

# THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1864.

VOL. XIII.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

New York, 2.

The House bill of relief for settlers on land-claims in California passed the Senate on the 30th.

A special to the Times, Washington 1st, says a despatch was received to-day by government from Fort Monroe, stating that the rear of Beauregard's army passed through Petersburg yesterday morning; his force is estimated at 18 or 20,000.

The pickets of both armies extend up and down the Rappahannock and Rapidan. A considerable force is reported at Fredericksburg, throwing up more earthwork on the heights. The rebels are reported to be withdrawing from Madison Court House and concentrating in front of our left and centre. One division of Longstreet's corps, according to deserters, is at Hanover Junction as a reserve. On the same authority, Lee's strength is stated at upwards of 100,000 men.

Rumors prevail that Gen. Banks is superseded by Gen. Augur.

Facts in possession of the Congressional committee to investigate the affairs of the New York custom house show an enormous trade carried on between that city and rebellion.

The World's New Orleans letter reports that the evacuation of Texas by our forces has begun, and also says a report has reached New Orleans that Gen. Polk is at Camp Moore, 90 miles from New Orleans, with 15 to 20,000 men, to move at once on Port Hudson or Baton Rouge.

A Herald's Newbern letter, 26th, says information is received here that the authorities have taken possession of all the railroads in the South for the next 60 days, during which time no citizens are allowed to travel on them. It has also been learned that troops from Charleston, South Carolina, have been brought to Wilmington, and there relieved troops who have since proceeded to Richmond.

Chicago, 2.

Gen. Ransom publishes a card denying that Gen. Stone was in any way responsible for the reverse in Louisiana.

New York, 2.

The bank statement shows a decrease in specie of \$7,850,000, and an increase in deposits of \$2,600,000.

The Commercial's special says Gen. West's command are at Salisbury, en route for Richmond; that the rebels had evacuated Plymouth and all eastern North Carolina, to swell the ranks of Lee's army.

A special also says the 10th corps entire and the 18th corps largely augmented are with Gen. W. F. Smith at Fortress Monroe.

Fortress Monroe, 1.

Little Washington, North Carolina, was evacuated by our forces on Thursday last, troops there being wanted elsewhere.

New York, 2.

By the City of Washington, from Liverpool 20th. The steamer Bavaria, from Hamburg for New York, was captured on the 17th by a Danish frigate at the mouth of Wezer, she had a large number of passengers on board; her cargo is valued at £120,000.

Chicago, 2.

The troops of the 16th and 7th army corps, that have been encamped at Cairo, have gone to Northern Alabama.

Queenstown, 21.

The Prussians assaulted and captured Dupel on the morning of the 18th, capturing 300 cannon and 2 to 300 prisoners. The Prussian loss is stated at 2 Generals, 60 officers and 600 privates. The Danes are said to have lost between 80 and 100 officers, and 4,000 men are reported hors du combat. The victory was received with great rejoicing at Berlin. The Prussians have occupied Olsen, and the occupation of the whole of Jutland is resolved upon.

Some members of the conference met at London on the 20th; the representative from the German diet was absent.

Washington, 1.

Frank P. Blair has been assigned a command in the 17th army corps.

Washington, 2.

Affidavits taken by the sub-committee on the conduct of the war at Fort Pillow, show conclusively that some of the negroes were buried alive. The deposition of one was taken who was dug out of his own grave. There is no doubt of the fact that one or more persons were nailed through the flesh to pieces of wood and then burned alive. Not only on the day of the surrender were such fiendish acts perpetrated, but the next day in cold blood. Victims were seen by the committee who were some of them pierced and cut in the face and eyes with bayonets and swords, while other parts of their bodies were disfigured either by steel or lead.

Harrisburg, 2.

Gov. Curtin received positive assurance from the war department last night that the Pennsylvania reserves would be mustered out of service at the end of 3 years from the time

they entered the State service; they did not enter the Federal service till 2 months after they were sworn into the State service; they came to recruit and re-enlist; their return, however, will be a loss to Grant of 5,000 of his most effective men for the greater part of the summer campaign.

Baltimore, 3.

Annapolis letters say a flag of truce boat arrived yesterday morning from Richmond with 400 released prisoners, all of whom had to be admitted into hospital; their looks and words abundantly show their miserable condition produced by starvation; many of them are believed to be past the reach of medicine.

Washington, 3.

Banks, in his official despatches to the War Department, relative to the Red river campaign, admits a surprise and reverse on the 8th of April, but claims that the battles on the 9th and 10th resulted in terrible disaster to the rebels, and were, on the whole, a victory to our arms, the cost to the rebels in killed and wounded being greater proportionately than they have ever suffered in any battle during the war.

Cairo, 4.

Later arrivals confirm the capture of a wagon train near Pine Bluff; when the steamer left that place only about 40 of the guard had returned, who reported the rest killed and captured; further news may modify the disaster, but it is probable that our loss will reach 1000 men and 7 pieces of artillery.

Chicago, 4.

The Richmond Enquirer, 30th, says a great fire at Wilmington had fallen heavily on blockade operations, indeed it may be considered to have put an effectual stop to running the blockade for some time; the destruction of property is estimated at from \$3 to 5,000,000 in gold.

In a long leading article the Examiner applauds Forrest's atrocities at Fort Pillow, and says the whole country will applaud the action, and so, it is hoped, will the Confederate government.

The Enquirer, commenting upon the recent speech of Vice-President Stephens, says he has disappointed his admirers and friends only to gratify his enemies and those of his country.

Washington, 4.

Gen. Meade has issued a general order that there are men in the army who refuse to do duty on the ground that their term of service has expired, and says it will be made known to such that, their conduct being in open mutiny, they will be punished with death without trial, unless they return to duty; and hereafter any soldier who refuses to do duty on a similar plea will be instantly shot, without any form of trial whatever. The honor of the service and the necessities of the hour admit of no other disposition of such cases. The commanding General recommends that soldiers cheerfully acquiesce in the decision of the War Department with respect to their term of service, but has no further word or warning for those who, at a time like the present, choose to defy authority. The camps and independent commanders are charged with the execution of the order.

A draft to fill up the deficiencies has been ordered in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Maine, Kentucky and Maryland.

Denver City, 4.

About 60 men of the 1st Colorado cavalry, under Major Downing, had a fight yesterday with a band of Cheyenne Indians, numbering about 200, at Cedar Canon, 20 miles south east of American Rancho, on the South Platte; the Indians were totally routed and dispersed with a loss of 25 killed, 35 to 40 wounded, and over 100 prisoners; 1 soldier was killed and 1 wounded.

Gov. Evens has requested Gen. Curtis, Department Commander, to place camps of soldiers at convenient distances along the routes to Colorado, and have emigrant and supply trains escorted to and from camp to camp; ample provision will be made to guard emigrants from any possible danger.

Head Quarters Army Potomac, 4.

As an earnest spring campaign is about to commence, I send the following address of Gen. Meade; its confident tone, patriotic sentiment and inspiring phraseology all tend to beget the same tone and spirit in the hearts of the brave men who will soon march on the foe:

"Head Quarters, Army Potomac, May 4.

Soldiers:—Again you are called upon to advance on the enemy of your country. The time and occasion are deemed opportune by your commanding General to address you a few words of confidence and caution. You have been reorganized, strengthened and fully equipped in every respect. You form a part of several armies of your country, and the whole is under the direction of an able and distinguished General who enjoys the confidence of the Government, the people and the army. Your movements being in co-operation with others, it is of the utmost impor-

tance that no effort be left unspared to make them successful.

Soldiers:—The eyes of the whole country are looking with anxious hope to the blow you are about to strike in the most sacred cause that ever called men to arms; remember your homes, your wives and children; bear in mind that the sooner your enemy is overcome, the sooner you will be returned to enjoy the benefits and blessings of peace. Bear with patience the hardships and sacrifices you will be called upon to endure, have confidence in your officers and in each other, keep your ranks in march, and on the battle field let each man earnestly implore God's blessing, and endeavor by his thoughts and actions to render himself worthy of the favor he seeks, with clear conscience and strong arms, actuated by a high sense of duty, fighting to preserve the Government and institutions handed down to us by our forefathers; and, if true to ourselves, victory, under God's blessing, must and will attend our efforts.

[Signed,] GEO. G. MEADE."

Chicago, 5.

One account from Fort Monroe, in regard to the evacuation of Little Washington, N. C., says the city was laid in ashes by straggling marines and soldier. The Government naval, commissary, ordnance, and quarter-masters' stores were destroyed. The city was mainly owned by Union people. Four thousand Federal troops suddenly evacuated Little Washington, in face of 7 companies of rebels, leaving the entire Union people to their tender mercies, after burning their houses over their heads. When the U. S. steamers left the dock, the screams of women and children, at being abandoned, were pitiful. The indignation against Gen. Butler is very bitter in North Carolina, and a delegation of leading men has gone to Washington to ask his removal. A dispatch says refugees report that the place was burned by the rebels, after the evacuation.

Cairo, 5.

We learn the following in regard to the retrograde movement of our army from Grand Ecore:—

The army left that place on the 21st, first crossing Cane river, then coming down between the two rivers; on arriving at a point near the mouth of Cane river, where General Franklin expected to cross, he found the enemy posted on a high eminence on the opposite side, to dispute his passage; an artillery engagement occurred, lasting all day Saturday and until Sunday morning; during the engagement Gen. Franklin sent two brigades of infantry up Cane river a few miles, where a crossing was effected, and came down on the enemy's flank; a spirited fight ensued, lasting 2 or 3 hours, and resulting in the positions being carried by assault; our loss is said to be 4 or 500 killed and wounded. The report that we captured 1000 prisoners and 7 guns is not confirmed. Our army then crossed, the rebels closing in on our rear; sharp skirmishing was kept up all the way down.

Chicago, 6.

The sentence in the case of Commodore Wilkes is that he be publicly reprimanded by the Secretary of the navy, and be suspended from duty for 3 years.

Philadelphia, 6.

A Bulletin special, Washington 6th, says the army of the Potomac has passed the wilderness, which includes the old Chancellorsville battle ground, east of Lee's army, and pressed on until it reached the open plain south east of the wilderness.

Cairo, 6.

Officers just arrived from Alexandria report that the efforts to raise the Eastport were unsuccessful, her guns were removed and she was blown up.

Memphis, 3.

The steamer White Cloud, from Alexandria 1st, says Gen. Banks and army were still there. Rebels are reported 3 miles distant. Skirmishing occurred daily. The Hastings sunk above Alexandria, and the Champion and boats No. 3 and 4, with submarine pumps on board, had been attacked by a rebel battery, 40 miles below Grand Ecore, and burned. Gen. Banks continues very unpopular with the army, and matters look badly.

Natchez, 2.

Gen. A. L. Lee and 19 other officers are under arrest at New Orleans for declaring that the Red river expedition was not for fighting, but for thieving and speculation.

Chicago, 7.

Gen. Steele left Camden for Little Rock, on the 26th, being out of supplies; on the 13th he crossed Saline river at Jenkin's ferry; before crossing he was attacked by the rebels under Fagan; a portion of the rebel cavalry crossed the Saline and continued to harass Steele during his whole march, causing considerable alarm; he was able, however, to prevent the rebels doing him injury, but found it necessary to destroy his train and demolish every bridge behind him; his cavalry reached Little Rock on the 1st, the main force being within 40 miles of that place. Little Rock and Pine

Bluff are believed safe from any attempt of the enemy; reinforcements have been sent to the latter place. The failure of Gen. Steele is a necessary consequence of the disaster to Gen. Banks; had the latter General been successful, the capture of Camden by Steel would have had a strong influence in preventing the rebels from retrieving their losses in the trans-Mississippi department.

New York, 7.

Col. Hoffman, Commissary-General for prisoners, has made a report to the Secretary of war on the condition of the released prisoners recently arrived at Annapolis; he describes it as horrible in the extreme; out of 370 more than 300 are so completely imbecile as to believe that they are still at Belle Isle, being utterly oblivious of the fact that they have been removed.

Union Mills, Virginia, 6.

The grand army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan on the 4th; 20 corps moved on the 3d to the mills on the opposite heights, meeting no opposition; the position was gained, and the corps moved on at 2 o'clock, taking the road to Chancellorsville, at which place Hancock would establish his headquarters. The 5th and 6th corps crossed at Germania ford, taking the road to Wilderness, on the night of the 4th, Gen. Warren's headquarters, Sedgewick at his right, and general headquarters at Germania ford. On the morning of the 5th, the rebels pressed on our pickets, and appeared to be in strong force on our right. The 5th New York cavalry, skirmishing on Orange Court House road, near Perkin's Tavern, were driven in with severe loss, leaving many wounded on the field. Griffith's division was marched forward on our right about 11 o'clock to feel the enemy's position, and were met by the rebel Gen. A. P. Hill, supported by Gen. Ewell; a severe action took place in which we captured about 300 prisoners, although it is reported that we lost 2 guns. In the meantime, Hancock marched his corps to the right, to connect with Warren, and had hardly got into position, with his left resting on or near Chancellorsville, when he was attacked by Longstreet with a full corps and part of Ewell's. Hancock, with the assistance of Getty's division of the 6th corps, was under a musket fire of 2 and a half hours duration, in which his command suffered severely, inflicting much injury upon the rebels. Other developments showed Lee to have his whole force in our front; this knowledge of their position was of course highly important, and thus obtained only by the greatest skill in handling our troops. It not being the purpose of Gen. Meade to advance our line of the army, he ordered the line of battle to be held till morning. The position of our troops on the night of the 5th was parallel with and a little in advance of the road from Germania ford to Chancellorsville, the two flanks resting on those points, with the general headquarters at Wilderness. In the meanwhile, in the afternoon of the 5th, the advance of the 9th corps crossed Germania ford, taking position on our right flank. Burnside's rear arrived on the morning of the 5th.

Fortress Monroe, 6.

On the night of the 3d, about half of the large fleet of transports that has been lying in the roads for some time were ordered to Yorktown, and commenced embarking troops on the 4th; the rest of the fleet went up and took the remainder of the troops and came back here; the whole fleet then proceeded up James river, passing here on the night of the 5th. The movement was conducted with great secrecy. The fleet advanced up the river preceded by the army, the gunboats under the command of Gen. Graham. During last night and to-day very successful landings were effected at Wilson's wharf, Fort Powhattan landing and Bermuda Hundred; no resistance has been met with, and no casualty.

Cairo, 7.

On the 27th ult., the rebels planted a battery between Alexandria and Fort De Russey, and attacked a fleet of gunboats and transports; one of each was lost; the gunboat Natchez was so much disabled she had to be towed to Natchez; two shells exploded inside, completely riddling the boat, killing 18 men and wounding a number.

Washington, 7.

A law recently passed makes provisions for the permanent settlement of the Indians of Utah in Uinta valley in that territory; the bill appropriates \$30,000 for agricultural implements, etc., to enable them to become self-sustaining.

Gen. Canby has been appointed a Major-General, and ordered to command the department of Louisiana and Arkansas.

Major-Generals French and Key have been mustered out of the volunteer service, by order of the President.

Letters from Bull's Gap, Tenn., to the 27th ult., announce the destruction of the East Tennessee and Virginia railroad for a distance of 15 miles, between Lock creek and Greenville, Tenn., by a brigade of troops belonging [Continued on page 257.]