The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, December 20, 1864.

THE NEWS.

The Eastern intelligence received yesterday is ten days' later than previous advices, and indicates that Sherman is continuing his march unobstructed. The news of the Federal general's whereabouts is, however, still from Southern sources. The last definite trace of him by the Richmond papers is at Millen, a town forming the junction of the Macon and Augusta lines of railway to Savannah, and about seventy miles from the latter city. It would appear that so far Sherman has met with but little opposition, and we are not disposed to give much credit to the wild statements of some of the Southern journals that predict nothing but disaster to his march. It is evident the Southern commanders have been completely outgeneraled. Hardee reached Macon in time to find that Sherman had cut off the communications from the East and had gone on his way of destruction towards Savannah, and Beauregard was a day behind Hardee. The cavalry, which the Augusta papers speak of as having come from South Carolina to cut off "the Yankee communications" in the direction of Atlanta, have arrived in Augusta to find that the Yankee has got "no communications," and is too far ahead to be interfered with by any force that might start from the latter place. So far as Beauregard's arrangements are concerned, they can only prove effective in one direction, and under very favorable circumstances. He cannot hope to harrass any portion of Sherman's army before the latter gains the sea-coast; for the Federal commander has swept over the country like a tornado, leaving nothing upon which a following army could subsist, and retarding the progress of any force sent after him, by the destruction of the bridges. Should he be unable to take Savaanah by assault, it is just possible that the delay may give Beauregard an opportunity of assisting the defenders of that city. Under any circumstances, however, Sherman will have no difficulty in opening up communications with the gunboats and transports which are no doubt at present swarming off the mouth of the Savannah river.

Hood's march on Nashville has brought on an engagement with General Thomas. The Confederate forces, amounting to 22,000 men, furiously attacked the Federal lines within a few miles of Nashville. Thomas was outnumbered, but he had the advantage of position as well as being on the defensive. The first assault of the southern forces was successful, the Federal lines having been broken; subsequently, however, the Federals rallied and Hood sustained a repulse. The Confederates again and again rushed to the attack, but they were obliged ultimately to retire under cover of the woods. The Northern accounts claim a great Northern victory, putting down the killed and wounded at 5,000 Confederates and 1,500 Federals. Making all allowances for the usual amount of exaggeration, it is clear that Hood has been foiled. The last news leaves him throwing up breastworks in front of the Federal army.

The message of the President gives us some interesting financial and other statistics. The amount of the public debt of the Northern States up till July last was $1,749,690,489 49, or about £350,000,000, considerably under half the English national debt. The interest, however, which is paid on the American debt, will average double the amount of the interest on the English one, thus making the yearly outlay for interest much the same in the Republic as it is in Great Britain. So long as the war continues, of course the incubus will grow, and the only consoling reflection that the people of the United States can have is that millions who are now in Europe will be called upon in the future to pay for the debt accumulated by the present civil strife. With all the immense war expenditure, however, the total Treasury receipts amount to very little over the ordinary revenue of Great Britain. The great bulk of the national expenditure has of course been swallowed up by the battlefields; but there is withal something to show for a portion of the outlay in the navy, which in a few years has sprung up from a dozen or two steam frigates to 670 vessels, 267 of which are steamers. These vessels carry 4,600 guns, and the very large force of 61,000 men, making the United States navy one of the most powerful in the world. The treaty with England relative to naval arrangements on the Lakes has been abrogated; but not a day too soon; for the recent raids from the Canadian frontier were fast tending to produce much ill feeling on the part of the Northern States. In the absence of any restrictions with regard to vessels of war on these great inland waters, the authorities at Washington will soon have a force large enough to protect the frontier towns from all Confederate acts of aggression.

A correspondent of the London *Times*, writing from Montreal, furnishes important information respecting the disposition of the rebel "exiles" in Canada towards peace. While some of them are "still for war," and say that the Confederacy can fight for fifty years, and so forth, others high in the confidence of the Richmond Government confess that a day may come when the South from lack of men and supplies, will be anxious to make a peace compromise. The arrangement to be so independent Southern executive, an American alliance, offensive and defensive, based on the Monroe doctrine, the Washington Cabinet to decide whether to be first enforced in Mexico or Canada, and a free tariff, under which the New England States would have a decided preference over England and France in the cotton trade.—*Amer. Paper.*

From the Seat of War

DATES TO THE 4th DEC.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The *Post's* special dispatch says that Richmond papers of the 28th are silent respecting Sherman's movements. They show the rebels to be in great trepidation, and there is every reason to believe that Sherman is making his way to the coast.

The Augusta *Constitutionalist* of the 22d says that raiding parties of the enemy tapped the railroad ten miles east of Macon, and destroyed a number of trains, and the freight trains turned back in haste. Heavy cannonading and musketry fire was heard east of Gordon. It was supposed that Gen. Payne, at Gordon had been attacked.

Milledgeville had been entirely evacuated by our forces before the enemy arrived. Everything of value had been brought away.

The Augusta *Constitutionalist*, derides the idea of the progress of a column, under Sherman, of about 10,000 cavalry, who visited Madison, Morgan county, on the State Railroad and burned it on the 19th, and on the 20th an engine was sent up the road and found the enemy at Cack Head, eleven miles nearer Augusta. On the 19th some of their men were seventy-five miles away from Augusta, who were probably nothing but a raiding party.

The Augusta *Chronicle* of the 20th says that a large cavalry force left Granville, South Carolina, bound across the country, in the direction of Atalanta, in view of cutting off the Yankee communication, down the Georgia road in this direction. It is said that Breckenridge was to leave upper East Tennessee with his troops on the 12th for the Georgia line. With Hood in his rear, Breckenridge on his flank, and 30,000 veterans in his front, Sherman cannot escape.

An Augusta paper says: As we write the glad and familiar shouts of the veteran troops arising from the South Carolina department comes up from the streets. If Sherman retreats this way he will hear the whistle of bullets from the trusty guns that have so often pointed at fanatics on the banks of the Potomac and the James; before our readers will see this, other glad sounds will be heard on our streets.

The Macon papers of the 20th say Gen. Hardee arrived this morning. Beauregard will probably be here to-morrow. Since the date of the above communication with the East has been cut off by Sherman. Both Beauregard and Hardee are left in the rear by Sherman. Gov. Brown, Dick Taylor and Beauregard were reported to be at Macon on the 22d.

The pirate Alabama No. 2. arrived at Bagdad, Mexico, October 29th, to proceed to Matamoras.

A plot to burn the United States depot at Memphis, containing two millions dollars worth of property was discovered. The rebel agents were to have one tenth of the value of property destroyed.

The rebels are in great tribulation in regard to Sherman's movements. They have reason to believe he is marching to the sea coast.

The pirate Florida was sunk by collision with the Trumpeter.

NEW YORK, December 1st.—The *Herald's* special says General A. S. Lee, commanding the Union forces at Baton Rouge, has returned to that post from an expedition to Liberty Booke, hunting up all bands of rebels. He captured three pieces of artillery, seven or eight hundred horses, 300 prisoners including the entire staff of the rebel General Hodge, was captured after a spirited engagement.

A large portion of Magruder's army is reported endeavoring to cross the Mississippi at Vandalia, in order to reinforce Hood in Tennessee. Union gunboats will watch and prevent them if possible.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 3—Our forces are in eager expectations, and Gen. Thomas hopeful and confident that communications will be maintained with Chattanooga. 500 rebels crossed the Chattanooga road last night 15 miles south of Marshfield garrison at Shelbyville. On Monday we had a sharp skirmish with some rebel cavalry which were forced to retreat. Preparations are made to defend Nashville should Hood attempt to capture it.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4—The following is official:

FRANKLIN, Tenn., Dec. 4.—Emery made a heavy and persistent attack with two corps, commencing at 4 p.m. and lasting till after dark. He was repulsed with heavy loss, probably five or six thousand men. Our loss will not exceed one tenth that number. We captured one thousand prisoners, including one brigadier general.

(Signed) SCHOFIELD.

About 7 o'clock last night heavy reinforcements reached Schofield, which caused the rebels to retreat in great disorder.

Latest information from rebel papers leave no doubt but that Sherman will reach the sea coast in comparative safety. A great panic is being created by his operations and accounts are conflicting and contradictory. Most reliable accounts place him at Millen, Georgia, Nov. 29, destroying and laying waste the country, preparatory to an advance on Savanna.

Four charges were made on Federal lines in bodies four lines deep, and were each time driven back with terrible slaughter.

It is rumored that Hood is moving east to Murfreesboro. Seventeen distinct attacks were made. The rebels were repulsed. We have taken thirty battle flags, some regiments half a dozen a piece.

Rebel papers say Sherman has reached the sea coast near Savannah.

The Presidents Message was received at Marysville, Dec. 10, and occupies nearly three columns of the Sacramento *Union*. The President says our foreign relations are in a satisfactory condition.

The Government has maintained strict neutrality between the belligerents in Mexico.

Misunderstandings between our Government and Costa Rica and Nicaragua have adjusted, and arrangements have been made opening a new route of great benefit to the Pacific Coast.

The President recommends that Congress furnish Liberia with gunboats, to be paid for by instalments, to enable that colony to extinguish the Slave Trade.

Reference is made to the Arguella case, and the President expresses the opinion that it is his duty to exclude the enemies of the human race from the privileges of asylum. The President also recommends that Congress provide by law for the exclusion of all persons engaged in the African Slade from the United States, and for facilities for their civilization.

The President devotes considerable space to the subject of foreign recognition of the Confederates, and says if the rebels were conceded the privileges of belligerents, maritime powers would decide differently from their decision in 1861.

The Treaty with Great Britain relative to naval armaments on the lakes has been abrogated.

He recommends amendments to Emigration Laws, favoring emigrants.

Receipts of the Treasury from all sources for the year ending July 1st, 1864, amounts to $391,796,007 62; disbursements during same period, $1,298,058,101 89, deducting the amount of the public debt redeemable and the issue in substitution therefor.

The cash operations of the Treasury for same period are:—

Receipts	$884,076,646 77
Disbursements	865,234,078 86
Balance	$18,249,667 91
Sources of revenue, including customs	102,316,152 99
Lands	588,333 29
Direct taxes	476,648 96
Internal revenue	109,741,134 10
Miscellaneous sources	47,811,413 10
Total means, including former balance	623,443,929 13
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Civil sources	27,505,599 46
Pensions and Indians	7,517,930 97
War Department	687,790,842 95
Navy Department	85,733,297 79
Interest on Public Debt	53,685,421 69
Total Public Debt, July 1st, 1864, was	$1,749,690,489 49

This debt, in most, is held by our people, and men readily see they cannot be much oppressed by a debt they owe themselves.

The National Banking system is represented to be a success, and will soon absorb all State Banks, and prove the best curteney our people have ever had.

The Report of the Secretary of War shows that our Navy consists of 670 vessels, carrying 4,610 guns and 61,000 officers and men; which have captured during the war 1,300 vessels, 267 of which were steamers. The entire expenditures of this service, from 4th of March, 1861, to 1st November, 1864, $234,653,623 50.

The President recommends the passage by Congress of a law abolishing slavery throughout the United States, and refers to sentiments recently expressed indicative of the immediate necessity for such legislation.

He is hopeful of the early suppression of the rebellion, and still keeps the door open for repentant rebels to return to their allegiance, but says the time may come when public duty will require the door be closed.

There have been no engagements in Tennessee since the 8th. Hood remained in front of Nashville, throwing up breastworks.

Burbridge has advanced from Cumberland Gap to Reams' Station.

Breckenridge is falling back towards Virginia.

Chase has been appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and his appointment has been confirmed by the Senate.

James Speen, of Kentucky, has been appointed Attorney General.

Congress assembled at noon on the 5th. One hundred and fifty members were present in the House, and a quorum in the Senate.

On the 1st Gregg's Cavalry struck a damaging blow in a reconnoissance to Stony Creek Station, Weldon Railroad. The rebels suffered heavily by the destruction of a supply train since building of branch railroad from Stony Creek to Benwiddie.—Rebel force was defeated.

Early appears to have gone into winter quarters.

Sheridan's cavalry is employed in suppressing guerrillas in Loudon county.

LATEST

[From the Pacific Tribune.]

PORTLAND, Dec. 10.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 2.—Gen. Thomas abandoned his position and formed a line of battle three miles from Nashville yesterday afternoon, two portions of the army were engaged in skirmishing. Musketry firing was heard at Nashville. Thomas has no fears of the result. He can offer battle to better advantage in front of Nashville than any other point. The left wing rested at Murfreesboro. When strengthened by forces at Chattanooga it will be strong enough to close in Hood and cut off his retreat.

The rebel army is proceeding slowly forward to Nashville.

The battle at Franklin is one of the most brilliant of the war. Skirmishing continues, during which were multiplicate successes on the afternoon of the 30th.

The rebel army which was so closely pressed was under Hood, numbering 22,000.

Gen. Cox was at Chickamauga and Springville on the 20th.

BOSTON, Dec. 4.—The 25th corps, gained Franklin early in the day and drew up in a line extending from one carre in the river to the other, behind which the entire infantry took its position at 4 p.m.

The entire rebel force charged and succeeded in breaking our centre commanded by Wagner, with great impetuosity.

The enemy comprising Cheatham's corps, dashed into the works, co-operating with the attacking party. The left attempted to envelop and destroy our right. Our troops rallied and threw their whole force on the rebel columns, which were driven back with great loss. We captured several hundred prisoners.

Four times the rebels charged in three lines and were repulsed with heavy slaughter. The rebels numbered two to our one. The enemy's killed are three times the number of ours, and their wounded six times.

The enemy's artillery fire was delivered with great accuracy. For two hours we hurled immense quantities of more murderous missiles with fearful fury into the rebel ranks.

At dark the Federal positions remained unchanged. The rebels retired under cover of the woods.

Artillery duelling continued until nearly midnight, when our troops commenced crossing Harpath river, bringing away everything before daylight.

The battle, although a most brilliant victory, was an impromptu one, brought about by necessity, checking the enemy's advance and insuring a safe crossing of the river.

At least 5,000 rebels were killed, wounded, and captured, thirty battle flags taken and one brigade. Our loss is 1,500.

The rebel papers say 12,000 Union prisoners at Harrisburg, N. C., attempted to escape recently. After forty were killed and a large number wounded, they were subdued and cried for mercy.

Rebel reports are that Sherman has no doubt reached the sea coast in Georgia.

Gold 231. Greenbacks 48.

OREGON ITEMS.

[From Oregonian, dates to 9th.]

A STEAM BREWERY.—Messrs. John Mason & Co., long and favorably known in San Francisco as the manufacturers of Ale and Porter, have taken up their residence within our city, and will shortly open a steam brewery here.

ACCIDENT.—A man, name unknown, fell through a skylight into the dining room of the Temperance House night before last, and it is thought the injuries he received may prove fatal.

SCALPED A COURTESAN.—Fred. Patterson, the man who shot Capt. Staples in this city a few years since, was placed under arrest yesterday for his appearance at the Recorder's Court this morning for actually scalping a courtesan, and demolishing the furniture of her house.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.—A man by the name of Kinder accidentally shot himself a few days since when getting out of a small boat with a loaded gun, at Astoria. He lived but a short time after the accident occurred.

THE WALKING FEAT.—The pedestrian feat of walking 100 consecutive hours without rest or sleep, was commenced at the Bank Exchange last evening at 6 o'clock. The contestants were "on the track" at 1 o'clock a.m. this morning, and one or the other must travel until Saturday evening 10 o'clock or incontinently "bust" and lose the wager of $500.

THE PULSE OF THE PEDESTRIANS.—Dr. Elwert was called upon at nine o'clock last evening to examine the pulse of the pedestrians, who have undertaken to walk until the lamp of life shall flare or flicker in one or the other. Brady's pulse was at 90; that of Hamilton at 80, at the hour above mentioned.

THE FIREMAN'S ELECTION.—The election of the Chief Engineer and Assistant for the Portland Fire Department passed off in a very quiet manner yesterday and resulted in the choice of Joseph Buchtel for Chief, and W. H. Weed, First Assistant, T. J. Johnson, Second Assistant.

A NEW MILL ON THE COWLITZ.—The machinery for a saw mill on the Cowlitz river, has been recently manufactured in this city, at the Oregon Iron Works, and the first lumber was expected to be cut yesterday. The situation is about nine miles above Mocticello, in a cedar timber region, and it is thought our market can be well supplied with a good mercantile quality of cedar lumber from that quarter.

THE PROPELLER CELILO.—The Celilo cut loose Yesteday and with full head of steam started across and up the river with considerable velocity. Her model is after the clipper ship style of architecture, and the new machinery makes her a fast boat. Although a small craft, the Celilo is capable of doing signal service in supplying a small local trade.

MRS. SALLY B. GOODRICH THAYER.—This estimable actress has been the guest of Arrigoni since the arrival of the Brother Jonathan. She is *en route* to Salem, to fill a short engagement with the Thespians of the capital, after which we shall be pleased to see her once more on the boards before a Portland audience, as we understand that her *repertoire* contains many new and entertaining pieces, in which she personates characters never before essayed on the Northern coast.

A SAD ACCIDENT.—Mr. Gustavus Campbell, a young man very much respected in this community, accidentally shot himself while out gunning yesterday, in company with Mr. E. Johns, and was instantly killed. They had landed in a small boat opposite the head of Swan Island, and were getting on shore, when Mr. Campbell took his gun by the muzzle, and the lock striking a knee of the skiff, discharged the contents of one barrel, which entered the body in front of his right arm, passing with a slight upward direction through the most vital parts, causing instant death.

OAKLAND, OR., Dec. 5.—The stage which left Canyonville for the north, on Sunday morning the 4th inst., was lost in the Umpqua river at Rocky Point, about 4 A.M. There were three passengers on board the stage. Two of the passengers and the driver were saved; the other passenger and the horses were drowned. The team ran into some logs which had drifted on the road, and which threw them off the graded track into the river. The way-bill was lost and the driver did not remember the name of the passenger who was drowned. The mail and express have not been recovered yet.

OREGON CITY WOOLEN MILLS.—From Mr. L. E. Pratt, lately returned, who went to the East to purchase machinery for the new mills building at Oregon City, we learn that he succeeded in getting his orders filled much sooner than he anticipated on his first arrival, when he found all the machineshops and manufactories crowded with work, and contracted for six months in advance. He purchased three sets of woolen machinery, calculated to do about the amount of work now being accomplished by the Salem Woolen Factory, at their extensive mills, and the new mills will do about the same character and grade of work as is being done there. The machinery is expected to arrive here in April, and it is hoped to have the mills in successful operation by the first of July next. The large stone building intended for the works, being erected at Oregon City, is up and now being covered.

BARROW MILL.—The people of Portland and Dalles are glad now having a mercantile agent at the Grande Mint recently located at Dalles. We learn that strong efforts will be made by the people of Portland, before the present Congress, to change the place of location, and the strength of the effort may be judged by the delegate chosen, Rev. Thos. H. Pearne, to advocate Portland's claim. The Dalles people, determined not to be outwitted by the reverend Parson, have specially delegated W. H. Newell, Esq., of the *Dalles Mountaineer*, to follow Mr. Pearne in his journey to Washington.—*Wash. Dem.*

SOUTH BOISE.

ITEMS FROM SOUTH BOISE.—From Mr. J. W. McBride, of Alturas county, or what is better known as the South Boise country, Idaho Territory, we gather some items of general interest. The quartz lodes discovered in this country are hundreds in number, and enough of them have been prospected and worked to render it certain that this will rival any portion of the Pacific coast in the richness of its mines and in the extent of the same, so soon as mills can be erected in sufficient number to offer the proprietors of ledges opportunity to test and work them. One five stamp mill owned by Carter & Co. has been at work during part of the summer and fall, and has crushed about five tons of rock per day with good results. It had crushed some 150 tons of Ada Elmore rock, with an average result of something near $100 per ton. It is now engaged in crushing rock from the Confederate Star ledge, which the owners thought would go as high as $150 per ton. For some time past arastras have been at work upon a number of ledges in the Beat Creek district, and a substantial building was erected for a mill, running six arastras by water power, and every ledge had so far shown good results upon being worked. The rock was much of it rich in silver—one assay had shown $225 in silver and $800 in gold per ton, but no efforts had yet been made to save the silver, though the mills will soon be prepared with the best apparatus to save both gold and silver. There is considerable trouble experienced from the fact that baser metals predominate. Messrs. Waddingham and McBride have 14,000 pounds shipped and on the way down, which they intend to have thoroughly tested, sending part of it to Swansea, Wales, if necessary, to secure a proper working and thorough analysis of their own, and so be prepared to erect works to reduce it in the best manner at the mines.—*Oregonian.*

THE ACCIDENT TO THE ENVOY.

EDITOR COLONIST:—Permit me to state that I am using every exertion to have a speedy investigation made of the circumstances connected with the late mishap to the Envoy while under my charge. The Board of Pilot Commissioners will probably meet in the course of a day or two, when all the circumstances will transpire. In the meantime, however, I wish to correct a misstatement in the *Evening Express*. Captain Frain distinctly told me in the hearing of Capt. Murphy, that the Caledonia *was disabled through something having given way in her machinery*, and he could give her no more steam. The Envoy then drifted on the rocks, an anchor being of no service. I may further add that I had nothing to do with the hireing of the Caledonia. She is not a vessel that I should myself select for such a duty.

Yours obediently,

M. H. PIKE,
Licensed Pilot.

PUGET SOUND.

The two Houses of Legislature were in Session at Olympia, W. T. Various Standing Committees had been appointed.

On Friday night, December 2d, the barn of James Longmire, Esq., on Yelm Prairie, containing about 100 tons of hay, besides a large number of farming implements, was consumed by fire, supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 12.

The steamer Flying Dutchman arrived at this port last night.

The Governor's Message was read before the Legislature this morning.

IDAHO.

A memorial has been introduced, praying for a division of the Territory, annexing a part of Washington Territory to Idaho, and creating a new Territory to the East.

The capital of Idaho has been removed from Lewiston to Boise City, by act passed the present session.—*Golden Age.*

THE KEANS AT PORTLAND.—Mr. and Mrs. Kean, during their short sojourn in Portland were invited by our old friend Potter, who is at present the lessee of the theatre in that place, to perform the Merchant of Venice. The event drew, as might have been expected, a crowded house, and the representation seems to have surprised and delighted our neighbors. The *Oregonian*, speaking of these distinguished actors says: "The fame of Mr. Kean is far above our criticism. We have not the pen of the accomplished connoisseur to tune to his praise, if we could attempt it; but we must say that if the character of Shylock was worthy of the fame that for near two generations, has accorded him the highest order of dramatic art, worthy of the genius and learning with which he dignifies the stage, it must be such as "Sweet Will," himself would have accorded to the character, that has won so much of his own immortality. There was a terrible force in this character as Mr. Kean gave it to us, that anyone must appreciate that reads the play after seeing him perform it. Mrs. Kean, the portly dame of to-day, is not the girlish Ellen Tree who pleased the world long since, but her acting was charming, and the part of the advocate, assumed by her, was one of the crowning features of the whole performance. The appeal for mercy to the Jew, was so beautifully done as her great reputation warrants, and it is hard to say, whether the charm of her manner or the force of his, added most to the merit of the play.

NEW DRILL ROOM.—His Excellency the Governor has kindly given the Rifle Company the use of the old barracks in Government Square for a drill room, with an adjoining room for the Adjutant's office. The drill room will be as large as the present one on Broughton street, and more comfortable, being in a brick building.

BAD LANGUAGE.—J. Dougherty was charged yesterday with being disorderly and using insulting language towards a married woman. The accused made an ample apology to the complainant, stating that it was far from his wish to insult any lady, and the magistrate imposed the usual fine of five shillings.