

The Palmetto Herald.

BY S. W. MASON AND CO.

PORT ROYAL, THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1864.

FROM FLORIDA.

Loss of the Naval Tug-Boat Columbine.

THIRTY COLORED TROOPS CAPTURED ON HER.

THE STATE CONVENTION,

&c. &c. &c.

We regret to announce the capture, on Monday of last week of the Navy armed tug-boat Columbine, commanded by Acting Master Sanborn, with a crew of thirty to forty and four officers and thirty men, and two officers of Company E, 35th U. S. Colored Troops, formerly the 1st N. C. (Beecher's) Regiment. The boat was up the St. John's, on a reconnoissance. At Horse Landing, fifteen miles above Pilatka, a rebel field battery was brought down to the shore and made an attack. Almost the first shot struck the Columbine's rudder, and disabled it. The boat then drifted ashore, when the rebels came down two hundred strong and captured her.

On Saturday last Gen. Gordon made a reconnoissance in front of Jacksonville to Camp Finnegan. A considerable force of rebels was there encountered, and after a little picket skirmishing Gen. Gordon with

The following are the resolutions adopted at the State Convention on the 24th:

Whereas, a call has been issued by the National Union Committee for the assembling of a National Union Convention at Baltimore on the 7th day of June next for the purpose of putting in nomination candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and

Whereas, An area of country in extent exceeding any of the New England States is now within the military lines of the forces of the United States, and within which reside and have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, more than the number required by the Proclamation of the President for the formation of a State Government, and

Whereas, It is our purpose to at once take steps for the re-establishment of a State Government under which we can again enjoy the happiness and prosperity so long denied us,—therefore,

Resolved, That we, as loyal citizens of the State of Florida, are entitled to a voice in the councils of the Nation of which we are a part,—and that if it is held that our State has forfeited its sovereignty, as one of the States of the Union, that we, as citizens of the United States, are none the less entitled to a voice in the National Convention.

Resolved, That we are unswerving in our loyalty to the United States, subject to no condition and unchangeable in our determination—and that come we or come we our attachment to, and confidence in the Government shall remain unalterable.

Resolved, That we most earnestly solicit the protection of the Government of the United States in re-establishing our State Government and authority, not only over the Territory now within the Federal lines, but throughout the whole State.

On motion of Mr. C. L. Robinson the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have observed with peculiar satisfaction the able and impartial manner in which our present Chief Magistrate has discharged the high and

important trust of the Nation during the past years of his most stormy administration,—and now on the eve of a coming election, and in view of the great difficulties that still surround the Nation, we feel like the horse trader, struggling in the waters of the Mississippi,—that it is a "mighty poor time to swap horses."

The following resolution was unanimously concurred in, viz.:

Resolved, That Abraham Lincoln is the choice of this meeting, for the next President of the United States.

The Mary Benton has brought up to Jacksonville the rebel schooner Fannie, and 92 bales of cotton captured on her at Monsquito Inlet. The cotton had been hauled to Smyrna for shipment to Nassau, and the schooner was captured by Gen. Birney's mounted troops just as she was seeking an opportunity to run out.

The work on the new wharf on the East side of the St. John's, opposite Jacksonville, progresses rapidly.

On a recent expedition by Gen. Gordon up the St. John's, the steamer Charles Houghton was fired into by a battery of 12-pounders. She was hit three times but no damage done.

Vegetables and berries are plenty at St. Augustine, but, owing to their scarcity elsewhere, command great prices.

THE CAPTURE OF NEGROES ON MORGAN'S ISLAND.

Our Beaufort correspondent sends us the following account of the capture of negroes on Morgan's Island last week:

"On Friday night, May 19th, at about midnight, a party of rebels, numbering 16, came over from the main land in a row-boat, landed on Morgan's Island and captured twelve colored people, including men, women and children, from a plantation owned by Mr. Philbrick, and superintended by a Mr. Wells. They also took all the personal effects of the contrabands, pigs, chickens, wardrobes and trunks. Three other men were taken and set to guard some stolen pigs, when they made their escape, the rebels not daring to fire upon them, from the fact that the colored people had told them that there was a regiment of our soldiers on Edding's Point, which is right opposite, and on St. Helena Island. The rebels told the people left there that they would come over again in a few nights, and take them all off; but the gunboat John Adams went up there with a strong picket guard, and landed them at Edding's Point, to guard that and Morgan's Island, and should the rebels repeat their visit our boys will no doubt be most happy to see them."

NAVAL.

On the 25th the McDonough, Lieut. Com. Phythian, the Hale, Acting Master Mitchell, and the Coast Survey steamer Vixen, Captain Boutelle, all under command of Captain Stone, went on a reconnoissance up the South Edisto. The gunboats anchored opposite Gov. Aiken's place, and some howitzers, landed in boats, were taken by a party across Jehossa Island. The party were fired on by a rebel battery on the Charleston side of the river, but no damage was done. A battery on Williston Bluff also fired on the boats, without doing any harm. The objects of the expedition were attained, and the vessels returned to their stations.

Capt. W. H. Dennis, of the U. S. Coast Survey, left for Morris Island on Tuesday, with his schooner, the Caswell, to survey the inland passage between Light House and Stono Inlets. Capt. Dennis has displayed much skill and energy in his capacity of an officer in the Coast Survey in this Department.

The Coast Survey steamer Vixen, Capt. Boutelle, is now lying at this station.

LATER FROM THE NORTH.

Arrival of the Massachusetts.

NEW YORK DATES TO THE 23TH.

Another Advance by General Grant,

&c., &c., &c.

The naval dispatch boat Massachusetts, Capt. West, arrived here from New York yesterday morning. Her dates are to the 28th. We copy Secretary Stanton's latest dispatches, and condense other news from various quarters. The news looks very cheering, but it is evident the enemy are making a desperate fight, and that Gen. Grant's gradual advances are costing great sacrifices of life.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, May 25—9 P. M.—To Major General Dix:—The latest date from Gen. Grant's headquarters received by this Department is dated at Mount Carmel church, one P. M. yesterday. The despatch says everything is going on well. Warren has four hundred prisoners, Hancock some three hundred and Wright has picked up some. The whole number resulting from yesterday's operations will not fall short of a thousand. Warren's loss is not over three hundred killed and wounded. The prisoners captured are in a great part North Carolinians, are much discouraged, and say that Lee has deceived them. The pursuit is delayed by the great fatigue of the men, still Hancock and Warren will reach the South Anna by night-fall. Gen. Butler, in a despatch dated at headquarters in the field, at seven o'clock this morning, reports that "Major Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, lately promoted, made, with cavalry, infantry and artillery, an attack upon my post, at Wilson's wharf, north side of James river, below Fort Powhatan, garrisoned by two regiments, all negro troops, Brigadier General Witt commanding, and was handsomely repulsed. Before the attack Lee sent a flag, stating that he had force enough to take the place, demanded its surrender, and in that case the garrison should be turned over to the authorities of Richmond as prisoners of war; but if this proposition was rejected he would not be answerable for the consequences when he took the place." Gen. Wild replied:—"We will try that." Reinforcements were at once sent, but the fight was over before their arrival. Our loss is not yet reported. No other reports of military operations have been received by the Department since my telegram of half-past nine last evening.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Sec'y of War.

WASHINGTON, May 26, 1864.—Major General Dix:—Dispatches from General Grant, received this morning, inform the Department that the rebel army still hold a strong position between the North and South Anna rivers, where their forces appear to be concentrated. It will probably require two or three days to develop his operations, which are not now proper subjects for publication. The Ninth Corps has been incorporated with the Army of the Potomac. No dispatches have been received from any other field of operations.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Sec'y of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, May 27—10 P. M. To Maj.-Gen. Dix—A dispatch from Maj.-Gen. Banks, dated May 21st, on the Mississippi river, was received to-day. It details the brilliant engineering achievement of Col. Bailey, in constructing a dam across the falls of Red river for the relief of the gunboat fleet, the particulars of which have already been made public.

The army, in moving from Alexandria to the Mississippi, had two engagements with the enemy—one at Mausana and one at Yellow Bayou. In both the rebels were beaten. Gen. Banks states that "no prisoners, guns, wagons, or other material of the army, have been captured by the enemy, except that abandoned by him in the unexpected engagement at Sabine Cross Roads, on the morning of

the 8th of April; that with the exception of the loss there sustained, the material of the army is complete."

A dispatch has been received from Gen. Butler, but no mention is made of any conflict since the defeat of Fitzhugh Lee at Wilson's Wharf by the colored brigade of Gen. Wild.

No intelligence has been received since my last telegram from Gen. Grant or Gen. Sherman. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, May 29, 1864—11 P. M.—Parties who came up on the Arago yesterday evening say that one of our gunboats was lying off Acquia Creek, engaged in burning such buildings as would afford shelter to the rebel guerrillas. The Arago landed a force of three hundred cavalrymen at Boyd's Hole, the terminus of the military telegraph. The cavalry was landed there for the purpose of protecting the line from the depredations of rebel guerrillas. Fredericksburg has not yet been evacuated. All the Government property has been removed.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, May 27, 1864.—A special dispatch to The Bulletin says, according to an extra of the Washington Republican, issued at 4 o'clock, Lee was in line of battle this morning on the south bank of the North Anna, and that a battle was probable to-day.

CHICAGO, Friday, May 27, 1864.—The Journal's Nashville correspondent states that Gen. Sherman's entire army resumed its march from Kinston, Ga., on Tuesday. It flanked Joe Johnston's position at Altoona on the Etowah river.

[From the Tribune of the 23th.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Wednesday, May 25—11 A. M.—But little fighting occurred yesterday. Heavy skirmishing and a moderate artillery fire were kept up during the day on our left, but nothing important transpired on Warren's front.

Yesterday morning, the 2d Corps, on the extreme left of our position, crossing the river, assaulted and carried, without any considerable opposition, several formidable lines of work, and this morning are a mile south of the stream. Birney's division, which, on the night previous, carried the rebel rifle-pits on the north side of the river, led the crossing, capturing about 50 of the enemy's riflemen. On the right, opposite Duck's Mills Ford, Warren advanced in the morning, cutting the Virginia Central Railroad, and establishing himself in a position at Noel's Station.

Our total loss in the affairs of yesterday does not exceed 125 killed, wounded and missing. A large number of the enemy's stragglers were captured by the 5th Corps on its advance, who report Lee's army unusually despondent and astounded at the skill and celerity of Grant's movements.

General Headquarters were removed from the vicinity of the Chesterfield Tavern yesterday, and are now on the south bank of the North Anna. Everything, with the exception of picket firing—heaviest on Burnside's front—is quiet this morning. Movements on the part of Grant are occurring, however, which may culminate in a sanguinary battle at any hour.

The rebel line forms two sides of a triangle, its apex or salient point being opposite Ox Ford, where Burnside crossed during last night. From the apex of the rebel line its right limb extends in a north-easterly direction, crossing the Fredericksburg Railroad at an angle of 45 degrees, and covering the Junction. Its left wing extends in a south-westerly direction, cutting the Central Railroad and facing north-westward.

This morning, the 5th, supported by the 6th Corps, is moving on the enemy's left for the purpose of developing his strength and intentions. As yet, no results of the maneuver have come in.

Hancock confronts the enemy's right wing on our left, and extends his line parallel with that of the enemy across the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad. Burnside's line is in position opposite the apex of the enemy's works, and faces southward.

The enemy's works opposite Hancock