thousand five hundred strong, occupying a strong position.

A six pounder was brought to bear on the enemy and a few shots fired, which proved destructive. At this time a heavy fire opened on our single gun, killing one gunner and wounding two others. On this, several other gunners (Germans), from St. Louis, abandoned the gun, carrying off the primer and matches, rendering the piece useless. The action continued an hour, when our column was slowly withdrawn to more open ground, bringing off the wounded and dragging away the gun by hand, all the horses having been killed or badly wounded.

About this time Colonel Smith, who left St. Joseph with 1,400 men, about the same time Scott did Cameron for the same general purpose, joined the latter, having pushed forward his mounted men and his artillery at a rapid pace, on receiving a message from Scott, ten miles back, that he was advancing on the enemy; but it being night, their men completely exhausted and the rebels reported strongly entrenched at a thicket impassable, except by a narrow road, a further attack was postponed until the next morning. Early the following day an advance was made by the combined forces, but on arriving at Blue Mill, they found the enemy had crossed the river before daylight, taking the road towards Lexington.

Of the Union troops fifteen were killed, ninety four wounded and six missing.

The Secessionists reported one hundred and twenty of the Unionists killed and wounded and their loss two killed and fourteen wounded. The victory was claimed by the Unionists and also by the Confederates.

A fight occurred at Mariatown, Missouri, on the 17th ult., between six hundred National troops under Colonels Montgomery and Johnston, and four hundred Secessionists; the latter were completely routed with the loss of seven killed; one hundred horses and all their tents and supplies were captured. Three of the Union troops, including Colonel Johnston, were killed and six wounded. Colonel Johnston, while riding at the head of his column, was pierced by nine balls and instantly killed. Two bullets took effect in his head, two buckshot in the neck, one bullet in the left shoulder, one in the right and one in the left hand.

There was a fight at Booneville, Mo., on the 18th, between the Home Guards stationed there, under Capt. Eppstein, and a large force of Secessionists. How many were killed did not appear. The Secessionists retired after a severe conflict of an hour's duration.

General Price, in command of a large secession force, variously estimated at from twenty to twenty-seven thousand men, attacked the Federal fortifications at Lexington, Missouri, on the 18th of September, in which

there were some three or four thousand troops in command of Colonel Mulligan, of the Illinois "Irish Brigade," consisting of his own regiment, Colonel Marshall's cavalry and Colonel Peabody's command of Home Guards and Kansas troops. There are so many reports concerning the attack and the fighting which continued till sometime in the afternoon of the 20th, when the Federal forces surrendered unconditionally, that it is impossible to arrive at anything very certain as to the number of the killed and wounded on either side, but it is evident that the loss of life was great and that there were more killed of each army, than they were willing to admit. The first report stated that the Union loss was from eight to nine hundred killed and wounded, and that of the Secessionists three to four thousand. Subsequent reports materially lessened the number, especially on the side of the Confederates. The lowest number of Federal troops killed and wounded as reported by some who were in the fight, was one hundred and thirty, and that of the Confederates from nine to twelve hundred.

The spoil taken by Price's army is estimated at about \$3,000,000, one half of which was cash that had been taken by Colonel Mulligan from the banks in Lexington, and buried within the fortifications, but was soon found and unearthed by the Secessionists after the surrender. The loss to the Government by the surrender of Lexington and the annihilation of Mulligan's army, is estimated by some at not less than \$10,000,000. It is said that Mulligan's men fought fifty-nine hours without water, the fortifications being on the high bluff between the old and the new town in which there were no springs nor wells of water, the supply being from the river, which the Confederates cut off, surrounding the fort on every side. The only thing drinkable which the soldiers could obtain during the siege was vinegar, of which there were but a few barrels. Price's army procured a large quantity of hemp bales, and rolled them up towards the fortifications behind which the men were sheltered from the fire of the Unionists. They made but few charges upon the breastworks after the first day, knowing that Mulligan's forces would be compelled to surrender for the want of water, sooner or later. It is reported that previous to his surrender, Colonel Mulligan offered to take a position on a level spot of ground, and give General Price the odds of four to one in a fair and open fight, but no attention was paid to it. After the surrender, the rebels mounted the breastworks, and seemed mad with joy and delight. The Federal flag was torn down and trailed in the dust.

The next morning after the surrender the prisoners were all released on parole, ferried across the river and marched to Hamilton on the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad, under the guidance of several armed Secessionists, and from thence west to Quincy, Illinois.

Mr. J. B. Cox, late of Fort Crittenden, well known to the citizens of Utah as one of the many who came here with Buchanan's army, who, if loyal before, became rank Secessionists immediately on the commencement of the civil war, and who left with Colonel Cooke's command, or about the same time, to join the Confederate army, in a communication to one of his acquaintances in this city, written the next day after the surrender and subsequently mailed at St. Joseph, gives the following account of the siege and fall of Lexington:

"I have just time to say that we have met the enemy and they are ours. Never has an army been more triumphant, or an enemy more completely overpowered. On Wednesday the 18th of September, our army marched into the city of Lexington, surrounding it on every side, with General Price at its head, with Generals Rains, Hughes, Stein, Harris, Green and others, with their respective divisions.

Our army numbered in camp, twenty thousand, while the Federals entrenched, were about four thousand, with five pieces of artillery, and two mortars. Colonel Mulligan, Colonel Marshall, Peabody, White and others had command of the Federal fortifications. We opened with our batteries at the distance of one half mile. Cannonading was kept up by both parties during Wednesday and Thursday with but a small loss on either side.

On Friday morning at eight o'clock we commenced moving up with a hemp breastwork, sheltering about one thousand men behind the bales. These we rolled up until we had reached within one hundred yards of their entrenchments and battery. Suffice to say, that after a desperate fight, which lasted until 2 p.m., the Lincolnites presented the white flag and asked for quarter.

They made an unconditional surrender of everything consisting of four thousand eight

hundred stand of arms, five hundred head of horses, five pieces of artillery with two mortars, a large amount of ammunition, wagons, tents, and \$1,000,000 in cash that they had stole from the State.

We took three thousand prisoners. They killed, wounded and missing was five hundred. We lost about fifty killed and one hundred wounded.

In conclusion let me say that I was in the whole fight—receiving three bullet holes in my clothes. I forgot to say that we also gained a glorious victory at the Blue Mill Landing three days before, killing and wounding one hundred and twenty of their men, and losing two men and having fourteen wounded."

Report says that the troops of General Price devastated the country for a circuit of over twenty miles around Lexington. Every barn, field and mill was cleared of their contents. Fields that were a few days before covered with ripe grain, were left as bare as a desert. Dwellings that were filled with the comforts and necessities of life, were stripped of everything contained in them. Money, silverware, clothing, bedding, in fact everything was seized and carried off by the troops.

General Lane's command surprised a Confederate camp at Papinsville, Mo., on the 21st, utterly routing them. One hundred Secessionists were taken prisoners, and forty killed. The whole camp equipments and the provisions of the enemy were taken.

After his engagement with the Secessionists at Papinsville, General Lane made a forced march on Osceola, and succeeded in capturing a large supply train left by General Rains and Price, together with \$100,000.

There was a skirmish between a portion of Colonel Geary's force and five hundred secessionists, near Point of Rocks, on the Virginia side of the Potomac, on the 24th of September. The Confederates as reported, were sheltered on a high point on the Catoclin mountain and in houses at the base. They were driven away by the rifles and battery of Colonel Geary, and the houses burnt. Several of the Confederate troops were said to be killed and wounded, but none of the Federals were hurt.

Five hundred of the 4th Ohio regiment, with one piece of artillery, and the Ringold cavalry, seventy-five in number, under Colonel Cantwell, and four hundred of the 8th Ohio regiment, Colonel Harker, made an advance from New Creek, Virginia, on the 23d, toward Romney. They drove the enemy, seven hundred strong, out of Mechanicsville Gap on the 24th, and advancing on Romney, stormed the town, causing the enemy, whose force numbered one thousand four hundred infantry and cavalry, to retreat to the mountains with a loss of about thirty-five killed, and a large number wounded. The Federal loss amounted to three killed and ten wounded.

At latest dates received by mail, the war movements in Missouri were progressing as fast as time and circumstances would permit. It was estimated that the Confederates had at least one hundred thousand men under arms at various points on the south side of the Missouri river in that State. General Price had left Lexington, and was moving southward as fast as possible towards the Osage, to prevent, as was supposed by some, a collision with General Fremont. Others were of the opinion that he intended to draw Fremont, with the forces under his command, to some point south of the Osage, where he could fight him on a field of his own selection, and where the chances of victory would be decidedly in favor of the Confederates.

The Confederate army in Virginia, was slowly falling back from the Potomac, towards Manassas, for what purpose could not be ascertained.

More Coal Discoveries.

Mr. S. P. Hoyt, who is building a grist mill on the Weber, below the mouth of Silver creek, in Summit county, brought to this city a few days since some coal taken from a newly-discovered mine in that vicinity, some six or eight miles this side of that opened last season. Some of the blacksmiths tested it, and pronounced it better than any they had before seen, which had been taken from the Weber mines, and equal to any they have ever used in the Territory.

The Weber country is unquestionably an extensive coal field, and if the mines were opened and properly worked, they would supply the whole Territory with coal for fuel and manufacturing purposes. The coal there is supposed to be inexhaustible.