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WAR NEWS.

A dispatch from Memphis announces that Gen. Hurlbut had sent an expedition to Grenada, Miss., which drove the Confederates out of the town and destroyed fifty-seven locomotives and over four hundred cars. These locomotives and cars belonged to the different Southern railroads concentrating at Jackson. The expedition also destroyed the depot buildings, a large amount of ordnance and commissary stores, and returned in safety.

Dispatches from Memphis say that only the 17th Army corps is now stationed at Vicksburg. Very few troops are quartered in the city—only enough to do police duty; the rest are encamped on the heights. General Sherman's corps is still encamped near the Big Black and Bear and Clear Creeks. The 13th Army Corps has moved to Natchez for sanitary reasons. Admiral Porter's fleet is scattered along the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Cairo. The intermediate distances between the points where the gunboats are stationed, are patrolled by light draught boats. There is no special news from below.

The Cincinnati Gazette has advices from Gen. Rosecrans army to the 18th instant, and from Gen. Burnside to the 19th inst. Both armies had commenced a forward movement, the former for Chattanooga and the latter for Knoxville.

Advices from Arkansas say that the Federal gunboats captured three or four Confederate boats, crews, and all the Confederates had in the river. General Davidson had crossed the White River at Clarendon, and moved in the direction of Little Rock. His advance was in sight of the pickets of General Price. All the Confederate forces in that State were centered at Almeda, five miles below Little Rock, with General Kirby Smith in command. The troops were erecting fortifications. The people in the White River country were in almost a starving condition.

The accounts of the burning of Lawrence City, Kansas, say that not only was the town burned, the stores sacked, and banks robbed, but nearly two hundred of the citizens were either killed or wounded—the most of them deliberately murdered—for no resistance was made to the attack. A number of prominent citizens were among the killed. Quantrell and his command had escaped into Missouri. On this subject the Washington Chronicle says: "We would fain hope, even 'against hope' that the reports of Quantrell's massacre in Kansas, which reached us just as we were going to press yesterday morning, is to some extent exaggerated. But even if we allow for this, the whole affair is deplorable in the extreme, and we cannot doubt that the War Department will institute vigorous inquiries respecting it."

SOUTHERN NEWS.

The New York Times of Sunday has late Southern papers, among them the Richmond Sentinel of the 21st, from which the following items are taken:

Governor Letcher has called an extra session of the Legislature to convene on the 7th of September, to further provide for the public defence, by enrolling an additional force of militia beyond the conscript age; to take measures to give confidence to the people in their monetary concerns; and especially to repeal an act prohibiting the reception of Confederate notes of a particular date in payment of public dues; and to provide for the employment of the convicts in the penitentiary, by providing material for them to work upon, &c.

The negroes taken prisoners on Morris' Island are still held by the military authorities, subject to the order of the Governor of South Carolina.

Great mortality among the Federal troops in and around Vicksburg is reported. The disease is termed "cerebrospinal meningitis," and is fatal in almost every instance.

General Pemberton has issued an order calling upon his troops to assemble within thirty days at Demopolis, Alabama. He compliments them on their valor at Vicksburg.

The following is an extract from the General Orders, issued by Gen. Steele, upon setting out on his Arkansas expedition:

"No property shall be taken from citizens without authority. Foraging parties will be organized by brigade commanders and placed in the charge of commissioned officers for the purpose of obtaining the necessary supplies. Straggling, marauding, and setting buildings on fire, are positively forbidden. Any infraction of this order which may be detected will be summarily punished, and any officer who shall fail to notice such infraction shall be deemed guilty of neglect of duty, and dealt with accordingly. These measures are necessary for the sake of discipline, and as a matter of policy towards the people of Arkansas, whom we desire to bring back to their allegiance.

The General commanding sincerely hopes that for the credit of the command and the reputation of the government which we represent, both officers and men will view this matter in a proper light."

The marshal for the District of Columbia advertises the public sale of the life estate of sixteen owners of numerous pieces or parcels of ground, with the improvements, in Washington, under the confiscation act.

The Rev. W. J. Hoge, D. D., formerly associate pastor of the Brick Church, New York, (Rev. Dr. Spring's) was with Lee's army at Martinsburg, and preached the funeral discourse over the remains of Gen. Semmes.

Notes of various denominations and in imitation of the Government green-backs, are in circulation. They purport to be on the Government Bank, which does not exist, are dated Washington District of Columbia, November 16th, 1862, and signed J. Winslow, Cashier, and Harvey Patten, President. They are supposed to emanate from New York.

The Boston Traveller gives an account furnished by an officer of the guard, of a recent trip in the steamer De Molay, with conscripts from Boston to Alexandria. He says:

"After leaving the camp everything went on well until Wednesday night about 9 o'clock, when notice was given to the guard that some of the conscripts were making preparations to fire the steamer. The De Molay was in the Potomac River at the time. An alarm was instantly sounded, the whole guard called out, the hose made ready, and upon investigation it was discovered that some of the conscripts had piled up a variety of stuff in the hold of the vessel and contemplated having a nice fire in a few moments, but it was discovered in season to prevent their plans being carried out.

The De Molay arrived at Alexandria, Va., on Thursday night. About 9 o'clock, when a short distance from the wharf, about 25 or 30 of the conscripts made an attempt to escape by jumping overboard and striking out for the shore.

An alarm was immediately given, and the whole guard turned out, but twenty of the "skedaddling" party succeeded in getting away from the steamer. Some twenty or thirty shots were fired at those in the water by the guard, but it being dark they had little chance of hitting any of them. The boats were at once lowered and manned by the guard, and after a short pursuit seventeen men were picked up, some in the water and several upon canal boats that were lying near by on which they had sought to conceal themselves.

The prisoners were taken back to the De Molay, where they were ironed together, placed upon a settee, and kept in that position over night.

A man upon one of the canal boats in the river said he saw two of the conscripts in the water go down when fired upon by the guard, and heard another one cry out: "My God, I am hit." All of the party were recaptured but the three alluded to above. There was no more trouble that night. The next morning the steamer went up to the wharf and landed the conscripts, who were delivered by the guard to a regiment of Pennsylvania Reserves, in waiting to receive them.

The seventeen who had been kept in irons were taken in charge by the guard from the steamer and conveyed to the camp of the Twelfth Massachusetts Regiment, up to the army, just across the Rappahannock, and delivered to the Provost Marshal. All of the "skedaddling" party were substitutes, and, it was thought, were principally New York roughs—one of whom, it was stated, had nearly \$4,000 in a belt about his body, the greater portion of which was probably stolen from other substitutes previous to leaving the camp at Long Island."

The Phila. Inquirer says:—Some time ago a body of Union troops made a raid on Wytheville, Va., during which Lieut. Colonel Powell, of the Fourteenth Va., (Union) Regiment, was taken prisoner, and placed in solitary confinement at Richmond. The War Department will promptly retaliate in kind upon prisoners, unless Col. Powell is placed on the same footing with other prisoners of war.

The war between the rival railroad companies in Chicago is still going on, to the great advantage of the travelling community. Prices are reduced to the following rates: From Chicago to Cleveland, \$6; to Buffalo, \$11; to Philadelphia, \$16; to Baltimore, \$15.