

northward; also that the Prussians have been decidedly checked at Messiers.

PARIS, 27.—The following official news has been furnished by the minister of the interior. A force of Prussian cavalry was seen at Arcis-sur-Aube yesterday. A detachment of uplars attacked the railroad depot at Epernay, while others of the main body entered the town. Some soldiers of the national guard attacked and repulsed them, killing seventeen. A strong column of Prussian artillery has entered Chalons. The garrison at Strasbourg yesterday, made a successful sortie. They captured a convoy of cattle and some munitions of war. The city still makes a vigorous resistance. A large body of German troops, supposed to be the Landwehr, lately passed through Nancy, Vaucoules and Joinville on the way to Chalons. The report of the appearance of Prussian scouts at the Chateau Thierry is unconfirmed. Detachments of Prussians were reported to-day at Rheims, Varennes, Verdun, Pfalsburg, Bar-le-Duc and Steney, and on the railroad between Soissons and Rheims.

Herat, the Prussian spy, was shot this morning.

The *Journal Officiel* says that Belgium has announced her determination to oppose all violation of the neutrality of her territory, by force of arms if necessary.

The *Constitutionnel* says the idea of calling out, for active service, all former soldiers, from the age of 25 to 35, married or unmarried, has created considerable uneasiness. The writers add, it were better to incorporate the 350,000 garde mobile in the regular army. The same paper says the Prussians act, not only against the ordinary military laws, but those also of humanity. At Strasbourg they have cruelly forced all young men to work in the trenches and in some cases threatened them with death if they refuse. Frenchmen are thus forced to kill their brethren. Such acts are unworthy of this age; they give a singular idea of Prussian civilization. They only serve to increase French hatred and augment our determination to punish them. The *Constitutionnel* says that Gambetta, a Republican deputy in the Corps Legislatif, and the two distinguished lawyers, Laurier and Blaquet, have already recruited twelve thousand workmen and have requested to have the defense of the Fort de Bicetre, in the south end border of the city, entrusted to them.

One of the city journals, this evening, has a remarkable editorial, of which the following is an extract:

"Next to the news of the near approach of the Prussians to the walls of Paris, that which occupies the public mind altogether, is the possibility of an open rupture between General Trochu and the government. It is reported that the Empress has demanded the dismissal of General Trochu from the position as Governor of Paris; but we can affirm nothing positive. It is nevertheless true that a person has been permitted to express, carelessly, the opinion that Trochu, in the presence of the Empress, had been asked to retire."

A late copy of the journal of Nancy says:

"That which wounds us more than all else is the condition of the unfortunate farmers. Our tears flow at the sight of the long lines of wagons, laden with oats, hay and provisions of every kind, to be given over to the Prussian army. The fine horses, which were to prepare the earth for the seed of a future harvest, have been harnessed to Prussian cannon. Since everything is scattered and destroyed it equally follows that remarkable barrenness of the country must ensue. The difficulties of an entire year are crowded into one moment. The ruin is complete and unspeakable; long years will be necessary to repair the damages of these few days' invasion."

PARIS, 27th, Midnight.—The following official intelligence has been made public: On the 25th instant at 9 in the morning, Verdun was attacked by the Prussians, 10,000 strong, commanded by the Crown Prince of Saxon. After an ardent combat, which lasted three hours, during which time three hundred shells were thrown into the city, the Prussians, much injured by the artillery, were repulsed with considerable loss. The garde national served our guns. We have five killed and twelve wounded. The enemy fired on an ambulance train, which was struck seventeen times; two persons belonging to it were killed. The citizens made a vigorous defense. The movement of the Prussians along the Aube seems to have been arrested; they are falling back on St. Dizier. Large bodies of infantry are passing through Tuerville and Bayona.

The *Constitutionnel* says the army of the Prince Royal, Frederick Charles, is marching on to Paris through the valleys of the Aube and Seine. The Prussians must know how adventurous such an attempt is, and be aware of the peril to which they are leading their main army. McMahon may cut off their communication and place them between two fires. To avoid this danger the Prussians have made great efforts: they three times attacked Bazaine with overwhelming forces, which the French army successfully resisted. The enemy, then despairing of being able to conquer him, decided to keep Bazaine checked and to march on to Paris. From Paris to Sieruck, the nearest point on the German frontier, is more than a hundred leagues. This line the Prussians must defend against our armies numberless sharpshooters and the mobile garde. To be able to subsist on our territory the six hundred thousand invading Prussians must extend their lines vastly, and must disperse their forces, a thing so fatal to us in the commencement of the campaign. Our revenge, says the *Constitutionnel*, in conclusion, is near.

The *Figaro* says:

"Contrary to the line of conduct hitherto pursued, and the change is important, to show how often the military plans of the French have been modified during the last week by the authorities, the people are invited to impede the enemy by all possible means. Bridges are to be blown up, railways cut, roads blocked, scouts killed and the Prussians harassed in flank and rear. Should this means of resistance acquire an importance, which can scarcely be counted on, the enemy will not be here for fifteen days; otherwise, which is more probable, they may reach Paris in a week. The latter opinion prevailed in the Corps Legislatif yesterday."

L'*Opinion Nationale* says the German journals and those of Belgium have asserted that the troops of the Landwehr are not yet in the field, with the exception of the artillery. Nothing can be more false than this statement. Every one acquainted with the organization of Prussian forces is aware that the first van of the Landwehr, consisting of men from twenty-five to thirty-one years of age, have formed the greatest part of the Prussian forces; and not only did that portion of them enter the field as soon as the mobilization of the army was ordered, but the regiments, brigades and divisions of the second van of the Landwehr in provinces nearest France have reinforced the armies of Frederick Charles and Steinmetz. The fact of the second section of the Landwehr being called on for service outside of the Prussian territory has not occurred since the campaigns of 1815. Prussia, therefore, says L'*Opinion Nationale*, is now making her great effort.

Over two hundred and fifty thousand bees, sheep and hogs are now in Paris.

L'*Opinion Nationale* says that battles were fought on the 23rd and 24th, which resulted in the wholesale slaughter of the Prussian. It says Steinmetz was beaten on the former date and Frederick Charles on the latter.

The forts around Paris have been armed, garrisoned and provisioned.

The removal of the seat of government to Lyons is suggested.

On Thursday, at Epernay, the National Guard repulsed the Prussian force in an attack on Verdun; they were also repelled by the mobile garde. Prussian scouts are at Arcis-sur-Aube and near Dijon; they are moving rapidly, and will probably be before Paris on Tuesday or Wednesday. The object of the King is to conclude the campaign as speedily as possible.

A train of American ambulances, under the direction of Dr. Marion Simms, left this city to-day for Metz. Dr. Pratt and many other members of the U. S. Sanitary commission accompanied them. The daughters of Dr. Simms marched at the head of the procession, bearing the banner of France and the United States. Great sensation was evinced among the spectators. As the procession passed crowds cheered, and gave liberally to those collecting money for the wounded. The ambulance service will be strictly impartial in its ministrations, to French and Prussian.

PARIS, 29.—The following is official: Prussians under the Prince Royal have been seen going towards Snippes. The general forces in the department of Aube have abandoned their encampment and are marching on Semmepy. Twenty-five thousand Prussians have recently passed Joinville, going in the direction of Nancy and Montmeind. Twenty thousand Prussian cavalry have passed through Chalons going

toward Epernay. Pfalsberg and Strasbourg still hold out.

The Prussians have declined to send any more flags of truce to the French on any account. The Prussians in front of Strasbourg are still engaged in turning the course of the river Ill, to cut off the supply of water from the city, if they succeed in this the moat will also be left dry.

The *Times*, to-day, says that England is acquitted of every obligation to France.

Paris has been considerably excited to-day, over the story that, by the inundations recently ordered at Metz, an entire Prussian army corps was drowned. The report is generally discredited. The Prussian government has acquiesced in the refusal of Belgium and Holland in the matter of transportation of the German wounded. It is said the refusals were due to English advice. Madames Portales and Buthuane are imprisoned at Vincennes, as Prussian spies; the French authorities are talking of executing them.

The following official dispatch is dated Bar-le-duc, Friday night. The garrison of Vitry surrendered on Thursday morning; the Prussians captured sixteen guns and two battalions of France. The garde mobile were annihilated by the Prussians cavalry. Seventeen French officers and eight hundred and fifty soldiers were captured. The Prussians had one major severely and three troopers slightly wounded.

BERLIN, 27.—The Prussian headquarters are temporarily at St. Disier. Great quantities of stores, for the use of the Prussian army, are accumulating at Nancy. At 8 o'clock this morning Metz was completely invested. Marshall Bazaine, who is in command there makes no effort to force a passage. Deserters report the extreme demoralization of the garrison. The Prussians are strongly entrenched before the place. Of the three new armies, just organized in Germany, one will march on Paris with the Prince Royal and the others remain to protect the rear.

LONDON, 29.—It is reported that McMahon was defeated in a great battle with the Crown Prince, which began on the evening of Sunday. The latest dispatches represent the contest not yet decided, and that fighting was still going on between Charville and Ardennes. Sixty thousand troops have left Paris to join McMahon. All the palaces in France are to be appropriated as hospitals for the wounded. Russia and England are strongly opposed to the dismemberment of France. Americans are rapidly leaving Paris, and most of the hotels are already deserted. Steinmetz is reported to have been removed from his command.

A Berlin telegram to the London *Times* says the Prussians are advancing on Paris, two hundred and twenty thousand strong. They have cut the railway at Aurla and Gravelotte. The Bois de Boulogne is filled with cattle to be used as food in case of siege.

Wells, the Scotch aeronaut, has been summoned to the Prussian headquarters.

The *Presse* says that the official announcement made in the Chambers that the Prussians were marching on Paris causes neither astonishment nor fear. The Parisians receive it with quiet resolution. King William is fatally led to this hazard in spite of a series of strategic persons which should turn him from it. If it is considered that this obstinate old man raised a million men whom he will never take back across the Rhine, it will be easily seen that he finds it necessary to risk a bloody battle at the foot of our towers. There is not one German in all Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemberg or Baden who would not scorn and curse the King if he did not make a supreme effort to come here and dictate a peace in Paris. How could he return to Germany in the midst of a desolation of families, the misery and depopulation of city and country, should he not win a bloody success? His defeat would be complete. This is the decisive reason, which brings the old King under our walls.

Garnier de Cassagnac has petitioned the Chambers, at the request of many of the inhabitants of Paris, that all Germans now in Paris and its environs be expelled. It is proposed, in case of siege, that the Minister of War shall leave Paris, that the military administration of the city may not be at any time impeded.

ARLON, LUXEMBOURG, 28, evening.—There has been fighting all day at the village of Duss, between Steney and Verdun; the firing was steady from morning till night; no particulars have yet been received.

LONDON, 29.—The following is a resumé of the progress of the German

armies since the invasion of France: "After the check encountered by the French on guard, near Saarbruck, Aug. 6th, followed by the route of McMahon, the French main body retired on the line of the Moselle, the fortress of Thionville and Metz, the defenses of the Oder and the well supplied entrenched camps which were constructed, gave great strength to their new position. A direct attack would have been difficult; therefore the German army passed to the South of Metz, toward the Moselle, in order to cross it and discover the enemy's movements. Such great masses of troops, covering a wide region, required special precautions. The first army was to flank the enemy's line of march, and was directed to take a new position near the river Nied. In the meantime the first and second armies approached each other, a division passing over the Moselle. This division, took part in a battle in which the French were repulsed and pursued, until they reached the protection of the guns of Metz. This combat, resulted greatly to the advantage of the Prussians, as it retarded the French retreat and the advantage was easily followed up. Two roads connect Metz with Verdun, and Verdun with Paris. The second army, refraining from the passage of the Moselle, and Paris thus threatened, the French were obliged to withdraw from the right bank of the Moselle before Metz, not being strong enough to stop the Prussian movement. The advance of the first army, observing the movement of the French, attacked, on August 14th, attacked the French rear, throwing it upon the main body, which was compelled to send back several divisions to support the rear. The Prussian first and seventh corps went on the south side to compel the French to face about; they succeeded, after a bloody, but victorious conflict. The Prussian fifth division attacked General Frossard, and by degrees the entire French force became engaged and, of the Prussian forces the other divisions of the third corps, the tenth corps, and a regiment of the ninth corps, and a brigade of the eighth, participated. Prince Frederick Charles had taken command; the movement was successful, and the southerly road to Paris was intercepted. The Prussians fought heroically, and their losses were large, but those of the enemy, especially of the Imperial guard, were immense. The French official reports estimate the Prussian force engaged at double what it was. The only way for the Emperor to escape, fatal isolation from Paris and his supplies, lay on the northern line. The Prussian army, on the south, finding no enemy before it, fell back, combining with the other army. A joint attack on the French was then planned. The French ceasing to retreat by the northerly line, took a position on the heights before Metz. The end army instantly moved to the right, fixing its centre and left at Vernuville and Armardillians, while its right acted in contact with the first army. Absolute readiness for a simultaneous move along the entire line was requisite, as the French position was a strong one. At the start the ninth corps encountered the advanced detachments, who opened with artillery from the Vernuville side; the first army therefore was ordered to engage the enemy in front, and at one o'clock commenced a well sustained and effective cannonade, which lasted until broad daylight. The French engaged the enemy who had just been strongly reinforced, his line reaching from St. Marieen Chenes to the Lacuisse wood. This position, naturally of great strength had been so fortified by earthworks and ditches, that it seemed almost impregnable. There was a brief delay before the assault in order to make sure that the enemy had stopped his retreat on the northern route. The combat which ensued was long and severe. On the left the guards and Saxon troops fought at St. Marie, St. Privat and Dioncourt; in the meanwhile the other wing was engaged near Stail, the Lacuisse wood Verneville, as far as the north side of the northern road from Metz to Verdun. The eighth and ninth corps participated in the action at Gravelotte, and the contest was spread from Vaux to the Moselle, where a brigade of the third and tenth, with artillery, were engaged with the entire French army, McMahon's corps and Faillys division excepted. After sundown the Prussians took the heights by storm, flinging back the French along their entire line to the shelter of Metz.

A Hatten despatch states that Gen. Steinmetz has marched northward from Metz, pursuing McMahon to prevent him disturbing the Prussian force investing Metz.