



"If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot!" —Gen. Dix.

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. Adams, Editor.

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What of the Night?

Governor Sprague of Rhode Island having proposed to raise a colored regiment, and lead them to battle himself, has caused considerable discussion among newspapers as to the probable fighting qualities of this kind of soldiers. Now that the rebels are using negroes to shoot down northern soldiers, the conviction seems to be rapidly gaining ground, especially among prominent men who have heretofore acted with the democratic party, that it is just and proper to organize negro regiments to hunt up and destroy the cowardly bands of guerrillas who are overrunning portions of the rebel States, shooting and hanging and cutting to pieces loyal men, stealing their horses, cattle and corn, burning their dwellings, and after outraging the women, driving them with their little ones into the mountains and swamps to perish with cold and hunger. These guerrillas, according to the laws of civilized nations are outlaws and pirates who can claim none of the rights and amenities due to common captives; but who deserve death by shooting or hanging wherever taken—cold-blooded, vindictive, wholesale murderers, who are not to be conquered, but exterminated.

Since the rebel defeats at Shiloh, Fort Donelson, New Orleans, Memphis, and McClellan's base before Richmond, everything seems to be drifting towards the point we long since predicted as the ultimate development of the rebel programme: a dissolution of the large armies under distinguished generals, a general evacuation of the most important places, and a dispersion of the rebel cohorts all over cordon, organized in small bands, under devil possessed and desperate leaders to carry on a guerrilla warfare unknown in kind in the history of barbarism, by mobbing, murdering, and torturing Union citizens among them and annoying the Federal Government to the utmost of their ability. Whenever this policy is fairly inaugurated, and Davis abandons the idea of keeping together a large rebel army at any one point, we may safely calculate that the leaders of the rebellion have abandoned the idea of a permanent independent government, and are seeking to make good their escape with their ill-gotten treasures to some foreign country under cover of the fire, smoke, and slaughter that shall burst out all over the country, on the track of a thousand bands of guerrilla robbers and murderers—for Davis, Vance, and Breckinridge know very well that the Federal Government will be able to hold the important places in Dixie after taking them, and that so long as we retain possession of Richmond, Charleston, New Orleans, Mobile, Nashville, and Memphis, and control the navigation along the whole length of the Mississippi, a very hot place we read of will freeze over before they can have a Southern Confederacy that would amount to any great stakes, with even Santa Anna.

Whenever the rebels make up their minds to persist in their diabolical design to dig this Government up by the roots, till the "last man" as a guerrilla falls in the ditch, the tensing millions of freemen on this continent will meet the issue like men; will take the lofty, philanthropic, and Christian position pointed out by the Great Jehovah to the Jewish generals on the eve of a campaign against the incircumcised heathen "rebels" of Asia, and use all the means that God and nature have placed in our hands to keep America and sacred to human liberty. The position to which these traitors will have then forced the loyalists will be the conduct of a war, not for conquest, but extermination. Rebels have yet got to be made to drink the cup they prepared for us to its very dregs—We are of those who now believe, as we always have, that the slave power which has already shed enough innocent blood to float a frigate, has got to expiate some of its crimes on this side the borders of hell—and that the Great Jehovah intends, through the coulter to sift the Northern sympathizers with treason, in a baptism they know not of, and at the same time punish all of us somewhat, for having too much wicked at the power behind the throne, which has been for more than half a century, corrupting, debasing, and demoralizing the whole country; till debauchery, disorder, and dishonesty were considered no disqualifications for high positions, and the arrant rabbler had made an idol of gain, grows fat and forgotten their God.

That the "irrepressible conflict" foretold by the wisest of our statesmen, and foreshadowed by him who got a glimpse of Gog and Magog mustering their hosts to battle, is already upon us, we have reasons which we care not to give, to believe. That we have hardly begun to see the beginning of the end, and shall not till the itching despotisms of the old world shall elect to seize their golden opportunity to join the rebels and pour a broad side into

the temple of human liberty that shall startle Europe, wrap both continents in a blaze of war, and knock the scales from the eyes of purblind demagogues who have been thus far throwing obstacles in the way of a speedy termination of the war upon a just and christian basis—we also believe. Of the mighty causes which are operating as a hidden moral volcano under the substratum of civil society, and of the ultimatum of the irrepressible conflict between barbarism and a civilization struggling to advance, the little turkey politicians of the Wau school know no more than a hog knows about centripetal and centrifugal forces in the heavens. The Anglo-Saxon race, occupying the front rank in the families of earth and headed by New England Yankees, the brain of America, the depository of inventive genius, the fountain of art and literature, and the cradle of human liberty, has not been the aggressor in this conflict which is to introduce a millennium; when, after the fiery ordeal through which the world has passed, PEACE, in golden letters, shall span the heavens, hallelujah! He waited on every breeze, and glory sung in every dark corner and valley of the earth. He who thinks that Gabriel's last blast is to purge the world of sin and introduce the millennium by the exercise of that volition that created the material universe, is with as a heterodox theologian. The "elect" friends of human progress have legitimately tried to advance the cause of civilization by moral arguments—failing in that and being confronted by the metley hordes of despotism with fixed bayonets, the Great Jehovah expects them to draw their swords and hew their way through to the millennium, instead of waiting for Gabriel to frighten away with his horn the hosts of Magog who now block up the road. This conflict has been commenced on the "land shadowing with wings"—it has been conducted on the part of the enemies of civilization and a pure democracy in good keeping with the spirit of intolerance that prompted the rebellion—conducted by the war code of savages. On the part of the Government a remarkable gentleness, leniency, and forbearance have been shown the rebels, in releasing prisoners on parole, in returning slaves to their claimants, in protecting rebel property, in permitting rebel officers captured in war to loll in magnificently furnished apartments and fare sumptuously, while our own soldiers are crowded into filthy apartments by the rebels, fed on miserable food, and shot for stepping to a window to get a breath of pure air. The whole policy of the Government in conducting the war has been such as many hoped would win back the rebels to loyalty. It has been a policy wisely inaugurated by the Administration, considering the low and debased state of the public sentiment on the slavery question. Such has been the debased condition of public sentiment growing out of our teachings from slave-trading theologians and politicians, that up within two or three months it has seemed that Northern men generally preferred to sacrifice their own sons and brothers in battle, rather than have the poor negroes enlisted to be shot down in fighting the guerrillas and Jeff Davis's colored regiments. Such democrats as Dickinson and Cochrane cannot see why one poor maimed African should be worth more than one of our educated white men. There seems just now, since the dawning of the guerrilla era of warfare, to be a change rapidly going on in public sentiment all over the North as to whether we shall "quit quarreling and go to fighting," or not. Our Government having called out three hundred thousand more men, the guerrillas having broken out afresh, the North having become more united and determined, and the rebels more vindictive, desperate, and cruel, we predict that the Administration will keep pace with public sentiment by going to work to crush out the rebellion by the use of all the means that God and Nature have placed within our reach.

BURNING OF THE GOLDEN GATE—Loss or Life.—The steamer Golden Gate, that left San Francisco on the 21st ult., was burned to the water's edge, near Manzanillo, on the 27th of July, and one hundred and ninety-eight lives were lost. Capt. Pearson publishes a statement of particulars; he thinks the fire originated in the after-galley, between the stoves and smoke stack. It got the start of the crew, and the ship burned up in an incredibly short space of time. The passengers were sitting down to dinner; they fought the fire successfully for half an hour, when all hopes gave way of saving the ship; she was headed for the beach and succeeded in reaching within about a quarter of a mile of it; huge breakers were running over the ship, sweeping everything before them to the beach.—Those who retained strength when they came on shore, helped to drag the exhausted or dead from the surf. Captains Hudson and Pearson were the last to leave the ship, at 9 o'clock, when she had burned all up but the bell plate and wheels. The survivors, one hundred and five in number, started next morning for Manzanillo fifteen miles distant, having for sustenance nothing but some kegs of lager beer that had washed ashore. On the second day they all reached Manzanillo. A Mr. Wallace, one of the saved, distinguished himself by boldly swimming ashore, and afterwards taking care of the sick and bruised.

Ex Senator A. O. P. Nicholson of Tennessee has been arrested on a charge of treason.

Details of Eastern News.

LITTLE WASHINGTON (Va.), August 3d.—A reconnoitering column under Gen. Crawford yesterday crossed the Rapidan, and pushed forward to Orange Court House and took possession of the town, which was occupied by two regiments of the enemy's cavalry, under Gen. Robertson. Eleven of the enemy were killed and fifty-two taken prisoners. Among the latter were one Major, two Captains and two Lieutenants. Our loss was two killed and three wounded. The enemy retired in such great haste as to leave their wounded in our hands.

Washington, August 4th.—The following order has just been issued by the War Department:

"Washington, August 4th.—It is ordered, first, that a draft of three hundred thousand militia be made immediately into the service of the United States, to serve nine months, unless sooner discharged. The Secretary of War will assign the quotas to the States, and establish regulations for the draft."

"Second.—That if any State shall not, by the 15th of August furnish its quota of the additional three hundred thousand volunteers authorized by the law, the deficiency of volunteers in that State will also be made up by special draft from the militia. The Secretary of War will establish regulations for this purpose. The regulations will be prepared by the War Department and presented to the President, with the object of securing the promotion of officers of the army and volunteers for gallant and distinguished services, and preventing the nomination and appointment of incompetent persons. The regulations will also provide for ridding the service of such incompetent persons as now hold commissions."

Fortress Monroe, Aug. 1st.—It is believed here that the new Merrimac will come down as far as Fort Darling. The Federal gunboats have passed up the river beyond Harrison's Landing. Last night, between twelve and one o'clock, the rebels opened fire on McClellan's center, and continued for about an hour and a half, with four batteries of flying artillery, opposite the landing, some above and some below. Not one-tenth of their shells exploded. Several vessels were struck by fragments of shells. Not one vessel of the fleet was injured. Nine soldiers were killed or wounded. After half an hour's delay, our guns opened fire, and in forty minutes the rebels were silenced.

New York, Aug. 4th.—A letter to the *Herald*, dated Hilton Head, July 31st, says: "The rebels' ram, which for a long time has been in process of construction at Scarsdale, is completed, armed and ready for service. All accounts which come to us represent her as very formidable. She is of light draft and great power, and has a very heavy armament. Already the rebels are making the necessary soundings preparatory to bringing her down the river. Two steamers carrying the rebel flag, which are engaged in the performances of this service, came within range of Fort Pulaski's guns on Tuesday, but were compelled to retreat. Dupont is making every preparation to receive the monster."

A special dispatch to the New York *Tribune* says: "The Government is now fully prepared for the plots of the border State Secessionists, whether in Maryland or Kentucky, and will instantly crush any attempted treason. Governor Magoffin of Kentucky is watched. Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky will be formed into an independent military department, under Gen. Buell's command, with a Commissary General, whose headquarters will be at Cincinnati.

Specials to the New York papers say: After a full conference between the delegation from Ohio—who came to Washington to represent the exposed condition of the border of that State—and the Navy Department, the latter promised the Committee as many gundogs for service exclusively on the Ohio river as they wanted. Ten small boats, drawing two feet of water, have been already selected and inspected by the agents of the Department. Each boat is calculated to carry two guns. It is believed that when they are placed on the river all dangerous guerrilla invasions will be at an end.

Porter's guerrillas crossed to the north bank of the Missouri river on Wednesday last, and on Thursday night crossed the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, on their way to the northern counties, pursued by Colonel Gurnett's force. Porter had between six and seven hundred men. Bands numbering ten, twenty and fifty, were constantly joining. Another notorious marauder, with an equal number of men, was marching on Glasgow yesterday, where there are less than two hundred Federal. The guerrillas of Northeastern Missouri probably number two thousand, but it is confidently believed that their operations will be speedily brought to a close by the prompt and efficient measures adopted by our forces. Porter and Polk-Dexter profess to have come from the Confederate Government to raise recruits to join their forces, which are expected soon to be citizens of the United States.

Private advice from Gen. Curtis' army

state that our forces now shoot or hang every guerrilla caught, and take every negro they can find and put him to work, and sustain the army on the enemy as far as possible. They confiscate all rebel horses and cattle wherever found.

Advices from Spencerville, Va., say that a strong Union sentiment is manifested by many citizens. The wives of several rich planters visit our sick soldiers in the hospitals almost daily, and send them luxuries.

About 400 citizens within the lines of Gen. Sigel's corps had taken the oath of

allegiance. Seventy have been arrested, and are now in charge of Provost Marshal.

Reports are ripe among rebel sympathizers that the enemy have evacuated Rich-

mond.

The steamer Victoria, coming from Helena, Ark., to Cairo, when above Memphis was fired on by guerrillas, receiving several cannon shot in her upper works. No one hurt.

Gen. Curtis and staff and Com. Davis had arrived at Cairo, it is supposed to confer with the Government.

Lynchburg, (Va.), July 30.—A special dispatch to the Republican, dated Narrows of New River, July 28th, says: Major Bailey, commanding about 150 men, stormed Louviersville, Nicholas county (Western Virginia) on Friday at daylight, and killed or captured the entire garrison, including four commissioners and sixty-six non-commissioned officers and privates.

Not being able to bring away the stores, Major Bailey burned them.

Tupelo, (Miss.) July 30.—Gen. Armstrong, in a general report of the affair at Courtland Alabama, says the Federal loss was three killed. He captured the equipments of four companies, six wagons with horses, and a quantity of supplies, including five hundred bushels of corn. The depot of the telegraph line, a bridge and trestle work were destroyed. Armstrong also defeated the Federals the same day, taking four hundred prisoners.

An officer who left Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on Monday says: On Saturday a band of

rebel cavalry burned the station houses at Leighton, ten miles from Tuscaloosa, and at Leiberson, fifteen miles from the same

place, to stop communication on the Charle-

ton Railroad. The rebel cavalry are nu-

morous and hold that region. Being thor-

oughly acquainted with the country, they

generally get the better of our forces.

unsuccessful. Information from Glasgow, Missouri, says that a hundred and fifty Federal troops at the place are in danger from a large band of guerrillas under Pomeroy. Should the report prove true of a strong rebel force being in that vicinity, the garrison will probably retire to the other side of the river.

In the northeastern part of the State the town of Newark was attacked by a large force of guerrillas on Friday evening last. Only two companies of State troops were stationed at the outskirts, who were driven into the town by superior numbers. A regular skirmish took place—the State troops firing from behind houses and fences. At dark they were compelled to capitulate. The infantry were not engaged. The firing lasted three hours, when the rebels ingloriously fled by the river road toward Richmond, hotly pursued by our troops, who took 100 prisoners. The loss on our side was three killed and eleven wounded.

Col. Averill, with 500 cavalry, took the road to White Oak Swamp Bridge, where he found the Tenth Virginia Cavalry drawn up to receive him. A charge was immediately ordered, which broke the rebel line, when they fled. Col. Averill followed three miles, taking 28 prisoners, without losing a man. Gen. Pleasant, with a force of cavalry, took the Newmarket road, on which a portion of the rebels were retreating. He followed them to within a short distance of Newmarket, when meeting two brigades of rebels, he fell back, bringing over 30 prisoners taken on the way. Thus ended operations for the day. The troops encamped on Malvern Hill.

We now occupy Myslvero Hill with sufficient force to hold it and carry on other plans. The public will be satisfied with the activity of the Army of the Potomac for a few days to come. Our loss was 20 killed and wounded. The position is considered of great importance.

Washington, Aug. 5th.—A dispatch from the headquarters of the army of the Potomac to-day, says: Richmond papers of the 2d, giving an account of the night engagement opposite mud boat landing, acknowledges that one man was killed and six wounded.

A large force of infantry, cavalry and artillery left camp last night for Malvern Hill.

About four thousand sick belonging to the United States have arrived here since the army came to James river. About three thousand rebel prisoners have also arrived from different points for exchange.

Boston, August 5th.—Recruiting for the old and new regiments is going on rapidly. It is now thought that the State's quota will be raised without a draft. The call for the second three hundred thousand militia men is received with enthusiasm, as indicating speedy work on the part of the Government for the suppression of the rebellion.

St. Louis, Aug. 4th.—The order releasing prisoners from enrollment, on the payment of ten dollars, has been revoked.

Another order has been issued, threatening the enrollment of all loyal citizens into com-

panies. Secessionists are not permitted to enter the militia, but are required to give all their arms to the nearest military post.

Fort Monroe, Aug. 3d.—One division of Gen. Burnside's corps has left Roads, sailing in a direction quite the opposite of James river and Harrison's Landing. Other divisions are embarking and will sail very soon. Great secrecy has been observed in making this movement.

New York Aug. 5th.—A letter to the *Tribune* says: McClellan sent a large force across James river on Saturday—mostly from Fitzjohn Porter's command. The number is said to be 15,000.

Washington, Aug. 5th.—A dispatch from Pope's headquarters, dated yesterday, says: Information from various sources tends to confirm the belief that the enemy have evacuated Richmond and taken up the south bank of the James river as the new line of defense. The rebel cavalry, under Gen. Robertson, is believed to have been withdrawn from the Shenandoah valley, leaving that part of the country to the defense of guerrillas alone.

Washington, Aug. 5th.—It has been believed here in some quarters, for several days, that the enemy have been evacuating Richmond. There is reasonable suspicion that a pestilence has broken out in that city.

The Memphis Bulletin reports a fight six or seven miles from town on Sunday, 3d, between a force of 4,000 Federals and Jeff Thompson's command. The rebels were driven back with great loss.

As near as can be ascertained, 23,000 men have been already enrolled in New York State, under the call for 300,000 volunteers.

Recruiting is going on finely in Pennsylvania, and the quota of volunteers will soon be raised.

N. Y., Aug. 6.—W. H. Webb has con-

tracted with the Government to build an iron steamer, to be covered with six-inch iron, and to have two revolving turrets like the Monitor, which are to be covered with twelve-inch iron. The vessel is to have a solid iron ram, half the length of the ship. Price, \$1,250,000.

Since the arrival of Gen. Curtis at Hel-

ena, Ark., he has freed upwards of 2,000 slaves, mostly those who worked on Forts Wright and Donelson.

A special dispatch to the New York

papers says: A delegation of Western men, including two Senators, made an offer of

certain negro regiments to the President

yesterday, to which the President rephrased that he had decided not to arm the negroes, but would accept as many as were offered as laborers. This is understood to be the settled policy of the government.

This refusal excites surprise among

parties interested in Gen. Jim Lane's plans,

as he stated positively before leaving that

the Administration understood his intention

of enlisting negroes in Kansas.

Washington, Aug. 6th.—It is believed

that Gen. Burnside has reached his new

field of operations, and may soon, by act

of his own, announce his exact locality.

There is authority nor emphatically deny-

ing the truth of the statement that Secre-

tary Seward has made a remonstrance to

France against the presence in the Gulf of