

BRITISH COLONIST-SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. 5.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1864.

NO. 41.

THE NEWS.

The Eastern intelligence which we publish this morning is up to the 18th. There is nothing new from Mobile—other than idle reports of its capture. The statement previously published in the news of Beauregard's having gone with a large force to Atlanta has turned out what might have been expected, a *canard*. Beauregard is undoubtedly a clever general, an eminent engineer; but he has yet to acquire the more difficult military distinction of being ubiquitous. If he is at Petersburg he can not well be at Atlanta; and if he is at Mobile, or on his way to that city, as some of the despatches state, his presence at either Atlanta or Petersburg must to say the least be regarded as problematical. We might put down indeed one half the telegrams received of these extraordinary movements as merely the "sensational" creations of some of the New York army correspondents. One arrival of despatches gives us an invasion of the North by 48,000 reckless rebels; the next reduces the number by more than one-half, and shows that the "invasion" scarcely deserved the name. Then, we have some shrewd correspondent giving it as his opinion that the Army of the Potomac is going back to Washington to reorganise for another campaign, and the first subsequent thing we hear is a desperate attack on the inner defences of Petersburg, followed almost immediately by a further advance towards Richmond. A recent telegram informed us that Grant was taking away his guns, preparatory to raising the siege of Petersburg. The intelligence received yesterday gives no confirmation whatever of the assertion, but in a telegram four days later, says that affairs before Petersburg remain unchanged. The fact that a great many of these telegraphic misstatements are unfavorable to the North, would lead us to the supposition that it is a kind of retaliation in which the army correspondents occasionally indulge, because General Grant is not so amiable as to admit them to his military confidence. Many of them, through inattention or design, lead papers at a distance to make rather laughable comments. On a recent occasion, the death of a Gen. Harker took place; but when the announcement reached the newspaper offices, it became Hooker, and we had column after column of obituary biographical, in which the military progress of "fighting Joe" received ample justice.

From Sherman's command in Georgia, we have not much that is startling. Atlanta is still undergoing bombardment, but the Federals appear to be looking more to strengthening their position, than pushing their way south. The recent reinforcements which the Confederate general Hood has received will necessitate greater caution on the part of the Northern commander. Independent of this, however, it is his policy to await the issue of the Mobile expedition. With this city in the hands of the Federals, vigorous operations, as we said previously, would be carried on immediately in Southern Alabama, and an advance would likely be made into Georgia so as to place Hood in the precarious predicament of being between two fires—with a powerful and well equipped army in his front, and his communications gradually succumbing to an enemy in his rear. Should Mobile, therefore, be quickly taken, we may expect to hear of no further reinforcements to Hood, but rather a diminution in the Georgian army of the Confederacy to check the progress of the Federals from the coast. The extraordinary march of Sherman of more than one hundred and twenty miles from his base might naturally be supposed to expose his communications to the depredations of the enemy. Accordingly the small garrison which the Federal commander had left in Dalton was attacked by a force of five thousand men, and it would undoubtedly have gone hard with the Federal occupation had it not been for the rapidity with which the reinforcements were forwarded from Chattanooga, enabling the Northern troops to repulse their assailants. This incident, however, shows that Sherman's power of concentration along his communications is equal to the emergency.

From Grant, we hear of another advance towards Richmond. The front of the Federal lines is now within six miles of the Southern capital. The progress of the Federal commander may be slow, but it is the progress of sureness and stability. At every more he seizes some position that brings him closer to the enemy's stronghold, and seizes it with a grasp that shows no sign of relaxation. Below Fort Darling, the James river is probably the most tortuous of streams, in many parts its serpentine courses running parallel. At one of these places, about seven miles from Richmond, the river's bend brings the two portions of the stream, at a certain point, within three-quarters of a mile of each other. Across this neck of what might be termed a

peninsula, and is called Dutch Gap, the Federals are cutting a canal so as to admit the gunboats, avoiding by this means seven miles of obstructed river navigation. Should the undertaking prove successful, an additional support will be given the Federal troops in their advance on Richmond from the south, and Fort Darling will be brought almost within shelling distance of the fleet. It will also enable Grant to maintain an impregnable position less than nine miles from Richmond, and afford him an unassailable base within a few miles of his operations.

[FROM DISPATCHES TO THE "OREGONIAN"]

EASTERN NEWS.

DATES TO AUGUST 18th.

Sheridan Pursuing Early!

Sherman Destroying Atlanta!

Remond Resignation of Seward, Blair, and Welles.

Reported Capture of Mobile!

Union Gunboat and Monitor Lost!

Union convention at Buffalo to condemn the Administration.

Grant within Six Miles of Richmond.

Fighting on the Richmond Roads!

CONFEDERATE ATTACK ON DALTON.

Gunboat Movements on the James river.

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—The *Post's* Washington correspondent says that the rebels had advanced again across the upper Potomac. The *Times* Washington special says the appointment of Sheridan to the command of the middle department.

Confidence and tranquility appear to be restored in Maryland and Pennsylvania. We shall probably have a vigorous pursuit of the rebels down the Shenandoah valley, driving them out entirely.

The *Times* correspondent writing from Sheridan's Army at Bolivar Heights of the 9th says: The troops are mostly in rugged health.

The 19th corps has improved greatly since their transfer from the swamps of Louisiana. At this department the 14th corps is said to have arrived and every available man has been ordered to this command.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—A letter from City Point dated the 10th, gives an account of an explosion of a boat loaded with ammunition.

Buildings were demolished, tents scattered and horses killed in every direction. The new depot buildings are in a mass of ruins. A number of persons were killed and wounded. The boat was unloading by negroes; it is supposed a shell must have dropped there, which communicated the fire to the whole lot; luckily most of the shells struck the steep bank of the landing or our loss of life would have been very large. The post office and Adams's Express Office were nearly thrown down. A large number of persons occupying them miraculously escaped with slight bruises. A boat loaded with stores lying along side and another were torn to pieces. A large portion of them was raised completely out of the water and thrown through the storehouse on the dock, Capt. Benedict and Ames of the Commissary Department were buried in the ruins, but were subsequently extricated, neither being fatally injured. Casualties 50 killed and about 100 wounded. A number of the bodies of colored persons have been found and some alive.

Shells passed through the Sanitary Commission's boat. No one was injured however. It is believed that many of the bodies thrown into the river will never be recovered. Nothing has been ascertained as to the cause of the calamity.

In the Commissary Department 250 persons were wounded. The loss of property is unknown. It will prove large. The steam-

er Lewis caught fire, but a wrecking tug subdued the flames and saved a large amount of ammunition.

Considerable firing is now going on in front.

DESVER, August 10.—To correct a probable misapprehension in regard to the safety of travel overland, it is proper to say that although the Indians have been very troublesome lately in attacking unarmed trains and murdering emigrants who are unable to defend themselves, there has, as yet, been no attack by Indians as far as known on the mail coaches which run regularly both ways. The mails were ordered to be stopped at Atchison, Kansas, to-day, by the Superintendent of the Overland Line, owing to the stock being driven off from some of the stations, but it is believed that sufficient troops are being distributed along the route to fully protect it.

NEW YORK, August 10.—The McClellan meeting to-night was the largest ever held in the city. The audience is estimated at 60,000. Great enthusiasm prevailed.

CINCINNATI, August 11.—Gen. Carrington, at Indianapolis, has received information that Col. Adam Johnson was at Morganville, Kentucky, with 1000 men threatening to attack Mount Vernon, Indiana. Another force is scattered throughout the adjoining counties preparing to co-operate with Johnson. The river is very low and can be easily forded; the gunboats cannot operate. Carrington has ordered the whole line to the northern bank to be picketed, and has made a requisition upon Gov. Morton for 2500 men.

A later dispatch says 450 rebels attacked the 4th Kentucky regiment, on the 9th, at Salem, and were seriously repulsed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—A dispatch to General Dix says: No further intelligence has been received from Mobile, except from deserters who report the capture of the city. Nothing official has been received.

Sheridan reports all well. He is knocking Atlanta to pieces with 5½ inch shells. No movement before Petersburg by our forces. Sheridan has not been heard from to-day.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—A correspondent from Sheridan's army dated the 11th says: Sheridan is on the march towards Winchester. Imboden's cavalry is skirmishing with his advance. He expects a battle at Ebequan Creek, 5 miles side of Winchester, otherwise the enemy must retreat up the valley.

Marinsburg is occupied by our forces. WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Dispatches from Farragut are hourly expected.

The Richmond papers yesterday say that they lost fifty guns at Fort Gaines and 400 prisoners, also an immense amount of stores of all kinds.

Sherman's dispatches state all the Georgia militia are now held from under blood. At Union City, Ky., the situation before Petersburg remained unchanged.

The interest in active military operations now centres in Sheridan's forces who have brilliantly inaugurated the campaign, which goes on most encouragingly.

A Washington special says that there is reason to believe a battle is being fought near Winchester, between Sheridan's forces and the main body of rebels under Early. Very heavy cannonading was heard in that direction and at Harper's Ferry yesterday afternoon, and it is known that our forces are close upon the rebels.

Petersburg dispatches of the 10th report a great conflagration on our right, which is supposed to be the houses comprising the commissary depot. The result is unknown.

CAIRO, Aug. 12.—Two hundred rebel cavalry attacked Salsena on the Cumberland river on Sunday morning and were repulsed. One thousand guerrillas are reported to be at Union City, Ky., under Col. Johnson; also, that there is a large number in the west part of the State of Tennessee. Gen. Pain has gone down there to clean them out.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 6.—Our gunboats made an expedition up Grand Lake on the 26th, and destroyed the large number of flat boats just completed by the rebel saw mills, and captured a lot of valuable lumber.

Six transports arrived at New Orleans from Brazos, probably with troops withdrawn from the State of Texas.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—A letter from the Army of the Potomac represents that all is quiet.

Data from the Quarantine, New York 12, say that the rebel pirate is reported to be 60 miles south from Sandy Hook. She captured the pilot boat James Funk yesterday.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—The New Orleans *True Delta* says that Beauregard has gone to Atlanta with 20,000 men. He will rank next Hood in command there.

The *Commercial* says: The New York authorities are getting up a petition asking for the postponement of the draft, in order to give the city further time to fill the quota.

There is a probability of a compromise between the printer's and employers being effected to day.

The *Post's* Washington special reports that the rebel officers exchanged at Charleston, were never placed under rebel fire by General Foster, and a large number of Federal officers have been placed under fire in Charleston.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Aug. 14.—Bitterness was relieved yesterday and left the command last evening.

Wilcox temporarily commands the ninth corps.

It was reported last week the enemy intended to make a flank attack on our left, but up to this time no demonstration has been made. Considerable firing was kept up all night between the pickets on the centre and right.

Yesterday morning heavy firing was heard in the direction of James river, lasting two hours.

It is reported that an attack had been made by the rebel rams on the working party of Butler's force who are cutting a canal across the Peninsula on James river.

The *Commercial's* Washington despatch says: We hear that Gen. Grant has some important movement in view. It is improper to indicate now. A large number of transports have been sent down the river. It is surmised to assist Grant in removing his troops. Large bodies of cavalry have been brought here.

A heavy movement up the Shenandoah is looked for soon.

MIDDLETOWN, Va., 12.—Our cavalry came up with the rear guard of the enemy early this afternoon. A slight skirmish ensued in the town.

Our infantry is close upon the heels of our cavalry. The rebels are now in the line of battle opposite Cedar Creek, across the Staunton Pike, between two and three miles distant. The occupy high land beyond which forms a strong defensive position. They are said to have two lines of battle half a mile long. Like us they have been severely marched and being closely pressed may have seized the opportunity of securing a position for rest.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Rebel deserters from Richmond say that on the 6th four trains of cars arrived bringing troops from Petersburg. It is said that a division left immediately to reinforce Early. A large body of cavalry arrived the same day, and departed in the same direction.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Official dispatches have been received by the Navy Department from Farragut, dated Mobile Bay, the 5th, confirming the accounts heretofore received of our success. After the Tennessee surrendered, the gunboat Fort Morgan succeeded in getting under the protection of Fort Morgan. This terminated the action for the day.

Farragut sent a flag of truce to the commanding officer at Fort Morgan, Gen. Page, to say that if he would allow the wounded of the fleet, as well as their own, to be taken to Pensacola, where they would be better cared for than here, he would send a vessel.

Page consented, and the *Metacomb* was dispatched. The total loss on our side is 44 killed, and 80 wounded. On the rebel side were captured 20 officers and 170 men; on the Selma, 90 officers and men.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—The *Herald's* correspondent says: When the Selma surrendered, it was found on boarding her that she had lost fearfully. The decks were covered with dead and dying and her scupperns ran with blood. Her commander, Lieut. Comstock, was lying dead across the breach of a gun, with his bowels torn out.

The Tennessee attempted to avoid the monitors, and made for the wooden ships; but the flag-ship *Monongahela* followed her up, and struck her amidships with her terrible prow, causing the huge monitor to reel like a drunken man. The *Harold* then grappled the Tennessee, but further blood shed was saved by the latter raising a white flag. The same horrible slaughter was visible on her as on the Selma.

NASHVILLE, Aug. 12.—Sherman telegraphs that deserters and refugees concur in reporting Mobile in our possession. Report not believed.

The Government has dispatches from Gen. Canby to August 6th which state that the monitor *Tecumseh* was sunk by a torpedo and not by the guns of Fort Morgan.

The Navy department has information of the destruction of two rebel salt works on the coast of Georgia.

The *Commercial's* special says that Sherman's success at Atlanta is not considered problematical. The capture of the city is expected soon.

No material change is expected at Petersburg till other demonstrations have been worked out.

The report that Beauregard had gone to Atlanta is treated here as an absurdity.

Passengers from New Orleans report the rebels in strong force within six or seven miles of the city. They are fortifying a place, apparently with the intention of making it a base of future operations. They are commanded by Dick Taylor. The Toche district is also occupied by the enemy in large force, to prevent the advance of our troops through that region to Texas.

The Macon, Ga., *Telegraph* of a late date notices the departure of 1,800 militia from that place for Atlanta, and says the same number left a few weeks ago under Gen. G. H. Smith.

While one of the sailing boats of the Surf Hotel was cruising outside this morning she discovered a yawl boat containing sixteen persons belonging to the pilot boat James Fink, brig Bruce and Richard, bark Bag State and schooner Atlantic. These vessels

were captured and burned by the Confederate pirate Tallahassee.

Passengers by the Evening Star report having chased on August 11th a pirate steamer four hours. Three shots were fired by the pirates.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—A destructive fire occurred at 9 o'clock this m., and a half a block destroyed on Mot & Doyre streets.

Dispatches from Atlanta, Aug. 5th, says: The Federals have been unusually active to-day. At 4 o'clock, p.m. yesterday a heavy assault was made upon the works held by our skirmishers. After a stubborn resistance the Yankees succeeded in holding the position, but they were subsequently driven out.

Last night an assault was made on our skirmishers which was a complete failure.

The Richmond *Sentinel* of the 10th says: There is no doubt that Grant is moving large bodies of men secretly from the front. His steamers laden with troops have been seen within a few days moving off.

Gen. Curtis from Fort Leavenworth says: The Indian war is temporarily quelled but that preparations are being made by the Indians for the most extensive war yet known. It is supposed the rebel emissaries distributing gold, etc., among the Indians inciting them to war, telling them the South would protect them.

In saddle, Shenandoah Valley, Aug. 12.—The *World* says: The rebels continue to retreat and are supposed to be going to Staunton or Front Royal.

It is intensely hot, but the men are in excellent marching order.

The movement is to be as rapid as possible as the enemy has the start of us; if they continue to retreat the pursuit is likely to be a long one, and the battle some days distant.

It is probably Early's policy to retreat as far as possible before going into battle.

The strength of his army has already been calculated upon in case there should be any emergency.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Aug. 16.—Everything quiet in front of Petersburg. The rebels for the past two nights have been moving their trains on the left.

Nothing more than picket skirmishing has taken place.

Deserters continue to arrive in small squads and tell the usual stories.

General John Park now commands the 9th corps.

HOTEL

AND THE PUBLIC

Lilloet,

LIQUORS

complete assortment of

arley and Oats.

FOOTS.

W Perkins, A. Perkins, E. ...

W. G. GATE, from San Fran...

NG MIST from Port Tow...

ANDRA, fm Paget Sound...

RACER, fm Port Angelo...

ANEVADA, fm San Fran...

INTERED.

King, Sooke

Boyling, San Francisco

Olney, Port Angeles

Montford, Port Angeles

Moore, Sooke

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster

Moat, New Westminster