

PUGET SOUND HERALD.

STEILACOOM, W. T., Thursday Evening, Feb. 19, 1863.

LATEST EASTERN NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30. The Navy Department has information of the capture of the English steamer Autona, direct from England via Havana, by the gunboat Pocahontas, on the 8th, thirty miles from Cape San Blas.

FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, Va., Jan. 29. The cavalry raid on the 27th, a brief account of which has been published, captured deserters and several prisoners. Among the latter was the Rev. Mr. Landreth, Gen. Stuart's chaplain.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30. The Atlanta (Geo.) Intelligencer of the 20th says that resolutions have been introduced by Mr. Foose, in the Confederate Congress, bearing upon the reconstruction of our (the rebel) Government, with the Northwestern States. It remarks: We desire solemnly to protest against them.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30. The Navy Department has received the report of the Court of Inquiry into the capture of the rebel steamer Hattie, which was captured by the gunboat Hattie Lane.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 30. The rebels crossed the Blackwater, and Gen. Peck sent a force against them, driving them back with considerable loss.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. New Orleans letters say the Hattie Lane escaped, chased by the Brooklyn and two gunboats.

RICHMOND, Feb. 2. Richmond dispatches announce the capture of the British steamer Princess Royal, while attempting to run the blockade off Charleston.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. The barque Scotia, from Port Royal, reports that she captured a portion of Fort Mifflin's expedition from Beaufort for Port Royal, S. C., consisting of six steamers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. The following is an extract from a dispatch from Paymaster Felton on board the steamer New London: We arrived off Galveston to prepare for action.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. The destruction of the pirate Florida was confirmed by the arrival of the Creole from New Orleans. It was reported at Havana that heavy firing had been heard off Matanzas and Cardenas, as if coming from vessels in serious conflict at sea.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2. The Newark Advertiser learns from a private letter from a gentleman on one of the gunboats at Beaufort, N. C., that on the 20th ult. the whole of our fleet, with the exception of one gunboat, left there for Port Royal.

these reports have any foundation, they are gaining considerable currency among those who claim to be posted.

The N. Y. Herald's special dispatch says there is good reason for stating that General Butler has not accepted, and probably will not accept, the command of the Union forces in Louisiana and Texas, tendered him by the President.

Feb. 2.—A New Orleans letter says, that on the 8th the gunboat Essex made a reconnaissance to Port Hudson, going within range of the enemy's batteries, but failing to draw their fire. The Essex picked up a torpedo on the river containing at least a bushel of powder.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 2. Scouts report that Pinckney and Ball's Island have been evacuated by the enemy.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2. The Navy Department has dispatched which sent the iron-clad Monticelli under the rebel fire at Fort McAllister for four hours.

The Negro Soldier bill passed the House yesterday by a vote of 85 to 55. All the Republicans voted for it except three. Its provisions are as follows: That the President be and is hereby authorized to enroll, arm, equip, and receive into the land or naval service of the United States such a number of volunteers of African descent as he may deem equal to suppress the present rebellion, for such a term of service as he may prescribe, not exceeding five years; the said volunteers to be organized according to the regulations of the branch of the service into which they may be enlisted; to receive the same rations, clothing and equipments as volunteers, and monthly pay not to exceed that of volunteers; to be officered by white or black persons, appointed and commissioned by the President, and to be governed by the rules of the Articles of War, and such other rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the President.

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The results of the naval engagement yesterday are two vessels sunk, four set on fire, and the remainder driven away. The foreign consuls held a meeting last night, and were unanimously of opinion that the blockade had been legally raised.

Advices from the Federal camp opposite Vicksburg represent our troops concentrating there in large numbers. The whole peninsula is in possession of the Federals.

It is said that our defense at Fort Donelson was most brilliant. The rebels are said to have been three or four thousand strong. One battery of four guns was taken by the rebels by an overwhelming charge, but our troops rallied and retook it. The enemy's loss is reported at 135 killed and 50 wounded and taken prisoners.

P. H. Watson has been confirmed Assistant Secretary of War.

The Navy Department has ordered the following iron-clads to be prepared for sea and sent South at once, to wit: the Kookuk, Nauyaguck, Cotskill, and Sagamore. It is believed here that they will be ready in four days.

The editor of the Dispatch says: We learn that a steamer was dispatched from Charleston, after raising the blockade, to Nassau, to inform the British authorities there of the fact. It is understood that an official notice being given of the opening of the blockade, it cannot be renewed until sixty days previous notice has been given to neutral maritime powers.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Feb. 5th. Indications are that the enemy is very much weakened; his force opposite here relying on the impossibility of any movement under existing circumstances. But few pickets or fires are seen & a heavy snow storm has commenced changing to rain.

The health of the troops at Vicksburg is improving very satisfactorily. Our forces are now engaged in repairing the crevasse of last fall, in order to keep the water out of the camp. The water in the old canal is six feet deep.

A staff officer who arrived this evening says the rebel force at Vicksburg does not exceed 60,000, and thinks this number is all that can bring to its defense.

A dispatch from Fort Donelson to night says that the Federal force there, 700 strong, with one battery, were attacked at 1 o'clock on the 3d, and the fight lasted until 8 o'clock in the evening, when the rebels retired southward in great disorder. The enemy's loss was 200 killed and 500 wounded. Our loss was 12 killed and 41 wounded and missing.

The House concurred in the Senate's amendment to the Post-Office Appropriation bill, authorizing the Postmaster General to contract for carrying the mails by steamships from San Francisco to Oregon ports for not exceeding \$24,000.

The New Orleans Delta of the 28th ult. says that accounts from the rebel army at Port Hudson and elsewhere show a most deplorable state of affairs among them; the men only being kept from mutiny by promises of peace.

The Tribune's Washington special dispatch says there were two circles of blockading ships off Charleston harbor—the outer one in deep water seven miles from Fort Sumter; the other one was upon the bar. Sailors in the Navy Department are certain that the rebel iron-clads went down only to the latter. They were not calculated for deep rough water beyond, and it is believed that they did not go near or manœuvre the second and outer line of large blockaders.

Vicksburg letters of the 21st say the canal project has been fully adopted, and the largest possible force will be kept at work on it night and day till it is completed. It must be wholly cut to the required depth and width, it having been demonstrated that no reliance can be placed on the action of the water washing it out. Troops from above continue to arrive. The enemy opposite are vigilant, and have strengthened their defenses that are already formidable.

The Herald's correspondent with the Bank's expedition writes that Farragut's fleet is so diminished, that it will not be possible to attack Port Hudson until reinforced.

Advices from Galveston, via Alabama, give Commodore Bell's proclamation to the foreign consuls, notifying them and all foreign subjects, and all others concerned, in Galveston, that it is liable to be attacked any day by the United States forces. Twenty-four hours are allowed for the non-combatants to remove.

On the 29th, Col. Connor had a desperate battle with the Indians on the River, Washington Territory, 142 miles north; killed 274, and many supposed to be drowned; took 175 horses, and destroyed their lodges, provisions, etc. The fight lasted four hours. His loss is 15 killed, with 4 officers, and 38 men wounded. The command is expected here on Tuesday.

The following are the names of the killed and wounded, as far as we can learn: Killed—Smith, a bugler; privates Reed, Rowe and Cox, of Co. K. Fatally wounded—Capt. McLean, Lieut. Chase. Wounded—Lieut. Berry, Corporal Walton, Sergeants Stevens, Hoyt and Long; privates Slocum, McCoy, St. John, Chase, Bush, Brady and Briggs; 70 were frost-bitten.

LATER.—Capt. McLean is reported dead.

BLACKSMITHING. HAVING FORMED A PARTNERSHIP with the view of carrying on the above business, the undersigned take this method of announcing to the public that they are prepared to execute satisfactorily all dispatch of orders of work in Blacksmithing.

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MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS. JAMES M. BACHELDEL, Auditor, &c., Pierce County, W. T.

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GROVER & BAKER'S SEWING MACHINES! No. 9. Our No. 9 Machine is admirably adapted to the wants of all manufacturers, and is far more simple, durable and cheaper, than any other Sewing Machine in use, and a great favorite wherever introduced.

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THE LUNGS AND THROAT! Hall's Lung Balsam, in all cases, gives the best satisfaction; has brought more cures, since its introduction, than any other cough medicine; is endorsed by our leading physicians as the safest and best remedy now before the public; is safe to use among children, and yet powerful in cases of chronic pulmonary disease; and brings in certificates almost daily of its wonderful cures in all parts of the country.

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