

PORT ROYAL, THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1864.

ARRIVAL OF DESERTERS FROM SAVANNAH.

Several deserters have recently come in from Savannah, and their reports agree pretty well as to the condition of things there.

A Lieutenant in the Georgia militia who owns property in Savannah, reports that every male inhabitant of the State between the ages of 17 and 50 is in the Confederate service, and those between sixteen and seventeen, and between fifty and fifty five in the State militia. He says there are from fifteen to twenty-five hundred troops about Savannah. Besides troops, and women and children there is scarcely any one in the city. He was two weeks, with his command, under Gen. Johnson, having taken the oath for the defence of the State against invasion.

Other deserters and refugees report that there is one ram at Savannah—the Savannah, and one floating battery—the Georgia; another, lately landed, is not fit for duty; Col. Anderson is in command of the defences of Savannah; vigorous measures are in force to prevent desertion; preparations are being made to evacuate Atlanta by the removal of machinery, &c., to Macon and Augusta; the crops are good, especially corn; there is a line of fortifications all round Savannah, at a distance of two miles, independent of the forts; soldiers and citizens are tired of the war; there are 2,000 bales of cotton at Georgetown; the greater portion of the people are reported anxious for Federal deliverance.

Another deserter, recently arrived, announced the capture of Atlanta and the death of Gen. Grant. The latter report is already proved foundationless.

ARRIVAL OF ESCAPED UNION PRISONERS.

Narrative of their Adventures in the Confederacy.

The following is the statement of two soldiers of Hancock's Corps, who were taken prisoners at Petersburg, and recently succeeded in making their way to the fleet of Charleston:

"We were captured at Petersburg on the 17th of June, and were taken to Dawsville, on the way to Georgia. We escaped from the cars near Columbus, and took a course for the coast. We travelled all night, and hid away during the day, obtaining food from the negroes.

"The negro families are suffering very much. They were all glad to see us, would divide their last mouthful with us, watched for us and gave timely notice of danger.

"We came down the Cooper River, 40 miles, in a small boat, and landed in a little creek above Hay Island just at daylight on the 7th inst. We moored our boat on an old pier, climbed upon the pier and went to sleep. When we awoke our boat was gone.

"Two iron-clads came in from picket duty shortly after daylight. Three other iron-clads are building, but we could not see how nearly they were completed, but they had no plating on them. We passed one wooden gunboat in the night. At 11 o'clock we saw a boat coming to the pier, when we waded through the mud to the woods. We there found negroes who took care of us, and at night gave us a little dug-out, and piloted us down

Horse Creek. We then started for Morris Island, but the current carried us out to sea, and we got to the fleet. The Daffodil took us on board at 2 A. M.

"A negro woman said there had been troops brought back to Charleston.

"The negroes get but very little to eat.

"We stopped at one house on the Orangeburg Road, where were four women whose husbands are in the rebel army. They were very destitute, and say that the people of the South are sick and tired of the war. The people themselves are willing to give up niggers and everything if the war will only stop. We passed ourselves off as Confederate soldiers.

"The railroads are very poor, and the trains were running only about 10 miles per hour. The running gear and tracks are very much worn. Schooners run up the Cooper River, manned entirely by negroes.

"Some of the prisoners on the car with us were from Richmond, and being removed South. They looked very badly.

"We talked with many men in the army, and all said they were sick of the war and would be glad to take the oath of allegiance."

LATE NORTHERN NEWS.

New York Dates to the 23d.

[From the New York Times, July 19.]  
The news from Gen. Sherman's army, which has been somewhat contradictory for several days past, is cleared up this morning by the advices from rebel sources, which, although they do not put him in possession of Atlanta, as has been reported via Nashville, render it certain that his army is south of the Chattahoochee, that Johnston is still falling back, and that the rebels have in fact given up all hope of saving the city from falling into Sherman's hands. Both the Richmond and Atlanta papers concede this.

Richmond papers of the 15th, after copying very full accounts of the late raid from Washington papers, go into ecstasies over the intelligence, and hopefully conclude that Washington or Baltimore is, ere this, in rebel hands, and then proceeded with great gusto to give descriptions of Washington and the leading public buildings.

Latest intelligence has been received in reference to the reported rebel raid into Kentucky. The force was variously estimated at from five to fifteen thousand, and was said to have entered Kentucky about the 15th inst., via Pound Gap, but Gen. Burbridge, commanding the local forces of that State, entirely discredits the report.

Advices to the 30th ult., from Morganza, a strongly fortified position on the west bank of the Mississippi, about midway between Port Hudson and the Red River, state that Gen. Canby was very active in perfecting arrangements for military operations in that vicinity. Gen. Ullman, with a large force of colored troops, had arrived at Morganza, which is to be the base of future operations against the rebel army on the Atchafalaya River.

By the arrival at Father Point of the steamship Damascus from Liverpool, we have advices from that port to the 7th inst. Rumors unfavorable to Gen. Grant were prevalent in London, and caused a slight improvement in the Confederate loan. The Kearsarge was to leave Cherbourg on the 5th, to cruise in the channel for rebel privateers. There is a report that the Yeddo, lately built at Bordeaux will be completed at Amsterdam and commanded by Semmes, and a contrary statement to the effect that this vessel belongs to the Prussian and not to the Confederate navy. It is reported that pacific negotiations were going on between Denmark and Prussia, and that, pending these, no attack would be made. There is no other news of importance in regard to the Danish war.

[From the New York Times of July 15.]  
There are but a few items of news from Gen. Grant's army of a late date, and these point to

the re-opening of the conflict. At the date of the report heavy skirmishing was going on in front of the Ninth Army Corps, and an early assault was expected along the whole line.  
The Rebel Passes the River.—The rebels, if we may judge by the late Richmond papers in our possession, seem to have been about as much astonished at the rail when they heard of it as the people of the North were when it occurred. They are, of course, rather hilarious over it, and over the panic it caused in the border. But they evidently knew little or nothing about it before hand, which, we think, is a proof that the force engaged in it was not very enormous, and perhaps, also, that the whole thing was undertaken on the spur of the moment, when Ewell found that Gen. Hunter had retired from Lynchburg. Of course, both Gens. Lee and Ewell would like to take Washington, even though they could have held it but a day; but we do not believe the invading party left Richmond with any such prospect.

[From the Richmond Whig.]  
The situation in Georgia is not so favorable as we could wish. Gen. Johnston is either unable to make up his mind to fight or unwilling to risk a general engagement which shall not certainly result in a victory more decisive than Lee, Beauregard or any other Confederate General has achieved. The Atlanta papers seem to be satisfied that Gen. Johnston will give up that important city without a struggle.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, July 13.]  
GEN. WINSLOW'S ESCAPE.—Capt. Semmes, says that Winslow had covered his ship with chain armor, and then nailed planks over it, to give it the appearance of a wooden ship, while, in fact, it was an iron-clad. After learning this, we no longer wondered at the instantaneous promotion of Winslow. It was meet and proper, and altogether in keeping, that an infamous Government should reward an infamous renegade for perpetrating the most infamous fraud that was ever practiced upon the high seas. A reward from Lincoln would be a disgrace to any man who was not already beyond disgrace. Had such a foul advantage been taken over one knight by another in the days of chivalry, the perpetrator would have had his spurs hacked off by the common hangman, his arms reversed, his name stricken from the roll of honor, and his carcass stretched by the neck between sun and earth, until the birds of the air had torn his eyes from his sockets. What must be the sense of honor of that Government which can encourage such damning infamy in its officers?

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:  
A PROCLAMATION.

WASHINGTON, July 18, 1864.—Whereas, by the Act approved July 3, 1864, entitled "An Act further to regulate and provide for the enrolling and calling out the National forces, and for other purposes," it is provided that the President of the United States may, at his discretion, at any time hereafter, call for any number of men as volunteers, for the respective terms of one, two, and three years for military service, and "that, in case the quota or any part thereof of any town, township, ward of a city, precinct or election district, or of a county, not so subdivided, shall not be filled within the space of fifty days after such call, then the President shall immediately order a draft for one year to fill such quota, or any part thereof which may be unfilled.

And whereas the new enrollment heretofore ordered is so far completed as that the aforementioned act of Congress may now be put in operation for recruiting and keeping up the strength of the armies in the field, for garrisons and such military operations as may be required for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion and restoring the authority of the United States Government in the insurgent States.

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, do issue this my call for five hundred thousand volunteers for the military service, provided, nevertheless, that all credits which may be established under section eight of the aforesaid act on account of persons who have entered the naval service during the present rebellion, and by credits for men furnished to the military service in excess of calls heretofore made for volunteers, will be accepted under this call for one, two, or three years, as they may elect, and will be entitled to the bounty provided by law for the period of service for which they enlist.

And I hereby proclaim, order and direct, that immediately after the fifth day of September, 1864, being fifty days from the date of this call, a draft for troops, to serve for one year, shall be held in every town, township, ward of a city, precinct, election district, or a county not so subdivided, to fill the quota which shall be assigned to it under this call, or any part thereof, which may be unfilled by volunteers on the said fifth day of September, 1864.

Done at the City of Washington, the 18th day of July, in the year of Our Lord 1864, and of the Independence of the United States the 8th. [L. S.] In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.  
By the President,  
WM. H. SEWARD, Secy of State.

New York papers of the 23d have arrived here by the Harvest Moon, but the contain no later news of importance, except that the Federal defeat at Atlanta turns out to be a victory, and that Sherman is reported in Atlanta.

NEW OFFICERS.—Lt. J. H. McCoy, of the 104th Penna. Vols., has been appointed Assistant Provost Marshal General of the Department.

Lt. Gregory, of the 144th N. Y. Vols., has been ordered to relieve Lt. H. E. Bebee, 9th U. S. C. T., as Post Quartermaster.

Lt. Edwin Fretz, 104th Penna. Vols., relieves Lt. L. A. Huntly, 9th U. S. C. T., as Boarding Officer, during the absence of the latter at the North.

Lieut. Schaffler, 104th Penna. Vols., has been appointed Assistant District Provost Marshal, vice Lieut. Phelps, 9th U. S. C. T., who has returned to his regiment.

LATE REBEL NEWS.

CHARLESTON DATES TO THE 25TH.

We are indebted to Maj. Gen. Foster for the use of rebel papers to the 25th. From the Charleston Courier of the 25th we extract the following dispatches, which look very much like the smoothing over of a rebel defeat:

ATLANTA, July 22.—About two o'clock this afternoon the enemy attacked our left under Stewart, and were received by a galling fire from both artillery and infantry which caused them to falter, when the order was given to charge. Our troops left their breastworks and charged with great gallantry, driving the enemy from two lines of their intrenchments, inflicting inflicting immense slaughter, capturing a large number of prisoners and twenty-two pieces of artillery.

Among the Yankees killed are Gen. McPherson, shot through the head; Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith and Yankee Gen. Hood. Gen. Graham lost a leg.—Gen. Hardee, having passed round the enemy's flank, is now in their rear, doing great execution. The fighting still continues.

ATLANTA, July 23.—Gen. Walker last evening attacked the enemy's left in the neighborhood of Decatur and drove him back, capturing five hundred wagons loaded with supplies and a large number of prisoners. He is still pursuing.—There was very little fighting after dark yesterday. Two thousand prisoners, including seventy-five commissioned officers, twenty-five pieces of artillery and seven stand of colors have been brought in. The losses on either side are not yet known. Ours was severe in officers.—Comparative quiet reigns this morning. Some little skirmishing is going on on our left.

RICHMOND, July 23.—The following official dispatch was received at the War Department at noon to-day:

HEADQUARTERS, ATLANTA, July 22, 10 P. M.—To the Secretary of War:—This army shifted its position fronting on Peach Tree Creek last night, and Stewart and Cheatham's corps formed in line of battle around the city. Hardee's corps made a night march and attacked the enemy's extreme left to-day, about one o'clock. He drove him from his works, capturing sixteen pieces of artillery and five stand of colors. Cheatham attacked the enemy, capturing six pieces of artillery. During the engagement we captured about two thousand prisoners.—Wheeler's cavalry routed the enemy in the neighborhood of Decatur, capturing his camps.

Our loss is not yet fully ascertained. Major-General Walker was killed, and Brigadier-Generals Smith, Gist, and Mercer were wounded. Prisoners report McPherson killed. Our troops fought with great gallantry.  
(Signed) J. B. Hood, General.

ARRIVAL OF SANITARY GOODS FOR THE NEW YORK SOLDIERS.—A short time since Mr. J. D. Rightmyer, Military Agent of the State of New York, arrived here with as large a quantity of vegetables as transportation could be procured for. The shipment included 50 barrels of onions, 50 barrels potatoes, 20 barrels turnips, 3 hogsheads and 7 casks of sour kroust, and 22 boxes of beets. Every aid was afforded him here, by Medical Director Clymer, and other medical authorities, in the distribution of the articles in fair proportion, among all the New York regiments in the Department. The distribution in this District was made by the aid of Surgeon Dalrymple and at Morris and Folly Islands by Mr. Rightmyer in person. These goods were from the New York State Soldiers' Depot, 50 & 52 Howard street.—soldier's entrance, 16 Mercer street. The institution is un-