

VOLUME X.—NUMBER 1443.

THE VERY LATEST. MIDNIGHT DISPATCHES. ON THE RHINE.

THE FRENCH ACCOUNT OF THE ENGAGEMENT AT WEISSENBURG.

PRUSSIA CAPTURES EIGHT HUNDRED PRISONERS AND ONE CANNON.

ENGLAND MAKES THE INVASION OF BELGIUM A CASUS BELLI.

A FRENCH MAN-OF-WAR CAPTURES A GERMAN MAN-OF-WAR.

THE FRENCH ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF WEISSENBURG.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE ENGAGEMENT AT WEISSENBURG:

At 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, three regiments of Donau's division and brigade of light cavalry were attacked at Weissenburg by very considerable forces of the enemy, which had been concealed in the woods skirting the Louter River.

Our troops resisted the attacks of the enemy for several hours and then retired to the summit of the Pigeoniere, an eminence which commands the line of railroad to Bitch.

General Douay was killed. One piece of artillery, six horses being killed and the carriage broken, fell into the hands of the Prussians.

Marshal McMahon is concentrating his forces at this (Weissenburg) point.

Arrival of the French Prisoners of War.

FRANKFORT, August 5.—Noon. The train has just arrived here, bringing five hundred French prisoners from Weissenburg. They will be sent to Northern Prussia. The total number of prisoners taken by the Prussians in the fight was eight hundred, including eight officers.

Saarlouis not Captured.

LOSDON, August 5.—The reported capture of Saarlouis by the French, after a brilliant engagement, proves to be wholly unfounded, and is contradicted by later dispatches, which say that there has been no fighting at that point.

The French Capture a German Schooner.

BREAST, August 5.—The North-German three-masted schooner Laura was captured by a French man-of-war, and brought to this port to-day.

The Status of Belgium.

LOSDON, August 5.—It is understood that England has determined to make the invasion of Belgium by France a casus belli. As soon as her territory is invaded, the King of the Belgians will call for assistance upon the powers who have guaranteed her neutrality, and England will respond.

The Roman Question.

LOSDON, August 5.—The strenuous efforts made by the Count of Rome to bring the influence of the Empress to bear effectively against the withdrawal of the French troops have failed, and to-day the last detachment leaves Civita Vecchia.

Negotiations at Florence for the preservation of the neutrality of the Pontifical territory have been successful.

It is reported that England will send two frigates to the Tiber (?) to protect the Pope.

Advices from Rome represent that the Jesuits are endeavoring to induce the Pope to remove to Malta.

Collisions between the German and French soldiers in the Papal service are of daily occurrence.

The war news is narrowly watched.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.

CITY OF MEXICO, July 30.—The oscillation of an earthquake was felt at Oaxaca on July 28.

Public opinion in Mexico is in favor of Prussia.

The Governor of Campeche has taken up arms against the Federal Government and Campeche is declared in a state of siege.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

HAVANA, August 5.—The cholera, which broke out recently, has considerably increased. There has been as many as thirty deaths a day.

The steamer Lillan has been bought at Nassau, and has just arrived at Nuevitas.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LOSDON, August 5.—Consols 89 1/2. Bonds 83 1/2. Stocks quiet. Sugar dull. Tallow declining at 44 1/2. Turpentine quiet.

New York, August 6.—Money easy. Exchange very dull. Gold weak at opening and declined to 21; afterwards rallied to 21 1/2; during afternoon was quiet and closed steady, with not much doing at 21 1/2. Government's opened quiet at 104 1/2; during afternoon was quiet and steady, and closed steady and very dull; sixes 81; consols 133 1/2; sixty-two 11 1/2; fours 10 1/2; fives 10 1/2; new 9 1/2; seven 9 1/2; sixty-eight 9 1/2; forty 7 1/2. Southern securities opened dull and continued so throughout the afternoon, closing quiet and unchanged.

The XIX Century fallen into the Slough of Bancroft.—One Dr. Hicks, the present editor, and a carpet-bagger, has taken over the XIX Century bodily into the Radical camp. The number for August shows off all disses and comes out boldly in favor of Scott for Governor. Referring to the Conservative party, he says: "We despise it, and call upon our people to crush it, as it deserves."

We now call upon the Southern people to "crush" the XIX Century, a journal which they have fostered, and which is doing more to injure the South than any other paper in the country. It is a disgrace to the South, and it is a disgrace to the South to have such a paper in its midst. It is a disgrace to the South to have such a paper in its midst. It is a disgrace to the South to have such a paper in its midst.

The South Carolina Proseute Cases.—Many capitalists in the North will be interested in the decision of the South Carolina Supreme Court, made on Saturday, 1st, what are known as the proseute cases. It was held first, that the State is absolute owner of the land under navigable waters within its territorial limits, and within the ebb and flow of the tide; second, that the ownership of the soil of the State is not in trust for the whole people, but vests in the State as the public; third, that the right to dig minerals or phosphate from the soil under navigable waters of the State is not common to the whole of the people, but is a special privilege granted to the person who has discovered the mine, and who has taken out the patent thereon.

The pending cases were held to be in nature of trespass, and injunction was therefore granted.

Washington Cor. New York Times.

THE REFORM CANVASS.

SPARTANBURG WILL VOTE SOLID FOR REFORM.

Unparalleled Enthusiasm in the Up-County.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.) COLUMBIA, August 5.

At Spartanburg Courthouse, on Thursday, Judge Carpenter, General Butler and Colonel Simons spoke to a meeting of two thousand persons, white and colored.

The speaking created a profound impression. Spartanburg will give a solid vote for Reform next October.

The Union Times says: "Wherever they (the candidates) have spoken, they have drawn hundreds of converts to the Reform ranks and aroused an enthusiasm in the cause never before seen in this State."

The County Reform Convention met in Union on Monday, and nominated for senator Rev. A. A. James, and for representatives, Frederick G. Latham, Robert Macbeth and Alfred R. Aughty, colored.

The delegates to the Congressional Convention are: J. F. Gist, R. J. Gage, Wm. Munro and Robt. W. Shand. CONSPIRACY.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Militia Outrages—The Elections.

RALEIGH, August 5.—Turner, the editor of the Sentinel, was waylaid and arrested at Hillsboro in Orange County this morning, by Holden's militia. Orange County has not been declared to be in a state of insurrection, and no disturbance has occurred there.

The Republicans confidently expected 1000 majority in this city, and received only 750.

It is thought now that the two Conservative candidates for the House of Representatives have defeated the two colored Radicals, and that Harris, the negro candidate for Congress, has lost the county by a small majority.

RICHMOND, August 5.—A dispatch from Raleigh says that the Conservatives have carried the North Carolina Legislature; also, that Judge Brooks, of the United States Court, will issue a writ of habeas corpus for the Casswell prisoners.

The Conservatives have gained a congressional seat.

WILMINGTON, August 5.—The returns from Eastern and Central North Carolina, give the election of Conservative Congressmen in the 3d, 4th, 6th and 7th districts, with the 5th in doubt. The Conservative gains are large in every county heard from, and the chances are in their favor. Rowan, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Orange and Guilford go Conservative. In Alamance the Conservatives, intimidated by Holden's militia, did not vote, and the Radicals have a large majority. Franklin and Granville are close and undecided. Johnston and Chatham are expected to go Conservative.

The present indications are that the Conservatives have a handsome majority in the Legislature on joint ballot, thereby securing the election of a Democratic United States senator in the place of Abbott.

The congressional result is probably as follows: 1st district, Cobb, (Radical); 2d district, 41st Congress, Dixon, (Radical); 3d Congress, Thomas, (Radical); 3d, uncertain, with probabilities in favor of Waddell, (Democrat); 4th, for 41st Congress, Gilliam, (Democrat); 4th Congress, Royans, (Democrat); 5th uncertain; chances in favor of Scott, (Radical); 6th, Shober, (Democrat); 7th, Harper, (Democrat).

It is believed that Shipp, (Democrat) is elected attorney-general.

The returns already in show that the Conservatives gained twenty-five members of the Legislature, with more than half the counties yet to hear from. A gain of thirty-six members will give the Conservatives a majority on joint ballot. In the Raleigh Congressional District Dockery loses in every county heard from. In New Hanover he loses over one thousand on the former vote. That county certainly elects one Conservative senator and one Conservative representative.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, August 5.—A Cabinet meeting was held to-day, all the members being present excepting Fish and Boutwell, who were represented by their assistants. The Cabinet considered the appropriation bills, in connection with the opinion of Attorney-General Akerman, but were unable to provide for the defect in the law. The government, therefore, must await further legislation, although some branches of the civil service will materially suffer.

The President says that he will not call an extra session of Congress, unless the war in Europe so affects our interests as to make it necessary. And of this he has no apprehension at present.

The President did not learn, officially, until Wednesday that this government had been formally advised that France had declared war against Prussia. The President contemplates issuing a proclamation of neutrality in accordance with the existing neutrality laws, but it may not be ready for a week or more. The duty of American citizens will be clearly defined.

Mr. Frelinghuysen has not yet accepted the English mission. The unsettled condition of his business affairs delays a response.

The President returned to Long Branch to-night, and on Monday will go to St. Louis on private business, returning to Long Branch on Tuesday, August 10th.

A special order from the War Department extends General Sickles's leave of absence for one year, thus allowing him to continue to act as Minister to Spain.

THE VIRGINIA SPRINGS.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, August 5.—Mr. Davis left the Springs last evening, and is on his way to Europe.

Among the recent arrivals are Commodore Maury, General Gary, and ex-Secretary of War Conrad.

General R. E. Lee has not tendered his services to France. The tender of his services and their rejection by the French Government, as reported in the London News, was gratuitous and unfounded. General Lee has sheathed the sword forever.

A CONSERVATIVE VICTORY IN TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS, August 5.—Both parties claim the victory in the judicial elections.

NASHVILLE, August 5.—The Conservative candidate for the Supreme bench is undoubtedly elected.

THE EUROPEAN WAR.

A PRUSSIAN SUCCESS.

WEISSENBURG CARRIED BY STORM.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF SAARLOUIS BY THE FRENCH.

THE PRUSSIAN ON THE OFFENSIVE.

The Prussian Plans—Miscellaneous News.

LOSDON, August 5.—The Times says the plan of General Moltke and the Prussian commander-in-chief is changed from the defensive to the offensive. An advance into France is threatened. It is possible that Prince Frederick Charles will push forward and attack Nancy.

The fight at Saarbrücken, on Saturday last, lasted six hours, and on both sides 600 men were placed hors de combat. Judging from the French accounts, the war is already decided by the mitrailleuse.

The rumor, originating in France, that there had been a naval engagement at Cuxhaven, in which a Prussian war vessel was sunk, is false. There has been no naval engagement so far.

The French say that the needle gun recoils so badly that the marksmen are soon compelled to fire from the shoulder. The French also say that the Prussian cavalry carry old horse pistols, while the French have long range carbines.

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Reported Capture of Saarlouis.

PARIS, August 4.—Midnight. It is reported that Saarlouis was captured after a great battle.

[The principal strength of the Prussian force is said to have been concentrated on the well fortified line of defence extending in an irregular semi-circle from Treves to Landau; the strongly fortified City of Saarlouis constituting the centre, thus protecting the triangular section of country formed by the Rhine, Moselle and Saar Rivers. By this means the Rhine Provinces and Bavaria were expected to be closed against French invasion, while Baden and Wurtemberg are protected by the mountain ranges in the former, which Napoleon is not thought likely to attempt to cross, since the withdrawal of any considerable portion of his forces for so difficult and hazardous a flank movement would expose his frontiers to invasion.]

The Prussians Capture Weissenburg—A Brilliant, but Bloody Victory.

BERLIN, August 5.—A dispatch dated near Weissenburg, six o'clock, Thursday evening, says: We have won a brilliant but bloody victory. The left wing attacked. It consisted of the fifth and eleventh Prussian corps, and the second Bavarian. This force carried by assault, under the eyes of the Prince Royal, the fortress of Weissenburg and the heights between Weissenburg and Gelsburg.

Douay's division of Marshal McMahon's corps was splendidly defeated, being driven from its camp.

General Douay himself was killed. Five hundred prisoners were taken, none of whom are wounded. Many Turcos are among the captured.

General Kirschack is slightly wounded. The Royal Grenadiers and the Fifth Regiment of the Line suffered heavy loss.

LOSDON, August 5.—The Prussians captured one (not one hundred) cannon at Weissenburg. General Douay was left dead on the field.

[Weissenburg or Wissembourg is a French fortified town in the department of the Haut Rhin, on the Bavarian frontier, thirty-four miles N. E. of Strasburg. In addition to its fortifications, strong works called "The Lines of Wissembourg" extend from it along the river Louter to Louterberg, nine miles S. E.]

The Saarbrücken Affair.

The Prussians saved their engines, cars, &c., from Saarbrücken.

The correspondent of the London Times, for whose trustworthiness and neutrality the Times vouches, says the French at Saarbrücken captured no cannon. The French lost forty killed and sixty wounded. The French force engaged numbered 30,000; the Prussians 6,000. Artillery won the fight. There was little infantry and no cavalry employed.

The Capture of Saarlouis Unconfirmed.

PRUSSIAN HQ'S AT TREVES, August 5.—The rumored capture of Saarlouis is unconfirmed.

Rejoicing at Chalons.

PARIS, August 5.—There was a grand illumination by the Garde Mobile, at Chalons, over the capture of Saarbrücken. There had previously been slight signs of insubordination, which the favorable news from the front ended.

A Naval Battle near Cuxhaven—French Frigates and German Gunboats Engaged—One of the Latter Sunk.

LOSDON, August 2.—Important dispatches have been received from the Hague announcing that a desperate naval battle has been fought off the German coast, resulting in the loss of a German cruiser. On Wednesday last two French cruisers overtook some Prussian gunboats in the estuary of the Elbe, on the North-German coast, a few miles distant from Cuxhaven (a seaport village about fifty-eight miles north-west from Hamburg, on the west bank of the Elbe). The action was spirited, and resulted in the destruction of one of the Prussian gunboats, she being sunk by the shot of the enemy.

Reports from France.

PARIS, August 4.—It is thought that the religious element plays little or no part in the present war. The sentiment of the Catholic population in natural countries is adverse to Prussia, and by some fervid Catholics the advance of the French arms is regarded in the light of a crusade. The women of France are sending immense quantities of bedding and hospital furniture to the army. Among the chaplains in the French service are nine Protestants and three Israelite clergymen.

Evacuation of Rome.

The Montion says all arrangements for the evacuation of Rome have been terminated between France and Italy. The latter government will issue a declaration giving renewed force to the September convention. Affairs may now be considered as regulated to the satisfaction of all parties interested.

LOSDON, August 3.—A correspondent of the Daily News writes from Paris on Monday that the clerical party are making great efforts with the Empress to keep the French troops at Rome. Government papers, seeing the impossibility that

but these can only be discovered by coming into the city, and the Prussians have been attempting, not all of them without success. Two spies were captured here close to this hotel last night, and I am told that as many as eight or ten have been caught on the spot. We must allow for a few escaped who have returned to tell all that is to be told, but their story, if daily veracious, is not likely to encourage an attack. There is not anything here but "the old story" of a plan to hold the city by the way of men and artillery, and Strasburg is so strong a place that its inhabitants may be believed when they profess themselves perfectly comfortable no matter how large the Prussian force may be. The French soldiers on the bank indulged in much ironical "chaff" at the notion of the officers' complaint, being at the trouble to make plans, and expressed a regret that they could not more conveniently and effectually on this side. All intercourse between the two countries is suspended, except when a few emigrants from either camp, in a huddled and somewhat ignominious, with their luggage and household goods.

The railway bridge has been rendered impassable by the destruction of the bridge on the French side. A soldier told me that on the Baden side this arrangement could not be made, and so their share of the bridge was already made, to be blown up if necessary at a moment's notice. As an emblem of what war means to our state of civilization. It may seem, perhaps, childish to talk of the ruin inflicted on a few obscure villages in the face of the misery that is shortly to be suffered by the whole of Europe in consequence of this terrible war. But here in Strasburg I am naturally most impressed by what Strasburg does not think of this sudden interruption of intercourse between the two banks of the Rhine means starvation, or something very like it, to a host of harmless peasants who made a living by bringing provisions into the city. At every night the bells ring out a warning that in an hour the gates of the town are to be closed, and if after that time any untrusty loiterer wants to come in or go out, he must do so before the gates are closed. All access to the ramparts is also now strictly forbidden by day as well as by night, in consequence of spies having been detected upon them making plans. I have been severely told you, in the wildest state of excitement and delight.

Partant Pour La Frontiere.

(Meiz Correspondence London Times.) The train from Strasburg was filled to overflowing with what I at first took, from their raw and boyish appearance, to be conscripts, and, in fact, they were conscripts, but belonged to the reserve force. They were nearly all in blouses, and looked as if they had just been taken from their work in the fields, as I dare say many of them had. One young fellow-soldier, who was engaged by the press, was bitterly deploring the sudden seizure of some specially fine young fellows who had just been taken from him, and whose assistance he had been engaged to give by his parents. He admitted that they were themselves perfectly willing to go, and in the highest spirits at the prospect of being wanted to fight. On this point, indeed, there was not much room for doubt. The enthusiasm may be to a certain extent exaggerated, but as many good citizens think they cannot better show their patriotic devotion to "la patrie" than by taking every opportunity of making their arms and bayonets ready at the bottom it was thoroughly genuine, and our journey was a "perpetual ovation." The blouses did nothing but about anti-Prussian war cries and songs, and the German and French flags were flying at the station. We found that all the villagers in the neighborhood had turned out to welcome the force, and the cheering and roaring became positively terrific, the cries of "Vive la France" being especially loud. It was enough to make M. Bismarck himself tremble. Occasionally some one of the numerous trains passing, also full of troops, stopped where we did, and then the interior of the carriage was a scene of the most dangerous, and I half expected to have one of the trains pulled over with a crash upon the other, as the warriors clung together and tugged at each other's hands. The day was a grand one for the conductors, who were glory and a marshal's baton suddenly put an end to by getting his arm caught in the opposite train and wrenched off, as he was indulging in these dangerous greetings.

Strasbourg and the Camps.

(Correspondence London Times.) The garrison of Strasbourg seems to consist of about 6000 men, but there is a camp without the walls which hold 10,000 more. The original troops belonging to Strasbourg have been removed northwards, probably towards Metz or Philadelphia, and the German and French troops are now in the camp. It is a large plain where the artillery is being carried by mules and pack animals, and as such places are usually on the Continent, the Polygon. Nothing but tented d'abri are to be seen here.

Every French soldier carries a piece of canvas about five feet long and four broad, and when two or three of these pieces of canvas are joined together, they form a shelter; when six are built up they constitute a tent closed at both ends. The French soldier is thus, for his house, a portable and light structure, and is scarcely any with the troops assembled here; they are probably to find them elsewhere.

The tents are pitched in the South of the city, and although at Chalons I was often struck by the rapid manner in which tents were raised, here the men seem out of practice, and one party were more than fifteen minutes in raising a shelter. The cooking apparatus, which is a simple tripod, is made of a branch not six inches deep was made in the ground, on each side were laid a few stones or bricks, the kettles or cooking-pots placed over this, and the fuel put into the scorch. The cooking apparatus is a simple tripod, is made of a branch not six inches deep was made in the ground, on each side were laid a few stones or bricks, the kettles or cooking-pots placed over this, and the fuel put into the scorch. The cooking apparatus is a simple tripod, is made of a branch not six inches deep was made in the ground, on each side were laid a few stones or bricks, the kettles or cooking-pots placed over this, and the fuel put into the scorch.

Another Charge Against Prussia.

VIENNA, August 2.—The North Eastern Correspondence says Count Von Beust, the Austrian Premier, has proof positive that in 1866 Prussia offered to France the cession of Belgium in return for the support of France in a war against Austria.

English News by Way of Italy.

FLORENCE, August 2.—L'Opinion says that England, while maintaining a strict neutrality, refuses to make a joint engagement of the neutral powers for common action in favor of peace, when an opportunity may render such action advisable.

Calling Out the People.

BERLIN, August 2.—General Falkenstein has issued a proclamation to the inhabitants on the coast of the North and Baltic seas, calling upon them to arm themselves for defence against invasion.

The Foreign Mails.

A Glimpse of Matters on the Rhine.

(Strasbourg Correspondence London Times.) I have just returned from a drive to the river in the direction of Kehl, having gone chiefly to see what was going on at the bridge which connects the two countries, but not altogether without hope of enjoying that rare treat—doubly luxurious in this sultry heat—a swim with the current of the Rhine. However, as I approached the bridge, I was met by a guard of six or so of the oak, a French sentry politely, but firmly, requested me not to go any further, and I found that I must content myself with watching the water at the bridge, and looking out at the best of the bridge which connects the two countries, but not altogether without hope of enjoying that rare treat—doubly luxurious in this sultry heat—a swim with the current of the Rhine. 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