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Details of the Battle of Prairie Grove.

PRAIRIE GROVE, Ark., Dec. 8, 1862. There has just been another great battle in North-Western Arkansas, exceeding in fierceness the famous contest at Pea Ridge, as was remarked by some of the veterans who were present on both of the occasions alluded to. The details are as follows:

Gen. Blunt had advanced some twenty miles south of Fayetteville, Arkansas, with his forces, and there drawn the attack of Hindman, who advanced upon him rapidly from Van Buren with 30,000 troops and 22 pieces of artillery.

Our infantry were soon brought forward and a few pieces of artillery got into position, that sent the bold scoundrels back as rapidly as they came. Gen. Herron followed up his advantage as quickly as possible, and soon found himself in contact with the main rebel force.

Our forces only numbered 6,500 or 7,000, and consisted of the following infantry, the 94th and 27th Illinois, the 19th and 20th Iowa, the 24th Indiana, and 29th Wisconsin. In addition to these were 4 companies of artillery who worked some 25 guns, and about half a dozen companies of cavalry.

Upon the bluff or ridge, occupied by the rebels, were many fine farm-houses which had been erected upon the elevation to escape the damps and vapors of the plain below.

Within twenty minutes afterward the 19th Iowa, with the gallantry characteristic of the soldiery of that State, essayed the vain feat with similar ill success.

This battery was afterward entirely disabled, the horses killed and the gun carriages broken in pieces by the fire of one of our batteries, who hit their mark thus precisely at a distance of two miles with missiles discharged from Parrott guns, and the four caissons filled with ammunition were subsequently captured and brought

away. The different rebel batteries were silenced one by one, until the booming of cannon had nearly ceased. The enemy perceived that nothing could be accomplished at long range, so they massed themselves upon our front and both flanks, and commenced advancing to capture our batteries. Immense hordes came out of the woods on our left, and spread upon the field, looking at a distance like a nest of ants.

Our infantry seemed a mere handful in comparison to this multitude, but they held them in check while Cole's battery ran up and stuck their guns under their very noses, and fired canon into them with such deadly effect as to cause them first to pause in their career, and then lie down, and finally to retreat hastily back.

The rebels fought desperately, and seemed no more to regard a shower of bullets or a storm of grape than if it had been but a Summer wind. No sooner had a solid shot plowed its way through their columns, or a shell opened a gap in their lines, than the vacancies were filled again by others.

Gen. Blunt ranged his twenty-four pieces in a line and opened a galling fire upon the left wing of the Rebel army and drew a portion of their attention toward his forces. They advanced upon him from the woods at a double gait, in right ranks, seemingly half a mile long.

In the mean time our boys had not been idle. They pressed the enemy hotly at every point, and as the sun went down they were falling back in every direction. Before it had become fully dark the only sounds of firing heard were those of our own musketry and cannon.

At 9 o'clock the same evening the enemy were in full retreat toward Van Buren, and at daylight this morning they were twelve miles away. A more complete and glorious victory never was obtained. As soon as the pall of night had descended upon their motions a perfect stampede took place.

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visions for a distance of fifty miles; so Northern Arkansas and Southern Missouri is regarded by them as a sort of promised land, flowing with sorghum and honey.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The Negro Soldier Bill passed the House today by a vote of eighty-five to fifty-five. All the Republicans voted for it except three.

Don't BE ALARMED.—There is no reason for alarm because of the rapid rise in the price of gold in New York, or, more properly speaking, the decline of the value of paper money.

RAILROAD TO OREGON.—The citizens of Marysville, according to the Appeal, are agitating the idea of building a railroad from that place to Oregon, as a branch to the Pacific railroad.

PEACE DEMOCRATS SPURNED BY REBELS.—The Washington Republican says it has good authority for asserting that after the election of Seymour, certain parties, claiming to represent the Governor, made a direct proposition to Jeff Davis for a reconstruction of the Union.

UP IN CANADA, recently, a man eat a plum in which a wasp was concealed. The insect stung the man's throat, the part swelled, and he died of suffocation.

GOODNESS IS TRUE GREATNESS. Mr. Adams, our Minister to Great Britain, has negotiated a commercial treaty between the United States and Liberia with the Minister of the latter country at London.

Details of Eastern News.

New York, Jan. 30.—From New Orleans we learn that an expedition consisting of cavalry and artillery from Brashear City on January 13 succeeded in capturing and destroying the rebel gunboat Cotton on the Teche river.

The Federal Gen. Grover, with twenty regiments, was at Baton Rouge. A strong force was also at Carrollton, under Gen. Sherman. Gen. Banks was still at New Orleans.

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THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

We give below an extract from a speech delivered by Hon. Thomas Fitch, in the California Assembly Chamber, the 9th of January. He is a strong Proclamationist, and spoke as follows:

Mr. Speaker, this movement, so far from proving pernicious, will prove itself the quickening season for a nation's cause. We fight now not alone the battle of Union against Secession, of loyalty against treason, of national existence against national destruction, but we fight also the battle of freedom against slavery.

Washington, Feb. 2.—A full and satisfactory explanation has passed between the French Minister and the State Department regarding the recent alleged efforts to induce Mercier to depart from a just and friendly course respecting our affairs.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—The Sioux City Register of Jan. 24 says it has reliable information that a general Indian war is contemplated on the opening of Spring.

ENGLAND.—The distress in England continues to be the absorbing topic of domestic interest in England. Liberal and various contributions are made, and the papers teem with communications upon the subject.

THE RIGHT KIND.—Gen. Blunt, in telegraphing to one of his superiors, just before the battle of Cane Hill, that there was about to be a battle, closed his dispatch as follows:

THE CREW OF AN IRON-CLAD.—As the battery of our iron-clad steamer Montank weighs thirty-five tons, it is interesting to know that her entire crew will be less than seventy men.

WASHINGTON.—A little pipe clay dissolved in the water employed in washing linen, cleans the dirtiest linen thoroughly, and about one half the labor, and saving full one-half the soap. The clothes will be improved in color equally as if they were bleached.

PROSPECTS OF THE COTTON TRADE FOR 1863.

The London Economist, an able and well informed journal, takes an encouraging view of the cotton question in its last number: "We are disposed to think," it says, "that by the beginning of 1863 the worst will be over, even though all hopes of an early termination of the war in America should have to be abandoned."

A short time ago there were but 70,000 bales of cotton in Liverpool. At the end of October the stock had risen again to 350,000 bales. By the end of the year, (1862), it is believed that there will be 400,000 bales on hand.

GEN. BUTLER JUSTIFIED.—Gen. Butler has just achieved a decided triumph. It will be remembered that he had a collision with the French Consul, Count Mejan, concerning certain monies deposited with the Consul, which Butler seized, and which Reverdy Johnson subsequently declared should be returned.

It is well known that the Rebels made but slight resistance to the crossing of the Rappahannock by our forces, and the general impression has been that no resistance was intended.

It will be seen that there were 42 regiments stationed in Fredericksburg to resist the crossing of the Union forces. But of them all the only ones which stood with a creditable show of bravery were from Mississippi, and known as Barksdale's Brigade.

THE HISTORY OF TEXAS is indeed an illustration of the sublime of treachery, faithlessness, and ingratitude. We found her in beggary and want. She was without friends, without character, without credit.

THE FOLLOWING highly honorable specimen of warfare is reported in a Richmond paper as having occurred on the Mississippi river: On the afternoon of the 12th inst., the Yankee gunboat Essex, and a wooden boat, name unknown, anchored out of range of the lower battery.

Mrs. Lucy Baker, mother of the late Gen. E. D. Baker, died on the 12th Dec., at the residence of her son, Dr. Alfred G. Baker, Barry, Illinois. Mrs. Baker was a native of England, and a sister of Admiral Dickerson of the royal navy.