

WAR NEWS.

The intelligence received from the seat of war of late, in consequence of the suspension of the mails east and failures west has not been voluminous and no continuous account of the proceedings of the armies in Virginia and in the department of the Mississippi has been transmitted over the wires.

The *Memphis Argus* recently published a list of the killed and wounded of forty Confederate regiments in the battle of Shiloh showing that there were nine hundred and twenty-seven killed; four thousand four hundred and seventy-one wounded, and three hundred and sixty-one missing. A correspondent of the *Cincinnati Commercial* states the Federal losses in that memorable fight at one thousand seven hundred and thirty-five killed, seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-two wounded, and three thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight missing, and that of the wounded about three hundred died soon after.

The following are some of the particulars that have been made public in relation to the conflicts between the Federal and Confederate armies at and near Williamsburg: The Federal advance, under Gen. Stoneham, came up with the enemy's rear, within two miles of Williamsburg, at two o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th. As they approached the enemy's works a regiment of cavalry advanced in line of battle.

Captain Gibbon's battery immediately opened fire which the Confederates promptly answered from behind their breastworks. A portion of the 1st and 6th cavalry then charged on the advancing column and a hand to hand fight ensued. The enemy's cavalry were finally forced to yield. For want of infantry the Federals did not advance on their works, which were formidable, extending across the Peninsula.

On the 6th, Gen. McClellan telegraphed to the Department that Williamsburg had fallen into his hands, the result of a hard fought battle on the day previous, in which Gen. Hancock's brigade turned the left of the enemy's works, and that during the night they abandoned their entire line, and retreated, leaving behind them all their sick and wounded. A subsequent account of the engagement stated that it was warmly contested, and that owing to the roughness of the country and the bad condition of the roads, only a small portion of the Federal forces could be brought into action. Gen. Sickles' brigade, and Gen. Hooker's division bore the brunt of the battle and fought most valiantly throughout, although greatly outnumbered by the enemy, who had a superior position. The approaches to their earthworks were through ravines and swamps, while rain fell in torrents throughout the day. The men had also been lying on their arms all the previous night, and were soaked with the rain and chilled with the cold. The battle raged from early in the morning until 3 o'clock in the afternoon when McClellan arrived with fresh troops and relieved Hooker's division, who were nearly prostrate from fatigue. The 3d regiment of Sickles' brigade had their ranks terribly thinned by the enemy's batteries. They are represented as having fought with such bravery that not less than two hundred of them were killed and wounded.

After the arrival of McClellan the enemy were fiercely charged on by Hancock's brigade, and were driven within their works before night with a heavy loss. Nearly seven hundred of their dead were left on the field, with many wounded. The Federal loss was stated at nearly three hundred killed and seven hundred wounded.

In the course of the day, the enemy took one of the Pennsylvania batteries, after killing all the horses. It was re-taken before night, and one of the Confederate batteries changed hands before the close of the day. The Federal troops lay on their arms that night prepared to renew the conflict next morning, but the enemy fled and their works were entered without opposition. Two companies of cavalry are reported to have been captured by the enemy.

General McClellan, as per report, came up with the enemy, who was pursued as soon as his retreat became known, eight miles above Williamsburg, and had a severe fight with the rear guard, resulting in a Federal victory and the retreat of the enemy across the Chickahominy.

General Sedgwick's division embarked at Yorktown for West Point, on the morning of

the 6th, and eighty steamers were subsequently employed in transporting the balance of the army to that point. On the 7th, the divisions of Generals Sedgwick and Franklin were reported to have landed there, numbering twenty thousand men, and, on that afternoon, a battle was fought between those two divisions and a superior Confederate force under General Lee, reported to have been the severest conflict that had taken place between the two armies on the Peninsula. The Federals were victorious and drove the enemy across the Chickahominy; but would, as reported, have been defeated, had it not been for the presence of their gunboats which made sad havoc by throwing shot and shell among the Confederates, driving them back with great slaughter.

Of the further advance of Gen. McClellan toward Richmond, there are but meager and not very definite reports up to the 10th, when Gen. Stoneman had established his headquarters at New Kent, twenty-seven miles from Richmond. The Confederates in their retreat are said to have burned Cumberland and other small towns.

On the 7th, the enemy's pickets above Columbian bridge on the Shenandoah, were driven back by a detachment of troops under Col. Foster, who was ambuscaded by two Confederate regiments, and had to retire after a sharply contested engagement, one company of his cavalry escaped capture by swimming the river.

Secessionism on the Pacific Slope.

Since the withdrawal of the Southern States from the Union, and the commencement of the civil war which is devastating the land, there has been a strong success on feeling manifested among the dwellers on the Pacific Coast, so much so that before the election last summer in California fears were expressed by professed Union men that the State would, by the result of that expression of public sentiment, be found arrayed on the side of the Confederates, fears which, from what has transpired since as well as before the election, were not altogether unfounded. More than one third of the votes cast at the election were considered to be in favor of secession and on being defeated, many sympathizers, and among them not a few holding or who had recently held office of high grade in the Golden State, left for the South: but from representations recently made there is no concealment by thousands yet residing in the State of their aversion to the Union as it was, and of their preference of the "Stars and Bars" to the "Stars and Stripes."

The southern portion of the State is more infected with the elements of secession than the northern, but it is said that there is not a county wherein are not to be found hundreds who are out and out seceders, and who do not always refrain from expressing their sentiments, notwithstanding all that has been done to awe them into silence, thereby preventing them from disseminating their disunion doctrines and effecting organizations to put them in practice, as would have doubtless been done months since in some of the southern counties, had it not been for the presence of the military stationed there to prevent such movements, which precautionary measure has not altogether been as successful as the government desired.

A letter, of the 21st of April, from Los Angeles to the *Sacramento Union*, gives quite an unfavorable account of the loyalty of a majority of the citizens of that county, which is in accordance with the reports previously made relative to the proclivities of the many in the lower counties to favor the Confederate cause, as the settlers there were principally from the South-Western States. The officers of Los Angeles county are reported to be Secessionists, with but one or two exceptions, and the writer asserts that it is no uncommon thing for officials, with the oath to support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of California fresh upon their lips, to openly preach treason and hostility to the Federal government in the streets and public places, and that they are exceedingly jubilant and exultant, on the reception of news favoring the Confederates and despondent when Union victories are announced. It is also alleged that offences against the laws cannot be punished when committed by men not Unionists, as the court and all its officers are seceders and no jury could be ob-

tained that would convict a criminal of known secession proclivities.

Col. Carlton, of the 1st United States Dragoons, in command of the troops in Southern California, is accused of being friendly to and favoring the cause of the Confederates. His predecessor, Col. Davidson, is said to have kept Southern sympathizers in subjection, and secession was at a discount while he was in command, but as soon as he was succeeded by Col. Carlton it quickly rose above par, and not only were men allowed to hurrah for Jeff Davis and the Confederate cause as long and loud as they pleased, but parties of from ten to fifty had been permitted, by him with a full knowledge of their intentions, to fit out and take their departure for Texas and other seceded States to join the Confederate army.

Other grave charges have been made against Col. Carlton, one of which is that he went into the office of the *Southern News* and threatened to suppress it for its criticisms upon his proceedings and omissions of duty. If he is sound on the Union question he is not so considered by the ultra Unionists, and urgent appeals have been made to have the matter inquired into by Gen. Wright, commanding the Department of the Pacific. When the matter shall be fully investigated it will probably be made to appear that army contracts have had some agency in making the Colonel unpopular with professed Union men, having an eye on the spoils. That about three fourths of the people in Los Angeles and other southern counties are unfriendly to the Union cause is generally admitted and it may have required more force to keep them in such subjection, as the Unionists desired, than was at command, and some temporizing may have been resorted to to prevent an uprising which many have feared, who have been fully advised as to the true state of affairs in that vicinity, and to prevent which so many troops have been and are yet stationed there.

In consequence of the many complaints made to General Wright, commanding the department, in relation to operations of the Secessionists in California, he issued the following order:

"HEADQUARTERS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., April 23d, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17.—The General commanding this Department, having been appealed to by many loyal citizens residing on the Pacific coast, for the adoption of more vigorous measures against the treasonable designs of persons who, while claiming and receiving protection for themselves and property, do not blush to denounce the Chief Magistrate and Government of the United States, and do all in their power to raise the standard of rebellion on this coast. It is therefore made the express duty of all officers commanding districts or posts, to maintain within their respective jurisdictions a due observance of our National and State Laws, and a proper respect for the legally constituted authorities. Treason's hideous crest shall not pollute the fair land of California. Military commanders will promptly arrest and hold in custody all persons against whom the charge of aiding and abetting the rebellion can be sustained; and under no circumstances will such persons be released without first subscribing the oath of allegiance to the United States.

All persons seeking to furnish supplies of any kind to the army on this coast, must first submit unequivocal evidence of their loyalty to the Government, otherwise their proposition will not be entertained."

There are evidently, from what has been reported, many secessionists and sympathizers with the Confederate cause, in Oregon. They may not be as numerous as represented, but the attachment of no inconsiderable portion of the citizens of that State to the principles of the Constitution and the Union as it was when she was admitted into the family of American States is not very strong and they would not do much to restore the country to the condition it was in before it was rent asunder by acts of secession and the resulting civil war.

In Nevada, according to statements recently published, there are many avowed secessionists and recent accessions have been made to the population of that Territory of men who boast of having fought in several battles under Gen. Price, and intimations have freely been made that they are there for no good end; and also that the reported Indian depredations along the mail route in the Humboldt country and other parts of that Territory are traceable to white men—seceders from and enemies to the Federal government, who seek to bring on an Indian war, not only to involve

the Government but to favor the cause, which they openly avow.

The *Age*, in speaking of the secession element that exists in California and Nevada, says that California is rotten to the core: "That treason festers and gathers beneath a fair Union exterior," and that the "volunteer forces are filled with rank secessionists," and many of the employees and station keepers, and a majority of the settlers on the line of the overland mail and telegraph are of the same stripe—"men whose every sympathy is with treason and whose highest ambition is to lend aid and comfort to the enemy, by multiplying the cares of the Federal government, and diverting as many as possible of the Federal troops from the prosecution of the war against rebellion."

The ultimate object of the aiders and abettors of secession on the Western slope and in the Territory of Nevada, is said to be the establishment of a Pacific republic, which is more than probable, and a war with England, it is believed by those who do not favor disunion, would materially tend to the consummation of what the seceders there desire; and the formation of a government on the western coast under the protection of a foreign interested power.

Nevada News.

On the afternoon of the 30th ult., there was a land slide near Genoa, which swept away a fine new saw-mill, owned by Scott & Tuttle, at the mouth of the canyon, and the house of Mr. R. Brasher, some two hundred yards below. The family of Mr. Brasher narrowly escaped, but he was killed. He was at the mill at the time, loading lumber with two yoke of oxen. All were swept instantly away and covered up with dirt, timber and mud. One yoke of oxen are reported to have been dug out alive, the other with the wagon were smashed to pieces. The body of Mr. Brasher was horribly mangled. A man named Spurgeon, who was at the mill, on seeing the slide coming, took refuge behind a large tree that had sufficient strength to resist the rushing mass, which parted when it came in contact with the obstacle, and the man escaped unhurt, but he was enveloped in total darkness for several seconds when the mass was passing by and over him.

Governor Nye arrived in Carson, on his return from California, the last of April. He came over the mountains from Placerville in two days by coaches, sleighs, on horseback and on foot. The road was bad and, on the summit, the snow was from twelve to eighteen feet deep about fifteen miles in extent. Col. Connor's regiment, en route for Salt Lake, were about to cross over the mountain and Gov. Nye had proposed to have the men shove the snow out of the road so as to make it passable for wagons and the Overland stages for which service the stage company should bring over their arms and baggage. Should the proposition be accepted by the parties, it would benefit them both and the public, as the road, in its present condition, was nearly impassable, and, unless the snow was removed, loaded wagons could not get over for a long time and perhaps not till June. Governor Nye left the two other boundary commissioners in California, the question of cession of the desired territory to Nevada by California not having been fully settled. There was but little hope, however, that the State would consent to the measure.

The object of Gov. Nye had in returning so soon was to attend to the Indian difficulties that were springing up, and take measures to prevent them before they should produce a general war which has been much feared by the peace-loving citizens of the Territory. He left Carson immediately on arriving there for Fort Churchill and from thence went to Pyramid Lake to have a conference with the Indians who had sent in word that some of their number were missing, and they feared that they had been killed by the whites. They were also in a starving condition—the floods having interrupted their fishing.

There have been many reports in circulation about Indian depredations in various places in Nevada Territory and in that part of California lying east of the mountains, within the last two or three months, and if half of them have had any foundation in truth, either the Indians have become more hostile and destructive than usual from some cause, or white men have committed the depredations.

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