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The Future of our Country.

The oration by the Rev. F. C. Ewer is highly spoken of in the New York journals. The subject chosen by the orator was—"The objections of mankind to war."

There is an era in national existence dawning this day, of which, though clear to us, even his prophetic mind did not dream. In the 2,000 years before Christ the world was in its cycle of national life.

Its great nations were cities. Rome, Athens, Carthage, Jerusalem, Babylon, occupy the pages of history. In the 2,000 years now closing the world has been in the second cycle of national life.

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Death is the only master who takes his servants without character.

TOBACCO SMOKING.

In a paper read at a recent meeting of one of the French Societies by Dr. Dromesnil, he stated that the habit of smoking is spreading so fearfully, that the tobacco producing countries can scarcely supply the demand for it.

A HEROIC LAB.—Many tales are told of individual cases of heroism among our troops at the terrible battle of Fort Donelson.

OPINION.—One of the curious facts revealed by the publication of custom house tables is, that there were imported into this country last year 300,000 pounds of opium.

TO PREVENT HORSES KICKING.—A subscriber of the Country Gentleman, being possessed of a horse that would kick everybody to pieces in the stable that he could reach.

REBEL PRISONERS CHEERING FOR THE UNION.—The Bloomington (Ill.) Post-graph says when the rebel prisoners of the 20th Tennessee regiment passed through that city for Chicago, they were treated to all the coffee they could drink.

AGASSIZ ON THE EXISTENCE OF GOD.

AGASSIZ'S WORK ON FOSSIL FISHES is in five volumes, with a folio atlas containing 400 plates. About 1,000 species are described and figured in the natural size and about 700 more are mentioned.

THE PRESS AND MILITARY NEWS.—A mistake seems to have obtained place in the minds of many that the recent order by the Secretary of War restricts newspapers from publishing military intelligence of any sort.

MEXICO.—By way of Colima and Manzanillo, we have some most important intelligence. The Allies are to make a new loan of £25,000,000 to Mexico, to enable her to pay off her old debts.

Rev. Andrew Given Caruthers, recently Consul to Turks Island, has been appointed to a similar position at Martinique.

MILITARY DELAYS FREQUENTLY PREVENT GREAT LOSS OF LIFE, while impetuosity will sacrifice hecatombs. We draw consolation from the "inimitable fixedness" of some of our armies from the following incident.



Great Battle in Tennessee!! DREADFUL SLAUGHTER!

Glorious Victory for the Union!!

A great battle was fought at Pittsburg Landing, on the Tennessee River, resulting in the complete rout of the rebels, who attacked us about daybreak on Sunday, the 6th April.

Washington, April 9.—Midnight.—The War Department has received dispatches confirming the news of the fight at Pittsburg Landing on Sunday.

Chicago, April 9.—The following is the only account yet received of the battle at Pittsburg Landing: Three hundred of the 25th Missouri under Gen. Prentiss commenced the engagement by attacking the advance guard of the rebels, which was supposed to be merely the pickets of the enemy.

Up to this time the reinforcements which had been ordered forward had not arrived. Gen. Lew Wallace's division, having taken the wrong road from the camp's landing, did not come up until nightfall.

IN THE EVENING, Col. Webster, Chief of the Staff, got into position the heaviest pieces of artillery, pointing on the enemy's right, while a large number of batteries were planted along the entire line.

return shots became less frequent and less destructive, whilst ours grew stronger and more terrible.

The gunboats Lexington and Tyler, which lay at a short distance off, kept raining shells on the rebel hordes. The last effort proved too much for the enemy, and before dusk firing nearly ceased.

On Monday morning the battle recommenced at daybreak, simultaneously by Nelson's division on the left and Wallace's division on the right.

It is impossible to estimate what material has been captured. It is known, however, that it is a large amount. Their whole artillery, with a number of prisoners, were taken.

Our loss is variously estimated—killed, wounded, and missing—at from 10,000 to 20,000; while that of the rebels is twice that number.

The sharpshooters of the enemy did terrible execution upon the officers. Gen. Strong, commander of this post, is sending every boat he can bring down the wounded. Dispatches have been sent to the Governors of neighboring States and to the Sanitary Committee for nurses for the hospitals.

Details of Eastern News.

Washington, April 8.—Following is a summary of intelligence received by the War Department up to 10 o'clock last night of the operations of the army at Fort Monroe.

Another dispatch received at 10:30 this morning states that Yorktown must fall without a siege in two or three days. Some other works have been taken.

By 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, the column was again in motion. At 10 o'clock it was in front of the enemy's works at Yorktown.

Information had been received at Newbern, that the rebels had concentrated a considerable army, variously estimated at from 20,000 to 40,000, and that an attack was to be made on Newbern at an early day.

The Navy Department has received despatches from Commander Rowan, North Carolina, 26th March. He says: The expedition to [Washington, N.C.] consisting of three vessels and one transport, met with no resistance, except from obstructions in the river.

Wheeling, Va., April 7.—A telegram received states that the rebels are retreating before our forces under Gen. Milroy, who has advanced from Cheat Mountain and now holds Camp Alleghany.