THE OREGON ARGUS.

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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From Saimon River.

FLORENCE, Aug. 3, 1862. people in dense masses walked up and such claims have been "salted." eyes open, watching the threatening fall climate. Notwithstanding the sufferings of of the uplifted hammer of some indefinite last winter, it is said that many intend to Of the late campaign in the Shenandoah The rebel ram at Savanean, according to a letter from Hilton Head, is the Britday are almost continually jostling and outer world. jamming one another on their way into and with them much changed yet, though in all places of resort.

ance, seems almost described, it is thought these reports be well investigated. barefaced swindling, trand, lying and cheating, murder and attempts at murder, California in its most licentious days (according to extent and population) was less than a drop in a bucket compared with the Salmon River mines. It is no uncommon thing to hear men swear caultingly such as that they would think it right for a man to cheat his own father if he could make money by it. As for the ties of friendship and gratitude, such are but little known or recognized, beyond the selfish object of avarice and gain. Credit in business is but little known, because it is a rare thing for a man to pay what he owes, if he be fortunate enough to get into debt. There are several families here, some liv ing in tents, and some in houses, shantles, &c. The number of houses in town is variously estimated at from 200 to 500, but the first number is near the correct one -Some of these are well built of logs, with fancy fronts; some have windows of glass, but most of them of muslin. The best style of houses are occupied as saloonsothers as restaurants, boarding-houses, bakeries, whisky holes, butchers' stalls, variety stores, &c. We have ten butchershops, seven bakeries, six pie-shops, three carpenter shops, three black-mith shops, two barber shops, eleven physicians, eight lawyers, six gambling saloons, a few holein the wall doggeries, and a dance house .--The whole number of people in the diggings a week ago was about 2000, but the number has been daily diminishing. Many of the big-paying claims have been worked nearly out, and in a majority of the gulch and ravine claims the water has so dried away that the further prosecution of the work will have to be discontinued. But in many claims the want of water is not so discouraging as the want of gold. There are some rich paying claims, and many that pay so well that one would think the owners must be very rich in a short time. Claims are often changing hands, and mostly at a very high rate, part

most instances pay down in full is the rule. forth the first gleam of its constenance, " Paying up" for the claim, the heavy ex- they begin their little song, and as duly do En ARous: When I wrote last, our lit- penses of living and of working the claim, I wake up to listen, as they have taken the village was crowded with people, and the pleasures of the gaming table, and possession of a little stanted fir tree hard the sarrounding vicinity literally covered and drinks only 25 cents, all combine to by my cabin. Their little song is very with tents. It was thought that more than keep the miner "strapped." Not a few peculiar, and exceedingly uniform in its Battle between Banks and Stonewall Jack-8,000 persons were here at one time since have bought claims that prospected "big," notes; it begins with striking the notes D, May, not one third of whom had any prof- but paid more for them than they ever A, as true as any musician, and ends in a itable employment. From morn till night, took or can take out of them. Generally, promiscuous chitter. I have always avoided giving them the slightest annoyance,

down, threading their way through the The news of rich diggings discovered, to and they have became so tame that they thick crowd, some apparently in listless which I have alluded above, is the sixth will come freely within two or three yards is encamped at Fredricksburg ready for of battle immediately facing the enemy, division came to car rescue, and with it meditation, occupied with their own "great excitement" we have had since win. of me and pick up the crambs I throw movement. thoughts only, whilst others strutted about ter, all of which heretofore have turned down to them.

valgar and profane levity, and large groups to have been got up by interested par. and market prices range to day as follows: could also be seen sitting on logs and front ties, enticing hundreds of honest, indus- flour \$25 per 100 lbs, heef 20 to 25c per Sigel's command was moving from there, exposed condition. They, however, cut up, charged the enemy and drove them steps chewing tobacco and swearing poli- trions men, ill posted in the schemes and ib, sugar 45 to 60c, coffee 60 to 65c; tics, big strikes, great diggings, &c. The artifices of mining camps, to spend their tes \$2, butter \$1, bacon and hams 40 to 45, not credited. A letter in the Times from enaued, in which the brave Pennsylvanians and finally the rebels rolled back like a rered flag also drew its proportion of the time and what little funds they had in a dried apples 40 to 50c. But these prices the army of the Potomac, dated Aug. 7th, were much cut up, some of them being cap- treating wave. This was the close of the mass, who through the greater portion of fruitless and laborious excursion of weeks, will not long continue, as every new excite ways important movements are progressing tured, after a gallant but hopeless resist day's fight. Towards the end we had 54 the day would be standing with month and over a rough country and in an ungenial ment affects the market. G. A. N.

edition of "Peter Funk" standing on an spend the winter here. But they will have Valley, from the time that Gen. Fremont is steam frigate Fingal, covered with railald stamp. Nor were the gambling sa- n more ample supply of the n cessaries of left Franklin to the moment when he saw road iron. She is armed with 14 guns, spite of the shower of shot and shell rained hom without their proportion of the idle life laid in to do them during the longest the last stragglers of Jackson's army swime and commanded by James Jones, late commass. As bees on a warm summer period of suspended intercourse with the ming the Shenandonh River, too late to es- mander of the Merrimac.

out of their hives, so with the patrons and diggings to a considerable extent. There behind him, less is known than of any oth- 10th, says a battle was fought yesterday frequenters of these saloons. The doors have been in all some thirty deaths. Sear- er campaign in the whole war. The facts, between Banks and Stonewall Jackson. were continually througed with their "out- let fever, dysentery, and diseases of the however, have not been wholly hidden. It Gen Bayard, of McDowell's command, goings and incomings." Nor is the case elest, and shooting, have been the prevail-is known that Jackson turned his face the day before, on the Rapidan river, skiring complaints. I have not seen any of southward so soon as he heard that Fre- mishing, maneuvering, taking prisoners, the other cases the crowds have dwindled the deceased, but I heard the names of mont, with only half his number of men, and baffling the efforts of a large rebel away to a few individuals scattered here some of them. On the 30th of March, was on his tracks; that he never tarried to force to surround and cut him off.

on one of the upper Willamette boats, was gagement between the rear of one army delayed the enemy's advance until Banks A new excitement has just commenced shot dead in a gambling saloon by one and the advance of the other, our troops came up, to this our population, which to all op- Helmus. On the 1st inst., Henry Van- were victorious; and that when Jackson The reliefs under Jackson and Ewell, pearance will in a few days leave very few dice, of either Linn or Lane county, died had fairly escaped over the river that ought had crossed the Rapidan in force Their people here. New diggings are said to have been lately discovered beyond Salmon Wachington Ter, died, of what discuss I had any escaped over the river that ought bare stopped him, and compelled him at Banks in the afternoon, six miles south of From have been lately discovered beyond Salmon River, the locality of which is variously did not learn. Several men have been pursuit by destroying the bridge over of artillery, at first, but infantry became estimated at from 50 to 100 miles, and so shot, some of whom died instantly or sub- which he had fled. So notorious are these engaged about six o'clock, when a bloody contiguous to Fort Boise that the building sequently of their wounds. When a man facts, we are surprised that a cotemporary contest ensued, of a town there is about to be commenced is shot, people hardly turn round to see should commit so grave an error as to say while our troops, making the attack, were already. Whilst I am now writing, there what is the matter. Some short time ago, that Jackson was victorious in that came obliged to cross an open field. It was not and deafening. Gen. Griffin's regiments and cager troops upon our weary men, and are few men to be seen but such as have two gentlemen(1) came rashing out of a paign over Milroy and Schenck, over Banks, till six o'clock in the evening that it be. each fired about 20,000 rounds. Gen. endeavoring to crush us with superior weight their packs-blankets, picks, shovels, ket house of low character, in mid-day, and and over Fremont. It is true that he comthes, frying-pans, &c., -on their backs, be-sides others with less or more pack animals, sides others in the test of side other side of the show-rather a desultory cannonade, but at that sides others with less or more pack animals, commenced firing revolvers at each other- eral had been left without force enough to time the whole rebel force attacked in overall seemingly in high spirits, pushing their firing some ten or twelve shots, all in the stand an encounter; but Milroy and Schenck whelming numbers at all points. way to the new El Dorado. Although to day, Sanday (the business day of the week), the town, compared with its usual oppear way to the avery death harvest. Their the town, compared with its usual oppear the town, compared with its usual appear- nately neither was killed. A few days fore with a precipitation that showed how nince, a negro barber came rushing out of much he feared to meet in a fair field an Banks is holding the same ground he oc- This accounts for the small list of casualthat in a day or two things will settle his shop nod fired a pistol at one of his army half the size of his own under such a capied at the beginning. After Gen, the sustained by this brigade. down more favorably for Florence City- kind, another negro barber, wounding him leader.



son-The Rebela defeated-The Rebel Ram Arkansus destroyed - Battle at Cumberland Gap, and the Rebels defeated with heavy loss

A letter in the Times from Pope's army, dated August 6, reports McDowill at Calin various grades of cheerful excitement or out to be so many heartless delusions, said Trains of pack animals are daily arriving. Dis- two companies were entirely surrounded by the character of the straggle. Meagher's patches from Woodville, Aug. 7th, say the rebels before they were aware of their gallant follows, coats off and sleeves rolled There were rumors in Washington yester- their way through the rebels and retired to back. Gen. Palmer's men and Duryea's day of a heavy light at Gordonsville, but a wood, where another desperate conflict Zouaves also went in with undamated valor, on the south of James river, but of such ance. For three hours the fight raged regiments on the field, numbering about a character as not to admit of a disclosure with great fierceness, the enemy attempt- 36,000 men. It is supposed that we had

cape by way of the bridge over which the from hendquarters of the army of Virginia, Sickness has prevailed throughout the Rebel commander had just passed and burnt six miles beyond Culpepper, dated Aug

and there about the streets and public "Dutch Fred," who was some time a hand give him battle in force; that in every en-

The rebels' position was in the woods.

Brief Account of the Great Six Days' Fight. The commencement of the Fight, June 26

- Mechanicsville. About two o'clock in the afternoon the

their hotteries in our rear, the rebels comwho outnumbered the National forces three

ing a flank movement, which was defeated. Towards six o'clock in the evening. Gen Morell's division arrived on the ground, apon them by the rebels. The second brigade, under Gen. Griffin, came up in River. The rebel forces were about 65,double quick time, and made a splendid 000 men, commanded by Gens, Lee, Jackcharge, before which the enemy fell back son, Hill, Anderson and Branch, for a time. This relieved the centre of Gen. McCall's column, which was much exhousted and cut up. The 4th Michigan. Col. Woodbury, and the 14th New York and resolute as tigers, the rebels rolled Volunteers, Col. McQuade-who had acted their fresh men in successive waves upon as Brigadier-General till Gen Griffin out- Summer, and fiercely carried the general ranked him-formed now in line of hattle | assault to the lines of Hooker and Kearney. in front, while behind them were the 62d. The ground, as I have repeatedly said, is Massachusetts, Col. Cass.

arrived, sud made a frightful havor in the bide the most of it. They will mask nearrebel ranks, while they had only two men Iy all of a Lattle in front of the corps d'arwounded, so admirably were they maneu- mee, or of the divisions either.

ore-ments the firing continued, without in- the positions respectively held by the optermission, until hall-past nine o'clock .- posing parties at its close, and by the list Such volleys of musketry, so sharp, quick of the killed and wounded. On the rebel and increasant, have never been surpassed side, however, it was characterized by the in any battle of the present war. And the steadfast old policy for which their leaders roar of artillery was tremendous, constant are to be so much honored, of pouring fresh front of them. The position of each regi- battle and our rifle-pits and redoubts. Por-

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gagement became general, and then the battle reged for four hours with unexampled fury. As though by common consent there was a pause now, but it did not last

long, for the enemy had evidently received rebels were seen advancing in large force large reinforcements, as our whole line was across the Chickahominy, near the railroad, attacked with a vigor which showed that close to Mechanicsville, where Gen. Mc. those who made it were fresh men. To Call's division was encamped. Placing prevent defeat, Gen. Porter sent for reinforcements, for under the additional pressmenced a steady fire. Our batteries re- are our troops were giving way, slowly at plied, and very soon the roar of the artille- first, but with the prospect of making the New York, Aug. 9 - Burnsides' army ry was deafening. Our men formed in line retreat a run. Fortunately Gen. Slocum's came those gallant officers, Gens. Palmer, to one. The Pennsylvania Bucktails were French and Meagher with their brigades, the first engaged; for being on picket duty, and two bodies of cavalry. This changed about 100 guns engaged in the action.

Gen. Faz-John Porter commanded throughout the day, Gen. McClellan being engaged elsewhere in making arrangements for his strategic movement of transferring the base from the Pamunky to the James

The correspondent of the New York Tribune sums up the fight thus:

" Superabounding in regiments, as brave Pennsylvania, Col. Black, and the 9th a swampy wilderness dotted with clearings, in corn, and wheat, and outs. A battle Meanwhile, a battalion of Col. Berdan's all along the front we occupy cannot be sharpshooters, under Lieut-Col. Ripley, seen even from a balloon. The woods will

"The fight of to-day, therefore, cannot From the time of the arrival of the rein- be described, save by a memorandum of

ire did great excention in the rebel ranks. less in killed and wounded was horrible."

siastic as to be ready to sherifice claims corned with them. On the 9th of July, a he posted hinself in an advantageous posipaying reasonable wages, will see the wise man from Umpqua, Daniel Kennedy, was tion at McDowell, where Milroy and cavalry was made from the wood a quarter gency that might require their united sordom of holding on to what they have until shot by his partner, James McMullen; he Schenck attacked him. After a desperate of a mile distant with a view to capture vices. Gen. Fitz John Porter, who is nevwas shot in the head, in the side, through fight against overwhelming numbers, these them. The attempt was repelled by a or so much at home as when supervising an the sun of Saturday arose the enemy had

excellent people here, who could not be corrupted by the dipravity of the times, balls, yet Kennedy's recovery is now certhere is no doubt. But, taking it all in all, this is a pretty hard country to get along in. For open outrage and violation of ev-the people about the saloons until they see ery principle of honor and honesty-for fit to leave of their own accord; some of But before he arrived Jackson, fearing in and gallantly,-he is highly praised by his pulsing the superior numbers of the eveny them have never left.

> to the white man. The altitude is too Backs, and compelled him to make that when overpowered. elevated to be healthy. I have not seen masterly retreat, with little loss, for which the 28th New York, and Licut. Col. Stone 7,000 men till near the close of the fight, but two or three Indians since I came here, deserves, whether he gets it or not, a repu- of the 14th Connectical. Among the when they were increased to 11,000. They don't come to this place, unless on tation for coolness, courage, and all sol- wounded and missing are Col. Knight, The Second Day's Fight, June 27-Gaines' some special business, and then they don't direly qualities.

> some special business, and then they don't direly qualities. alight from their horses. This is a rough direly qualities. Jackson was on the Potomae when Fre-Col. Brown of the 28th New York, and a few brief hours of rest, when an order country. The landscape is remarkably mont was ordered to march upon Harri- Col. Chapman and Maj Blake of the 5th came from Gen. McClellan, who had left broken. It is all ups and downs, hills and sonburg to intercept his retreat. Had he Connecticut. Gen. Banks was severely the field of battle immediately after the hollows, mountains and ravines; no valleys, done so, the Rebel General would, instead hurt by the cavalry running against him. no grass, and even but few weeds of any kind on the uplands, and but little, and that of a public densities in the bulk of a public densities in the bulk of a public density finding against him. Col. Ruggles, Chief of Pope's Staff, had a horse shot under him. Two of Pope's body guard were killed. The 2d Massathat of a poor quality, in the hollows, cut off all his supplies of provisions and chusetts was in the holtest of the fight and The surface is covered with ashes, from ammunition. Actinig therefore, on his suffered severely.

> millions of old stumps of trees, mixed with march to Moorfield, crossed the mountains 4th Pennsylvi badly cut up. as many half burnt fallen timber, spread in the face of incredible difficulties, got in The rebel Gen. Winder was wounded. and lying in all directions like net-work. the rear of Jackson, and forced him to fly The loss on both sides is very heavy, not We have but a very limited variety of flow- for his life up the Valley. Had he been less than three thousand killed, wounded We have but a very limited variety of now-ers. The principal ones are a small pretty doubt, have overtaken the retreating Reb-were taken by Ewall and Jackson. larkspur, and a sort of dull yellow flower els, who never paused or considered them- Reinforcements to the number of 18,000 that grows from a cluster of broad leaves selves safe from pursuit till they had put reached the rebels last night about the ly mistaking for a victory on their side, in the marshes. We are by all means a deep river and a burning bridge between same time ours came up. in the marshes. We are by all means themselves and their pursuers. If this can be construed into a "defeat of Fremont," ing but the troops on both sides are so exmore, every night, and frequent lightning then facts are valueless and words without hausted that no serious movements are ex- they were being heaten. Meantime Gen and thunder. Throughout the whole sum- meaning .- N. Y. Tribune.

mer so far, the weather has been cool, with a brisk air during the greater part of the day. It seems that garden vegetables can-nets, who is attached to Gen, Bnell's staff, not be raised here. The trial has been and who arrived in this city yesterday made by Dr. Furber. He planted a fine from Huntsville, that fifty-five Federal solgarden, and has bestowed on it the best diers were hanged by the rebel authorities, culture, but we hear that as soon as the had been detailed by Gen. Mitchel from vegetables come up they die off or are nip- various regiments under his command for a ped off by the frost. We have but few of secret service, and had sent out upon duty, the feathered warblers of any kind. 1 but were so unfortunate as to fall into the have seen two robins only, but have seldom hands of the enemy, their lives paying the have seen two robins only, but have seldom penalty of their misfortune. With a knowl-heard them sing. There is also a pretty edge of such outrages as the above, how little blue bird that chirps about in great much longer shall we deal gently with traisprightliness, but does not appear to be a tors?-Louisville Journal.

bird of song. There is however a small per A man at New Orleans has asked delicate little bird, brown all over, only on pay of the U. S. Government for work division which did most of the fighting, rethe head of the male there is a whitish done on the rebel ram Manassas. Probstripe over either eye, which flutters about ably all the rebel officers will be sending the low shrubberies and underwood, some their claims to Washington by and by for their services in the cause of the rebellion. times in pairs, but mostly in little groups. Their natural query will be, if the U.S. They sing almost continually; every morn- Government won't pay us, who the devil had advanced and was inspecting the ene- ing the woods continued. It was not till is pay as the gold is taken out-but in ing duly, just as daylight abegins to shed will?-Louisville Journal.

that many who are now so bluelly enthu-sisstic as to be ready to sacrifice claims On the 9th of July, n That there have been and still are many scellent people here, who could not be through the right knee-receiving four day tackers following is a marker fol

his turn to make an attack, retired. Mov- officers and troops, who behaved well, al-

Adjutant Bord and Major Mathews of the

the statute is covered with asses, from manufacture acting distribute of the annual burning of the timber, besides own judgment, Fremont made a forced the mountains of add stamps of the timber, besides own judgment, Fremont made a forced the Pennsylvania Regiments were also

pected.

FIFTY-FIVE FEDERAL SOLDIERS EXECUTED Union army, are reported wounded.

Culpepper was the most desperate battle a diagonal road leading to Kidd's Mill. head-quarters are still at Culpepper.

distant. Loss in the Ohio and Indiana and were indulging in a short slumber when

(See next page for continuation of news.) near 3 o'clock in the afternoon that theen-

Pope arrived the fire of artillery was kept. During the progress of the engagement,

to the close at about 10 o'clock. He warmfor, according to the Richmond papers, the This climate appears to be inhospitable ing on toward Winchester, he fell upon though some regiments retired in disorder the full winchester of the fell upon though some regiments retired in disorder the full winchester of the fell upon the fell upon though some regiments retired in disorder the full winchester of the fell upon the fell the field, principally Georgians and South Among the killed are Major Cook of Corolinians, while ours did not number

Hill.

The men had hardly laid down to snatch Sunday, June 20 .- Battles of Peuch Orlast charge, for Gen. Fitz John Porter to tender mercies of the rebels, our troops fell retreat with all his force two miles to the

from where the battle had been fought. At 3 o'clock a. M., the retreat of the corps, who had been sleeping on their arms all night, began. Gen. McCall, in necordance with instructions, opened with his artillery upon the enemy. The latter to oppose the enemy, who, advancing cau-thought this the renewal of the preceding tionaly clambered over the ditches and day's fight, and returned a vigorous response from their guas. Shot and shell flew in antagonistic directions with dangerous liveliness. Gradually Gen. McCall's troops withdrew, which, the enemy naturalcaused them to follow in haste. Of course Sykes's division led the retreating column, Gens, Prince, Auger and Geary, of the followed by Gen. Morell's division. Gen. McCall's division, and the troops under Gen. Sykes, went by way of Cold Harbor,

of the war, involving about even loss on At 10 in the morning the scene of the both sides-the rebels losing more officers approaching conflict was reached, our men than the Federals. Gens. Winder and having been eight hours in retreating six Trumbull are killed; we lost none above miles. At 11 o'clock each division, brigthe rank of Colonel; Pope telegraphs that ade, regiment and gun were in place-some the rebels had not renewed the engagement | were in the broad open field and others unvesterday or to-day. They are two miles der the cover of the woods. The day was from the field which we occupy, while intensely warm, and many of the men, worn out with their previous day's fight-Both sides have been reinforced, and a ing, lack of sleep and toilsome march, had renewal of the engagement cannot be far already thrown themselves upon the ground,

regiments very large; they being in Banks' a sharp volley and then the roar of artillery, has the following from Culpepper; "Firing Morell had made his headquarters. Our was renewed at daylight on our side, but batteries, after some little delay, replied, was not responded to by the rebels. Sigel and for an hour this artillery ducl and shell-

Saturday, June 28 .- A Running Fight.

Never fell darkness so gratefully upon a worn-out army than did the night of the 27th; but it was not destined for rest or sleep, for an order came for all the Union forces to pass over the Chickahominy, and then destroy all the bridges in their rear. By daybreak all had passed over, and when abominy, including the battle ground, still covered with the dead. The rebels by eight o'clock on Saturday morning had advanced as far as Dispatch station on the railroad, while the Union army retreated towards White Oak Swamp. The whole of Saturday was a day of continual conflict in which our men had to resist the onslaught of three times their number, under the depressing influence of a disastrous retreat. Every now and then some wagon would sink in the mire, and all was stopped till it could be got ont again. These delays involved much slaughter, since it enabled the rebels to overtake our wearled and disheartened troops.

chard and Savage's.

Having left our wounded, numbering about 1,300 men, in the hospital, to the back at daybreak on Sanday from their cast of Gaines' Hill, being about six miles line of entrenchments. This extended from a space of White Oak Swamp near Richmond to the Chickahominy Creek at New Bridge. The divisions of Hooker, Kearney and Sedgwick were thrown into the woods, where a number of batteries were masked parapets, and seeing them abandoned, sigmailed the main body, who came up at double quick. Taking possession of our defences with a cheer, they raised their flag amid load yells of demoniacal satisfaction. Then, in close order and in line of battle, they marched down the Williamsburg road, past the scene of the Seven Pines fight, and so approached where our troops were concealed at a point denominated Peach Orchard, being an insignificant stopping-place on the railroad, midway between Hancock's and Savage's. When they had come so close that our troops could toss a biscult from our line into theirs, our batteries were unmasked, and an awful blaze of flame and projectile rose from the depths of the woods. Before the rebels could rally our men had poured a dozen volleys of musketry into them, covering the ground with the slain. The advantage thus gained was not lost during the forenoon, and our troops fought them till 12 o'clock with undiminished success. In the meantime our trains had all moved from Savage's Station, and were well over White Oak Swamp, seven miles distant. A desperate battle occurred at once, and the wounded in the hospital felt the shells hurtle through the tent, in many cases making havoe with bone and brain. The fight lasted till 11 o'clock at night, when the woods were set on fire.

Monday, June 30 .- Battle of White Oak Swomp.

The enemy came up ugain on Monday,

LATER! Washington, Aug. 12 .- The battle of while Gen. Morell's and the batteries took