

THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

NO. 27.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1864.

VOL. XIII.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Washington, 21.

The inquiry having been made as to whom the contract for carrying the overland mail had been awarded, it is ascertained that the advertisement for the overland mail was withdrawn on the 8th of February, at the request of the Senate committee on post offices and past roads, consequently no contract has been awarded.

New York, 22.

A letter from Japan, in the Tribune, reports the burning of 30,000 houses and 200 warehouses in the city of Osaka, with the loss of 500 to 1,000 lives; the fire lasted 3 days.

Washington, 22.

The House passed the Senate bill authorizing the President to negotiate with certain Indians in Southern Oregon for the acquisition of land, and appropriating \$20,000 therefor.

New York, 22.

Washington specials say Gen. Hancock before the committee on the conduct of the war, to-day gave a complete vindication of Gen. Meade's conduct at the battle of Gettysburg.

The Postmaster-General invites proposals for putting the overland California mail service in operation by the 1st of October, or, if preferred by the accepted bidder, July 1st; the schedule increases the speed so that the trip must be made in 16 days during 8 months of the year, and 20 days for the remainder of the year; the contract is to be for 4 years; newspaper and document mails are to be transported by sea.

Washington, 22.

In the Senate McDougal offered the following joint resolution:—Resolved that the occupation of Mexico by the Emperor of France, or by any person indicated by him as Emperor of Mexico, is an offense to the people of the United States:—Resolved that the movements of the government of France and the threatened movement of an Emperor improvised by the Emperor of France demand of this Republic, if insisted upon, war.

Cairo, 22.

The steamer Fanny sunk below Vicksburg on the night of the 15th; her cargo, valued at \$200,000, is a total loss; the boat, valued at \$20,000, is also a total loss.

Chicago, 22.

A statement, just published, exhibiting the quotas of the several States under the last call with all the credits deducted from and the deficiencies added thereto, shows Illinois over 12,000 in excess; all other States are deficient; Pennsylvania is short 74,000, New York 50,000, Ohio 39,000, Maryland nearly 22,000, Massachusetts 20,000, New Jersey 15,000, Wisconsin 15,000, Iowa 13,000, Kentucky 15,000, other States from 1,000 to 10,000.

New York, 23.

The Raleigh Progress announces that Gen. D. H. Hill assumes command of Charleston; Beauregard goes to the south west.

Chicago, 23.

The statement of the number of men due from each State under all calls, including the last for 200,000 men, does not include the enlistment of veteran volunteers up to March 1st, 1864.

Sandy Hook, 23.

The Danish war was debated in the Lords on the 8th; Russell pronounced the Austria-Prussian course unjustifiable; Shaftesbury urged that a British fleet be sent to the Baltic to watch Austrian vessels; Russell replied that the channel squadron was at home and could be sent, if desirable, at the shortest notice.

The Prussian headquarters are at Minzeld on the frontier.

London, 10.

A severe fight has taken place between the Austrians and Danes near Vienna, with heavy losses on both sides. The Danes were drove back, and are advancing in great force towards Fredericka.

Shanghai, Jan 26.

China is tranquil. News from Japan is unsatisfactory. The Princes were endeavoring to exclude foreign trade at Yokohama.

London, 10.

The Shipping Gazette interprets Russell's speech, Tuesday night, as in effect meaning that England was pledged to maintain the independence of Denmark by negotiation if possible, failing that, by force of arms.

New York, 23.

Palmerston, in response, to the speech of D'Israeli, reiterated that the whole Austria-Prussian proceedings were outrageous, and not justified by the state of affairs.

Chicago, 24.

The third resolution adopted by the Democratic State convention at Columbus is as follows:—

That we are opposed to the prosecution of the war for the subjugation of States, or for the purpose of divesting them of their sovereignty, or infringing or impairing their constitutional rights; and being satisfied that its

continued prosecution for such an object will, in the end, prove the utter destruction of our civil liberty we therefore demand the immediate inauguration of peaceable means to attain an honorable settlement, and the restoration of the Union under the Constitution.

Cairo, 24.

Fire last night destroyed 2 entire blocks fronting on the levee. Loss 70,000.

Advices from below are to the effect that the fleet reached Atchafalaya on the 14th, where Gen. Smith's force disembarked to operate against Fort Derussey where Dick Taylor was encamped with 11,000 men. As soon as Taylor heard of Smith's landing he marched to the rear to attack him. Skirmishing commenced on Smith's left flank before he was aware of the exact whereabouts of the enemy. Discovering Taylor's design, Gen. Smith's army, instead of attempting to keep open the communication with the river, proceeded by forced marches towards the fort, reaching it 3 hours before Taylor came up. A charge on the works was immediately made. After considerable fighting, in which the Federal loss was about 40 killed and wounded, the fort was taken with 213 prisoners and 11 guns. The fleet in the meantime steamed up Red river, and at latest dates was at Alexandria.

New York, 24.

The king of Bavaria is dead. His son, aged 19, succeeded as king.

Additional by the China: Maderia, 4th. The Confederate steamer Florida from Brest, put in here Feb. 28th, and was allowed to receive 20 tons of coal, water and provisions. She was required to leave port again, which she did the following day.

London, 13.

Maximillian has arrived in London.

Paris, 13.

Mexican prisoners in France have given in their adhesion to Maximillian.

Boston, 23.

The great monitor Monadnoc was launched to-day.

New York, 24.

The committee on Indian affairs recommend the appropriation of a million dollars to indemnify the people of Minnesota for losses sustained during the Sioux war.

Hilton Head advices state that on the 10th, a new ironclad was launched successfully at Charleston; she is called Ashley; this increases the ironclad fleet in Charleston harbor to 7 vessels; she is described as a formidable vessel, with many improvements.

The rebels report the capture of Fort Powell, near Mobile, by Farragut; date not given.

A World's special says the testimony of Gen. Hancock before the committee on the conduct of the war, in relation to the battle of Gettysburg, is to the effect that on the 1st of July Gen. Meade directed him to proceed to the front and assume command of the 1st, 3d and 11th corps; upon arriving at Gettysburg he found that the 1st and 11th had been driven back, and were in considerable confusion; he relieved Gen. Howard, and proceeded to form a line on which an engagement might be fought, this being in accordance with Meade's instructions. He was engaged in forming this line when the 3d corps came up and a position was assigned to it; the line thus selected was the one on which the three days battle was fought. Hancock commanded the left and centre on the 3d, when Longstreet was repulsed from his desperate charge upon our lines; Meade had nothing to do with the selection of the line of battle, and trusted entirely to Hancock's judgment.

Washington, 24.

Hilton head advices state that the rebels have mounted 6 rifled guns in the casemates of Sumter, bearing on the channel, to prevent the advance of our gunboats.

Chicago, 24.

The enabling bills for Colorado, Nevada and Nebraska have been signed by the President.

New York, 24.

Fire in West Thirty-Six street, 23d, destroyed property valued at \$160,000; 30 families are rendered houseless.

Fort De Russey, Red River, 15.

This fort was captured to-day by our forces under Gen. D. J. Smith; the expedition left Vicksburg on the 10th, landed at Semmes port on the 13th, and marched to Bayou Place, where Gen. Schierry's rebel brigade had been encamped, but which fled on the approach of our transports, leaving considerable camp equipage and commissary stores. Smith pressed forward to Yellow Bayou where strong fortifications had been erected, but the rebels again fled; the enemy was pressed, some skirmishing occurred, resulting in the capture of several prisoners and a small wagon train. At daylight on the 14th, the entire command started for Fort De Russey, 28 miles distant; at 4 in the afternoon the 3d and 9th Indiana batteries opened on the fort, which replied vigorously with 3 guns; the cannonade continued an hour, when Smith ordered a charge on the enemy's rifle pits and to storm the fort; the 1st and 2d Illinois, the 58th, 119th, 89th Indi-

ana and 24th Missouri charged over Deep Ditches and a thick abatis, amid a galling fire, and within 20 minutes after the order to charge was made, the flag was planted on the enemy's works; 325 prisoners, including 24 commissioned officers were captured; 8 guns, a lot of small arms, an immense quantity of assorted ammunition and a large quantity of commissary stores were also captured.

De Russey is a formidable work, quadrangular in shape, with bastions and bomb proofs covered with railroad iron; a powerful water battery is connected with the Fort, with casemates which are capable of resisting shot and shell of the heaviest calibre. About 800 negroes were a year constructing the earth-works; destroying them will commence tomorrow; it will take 300 men 2 or 3 days to complete their destruction.

Admiral Porter has been busily engaged during the last 3 days in removing obstructions from Red river, consisting of rafts and piles driven into the channel; the transports now proceed up the river without interference.

Cairo, 24.

Porter's Red river fleet is said to be composed of 19 vessels carrying 178 guns; 2 vessels are turreted and 10 are ironclads.

Mauch Chunk, Pa., 24.

The shot and shell foundry of Albright and Strapp was destroyed by fire this morning; loss, \$300,000, insurance \$120,000.

St. Paul, 24.

Dispatches say that nearly all the Sissitons are favorable to peace, some of their leaders have already come into Fort Abercrombie and accepted the terms.

The Yonktonois, while they want peace, require that the United States shall not penetrate into their territory and that steamboats with emigrants shall not navigate the Upper Missouri. Refugee murderers of lower bands and evil disposed of other bands are joining the Yonktonois preparatory to the spring campaign.

New York, 25.

The Baltimore correspondent of the World gives the following as the exact strength of the rebel army on March 20th:

Department of Virginia, Gen. Reeler, in command, headquarters with the army; 7 divisions of infantry, 70,000 men, 250 pieces of artillery and 5,000 men; 15 regiments of cavalry and 15,000 men, at Richmond and vicinity.

Under Elsey. At Petersburg, Weldon Goldsboro, Wilmington and along the railroad between Richmond and Wilmington. Under Gen. Pickett and Gen. Barclay 30,000. Under Gen. Imboden and Col. Mosby near the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad and in Northern Virginia 5,000 from Lynchburg to Abingdon in south-western Virginia and guarding the line of the great Southern railroad from Lynchburg to Longstreet's pickets in East Tennessee, under Gen. J. C. Breckenridge, 5,000. Total under Gen. Lee's orders 130,000.

Department of south-west Gen. L. Polk commanding, headquarters at Demopolis, near Selma, Alabama, including the forces under Gen. Joe Johnston, at Dalton, and operating against Gen. W. T. Sherman in Grant's late department including the corps of Gen. Hardee 20,000 strong, part of which was recently sent to Florida and the cavalry under Forrest Richardson, S. D. Lee and Wirt Adams 75,000. In East Tennessee, under Longstreet, headquarters at Bull's Gap, 20,000. Department of the Gulf, until recently commanded by Beauregard, headquarters at Charleston and Savannah 30,000. Trans Miss, department, Lieut.-Gen. Kirby Smith, commanding, divisions of Gen. Price and Gen. Holmes in Arkansas and Gen. Magruder's division in Texas, 15,000. Department of the Gulf, at Mobile, under Gen. Mowry and Clayborn 5,000. Total number of disciplined troops 275,000.

Piladelphia, 24.

The Democratic State convention adopted resolutions instructing their delegates to vote for Gen. McClellan for President.

Fort Monroe, 23.

A Richmond dispatch, 21st, contains the following:

Demopolis, 17.

Sherman and Hurlbut have gone down the river with a large part of the army on 42 boats; they are said to be going up Red river to Shreveport.

Washington, 25.

Gen. Pleasanton has been relieved from the command of his cavalry corps, and ordered to report to Rosecrans. Gen. Sykes is ordered to report to Gen. Curtis, and Gen. Newton to Gen. Sherman; other changes are also made among them; Genls. Ricketts, Gibbon and Wadsworth are ordered to report to Meade for assignment to commands. Gen. Cadwalader has been relieved, to enable him to sit in a Court-Martial.

Gen. Grant's first general order was followed by a notice to the employees on the military railways; the use of intoxicating liquors by any person when on duty on military rail-

ways in service is positively forbidden; all employees of government in this department detected in using liquor on duty or carrying it with them on military road will be dismissed from the service.

All along the road from Long bridge to Brandy station strong stockades are being erected for the protection of commissary and quartermaster stores; this does not look much like an abandonment of this route to Richmond.

New York, 25.

A Post's special says the committee on the conduct of the war find no evidence against Gen. Meade in their investigations.

It is reported that the Secretary of the Treasury will probably furnish New York merchants next week with coin or coin certificates, at specified rates.

Cairo, 25.

Col. Hawkins in command of Union city, has surrendered his whole command to Forrest; our forces consisted of 425 cavalry, all armed and equipped, and 300 of them mounted; an insignificant amount of stores fell into the enemy's hands; after destroying the forts the rebels retreated; Grierson sent a strong force from Memphis in pursuit of their force, which has been reported at 7,000; it is now said not to exceed more than one third of that number.

Chicago, 26.

Gen. Grant visited the army of the Potomac on the 24th, and was enthusiastically received. An order has just been issued by the war department, in substance as follows:—

The number of the army corps comprising the army of the Potomac will be reduced to 3, namely, the 2d, 5th and 6th. The troops of the other corps will be temporarily distributed among these by the Com.-Gen. Maj. Warren is assigned to the command of the 7th army corps.

Cincinnati, 25.

The steamer Alice Dean, hence to Memphis, ran ashore and sunk last night; the boat and cargo are valued at \$400,000; the cargo will probably be taken out, but in a damaged condition; it is thought the boat can be raised.

A large number of troops are now en-route from the West to reinforce the army of the Potomac.

Chicago, 26.

Cairo dispatches say it has been determined to give up the places back of the river which are held by a small force, and hold only such places as are of importance to insure the safety of river communications.

Nothing definite from Banks and Steele; it is reported the former is meeting considerable opposition from Dick Taylor, but was expected to be at Alexandria about the 20th.

Eastern Arkansas has recently been the scene of the most revolting outrages by roving bands of Guerrillas; they go about the country from house to house, plundering the citizens of money, clothing and anything else of value; efforts are being made by the 15th Illinois cavalry to rid the country of these villains; rebel conscriptions being mercilessly enforced in Eastern Mississippi.

New York, 26.

The Evening Star, from New Orleans, 19th, Havana 21st, says a part of Admiral Porter's fleet appeared off Alexandria, Louisiana, and demanded its surrender, which was complied with without opposition.

The prisoners captured at Fort De Russey have arrived at New Orleans.

Gen. Banks would leave for the field on the 19th or 21st.

The gunboat Kiver had arrived from Baltimore.

The gunboat Gu'arara, one of the participants in the attack on Fort Powell, had arrived at New Orleans for repairs.

Guerrillas have made their appearance in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, and have had several skirmishes with the 4th Wisconsin mounted infantry, which resulted invariably in our favor; several prisoners were taken.

Advices from Brownsville report no prospects of fighting; new roads and fortifications are being made.

A fleet of 9 French frigates appeared off the mouth of the Rio Grande. An attack on Matamoras is expected. Particulars have been received of the capture of Guadalajara by Liberal Mexican forces under Uruga, 24 cannon, and 700 prisoners, French and Renegade Mexicans were captured. The traitor M-jia is at San Luis, Potosi, with 3,000 men, expecting an attack on Puebla; it is said to be besieged by the Liberals and must fall, the invaders having no reinforcements that can reach there in time to aid the garrison. Vidaurri positively declared for the French, and Cortinas and Doblado, with a strong force is marching to attack him. The former from Matamoras and the latter from Saltillo. Cortinas is very popular in Lamanlepas. The Liberal cause is brightening.

San Francisco, 21.

Gov. Douglas of Vancouver Island has retired from public life; his last act was to sign the bill extending the State telegraph line, which now works to Victoria.