

# THE OREGON SENTINEL.

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"TO THE EFFICACY AND PROMINENCE OF YOUR UNION, A GOVERNMENT FOR THE WHOLE IS INDISPENSABLE."—Washington.

JACKSONVILLE.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1862.

## Freedom of the Press Again.

Statement of the case.—The recent orders with reference to some of our contemporaries, are not *faits* from the Government suppressing the publication of the disloyal journals; not at all. The Government does not directly interfere with their publication, has not done it, nor will it do any such thing. But its language is:—gentlemen, you are publishing a disloyal sheet; you are laboring to light up the torch of civil war, and are giving aid and comfort to rebels in arms against your Government, and the fast developing civilization of republican institutions, and the conquering energies of free Government, and we refuse longer to convey for you your disloyal papers. We refuse to be accomplices in the work of Rebellion and Death. As duly appointed Guardian of the public safety and tranquility, we wash our hands of your guilt. If the communities, through which your poisonous sheets circulate, are willing to give it an existence through suffrage, why publish away, but you must find your own means of conveyance. This is the extent and no further.

Men talk about an invasion of their Constitutional rights! Just as though the Government was under any constitutional obligation to convey newspapers for anybody! It is a mere matter of public convenience, and there is no constitutional obligation. If Congress should repeal to-morrow, the laws on which our expensive postal system rests, the Constitution would remain intact. It could not have been the intention of the Congress that modeled our present postal system, to give disloyal men such an interest in the mail facilities then created, as that the Government was pledged to convey, if demanded, the means of its destruction, and if it refused, to render the persons administering its laws obnoxious to the charge of usurpation.

Again, the power exercised by the Postmaster General exists, or it does not exist. If it does not exist, then he is clearly an usurper. As to the constitutional existence of the power, we believe there is an almost universal acknowledgment of its existence, backed by the Democratic precedents of the past. Repeatedly, in the past history of the Government, have the sub postal agents refused mail facilities to documents denominated "seditious," and their actions have been sustained by the highest legal authority of the Government. Such a case occurred in the Administration of Franklin Pierce, while Jeff Davis was Secretary of War and Caleb Cushing Attorney General of the United States. The conclusion arrived at by the Attorney General in that case, were sustained by Pierce's entire Cabinet, and by an *unbroken* and *uninterrupted* Democracy. It also received the sanction of the eloquent and national chieftains of the old Whig party, and of the conservative men of all parties. Then the existence of the power has been established, sustained and sanctified by the Democratic party in the palmist days of its loyalty and power—established upon a foundation of law and logic, immovable and unassailable. And after all that we have heard in times past, about an appeal from the decision of a properly constituted forum, to a town meeting or a popular mob, and that too by the present victims of this power, are we to be re-negated by these preachers, the very thing they so pleasantly ridiculed? Let them experience, we say, the practical application of the doctrines they so complacently commended to others. They were satisfied of its truth then; so were we; let them show their devotion now.

Everything moved along smoothly enough in the current of events, as long as abolitionists alone were the legitimate subjects for the exercise of this power; but as soon as a secessionist was struck fairly and squarely, and left musing upon the adaptation of means to the accomplishment of ends, why then, it was *your* turn that *gave* my ear. How miraculously the effect of a change of circumstances on the opinions of some men? As long as they can say, "thou art the man," the principle is not only correct but glorious, but reverse the wand and backward let it reverberate with effective power and they strike a different tune; they are not so certain about its correctness, and don't appreciate the nature of its glory.

Again, the existence of this power is necessarily incident to the existence of Government. This will appear from a supposition or two. Suppose that Jeff Davis should find it necessary, in order to revive the waning energies of the military despotism, over which he presides, to establish an organ in the city of New York. Must the Government convey the paper? There can be no doubt as to the answer to be given to this question. But suppose that, instead of establishing a press, he should see fit to use the supply materials already furnished to his hand. How stands the case then? Is the government bound to convey? Or, in other words, is there a moral despotism in the "liberty of the Press," that overrides every consideration of public honor and public safety? There must be, if there is such an awful sacredness about a paper, recking with disloyalty and pregnant with the elements of civil war, as to place it beyond the power and reach of Government. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

THE NEWS.—From present appearances, we would say, that the rebellion was about played out. Price, the rebel General, that unfortunately took the running disorder at the battle of Homeville, has run until he has become lost in the swamps of Arkansas. General Curtis, whose disagreeable duty it was to follow his well marked track, will be compelled to adopt the return of the Constable made to a Justice of the Peace of the Old Dominion, "in summum non est incriminatum."

Generals Hunter, Lane and Curtis are moving southward with a well appointed army on the west side of the Mississippi. General Grant is moving southward with his victorious column on the east side of the Father of Waters, leaving behind him Forts Henry and Donelson, the trophies of his fast accumulating military glory and honor. General Buell with his column of one hundred thousand men, has the inside track, and he is fast concentrating his forces in Tennessee, ready to strike eastward or westward as the exigencies of the campaign may demand. Norfolk is at the mercy of General Wool, Burnside and Sherman are working their way into the interior, and will soon be in possession of all the railroads leading to the North. General Butler threatens Mobile and New Orleans, and Pensacola looks with despair on Fort Pickens. Rosecrans is steadily approaching Manassas from Western Virginia, and the Army of the Potomac is slowly closing around this Gibraltar of the rebels. Take into consideration in connection with the above statement, that wherever the Union forces penetrate the rebellious States, they are hailed with joy, and looked upon as deliverers, and the conviction forces itself upon our mind, that the great rebellion topples to its fall.

And all our joy over the recent Union victories, and the bright prospect they present of the speedy restoration of the American Union, there came an item of news of melancholy interest to every patriot—every genuine friend of the Union. Lander is dead. We can ill afford to lose such officers in these times of defection and treachery. His is added to "the few immortal names that were not born to die."

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.—The Teachers' Institute for the State of Oregon, met at Salem on the 12th of February last, and remained in session to the 17th. The session was well attended by the Teachers of the State, and a good deal of interest was manifested. A letter was read from Hon. A. J. Mosier, Superintendent of Public Instruction of California, also one from Professor Lyman of Forest Grove, expressive of interest in the success of the Institute. Lectures were delivered on Photography, Orthography, Phonetics, Orthography, Grammar, Arithmetic, Philosophy, Algebra, Moral Science, and the School Laws of this State. In fact it seemed to have been quite a speaking convention; but there was none of that windy gasconade, that distinguishes political conventions and legislative assemblies, but the straight forward, pointed and practical talk of sensible and educated men.

The subject of Free Schools, or the support of schools by direct tax, came up for consideration and discussion, and of course received the sanction of that sensible body of men, Virtue and intelligence, as well as vice and ignorance are public property. Wise legislators should mold their enactments so as to encourage the former, and prevent the latter. He who lives in a virtuous and intelligent community, enjoys the social, moral and intellectual benefits of such a society, and should be taxed to support the fountain from which these blessings flow, whether he has children or not. His holds his property by a safer and stronger tenure than he would if vice and ignorance were rampant. No sensible and intelligent man will refuse to pay such a tax.

An interesting discussion sprang up during the session of the convention, on the correctness of the assertion found in our Philosophies that projectiles descend in the same time that they ascend. Several members of the Institute denied the correctness of the axiom.

What do our Philosophers think of it? The Institute adjourned to meet in Salem on the 1st Monday in August next.

The Richmond *Wag* of February 21st, speaking of Davis' inauguration, says, in view of the past, present, and probable future, the secession presented is a bitter mockery and a miserable compensation for the ruin of a free people.

Yes, that is our opinion, exactly. The inauguration ought to be dispensed with. The "pugnant" of the first inauguration was a "miserable compensation for the ruin of a free people;" and what, judging by the past, will be the compensation of the second "mockery." The *Wag*, alludes to the past, the present, and the probable future, with evident feelings of melancholy hopelessness. It sees that the great rebellion is about played out, that the military despotism of Jeff Davis & Co. is about to collapse, and that the Union will be restored in all its integrity and glory. Under such circumstances, we are of the opinion that it would be a pious notion to forego the pleasure of the second inauguration.

CHINESE.—It is estimated by the Press of California, that there is from forty to sixty thousand Chinese in that State. Many have become alarmed for the fear the Orientals may overrun the State. Bills have been introduced into the Legislature, not only to prevent a further immigration, but to expel the present Chinese population from the State. Doubts are entertained as to whether under the treaty stipulations existing between the United States and China, they can be expelled or not. It behooves the people of Oregon to see to this matter in time.

The Secessionists are hunting for a candidate for Congress. They are anxious to find a man who can be a Union man to Union men, and a Jeff Davis man to Jeff Davis men. "A man is known by the company he keeps,"—Oregonian.

Yes, they want a man who can cry, "Good Lord! Good Devil!"—ride on both sides of the political horse at one and the same time—and be a perfect exemplification of their infamous name—"the Oregon Peace Union Democratic Secession Party."

## BY OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.

[Dispatches received by *Alta*, *Union* and *Intelligencer*.]

February 24th.—Gen. Scott has been appointed Minister to Mexico, with full powers, such as he exercised in the pacification of the northeastern boundary. Accompanying the nomination, a treaty was sent to the Senate, the principal feature of which is the assumption of the Mexican debt. It is doubtful about the Senate agreeing to buy off England, France and Spain for five years, or for life.

The official statement of the fight at Fort Donelson returns 321 killed, 1034 wounded, and 152 missing.

Cumberland Gap and Russellville are in possession of the Federals. On the 22d, Smith's Division made a reconnaissance towards Centerville, near Manassas; 11 mounted pickets were captured, but no information obtained.

Torpedoes found in Savannah river were destroyed by Federals.

Col. Corcoran will be made a Brigadier-General as soon as he returns from the South. Fourteen exchanged Federal officers have arrived at New York. They had been privately informed that Nashville was taken. There are no Federal prisoners now at Richmond.

February 25th: The enemy are reported to be making strong fortifications at Pine Bluff, 12 miles from Nashville, where they intend making a stand.

Gen. Halleck, in an order addressed to the troops, reiterates in strong language the provisions of the Third Order. He urges the Federal soldiers to show the misguided Southern people that they come to restore not to violate Constitution and laws. He forbids fugitive slaves being admitted within our lines.

Joseph A. Wright has been appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the expulsion of Jesse D. Bright, as Senator from Indiana. The rebels are very busy at Columbia, either to evacuate or show fight. A reconnaissance shows preparations for a draw movement.

Memphis papers represent the people of Tennessee as feeling gloomy and depressed over the Fort Donelson matter. The publication of all news is interdicted by military authority. The Governors of Mississippi and Alabama have called for troops, and threaten drafting if the demand is not filled.

News from Burnside's expedition confirming the burning of Winston, on the Chowan river, has been received. The New York 9th went up the Chowan river in three gunboats, and found the enemy in strong force at Winston. The boats were fired upon, and in retaliation the town was shelled and burned. The boats returned without making a landing.

North Carolina has selected Foster to Congress, under the election order by the Provisional Government.

Nashville was occupied on the 24th, by Gen. Buell, with 10,000 troops. The Federal flag was flying over the State House. The State Legislature adjourned to Memphis. It is reported that Commissioners have been appointed to confer with the Federal Government, to arrange terms for a truce of alliance, and that Gov. Harris offered to turn the Confederate forces over to the Union.

There is a strong Union sentiment in Tennessee, and the Legislature will endorse the recommendations of Gov. Harris favoring to oppose the Union sentiment. 32,000 Confederate troops are reported to be at Columbus. Gov. Harris, when he fled with the Legislature, burned the State Library. The secessionists are following the army with their stock and negroes.

England remains neutral, and will only recognize the winning side in America. Shields has arrived in Paris.

St. Louis, Feb. 25th. Dispatches were received at the headquarters of the Department of the West this morning, announcing that the army under Gen. Curtis had again routed Gen. Price, together with the forces sent to his assistance by the Confederates, under command of Gen. McCulloch, at Cross Hollows, Ark. This was the place at which Price expected to make a last, determined resistance. It is 40 miles from the Missouri boundary, and the point at which a desperate resistance might well be made. Gen. Curtis forced Price to leave behind him all his military stores; also his sick and wounded. Previous to his abandonment of the ground, he ordered all his camp equipage to be burned, which was done.

Gen. Curtis, in his dispatch to Gen. Halleck, says that most of his provisions for the last ten days have been taken from the enemy. Price burned his extensive barracks at Cross Hollows to prevent our troops occupying them.

Cairo, Feb. 25th. Col. Webster arrived today from Clarksville, Tenn. He says that Gen. Pillow fled from Fort Donelson to Clarksville, destroyed what property he could, and went up the Cumberland river. Not a country road or bridge escaped his vandalism. The valuable wire bridges near Nashville were burned by Pillow's orders. Finding he could do nothing in Nashville, Pillow destroyed all the military stores which could not be carried off.

Three gunboats from Fort Donelson had arrived at Nashville. They reported that Gov. Harris wished an interview with Gen. Grant. It is an erroneous statement that he delivered an "intense war message" to the Legislature, in which he declared that Tennessee must fight to the bitter end.

Gen. Nelson's Kentucky brigade reached Fort Donelson Sunday. It was immediately sent forward to Nashville. Gen. Buell's timely arrival there undoubtedly saved the city from utter destruction, as Pillow could not have saved it from his desperado if the Federal force had not been in the vicinity.

Things are quiet at Forts Henry and Donelson. The men are fast recovering from the effects of their late fights.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25th. The House today passed the bill authorizing the Postmaster General to establish a uniform money exchange system for post offices that are deemed suitable therefor; for orders from \$1 to \$10—commission five cents; for every additional \$10, five cents.

New York, Feb. 25th. By the arrival of the *Constitution* we learn that the British steamer *Lebanon* was taken

as a prize on the Rio Grande by the sloop-of-war *Portsmouth*. She had half a cargo of cotton aboard; had previously landed a cargo of blankets and ordnance at Matamoros.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26th.

The leading features of the Treasury Note bill which passed yesterday, are the issue and funding of \$50,000,000 of Treasury Notes, which may be made a legal tender for public and private dues except for the payment of interest on the public debt and duties, which are to be paid in coin. The \$50,000,000, Demand Notes issued under the Act of July last, and the \$10,000,000 under the Act of this month, may, however, be received in payment of duties on imports. The notes are to be issued for not less than fifty dollars, convertible into bonds bearing 6 per cent. interest, redeemable in five years.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue registered bonds to the extent of \$50,000,000, redeemable at pleasure, after five years, for the purpose of funding the Treasury Notes and the floating debt. The Act provides for deposit of notes not less than 30 days, at five per cent. interest.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27th. The Senate admitted Mr. Stark, Senator from Oregon, by a vote of 26 to 19. He appeared and took the oath, and it is understood that he intends to call for an investigation of his case by a committee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27th. The amendment to the Apportionment Bill, of one additional member for the States of Virginia, Illinois, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Rhode Island, Ohio, Kentucky and Minnesota, was, in consequence of the large fraction of population in these States, not represented by the law as first passed.

Congress has declined to adopt any measure to further the national representation at the Exhibition of Industry of all nations at London, next year.

Minister Cameron has received his final instructions as Minister to Russia.

St. Louis, Feb. 27th. Col. Wood's cavalry has driven the enemy out of Dent, Texas and Howell counties, and taken 60 rebel prisoners.

New York, Feb. 27th. The actual number of prisoners taken at Roanoke Island was 2,489.

The Navy department has received a dispatch from Commodore Goldsborough, dated Feb. 26th. He had the official accounts of the visits of our vessels to Elefanten and the Currituck Canal. The names of the men-of-war destroyed by our vessels since the fleet reached Hatteras Inlet are the *Sea Bird*, gun steamer; *Curtis*, and the *Panoply*. The steamer *Black Warrior* and schooner *Flora* were captured. A new gunboat on the stocks at Elizabeth City was destroyed. Each of them were remarkable well armed gunboats. All of them excepting the *Curtis* were destroyed or captured in the attack on Elizabeth City.

Our forces took unobstructed possession of Elefanten, part of a flying artillery regiment, variously estimated at from 150 to 300, had precipitately, without firing a shot, and many of the inhabitants also fled. Among the results of the expedition are the destruction of eight cannon, and one schooner on the stocks at Elefanten, and two schooners captured in the Sound.

Commodore Goldsborough says he remained two hours aboard of the town and was visited by the authorities and others, many of whom professed sentiments of loyalty to the old Union.

St. Louis, Feb. 27th. Gen. Curtis has taken possession of Fayetteville, Ark., capturing a number of prisoners, stores, baggage, etc. The enemy burned part of the town they left. They have crossed Boston mountains in great confusion. We now possess all their strongholds.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., Feb. 26th. The latest advices represent everything quiet. Several divisions of the army have arrived. The report that rebel outrages were committed on the people there before leaving, is confirmed. The Texas Rangers are said to have stolen every horse they could find from friend or foe. They remained in the city until within an hour of the arrival of our advance. The Nashville people say Johnston, Floyd and Pillow are concentrating forces at Murfreesboro, but they cannot yet leave more than twenty thousand there, and much demoralized.

The report of the rebels being surrounded at Murfreesboro is probably without foundation in fact.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28th. The report which was telegraphed a day or two since, to the effect that Jeff Davis has made overtures to this Government concerning the terms of submission, has no foundation in fact. The flag of truce which was supposed to refer to that related totally to an exchange of prisoners.

WASHINGTON, March 1st. Telegrams do not show the rebel evacuation of Columbus, nor has any official information been received from Buell since the occupation of Nashville.

New York March 1st. Secretary Seward's order requiring persons leaving the country to obtain passports is rescinded.

The Federal forces which crossed the Potomac last Wednesday have occupied Harper's Ferry, and a considerable portion of the country on both banks of the Shenandoah.

St. Louis, March 1st. Gen. Halleck, in a General Order, states that official information had been received that the rebels, in evacuating Mudtown, Ark., poisoned the provisions which they were obliged to abandon, and that forty-two officers and men were poisoned by eating them. He says that we cannot retaliate by punishing the innocent for the acts of the guilty; the laws of war forbid this. But the same code authorizes the United States to retaliate on the parties guilty of such acts of poisoning. When captured they will not be treated as ordinary prisoners of war, nor will they be shot; but they will suffer an ignominious punishment—being hanged as felons. Officers of the troops of Government, although not advisors or abettors of this crime, will be treated as criminals by the laws of war, which make it their duty

to prevent such barbarities; if they neglect their duty they must suffer the consequences.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs decided today to report against the Senate bill recognizing Hayti.

The Postmaster General is engaged in sending out instructions making arrangements to re-establish Post Offices and post routes as fast as our army advances.

The Homestead Bill has been amended so as to take effect Jan. 1, 1863, and passed the House today by a vote of 163 to 16.

Cairo, March 1st. Governor Reeder of Arkansas has issued his proclamation drafting into immediate service every man in the State subject to military duty, to respond within twenty days.

The Memphis *Advertiser* [rebel] of Feb. 25th, which has been received, has no confirmation of the intended evacuation of Columbus. On the contrary there is a call for heavy artillery to take charge of the batteries at that place.

The *Advertiser* learns from gentlemen just arrived from Knoxville, that the rebel army near Cumberland Gap has been largely reinforced. The Federal and Confederate troops are within sight of each other. A fight is imminent. That paper says: "Our friends are confident of success."

The Tennessee Legislature had been called to meet in Memphis Feb. 24th. No quorum was present. Members were adjourning from day to day.

The rebel War Department has called on Tennessee for thirty-two more regiments. A Private letter from Paris says Yancy has left for Alabama, via Havana, fully satisfied that none of the great powers of Europe will recognize the Confederate Government.

Advices from Annapolis state that the nomination and election of Reverdy Johnson to the U. S. Senate is reduced to a certainty, the contest being narrowed down between him and Henry Winter Davis.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 26th. At daybreak on Monday morning, the last of the advance guard, consisting of the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment, crossed the Potomac by the rope ferry, and took possession of Harper's Ferry. On the next day, the provisions and transporting troops arrived, and the guard was considerably reinforced.

Baltimore and Charlestown are now occupied by our troops, and Loudon Heights are also occupied to prevent a flank movement by the enemy. The rebels retired. Only about 20 were captured. The people at Bolivar and neighboring places, which our troops occupied, were in a condition bordering on starvation, comparatively few inhabitants remaining in that town. All profess Union sentiments, and express great delight in being relieved from the thrall which has oppressed them for the last six months. Many refugees are returning. The right wing of the army has considerably curtailed the rebel territory of Virginia, and made a foothold for itself which all the power of the rebellion cannot wrest from it. So far no opposition has been given to our advance. There has not been a hostile shot fired. The troops are in excellent condition, and well protected from the inclemency of the weather. Gen. Banks has established his headquarters on the road between Harper's Ferry and Bolivar.

The enemy fired twelve shells at the trains on Monday, near Berlin. Only two exploded; no damage was done.

CINCINNATI, March 1st—11:25 P. M. General Lander left Sunday afternoon from the debilitating effects of the wound received at Edwards Ferry.

WASHINGTON, March 2d. A dispatch received at the Navy Department today, from Commodore Foote, says Lieutenant Phelps, sent with a flag of truce to Columbus, has returned, and reports that Columbus is being evacuated. He saw the rebels burning their winter quarters and removing the heavy guns on the bluffs, but leaving those in the water batteries. The indications were, that the town, together with the military stores, were to be burned. It is believed the Federal forces will occupy the place to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, March 2d. Official information from Nashville to the War Department represents that the military work in Tennessee is about finished, and it only remains to effect the civil reorganization of the State Government. The President has designated Andy Johnson as Brigadier-General. He proceeds to Tennessee today to open a Military Provisional Government. The rebel forces under General Johnston are being pressed backward by Gen. Buell. Cotton of the value of a hundred thousand dollars have fallen into our hands at Nashville. The Treasury Department has taken measures to have it brought to New York.

It is said to be clearly understood between the Allied Powers that monarchy will be the result of the present invasion of Mexico, notwithstanding the assurances given to the United States that they did not seek any political object there. It is believed the monarchy will be established by the free will of the Mexican people, just as the French Empire was established.

Major Gen. Hitchcock declines his appointment, on the ground that ill health will not permit him to perform the duties in the field. The reports received from all the military departments, for the past week, represent the condition of the troops as very good.

General Shields is to succeed the late Gen. Lander.

CHARLESTON, Vt., March 3d. The main body of Buell's division marches in the vicinity of Charlestown [on the railroad to Winchester]. His troops are now pay marked respect to the Federal uniform. Citizens who have been compelled to succumb to the rebel force are elated at the prospects of the future. The country through which the army marched bears the marks of unusual agricultural desolation. It is apparent that future cereal productions are neglected. Town and country are at present destitute of important articles of consumption. There is no lack, however, of bread, meat and coarse clothes.

Hundreds of contrabands are hourly seeking refuge within our lines. They are allowed to

remain at large without espionage or care, except to prevent their return beyond our posts.

Reports from Winchester are conflicting, and little reliance can be placed upon them, coming as they do from refugees and contrabands.

Considerable flour belonging to the rebel army was seized here. Private property is strictly respected.

Martinsburg has been occupied by the Federal troops.

New York, March 3d. Gen. Buell telegraphed Gen. McClellan on Saturday, that the rebels had abandoned Murfreesboro, and were falling back towards the Tennessee river.

It is announced that the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers are to be opened this week to free and unrestricted commerce, under the order of the Secretary of the Treasury.

HALIFAX, March 3d. Frances agrees with England on the subject of the stone blockade. The English Government is busy in preparing all the information on the subject to lay before Parliament.

The *Faerie* points to the efforts to get cotton via Mexico as the probable solution of the blockade question.

News from India says the supposed Nona Sahib has been brought in from Bombay. A commercial treaty has been signed between Russia and Turkey.

It is believed England will withdraw from the Mexican expedition should France and Spain attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of Mexico.

The belief continues in Italy that Austria mediates a war against Piedmont.

CINCINNATI, March 2d—9 P. M. WASHINGTON, March 3d.—The Lynchburg *Virginian* [rebel] publishes the following extract of a letter from Gen. Davis:

Last night it was stated that our forces had received orders to send the sick to the rear and put themselves in marching order.

By passengers who arrived by last night's train, the report is confirmed. They also state the women and children were ordered to leave yesterday morning. We understand from some source that the Yankees have succeeded in cutting another road through the woods in Fairfax.

Cairo, March 3d. The gunboat *Lexington* had an engine mated, a day or two since, with a rebel battery near Savannah, Tennessee, [near the Mississippi line]. The result is not known.

CINCINNATI, March 3d. Specials from Cairo say at nine o'clock Saturday night the sky was brilliantly illuminated by the reflection of a large conflagration in the direction of Columbus, or, apparently, about that distance. A very bright light was also seen in the direction of Blueville Friday night. It is generally believed the rebels have burned everything of an inflammable nature in both places.

DETROIT, March 3d. An explosion today in the oil refinery of Hutton & Co. demolished the building and killed several persons. Fear of the dead bodies have been recovered.

WASHINGTON, March 3d. The Tax Bill reported today provides for the appointment by the President of a Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The country is to be divided, as the President may direct, with an Assistant Collector appointed by the President for each district. The bill also provides for a duty of fifteen cents per gallon on spirituous liquors.

CINCINNATI, March 3d. Forty men of Jeff. Thompson's band were captured by a company of Federal cavalry on Saturday, near Sikeston, Missouri.

St. Louis, March 3d. Concerning Jeff Davis' inaugural address, the *Memphis Appeal* [rebel] says Davis is free to confess the errors of his past policy, and the extent of the disasters which have followed from it. We think vigorous war will soon be made on the advancing enemy at Columbus [Columbus is played out]; that we will attack, pursue and destroy instead of being attacked, pursued and destroyed. In other words, the policy of the Fabian Davis will yield to that of the Napoleonic Beauregard.

The rebels are said to be fortifying below Columbus, which is well adapted to planting batteries to command the river.

KANSAS CITY, March 3d. The Santa Fe mails bring advices from Fort Craig of Feb. 14th. The enemy's whole force is advancing from Alamosa, where it had been camped for three days. On the 13th their pickets were eighteen miles below the fort, having driven in our scouts. Their force is variously estimated. It is thought to be over 32,000, mostly mounted, with eight pieces of artillery. The armies being so near each other, it is thought a battle cannot long be delayed.

WASHINGTON, March 4th. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad bridge (Harper's Ferry) is being rapidly rebuilt. About forty miles of iron and cross ties have been carried off by the rebels.

A special dispatch to the New York papers, says McDowell, Burnside, Buell, Pope, Curtis, McClelland, C. F. Smith and Lew Wallace were nominated to the Senate yesterday for Major Generals.

In answer to a Senate resolution, the Secretary of War inclosed the instructions of the Adjutant General touching the Hunter and Lane expedition. The order to General Hunter says: "The General-in-Chief desires it to be understood that a command independent of his is not given to General Lane, but he is to operate to all proper extent under your supervision and control."

CHICAGO, March 4.—5 P. M. New York, March 4th.—The Pacific Railroad and Telegraph Bill has been reported to the House.

St. Louis, March 4. Boats are advertising for cargoes to the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. One advertises for Nashville to day.

It is believed the Columbus rebels have gone to Fort Randolph, sixty miles above Memphis, which commands the river six miles. It is presumed they will make a stand there.

CHICAGO, March 4.—11:30 P. M. The evacuation of Columbus commenced on

Thursday. The last of the rebels left yesterday afternoon. The burning commenced Friday and continued until Sunday. A portion of the barracks and other quarters were still in flames. The works were occupied by the Federal troops at five o'clock P. M. yesterday. The transports and mortar boats arrived this morning. It is stated that the rebels, before leaving, mined the fortifications, though they may be built up. At the time of the evacuation there were 14,000 rebels left by river transportation. The railroad bridges were burned, and the track torn up for six miles. What further destruction is not known. It is reported that Pulk and other officers have become unpopular, and the men demoralized and reckless. The works are extensive, and probably four miles in extent. Every promising bluff on the river is abandoned. A large number of cannon, which the rebels were unable to carry off, were thrown into the river.

WASHINGTON, March 4th. Everything in the vicinity of the army of the Potomac remains in a state of quiet.

PORTSMOUTH, March 4th. Gen. Wool has refused to permit any more passengers to go South.

CINCINNATI, March 4th—10:45 A. M. New York, March 4th.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations will report a bill obliging all American vessels before clearing at the Custom House to take such mails as may be placed on board by the Post Office Department, and deliver them at their destination. This bill has special reference to Vanderbilt's arbitrary proceedings.

Cairo, March 4th. A regiment of Federal soldiers, taken from Fort Henry last week up the Tennessee river, now occupy Florence, Alabama.

SALT LAKE, March 4th. At the Territorial election yesterday, the vote was unanimous for the State Constitution, for Brigham Young, Governor, and Heber C. Kimball, Lieutenant Governor. There was no opposition ticket.

MARRIED. In Cook Creek Valley, Douglas county, Oregon, by Rev. C. C. Stratton,