

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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For the Argus. Out in the snow. Camp, tramp, tramp. Through the landing fields of snow, While the muskies shrank with the deadly cramp of the frost-king's numbing blow.

ASTORIA, PAST AND PRESENT. The S. F. Herald & Mirror says:—The little town of Astoria, near the mouth of the Columbia, after many years passed in a sort of Rip Van Winkle sleep, gives signs of awakening from its lethargy, and joining the throng of more recent rivals in the race for commercial supremacy in the northwestern waters.

McClellan's Plans.—A letter dated at Washington, Jan. 12th, has the following:—"The night of the rebellion has passed and the dawn is about breaking. Before the present month has gone, these things will surely come to pass: Gen. Halleck, with the great flotilla and an army of 100,000 strong, will sweep like an avalanche down the Mississippi, where they will be joined by Gen. Butler in New Orleans and Mobile.

Honor to Gen. Lyon and his Army. HOUSE, Dec. 11.—Mr Blair, of Missouri, I offer the following resolution, expressive of the recognition by Congress of the gallant and patriotic services of the late Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, and of the officers and soldiers under his command at the battle of Springfield.

Details of Eastern News. Columbus abandoned by the Rebels? BALTIMORE, Feb. 28.—At daybreak on Monday morning, the last of the advance guard, consisting of the twenty-eight Pennsylvania regiment, crossed the Potomac by the rope ferry, and took possession of Harper's Ferry.

A TRUE PATRIOT.—Hon. Edwin M. Stanton was the incumbent of a very high position in the Cabinet of James Buchanan; to fill a vacancy occupied by the withdrawal of a traitor. When the present Government came into power, a new Cabinet, of course, took the place of the old, and Mr Stanton was suffered to rest for a while upon his laurels.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1861. "DEAR SIR: Your kind letter was received this morning, and I thank you for the confidence and regard it expresses for myself. You are right in supposing it to be my determination to do everything in my power to preserve and maintain this Government, and the Constitution under which the United States have been so prosperous.

MANASSAS TO BE THE LAST.—On Jan. 15, Gen. McClellan was before the Joint Committee of Congress on the conduct of the war, explaining his plans. These cannot be divulged, but the N. Y. Herald says:—His explanations of the campaign, past and prospective, were most satisfactory, and inspired the fullest confidence in his generalship.

Washington, March 3.—The Tax Bill reported to-day provides for the appointment by the President of a Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The country is to be divided, as the President may direct, into convenient collection districts, with an Assistant Collector appointed by the President for each district.

Chicago, March 3.—The rebels have abandoned Murfreesboro, Tenn., and are falling back on Tennessee River. Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers are to be opened this week to unrestricted commerce.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN ON AMERICA AND ENGLAND.—On the 10th of January, Mr. Train lectured in the Town Hall, "Tantall, England, or" the American question with variations." After being introduced by the chairman, there was considerable confusion, and a great many insulting interruptions from some of his excited audience.

STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.—It is questioned whether the actual number of Federal troops in the field exceed 550,000, as the reports of the governors of states would seem to indicate this number was more correct than that of 660,000 stated by the Secretary of War.

OUR PROTEST.—We protest, says the Maryland Union, against the enemies of the United States Government calling themselves Democrats, after having the sham of Peace torn off, and themselves exposed in all their hypocritical proportions.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Official information from Nashville to the War Department represents that the military work in Tennessee is about finished. It only remains to effect a civil re-organization of the state government.

CHICAGO, March 3.—Gen. Lander died on Sunday afternoon from debilitating effects of a wound received at Edward's Ferry. The President has nominated Andy Johnson as brigadier-general. He proceeds to Tennessee to-day to organize a military provisional government.

AT THIS great distance from the scene of action, we hear first of the grand engagements, the more important movements of the war, in which all the fame and prestige are swallowed up by the two or three eminent military personages under whom the operations were conducted.

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A TERRIBLE FATE FOR JEFF.—At a festival on some occasion among the soldiers in Missouri, one of them from Adrian, Michigan, offered the following extravagant sentiment, which is printed in a Missouri paper, from which we copy:—Jeff Davis—May he be set off in an open boat, without compass or rudder; may the boat and contents be swallowed by a shark, and the shark by a whale, the whale in the devil's belly and the devil in hell, the door locked and the key lost; and further, may he be chained in the southwest corner of hell, and a northeast wind blow ashes into his eyes to all eternity.

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The number of insertions should be noted on the margin of an advertisement, otherwise it will be published till forbidden, and charged accordingly. Ordinary notices will be charged half the above rates of advertising.

afternoon. The burning of the town commenced on Friday, the 25th, and continued until Sunday the 27th March. A portion of the barracks and other quarters are still in flames. The fortifications are not molested, and the works were occupied by the Federal troops at 5 o'clock yesterday.

The railroad bridges are burned and track torn up for six miles. What further destruction they effected is not known. It is reported that Polk's officers had become unpopular, men demoralized and reckless.

The works are extensive, probably four miles in extent. Every prominent bluff on the river is abandoned, although armed and fortified with a large number of cannon, which the rebels, being unable to carry off, had thrown into the river.

Chicago, March 4.—The following dispatch has been received from Washington to-day: In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Sumner presented a memorial from merchants and others doing business on the Pacific coast asking immediate action by Congress to provide transportation of the mails between New York, Astoria and Panama.

The confiscation bill was taken up, and McDougall quoted from Justice Story and other writers, showing that there should be no confiscation of private property. He contended that the provision of the bill relating to the freeing of slaves was unconstitutional, and quoted from the declarations of the President of the Secretary of State, to show that an entirely different policy had been declared by the Government.

Salt Lake, March 4.—A territorial election was held yesterday. The vote was unanimous for a State Constitution, with Brigham Young for Gov. and Heber C. Kimball for Lieut-Gov. No opposition ticket is named.

Inox STROM.—The ordinance report received by the Navy Department from the fleet at Port Royal, shows the following to have been the quantity of powder and projectiles expended in the capture of the works on Hilton Head and Bay Point: 22,980 pounds of common powder; 400 11-inch shells; 55 10-inch shells; 704 32-pound shells; 128 80-pound Dahlgreen howitzer projectiles; 83 30-pound Parrott projectiles; 75 32-pound solid shot.

Worse than "SHODDY".—A correspondent from Hilton Head gives the following negro idea of bomb shells: The balls and shells of the Wabash with her 64 guns and mortars, and our other war vessels, made sad havoc of the forts as well as of the deluded men who defended them, especially at the one here. Even the slaves have with emphasis said:—"The Yankee balls so rotten dat da last un' fly 'bout so dat de pieces kill many of our poor massa's!"

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette writing from Elizabeth, Ky., under the date of Nov. 23, says: The Catholic population in Kentucky are usually secessionists, though of mild type, the Baptists being the most rabid in this section of the country. Nearly all the denominations are tinged with "secession prejudices," except the Episcopalians.—There are, however, exceptions to this rule.

CONSECRATION.—Bishop Upfold, of Indiana, has been invited and will attend as one of the officiating Bishops on the occasion of consecrating a Bishop of the church of England, for Canada, which is to take place in Canada. Hitherto the Bishops of Canada have been consecrated in England and sent over, but now are they going to try home manufacture.—Cannelton Reporter.

Mr. Seward, in the correspondence with Carl Schurz, printed in the volume just published, says that whatever former Administrations may have said, this one will have nothing to do with the Amistad negro claim. It is to be hoped that the ghost of that imposition is "down" forever.

The Chinese were the first who constructed cannon with iron bands shrunk upon them for the purpose of strengthening them at the breech. The Chinese built vessels with water-tight bulkheads, hundreds of years ago. This has been considered by most persons quite a modern invention.

Lieut. Geo. W. Snyder, one of the gallant defenders of Fort Sumter under Maj. Anderson, died at Washington lately, of typhoid fever, superinduced by his too arduous labors on the fortifications around the capital. He graduated at West Point in 1855, with the highest honors.