

Important Correspondence.

Retaliation for the Placing of Federal Officers under Fire in Charleston.

We last week published a list of the Federal officers placed under the fire of our guns, in Charleston, by order of Gen. Sam Jones. The following correspondence was at that time withheld, but as it has now been published at the North, by permission of the Secretary of War, we give it this week.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA AND FLORIDA, CHARLESTON, S. C., JUNE 13, 1864.

General: Five Generals and forty-five Field Officers of the U. S. Army, all of them prisoners of war, have been sent to this city for safe keeping. They have been turned over to Brig.-Gen. Ripley, Commanding the 1st Military District of this Department, who will see that they are provided with commodious quarters in a part of the city occupied by non-combatants, the majority of whom are women and children.

Very respectfully,
Your obt' serv't,
(Signed) SAM JONES,
Major-Gen. Comm'd'g.

Major-General J. G. Foster, Commanding U. S. Forces on Coast of So. Ca., C. S. Headquarters, Dept. of the South, Hilton Head, S. C., June 21, 1864.

Official Copy: THOMAS J. ROBINSON, 1st Lt. 21st U. S. C. T., Act. Ass't Adjt. Gen'l.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, HILTON HEAD, S. C., JUNE 16, 1864.

Major-General Sam. Jones, Commanding Confederate Forces, Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

General: I have to acknowledge the receipt this day of your communication of the 13th inst, informing me that five Generals and forty-five Field Officers of the United States Army, prisoners of war, have been sent to Charleston for safe keeping; that they have been turned over to you by Brig.-Gen. Ripley, with instructions to see that they are provided with quarters in a part of the city occupied by non-combatants, the majority of which latter, you state, are women and children.

Many months since Major-General Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. A., notified General Beauregard, then commanding at Charleston, that the city would be bombarded. This notice was given that the non-combatant population of Charleston might be removed, and thus women and children spared from harm.

I must, however, protest against your action in thus placing defenceless prisoners of war in a position exposed to constant bombardment. It is an indefensible act of cruelty, and can be designed only to prevent the continuance of our fire upon Charleston. That city is a depot for military supplies. It contains, not merely arsenals, but foundries and factories for the manufacture of munitions of war.

I have forwarded your communication to the President, with the request that he will place in my custody an equal number of prisoners of the like grades, to be kept by me in positions exposed to the fire of your guns so long as you continue the course stated in your communication.

Very respectfully,
Your obt' serv't,
(Signed) J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General Commanding.

Official Copy: THOMAS J. ROBINSON, 1st Lt. 21st U. S. C. T., A. A. G., Hdq'rs Dept. South.

THE NORTHERN NEWS.—On the first page will be found the official dispatches from the papers brought by the Fulton.

NAVAL MATTERS.

The line-of-battle ship New Hampshire reported off Charleston on Monday. The steamer James Adger arrived here from Philadelphia on Tuesday morning, but her dates were not so late as those by the Fulton.

The following are recent announcements in the Army and Navy Journal of changes in the South Atlantic Squadron: Detached—Acting Assistant Paymaster George F. Barker, from the Catskill, and ordered North; Acting Assistant Surg. Dwight J. Harris, from the North Carolina, and ordered to take passage in the Massachusetts to Charleston, S. C., for duty in the South Atlantic Squadron; Acting Assistant Paymaster John W. Hamilton, from the Catskill and waiting orders; Acting Master Frederick F. Baur, from the South Carolina and waiting orders; Acting Master's Mate E. A. Butler, from the South Atlantic Squadron, and waiting orders; Acting Master's Mate William W. Gregg, from the Iroquois, and ordered to the South Atlantic Squadron.

Ordered—Acting Assistant Surgeon W. W. Howard, to take passage in the Massachusetts for duty in the South Atlantic Squadron; Acting Assistant Paymaster H. P. Tuttle, to take passage in the Massachusetts for duty in the Catskill; Acting Assistant Surgeon Benjamin Marshall, to the South Atlantic Squadron.

Confirmed—Acting Master's Mate William Price, and ordered on board the John Adams.

The Flambeau arrived off Charleston from New York on the 21st.

The monitor Nahant, Lieutenant Commander Miller, arrived off Charleston from Port Royal on the same night, towed by the Winona, late from Ossibaw. Lieut. Alexander Slidell McKenzie, of the Winona, is to be relieved by Captain Stone, formerly of the Chippewa.

The Pawnee, Captain Balch, and the Norwich, arrived off Charleston from the St. John's, on Sunday week. The Sonoma arrived at Charleston on the 22d. The Augusta has left for Wilmington.

The Saratoga arrived off Charleston on Monday week.

A short time since it was discovered that the enemy had a fatigue party constructing works near Moultrie. A boat party went up and opened a very accurate fire on them from howitzers, and they were induced to desist.

Lieut. Com. Gibson, of the Lehigh, has been relieved by Lieut. Com. Johnson, late of the Nipsic.

The resignation of Paymaster Cowley, of the Lehigh, has been accepted. He is succeeded by Paymaster W. F. A. Torbert, late of the staff of Maj.-Gen. French.

Paymaster Barker of the Catskill has been relieved by Paymaster Tuttle.

Edward Carney of the Nipsic, and Edward F. Mansfield, of the Cimmarron, have been sentenced each to three years imprisonment with hard labor, for stealing and other offences.

Mr. B. S. Osbon, Naval Correspondent of the New York Herald, is preparing a "Naval History of the Rebellion," to be published shortly by D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway, New York city. The work will be published in the best possible manner, and will be illustrated by plans, charts and sketches of the prominent events in our naval history. The illustrated portion of the work will be furnished by artists who have been eye witnesses to many of the brilliant achievements of the navy. Admiral Farragut, in a letter to Mr. Osbon, dated Sept. 7, 1863, says: "I can testify you have had very good opportunity of knowing all about my fleet, and so far as I have seen you have always given the most satisfactory account of it, and you have my best wishes for your success in any such undertaking, and I will aid you in any special part that may be wanting at any time—if I have it." Mr. Osbon is well known in the South Atlantic Squadron, and throughout the navy, as a talented correspondent, and his many friends here wish him all success in his useful enterprise.

PORT ROYAL RESTAURANT.—Mr. D. J. HICKINS has recently become the proprietor of the Port Royal Restaurant, formerly kept by Mrs. Margaret Morgan. A few days since some members of the press and others tested the quality of his

fare, by invitation, and found it to be of the first order. He has a capable corps of attendants, the best of facilities for supplying his tables, and the enterprise to make his saloon a successful one.

LATER FROM THE NORTH.

New York Dates to the 25th.

By the arrival of the steamer America yesterday (Wednesday) we have New York dates to the 25th, two days' later than those by the Fulton. We are indebted to General Hatch for the use of New York Herald's of the 24th and 25th.

[From the New York Herald of June 24.] Dispatches from headquarters, at five o'clock on Tuesday morning, state that on the day previous artillery firing on the right and picket skirmishing was going on at various points along the line, resulting in the wounding of a few men, but causing no change in the position. A battery stationed on an elevated piece of ground in front of Petersburg kept annoying one of our batteries on the left for some time, when it opened in return, one of the shells exploding in the midst of the men at the rebel guns, and causing a cessation of firing on their part.

Our dispatches from Fortress Monroe to the 22d describe the attack of the rebels, under Fitzhugh Lee and Hampton, at the White House. The charge of the enemy was driven back by the fire of the gunboat Commodore Morris and three others. The rebels attempted to intercept Gen. Sheridan, but failed, as Sheridan with all his force arrived safely at White House.

The President and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fox returned to Washington yesterday after their visit to City Point.

[From the New York Herald of June 25.] The Second Army Corps had a fight with the enemy on Tuesday, in which the rebels for a time got the advantage, and captured four guns, which were afterwards retaken.

General R. S. Foster has gone on an expedition up the James River, under the protection of the gunboats and iron-clads, which, it is reasonably expected, will make its mark in the advance on Richmond. On the 22d the enemy shelled our gunboats, but their batteries were soon silenced.

The rebels have accounts of General Hunter's attack upon Lynchburg, which claim a defeat of the Union troops and the capture of a large portion of General Hunter's forces. Skirmishing and fighting on Friday and Saturday are reported, and a general engagement was looked for on Sunday.

By the arrival of the steership Columbia from New Orleans we learn that the rebel General Kirby Smith was reported to be crossing the Red river with his forces.

PALMETTO HOOK AND LADDER CO NO. 1.

A Hook and Ladder Company with the above name has just been formed here. It is composed mostly of gentlemen engaged in permanent business at Hilton Head, or holding positions under the government, and it is designed to confine its membership to such persons as will give character to it, and interest themselves in making it an efficient, creditable organization. A new truck has been ordered in New York by Quartermaster General Meigs, for this town, and it is to be turned over to this company as soon as it arrives. General Foster and General Hatch both approve of the formation of the company, and amply promise assistance in attaining its objects and carrying out its plans. It is proposed to erect a neat and convenient truck house, and the merchants are subscribing for the lumber. The officers are as follows:—Foreman, Mr. S. S. Roome, Chief Clerk to Captain John H. Moore, Chief Quartermaster; Assistant Foreman, Mr. L. D. Cunningham, Chief Clerk to Capt. Hayes; Secretary, Mr. Geo. W. Crane, also of Captain Moore's office; Treasurer, Mr. Wm. Elmdorf, of Adams Express. The company have adopted the motto of the State, "Ever Ready with our Lives and Property." Mr. Roome was formerly fore-

man of the efficient Hose Co. at Beaufort, and all the officers are right men in the right place. In a town like this, composed exclusively of wooden buildings, a Hook and Ladder Company would be almost indispensable in case of an extensive fire, and we hope this one will receive the encouragement which is necessary to efficiency.

LATE REBEL NEWS.

We are indebted to Maj.-Gen. Foster for the use of rebel papers to the 25th. We make the following extracts from the Charleston Courier of that date:

MARIETTA, June 24.—The enemy in two and three lines of battle appeared in front of Hardee's corps yesterday. Our pickets fell back, causing them to follow, when our artillery opened a severe fire, driving them back to their breastworks in great confusion and with much loss. Our batteries upon Manassas Hill inflicted severe punishment upon them during the day. A deserter from Hooker's corps came into our lines this morning. He says their loss on the right for the past two days was eight hundred, including two Generals, whose names he did not remember.

NEAR MARIETTA, June 23.—Stevenson, supported by Stewart's and Hindman's divisions of Hood's corps, attacked the enemy's right at five o'clock yesterday (Wednesday) evening, at Manning's Mill, five miles West of Marietta, carrying two lines of the enemy's works, we holding the enemy's position and capturing sixty prisoners. Stevenson's charge was gallant and bloody, losing considerable. Hindman's and Stewart's loss slight. Colcock, commanding Brown's brigade, was mortally wounded; Lieut. Thomas Thompson killed. This morning our batteries are shelling from Keohesaw.

MARIETTA, June 23.—The details of the great fight on Wednesday afternoon are as follows: Hood's corps, held in reserve, was ordered at noon to the extreme left. When it got in position a battery of the enemy opened fire upon it. Considerable skirmishing ensued, when our line, under Hood, with Brown's brigade in advance, was ordered forward. It moved out with cheering and a furious battle ensued. We drove the enemy two miles and took possession of two lines of fortifications, captured twelve guns and a large number of prisoners. The loss upon both sides was frightful for the numbers engaged. Gleburne's division also engaged the enemy with success on the right. Gen. Pettus, of Mississippi, was killed. Colonels Walker and Stair, of Tennessee, are killed, and Colonel Clark, of Tennessee, mortally wounded.

YANKEE DEPREDEATIONS IN FLORIDA.—On the 15th, the Yankees visited Colonel Broward's residence, Cedarville, on Cedar Creek, a branch of the St. John's river—and put the destroying flame to every building. All of the furniture, as well as wines, preserves, jellies, cheese, butter, honey, syrup, sugar, and barrels of arrowroot stored away for hospital purposes, that they could not take off, were thrown into the creek. A few days before they committed these depredations, they visited the house and told Mrs. Broward that they regretted exceedingly that she had been singled out from among others, but they had been credibly informed that her husband was the leader of the rebellion in Florida, and that through his influence they had lost seven gunboats on the St. John's river; and as they had been baffled in every scheme to get him, they were compelled to execute their order, and that was, if they did not succeed, to destroy all his property, which would have been done long before, but the delay was a plan devised to entrap him. Colonel B. was saved three times by his faithful negroes.

THE NEWS.—Contrary to our expectations, we received nothing from Petersburg or Richmond Friday. A report, said to have been brought by passengers on the evening trains, was in circulation that the enemy had made another attack on our fortifications around Petersburg, and were disastrously repulsed with heavy loss and fifteen hundred taken prisoners.

SECRETARY MEMMINGER'S SUCCESSOR.—It is said that Mr. Furman, President of one of the Charleston Banks, has been appointed Secretary of the Treasury vice Memminger, resigned.