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EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.

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ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Intelligence received to-day represents all perfectly quiet yesterday in front of the Federal lines.

A Confederate scouting party of twelve men were captured a few days ago at Catlett's Station.

Hampton and Fitzhugh Lee are said by a deserter to be at Culpeper, with an estimated force of 2,500. Lee is to picket the Bull Run mountains.

There are no Confederate forces between this end and the Rappahannock, except those of Mosby and Captain Jones, alias Farr. Mosby was not wounded, as the papers reported.—He lost seven men in the recent affair at Dranesville.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, April 4.—One of the most severe wind storms ever known here is raging to-night, accompanied with snow.

April 5.—The snow storm of last night was very severe, and has made the roads in a terrible condition.

Gen. Schenck was in consultation for some hours with the Secretary of War last week.—It is understood that his entire conduct in Baltimore is sanctioned by the Secretary.

Amongst the passengers from New York for Southampton, per Saxon, is John T. Kasson, M. C., formerly first assistant postmaster general, and Mr. Adolphe Mochle, from N. Y., who go out to represent the post office department at the postal convention of all nations, to be held in Paris, France, during the month of May. The object of this conference is to establish a uniform rate of postage on letters from and to the United States.

The Washington Star says: "A Confederate soldier named Campbell, an Alexandrian, belonging to the 17th Virginia regiment, and who left Alexandria when the Federal troops first entered there, came into the Federal picket lines, alleging that he crossed the river on a raft to get some coffee. He was sent up to Washington to the Old Capitol. He states that most of the Alexandrians who left to join the Confederate army have been killed in battle.

The Missourians have quite a penchant for curious characterization. The members of the late Legislature were divided into Charcoals, Clay-banks, White-legs and Snow-flakes. The first and last are the extremes of both parties.

The U. S. government having decided upon the policy to be pursued in relation to abandoned property, and the trade to be carried on within the lines in insurrectionary States, in accordance with the recent acts of Congress upon these subjects, a proclamation may be issued in a day or two, to carry into effect the laws.

Secretary Stanton has found time, amid the cares of his office, to write a magazine article for the Continental Monthly, entitled, "How the War affects Americans."

THE WAR ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

It now appears that all of the expeditions sent out to effect a rear movement against Vicksburg have failed of that purpose. The Haines's Bluff and the Steel's Bayou expeditions, it is announced, have returned to Young's Point; and while it is reported that two of the gunboats of the Yazoo Pass expedition made another attack on Fort Pemberton on the 27th ult., it is also reported that the movement has been abandoned; and that the boats were also returning to Young's point. At last advices some three hundred transports had arrived there. Young's Point is the name given to that neck of land forming the peninsula opposite Vicksburg, and across which the famous canal was cut.

The intelligence from the immediate vicinity of Vicksburg is no less interesting.—The work on the canal is said to have been abandoned, the Confederate batteries commanding two-thirds of its length, and rendering labor upon it impracticable. The effect of a bombardment in reducing the Confederate works is again to be tried. Gen. Grant has placed a battery in position, and the shelling commenced on Wednesday last. Important movements of troops were in progress at last accounts. It is stated that the Confederates, anticipating a movement in the rear of the city, have withdrawn a large force from the front. During a storm on Monday night last, the Confederate gunboat Vicksburg broke from her moorings and floated down the river and was captured by Admiral Farragut.

It is reported from Cairo that the water is running through the Lake Providence cut-off, and that the town is nearly submerged. The Federal troops have moved their encampments further up the river.

The N. Y. World's Washington dispatch says: "It is said that every person hereafter arrested for expressing disloyal sentiments and who refuses to take the oath of allegiance, is to be sent within the enemy's lines."

The Supreme Court for the District of New York has decided to-day that the U. S. legal tender notes were constitutional as to debts contracted before the passage of the law making such notes a legal tender. All the four judges concurred.

During last week Mr. Jay Cooke, Treasury agent, received subscriptions to the Five-twenty National Loan to the amount of eight millions of dollars.

A dispatch from Nashville speaks of the death of a son of Governor Johnson, who was thrown from a horse and instantly killed.

Col. Stanley Matthews, who has been designated by Gen. Rosecrans to carry out the provisions of the order relative to the removal south of the Federal lines of disloyal persons and those whose natural supporters are in the Confederate service, is in Nashville, and a number of citizens have been notified, in accordance with that order, to hold themselves in readiness to go South.

A life size statue of the Dying Gladiator, which has for several years past adorned the painting gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, was sold on Saturday at auction for \$1,005. It is understood that Mr. McGuire, the auctioneer in the case, who is a worthy patron of the fine arts, was the purchaser.

The Altoona (Pa.) Register tells of a female just returned to that city, after a service of eighteen months in the army, without having her sex discovered. She took part in three battles, and was wounded twice, first above the eye and then in the arm, the latter wound compelling her to disclose her sex.

It is asserted in quarters entitled to credit that the draft will soon be made to fill up all regiments, now in the field and decimated by the casualties of War, to their proper standard. It is not yet known how many it will require, but probably near two hundred thousand. The drafted men will be sent at once to the regiments, where they will be taught military tactics upon the field, and not to camps of instruction as has been proposed.

Gen. E. B. Tyler received the other day from the officers and men of his brigade a very valuable present. It consisted of a splendid gray charger of the famous "Gray Eagle" stock, with a complete set of accoutments, and elegant sword, belt, sash, and spurs, all of superior workmanship.

Rhode Island, Maine, and Iowa are the only States which as yet have signified to the General Land Office their acceptance of the grant of land to the several States for the establishment of Agricultural Colleges.

Baron Wardliner, formerly of the Austrian service, who was captured with General Stoughton at Fairfax Court House, has been released.

A Vicksburg paper announces the seizure of 2,500 bales of cotton some forty miles from Lake Providence by the Federal forces. Every bale was marked "C. S. A."

The Bermuda Royal Gazette, of the 25th of March says: It is said that the steamer Peterhoff captured by Admiral Wilkes, U. S. N., was from France laden with French Government stores and was bound for Vera Cruz.

The Lehigh, the last of the nine Ericsson steamers known as the "Monitors" is almost completed. It is expected that on Tuesday she will leave her wharf at Chester for Philadelphia.

The Cambridge, Md., Intelligencer says that Mr. Thomas H. Hubbard, of the Neck district, has sold his farm called the Garden of Eden to Mr. D. Wallach, editor of the Washington Star, for \$15,000, including the crop of wheat seeded upon the ground. The terms of the sale are \$5,000 cash, and the balance in equal installments of one and two years. This farm is situated on the Choptank river, about six miles below Cambridge, and is the same which Mr. Hubbard bought from Wm. I. Hearn, six years ago for \$16,781. It contains 223 acres of land.

Solomon Henshaw, a citizen of Newtown, Fountain county, Indiana, finding the Knights of the Golden Circle, which he had joined, to be a "treasonable organization," exposed the whole concern. He was threatened so much that he disposed of all his property and started to quit the country, but, overcome by fear, put an end to his life near Attica.