

# THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

NO. 50

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1864.

VOL. XIII.

BY TELEGRAPH.

New York, 26.

The Chattanooga Gazette of the 23d, reports the rebel Gen. Wheeler at Stuart's Landing on the 20th, where he attacked, captured and murdered the colored garrison and nearly 300 white laborers. He also destroyed the camp and 44 wagons, killing one white soldier and one white citizen.

New York, 27.

Time's Washington special says: Several gentlemen have arrived in this city from Georgia, who came by the way of Atlanta, with permission of Gen. Sherman, who represent that the state government desires to learn upon what basis the U. S. Government will treat with the State of Georgia for admission into the Union. This action of the Georgia authorities is had without reference to the balance of the Southern Confederacy.

St. John's, 26.

A steamer from Charlottetown, reports that the pirate Tallahassee, burnt 22 American fishing vessels yesterday, off Prince Edward's Isle.

Washington, 30.

A letter from the Army of the Potomac, dated on the evening of the 28th, says: Our loss in Thursday's battle was about 2,000 men and 9 guns, 4 of them belonging to Brown's Rhode Island battery, 4 to Hunter's Massachusetts battery, and 1 to McKnight's battery light artillery.

Liverpool, 18.

The Belfast (Ireland) riots continued fiercely yesterday, with much injury to persons and property. To-day they have apparently subsided, the rioters being overawed by a strong military force.

Washington, 30.

Dr. Elder, of the Treasury Department, is preparing a report on the proposition of certain European bankers for a loan of one hundred million dollars. The report will be favorable to the propositions.

Government has entered suit against Surgeon-General Hammond to recover \$450,000, the amount of alleged frauds on his part in the purchase of supplies.

New York, 30.

The Herald's correspondent gives the following account of the fighting in the Shenandoah: Merrett's division of Torbett's cavalry were fighting Bradley Johnson's cavalry and one division of Early's infantry all day yesterday, (the 28th). They came upon Johnson's command on Sunday, and the country being open, the 1st and 2d regulars met them by a counter charge as the enemy were charging down on them. The collision of the second column was fearful, and there was more sabre cutting there than has been seen before during the war. Johnson's division fought from Charlestown through and beyond Smithfield, and Merrett's division occupied the town. On the morning of the 29th they brought a division of infantry against our cavalry and the fighting continued briskly until about 3 o'clock, when Sheridan, who had gone to the front, sent to Wright, commanding the 6th corps, for a division of his troops. He at once directed Rickett's to advance with his third division. Rickett's made a rapid march two miles or more and relieved Torbett's cavalry who had fought in gallant style all day. Rickett's division advanced nearly a mile before they found the enemy's line, and then a skirmish ensued of about five minutes. The enemy fell back for the night near Martinsburg, Virginia.

Richmond papers of the 28th, admit a loss of nearly 4,000 in the attack on Ream's Station. Prisoners say their loss was over 5,000.

New York, 29.

The World's special has the following accounts of the fighting on the Weldon road: The 2d and 3d division of the 2d corps went down on Wednesday near Reame's station to continue the destruction of the road, and had effectually succeeded in this object for a distance of some ten miles without encountering much opposition. On yesterday morning the rebels massed Farley's corps and two divisions of Longstreet's corps in front of our lines and commenced skirmishing. At an early hour (about 8 o'clock) they charged our line in front of the 2d division of the 5th corps and were handsomely repulsed, although they fought with the utmost determination, and almost as soon as they were beaten back, they were again rallied and returned to the charge. This was repeated four times, and each time they were punished severely, but on returning the fifth time, they succeeded in driving back the 52d and 69th New York, (which had already suffered dreadfully,) and pouring through the opening thus made, gained the flank and rear of the remainder of the division in a critical position, forcing it to withdraw on the left flank, and make its front in another direction, and in making the change it also suffered severely, but was able to prevent the farther advance of the enemy. The result of the battle is, that we have lost possession of about four miles of railroad on the left. The

5th corps still holds three or four miles of the position which was last week effectually destroyed, and would perhaps have been evacuated in a few days, so that the withdrawal from it is nothing deplorable, further than that we did not leave at our option.

The Tribune's special sums up the results of the fighting on the Weldon road as follows: 1st. The enemy is successful after repeated and impetuous assaults in compelling the abandonment by our forces of the railroad below Ream's station. 2d. Although attacking in vastly superior numbers, he received a bloody repulse in three successive instances. 3d. His loss in killed and wounded must have exceeded ours by thrice the number. Finally, by an overwhelming force he succeeded in forcing us back from our entrenchments on the other side of the railroad below the station, a position which it had already been decided to abandon. We fully accomplished the special object in view, namely: the destruction of the track ten miles below the station. Although our withdrawal from the entrenchments was somewhat hastened by the attack of the enemy, it is natural to conclude from trustworthy statements, that the severity of the blow inflicted upon the enemy did not begin to compensate him for the possession of a few miles of railroad embankment.

Washington, 27.

The following are official dispatches from the 2d army corps, dated 26th: The attack made about 4.30 p.m., was probably intended to be simultaneous by Wilcox in the center and Heath on the left. The enemy formed in the woods, placed their artillery in position and opened heavy; the cannonading lasting about fifteen minutes, when they assaulted Miles' force, he resisted tenaciously, but the enemy broke his left. Some of Gibson's troops were hurried over to repair the damage, and in the meantime the enemy gained a slight foothold and attempted to turn our left, and drove Gibson's division from his line. His men had been much wearied in marching over to Gen. Miles' position, and broke during the repeated assaults, but succeeded in reforming their line, and the enemy pressing on with great enthusiasm, were checked by the dismounted cavalry under Gregg. Miles also regained the best of his entrenchments. The enemy made no further advance; they must have suffered severely. My own loss, including cavalry, will not exceed 1,200 to 1,500. This is acknowledged to be the most desperate and determined fight of the war, resembling Spotsylvania in character, though the numbers engaged gives less importance to it. A few more good troops would have given us a victory of considerable importance.

(Signed,) W. S. HANCOCK.

Second Corps, 26.

The safe guard that was left on the battle field, remained there until after daylight. At that time the enemy had all disappeared, leaving their dead on the field unburied. This shows how severely they were punished, and doubtless hearing of the arrival of reinforcements they feared the results to-day.

(Signed,) MEADE.

Second Corps, 26.

The safe-guard referred to reports that the enemy retired in the direction of Petersburg. They also abandoned their wounded. The guard conversed with several rebel officers, who said their losses were greater than ever before during the war. The guard said they were over the field, and it was covered with the enemy's dead and wounded.

STANTON.

Washington, 28.

Gen. Sheridan, in a dispatch dated yesterday, 2-30 p.m., reports as follows: "The enemy left my front last night, falling back to Smithfield or Middletown. We captured 100 prisoners yesterday and inflicted a loss of 150 killed and wounded. There have been a few feints to cross the river by cavalry at Williamsport, but no strength shown. Indications to-day are, that they will fall back out of the valley."

Washington, 27.

Passengers by the mail boat from City Point, report that on Thursday a division of the 2d corps, in the vicinity of Reame's station on the Weldon railroad, was attacked by a large force of rebels, supposed to be Hill's entire corps. They were compelled to fall back, which they did gradually, disputing every inch of ground, and fighting most of the distance hand to hand.

Chicago, 29.

The Convention was called to order at noon by Aug. Belmont, Chairman of the National Committee, who, after a short address, nominated ex-Gov. Bigler as temporary Chairman of the Convention.

Chicago, 30.

Hughes, Chairman of the Committee on organization, reported that the Committee had unanimously agreed upon Horatio Seymour for President, who took the Chair amidst prolonged applause. One Vice President from each State was also appointed.

Afternoon session. On assembling at 4 o'clock, Guthrie stated that the committee on resolutions had agreed and were ready to report. The resolutions were read as follows.

Resolved. That in future as in past, we will adhere with unwavering fidelity to the Union under the Constitution as the only solid foundation of our strength, security and happiness as a people, and as the framework of a government equally conducive to the welfare and prosperity of all the States, both northern and southern.

2d. Resolved. That this Convention does explicitly desire as the sense of the American people, that after four years of failure to restore the Union by the experiment of war during which, under the pretense of military necessity or war power, higher than the Constitution, the latter instrument has been disregarded in every part, public liberty and private rights trodden down and the internal prosperity of the country essentially impaired. Justice, humanity, liberty, and the public welfare demand that immediate efforts be made for a cessation of hostilities with a view to an ultimate convention of States, or other peaceable means, to the end that at the earliest practicable moment peace may be restored on the basis of the Federal Union of States.

3d. Resolved, that the direct interference of the military authority of the U. S., in the recent elections held in Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri and Delaware was a shameful violation of the Constitution and that the repetition of such acts in the approaching election will be held as revolutionary and will be resisted with all the power and means under our control.

4th. Resolved. That the aim and object of the democratic party is to preserve the Federal Union and rights of the States unimpaired, and they thereby declare that they consider the administration to have usurped extraordinary and dangerous powers not granted by the Constitution, and that the subversion of civil by military laws in States not in insurrection. The arbitrary military arrest, imprisonment trial and sentence of American citizens in States where civil law exists in full force, the suppression of freedom of speech and of the press—the denial of right of asylum—the employment of unusual test oaths and interference with and denial of the right of the people to bear arms in their defence as calculated to prevent the restoration of the Union and the perpetuation of a Government deriving its past powers from the consent of the Governed.

5th. Resolved, That the shameful disregard of the administration to its duty in respect to our fellow citizens who now, and long have been prisoners of war in a suffering condition, deserves the severest reprobation on the score alike of public and common humanity.

6th. Resolved, That the sympathy of the democratic party is earnestly extended to the soldiers of our army, who are now and have been in the field under the flag of their country, and in the event of our attaining power they will receive all the care, protection, and regard that the brave soldiers of this republic have so nobly earned.

The resolutions reported from the committee were adopted with but few dissenting votes.

Chicago, 31.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock. The President stated the question before the Convention to be on ordering the previous question, and it was ordered without dissent. The vote was then taken by States, and the final result was as follows:

Main—McClellan, 7; New Hampshire—do, 4; Vermont—do, 5; Massachusetts—do, 12; Rhode Island—do, 4; Connecticut—do, 6; New York—do, 33; New Jersey—do, 7; Penn.—do, 26; Delaware—do, 3; H. Seymour, 3; Maryland—do, 7; Kentucky—McClellan 11; Ohio—McClellan 25; Seymour 6; Indiana—McClellan 9 1-2; Seymour 3 1-2; Illinois—McClellan 16; Michigan—do, 8; Missouri—McClellan 7; Seymour 4; Minnesota—do, 3; Wisconsin—do, 8; Iowa—do, 8; Kansas—do, 3; California—do, 5; Oregon—do, 3. Total—McClellan 202 1-2; Seymour 23 1-2.

The question was taken on making the nomination unanimous, and it was declared and carried with shouts from delegates and audience that resounded in deafening chorus.

Wickliff offered a resolution that Kentucky expects the first act of McClellan, when elected, to be to open Lincoln's prison doors and set the captives free. Carried unanimously.

The Convention adjourned, subject to call of the National Committee.

Halifax, 30.

An Irish riot had commenced at Belfast. Some disturbances occurred at Cork where the mob paraded the streets. The police fired some blank cartridges into them, when they scattered in every direction.

New York, 31.

The Herald's Falling Waters correspondent of the 31st says: Averill's cavalry attacked the enemy to-day on the Winchester pike and drove him beyond Clarksville; also pressed the enemy's pickets upon the George-

town and Charlestown road. They were strongly reinforced and our force fell back; the result was what was desired—the re-occupation of Martinsburg.

The Tribune's special, dated Charlestown 31st. 9 a.m., says: Sheridan's advance occupies Smithfield. The remainder of the army is strongly entrenched in a good position a few miles beyond Charlestown.

New York, Sept. 1.

The Herald's Beaufort correspondent of the 27th ult., says: The Tallahassee, after a season of devastation, has concluded to spend a short time at Wilmington.

New Orleans, 24.

Fort Morgan surrendered unconditionally yesterday at 2 p.m. We have about 200 prisoners, 60 pieces of artillery, and a large quantity of material. In the twelve hours preceding the surrender, about 2000 shells were thrown into the forts, citidal and barracks, which are entirely destroyed. The works generally, are much injured; many guns spiked, and carriages burned. Much ammunition was destroyed by the rebels. The loss of our army is one killed and seven wounded.

[Signed] CANBY.

New York, 1.

The steamer McClellan, from Orleans 24th, via Mobile Bay 27th, has arrived and brings Farragut's official dispatches regarding the capture of Fort Morgan and flags, the rebel ram Tennessee, the rebel steamer Selma, and Fort Gaines. The rebel ram Nashville was blown up by the Meta Comet on the night of the 25th ult., below Mobile. She was 360 feet long and was to mount twelve guns. One gunboat and six torpedoes in the channel below the Fort have been fished up. The Tennessee would soon leave for Orleans. The Selma is doing duty in the Union cause. Our forces on shore and on shipboard are in excellent condition.

Washington, 1.

The official statement of the public debt on the 30th of August, shows the amount outstanding to be \$178,565,244. The interest in coin and lawful money, \$77,447,122. The increase of the public debt since the 2d of August, \$53,073,000; and of interest, \$1,029,000. Debt bearing interest in coin, \$889,889,492. bearing interest in lawful money, \$469,197,000. The debt on which interest has ceased, \$358,470; debt bearing no interest, \$519,111,267; Treasury, \$17,189,518.

Washington, 2.

The Navy Department has received an official dispatch from Admiral Farragut. It appears the rebel Gen. Page endeavored to obtain more favorable terms, but was obliged to surrender Fort Morgan unconditionally. Farragut states that he has reason to believe that most of the guns were spiked and the gun carriages injured after the white flag was raised. He also discovered that Gen. Page and several of his officers had no swords to deliver, and several were broken that were surrendered.

The following is the conclusion of his report: "The whole conduct of the officers at Forts Gaines and Morgan presents such a striking contrast in moral principle, that I cannot fail to remark upon it. Col. Anderson, commanding the former, finding himself in a perfectly untenable position, encumbered with a superfluous number of conscripts, many of whom were mere boys, determined to surrender the fort which he could not defend. In this determination he was supported by all his officers, save one. From the moment when the flag was hoisted, he scrupulously kept everything intact and in that condition delivered it over, whilst Page and his officers, with childish spite, destroyed the guns which they said they would defend to the last, but which they never defended at all. They threw away or broke the weapons which they had not the manliness to use against their enemy."

"Fort Morgan never fired a gun after the commencement of the bombardment and advance of the pickets. Our army was actually in its glaciis, as before stated, when the surrender took place."

"At 2 p.m. the same afternoon, all the garrison were sent to New Orleans in the U. S. steamers Tennessee and Bienville, where they arrived safely."

[Signed] "FARRAGUT."

New York, 2.

The Herald's Mobile correspondent says, the results of the victory at Mobile may be summed up thus: We compelled the evacuation of Fort Powell and the surrender of Fort Gaines, almost destroyed and compelled to surrender Fort Morgan, heretofore considered the strongest fortification in the United States. We have taken 1,500 prisoners, 100 pieces of cannon and a vast quantity of small arms, munitions of war and provisions enough to feed the garrison we shall place in it for six months. We captured and have ready for use the ram Tennessee; the strongest war vessel afloat, also several other war vessels and have penned up at least three English blockade runners. All this cost the army one man killed and ten wounded and the navy the loss of the Tecum-

[Continued on page 393.]