THE DAILY REB.

The New Orleans Bee.

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MR. SELLERS AGAIN.

[Dispatches to the New Orleans Bee.]

From Memphis.

Headquarters at Pittsburg.

Federal Gunboats at Paducah.

Rebel Gunboats Crippled.

Preparations at Columbus.

Memphis, February 28.—The Bee has taken advantage of several boats here by land and paper to send a small amount of Dispatches.

Late advices from Paducah represent that the Federal army has already been concentrated to the amount of 100,000 men, and that they are well armed and equipped.

Nearly all the Federal gunboats were injured in the Fort Donelson fight.

All fighting above yet, but active preparations are still being made for the anticipated conflict. Nothing new from Nashville.

From Richmond.

MARTIAL LAW DECLARED IN NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH.

War to the Sentimental until the Enemy is Dispatched.

SUSPENSION OF HABEAS CORPUS.

Richmond, February 27.—The President has issued a proclamation declaring martial law in Norfolk, Portsmouth, and the surrounding country.

It is understood this Congress to-day passed an act authorizing the suspension of the habeas corpus generally.

The Hon. Messrs. Caldwell, J. M. Hill and J. J. Pettigrew (both of North Carolina) Confederate Senators.

A resolution was unanimously passed that the Confederate Government will contract for peace propositions extending any portion of the soil of the Confederate States, and declaring that the war will be continued until the enemy is expelled from the Confederacy.

In the House, Mr. Miles, Chairman of the Military Committee, reported a bill creating the office of Commanding General of the Confederate Army during the war. The indications are strong that the bill will be passed; pending its adoption the House went into secret session.

From Charleston.

An Attack on Government Reinforcements.

Charleston, February 25.—Reconnoissances since Savannah reveal the fact that the enemy have created three batteries of heavy guns with corresponding force, which effectually shut the communication between Savannah and Fort Pulaski. An attack on Savannah is momentarily expected. There is considerable military excitement.

A vessel loaded with cotton, rosin and salt has reached a Confederate port to-day.

WHY THEY SURRENDERED.

Since when the loss of Fort Donelson people have been asking why Gen. Sherman did not cut his way through the enemy. Certainly, a quickly collected force of 10,000 men could have done it. The only satisfactory explanation, we have wandered is that the Confederate troops were too exhausted to attempt the vigorous effort they would have been required to make through the Federal lines. In Gen. Pillow's report this subject is referred to in very plain language, and the conduct of Gen. Buckner censured at least by implication. For the information of our readers the subjoin that portion of the report. It is evident enough that Gen. Pillow thought that part of our force might be re-captured, but that Gen. Buckner, and apparently Gen. Floyd, thought otherwise. Yet Pillow admits that the command had fought for five days in the midst of ice, snow and sand, without shelter, and without sleep, certainly a most exhausting experience.

We had fought the battle to open the enemy's army and retreat on Nashville, which would necessarily release us from all responsibility which devolved on us when we were invested by Buckner. We had accomplished the object for which we were ordered, and I felt that we had a right to retire, after taking in the wounded and the dead, the enemy still shower ing upon us shot and shell; and I felt that we had a right to retire, and reoccupied his original position in the line of investment, then again retiring off our retreat. We had only about 12,000 troops, all told. Of these a large proportion had been in the trenches night and day for five days, exposed to the snow, sleet and ice without shelter and without adequate food for days, subsisted sheep.

It was to consider the present difficult task of determining whether we should do. Buckner gave it as his opinion that we could cut our way out, and in that view Gen. Floyd concurred. I differed from them, believing that the enemy would attack him next morning early in the morning. The proposition then was that I should withdraw my force again, fight our way through the enemy's line, and cut our way out. Gen. Buckner said his command was in worse condition to undertake that than mine, and I could not in justice to my command, consent to undertake the work of the Forlorn Hope, and agreed to let Gen. Floyd withdraw during the night, and that I would cover the movement from the enemy. This movement was made in the way described, and the command marched to Nashville.

Gen. Floyd and Major Gilmer I am disposed to concur in this opinion.

I have expressed the opinion that we could hold our position for days, and in that time we could fix ammunition and cut the command over the river, and probably save a large portion of it. To this Gen. Buckner replied that the enemy's force was overwhelming, that he could not hold his position half an hour. That the alternative of these propositions was a surrender of their position and command. Gen. Floyd and myself then left, and I understand the command surrendered.

Gen. Buckner would not surrender the men, and never would he surrender himself a prisoner. I had taken the same position. General Buckner said he was entirely satisfied with the conduct of Gens. Floyd and myself, therefore, he would not surrender, if placed in command. Gen. Floyd said that he would turn over the command to him if he could be allowed to withdraw his men. To this Gen. Buckner consented. Thereupon Gen. Floyd turned the command over to me, I passed it instantly to Gen. Buckner, say ing I would neither surrender myself nor command a prisoner. I directed Col. Forrest to cut his way out. Under these circumstances Gen. Buckner accepted the command, and sent a flag of truce to the enemy for an armistice of six hours to negotiate for terms of capitulation before this flag and communication were dispatched I retired from the garrison.

Loss from Hostility.

We did say yesterday in Wednesday's Appeals. The decision of Mayor Chambers is not applicable.

We have late and authentic intelligence from Memphis, to show that the loss of the enemy in the recent battle at Fort Donelson was much greater than that of the rebels. The latter were commanded by Maj-Gen. Pillow, and consisted of Tennessee troops, who fought with the desperation of men who had their homes in the rear of the enemy, and who knew that they must conquer or die. The Federal troops were commanded by Maj-Gen. Grant, and consisted of Illinois troops, who fought with the coolness and determination of men who had their homes in the rear of the enemy, and who knew that they must conquer or die. The Federal troops were commanded by Maj-Gen. Grant, and consisted of Illinois troops, who fought with the coolness and determination of men who had their homes in the rear of the enemy, and who knew that they must conquer or die.

From Richmond.

The Florida correspondent of the Richmond Examiner writes as follows:

Every North Carolina we have nothing new. Reports of reports of the abandonment of the evacuation of this city spreading, more and over-coming much credence in some quarters. Gen. Pillow, who was in both columns of reproduction, is in, perhaps, well to say that what is deemed here, cannot be accepted as positive at Richmond. Gen. Pillow told Fitzgerald. This is mostly the extent of their story, and it is very certain they will not move on Portsmouth with the rapidity expected. They are, however, making preparations in spite of their position on Roanoke Island, evidently with the purpose of future operations in this locality.

It is reported that a considerable portion of Burnside's fleet has withdrawn from the vicinity of North Carolina. There must be no disappointment if they reappear at Old Point by Thursday.

The effect of our late reverses in this section has been to thoroughly arouse the people. In every direction new military organizations may be heard of, great impetus being imparted to the spirit of resistance. Beaufort is declaring for the Confederacy. There is now only one trouble—that so frequently urged editorially in the journals of the South—the want of arms. Our rulers must not dampen the ardour and the ability of the people by withholding bad or inefficient men with commissions, or tamely forbearing operations. Inaction must not be abandoned, and then the people will rally in arms as one man.

General Hager continues to move energetically for circumventing the Federals. He has ordered out portions of the militia of this State and North Carolina as are called into service in respect to the nearest Confederate officer.

They will obstruct the water courses and roads by which the enemy may approach, and the narrow banks of the rivers can blaze their guns on the ravagers. They will arrest all citizens who hold intercourse with the enemy.

Texas.—We have Houston papers to the 19th instant. The News contains the following:

The blockade at Galveston seems to remain without change. The Santee and Sam Houston are the only vessels of the kind. A schooner is at present some 15 miles to the westward. This schooner is considered safe on a sandbar, but goes nearer again. She discharged her guns on Friday last, near where she is now at anchor, probably for the purpose of sounding or obtaining them, and their report being distinctly heard in Galveston, led to the conjecture that an attack was being made upon some fortification.

The troops at Galveston are being more frequently reviewed than heretofore. There was a review on Saturday of Gen. Mebbel's regiment, and we believe also of some other companies of infantry, as well as of some cavalry and artillery companies. These indicate manifestly some great improvement in the infantry drill. We are glad to see that there appears to be a considerable military ardour in the various companies in perfecting themselves in the drill of corps and company evolutions. The horses of the artillery companies, especially those of Hildebrandt's, are well trained. Indeed, there appears but little else to be seen in the movements of Galveston except military operations. The city is pretty generally converted into a military camp.

The Free Trade Measure Killed in Congress.—The Provisional Congress, as we observed, succeeded in the suppressing of a measure, in killing the fair fee for the establishment of free trade during the existence of the blockade. The bill was reported from the Committee on Commerce, and we give a copy of it in full below. We have no explanation of the reasons of the defeat of a bill so plain and just in its objects other than the obstinate interpretation of a by-some of the members as amounting a opposition of hostility to Richmond themselves.

A bill to be entitled An Act to Admit Duty Free all Goods, Wares and Merchandise Imported into the Confederate States for a Limited Period, except such as may be brought in by Sea Vessels of the U. S. That time hereafter

Section 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act no duties and taxes of any kind whatsoever shall be levied or collected upon foreign goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Confederate States, and the same are hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. This act shall continue and remain in full force and effect, from the date of its approval for and during the existence of the present provisional government of the people of the Confederate States, and for twenty days after the expiration of the present provisional government of the people of the Confederate States, and for twenty days after the expiration of the present provisional government of the people of the Confederate States, and for twenty days after the expiration