

The Weekly Colonist.  
Tuesday, July 5, 1864.

THE NEWS.

The intelligence brought yesterday by the Anderson, in six days later from the East. Our previous advices left the main body of the Army of the Potomac at Cold Harbor, with the left wing resting on the north bank of the Chickahominy. From the movements of the Northern commander, we were led to surmise that his design was to cross the James river and co-operate with Butler. On Sunday, the 12th, that movement actually began, and as Lee was "out-flanked on the South Anna by Grant's rapid passage of the Pamunkey, so it would appear he has been again out-manoeuvred by the Federal general, in the latter's flank march of fifty miles, crossing the Chickahominy and James rivers.

The rear of the Confederates at Petersburg was thus surprised and the outer works captured. The next morning (the 16th), the various defences were assaulted with more or less success; but on the following day the Confederate positions were stoutly defended and the Northern army met with several repulses. The assaults continued the next day, 18th, and resulted in the taking of a number of redoubts and prisoners. The news is no later than Sunday, the 19th, at which date the Confederates had been driven back to their last defences, and the city was being completely invested by the Northern forces. The Federal losses have been heavy in these operations against Petersburg, which is defended by all the engineering skill of Beauregard; but it is evident the place must quickly succumb, shells being fired at latest advice from within a mile range of the city. Lee has been decidedly outgeneraled. His Richmond fortifications will aid him about as little as did his strongly-intrenched position on the South Anna. In each case Grant has avoided the sanguinary operation of assaulting almost impregnable works, while he has been enabled at the same time to advance nearer his object. That object is no more the taking of Richmond, than the capturing of Petersburg. These are but the means to accomplish the great end—the narrowing of the circumference of Lee's movements. To keep the Confederate commander hemmed in around Richmond, while the Federal forces are gradually concentrating to the South and West, would be simply to confine Lee to a portion of Virginia totally inadequate to maintain his army. With Crook, Averill, and Hunter, coming up from the West, after destroying every means of supply, the retreat of the Confederates general would be completely cut off, and he would be obliged to fight at a ruinous disadvantage. On the other hand, it may be said that this last move of Grant leaves open the Federal capital to Lee's army; but it is evident there is but little compensating advantage in that quarter. Whether Petersburg falls or not, Lee will have to forgo the advantages of the defences of Richmond, and bring his troops out to the open plain, between the capital and Petersburg. He will have to fight his way to reinforce the latter place, which is now surrounded by lines of circumvallation.

The defeat of Sturgis is fully explained in this morning's news, and shows how much more severe was the Federal disaster than previously indicated. It appears that Sturgis was sent from Memphis with a force of 8000 men to destroy portions of the Mobile and Ohio railroad, when he was met by a larger force of the Confederates, and thoroughly routed, losing a great portion of his command, and the bulk of his artillery and ammunition. Sherman had calculated that nearly all the Confederate troops in that part of the country had gone to reinforce Johnston; but was sadly disappointed on learning the result of Sturgis' expedition. The news from Georgia is, not by any means exciting. Some reports of Federal successes are mentioned; but we are inclined to take the dispatches from this portion of the seat of war with many grains of allowance. Sherman states that Johnston had left his strong position on Kenaw Mountain, and was pursued to Chattanooga, and the Federal commander then announces that he is going to start immediately and "whip the enemy." There is a little of the Pope bragadoocio in this; and when Secretary Stanton subsequently announces that Gen. Sherman has been too premature in his assertions, and that Johnston was still on Kenaw Mountain, we do not feel at all surprised. We have noticed several discrepancies of late in the dispatches from Sherman's command, which we certainly think rather unbecoming a general who has made so high a reputation in the field.

The "raiding" expeditions seem to be in full blast. Gen. Torbett, after defeating a division of the Confederates near Gordonsville, on the 11th, destroyed a considerable portion of the Virginia Central Railroad, and had another engagement on the 12th. Sheridan, after being in the same vicinity, is announced by the Richmond papers to have been defeated by Fitzhugh Lee, who it is said took 800 prisoners. Kautz is employed on the railway destruction round about Richmond. Hunter and Crook are in the vicinity of Lexington and Lynchburg, and have orders to make short work of the railway communication between the latter place

and Richmond. Altogether, it would appear that if cavalry raiding out of the Western and Northern supplies of Richmond, Grant is determined to accomplish that object.

Arrival of the Eliza Anderson.  
Grant's Forces with Butler—Petersburg Assaulted—The Cavalry Raids—English Ministry Defeated—Maximilian in Mexico.

The Eliza Anderson arrived yesterday morning with the following dispatches: Washington, June 12.—The bill repealing the Fugitive Slave Law passed the House by a vote of 89 to 49—having previously passed the Senate. The Gold Bill also passed the House by a vote of 76 to 62. It went to the Senate with some amendments, which will be probably considered to-morrow.

New York, June 15.—The Times' special correspondent, at Stanton, says, "We met the enemy in force, 15 miles north of this place. We whipped them thoroughly. The rebels were commanded by Jones and Imboden. The former was killed. We pursued them all day with little resistance, although the place was strongly fortified, and all the males were ordered out to defend the place. We captured six guns and about a thousand prisoners, and many hundred thousand dollars worth of stores. Also destroyed a large amount of railroad property. Our loss is not large. Thorburn's brigade suffered most. The enemy is retreating towards Blue Ridge. The retreat is a complete stampede. We don't stop, but move to another important point."

Washington,—Midnight, June 13.—Despatches have arrived from the Army of the Potomac to 8 o'clock this morning. Movements at that time were in successful progress. No reports to-day from Sherman. The following despatch was received from Gen. Burbridge, commanding in Kentucky: I attacked Morgan at Cynthiana at daylight yesterday morning, and after an hour's hard fighting completely routed him, killing 300 and wounding nearly as many, and capturing nearly 400. We recaptured nearly 100 of Gen. Hobson's command, and over 1000 horses. Our loss is killed and wounded is about 150. Morgan's scattered forces fly in all directions. They threw away their arms, being entirely without ammunition. They are wholly demoralized.

Despatches from Gen. Butler, dated nine o'clock this morning, indicate no change there. No further intelligence from Hunter. (Signed) STANTON.

CAIRO, June 11.—Memphis papers of the 10th give further particulars of the battle at Columbia, Arkansas. A force under A. J. Smith, landed on the 6th at Sunny Side, below the Bayou, and took up the march early next day, near Lake Chicago, keeping along the west bank of the Mississippi. At 9 o'clock, our advance met the enemy—two regiments—strongly posted on the opposite side of the Bayou, emptying into the lake. After a short artillery duel, the enemy fell back to a stronger position, an open field being between; two lines of batteries opened.

By that time, Columbia and the place above were in flames. Smith's forces were, it seems, retreating from a fight of a desperate character that day with Marmaduke, in which the rebel forces, with their battery, were driven off with serious loss. Marmaduke had taken shelter behind an impassable bayou, where it was thought he would make a stand. Smith had full possession of the field, and the blockade of the river had been temporarily raised. Our loss was about 30 killed and 70 wounded; rebel loss, 150.

The Herald's correspondent says that Marmaduke's forces numbered 6000 mounted infantry and cavalry, besides three batteries. The enemy were completely routed, thus opening the Mississippi to navigation. Our forces being infantry, could not pursue, and re-embarked on the 7th for Memphis.

CAIRO, June 14.—A force of 3000 cavalry, 6000 infantry, and 2 pieces of artillery, under General Sturgis, was sent from Memphis on the 1st, for the purpose of destroying the Mobile and Ohio railroad, which had been repaired by the rebels as far north as Corinth. It was supposed by Sherman and McPherson that nearly all the rebel forces which had been operating in Western Tennessee and Mississippi, were sent to reinforce Johnston. The sequel showed that this was a mistake; for at Guntown, Miss., on the 10th, our forces fell in with the enemy in overwhelming numbers, and a terrible battle ensued, resulting in the destruction of our troops. A large portion of our infantry was captured. Owing to the horrible condition of the roads, most of our artillery was destroyed or abandoned. Our retreating column was sharply pursued by the rebel cavalry to Centerville.

The rebel infantry force is reported to be moving in the direction of Memphis. They were at Ripley when last heard from. A train of 100 wagons, belonging to Sturgis' expedition, was partly burned, and the rest were captured.

Polk and Forrest are reported to have been present during the fight. Washington, commanding our forces at Memphis, feels no apprehension for the safety of that place.

CINCINNATI, June 14.—Reports received from Covington last night state that a party numbering five hundred of Morgan's men, who took the August road, were overtaken and whipped yesterday near Clayville, by Col. Gastard. Stragglers are being picked up all through the country.

A special train from Cynthiana arrived last night bringing 100 wounded, among them 20 rebels. The wounded remaining at Cynthiana are being well cared for. Two Ohio regiments captured at Cynthiana were paroled at Clayville, and arrived here last night.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The movement of the Army of the Potomac to the south side of Richmond across the Chickahominy and James rivers, is proceeding far enough to admit publishing some general facts without danger of premature disclosure. After several days of preparation, the move commenced on Sunday. The eighteenth corps under Gen. Smith, marched to White House, and embarked transports to Bermuda Landing.

Wright's corps and Burnside's corps moved to James bridge, crossed the Chickahominy and marched to Charles City on James river. Hancock's corps and Warren's corps crossed the Chickahominy on a bridge and marched to Wilcox on James river. The army was to be crossed by the Army at Fort Mifflin Point.

A dispatch from Grant, dated Headquarters, Wilcox Landing, 5:30 Monday evening 13th, stated that our advance had reached that place and would commence crossing James river Tuesday. Smith's corps would commence arriving at City Point that same night.

No fighting reported during the movement except a little cavalry skirmishing. Grant was at Bermuda Landing Tuesday, the 14th, at noon. Dispatches from him dated 3 p. m., says our forces will commence crossing James river to-day. The enemy shows no signs yet of having brought troops to the south side of the river. Our movements to James river have been made with great celerity, and so far without loss or accident.

An unofficial dispatch, dated Gen. Butler's headquarters, the 14th, 2:20 p. m., says Smith's corps is coming in, 5000 having already landed.

New York, June 15.—The World's Washington dispatch, dated 14th, says: "There are rumors in town to-day that Sheridan had reached Gordonsville on the way to join Grant and destroy the Richmond and Lynchburg railroad. It is understood they will pay a visit to Charlottesville and accomplish all the damage possible by destroying depots in their pathway."

Sheridan, accompanied by a large cavalry and artillery force is fully able to contend against any body he may fall in with. It was expected that the time Sheridan started he would pass round the south side of Richmond and sever railroad connections with the city, but this portion of the work has probably been entrusted to Kautz, who has before been over that territory, and is therefore familiar with the country.

Since Sheridan's destination has been disclosed, the importance of his movements are made apparent. Hunter's column will act vigorously and effectively in the territory in which he is now engaged. His mission is understood to be not only to capture Charlottesville and Lynchburg, but to completely and thoroughly destroy the connections between them and Gordonsville. With Sheridan's assistance he may be enabled to penetrate still further into the country and effect the capture of Danville. It is well known that the railroad lines leading to the rebel capital are now taxed to the utmost for sources of supplies for the Confederate army and Lee's army. If the railroad lines leading to the immense food depots in western and southwestern Virginia and Shenandoah valley be cut off, the rebels will be compelled to send away non-combatants and place the city in a state of siege.

The Times' special says that scouts from the front say that Sheridan has not been heard from, but is supposed to have reached Charlottesville on his way to Lynchburg.

New York, June 14.—The Tribune's correspondent with Sherman, under date of June 11th, says a concentrated movement of gigantic importance was successfully accomplished to-day by the marching of the army of Tennessee, and Hooker commanding the army corps. The nature of the move was not made public and should not, at present, be known.

We are on the eve of a bitter struggle. Forty-eight hours may develop the plans of two contending armies, and the result will be the annihilation of each other's legions.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—A dispatch from Sherman's headquarters, dated 3 p. m., yesterday, near Kenaw, Ga., says that his lines are advancing from that place.

Another unofficial dispatch, dated 9 p. m., reports that Thomas had captured nearly a whole brigade of rebels.

We have reports that the rebel General Polk was killed to-day. Gen. Sherman has made arrangements to repair Sturgis' disaster.

He has placed Gen. A. J. Smith in command, who will resume offensive operations immediately. (Signed) STANTON.

New York, June 15.—A call has been issued for the Union Conservative National Convention to meet at Chicago July 4th, signed by P. F. Stevens, Secretary.

CINCINNATI, June 16.—Vallandigham arrived at Dayton last evening. There was no demonstration. Considerable apprehension of trouble today. The people are very much excited. The district convention at Hamilton appointed him delegate to the Chicago Convention.

LOUISVILLE, June 14.—Officers from the front report that Wheeler made a raid on the railroad between Chattanooga and Sherman's army on Friday, capturing six loaded cars and cut the telegraph. The train going from Resaca to Chattanooga was interrupted, and in retreating a torpedo, which had been placed on the track, exploded, burning the cars five or six feet from the track, demolishing them—nobody was seriously injured.

Tu-night Wheeler made his appearance again on the road below Ochoabo, and damaged a considerable portion of the track, which has since been repaired.

Men from the front report that our cavalry on a reconnaissance to the front found only a small body of rebel cavalry. After a severe skirmish the enemy fell back across the Chattanooga.

Prisoners report the whole rebel army as being on the south side of the river and are determined to oppose the passage of our troops. The river there is much swollen. No serious engagement can occur until it falls.

CHICAGO, June 15.—The Memphis papers of the 13th give the following account of Sturgis' defeat: On the 10th the expedition had been out nine days and met the enemy near Guntown, the cavalry, which was five miles in advance, met a desperate fight, but were overpowered and compelled to fall back three miles to Oldtown Creek, where they were joined by infantry and artillery. Here a sharp engagement, lasting two hours, occurred. Our force was finally compelled to fall back in the direction of Ripley, closely followed by the enemy. A continual skirmish was kept up until we reached camp Fulton, where another engagement ensued. The road at this point is narrow and so muddy that it was impossible to move on the wagon train and artillery. The enemy pressed our troops on all sides with superior forces. The cavalry, after a desperate fight, was again compelled to fall back. The infantry were thrown into confusion and were surrounded, and a greater portion of them surrendered. Of 18 pieces of artillery, only four were brought off. The greater portion of our wounded fell into the enemy's hands. The rebel cavalry followed ours to the rear of Collierville. Our loss in killed and wounded exceeds two thousand. The loss of the enemy is unknown; it is supposed to be considerable. Our cavalry suffered severely during the engagements and during the retreat.

PORTSMOUTH, June 16.—At 4 o'clock yesterday morning, the 18th corps, under Smith, left City Point and marched in the direction of Petersburg. Kuris' cavalry attacked the entrenchments outside of Petersburg, and at 11 o'clock succeeded in carrying them and entered the city. They were supported by the advance guard of Smith's corps. The remainder of the troops when last heard from were marching in the direction of Petersburg as fast as landed.

An endless stream of transports and barges are making their way up James river to a new base of supplies.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, June 16.—The troops and trains occupied all this day crossing James river.

Hancock's corps has advanced to Petersburg, and it was thought he would reach there last night, but nothing official had been heard from him. Cannonading had been heard in that direction. It is supposed that he or Butler were engaging the enemy.

New York, June 17.—The following is the latest dispatch from the Army of the Potomac on the James river: CITY POINT, June 15.—Smith with 1500 men attacked Petersburg this afternoon. Butler reports that there has been sharp fighting between our troops and trains of the enemy, moving from the city across the Appomattox.

Hancock was not near enough to render Smith any aid. 510, p. m.—The latest report from Smith, this p. m., is that he had carried the line of intrenchments at Beatty's House, the colored troops assaulting and carrying the rifle pits with great gallantry. We have not yet carried the main line.

CITY POINT, 16th, 9 a. m.—At 7:30 yesterday evening, Smith assaulted and carried a principal line of the enemy's works before Petersburg. Hancock went up and took position on Smith's left. At 3 p. m., to-day, Butler, from Bermuda Hundred, reports that the enemy have abandoned their works in front of that place. His troops are now engaged in tearing up the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond.

WASHINGTON, June 16.—Richmond papers have nothing to indicate suspicion of our having crossed James river. We still expect to be attacked in the direction of Malvern Hill. Smith's assault carried the principal line of the enemy's works before Petersburg, taking 16 cannon, several stand of colors, and between three and four hundred prisoners. This line was two miles from Petersburg.

The following has been received from Gen. Butler, dated June 16th, p. m.: "I went over the conquered works of the enemy with Gen. Grant and engineer officers this morning. The works are of the very strongest kind, and more difficult to take than Missionary Bridge at Chattanooga. The hardest fighting was done by the black troops, who captured six of the sixteen cannon. The prisoners taken were from Beauregard's command. Some of them said they had crossed the James river above Drury's Bluff. I don't think that any of Lee's army had reached Petersburg when Smith stormed the place. He seems to be making arrangements to hold the west end of the Appomattox. They can't hold the town, as it is exactly under our guns."

and briefly responded to a toast. He said Grant is this morning in a position from which he can never be dislodged by the enemy until Richmond is taken. He declared his purpose of rapidly pouring to Grant all the reinforcements necessary to capture Richmond.

On the morning of the 11th, Gen. Torbett with his division attacked the enemy, and after an obstinate contest drove him from the lines of breastworks through an almost impassable forest back of Trevilians. His intention was to break the railroad at this station, march through Mechanicsville, cut the Gordonsville and Charlottesville road near Lindey and then march on Gordonsville.

Gen. Oster was ordered to proceed by the county road so as to reach the Station at this point, the enemy broke to a complete rout, leaving their dead and nearly all the wounded with three hundred horses in our hands.

On the morning of the 12th we commenced destroying the railroad from here to Louisa Court House, which was thoroughly done at three o'clock.

Gen. Torbett's advance, with Gen. Davis' brigade were directed to proceed in the direction of Gordonsville and attack the enemy who had concentrated and had been reinforced during the night, and constructed rifle pits at a point about five miles from Gordonsville. The advance made an attack but found the enemy's position too strong for assault. A general attack was made on the extreme right of line, and a portion of the reserve brigade arrived at the enemy's works, but were driven back by their infantry. On examination we found there was insufficient ammunition to continue the engagement and during the night we moved across the river.

The night following they were joined by the 21 corps, which succeeded in carrying the enemy's redoubts. This corps was followed by the 9th. All the troops are now kept several divisions guarding the wagon trains, which are expected to arrive to-night.

The engagement of the 12th was decided by the most brilliant of the present campaign. The enemy's loss was very heavy; mine about 840 killed and 400 wounded, of which we brought off 375; the remainder with a large number of rebel wounded were left behind. I captured 375 rebel soldiers and 20 commissioned officers. My loss in captured will not exceed 160.

No report has been received by the Department concerning the casualties since our army crossed the James river.

A dispatch from Sherman says that Johnston evacuated his position in the night amidst the darkness and storm, and at daylight we entered his lines from right to left. The whole rebel army has pursued them as far as Chattanooga.

Sheridan adds: "I shall start immediately for Marietta; we shall whip the enemy."

New York, June 20.—A special to the Times, dated headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, says: Birney's division occupied a line within 2500 yards of the city and threw a few shells into it, firing several houses.

Another dispatch says that the fighting on the 17th was very severe along the greater part of the line, and the most determined efforts were made to break the enemy's line, but little ground was gained except on the left.

The Richmond Sentinel of the 15th, says that Hunter's cavalry have raided through Nelson county, upon the line of the Charlottesville railroad, also on to Concord, 18 miles east of Lynchburg, and Mount Campbell Court House, south of Lynchburg.

His purpose seems to be to demolish the Lynchburg, and possibly to lay siege to it.

CHICAGO, June 21.—The gold bill which has been signed by the President restricts speculation somewhat. Gold sells at 210 [?] in New York to-day.

MARKETS.—Wheat flour, 275/0; 31/0 (33/4), oats, 3; potatoes, old, 1 1/4 (1 1/2), hay, 25/35.

Legal tenders, 52/35. The weather is unusually cool.

ORANGE ITEMS.

FERRY BOAT SUNK.—The Walla Walla news says that on the 14th inst., the Kellogg's ferry sank with 9000 pounds of property of JAMES McCAHILL, who for Kootenai. About \$200 worth of damaged condition, but \$3000 worth loss.

COMPLETION OF TELEGRAPH.—The first message was transmitted from Cello on Tuesday, over the wire enterprise and for the convenience of the Steam Navigation Company.

A MONSTER COUGAR.—The he of this species, which has been seen was killed on Saturday evening, miles below Fort Stevens, N. W. Territory. Accompanied by a met and killed him, giving him the and verities slightly. It was a fourth, in order to save the dogs a destroyed in his death struggles. We animal weighed 200 lbs., and measured extreme length.

OVERLAND MAIL FROM THE EAST.—The Union of the 9th inst. has not received an Overland mail from several days, and it is not probable get one for some days to come. Green and other rivers east of us are to an extent beyond the recollection of the inhabitants. We expect to hear of destruction of property, and loss of life.

GREAT FLOOD AT DENVER.—On night of May 10th, a destructive flood in the town of Denver, Colorado Territory, a sudden rise in Cherry creek and a vast amount of property was many lives lost, in consequence of unexpectedness with which the indicated. C. Bruce Haines, late Secretary, was among the drowned, along the line of Cherry creek and faced immense injury in the loss of a drop of 4500 shoes were six hundred of cattle and horses were dead bodies of men, women and hand lodged in the trees, among deposited high on the beach, and subsided.

NEW ROAD.—The following are in the Government Gazette, signed by the Surveyor-General, proposed to be constructed by Bridge to Equinault.

It is marked on the ground along the centre line. It is of the property-holder. It is announced that a portion of the road will be 66 feet, and of the