



# STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, V.A.

TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 15, 1862.

## CRIMINALS.

Some that prostrate against long Odds are yet to be punished. We feel constrained to follow the example of our contemporaries, who publish these advertising rates. The usual sections of death will be published, as heretofore, free of charge. But Obituaries and Tributes of Respect will be charged for at the rates of ten cents per line.

## A British Expedition.

During the past week we were anticipating stirring news from the lower part of the Valley, and flattered ourselves that probably Milroy and his command would be captured—a “consummation devoutly wished.” The only apprehension we felt was that he might hear of the approach of our men and “skedaddle” before they could get within striking distance of him. We held our breath in acute suspense, kept dark and said nothing, and awaited with great impatience the reception of news from that quarter, which was expected to bring us the tidings of the capture of the Yankee Hayman of Western Virginia, yclept by the Yankees, “Old Grey Eagle.” But, alas! as Burns says,

The best laid schemes o’ mice and men

Abide not.

“With early thousand men

Moved up the hill and down again,”

went in great haste after the Yankees, and returned in even greater haste. He went in such haste as to leave his infantry far in the rear, surprised and captured the Yankee pickets, and then planted his cannon one and a half miles distant from the camp of the enemy, and blazed away to let them know that he was about. Having given this information, he wheeled about and marched back as fast as possible. He did not hurt the enemy otherwise than scare them, and they, it seems, inflicted the same punishment upon him. Just at the time it was thought Genl. Jones had them, he concluded they had him. He imagined that he was in a similar fix to the darkie who was commanded by his master to catch a ground hog which he saw run into his burrow. When Sambo had thrust his arm into the hole to drag out the ground hog, his master inquired:

“Have you got him, Sambo?”

Sambo, with his face expressing great agony, replied:

“Not ‘nally, master, he’s got me.”

From what we have heard of the expedition to Moorefield which excited so much hope, it must have been most wretchedly managed. General Jones started off before the forces from here and those from Col. Imboden’s command reached him. He was in too great a hurry to start and in too great a hurry to return. He is a man of expedition, and does things up in short order. His Generalship struck such mortal terror to the enemy at Winchester, that they sent up 150 men on Wednesday night last, surprised a company of our men at Woodstock, and captured nine men and 18 or 20 horses—among the latter, four horses belonging to the stage-line of Mr. Jackson Trotter of this place.

After General Jones retired, the gallant Capt. John H. McNeill, of limbard’s Rangers, made a dash upon the Yankees in Hardy county, and succeeded in killing one, and in capturing 38 men, 61 horses, 9 sets of harness, saddles and bridles, 14 revolvers, 14 Burnside rifles and 20 sabres. The party under McNeill consisted of fifty men. They also captured several wagons, which in their haste to retire, on account of the nearness of the enemy, they set fire to.

## Lincoln’s Proclamation.

Lincoln on the 1st of January issued his threatened proclamation of emancipation. The following is an extract:

“And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within the said designated States and parts of said States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.”

This relieves the South from all obligation to treat the citizens in Lincoln’s service otherwise than as murderers and robbers. It justifies the South in taking steps as soon as captured, if she chooses to adopt that mode of warfare. If this should become a war without question the responsibility will rest upon the enemy.

## The Battle of Cave City.

From one of our exchanges we learn some particulars of the battle of Cave City, Arkansas. General Hindman, with 10,000 men, marched from Van Buren, Arkansas, to attack the enemy, who were posted, 20,000 strong, on the outskirts of the neutrals. The Confederates, led by the gallant party, and the general field of battle was the giving way of the rebels, with the loss of 1,000 men, 1,000 horses, two pieces of artillerie, and a quantity of stores, including 1,000 muskets and 300 prisoners.

General Hindman, who had marched out to his depot with 10,000 men, and encamped... the whole day, was killed, wounded, and captured.

“We will soon

be avenged.”

## Victory at Murfreesboro.

From what we had received, in reference to the condition of affairs at Murfreesboro, up to the time of going to press last week, we were led to believe that our victory at that place was of such a decisive character as would result in great benefit to us, and would give us possession of the whole of Tennessee and probably of Kentucky. But this victory has partaken of the character of all our victories in the West—we fight heroically, whip the enemy, and then “retire.” The enemy fight well, but get whipped—receive reinforcements and take undisputed possession of the field. In this battle, Bragg, whipped Rosecrans, but his men being exhausted, and the enemy having been strongly reinforced, he deemed it prudent to “retire” to Tullahoma and repose upon the laurels already won. He “retired” in good order, taking all the prisoners and artillery and small arms captured. He is now where he can obtain water and subsistence for his army, and where the country is favorable for defense. In this battle our loss is between six and seven thousand. The loss of the enemy is believed to be about double that of ours. Rosecrans says his loss is about six thousand five hundred. The New York Herald says their loss was at least ten thousand. We are always pretty safe in reckoning the loss of the enemy double as much as they are willing to acknowledge. The enemy make it a standing rule to claim victories in every engagement, and when we retire after whipping them, it enables them to claim a victory with some show of plausibility. It is very natural for persons to believe that the retreating is the defeated army. We have confidence in the assertions of our officers, and when they claim a victory we believe them. The enemy have forfeited the confidence of friend and foe, and when they claim a victory, unless we know it to be so from other evidence, we esteem their boasting as “sound and fury signifying nothing.”

P. S. A despatch from Winchester, Tennessee, dated January 9th, says: General Morgan’s report of his expedition shows two thousand paroled prisoners and several hundred of the enemy killed and wounded, and an immense amount of commissary stores.

The attack on Jackson was a feint to cover their operations.

The railroad is destroyed between Jackson and Columbus.

Vicksburg, Jan. 8.—From the latest information, I am satisfied that the enemy have gone up the river, and there are only seven gunboats between the mouth of Yazoo river and Milliken’s Bend. Vicksburg is daily growing stronger. We intend to hold it.

[Signed] J. C. PRASAROS, Lieut. General.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 8.—The following has just been received from Kinston, North Carolina, dated to-day:

The enemy beyond doubt is making immense preparations for an advance. Reinforcements are daily arriving from Suffolk. The Yankees at Morehead City and New Bern are 60,000 men and under command of General Foster, and those from Col. Imboden’s command reached him. He was in too great a hurry to start and in too great a hurry to return. He is a man of expedition, and does things up in short order. His Generalship struck such mortal terror to the enemy at Winchester, that they sent up 150 men on Wednesday night last, surprised a company of our men at Woodstock, and captured nine men and 18 or 20 horses—among the latter, four horses belonging to the stage-line of Mr. Jackson Trotter of this place.

The news of the capture of the Harriet Lane is as unexpected as it is welcome. That vessel was an object of especial animosity to the Southern people. Its arrogant and malicious career in the Virginia waters during the early months of the war are well remembered. Its attacks on Pig’s Point, Mathias’ Point and other places on the Potomac have given it conspicuous notoriety. The capture was a noble and daring act, illustrative of Southern valor and heroism. It gives to our cause, too, an effective war vessel, ready for service, which may be employed in harbor defence, or she can go out on the ocean and emulate the deeds of the Alabama. Well done for Gen. Magruder and his heroic hand.

The following is Gen. Magruder’s official dispatch:

This morning, 1st January, at 3 o’clock, I attacked the enemy’s fleet and garrison at this place, and captured the latter and the steamer Harriet Lane and two barges, and a schooner of the former. The rest, some four or five, surrendered ignominiously under cover of a flag of truce. I have about six hundred prisoners, and a large quantity of valuable stores, arms, etc. The Harriet Lane is very little injured. She was carried by boarding from two high pressure cotton steamers, manned by Texas cavalry and artillery. The line troops were gallantly commanded by Col. Green, of Sibley’s brigade, and the ships and artillery by Major Leon Smith, to whose indomitable energy and heroic daring, the country is indebted for the successful execution of a plan which I had considered for the destruction of the enemy’s fleet. Col. Bagby, of Sibley’s brigade, also commanded the volunteers from his regiment for the naval expedition, in which every officer and every man won for himself imperishable renown.

[Signed] J. B. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER, Major General.

The Two Years Men to the Yankee Army.

Some of the best Yankees Generals have expressed much solicitude in regard to the Yankees regiments whose two years terms of service expire next April or May. The first thirty-eight regiments from the State of New York, will go out of service in May, and among them, it is said are some of the best regiments in the Yankee army. The Herald says congressional action will be necessary to restore to the army its best officers and men after the period alluded to.

Van Dorn’s Dash on Holly Springs.

The New York Tribune’s Holly Springs correspondent estimates the loss of Van Dorn’s raid upon that place at \$400,000. Among the private property destroyed was \$1,000,000 worth of cotton. The Masonic building, used as an ordnance store-house, containing a million rounds of ammunition, with a large quantity of shells, was totally destroyed. Col. Murphy with all his men were captured.

The New York Herald estimates Lee’s personal property lost in the raid at \$1,000,000, and his household effects at \$100,000.

The following is a despatch from the 12th instant:

“I am sorry to inform you that

the following articles of clothing and sums of money, were received by the Central Committee for soldiers from Augustus County, to December 1st, 1861:

Mr. J. E. Stiles, 2 blankets and 3 pair drawers, 2 pair socks.

Mr. W. D. Stiles, 2 pairs socks.

Miss Martin, 1 blanket and 3 pair socks.

Mr. G. C. Mathay, 2 pairs socks.

Mr. W. E. Bratton, 1 shirt and 2 pair socks.

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