

STONEMAN'S RAID.

The Raid and Capture of Gen. Stoneman— The Campaign at Atlanta—Tennessee Copperheads and the Chicago Convention.

Special Correspondence of the Chicago Evening Journal.
NASHVILLE, Monday, Aug. 9, 1864.

That Gen. STONEMAN, with a portion of his command, has been captured, is now a certainty. Whether those who escaped Gen. IVERSON will succeed in reaching our lines or not, is yet problematical. The public do not now understand the nature of the late cavalry raids, and therefore I will give the explanation. On the 26th ult., two expeditions were started, one under STONEMAN direct, and the other under Gen. Ed. McCook, the former consisting of 1,300 and the latter of 3,200 men; the former to strike directly at Macon, and the latter to move directly in a circle around Atlanta, and as near to the city as possible, in order to deceive Hood and prevent him from sending forces out to attack Stoneman.

The adventures of Gen. McCook are already known to you, and need not be repeated; and I have only to add, that all but 500 of his command has returned; so that, after all, the loss was comparatively trifling, while the damage done to the rebels was irreparable.

Gen. STONEMAN was directed to strike the Macon road at or near Forsyth, and to follow it up to Macon, and thence take such a direction as he chose, toward Milledgeville, if he believed it practicable.

At Forsyth, a percussion cap manufactory was destroyed, and several bridges burned in the vicinity; and we hear it upon pretty reliable authority that he reached Macon, and destroyed the bridge at that place, together with nine or ten locomotives; but of this, I am not positive.

However, I know this much, that great damage was inflicted upon the rebels by the destruction of railroads and other property.

Of the exact place at which STONEMAN was taken, I am not informed; but he is a prisoner without doubt, together with five hundred, at least, of his command.

SHERMAN WAITING.

Gen. SHERMAN is quietly awaiting events, though he is by no means inactive. He is drawing his lines closely around the beleaguered city, which is now without railroad communication in any direction. "Billy," as Gen. SHERMAN is called by his troops, confidently believes he can compel Hood to take the offensive again, and win another "victory" like those of the 20th, 22d and 28th. I know the situation pretty well, and believe he will succeed. Hood cannot retreat without leaving everything behind or destroying them; and if he were to attempt to leave, he would immediately find his flank and rear annoyed by our cavalry and infantry, who would be able to move as rapidly and as lightly as the fugitives can.

Had JOHNSTON been retained in command, or had Hood followed up the policy of that officer, an orderly retreat, in which all valuable materials could have been carried off, would have been possible.

But the late disasters—pardon me, "victories"—by Hood, have put a decidedly different aspect upon affairs. The trumps are all in SHERMAN'S hands, and he is bound to play for all that is on the board, and he will win.

HOOD'S SUPPLIES.

I know that Hood's supplies are getting very short, and all additions to his stores must be made by wagon trains. The loss of five hundred wagons must be seriously felt just now, and the constant raids of our cavalry, even with the limited means at the command of Hood, very dangerous. The extremities to which the rebels are rapidly being reduced by the vigilance of our cavalry, is well known to SHERMAN; he relies greatly upon it to compel Hood to assume the offensive.

I predict that Hood will next attempt to turn our right wing, and that the attempt will be made in a few days. Everything, however, is fully prepared for his reception; indeed, the bloody repulses already suffered will be eclipsed if the rebel General really makes a serious effort to drive back our lines, and recover possession of the railroad leading from Atlanta.

REBEL PRISONERS.

To-day is Tuesday, and since Sunday morning 493 rebel prisoners and 161 rebel deserters have passed through this place en route for the North. The latter will be released on condition of taking the amnesty oath. The work of these three days will serve to illustrate that of nearly all others.

REBEL COURIER CAPTURED.

A rebel courier was captured, near Atlanta a few days since. Of the contents of his dispatches I know little; but there is one part which has been made public: the "victories" claimed by Hood are, privately, acknowledged as terrible defeats; and he states that he is unable to make an impression upon our lines. He says: "My losses have been heavy, indeed."

CHICAGO CONVENTION.

The Copperheads in this vicinity are preparing to attend the Chicago Convention in great numbers, though they do not intend to ask a seat. They say that Tennessee is out of the Union; that it seceded, which it had a perfect right to do; and that, therefore, they are not citizens of the United States, but of the Confederate States; but, being non-combatants, they intend to visit their Northern friends as preliminary to a treaty of amity, when the Copperheads get into power, and when the independence of the Southern Confederacy shall have been acknowledged by a peace President.

HANDEL.

More of the Stoneman Raid.

LETTER FROM LIEUT.-COL. SMITH.

MARIETTA, Ga., Wednesday, Aug. 3, 1864.

I have occasion to thank God that I am enabled to write you from this point, or even to write at all, and am not a prisoner with those damnable rebels. I cannot go into particulars of our late raid. Suffice it to say that we got to Macon, and, after a pretty hard fight there, destroyed three trains and a large amount of Quartermaster and commissary stores, and several miles of railroad track between Macon and Milledgeville. We started back at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, last Saturday, and at dark met a skirmishing force of the enemy that had been sent after us, and skirmished with them all night. At daylight we again started, and had not proceeded two miles until we found the enemy in large force in our front and on each flank, and after we had fought them stubbornly for three hours, we found that the force that was at Macon the day before were coming directly in our rear, and in less than thirty minutes we were completely surrounded—our force numbering about 1,900 men; the enemy's 6,000. We fought them, however, until the evening, when Gen. STONEMAN told me it was no use to have the men slaughtered, and that he must surrender, but that any of us who felt like it might cut our way out if we thought we could. I got the Kentucky brigade, and, upon consultation with Col. ADAMS, we determined to make the attempt, and went out. A large number followed, so that out of the fifteen hundred men left at the time, (four hundred had been killed, wounded and captured during the day,) at least eleven hundred escaped. We were vigorously pursued and fought our way almost all the way and arrived here to-day, after traveling about one hundred and fifty miles to keep clear of points where the enemy had forces and crossing the Chattahoochee some twenty miles above here—swimming it. Our raid was not altogether a failure, as we did a great deal of damage. The General and about one-half of the officers were captured, with our two cannon and about 600 men, captured, killed and wounded. After we left, Col. CARBON'S brigade lost very heavily—I cannot say how many. I presume the papers will pitch into Gen. STONEMAN. Well, let them pitch in. He started with too few men to go so far from home; but no man under heaven could have done better with what he had. I never have endured such hardships as on this trip. Not a night during the time did I sleep more than an hour, and that on the road, with my bridle-rein in my hand. My horse had his saddle off only twice during the trip. I never was in such danger, with so little hope of achieving anything by my death, and I hope I may never be again. Men were killed by the bursting of shells, and blown all to pieces within three feet of me, and yet I was not harmed. To-morrow morning we leave here for the front.

R. W. SMITH.

Shelling a Blockade-Runner.

From the Washington Chronicle.

As the public attention is now directed to our fleet at or near Mobile, the following extract from a private letter of a young man on board the United States steamer *Galena*, containing some interesting particulars of the destruction of the blockade-runner at Mobile, reported to the Navy Department a few weeks since by Admiral FARRAGUT, and an artillery duel with Fort Morgan, may not be without interest. It will be seen that the "historic *Galena*," formerly an iron-clad, which took such a prominent part in the memorable attack on Fort Darling, about two years ago, at which time the Confederate historian says the "sound of the guns was heard in the streets of Richmond," maintains her distinguished reputation:

* * * * * The morning we came from Pensacola we saw a number of our gunboats firing at some object on the beach. When we got nearer we discovered that it was a large steamer, which had been beached ashore. She lay within half a mile of Fort Morgan, and was therefore entirely under the protection of its guns. We reported to the Admiral, and got permission to go into the *melée*. We drew the least water of any of the large vessels, and, therefore, were enabled to go one and a half miles and opened fire on the steamer. The first shot fell short, but the next went right through her. Just then we saw a puff of smoke from the fort, and directly I heard my first rebel shell whistling overhead. I ducked my head, as all the others did. The captain sang out, "Dodge them, but we got so use to them that we did not care for them." We continued to fire on the steamer all night, when we returned to the fleet. The Admiral complimented us highly for remaining under fire as long as we did. We fired sixty-two shots during the afternoon.

The next morning we went in and fired eighteen

more at her, but got no reply from the fort. That night we got up an expedition to go in and burn her. We had two small steamers and three boats. But fortune was against us. The rudder of one steamer broke, and we got separated, and drifted about till morning, and then returned to the ship quite crestfallen.

The next morning we ran in and commenced the programme by firing at the fort (Morgan.) We must have astonished the rebels, as they could have had no notion that any of our guns could throw shot into the fort. We landed seven in the fort, firing at the distance of three miles, and have heard nothing from it since.

Night before last three boats from the flag-ship went in and set the rebel steamer on fire, and burned her up; so that bone of contention is gone. She must have been a valuable ship, as she was new, and this was her first trip.