



THE EASTERN NEWS.—The Eastern news this week is important. In addition to that published in other columns, the stage from Umatilla arrived late last night bringing confirmatory intelligence of the capture of Charleston and Forts Sumter and Anderson, and a report that Wilmington has also been captured.

Charleston was evacuated by the rebels on the night of the 17th February and on the 18th the Federals marched in and took possession of the city. Before the rebels left the city they set fire to all the principal depots and warehouses, and destroyed a vast amount of cotton.

About two-thirds of the city is supposed to have been destroyed by fire. As soon as the Federals took possession they set to work extinguishing the flames but the fire was still raging at last accounts. The poorer classes of the people and the old men, women and children were all who remained in the city after this evacuation, and a great many of them were killed by the blowing up of the depots by the rebels.

Bumors are current that Lee is preparing to evacuate Richmond.

The rebel papers say that Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, is in the hands of the Federals.

Retreat seems to be the order of the day with the rebels wherever Sherman's army goes.

General orders were issued for the firing of national salutes, on the 23d of February, at every fort, arsenal and army headquarters in the United States, in honor of the restoration of the Flag of the Union upon Fort Sumpter.

His Johnny Crappooch, Louis Napoleon, has concluded not to send a minister to the United States until Maximilian's government in Mexico is recognized by the United States.

A LASTING PEACE.—The Olympia Standard says "the people have declared that a lasting peace shall be the result of this dreadful conflict. They have, in the re-election of Mr. Lincoln, declared the peace they desire shall not be a temporary peace, to entail upon future generations a recurrence of the horrors of the present strife."

The same declaration has been repeated and republished by every "so-called Union" paper in this country. Now we should like to know how it is that these Union editors are able to determine with such positiveness that we are to enjoy a lasting peace after the close of the present strife.

They must be gifted with more than ordinary sagacity and power of prophecy, to look into the far off future and reveal to the present generation of men, not only that they are destined to enjoy the blessings of a lasting peace, and posterity too, to an unlimited period of time, but also to be able to tell them exactly how they are to secure such a peace.

But these fellows are not prophets, nor yet the sons of prophets, although they would like it if people were so easily deceived.

Their political predictions and twaddle for established truth. They merely arrive at conclusions, from a system of reasoning, like other men; that is the way they see into the future. First, for a starting point, they accept as a fact that Slavery was the cause of the existing rebellion and war, and second, to "root out slavery" removes the cause of rebellion and necessarily secures a lasting peace; and third, to destroy slavery and thus secure a lasting peace, it was necessary to re-elect Mr. Lincoln President of the United States.

Now that Mr. Lincoln is President again and dealing the death blow to slavery, the Union editors can predict with certainty, by their manner of reasoning, that we are soon to have a peace—a lasting peace. It does not occur to them that other wars or rebellions are likely to ensue soon after the termination of the present one. How do they know, or how can any human being know, that we are to have a lasting peace? To secure a lasting peace, according to the "removing" mode, we ought to abolish and destroy all the "causes"—all manner of things that engender strife and bloodshed. Slavery can be but one cause of war, and to abolish it is to only get rid of one among innumerable causes. If there is no immediate cause for other civil wars in the United States, there is a fair prospect for Uncle Samuel to "take up arms against a sea of troubles" brewing from other causes. Maximilian is to be chastised and driven from Mexico as soon as the Southern rebellion is subdued; and England and France are to be taught that we are a war-like people, capable of whipping the combined powers of the earth if necessary.

But if Maximilian gets whipped out of Mexico by the Liberals, before Uncle Sam gets his present little job completed, and if England, France and other nations shall make ample apologies for all the insults offered since the commencement of this unholy rebellion, Uncle Sam's family will have nothing left to do but commence quarreling again, as they are wont to do, among themselves. Already a new subject, which in the very nature of things must breed dissensions if not timely nipped in the bud, is being agitated in radical journals. The Catholic Church, is the theme, and the agitators, fanatics of other religious denominations, endeavor to show that the Catholic Church is "disloyal in its tendencies" and opposed to republican principles and free institutions. Another civil war could be started on this head if followed up with vigor by all the elements opposed to Catholicity. The Jews also come in for a share of denunciation from the same class of fanatics, and are set down as "sympathizers" and aiders of

the rebel cause; and all this, because as a general thing the Jews supported McClellan for the Presidency. Denunciations and persecutions of this kind, if persevered in will ultimately furnish "causes" for other rebellions and civil wars.

The only way to insure a lasting peace, as we conceive, is for the people, generally, to cultivate a spirit of peace, and by so doing, many "causes" for war will never occur. If we are disposed to give every religious denomination, and every sect and section, their just rights, we will be likely after the present war is ended to have a lasting peace; but not otherwise.

From Boise.—Mr. H. Bledsoe, of W. F. & Co.'s express—whom everybody is always glad to see when he comes down—gives us the following items from the other side of the mountains:

Considerable excitement exists in the Basin in regard to the disappearance of Johnny McCommons, one of the partners in the Humboldt express Company. Mr. M. went out in search of stock belonging to the express Company, which had been driven off by the Snake Indians, and it is supposed was killed or taken prisoner by the Indians. A party of men went out from the Basin in search of him, and tracked him to the Owyhee river, about twenty-five miles from Pleasant valley, where they found indications of his having had a scuffle with the Indians; thence they followed a trail that led into a spot where they supposed not less than five hundred Indians had been encamped. Here the search was given up as hopeless.

The quartz fever has not abated, but rather become more intense during the winter, and men have been traveling all over the mountains around the Basin, on snow shoes, looking for quartz ledges.

The snow is about six feet deep on a level in the basin—about twelve feet having fallen during the winter. Fourteen inches of snow fell there on the 14th of February.

The Placerville Band—composed of a company of amateur musicians—Ed. Olundstad, Leader, gave a ball at Placerville, on St. Valentine's Day, which for excellent management and superior accommodations, was probably never excelled in any mountain town.

Olundstad & Barber gave a Ball at Idaho City on the 22d Feb., at which 600 persons were expected to be in attendance. Pickwick and Magnolia Halls were both occupied for dancing on the occasion, and both the Idaho City and Placerville bands were in attendance.

On the 20th Feb there was a fresh fall of snow as far out as Herzog's Thirteen Mile House. Mr. Herzog is putting up a large barn at his place, and is keeping pace in his improvements generally with the demands of the country. Mr. H. was formerly a resident of this city, and travelers say, "knows how to keep a hotel."

The fall of snow in the Upper Payette Valley has been light during the winter. There was not more than four inches of snow upon the ground there last week. Some three or four thousand head of beef cattle have been wintered on the Payette, Squaw and Boise rivers, nearly all of which have kept in excellent order. Very few cattle, excepting the immigrant stock, have died in these localities during the winter.

The Payette river was rising, and Snake river was open for 300 miles above Old's Ferry.

The snow is from 10 to 20 inches deep along the Payette and Snake rivers, and the roads along this part of the route are in good traveling condition.

The stage Company's sleigh, coming down, crossed the Snake, at Farwell Bend, on the only body of solid ice visible in the river. Farwell Bend is the place where the emigrant road leaves Snake river, one mile this side of Old's Ferry, and takes its name from this fact.

On Burnt river the snow is about sixteen inches deep. A fresh cut of three or four inches fell there on the 24th. Doc Arnold has lost nine yoke of work oxen at Scott's ranch, during the winter, and a Mr. Gaylord has lost 22 head.

Another avalanche of snow came down the mountains near Hawkins' ranch, on Burnt river, last week. The snow filled the river up and backed the water up forty feet deep before it broke through.

From Rockfellow's to Powder river the snow is about two feet deep, but the road is in good traveling condition. Thence to Proctor's ranch, on the head of Pyle's Canyon, the snow is badly drifted and the road very uneven.

About eight inches of snow fell at La Grande on Sunday night last. The hotels at La Grande are crowded with miners and others, on their way to the Eagle Creek and Boise mines. A considerable number of those on the road to the mines are traveling on foot—some from choice, and others from necessity.

The road across the Blue mountains is in good condition. At Meacham's the snow is five feet deep.

AN ADDRESS.—Mr. A. R. Elder, Chairman of the Washington Territory Union Central Committee, has issued an Address, by request of the Committee, "to the Union men of Washington Territory." The address is to be printed in circular form and distributed throughout the Territory. Mr. Elder, naturally enough, is decidedly opposed to a Democrat representing the Territory in the next Congress. He says "your interests have been without an advocate and the Congressional Legislation of the past two years has been no benefit to you whatever."

So far as the Congressional legislation is concerned, he might have gone further and said nobody has been benefited by it for the past four years. But Mr. Elder seems to think that matters can be rectified by electing a so-called Union Delegate, and urges that this be done. Mr. Elder may have forgotten, that a good many people still remember, that we had a good Union Delegate (Wallace) in Congress two years ago. If Wallace, during his term, accomplished anything good for the Territory we have yet

to hear of it. If he did do any good, let Mr. Elder or any other Union man, tell us about it. Mr. Wallace was good a Union man and so able a "statesman" that he afterwards elected Delegate from Idaho Territory, and yet after all there is no resident there that will say he has worked for or accomplished any good for that Territory; but hundreds will say he has neglected to attend to the general interests of the Territory, and that he has neglected to attend to the most ordinary duties of a Delegate in Congress.

There is any other Union patriot in this Territory as great a statesman, or who is likely to be as zealous and efficient, a worker in Congress as Mr. Wallace, let the Union party trot him out—he's their man; but let them not boast in advance about what he will accomplish, if he gets elected to Congress.

The Elder of the party, in his address, admonishes his flock not to "blindly adhere to the ghost of a party, now arraigned in hostility to the Government." From which we infer that the flock is not disposed to work harmoniously in the traces. He says: "It is to be supposed that your Delegate will succeed, if his success but builds up the party who sympathizes with the enemies of the Union and liberty?" That's a thrust at the Democratic traitors in the Union party.

The Elder urges that they have a fair representation in the Convention. He says: "Let us have a fair representation. The method adopted by former Conventions is not fair, where one man holds in his hand forty votes enough to control the action of the convention, it gives just ground for complaint."

Where each aspirant for the nomination sees that the ballots have been cast by delegates in person, they will be satisfied, but if they see the convention controlled by one man, who may happen to hold in his hand proxies enough to give the nomination to his particular friend, they will not be satisfied, and will not work with a good will.

Very good advice, as a general rule, but altogether superfluous in this instance, where the Loyal Leaguers have announced their candidate, and where there is nothing for the Loyal League Convention to do but to ratify the nomination.

LEWISTON CORRESPONDENCE.

EDITH'S STATESMAN.—Idaho is a great "goose" in more senses than one. Like the goose in the fable she lays the "golden egg," besides which service she also furnishes any quantity of feathers for the motes of the Administration to lounge upon. The consequence of all this liberality upon her part is that she is kept a very close plucked goose as well. One would suppose that the appointing power at Washington would make some mistakes in so many appointments and send out a good, honest, sensible official. But say what we will, find as much fault as we may with the policy at Washington, we must admit that the policy we see here is that they are scrupulously correct in carrying out the policy governing the appointments for this Territory. We must be convinced, at least, that the policy indicated by the appointments made so far, is settled.

We have no right to assert, with their acts legally recorded before us, that those conducting this important branch of government are all fools; nor must we proclaim them as enemies of our country. No, we opine they have set Idaho apart as a sort of asylum for the insane, idiotic, and otherwise troublesome members of Uncle Abraham's family. This seems to be the policy pursued towards the Territory and what we have to hope for in the future, until a change occurs in the administration, your correspondent "domes Ken."

We presume the recently appointed Chief Justice will be satisfied with "Abraham's plaster" so opportunely applied to his wounded feelings; but we do not see the justice of drawing upon Idaho for the expense. But, as the question of justice is seldom raised in these matters now a days, we can only account for it upon the hypothesis above—that we are simply a government asylum for all the lame ducks of the party in Oregon, Washington Territory, and Washington City. I wonder if the brood increases in ratio with the length of time the present party hold the power? If so, we are a "gone goose" as well.

THE WEATHER AT LEWISTON.

It is evidently becoming a little acquiescent. The absence of snow and warm spring-like days heretofore hailed as the harbinger of the spring with its accompanying green fields, flowers, etc., the frosty nights, eastern winds and rheumatic affections. We are led to believe that this state of things is caused by the immense body of snow on the mountains and the prevalence of the winds from that quarter. Many Kootenai bound are impatiently awaiting the appearance of grass upon the adjacent hills before turning their faces northward towards H. M.'s dominions. Recent advices from the head waters of the Yellowstone, in Montana, will induce many who had intended to stick their stakes on the head waters of the Columbia, to turn their faces thitherward. One party, with thirty-five animals will leave this place for Virginia City about the fifteenth of March; and another large party will leave the last of March for the same destination, provided winter has left the prairie.

"HOOK & LADDER COMPANY NO. 1."

Lewiston boasts of a Fire Company, styled as above, numbering thirty-five members, who embrace the bone, sinew, and aristocracy of the town. They have had but one run as yet, but are well organized, ably aided, and by judicious management destined to prove the nucleus of an efficient Fire Department. A Ball was given by them on the eve of the 22d, at the Luna House, which was a decidedly successful affair. For days previous, trunks were overhauled, jewel-cases unpacked, Dry goods stores ransacked, and every conceivable preparation made for the coming eve of the season. Forty couples, comprising the elite of the upper country, moved through the mazes of the dance to the music of Trickett's Quadrille Band, nor crossed their axes-

ment until "daylight was dawning." In a word, it was a decided success in the way of dress, the gentlemen looking the neatest, and the ladies the sweetest we have seen them upon any similar occasion. Many will look forward with pleasant anticipations to the second annual reunion of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1.

LAZER BEER POISONOUS.

A German named Peter Loy was found one day last week dead in his bed. Loy had enjoyed his usual health up to the hour of retiring to bed and no little speculation was caused in the minds of his German brethren, by his sudden demise.

He was known to be the possessor of some five thousand dollars, which his friends had understood was kept by him. They called for a post mortem examination, which, after some discussion between rival Physicians, was conducted by Dr. M. A. Kelly.

Upon examining the body, the stomach was found to have turned black and filled only with a dark glutinous substance. It was then ascertained that the deceased, who was a remarkably penurious man, seldom indulged in the luxury of a meal or healthy exercise, but was in the habit of sitting in his Lager Saloon and drinking constantly with his friends, occasionally eating only a cracker and piece of cheese. Dr. Kelly gave it as his opinion that the deceased came to his death from the too frequent use of his own beverages and too great an abstinence from healthy food and exercise. The Germans are much excited about the settlement of the estate, and it is but fair to presume, from present appearances, that it will be equally divided between lawyers, doctors and undertakers. So goes the world.

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"Slim Jim From the Hook" and "Six-Toed Pete."

EDS. STATESMAN.—My friend "Polonius" came into my room last Sunday morning, unannounced, and seeing that I was yet asleep, he was good-naturedly saying to me, "Wake up Jake! Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty!" I said, "I suppose it is, it's none of my business? Go away, and let me sleep."

"No, you must get up," said he, "I've got a job for you." "If you don't get up, you're no Patriot," said he, "What's up, says I. 'Everybody's up but you,' says Pol, and with a tragic air, he continued: 'Everything is up. Six-toed Pete and his crew are making a raid on the Vigilantes tonight, and the Vigilantes—the eternal Vigilantes—caught them and brought them back to town this morning. The prisoners are now confined in a little house across the creek, and guarded by seven hundred armed Vigilantes, and—'

"Hold!" I interrupted, springing out of bed. "Seven hundred! did you say, Pol?" "Yes I said 700 just to get you out of bed, but I will now admit that there are seven—I'll bet on seven." "O, you are hanged," says I. "I won't be hanged," says Pol, "but Six-toed Pete and the whole town is surging to and fro in excitement tonight, and the Vigilantes are on the march. We immediately sallied forth to see the sights, and as we were passing a small crowd on the corner of a street, some one hailed us in the following touching and patriotic words: 'Are you Vigilantes or Anti-Vigilantes?' I was glad that Pol took it upon himself to answer to the interrogatory. He always assumes to speak for me on important occasions, as well as speaking more than enough for himself, and he said: 'I will tell you, I am neither Vigilante nor Anti-Vigilante,' repeated Pol to himself, before answering. "Which is the strongest side?" queried Pol. "It's about six hundred on each side of the street," was his answer given.

"Well, then, says Pol, scratching his patriotic head, 'We're Neutral.'"

The spokesman of the other party frowned, and he said to me and exclaimed with a toss of the head and a contemptuous sneer: "There can be no Neutrals in this matter. It is either for us, it is against us, and it is an enemy of my country!"

"We're Patriots," said Pol, evidently a little confused, "but," he continued, "we don't want to drag politics into this affair. We are on your side, but we have a little business down town just at which claims the river yesterday morning, friends, we'll see you again!"

"We got out of that scrape pretty easy, said I to Pol, as we walked along. "Yes, and so thanks to you, Jake—you never opened your mouth in which claims the river yesterday morning, friends, we'll see you again!"

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Eastern News.

News of February 23d.

New York, Feb. 15.—How glad that the rebel Gen. Hindman, of Arkansas, has gone to Mexico, expecting to obtain a command in Maximilian's army, having lost faith in Jeff. Davis' Confederacy. It is stated that several other rebel officers have lately arrived at Matamoros with like intent.

The Richmond Sentinel of Feb. 10th, says:—The Union forces are making raids in Florida, and were at last accounts advancing on Richmond, Va. The Enquirer of the 14th says: Grant appears to be preparing to push forward his lines still further, having by the recent movement advanced them three miles further to the west of Petersburg.

Breckinridge has been installed as Confederate Secretary of War.

New York, Feb. 17.—The Richmond papers of the 14th show that the question of arming the slaves has been temporarily laid aside in the rebel Congress.

Later rebel papers present some very curious and interesting disclosures regarding financial and military matters in Jeff. Davis' dominions; the new currency is now considered of less value than the old. There is no money even of this worthless character in the Treasury, to settle the immense outstanding account, and taxation is declared as heavy as the people can stand.

The closing of the port of Wilmington has been a blow to Nassau. All is stagnation here. On the 3d there were over 30 steamers and 100 sail recently engaged in contraband trade. The port was closed by the blockade.

The steamer Ogite from Havana, brings dates and private letters from Mexico. Reports say that Baza has been defeated three times at Oaxaca with heavy losses. On one occasion he found himself almost surrounded by masked batteries, which did fearful execution. Gen. Diaz has 12,000 men and 100 pieces of artillery. The liberals are constantly increasing. It was reported at Vera Cruz that Baza had been severely wounded. Seven hundred of the Foreign Legion had deserted most of them going over to the liberals. The liberals have increased in number. It is now said they number 60,000 and that they have recaptured the State of Jalisco.

The Herald's Fort Fisher correspondent says that on the 8th with about 60 men, Lieut. Cushing captured the town of Shawnee, Georgia. The rebels were taken by surprise, and he destroyed large stores of army supplies and provisions, and about 80 bales of cotton, and escaped without loss. On the night of the 10th, he made a reconnaissance up Cape Fear River, actually penetrating to the wharves of Wilmington, where he remained long enough to gain much valuable information. He discovered the pirate Chikamauga sunk in the channel of the river. The next night with four boats crewed by the rebels, he went up to the rebel Fort Anderson, and managed to get close enough under the walls to hear an officer, supposed to be Gen. Bragg, haranguing his men on the last ditch, and the last struggle for their independence.

Chicago, Feb. 22, 11 A. M.—Charleston and all its defenses, with 200 cannon, supplies and ammunition came into our possession on the morning of the 18th. All the cotton was destroyed by the rebels.

New York, Feb. 18.—A committee of the Richmond Congress has presented Siddons, late War Secretary, as guilty of gross swindling, and the Richmond journals make statements which add to his guilt.

Information has been received to the effect that Schofield's corps landed at Masonboro, thus putting it beyond doubt that Wilmington is by this time closely besieged, if not already in the hands of our forces.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The evacuation of the city by our forces, but no confirmation of the evacuation has been received. By landing at Masonboro, Schofield avoided the necessity of marching up the peninsula.

City Point, Feb. 18.—The following is taken from a Richmond dispatch of to-day: Sherman took possession of Columbia yesterday. The intelligence was communicated yesterday by Beauregard in an official dispatch. Columbia is situated on the north bank of the Congaree river, below the confluence of the Saluda and Broad rivers. The main body, chiefly cavalry, is on a steeping expedition in Texas. The horses of both commands are in an exhausted condition. Magruder has twenty thousand men on the mountain rolls, two thirds of whom are effective. His headquarters are still at Shreveport, Louisiana. His entire strength is estimated at thirty-eight thousand, only about twenty five thousand of whom are serviceable. An immense drove of beef cattle, numbering some hundred thousand, is said to have made a million dollars in gold.

The Examiner of the 10th, says that at Kingsville, Sherman was able to destroy the Columbia and Charlotte and Wilmington and Manchester Railroad.

Rehoboth has succeeded Breckinridge in command in East Tennessee.

New York, Feb. 17.—The sloop of war San Jacinto was wrecked between Key West and Key West. The crew and the greater part of the munitions were saved.

New York, Feb. 14.—Maj. Gen. Schofield has assumed command of the Department of North Carolina. This places him at the head of all the military forces operating in the vicinity of Wilmington. A Newbern correspondent says: An expedition is preparing here, which in all probability will make an advance on Goldsboro. If captured, this will give the United States all of Southeastern Carolina.

The World's Washington correspondent reiterates his former statement that the rebels will soon evacuate Richmond and the Atlantic coast, and fall back to the mountains in the interior. He now says that Lee and Beauregard will command two grand armies, and that preparations are making for an overwhelming attack on Sherman.

New York, Feb. 17.—The movements toward Wilmington last Saturday resulted in a permanent advance, the Union lines being moved over two miles of new ground. The position was held and works were immediately thrown up.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Most of the Northern and Western States have ratified the amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery. Only one State—Delaware—so far decided against it.

The President-to-day nominated Senator E. D. Morgan, of New York, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Lucien Curtis has been appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for San Francisco, vice Patch.—Oregonian.

It is rumored that Brig. Gen. Alford has been ordered East to assume new duties.

By correspondence of the Boise Statesman, we learn of a fight between Soldiers and Indians on the 15th inst., in a canyon Coleraine creek. Some cattle were stolen. Capt. O'Regan detached six men and Sergeant Storm, accompanied by four herdsmen, overtook the Indians, 40 in number, in the bottom of a canyon engaged in cutting the meat of the cattle which they had killed. They immediately engaged the Indians firing from the hill sides for an hour and a half—11 to 20—succeeded in defeating them; killing 30 and wounding at least an equal number. The correspondent truly says, "This is the severest chastisement the Indians have ever received in this part of the country," and many an emigrant now living in this Territory will be pleased to hear it when he recalls the spot and incidents to mind. The stream is sometimes called Current creek, and has long been a troublesome spot for emigrants.

LIST OF LETTERS REMAINING IN THE POST OFFICE WALLA WALLA, MARCH 1st, 1865.

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