

THE WAR.

GENERAL PATTERSON'S COLUMN AGAIN ACROSS THE POTOMAC.

When Gen. Cadwallader, of Gen. Patterson's command, first reached the Potomac at Williamsport, on the 16th of June, he crossed the river into Virginia, but this advance was soon recalled from some reason as yet unexplained, being the most mysterious movement that has taken place. It was also a very disastrous one for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, as it permitted the secessionists to return and destroy an immense amount of property belonging to this great company, including thirty-eight locomotives, several hundred freight and passenger cars, and a number of costly bridges. We have now accounts of a second crossing, which took place between 3 and 7 o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, July 2, the troops fording the river.

General Patterson had arranged for the crossing to be made at two points—one at Williamsburg, and the other a few miles below. At the latter, the guides missed the ford, and the soldiers, after entering the water, were obliged to return. But the division at Williamsport succeeded in wading through, and took up their line of march for Martinsburg, a small town thirteen miles to the south, on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. When they arrived near Hainesville, eight miles from Williamsport, they found a rebel force, consisting, it is said, of four regiments of infantry and a company of artillery with four rifled 6-pounders. The secessionists fired a few rounds, and then retreated. The fire was returned by our men with both cannon and small arms, and it is positively asserted that at least twenty-one of the secessionists were killed and a considerable number wounded. Our loss was three killed, nine wounded, and about forty taken prisoners.

The prisoners were not taken in the principal skirmish, but in a separate affair which occurred several miles from the main road. A body of secession troops were reported to be trying to get into our rear, and Gen. Negley's brigade was ordered to take a diverging road, about two miles from Falling Waters, to intercept them. A part of Company I, 15th regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, was thrown out in advance, and while waiting in a piece of wood for the brigade to come up, they saw a squad of cavalry, 100 or more, belonging to the enemy, which they thought were their own men, there being no perceptible difference in uniform. They were careless, and their captain much to blame for allowing them to be entirely off their guard, so much so as to lay their arms on the ground, while some of them actually let down the fence for the cavalry to pass over. Our men did not discover their mistake until the dastard villain who commanded the troopers shot down the man who let the fence down for him? This man is Bob Swan, a Marylander, who murdered Spring at Cumberland eight or ten years ago. Our men were completely taken by surprise, and sprung to their guns, while the cavalry dashed in among them. Forty men were cut off from their arms and made prisoners; the rest of our men discharged their muskets and fell back upon the main body, while the troopers hurried off their prisoners. Our men, however, emptied three saddles and captured two horses. One of the troopers was killed; the others were lifted in front of the riders and carried off. This occurred quite early in the day, and they carried their prisoners through Martinsburg in advance of the retreating rebel troops. Our men were tied with their hands behind, in couples. Some of the citizens gave them food. They were greatly distressed by the forced march they had made.

The column continued to advance, driving the secessionists before it, till it reached Martinsburg, where it was encamped at last accounts, waiting for reinforcements. These are on the way, sufficient, it is said, to swell the force to 35,000 men.

UNION MOVEMENTS AT THE SOUTH.

The loyal citizens of East Tennessee have followed the example of those of Western Virginia, and have organized an opposition to the secessionists in their State. They recently met in convention and put forth an address, in which the conspirators against the government are handled in a most vigorous manner. They show conclusively that having no good ground for their movement, the secession leaders have been

compelled to resort to systematic deception in order to gain the ear of the people. There are also reports of a similar movement in Texas. The government organized by the loyal inhabitants of Virginia has been recognized by the United States government, and two United States Senators have been appointed to represent the State in Congress.

MEETING OF CONGRESS.

On the 4th of July, the eighty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the Congress of the United States assembled in extra session, to provide means for suppressing by far the most formidable rebellion that has ever been raised against our government. The President's Message was quite short, recommending that 400,000 men and \$400,000,000 be provided for carrying on the war. The reports of the heads of departments are noticed in another place.

CAPTURE OF CAPTAIN THOMAS WHO SEIZED THE "SAINT NICHOLAS."

In our last we gave a brief account of the seizure of the *St. Nicholas* steambot on Chesapeake Bay. It seems that the leader of that piratical operation was a certain Capt. Thomas, of Maryland, who went on board disguised as a French lady. In the *American*, of July 9th, we find the following account of the arrest of this nice gentleman:—

Lieutenant Thomas H. Carmichael of the Middle District Police, and Mr. John Horner, of this city, captured yesterday afternoon no less an important personage than Capt. Thomas of St. Mary's County, alias the "French Lady," whose exploit in seizing the steamer *St. Nicholas* a short time since, while in the Patuxent river, was so boastfully proclaimed by the secession journals of this city as a "brilliant exploit."

These officers had been sent down the bay to arrest one of the rioters of the 19th of April, and on their return on board the steambot, *Mary Washington*, they found Capt. Kirwin, with the engineer and another officer of the *St. Nicholas*, who had been released by the captors and were returning to Baltimore. The officers also ascertained that among the passengers on board were seven or eight of the captors, with Capt. Thomas himself, who, doubtless, exhilarated by the success attending their first achievement, were disposed to make another venture, probably on the steamer *Columbia* or some other steamer plying on the Maryland rivers.

As soon as satisfactory information on this point was obtained, and each one of the party recognized beyond doubt, Lieut. Carmichael directed Capt. Masons L. Weems, the commander of the *Mary Washington*, to proceed, on reaching the harbor, to land the passengers at Fort McHenry. The direction was given while the steamer was near Annapolis. Shortly after, while Lieut. Carmichael and Mr. Horner were in the ladies' cabin, they were approached by Thomas, who desired to know by what authority the order had been given to the steamer to touch at Fort McHenry. The lieutenant informed him that it was through authority vested in him by Col. Kenly, Provost Marshal of Baltimore. On hearing this, Thomas drew his pistol, and, calling his men around him, threatened to seize and throw Carmichael and Horner overboard. The latter drew their revolvers and defied the other party to proceed to execute their threats.

The utmost confusion prevailed in the cabin for a short time, the female passengers running out screaming, but the other male passengers stood up with Carmichael and Horner, and compelled Thomas and his companions to remain quiet. Matters thus stood on the boat until the steamer touched the fort wharf, when the lieutenant went up and informed Gen. Banks of his important capture.

The General instantly ordered out a company of infantry, who marched to the steambot and secured all the accused except Thomas, for whom search was made for an hour and a half. He was then found concealed in the drawer of a bureau in the ladies' cabin, in the after part of the boat. At first it was apprehended that Thomas would make a desperate resistance, but he disclaimed any such design, alleging that he was too weak to resist. He and the other prisoners were then marched to the fort and placed in confinement.

This capture has caused the greatest excitement in Baltimore, where Thomas is well known.

THE PRESENT SITUATION.

General Lyon, at last accounts, was pursuing Gov. Jackson, of Missouri, toward the southwest corner of that State; and secessionism seems to be almost completely overthrown in Missouri. Gen. Prentiss is securely intrenched at Cairo, Ill., and has reinforced the detachment at Bird's Point, on the opposite side of the Mississippi, in Missouri. At Cincinnati, a number of gunboats are being built to accompany the army down the Mississippi in the autumn. In Virginia, along its northern boundary, are four armies—Gen. McClellan's in the west, Gen. Patterson's at Martinsburg, Gen. McDowell's intrenched south of Washington, and Gen. Butler's at Fortress Monroe.

THE GRAND ADVANCE.

There is now a general anticipation of an early advance southward of all the armies except Gen. Butler's; and perhaps by that also. It is supposed that our heavy columns will move steadily through the State, sweeping the secessionists out of the Old Dominion, and restoring protection to the loyal inhabitants.

CONGRESS—THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—REPORTS OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE TREASURY, WAR AND NAVY.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Since our last issue, Congress has assembled in extraordinary session, and the President and Secretaries have furnished to that body interesting details of the state of the country. The President's Message is a plain, unpretending document, without ornament or flourish, and, as reported by telegraph, is somewhat marred in its grammatical character. After reviewing the rise and progress of secession, the President says:

It is now recommended that you give the legal means for making this contest a short and decisive one; that you place at the control of the government for the work at least 400,000 men and \$400,000,000; that number of men is about one-tenth of those of proper ages within the regions where apparently all are willing to engage, and the sum is less than a twenty-third part of the money value owned by the men who seem ready to devote the whole.

A debt of six hundred millions of dollars now is a less sum per head than was the debt of our revolution when we came out of that struggle, and the money value in the country bears even a greater proportion to what it was then than does the population. Surely each man has as strong a motive now to preserve our liberties, as each had then to establish them.

A right result at this time will be worth more to the world than ten times the men and ten times the money.

The evidence reaching us from the country leaves no doubt that the material for the work is abundant, and that it needs only the hand of legislation to give it legal sanction, and the hand of the Executive to give it practical shape and efficiency.

One of the greatest perplexities of the government is to avoid receiving troops faster than it can provide for them. In a word, the people will save their government, if the government itself will do its part only indifferently well.

He pays the following extraordinary compliment to the soldiers and sailors:—

It is worthy of note that, while in this, the government's hour of trial, large numbers of those in the army and navy who have been favored with offices have resigned and proved false to the hand which pampered them, not one common soldier or common sailor is known to have deserted his flag. Great honor is due to those officers who remained true, despite the example of their treacherous associates; but the greatest honor, and the most important fact of all, is the unanimous firmness of the common soldiers and common sailors.

To the last man, so far as known, they have successfully resisted the traitorous efforts of those whose commands, but an hour before, they obeyed as absolute law. This is the patriotic instinct of plain people. They understand, without an argument, that the destroying the government which was made by Washington, means no good to them.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The Secretary of the Treasury carefully looks over the debit and credit side of the great controversy for the maintenance of our government, and sums up as follows:—

For civil list, foreign intercourse and miscellaneous objects, \$831,496,90; for the Interior Department, \$431,525,75; for the War Department, \$180,296,397 19; for the Navy Department, \$30,609,520 29; in the aggregate, \$217,168,850 15. In addition to these demands upon the treasury, it will be necessary to provide for the redemption of the treasury notes due and maturing, to the amount of \$12,639,861 64, and for the payment of the interest on the public debt to be created during the year, which, computed for the average of the six months, may be estimated at \$9,000,000.

After further figuring, the Secretary says the whole amount required for the fiscal year of 1862 may therefore be stated at \$318,519,581 77. He is of opinion that \$80,000,000 should be raised by taxation, and that \$240,000,000 should be sought through loans.

The value of the real and personal property of the people of the United States, according to the census of 1860, is \$16,102,924,116, or, omitting fractions, of sixteen thousand millions of dollars.

The value of the real property is estimated at \$11,272,053,881, and the value of personal property at \$4,830,880,235. The proportion of the property of both descriptions in the United States, excluding those at present under insurrection, is \$10,900,758,009, of which sum \$7,630,530,603 represents, according to the best estimates, the value of the real, and \$3,270,227,404 the value of the personal property. A rate of one-eighth of one per cent *ad valorem*, on the whole real and personal property of the country, would produce a sum of \$20,128,667. A rate of one-fifth of one per cent on the real and personal property of the States not under insurrection would produce the sum of \$21,800,056, at a rate of three-tenths of one per cent on real property alone in these States would produce \$22,891,590—either sum being largely in excess of the amount required.

The Secretary proposes to Congress that a duty of 2½ cents per pound be laid on brown sugar, of 3 cents per pound on clayed sugar, of 4 cents per pound on loaf and other refined sugars, of 2½ cents per pound on the sirup of sugar cane; of 6 cents per pound on candy; of 6 cents per gallon on molasses, and of 4 cents per gallon on sour molasses; and it is also proposed that a duty of 5 cents per pound be imposed on coffee; 15 cents per pound on black tea, and 20 cents per pound on green tea. From these duties it is estimated that an additional revenue of not less than \$20,000,000 annually may be raised.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The Secretary of War brings out the details of the grand Union army, and discusses the subject in a vigorous manner. He says:—

The conspirators against the government left nothing undone to perpetuate the memory of their infamy. Revenue steamers have been deliberately betrayed by their