

The St. Andrews Standard.

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SAINT ANDREWS, N. B. WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1863.

Vol 30

FROM THE STATES.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The Times and Herald contain long and interesting accounts of the proceedings of Gen. Hooker's army. The Times correspondent states that after three days skirmishing on both sides the rebels on Saturday afternoon and evening attacked our right flank, Jackson with his whole force of 4,000 men, throwing himself impetuously on Gen. Howard's corps but the move was only partially successful, and reinforcements being promptly sent by Gen. Hooker, the rebels were handsomely checked. Howard's consisted of Schurz, Stimmell's and Devens's divisions.

The Times correspondent states that Devens's division disgracefully abandoned their position behind their breastworks and rushed panic-stricken towards the headquarters. Our right was thus completely turned, and the rebels in a fair way of doubling us up. Gen. Hooker was immediately in the saddle, and turning to the commander of his own old corps, Gen. Berry, shouted, "General, throw your men into the breach and receive the enemy on your bayonets! Don't fire a shot. They can't see you!" They rushed gloriously at double quick to the rescue, pressing forward a horrid array of glittering steel. The enemy were checked and retired to the breastworks just abandoned by Howard's corps. Batteries were immediately massed on the crest of the hill, pouring in a terrific fire until late in the night. Gen. Pleasanton also checked the enemy with a dying battery of a dozen pieces. He drew up his little brigade of cavalry with drawn sabres to protect the guns. He had them double-shotted with canister and swept the enemy's position with a murderous fire.

In this charge of the rebels they took from the cowardly Dutchmen, as the Times correspondent styles them, 12 pieces of cannon. The Germans fled past Gen. Hooker's headquarters in a panic, many of the members of Hooker's staff with pistols and sabres vainly endeavoring to stay their flight. Gen. Sykes' regulars are picking them up. What made this retreat most disastrous was the fact that Gen. Sickles had by a branch road pierced the enemy's centre and penetrated for a mile, cut them in twain, and seemed the key to victory, when the turning of Howard's position obliged him to retreat bringing off 400 rebel prisoners. The artillery combat continued fiercely until midnight.

Another correspondent of the Times dated Sunday evening says it was reported from Gen. Howard's front that the rebels had been engaged all Friday night cutting a road past his right but not much attention was paid to the fact. On this afternoon of Saturday it was reported by the pickets on the right of Gen. Slocum's front that wagons had been seen moving all day in a westerly direction. Gen. Sickles with a heavy force was sent to reconnoitre when the advance fell in with the rear of Gen. Jackson's Army. Gen. Sickles immediately pushed on to checkmate Jackson and soon captured the entire 23d Georgia regiment, 400 strong including the officers. This movement of Gen. Sickles cut Jackson's force in two and Gen. Williams commenced a flank movement the enemy's right with good prospect of success. It was supposed that Gen. Howard's corps, formerly Gen. Sigel's, would successfully resist Jackson's movement, but the first division, Gen. (Carl Schurz's) almost instantly gave way, thousands of the cowardly retreating down their arms and guns, and streaming towards head quarters. Gen. Devens's division disaffected by the demoralization of the foot while endeavoring to rally his men, Gen. Howard with all his daring and resolution, could not stem the tide, and the brigades of Colonel Bushbeck and McLean remained fighting as long as possible, retiring in good order.

Of course this disaster compelled the recall of Gen. Sickles, who had been vigorously at work. Gen. Williams' division returned to find a portion of his works occupied by the enemy. Gen. Sickles could not communicate with the whole of his army by the route he came, and Gen. Hooker ordered a night attack to restore the communication. Gen. Ward's brigade, aided by Betts' battery, made an attack at 11 o'clock at night, which was entirely successful, and in a charge made by the brigade a portion of the artillery lost by Gen. Howard was gallantly retaken by Gen. Hearn. The enemy were driven back nearly a mile that night (Saturday). Our men slept on their arms. On Sunday at five o'clock in the morning the rebels could be plainly seen on the plank road about 12 miles from Gen. Hooker's headquarters at Chancellor's House, which house had been penetrated by a shell. Our line of battle was immediately formed and in half an hour our advance became engaged. The enemy, advancing his infantry in overwhelming force, seemed determined to crush however, held them in check, inflicting dreadful slaughter upon them. French's division was sent in our right and soon crushed that portion of the enemy's line, and at eight o'clock in the morning French sent his compliments to Gen. Hooker, stating that he had charged the rebels and was driving them before him.

Bangor, May 6th.

Washington Republican says the success of the Army of the Potomac is more complete than first supposed. Eleven hundred prisoners arrived at Washington, including several Generals. Whole number of prisoners about five thousand.

Sedwick's capture of Fredericksburg heights brilliant affair. Thirteen hundred prisoners. They appear well clad and fed.

Hooker sends no despatches. Much solicitude felt for further developments. Reconnoitering force from Suffolk encountered enemy's rifle pits and severe engagement occurred. One Confederate battery killed Col Ringgold of New York, killed. Enemy abandoned number of rifle pits.

Gen. Sherman passed up Yazoo River and attacked Batteries in heavy force.

Grant's army landed 8 miles above Grand Gulf.

Mr. Vallinigham arrested in Dayton, Ohio and carried to Cincinnati. Disloyal mob retaliated by cutting telegraph wires and firing Journal office.

THE FEDERAL ARMY TERRIBLY BEATEN!

NEW YORK, May 7.

Heavy rains have risen the Rappahannock River 6 to 8 feet. Previous to rise Hooker consulted General and they determined that their only safety was to recross the Rappahannock.

The twelfth corps got across safely: the third corps was guarding entrenchments and it was hoped the enemy would not discover retreat and that balance of army would get across safely.

Lee has been largely reinforced. The Federal dead and wounded had to be left on the field.

Sedgewick had penetrated the lines of the enemy and joined Hooker.

Gold quoted all the way from 154 to 161.

Arrival of the Australasian.

NEW YORK, May 6, 1863.

'Australasian' arrived. Important debate had occurred in both Houses of Parliament on the seizure of British ships by Federal Cruisers, and in relation to protection granted by Minister Adams to Mexican traders.

Many speakers urged that such proceedings cannot be tolerated. Roebuck declared himself for war, to put down the upstart insolence of Americans.

Ministers and their supporters counselled moderation, and deprecated the violence of some of the speakers.

Lord Palmerston said the matters were being considered.

Earl Russell said the seizure of the Dolphin and the conduct of Mr. Adams would be representative to the Washington Government for redress.

Several newspapers speak of the relations of the Government as critical.

The debate caused a slight decline in Corn, which closed at 92 1/2 a 93.

Breadstuffs firm. Flour advanced 6d to 1s. Corn 3d higher. Provisions dull.

Polish insurrection spreading.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—On Tuesday evening five large buildings on Fairweather's Wharf, York Point, were totally consumed by fire, together with their contents. The first was owned by Mr. Hazen and occupied by Mr. Thomas Fairweather, and partially insured; the second owned and occupied by Mr. G. W. Gerow, insured for £700; the third owned and occupied by J. & T. Robinson, insured for £650; the fourth owned and occupied by Robert Hayes and others, insured for £200; and the fifth owned and occupied by (Mrs. Russell, insured (we were told) for £200. Large quantities of Hay and Oats were destroyed. The flames goods stored in the buildings. The flames spread so rapidly that a child in one of the buildings had to be taken out of the window. The firemen did good service as did also the "Extinguisher."

An out-house attached to a building on Brussels street was slightly damaged by fire yesterday morning. —Telegraph.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF NEW BRUNSWICK. At the Annual General Meeting of the Stockholders held on Tuesday last, the following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year: D. J. McLaughlin, A. M. L. Seely, John

Duncan, Moses Turk, Solomon Horsey, Jas. Vernon, J. V. Troop, R. L. Hazen, William Parks, Wm. Jack, G. L. Lovett, A. Eaton, C. Merritt.

And at meeting of the Board on the following Wednesday, D. J. McLaughlin was unanimously re-elected President.

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the "Standard"

"We are against this Bill, as an insulting piece of fraud and deception." —[Col. Presbyterian, 16th April.

Mr. Editor,

I hope to be able to make it appear that the Bill thus designated is just what it should be, notwithstanding the above "insulting" declaration to the contrary.

Taking up the copy of the correspondence we find an account of certain resolutions adopted at a meeting held in Quebec, on the 30th September, 1861, wherein fifteen Executive Councilors of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, resolved to renew the offers before made to the Imperial Government—to aid in the construction of an Intercolonial Railway.

In December following, we find in London a delegate from each Colony, urging before the Duke of Newcastle, at great length, and with much ability, the necessity of a railway; and soliciting imperial aid in the shape of a grant of money.

In a despatch from the Duke, under date of 12th April, 1862, we find the application for a grant of money modestly declined, and instead thereof, an offer made of an imperial guarantee of interest at a low rate, to enable the Colonists to raise the money by loan, and to build the road themselves.

Subsequently, a delegation consisting of four members, two from Canada, one from Nova Scotia and one from New Brunswick, met in London to arrange the terms of the loan with the Imperial Government, which arrangement was concluded on the 13th of December last, and consisted of nine separate propositions.

1st—Bills to be submitted to the Colonial Legislatures, authorizing them to borrow £3,000,000 in certain portions for each Colony.

2d—No loan to be contracted on behalf of any Colony, unless all the three Bills pass and the interest be guaranteed by the Imperial Government.

3d—The Railway to connect Halifax with Quebec, on a line to be approved by the Imperial Government.

4th—Interest to be a first charge, after the Civil List and interest of existing debts.

5th—Regarding the Debitments, and the ultimate repayment of the loan.

6th—Railway to be constructed under the direction of five Commissioners.

7th—The necessary preliminary surveys to be made at the expense of the Colonies, by three Engineers.

8th—Fitting provision to be made for the carriage of troops, &c.

9th—Line and surveys to be submitted to Imperial Government and must be approved before Parliament be asked for the guarantee. Loan limited to £3,000,000.

The Imperial Government and the three Colonial Governments (four separate parties) must agree in all the essential parts of the scheme, before it can be matured and the legislation to be effectual must receive the concurrence of all the parties, as did the reciprocity Treaty with the United States.

Hence the necessity of the same bill passing in each Colonial Legislature, without alteration.

On looking at the draught of the Bill as submitted to the Legislature of New Brunswick, and now passed into a law, it will be seen that it is based on the nine propositions in the correspondence before noticed, and that there is neither "fraud" nor "deception" about it.

The first section of the Bill authorizes the Governor in Council to provide our share of the money, and names Euro and Rivere du Loup, as the two ends of the Line.

The second section accords with proposition No. 2 as above set forth.

The third section agrees with No. 3, and provides that the money shall be expended on a line to be approved by the Imperial Government.

Sections four five and six provide for the payment of the interest and the final extinction of the debt, as set forth in the propositions.

Section seven provides for the appointment of Engineers, to make the preliminary surveys, at the joint expense of the three Colonies, and Commissioners to direct the construction, as set forth in number 6 and 7 of the propositions.

Section eight provides for the conveyance of troops, &c.

Section nine refers again to the appointment of Commissioners.

Section ten provides (if need be) for letting the work out to a private company.

Sections eleven and twelve enact, in case no suitable company shall offer, that the commissioners shall construct the railway on the site which shall have been surveyed and approved of by the Governments of the three Colonies, and that when the survey shall have been completed, and the Imperial Government have approved of the same, the works shall commence.

The Bill was undoubtedly framed in good faith, by parties whose character and station place them above suspicion, for the purpose of being submitted to the Colonial Legislatures for their adoption, embodying the conditions agreed on between the Duke of Newcastle and the Provincial delegates, on the 13th of last December.

A BACKWOODSMAN.

Manufacture of Quinine, Borax, and TARTARIC ACID.

The following is a condensed description (from the Chemist and Druggist) of the above-named chemicals as manufactured at Stratford England. The works were established in the last century by L. Howard, F. R. S., and are now conducted by his descendants. The premises cover several acres of ground and about two hundred men are employed in them.

Quinine is an extract of cinchona or Peruvian bark. It is employed as one of the most effective medicines in the treatment of intermittent fevers, and the demand for it is enormous. Peruvian Countess or Jesuit's bark was first introduced into Spain as a remedial agent about 1640, it having cured the Countess of Chinchon, the wife of Peru, of a dangerous intermittent fever. A few years before, its properties were well known to the natives of the countries lying at the foot of the Andes, who had bestowed on it the appellation of quina-quina or the bark of barks. Its introduction into England met with great opposition, from an absurd idea that having received the patronage of the Jesuits, it was necessarily a poisonous preparation intended for the wholesale extirpation of all good Protestants, under pretence of curing them of febrile maladies. It made its way, however, in spite of this notion, until at the end of the last century it became one of the most popular medicaments for the cure of fever, gout and rheumatism. An immense impetus was given to its use about the year 1824, when the alkaloids, quinine and cinchonine were first extracted in a state of comparative purity by Pelletier and Caventou, since which manufactures of these alkaloids have been established. The bark imported from certain localities is sent over in skin cases, from others in coarse woollen bags.

Before being used it is sorted with the greatest care. The process of making quinine may be shortly described as follows:—The crushed bark is exhausted by several boilings with water, acidulated with sulphuric or hydrochloric acid. The several decoctions are mixed and filtered. When cool, alkali is added, until the liquid becomes alkaline and dark in color. The precipitate formed is collected, drained, pressed and reduced to powder when dry. It is afterwards digested in rectified spirits and filtered, the spirits being distilled off until the tincture assumes the consistency of molasses. Dilute sulphuric acid is now added, and the liquid is again filtered and crystallized; the yellowish sulphate obtained being decolorized by re-solution with animal charcoal and re-crystallization. It is finally dried with great care at a very gentle heat, to avoid the slightest efflorescence.

Sulphate of quinine is always more or less contaminated with the sulphates of the other Alkaloids existing in the barks, such as quindine or cinchonine.

The crude material of borax used by Howard & Co. comes from the Tuscan lagoons worked by Count Lardarel. The manufacture consists in fusing the crude boracic acid with half its weight of soda-ash on the floor of a reverberatory furnace; the mixture effervesces and is constantly stirred; during the operation a quantity of carbonic acid and ammonia escapes, the latter gases being carefully condensed. The fret is then fixated in iron boilers and allowed to rest until the impurities have subsided. The liquid is then drawn off into leaden tanks and allowed to crystallize very slowly, as the fancy of the market is to admire large crystals. The ammonia which escapes from the reverberatory furnace is condensed and made into liquid ammonia and ammonia carbonate, two products which are highly valued as articles of Commerce.

The manufacture of tartaric acid and Rochelle salt is also carried on, on a very large scale. The raw material in this instance is the argols or crude tartar obtained from the various wine districts. Crude tartar is an impure bitartrate of potash. In order to prepare the pure acid, the rough tartar is dissolved in water, and chalk is added in equivalent proportions until tartaric acid of lime is precipitated, neutral tartaric acid ash remaining dissolved. The tartaric acid in solution is decomposed by chloride of calcium, thus the whole of the tartaric acid is separated as tartrate of lime. The product of the double operation is digested with dilute sulphuric acid, sulphate of lime being precipitated and tartaric acid set free. The clear cold solution is then evaporated, crystallized and re-crystallized, great care being taken to avoid the slightest traces of sulphuric acid. Rochelle salt—the double tartrate of potash and soda—is made by combining an equivalent of carbonate of soda with the purified bitartrate of potash and crystallizing.

A GREAT CINGALESE WEDDING.—A Ceylon correspondent writes:—'Colombo has been elivened by a grand Cingalese wedding. The bridegroom is reported to be very wealthy—worth £800,000—and the bride had about £20,000 of her own. The marriage took place a few miles of town; a hundred Europeans were present, and endless numbers of natives. The band of the rifle regiment was there discoursing sweet music. The wedding cake was quite a sight—seven feet high and five feet in circumference.—The bride's dress cost, I am afraid to say how much, being ornamented to a great extent with rich and precious stones, chiefly pearls and amethysts. The presents were splendid—one of them very peculiar and recherché, namely, seven thousand sovereign laid out on a side table, the gift of the brides beloved papa! All this wealth has been made by coffee.'

HUMAN REMAINS DISCOVERED AT POMPEII.—Galignani publishes the following curious story:—

"A very interesting discovery has just been made by M. Fiorelli, the inspector of excavations at Pompeii. While digging at a depth of from eight to ten feet, the pickaxe struck into a little mass of coins and jewels. M. Fiorelli then continued the excavation with the greatest care, removing the earth grain by grain, and, after some hours labor, was rewarded by the discovery in the hardened ashes of the perfect mould of a man in a lying posture, the skin of whom had dried up, but the skeleton remained intact. M. Fiorelli caused plaster of paris to be poured into the form of the Pompeian, and the casting succeeded perfectly with the exception of two fragments of an arm and leg where the mould was incomplete. The cast of the man is of the greatest precision: the moustache, the hair, the folds of the dress and the sandals are admirably defined."

REVELATIONS OF A GAMBLING HELL.—A trial is now progressing in Cincinnati, growing out of a murder committed at a gambling house, in which some interesting revelations were made by one of the witnesses, and attacks of the house. He said there was a private room in the house besides the room generally used for gambling, and in this private room Paymasters and others who played a "big game" were taken. Paymaster Cook was one of the visitors to this private room. Cook was described as a "sucker" among gamblers, that is, he was a card-player, but did not know all the tricks and traps in gambling, and consequently fell an easy prey to skilled "professionals." One of the arrangements for robbing victims, was a spring box, from which two cards could be taken when wanted, and with this box in skilled hands any bot on the table could be taken. The gamblers of the house "always had one man that could do the cheating." The average amount fleeced from the victims lately was one thousand three hundred to one thousand eight hundred a night, but the witness had seen twenty thousand dollars lost there one night. As showing how the gamblers treated the dupes they robbed, the witness said: A gentleman from Mayville lost all that he had, and asked a loan of some money. They said he was a gambler, and refused, and he said he would prove he was not, and desired to borrow a dollar to get to bed. They would not do it; he then asked me and I and Jim lent him a dollar. Another person from Missouri lost seven hundred dollars, and was broke. He told them he was drunk, and that they had robbed him of his money; and he asked for money to go to a hotel. He got five dollars, and next day asked for fifty dollars, to pay his way home. The bank would not give it to him, and the dealer gave it to him out of his pocket.

Of Sir Tattor Sykes, the sporting baronet just dead, it is said he never rode in a carriage but once in his life. On his wedding day, he went home from church with his wife by this (to him) unknown conveyance. He said afterward that "did not find it as bad as he expected."

It was published by the Times that a party of twelve ladies, who were visiting in the city, were taken to a gambling house, and there they were robbed of their money and jewelry. The ladies were taken to a room, and there they were told that they were to play a game of cards. They were told that if they won, they would receive a large sum of money, but if they lost, they would receive nothing. The ladies were told that they were to play a game of cards, and they were told that they were to play a game of cards. The ladies were told that they were to play a game of cards, and they were told that they were to play a game of cards.

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Later from Europe.

New York, 6th. The Australasian from Liverpool 25th, and Queenstown, 26th, arrived at 9 o'clock. The Norwegian, for Quebec, took out brief advices of important debates in both houses of Parliament concerning the seizures of British ships in neutral waters, and protection granted by Mr. Adams to Mexican traders.

Many speakers urged that such proceedings cannot be tolerated. Mr. Keobuck declared himself for war to put down the upstart insolence of Americans. Ministers counselled moderation, and deprecated the violence of some of the speakers.

Lord Palmerston simply said the matters were being considered but Earl Russell said the seizure of the Dolphin and the conduct of Mr. Adams would be represented to the Washington Government for redress.

Many journals argue that the American Government should learn a lesson from the irritation evinced, unless it desires to increase ill feeling.

The Globe regards affairs as critical, and says the reciprocal irritation argues badly for amicable relations.

In the House of Lords on the 24th, Lord Redcliffe called attention to interference with the mails on ships seized by the Federalists.

Lord Derby said nothing could be more monstrous than the claim of the Americans to deal with such mails, and he was astonished that the Government acquiesced.

Lord Russell said the practice was in a great degree sanctioned by Stowell, but instructions had been modified. He would obtain the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown and lay it on the table.

In the House of Commons on the 24th, Solicitor General, in reply to an inquiry by Lord Churchill said British merchantmen were not authorized to resist capture by Federal cruisers. They would by doing so, be subject to condemnation.

Mr. Horsfall called attention to the seizure of the gunboat Alexandra at Liverpool. He asserted that there was nothing to fortify it, and denied that she was intended for the Confederates. He showed the benefits the Federals were deriving from a free shipment of warlike stores and even recruits, and urged the Government to impartially administer the foreign enlistment act.

The Attorney General justified the seizure of the Alexandra, and said the case would take its legal course. He pronounced Mr. Horsfall's charges most unfair.

The merits of the Alexandra affair were generally debated. Mr. Cobden asserted that America had always acted up to the principles of the foreign enlistment act toward England, and he demanded that England should act in a like spirit toward America.

He denounced the case of the Alabama, and said she should be seized as the only method of ending such practices.

Sir Fitzroy Kelly asked if the Government was taking steps to protect the postal service with Mexico.

Lord Palmerston said England's commercial interest with Mexico had the best security in the belief that the United States Government would not make seizures without due cause, and there was reason to believe that United States prize courts would not act unjustly. British Consuls would not deliver up any correspondence contrary to good faith. The subject then dropped.

The British squadron in the Pacific is to be strengthened.

The steamer Sea Queen left Falmouth for Matamoros with mails or any definite promise of protection.

The Polish insurgents continue active. London, 26th.—The ship Punjab, from Calcutta, has arrived here. She was captured March 15, lat 9, lon 31 W by the Alabama, but the cargo being British, the property of the Punjab was released on giving a ransom bond of \$55,000.

We are informed that the competition for the University Scholarships were brought to a close on Saturday last. In the Senior Class, the Mathematical Scholarship was awarded to E. N. Sharp, Sussex Vale; in the Junior Class, the Classical Scholarship was gained by Thomas Millidge, St. John; and in the Freshman Class, the successful candidate for the Scholarship in English language and Literature was Charles Wesley Colter, York County. In the last class the competition was very close, the number of marks gained, taking 1000 as the maximum that could be procured, being as follows:

Charles W. Colter, York County, 844.
Charles H. Lugin, York County, 833.
Gideon Freeman, York County, 832.
Edmund J. Hewitt, Saint John, 813.

—[Head Quarters.]

A very and accident took place yesterday afternoon. Three young men were in a canoe shooting among the islands before Springhill. It appears that in firing at a flock of geese, they delivered their fire standing up and broadside from their canoe, which capsize from the recoil, throwing them all into the water. One sank, not to rise again. His body was recovered last night. This unfortunate young gentleman was Mr. Killnor, nephew of Major-Gen. Killnor. He was here on a visit to his friends, and was shortly to have returned to his home in Montreal. The other young men, Mr. Walling and Mr. William Black, after being about half an hour in the water, were rescued, much exhausted, by a boat from Springhill.—[Ibid.]

FROM THE STATES.

New York, May 8. President Lincoln and Halleck returned from Hooker's army. Stanton telegraphed to Governor Curtin that the army is across the Rappahannock at its old camping ground, and state loss to be in killed wounded and missing 10,000 men; and the army will resume offensive operations soon.

Stoneman went within two miles of Richmond, tore up all railroad track, cut up all telegraph wires, burnt bridges and completely cut off all communication with Lee's army from Richmond.

Gen. Stoughton, a returned Federal prisoner, states that farmers flocked into Richmond giving alarm; bells were rung and greatest excitement and consternation prevailed, some families even packing up to move.

Richmond Examiner characterizes Stoneman's raid as the boldest and most audacious exploit of the war, but adds it was a few days too late to be any good to Hooker.

Federal officers who went to rebel lines with flag of truce, says in conversation with rebel officers they claimed a victory, but acknowledged their loss to be much greater than Federal.

All the correspondents figure Hooker's loss at 10,000.

Bangor May 8. The army of the Potomac resumed its old quarters at Falmouth.

No loss sustained in retrograde movement.

Attempt a failure, not a disaster.

Federal loss in prisoners does not exceed 7,000.

Stoneman's cavalry went within 2 miles of Richmond, where the greatest consternation ensued.

Lee's reinforcements came before Stoneman's operations, and Stoneman is censured for tardy though brilliant movements.

Not more than one-third of Hooker's army were engaged in any action being unable to manœuvre on account of forests without practicable roads.

Lee had over 120,000 men.

Gen. Paxton killed, and Jackson badly wounded.

Enemy's loss far greater than Federal.

Hooker ready again for offensive operations.

President issued a proclamation for a draft.

May 9th. Admiral Porter gives official account of the capture of Grand Gulf after a hard fight.

The Tusculum, Benton, and another gun boat, being much cut up, and losing 24 killed and 50 wounded.

Enemy's works very strong and the place the strongest on the Mississippi, and is the key to Vicksburg.

Had fortifications been completed, no fleet could have taken them.

Yorktown despatch mentions the arrival there of 3 regiments of Stoneman's cavalry. They destroyed bridges over Chickahominy, 3 large provisions trains in the rear of Lee's army, all the stores at Aylett's Station on Metapony, and drove enemy's pickets within two miles of Richmond and took provisions within entrenchments outside of city, making circuit of 200 miles since May 3d.

Reported Confederates lost 18,000 in recent battle.

Reported Gen. Dix ordered an advance on Peninsula.

A writer to the Boston Commonwealth, an intensely abolition paper, thus utters without let or hindrance his views of the war:

There is no doubt that the Southerners have beaten us in generals and generalship. And why, it is not a difficult thing to estimate. They are fighting for that which is a passion of every living thing, from the mole burrowing the earth to Garibaldi clearing the path of new empires—LIBERTY. They seek independence of a Government they loathe, a thing which in every age has furnished and inspired devoted leaders and unlimited sacrifice. We on the contrary have been engaged in a war for a mere territorial government—a territorial form—a "boundary," as Mr. Adams phrases it, have touched no deep chord, roused no latent energy in the human soul.

We have made it almost dishonour to approve of our own Government; we have made the prayer of the champions of Justice and Right—"God preserve Jeff. Davis and what he is spared to hold on yet." What inspiration can one get from this war? I, for one, solemnly protest that I hope that the North will be beaten ignominiously, as they have been, so long as they propose by bloodshed to carry Bonapartes, Stanleys, Stoenesons, Hallecks, and the like of them into the South. Only in the sacred name of Liberty can the smiting down of the humblest human being be justified. For any flag—or geographical idea—it is but murder. The war being thus far for subjugation has not touched the core of civilization, nor evoked its power; on the other hand it has touched the core of fanaticism and the animal passion for liberty and evoked its tremendous ferocity and force.

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green, though we can never witness here any green like that you are daily accustomed to at home. It would do one's eyes and heart good to see a really green English meadow. On Mr. —'s station, whence he had just returned, they have had no rain, not even a shower for fourteen months. The drought has been one of unequalled length and severity, and the loss sustained by all the squatters round about are proportionally heavy. He has lost some 5,000 or 6,000 sheep and lambs; while on the station adjoining his the loss was no fewer than 15,000 sheep. No one in the country ever remembers such a season; they have heard of them, but never experienced them. We, in Sydney, shall of course feel the effects of all this; in fact we are now feeling the effect in dullness of trade. The wool cannot come down, as all the bullock teams die on the road for want of water and pasture. In some parts of the country you meet nothing for miles and miles but the bodies and bleached bones of sheep and bullocks. In our little trip up the country, at Christmas, we met, in the course of a few miles, some twenty or thirty carcasses; many were freshly dead, and many in a state of decomposition; while the sows and native dogs were making most voracious repeat of all, just leaving the bones to whiten in the sun. The party went to was not by any means a dry locality, being favored with the presence of a tolerably large and beautiful river.

The election of Mayor came off last week in St. John. The candidates up to Monday were Messrs. W. O. Smith, Woodward, Campbell, and Olive. The first gentleman however withdrew. Mr. Woodward headed the other two and has been duly elected. The following are the returns:—

Woodward.....872

Campbell.....714

Olive.....559

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the States. There has been no difficulty in getting places for the entire lot of emigrants. The applications at the Emigration Officer's office treble the number of persons that have as yet arrived. The demand for Agricultural laborers is very great. There are two vessels expected here in a short time from Galway. The "Margaret" which left on the 11th and the "Joseph Hensley" on the 19th April, have each 70 Emigrants on board.—News.

The laborers in the mills at Milltown, St. Stephen, refuse to work until the owners of the mill agree to give the wages demanded by the strikers. One of the mills started on Monday, and had to stop owing to the threats made by the strikers. The employers manifest a disposition to comply with the reasonable demands of the workmen, and the prospect is that an amicable arrangement will be effected in a day or two.

P. S.—Since writing the above we learn that the mills started this morning, and the workmen resumed labor.—[Calais paper.]

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good health, until within a few days of his death. He lived to see the fifth generation, and leaves behind him eleven children eight by three grand children, one hundred and fifty great grand children, and four great, great grand children. It may truly be said of Mr. Hanson, that he was the last of his times.

The Limerick Reporter says several young men have been leaving Ireland for the last few months, ostensibly to emigrate to America, but actually for service in the Federal army, for which they are engaged by American agents, and forwarded with gold watches bounty, &c.

Capt. Pym, of the English navy, has just had a long interview with the Emperor Napoleon, in order to show his majesty a new plan for digging a canal across the isthmus of Panama. This is a favorite project of the Emperor's. The present is deemed a good occasion for foreigners to obtain a control of the isthmus, and his majesty is said to have recommended Capt. Pym to M. Rothschild in order to obtain the funds for his project.

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