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ARRIVAL OF THE PACIFIC

WAR DATES TO DEC. 29th.

Exchange of Prisoners in Virginia.

JOHNSON IN COMMAND OF BRAGG'S ARMY.

BOMBARDMENT OF CHARLESTON.

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

THE FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP---KING VICTORIOUS.

GENERAL NEWS.

HALIFAX, Dec. 17.—The U. S. steamer Ella and Annie captured the steamer Chesapeake this morning in Sambro Harbor. All but three of the crew escaped.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 17.—During the march of the troops from here against Longstreet, at Knoxville, Granger's Corps got in advance of Longstreet's ammunition train, while Howard's Corps was in the rear. There was no escape for it, and 40 car loads of ammunition and two locomotives were run into the river near London. A portion of the force sent to Knoxville has returned. Gen. Sherman arrived under escort to-day. The situation here is unchanged. The army soon will be in winter quarters, but Wilder's cavalry will remain active.

CUMBERLAND GAP, Dec. 17.—A portion of Longstreet's army made a descent upon Rogerville on Monday and engaged our advance near Bull's Station, about 2 p. m., and the fighting has continued at various intervals since.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—On the 15th, over 2000 persons had availed themselves of the President's Proclamation in Norfolk, by taking the oath of allegiance.

HALIFAX, Dec. 19.—This afternoon the steamer Chesapeake and the prisoners on board were delivered over to the [British] Government. Upon the arrival of the boat containg the prisoners at Queen Wharf the excitement became intense. The prisoners were immediately seized by a boat's crew in the slip, and hurried off by the crowd in attendance. Upon the Government officers going to arrest the prisoners under a warrant, they were seized and held by prominent citizens, rendering the officers powerless to perform their duties. The crowd finally succeeded in getting the pirates off in a small boat, which forthwith moved down the bay The affair caused the greatest excitement throughout the city. What course the authorities will pursue in the matter it is impossible to say. The pirates are now all at liberty, scattered throughout the Provinces.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19—Letters from Chattanooga, of the 18th, state that John Morgan escaped across the Tennessee, at Gillespie's Landing, 60 miles above here, on Sunday afternoon. Captain Cummings, who escaped from Columbus with him, was captured, together with 14 of his escort. Gen. Howard, in command of the Athens cavalry, is scouring the country. Morgan may yet be taken

Wheeler has rejoined Hardee and reorganized a cavalry force near Dalton. Refugees and deserters say that the rebel cavalry will be actively engaged all winter. Hardee's headquarters are at Dalton. Pickets extend as far as Tunnel Hill. His force, including the Georgia militia, numbers 35,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The Government has decided that the safety of American vessels leaving this port requires that no person be allowed to leave, as a passenger or otherwise on any American vessel, without first receiving a passport from the Marshal of this District. It is understood that a gunboat has already been stationed at Sandy Hook to intercept all vessels leaving this port by that outlet, and another at Throgg's Neck, to examine vessels leaving by the Sound, with instructions to detain such as are without passes. Any one can obtain a proper passport who can have his loyalty vouched for. The adoption of this stringent measure is probably to prevent a repetition of the Chesapeake affair.

The veteran regiments in the Army of the Potomac are to have their bounty money immediately. The first instalment will amount to about $150 per man. The number of men from the Army of the Potomac re-enlisted for the war is over 10,000.

FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE, Dec. 22.—General Michael Corcoran died this evening, from a fall from his horse.

The Navy Department is going to build four casemate steamships—to carry 3 20 inch guns, to be of wrought iron—450 feet long, 58 feet beam, four cylinders 90-inch stroke 4 feet 2 inches propellers, with a draft of 19 feet, and an expected speed of 16 knots. They will cost $5,000,000.

The steam transport Star of the South, from Hilton Head the 21st, states that the report of the Ironsides and monitors being entangled in the obstructions of Charleston harbor, is untrue.

The monitor Lehigh, while on picket duty near Fort Johnson, got aground, and a rebel battery opened on her, doing considerable damage, when the other two ironclads went to her assistance and succeeded in getting her off. The Lehigh is so badly damaged by the fire of the rebel battery, that the Star of the South had to tow her to Hilton Head for repairs. No one on board was injured.

Gen. Gillmore is shelling Charleston daily from his 100 pounders, but nothing farther of importance had transpired.

A special to the Philadelphia *Bulletin* says Longstreet has joined Lee, and that the latter had crossed the Rapidan, Meade falling back. There have been several skirmishes with Stuart's cavalry lately.

It is rumored that the National Conservative Union Convention, now in session in Philadelphia, has reaffirmed the nomination of Gen. McClellan for the Presidency, and has nominated Judge Campbell, of Tennessee, as Vice-President.

The *Tribune's* special dispatch from Washington says that Gen. Buford died at Washington last night of typhoid fever and dysentery.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—About 6 o'clock last evening 600 guerrillas, under Moseby, attacked the guard of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, a mile and a half beyond Fairfax station. The guard consisted of one company of the 115th New York, which made brave resistance, and were only captured by the cavalry forming a hollow square around them. The rebels had previously cut the telegraph wires, but word was conveyed as quickly as possible to Col. Drew, in command of the battalion at Fairfax, who immediately started with his command to reinforce the attacked party.

The progress of the train was stopped at Hope Run, where rebels had burned the bridge and tore up the track for about two miles. When Col. Drew arrived at Hope Run it was quite dark, and he fired several volleys at the rebels, which they returned. None of our men were wounded. It was probably the intention of the raiders to capture a train with a large quantity of provisions for the army, which was expected about that time, consequently it escaped capture. It is quite likely that the rebels committed further outrages on the railroad beyond Hope Run, of which we have not been informed.

A demand was made to-day upon the State department to claim the surrender of the pirates who captured the Chesapeake, from the Nova Scotian authorities under the Extradition Treaty Affidavits to base the claim were received this afternoon.

News of December 28th,

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 28.—The Richmond *Examiner* of to day contains the following telegrams:

DALTON, Ga., Dec. 27—Gen. Joe Johnston assumed the command of the Army of Tennessee to-day. Our scouts report 2000 Yankees at Cumberland Shed, two miles north of Cleveland, and a similar force south of that place.

MOBILE, Dec. 24.—Two white regiments sent down to Fort Jackson had not recovered the Fort and were fighting on Saturday.

The Richmond papers are gloomy over Averill's raid

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28.—The following important telegram has been received from the Secretary of War, by Gen. John B. Gray, Adjutant-General of Missouri: Your despatch of the 25th is just received. A bounty of three hundred dollars will be paid to recruits who enlist before the 5th of January, in any new régiment authorized by the War Department.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The *Times'* despatch from Washington says: Our forces occupy Cedar Mountain.

The rebel army has gone into winter quarters between Gordonsville and Orange Court-house.

The exigencies of the service require many more officers for the colored regiments, principally line officers. Gen. Casey's Board is hard at work examining candidates, but is unable to supply the demand. Sixty captains and lieutenants are wanted immediately; one hundred and fifty would be received in the next two weeks, if they could be obtained.

News of December 29th.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29th.—The Tribune's Washington telegram says: Chief Justice Taney is lying at the point of death.

It is said that in the States (such as Wisconsin and Michigan,) in which the first draft is not yet completed, the government will hardly secure any of the drafted men, as commutation money is almost universally paid.

The expedition planned by Gen. Gilmore for attacking Savannah was abandoned, in consequence of the return of the rebel troops who had been sent to Bragg's assistance. Several expeditions are on foot, from which good results are anticipated. It is stated that Quartermaster General Meigs is to be reinstated here.

The World's despatch says: It is rumored to-night that Genl. Hooker has been suddenly ordered to Washington.

A Charleston letter to the Baltimore American, dated in the fleet, the 24th, says:—"As I intimated in my last, we have sailed down here into the expectation of a month or two more of inactivity. The strike among the engineers, at the North, which has delayed the completion of the Monitors, and deprived our iron clad fleet of the reinforcements which were expected here more than a month since, has been the primary cause of the delay. The disaster to the Weehawken, and the coming of the winter season with its constant storms, have still further enforced this delay. Two months hence spring will be ushered here, and with our iron-clad force increased by three or four new Monitors, we will be prepared to take advantage of the most beautiful and pleasant part of the season. Let us hope if Grant does not steal a march on us by one of his famous rear attacks, that Charleston will then fall. In the meantime, if we cannot look for immediate and decisive results here, no great disaster need be apprehended. Genl. Gillmore's position is impregnable. The Monitor Lehigh, by the time this reaches you, will have completed the repairs rendered necessary by the hammering she received while aground. The Patapsco has almost completed her repairs, and will shortly relieve the Nantucket at Warsaw Sound. Both the Patapsco and Lehigh have been provided with extra deck-plates, that will add to their invulnerability."

POINTREES MEXICO, Dec. 2[illegible]—A flag of truce boat arrived from Cit[illegible] to-day with 5,000 Union prisoners, [illegible] for those sent up by Gen. Butler. The rebel Government refuses any further exchange, unless all questions are given up about which our Government has been contending, and their laws in regard to officers and soldiers in negro regiments are recognized. They also refuse to receive a flag of truce from Gen. Butler, or negotiate with him on the subject of exchange, because of Jeff Davis' proclamation outlawing Gen. Butler last year. It will be remembered that they were quite willing to receive from him, and to correspond with him, notwithstanding the proclamation they now make a pretext for discontinuing negotiation; and they have already exchanged 5,000 prisoners with Gen. Butler.

The Richmond *Examiner* of to-day, has the following:

CHARLESTON, Dec. 25th.—The enemy commenced shelling this city last night, keeping up a steady fire, which was still going on at nine o'clock this evening. A fire broke out at two o'clock, destroying ten or twelve buildings, and causing a few casualties. A heavy firing was heard in the direction of Stono, which is believed to have been between our batteries and the enemies' gunboats. The shelling of the city continues to-day. One white man was mortally and one woman slightly wounded. Three firemen were badly wounded by the falling walls of the burnings. Three or four were slightly wounded.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 26.—From 12 o'clock on Sunday night, to 4 the next afternoon, one hundred and thirty shells were thrown into the city. The enemy fired five guns—three at Gregg, one at Cummings' Point, and one from the mortar battery. The engagement on Johnson's Island, between our light batteries and the enemies' gunboats, resulted in a drawn fight, with but few casualties.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 27.—The enemy fired four shells at the city last night. there was no firing from Morris Island to-day. Our batteries kept up a vigorous fire on the working parties who are engaged in erecting another battery at the extreme end of Cumming's Point. Our loss at Stono was 1 killed and 5 wounded.

WASHINGTON, December 28th.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 17th inst. says that our government has abandoned every point excepting the treatment of negro prisoners. Now, the simple truth is, that our government has not abandoned any point. It is known that Gen. Butler, who has superseded Gen. Meredith, has no such instructions. The prisoners at Forts Norfolk and McHenry, and Point Lookout have been placed under orders, and he is authorized to conduct the exchanging—man for man, and officer for officer, of equal rank—with those paroled and sent forward by himself. The object is to make an even exchange, so far as the prisoners in the rebels' possession will admit; and, governed by humane motives, the effort will be made first to procure the release of those who have for the longest time been held as prisoners. Colored troops and their officers, in conducting the exchange, will be placed on an equality with all other troops, and so of colored men in civil employment. This is one of the points hereafter to be adjusted. The honor and dignity of the government in the protection of such negro persons and their officers will not be compromised. The object of the recent visit of Gen. Hitchcock to Fortress Monroe was to confer with Gen. Butler, and to communicate to him the orders of our government on this subject. The object is to procure an exchange of an equal number of prisoners on each side, leaving all other questions for future determination—the excess being largely in our favor.

A despatch dated Newbern, N. C., Dec. 23, says the new oath of allegiance has been administered to a number of rebel officers and soldiers, who have recently come into our lines to accept the pardon offered by the President. They bring intelligence that a large number, like situated, intend to do likewise at the earliest opportunity.

The plan of leasing out the abandoned plantations in Eastern North Carolina, adopted by David Heaton, Supervising Agent of the Treasury Department, is proving a great success to the Department, and also a great benefit to the laboring classes of both colors, who are soon to present Mr. Heaton with a beautiful testimonial.

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

DATES TO FRIDAY, 6TH DECEMBER.

NEW YORK, December 13.—The steamer City of Washington, with dates from Queenstown the 3d, has arrived.

It was reported that another ram was lately launched at Hull, got steam up, and immediately put to sea with several Southern-looking gentlemen on board.

It was reported that there is danger of a complication between France and the United States, owing to California supplying the Mexicans with arms.

The three war steamers recently sold by the British Admiralty, in addition to the Victor, alias Rappahannock, were the Phœnix, Cyclops and Amphion, the latter being a 26 gun screw frigate. It is feared they are intended for the Confederates.

Austria and Prussia have offered to abide by the treaty of 1822, regarding the crown of Denmark. Great Britain will advise Denmark to make concessions, and thereby remove all anger and hostilities Denmark will regard the entrance of Federal troops into Holstein as a declaration of war. The Federal Diet have not yet determined to carry out coercive measures.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The steamer Australian, with dates from Liverpool to the 5th, and from Queenstown to the 6th, has arrived.

A great storm, of three days' duration, had proved most disastrous to England, both on land and sea. The damage done to property by wrecks, on coast and [illegible], was extensive. At Holyhead, 54 bodies had floated into the harbor.

A letter to the London *Daily News* says that the rebel privateer Rappahannock is still believed to be at Calais She is very fast. The writer says that it is well understood at Sheerness who she was intended for.

The Pope of Rome had received a deputation from the Confederates, who presented a letter from Jeff Davis. It is believed the reception had not an official character, and that the letter was merely a compliment.

A great meeting has been held at Preston, at which resolutions in favor of the continuing of neutrality were passed.

Fould's financial statement shows that the accumulated deficits reach 972,000,000 francs, and loan of 300,000 is proposed. The Mexican expenses during the year cost 40,000,000.

The position of the Dano-Germanic question was unchanged. England and Russia were making a movement for a pacific adjustment.

LONDON, Dec. 6.—The British crown lawyers have announced that the condemnation of the British bark Springbok by the New York District Court, was illegal and vexatious. Lord Lyons is to remonstrate.

The Bank of England has advanced its rate of interest to 8 per cent., causing a depression in the funds.

DATES TO MONDAY, 14TH DECEMBER.

HALIFAX, Dec. 25.—The steamer Asia, with dates from Liverpool to the 12th, and Queenstown to the 14th, has arrived.

The *Times* says accounts from all Continental cities are more favorable, financially and politically, than they had been for the past fortnight. The Confederate loan remained at 35 to 40 per cent. discount. The pirate Alabama was expected at Madras. The Florida, Georgia and the Rappahannock were rapidly fitting out at French ports.

It was reported that the French Government were preparing a squadron for the Pacific, with the view of stopping the supply of arms from California for Juarez.

Troops had left Prague for Reisenstadt, where troops are assembled, preparatory to their departure for Holstein to force the Federal execution.[?] The Saxon Contingents were to enter Holstein on the 15th December, and if resisted, the Austrian and Prussian reserves—52,000 strong, would quickly move to the front. The Dresden and Wurtemburg Chambers had adopted resolutions urging the immediate occupation of Holstein, and against the Danish pretensions. Prince Frederick, of Augustenberg, had issued a proclamation to the Holsteiners, thanking them for their fidelity, and re-asserting his rights.

Several important victories by the Polish over the Russian troops had been confirmed.

Japan advices via Paris, say that at the extraordinary meeting of Damios they decided, by a vote of 60 against 47, that there were no grounds for declaring war against foreigners.

[illegible] frontier of India. The tribes had risen against the British rule, and attacked the British troops under Gen. Chamberlain, with great determination, but were repulsed, and had not resumed the attack. Two English officers were killed and five wounded—including Gen. Chamberlain and Col. Pope of the 12th native troops. Gen. Chamberlain was in a strongly fortified position, with 5,000 men, and was confident of final success.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The rebel steamer Pampero was formally seized by the Customs authorities at Glasgow, on the 10th, by order of the Lord Advocate [equivalent to Attorney General] of Scotland.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Gold 151½. The steamer Ariel sails on the 23d and the Illinois on the 14th.

THE PRIZE FIGHT BETWEEN HEENAN AND KING.

The London *Times* says the late prize fight was a fair stand up one, and ended in a decisive victory for King. Heenan was badly punished; he had the advantage in the first rounds, but King had the most endurance.

PORTLAND, Dec. 23.—The following is additional by the steamer Jura: The choice of ground was won by Heenan. At exactly 10 o'clock on the morning of the 10th the men were delivered at the scratch.

1st Round—Heenan closed in, grasping King by the neck and giving him an old-fashioned hug, until the referee entered the ring and strictly cautioned him not to repeat the operation.

2d Round—King forced the fighting as soon as he came to the scratch, and Heenan closed in again. After hugging King some time he threw him. In this round King drew the first blood

3d Round—After hard exchanges Heenan again hugged King, and threw him on the ropes with awful violence. All was now going against King. The only thing in his favor was the first blood.

4th Round—King came up with visible marks under his left eye. Heenan again attempted the hugging game, which elicited loud remarks of disapprobation.

5th Round—King got in a tremendous blow on Heenan's ear and another on his temple, when the latter again hugged and threw King violently.

6th Round—Both pegged away at each other. This round ended by Heenan giving King another hug.

7th Round—King gave Heenan a rattler on the nose, drawing a stream of blood.

8th Round—Heenan was thrown.

9th Round—King struck Heenan a tremendous blow on the head; Heenan closed in on him and threw him.

10th Round—Heenan began to tire at the close, but rushed in and threw King heavily.

The 12th, 13th and 14th rounds had the same result. In the 15th round some swinging blows were given on both sides, when Heenan knocked King clear into the corner. This was the nicest genuine knock-down of the fight.

16th Round—Heenan came to the scratch with a dreadful eye, and a severe struggle took place, neither side gaining any advantage, and the excitement had become so great that the ring regulations were disregarded; King's blows swelled Heenan's right eye and temples to a fearful extent. He bore it manfully. From this to the 24th and last round King went ahead at a perfect gallop, and when time was called for the 25th round the sponge was thrown up by the seconds of Heenan. Heenan was dreadfully punished, and should never have been permitted to pass the 21st round. King presented no visible marks of punishment, except a mouse on the left eye. This is from *Bell's Life*, which concludes its description by saying a braver contest was never fought.

Australia.

[FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO ALTA.]

By the arrival of the ship Humboldt, we are in receipt of news from Sydney to Sept. 26th.

At Brisbane, the ship Sunda, Capt. Bragg, with emigrants from London, arrived on the 25th September, after a passage of seventy-six days, being the fastest yet made to that port.

At the Otago mines there was an improvement in the quantity of gold brought in by the escort. For the fortnight ending Saturday, Sept. 26th, there had been brought in 22,700 ounces.

Seven hundred emigrants have arrived at Otago, by the Ralph Abercombie from London, and the Montama from Glasgow.

A ministerial crisis had occurred, the Cargill administration having resigned. A new Ministry was formed, with Mr. T. Dice as Provincial Chief Secretary, and Mr. J. L. Giles as Treasurer

The Highland Lassie, of Newcastle, England, was wrecked in New River, but all hands were saved.

Mr. Valpy, of the Bank of New South Wales, was "stuck up" between Waipori and Tuapeka, by four armed men in disguise. He was robbed of all the money on his person, £40.

At Adelaide, the Adamant, with Government emigrants, arrived on the 25th Sept.

The prospectus of an Australian Land and Emigration Company has been issued. The capital is £1,000,000, in £25 shares.

An independent colony, it is anticipated, is about to be established in South Australia.

An iron gunboat has been built in Sydney, and sent to New Zealand.

Mr. Jefferson, the actor, is playing "Our American Cousin," in Sydney.

The "ghost effect," in "Macbeth," has been introduced at the Royal Victoria Theatre.

The Lyster Troupe were doing nothing, their last performance being for the benefit of Frank Trevor.

MEXICO.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 8th has news of the recapture of Puebla by Juarez's forces, and that Comonfort was advancing against the French forces. In Tampico the French were in a [illegible]

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Minatitlan dates to the 19th November state that the place is closely besieged by the French. All supplies from the interior were cut off, and the people were suffering from want of provisions. A French gunboat was also guarding the town, besides a number of French Egyptian troops. The natives were very bitter against the French despotism, and hope for intervention by the United States.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The Morning Star brings dates from New Orleans to the 13th, and from Havana to the 16th. Meagre advices from Vera Cruz state that the French were slowly advancing toward the interior. Communications with the interior were very precarious, convoys both ways being attacked, and sometimes cut up by guerrillas. Gen Diaz had made a great raid through Queretaro, Mexico, Oxica and other States, and captured 270 prisoners, Reinforcements to the troops were still being sent to St. Domingo.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A Havana letter just at hand says that Gen. Comonfort was murdered by his own countrymen, and that the Maxmilian regency is virtually dissolved by the action of the Archbishop of the city of Mexico. The Archbishop insisted on the restoration of the Church property, which had been confiscated and distributed by Juarez. This was refused, so his Grace not only retired from Royal Council, but excommunicated every person, French and Mexican, who opposed him from Generals Bazaine and Almonte down to the drummer boys of the liberating army. The cathedral doors being closed against parties, General Negrete surrounded the building with 3,000 French soldiers, planted his cannon at the door, and demanded admission within a certain time. The Archbishop then admitted the pious belligerents, officiated at Mass, and gave them his official benediction.

Doblado, Governor of Guanajuato, has declared in favor of Juarez. Vidaurri was hostile to Juarez. Mejia, Berteier and Bazaine had advanced the Franco-Mexican army to important positions.

CALIFORNIA.

A telegram had been received announcing that the Navy Department and Insurance offices had agreed to co-operate in saving the "Aquila" and her valuable cargo.

An engineer named Frank May, was shot the evening of the 28th ult. on board the steamer Princess. A Dr. Treadway was first seen leaning over the dying man and weeping. The Doctor, who was arrested, declared that deceased had committed self destruction, though the medical testimony appeared to preclude the possibility of suicide. The jury on the inquest could not agree on their verdict and adjourned for further evidence.

On the 29th, a middle aged German named Thompson or Thomasson, who arrived by the Petaluma boat, fell from Vallejo street wharf into the bay and was drowned, although the mate of the Petaluma jumped into the water and went to his assistance. From papers found in his possession, he is supposed to have worked at or near Tualatin Plains, Oregon.

Most of the machinery belonging to the Russian steamer Noviek, had been saved by the wreckers, who had been most successful in their efforts.

Mr. C. O. Gerberding, one of the founders of the Bulletin, died on the 24th ult., at San Francisco, of consumption.

Thomas Maguire, the well known theatrical manager, was fired at on Saturday night by a man named Crabtree, the father of Miss Lotta. The shot, fortunately, did not take effect.

The shock of an earthquake has been experienced in California, the severest felt for some years.