



ELIAS SMITH...EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Wednesday,....January 21, 1863.

## MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DESERET.

Pursuant to adjournment, or in accordance with an act passed at the first session of the General Assembly, the Senators and Representatives convened in their respective halls in the State House, on Monday, the 19th inst., organized; met in joint session, and received the Governor's Message, which, as will be seen, was not a lengthy, but a very comprehensive document. After the dissolution of the session and the transaction of some little business by the respective branches of the Assembly, adjournment was had till Tuesday, when, after discussing several subjects deemed important, under existing circumstances, they adjourned sine die.

We have not room in this number for the proceedings in detail, nor time to make a summary.

## PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

From recent reports it appears that the war is progressing more rapidly than ever. The army of the Potomac, from all accounts, remains stationary; but the movements of both the Federals and Confederates in North Carolina have of late been upon an extended scale and, from appearances at latest dates, a collision must shortly take place.

Galveston, Texas, had been retaken by the Confederates, with considerable loss to the Federals—the army and fleet both having been repulsed. All the land and naval forces not captured had returned to New Orleans.

After their repulse at Vicksburg, the main portion of the defeated expedition proceeded up the Arkansas river and, as reported, captured Arkansas Post, with a loss of about five hundred, killed and wounded. The Confederate loss, in killed and wounded, was about two hundred. The Federals report to have taken some five thousand prisoners.

Banks' expedition, at latest advices, was coming up the river, but nothing definite has been heard from it, further than that the opening of the Mississippi had been deferred for one month.

## MOVEMENTS OF THE BELLIGERENTS AFTER THE BATTLE OF MURFREESBORO.

From the published statements in relation to the movements of Gen. Rosecrans, after the retirement of the Confederates from the battle field near Murfreesboro, it appears that on the morning of Sunday, the 4th, after it was announced to the General commanding that Gen. Bragg had retreated, the Federal troops were engaged in throwing up entrenchments, cautiously approaching the town, and kept up a brisk cannonade till they got near enough to throw shell into the city, which was entered about the middle of the day by Gen. Rosecrans and staff. It is also stated that Bragg left his dead unburied, but succeeded in removing all his stores, artillery and munitions of war.

A survey of the battle-field after the strife had ended is said to have revealed a woful state of affairs—the dead and wounded lying in heaps, and scattered about in every direction in greater numbers than had been reported. The work of interment was not soon accomplished, and the removal of the wounded who were suffering beyond description, exposed as they were to the rain and cold, although attended to diligently, was not completed till after hundreds had died of exposure and for the want of care and attention. Those who could be removed were taken to Nashville, where every hospital, church, hotel, and hundreds of private dwellings, taken possession of for that purpose, were filled to their utmost capacity. The country, however, were assured by an official announcement, that most of the wounds were very slight, and that at least two thirds of the disabled men would

soon be able to return to their respective commands, and enter again upon active service.

All the Secession families in Murfreesboro are reported to have left the city before it was occupied by the Federal army. Pursuit of the vanquished was commenced as soon as practicable, but it seems from both the Federal and Confederate reports, that it was not very vigorously followed up. Some skirmishing with the rear columns of the retreating foe is said to have occurred, in which no great loss was sustained by either army. It was believed, as the enemy retired in the direction of Tullahoma, that Bragg would make a stand there and again offer battle, but from recent reports it is made to appear that he did not stop at Tullahoma, but proceeded on to Winchester where the main body of Bragg's army was stationed at latest dates. Rumor says that Longstreet has succeeded him in the command of the Confederate forces in Tennessee.

It is stated that during the battle near Murfreesboro, there were many desertions from the Federal army, including several officers, and particularly from those divisions which were repulsed by Gen. Hardee in the great battle of Dec. 31st, in which, as reported, Gen. McCook's corps was so badly cut to pieces that the various regiments, brigades and divisions retreated in the wildest confusion, and so mingled that but few belonging to the same company or regiment could be found together. Under such circumstances, hundreds took occasion to abandon the service, and were among the missing at roll-call thereafter. Immediately after the termination of the conflict, and as soon as the fact became known that an unusual number of desertions had taken place, Gen. Rosecrans issued orders for the arrest of all such, wherever found, and their return to Nashville in irons.

The prisoners captured in the several engagements by Gen. Rosecrans' army were taken to Nashville, where the officers were placed in custody under the following order, issued by Gen. Rosecrans:

The Gen. commanding is pained to inform the commissioned officers of the Confederate army taken prisoners that, owing to the barbarous measures announced by President Davis in a recent proclamation, denying parole to our officers, he will be obliged to treat them in like manner.

It is a matter of regret to him that this rigor appears necessary, and trusts that such remonstrances as may be made in the name of justice, humanity and civilization, may reach the Confederate authorities and induce them to pursue a different course, and thereby enable him to accord to their officers the privileges which he is always pleased to extend to brave men, even though fighting for a cause which he considers hostile to the nation and disastrous to human freedom.

On the 9th, Gen. Rosecrans announced that he was pursuing the enemy, and expected that they would push on to Chattanooga before making a stand. He had been largely reinforced by fresh troops, and no fears were entertained as to the result, should another battle ensue.

The Federals complain bitterly of the atrocities committed by the soldiery of the Confederate army before, during and after the battle, and the Confederates report that the Federal soldiers were guilty of the most flagrant enormities possible for men to commit. The truth of the reports relative to the barbarity of the combatants is not doubted.

The latest intelligence from Tennessee represents that Cheatham's and Cowan's divisions of Bragg's army were at Shelbyville, awaiting reinforcements from Richmond. Wheeler, Sterne and Forrest were at Charlotte, forty miles northwest of Nashville, with a heavy force, threatening the destruction of the transports on the Cumberland river, several of which are reported to have fallen into their hands. It was believed that gunboats would have to be sent up the river to shell out the enemy, and keep the navigation of the Cumberland open below Nashville.

## ATTACK ON SPRINGFIELD.

It was very generally believed after the battle of Cave Hill, and the conflict near Fayetteville, Arkansas, in which the enemy were defeated, and retreated beyond Boston Mountains, that the State of Missouri would not soon be invaded again by Confederate armies; and that at least that ill-fated State would enjoy an immunity from war during the winter, as it was represented that they were

so effectually beaten, and did in such confusion that it would be impossible for them to recover from the state of demoralization they were said to be in after those reverses.

To render that part of the country more secure against the incursions of the enemy a large force was subsequently sent to scour the country beyond the Boston Mountains, which proceeded as far south as the Arkansas River, at Fort Smith driving the Confederates before them who fled as reported, to the south side of the river, beyond which the Federals could not proceed for the want of pontoons, the enemy having destroyed their boats, and everything that might enable the "Yankees" to cross and continue their pursuit. The amount of army stores and other property destroyed at Fort Smith and other places, was reported to have been great, and the troops sent on the expedition, returned jubilant over their successes which they seemed to think, were among the most important of the war. The command arrived at Prairie Grove on the 31st of December, as is stated, in "splendid spirits," and the reports that were put in circulation in relation to the glorious achievement tended greatly to strengthen the belief that the war in South-Western Missouri and North-Western Arkansas, was for the time being virtually at an end.

While the people in that country were thus rejoicing at the prospect of peace for some time to come, Gen. Marmaduke, who took a conspicuous part in the battle near Fayetteville, made an attack on Springfield, Missouri, on the 8th of January with five or six thousand men, having by some strategic movement succeeded in getting in the rear of the main body of Gen. Schofield's army. It seems that Schofield was not aware that any considerable Confederate force was in that region of country, and evidently had made no preparations to meet such an emergency. Col. Crabb, commanding at Springfield, was taken by surprise, but fought the enemy gallantly, and succeeded fully, from one o'clock in the afternoon till dark, when the attacking columns retired for the night. The next morning the enemy made demonstrations in force, at which time communication with the city by telegraph was cut off, and for several days the country was in suspense as to the result of the conflict; but it was subsequently reported, that the Federal army were victorious, and that the Confederates were ultimately repulsed and driven back at every point with considerable loss. A large force was sent in pursuit, but up to latest dates the results had not transpired.

Heavy cannonading is reported to have been heard in the direction of Houston on the evening of the 12th, which continued during the night and till about noon next day, but it was not known whether it proceeded from an attack by the Confederates on that town, or from a conflict between them and the force sent after them on their retirement from Springfield.

The demonstrations of the Confederates under Marmaduke in the rear of Gen. Schofield's army, and particularly the attack on Springfield, seems to have created much surprise. When repulsed, they retired eastward, and did not take the road to "Boston Mountains," as they have generally done, as per report, when defeated in that section of country heretofore.

## SEVENTIES HALL LECTURES.

On Tuesday evening, 6th inst., Mr. N. V. Jones delivered an interesting and practical lecture on Mineralogy. His discourse was devoted chiefly to the primitive period, and his illustrations were truly instructive.

Friday the 9th was reserved by the Presidency of the Seventies, who now manage the lectures, and this evening's addresses were delivered by Mr. John Pack, Mr. Thomas Bullock, President Joseph Young and Hon. Albert P. Rockwood, principally on the fulfillment of the prophecies of Joseph Smith, the history of the present war, and the mental torture and physical suffering occasioned thereby.

Hon. Orson Pratt, sen., A. M., was the lecturer on Tuesday the 13th. He chose for his subject his favorite theme—astronomy. The greater part of the lecture was devoted to the *modus operandi* of determining the position of the planets of our system, together with a brief dissertation on the fixed stars. The only matter of regret on this occasion was the incapacity of the Hall to accommodate those desirous of hearing, for hundreds were disappointed and went away because they could not obtain admission.

On the 16th, the subject of the lecture was the "Social Question," with which Mr. E. W. Tullidge, showed himself very familiar.

## THE EASTERN PRESS AND PEOPLE ON THE FREDERICKSBURG DISASTER.

Detailed accounts of the defeat of the Federal arms at Fredericksburg by due course of mail have just come to hand. The defeat was as overwhelming as it was unlooked for by the people. The furious vaunting so much indulged by portions of the Northern press just previous to the battle contributed in no degree to palliate the criminality involved in the terrific waste of human life on the ill-fated plans of Fredericksburg, nor to alleviate the feeling of dejection, dismay and deep distress, which, like a dark pall, seems to have enshroued all ranks and conditions of the people—the high, the low, the rich, the poor, the dwellers in the palace as well as those of the humble roof, whether numbered with the long list of widowed wives, orphaned children and bereaved relatives and friends or not. Gloom and despair were pictured every where.

The telegraphic dispatches, so far as ungarbled by the imperious system of government censorship, and the special army correspondents, in chronicling accounts of this great Federal disaster, when its full and terrible extent could be no longer disguised, throwing off the mask which had heretofore been stultically cast over the unwelcome news of repulse, defeat and slaughter, appear to have disgorged their pent-up feelings not alone in the free, bold and lucid descriptive statements of scenes—not imaginative, but of eventful and dreadful reality—actually occurring near the banks of the Rappahannock on the 12th and 13th days of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; but also in their unqualified acknowledgement of complete defeat and utter failure in the apparently well-concerted plans of the chief generals of the North.

This fact, so particularly noticeable in relation to the Federal disaster at Fredericksburg, possibly, might be construed in the light of a slightly redeeming feature, at least so far as concerns the truth-telling tendencies of Eastern journalists. It is certainly distinguishable, in this respect, from all previous Federal reverses—that the press generally have not shrunk from spreading the facts, with their heart-rending burden of disappointment, defeat and disgrace, before their readers; which may and doubtless ought to be accredited to that reactionary outburst of indignant resentment against the "mad pranks of military despotism," as some of the official acts of Mr. Lincoln have been entitled by eastern journals, which lately opened the prison gates of Forts Lafayette and Warren allowing their quotas of arbitrarily-arrested political offenders to go free.

Should the New York and other leading editors of this country, East and West, together with the r twaddle-correspondents, deem it expedient to return to a primitive, straight-forward, honest, candid, consistent, sound and fearless expression of the truth in all matters with which they have to do—sincerely repenting of past errors—we would not say that there may not even yet be hope for them, as individuals, in futurity.

The first intimation disclosing the chilling results of the attack came to us in a "private" from the operator at Chicago, as follows: "All advantages in Saturday's battle and its results seems to have been on the side of the enemy—the losses, disaster and humiliation, ours. The dispatch sent under government censorship may argue otherwise, but it is useless to deceive ourselves. We were badly whipped." This brief, private and unofficial announcement, told volumes and clearly foreshadowed the result of the contest and the awful character of details which have since then been brought to us by the mails.

The N. Y. Times war letter, written from the battle-field, dated at midnight of Dec. 13, says that, "in spite of all the glosses of official telegrams which you may receive, it seems here to-night that we have suffered a defeat." The Tribune's correspondent says, "it is not uttering too strong an expression to say that we were butchered. Destruction so terrible never before has been seen during this war." In a leading editorial of the N. Y. Herald it is said that "the public mind—with the full comprehension of the terrible battle of Saturday last and the unavailing sacrifice therein of over ten thousand killed and wounded soldiers—has been excited to a degree of despondency and indignation which is truly appalling. The depressing sensation, produced by the seven days battles in front of Richmond, and that resulting from Lee's sub-