

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

THE FIGHTS AROUND PETERSBURG.

As we have been out of news from Petersburg and Richmond for nearly two weeks, we commence the account of operations with old dates, but which contain news not heretofore published.

The following is Gen. LEE's official dispatch in reference to the operations near Petersburg on Wednesday the 22d:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, June 22, 1864.

Hon. James A. Seldon, Secretary of War: Sir: Since Friday last there has been skirmishing along the lines in front of Bermuda Hundred and around Petersburg. The Federal army appears to be concentrated at these two places, and is strongly entrenched.

Yesterday a movement of infantry, cavalry and artillery was made towards the right of our forces and Petersburg, in the direction of the Weldon railroad. The enemy was driven back, and his infantry reported to have halted. His cavalry have continued to advance upon the road by a route further removed from our position.

The enemy's infantry was attacked this afternoon, on the West side of the Jerusalem plank road, and driven from his first line of works to his second on that road by Gen'l Mahone, with a part of his division. About sixteen hundred prisoners, four pieces of artillery, eight stands of colors, and a large number of small arms were captured.

The following are the telegraphic reports in the Richmond papers:

PETERSBURG, June 22.—Hancock's Yankee corps yesterday made an attempt to strike the Weldon road, but after getting within half a mile of it, on Davis' farm, two miles below the city, our artillery opened upon them, and at the same time our infantry came into action, driving the enemy back, capturing some dozen prisoners, and killing and wounding a number of the enemy. Our loss is small.

Grant's whole army is now in our front on the South side of the Appomattox.

JUNE 22—7 P. M.—Two brigades of our army attacked and flanked Hancock's second army corps this evening, about two miles south of this place. The fighting began at 2 o'clock. The enemy made considerable resistance, but were driven back fully two miles. Our men captured 1,600 prisoners, including 57 commissioned officers, four pieces of artillery, eight stands of colors and two lines of breastworks. The enemy made an effort to recapture the breastworks, but were repulsed. Our loss is very light.

PETERSBURG, June 23—10 A. M.—Our forces after driving the enemy up to 5 o'clock last evening, for want of sufficient force to go further, made a stand. The enemy soon endeavored to retake the works which they had lost, charging us repeatedly four times, but without success. The fighting ended about 9 o'clock.

Col. Shelby, of Alabama, was killed in the fight yesterday evening.

JUNE 23—7-30 P. M.—The prisoners captured yesterday evening, by official accounts, sixteen hundred and seventy-six privates and non-commissioned officers, and sixty-six commissioned officers. Our loss yesterday evening was about three hundred killed and wounded; that of the enemy is estimated at fully as many as one thousand. Over fifteen hundred stands of arms were taken. The troops engaged were Mahone's of Virginia, Saunders' of Alabama, and Wright's of Georgia, the whole commanded by Gen. Mahone.

PETERSBURG, June 24—10 A. M.—A portion of our forces last night dislodged the enemy from their lodgment on the Weldon railroad, six miles below here, captured five hundred prisoners, including twenty commissioned officers.

There was heavy cannonading this morning at 7 o'clock, began by our batteries in Chesterfield on the enemy's extreme right, and continued for one hour and a quarter. The results are unknown.

Four hundred and eighty-three prisoners, captured by Mahone last night near the railroad, were brought in this morning.

JUNE 24—6 P. M.—General Mahone, after dislodging the enemy from the Weldon road last night pushed around their left flank and captured the prisoners alluded to in despatch of this morning. The affair on the City Point road this morning was an effort to retake some of our lost breastworks, and was preceded by heavy cannonading. Hagood drove the enemy from the breastworks, but other troops failing to support him, he fell back. His loss between one and two hundred is killed, wounded and prisoners. No shells have been thrown into the city to-day, and all has been quiet since 9 o'clock.

PETERSBURG, June 25th, 12 M.—There has been nothing done thus far, and there is no likelihood of any fighting to-day. The weather is intensely hot, and the roads oppressively dusty. Scouts say that General Grant has told his men that the fighting has ended, and the siege of Richmond has now begun.

From the Raleigh Progress of the 27th We saw Lt. Hoke, who is attached to the Provost Marshal's office of this city, who left Petersburg on Friday morning 24th of June, and from him obtained the following facts:

Grant's line extends from the James River across the Appomattox to the neighborhood of the Railroad, this side of Petersburg a few miles. On Wednesday and Wednesday night there was desperate fighting along the whole line, our army forcing the enemy back from their position at some points, taking a large number of prisoners, cannon, colors, &c. On Wednesday afternoon 104 prisoners were brought into Petersburg, and the same night Gen. Mahone captured 1750 men and about 100 officers, 8 pieces of artillery and 7 stand of colors, all of which had arrived in the city. Five hundred more prisoners were taken on Thursday night in a desperate fight which took place on the railroad, the enemy's extreme left, this side of Petersburg. Here the Yankees were driven back, and on Friday morning when Lieut. Hoke passed near the battle field, the enemy's left was within about half a mile of the road and fighting was going on along the whole line.

Gen. Lee was in Petersburg and directed the operations of the entire army, and the citizens, officers and soldiers were cool, confident, sanguine and determined. Lieut. H. assures us that no fears of a defeat were felt by any one, and that the army was never in better spirits or more sanguine. In the fight on Wednesday the 22d, some seize guns that had been planted by the enemy near the city were dismounted, and but few shells were thrown into the city during Lieut. Hoke's stay. The heroic people of Petersburg he represents as perfectly sanguine of a victory over the Yankees.

About 400 of our men, belonging to Hagood's brigade, were taken by the enemy on Wednesday. The killed and wounded are no doubt heavy on both sides, but thought to be much heavier among the Yankees than on our side. Of course Lieut. Hoke could not arrive at anything like the numbers on either side.

Lieut. H. left Petersburg on Friday morning.

walking twenty miles along the line of the road, when he took the train for Weldon. He came over the entire road from Petersburg to Weldon on that day and the enemy no where had possession of it. Our informant is a gentleman of intelligence and a faithful officer, and these facts may be generally relied on.

The following official dispatch from Gen. Lee refers to the fighting around Petersburg on the 24th.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY N. VA., June 25, 1864.

Hon. Secretary of War.—Our entire loss yesterday morning was 97 killed and wounded, and 209 missing. Nothing of moment has occurred to-day on our lines in front of Bermuda Hundreds and around Petersburg.

Gen. Hampton reports that the enemy's cavalry advanced yesterday to Vance's Shop and encamped themselves there. He attacked them and drove them from their works, pursuing them until 9 p. m., within two miles of Charles City C. H. They left their dead and wounded on the field and along the route. Great credit is due to Gen. Hampton and his command for their handsome success.

On Saturday the 25th, the enemy resumed the shelling of Petersburg. One shell struck the Presbyterian Church; another fell near the Post Office, and a third struck a house in Sycamore street.

PETERSBURG, June 26.—All quiet along the lines yesterday and to-day, save heavy cannonading for a while this morning on the centre, the result of which is unknown. There was a severe cavalry fight near Nottoway Court House, Thursday, between the rear column of Wilson's men and Dearing, which continued from 2 o'clock until dark, when the enemy retreated under cover of the darkness. Thirty-three prisoners were captured, and have been brought in. The enemy's loss is many killed and wounded. Our loss is small.

The Petersburg Express gives the following account of the fight which took place on Thursday evening, the 23d, near the Weldon Railroad in the vicinity of the six-mile house.

Gen. Mahone was speedily despatched, at the head of a body of troops, to drive the assaults off. Upon approaching the spot about one hundred and fifty of Grant's horsemen were discovered displacing rails and removing sills. They fled precipitately upon the appearance of our forces; but it was soon ascertained that there was a heavy body of infantry in the woods, east of the track, massed for the purpose of supporting the cavalry.

Gen. Mahone threw forward a heavy line of skirmishers, engaged the attention of the blue coats, and then put into execution one of those flanking movements for which he has become somewhat noted during this campaign. About twilight Perry's brigade, now commanded by Gen. Finney, succeeded in swinging around, and brought up in the rear of the enemy. A volley or two in the rear put the enemy to thinking, and another volley or two brought about a very lively double column on their part. We succeeded in securing only four hundred and eighty-three of the invaders, the remainder running so swiftly that it was found impossible to overtake them.

THE RAIDERS DEFEATED.

The following dispatch refers to the defeat of the Yankee raiders under Sheridan:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY N. VA., June 25, 1864.

Gen. W. H. F. Lee pushed the enemy's cavalry which had advanced along the Southside railroad. He had a skirmish on the 23d near Dinwiddie C. H., and the next day struck their column in flank near Black's and White's, cutting it in two and getting possession of the road by which they were moving towards Nottoway C. H. The road was held after an engagement which lasted from 12 m. until dark, the enemy making repeated attempts to break through and rejoin. He withdrew from Gen. Lee's front at daylight on the 24th, leaving his dead and wounded on the field, taking the road to Hungartown and Keysville. Gen. Lee is still following them.

From the Goldsborough Journal, July 1st.

PETERSBURG ROAD—MORE RAIDERS.—Yesterday, we learn from a reliable source, the Yankees were on the Petersburg & Weldon road again, near Belfield. During the past two days they have cut the telegraph wire not fewer than four times, but "being in a hurry" they did not touch the road itself.

Enter.—We are further informed that on striking the railroad this time, the raiders were themselves struck to some purpose. Their artillery, wagons and ambulances were captured, with a number of prisoners, and the balance scattered for miles.

Still Later.—As we go to press we have received through Capt. Fulghum, of Gen. Baker's staff, the following important dispatch:

WELDON, June 30. A dispatch from Belfield states that most of the enemy's artillery, together with their wagon train has been captured, and that the greater part of the raiders would be taken.

The Raleigh Confederate furnishes some additional information, stating the enemy had been routed with considerable loss. 126 prisoners arrived at Raleigh on Friday.

A despatch from Weldon says that no farther reinforcements are needed.

ARRIVAL OF MORE PRISONERS.—Four hundred and eighty-three prisoners, belonging to the Sixth Yankee (Wright's) Corps, captured on Thursday evening by Gen'l Mahone, some six miles below this city, were brought into town yesterday morning, and turned over to Provost Marshal Bridgeford. Among them are twenty commissioned officers—two of them field officers. These added to those already captured and brought in, make up nearly three thousand prisoners taken from Grant's army since his advent in this vicinity.

Eight hundred of the prisoners captured by Gen. Mahone on Wednesday afternoon, were sent over to Richmond yesterday morning.—Petersburg Express, 25th.

Among the prisoners captured was 16 Ottawa Indians. One of the captured Federal officers stated that an order had been read to the Federal troops on the previous evening, announcing that there would be no more charging of breastworks—that Petersburg would be taken as Vicksburg was, by digging.

THE CAPTURE OF PLYMOUTH.—The importance of the recovery of Plymouth by our gallant little army under Gen. Hoke, highly as we have estimated it, assumes immensely enlarged proportions if we may believe the statements of the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times, who says that if Plymouth had been successfully defended, Burnside would have landed there, and joined by Peck, Wessels and Baldy Smith, would have marched upon Richmond from that point, Grant would have moved upon it from the Potomac, and thus, "between the two great armies, Richmond might have fallen."—Payetteville Observer.

DEFEAT OF THE YANKEES NEAR LYNCHBURG, VA.

The Lynchburg Republican gives the following account of the defeat of the Yankee army under Gen. Hunter near that city week before last:

The enemy have come and gone. With 20,000, he marched up the hill, and then marched down again. Finding it impossible to expel Gen. Breckinridge from the mountain passes of the Blue Ridge, near Waynesborough, Hunter determined upon the bold and hazardous movement of throwing his whole column rapidly up the valley to Buchanan, thence across the mountain to Liberty, and thence down the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad to Lynchburg. He cut himself loose from his base of supplies and communication with his Government, and determined to provision his army exclusively upon the rich country through which he passed. At the same time that Hunter was making this bold movement, Sheridan, with a large force of cavalry, was despatched from Grant's headquarters to co-operate in the contemplated attack upon Lynchburg. This force was to approach by Charlottesville or the canal, and attack us from the North side, while Hunter was to strike from the South side. Unfortunately for the enemy, this part of the arrangement was completely spoiled by Hampton, who attacked Sheridan near Gordonsville, and defeated and routed him completely. Hunter, therefore, advanced to the attack without the assistance of Sheridan.

No sooner, however, did he feel our lines, on the morning of Saturday, than he discovered that they were defended by something more than militia and hospital rats, and after a day of skirmishing and combat, he concluded that it was the better part of valor to beat an inglorious retreat. This he did as soon as nightfall threw a partial covering over his movements. The retreat was discovered by our forces about 10 o'clock at night, when immediate preparations were made for an active pursuit, which commenced by 12 o'clock. The enemy, therefore, had some hours the start, and have no doubt made much better time in going than they did in coming. The failure of the expedition is complete. By occupying this city, Grant was to place himself in position to effectually cut off Lee's communication with Richmond, and thus compel him to retreat into North Carolina. But, instead of accomplishing this, both Hunter and Sheridan have sustained disgraceful and disastrous defeats. Lee's communications remain intact, and glorious old Virginia is as invincible as ever.

In the fight on Saturday, near this city, General Averill stated to a gentleman of entire reliability, that their loss was 800 killed, wounded and missing.

The enemy commenced their retreat about 6 o'clock, Saturday evening, after their unsuccessful assault on our lines previously reported. As soon as the retreat was discovered, vigorous pursuit was made. Gentlemen by whose houses the enemy passed inform us that they traveled in great haste and confusion.

Before leaving his headquarters, Hunter stated to gentlemen in the neighborhood that Sheridan was expected to co-operate with him in the attack on this city, and that Butler was to send up a column from the South-side. Neither of them had come to time, and hence the necessity of his "change of base."

The enemy throw away a large number of guns, pistols and swords, both on the battle-field and on the route of their retreat. Knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, &c., were also profusely strewn about, and many were picked up by citizens who visited the field and passed along the roads.

LYNCHBURG, June 25.—A gentleman who left our forces Thursday, five miles beyond Salem and Newcastle road, says Hunter came near being captured at that point. His escape was owing to the delay in delivering orders. The enemy was so hard pushed that he destroyed an ammunition train a mile long. Our informant saw it blown up. A portion of our forces have taken a large wagon train and a number of prisoners.

The enemy on their retreat destroyed Barsock's woolen factory, in Roanoke county.

From the Richmond Whig of the 24th.

FROM STAUNTON AND THE VALLEY.

A citizen of Staunton, who left on Tuesday and reached Richmond Thursday morning via Lynchburg, furnishes the following details of the operations of the Yankees during their sojourn in the town and surrounding country. "While at Staunton they burned all the depot buildings, the steam mill, woolen factory, Garber's foundry, Mason & Harman's distillery, all the forage houses and stables occupied by the Government, the Government wagon shop, J. J. Trover's stables and fourteen stables, and gutted the Staunton shoe factory. Neither the courthouse nor any of the hospital buildings were interfered with. Hunter sent a squad, headed by an officer, who was pressed for the relief of the necessities of the Yankee army, all the provisions, stock, &c., belonging to the citizens, leaving each family only a scanty supply of the necessities of life. They took as prisoners all the detailed men employed in the town. With the exception of a few foreigners of low repute, no citizen of Staunton went with them, except Thomas Edwards, a mail agent.

In the country of Augusta the Yankee impressing parties did as in Staunton, and whatever they left was soon seized by marauding gangs of Yankee soldiers, who stood not upon the order of their stealing, but stole quickly.

The following is the reported damage done the Central road beyond Staunton, according to our informant. They blew up an arched bridge near the town, and burnt all the bridges from that point to Gothen station, which is about 30 miles distant.

On that section of the road in all they tore up about five or six miles of track.—This side of Staunton they tore up the track from the town as far as Christy's Creek (4 miles) and burned the bridge at that point. They also burned the depot at Fishersville, only a few miles nearer this way. We had forgotten to mention above in the proper connection, that they burned Walker's mill, on the road from Staunton to Port Republic, and within two miles of Wier's Cove. This is a brief and imperfect record of public vandalism, the Lord only knows how much private villainy they perpetrated in the name of the Union, while in the Valley.

It was generally supposed that Hunter's party, after their defeat at Lynchburg and Liberty, were retreating towards Kanawha Valley. There were no Yankees in any part of the Valley when our informant left.

During the occupation of Staunton by the Federal army, the inmates of the Central Lunatic Asylum were not materially molested. We learn that the patients exhibited a degree of self-control and quiet not to be seen at the time outside of the precincts of the Asylum.

CALEB CUSHING.—A correspondent of the Mobile Telegraph says: I see in the papers that Caleb Cushing is classed with Beast Butler, and it is declared that after being sentimentally with the South, has deserted to the Abolitionists. This is a mistake that does great injustice to Mr. Cushing. He occupies now about the same position as ex-President Pierce, and has never lifted a hand to push on the war against the South.

FROM JOHNSTON'S ARMY.

A HEAVY BATTLE ON MONDAY THE 27th.

The enemy repulsed with great slaughter.

On Monday morning the 27th of June, the Yankee army under Gen. Sherman made a desperate assault on our lines near Marietta, Ga., and was defeated and driven back with heavy loss. The Atlanta papers furnish the following account of the fight:

On Monday morning, 27th June, the enemy evinced a disposition to fight what they doubtless considered one of our weakest points on the line. They commenced a furious bombardment over the heights held by our troops on Little Kennesaw, and it is estimated that they expended over three thousand shot and shell in the fruitless operations. Our batteries answered with much spirit, and with the advantage of plunging shot, they made effective havoc on the enemy's positions.

Early in the day Sherman advanced his heavy lines of battle against the point held by Vaughn's brigade, and reached a point within forty feet of our line before our fire was delivered. For a moment the enemy was staggered, but he quickly pushed on his heavy columns—said to be seven—over his piles of dead and succeeded in planting three stands of colors on our works. These were captured by the brigade, which continued to pour on the now thick and huddled mass of Yankees a destructive fire. The confusion into which their heavy lines were thrown, impeded their movements very much. The captured officers and men state that they were inspired with whiskey.

The enemy evinced a disposition to make a general assault. They continued a heavy cannonade along the line in front of Hindman's and Cleburne's divisions, the evident object of which was to cover an advance for the purpose of securing splendid positions on the hills before us, especially Bald Hill, for the purpose of shelling our lines more effectually. The enemy advanced heavy lines against Cheatham's and Cleburne's position and charged furiously up to within a few feet of our entrenchments, but they were gallantly and deliberately repulsed.

The enemy advanced with the utmost confidence, and made very heavy assaults, but they were quickly checked by the unfinching opposition of our soldiers. They were hurled back with great loss, and becoming more and more feebly sustained and disheartened, they finally retreated in utter confusion and with immense loss. Our casualties are comparatively small. This is accounted for by the fact that we quietly remained in position, awaiting and checking the enemy's assaults, but not making any charges in return, on the fleeing masses which were dissipated by the destructive fire poured on them by our troops.

When the heavy movements of the day were ended and night closed over the field, the main lines of battle of the opposing armies were within six hundred yards of each other. During the night hand fighting continued.

On Tuesday morning the battle was resumed, but up to noon we could not learn any of the particulars. Heavy cannonading was distinctly heard from the suburbs of the city and large clouds of smoke wreathed their folds above the points on which the opposing batteries are bellowing horrid discords.

A few of the Federals, who were captured on Monday, were brought to Atlanta and lodged at the hotel provided for them. They report that Sherman ordered an advance on Monday and was determined to take Kennesaw Mountain. His persistent and stubborn efforts have thus far proved futile, we doubt not they will still farther prove useless. Strategy may require us to abandon our present position. The fighting power of the enemy can never succeed in effecting it.

A captured Yankee colonel states that Sherman had got the army ruined by bringing it forward in the raid upon Marietta, and that the troops could not all be depended upon in a great engagement. The loss of the enemy Monday is estimated from three to seven thousand. Our loss will not exceed two hundred and fifty.

During the fight Monday afternoon the woods in which the action occurred took fire from the artillery, and a large number of the enemy's dead and wounded were consumed in the flames. Our men were unable to render them any assistance without running the gauntlet of their sharpshooters. Their dead and wounded are still upon the ground where they fell, with the exception of a few who crawled off Monday night. The suffering of the wounded beggars description, having lain upon the ground for twenty-four hours exposed to the burning rays of the sun, without food or water.

Among the prisoners brought down Tuesday was Col. Kerr, of an Illinois regiment, in Howard's corps. He reports that they advanced upon our lines in heavy columns thirteen deep—and were repulsed with terrible slaughter. He says Sherman will soon use his army up at his present way of doing. He says further, we learn, that his men were drunk when ordered to advance upon our line of works.

MARIETTA, June 29.—Unusual quiet along the lines to-day, the enemy being permitted to bury his last putrifying dead.

As the details of Hardee's great victory is brought to light, they prove that it was at first underrated. The enemy admit a loss of 1,500 in front of Cleburne's division, and a loss in killed and wounded in the front of Cheatham's division of 750.

Five hundred ambulances were counted yesterday from the summit of Kennesaw mountain transporting their wounded to Big Shanty from the front of Gen. Hardee's works. Their loss along the line of that corps is estimated at 4,000, and about the same in front of Loring.

The Yankee Generals Dan. McCook and Packer were certainly killed.

MARIETTA, June 30.—Heavy firing was provoked this morning by an attempt of the enemy to establish a fortified line of pickets on the southeast of Fair Ridge, occupied by a part of Gen. Cheatham's command. Moving out, they encountered our videttes, who fell back and reported the enemy advancing. Our batteries opened on them, the artillery doing excellent shooting, every shell exploding, apparently, in the right place.

A correspondent of the Atlanta Intelligencer, writing on the 27th, says: "Sherman's position is now very precarious. He must either fight or retreat. If he risks a battle, there is every probability that he will be defeated, for, placing aside the superior fighting qualities of our men, he has to take several entrenched picket lines before he reaches our main line of battle. To carry our pickets he must bring up his lines of battle, one at least, very possible more than one, for our pickets cannot be driven by skirmishers. After carrying our entrenched picket lines, will he be able to carry our works? If we consider his disastrous failures from Dalton to Kennesaw, it becomes evident that he cannot succeed, no matter how overwhelming his force may be. Retreat would not only be an acknowledgment of failure, but would virtually annihilate his army.

Those who are familiar with the topography of North Georgia, will discover the comparative easy access our pursuing army would have to the banks

of a retreating enemy. There are dozens of gaps in the numerous ridges which cover the country, that cavalry and artillery could pass through and gain the flanks and rear of the Yankees, while our infantry pressed him vigorously in front. Under these disadvantages, he could not reach Chattanooga with an organized force sufficiently large to hold that important position, but would be compelled to fall back on Nashville. As both these measures are likely to result in ignominious failure, he must resort once more to strategy and flanking.

But he can only flank us to the Chattahoochee river, a distance of thirteen miles more. When he arrives there, his army will be one hundred and thirty-one miles from his base of operations, while ours will only be seven.

The troops now guarding different points on the river, and between here and Atlanta, will be called out, and form heavy reinforcements for the army. On the other hand, the enemy will be proportionately depleted in strength, by being compelled to garrison those points which would be evacuated by our forces.

It is neither imprudent nor exaggerating to say, that the reinforcements to our army, in the event of our falling still further back, would amount to eight, and possibly ten thousand men. It may be said, and with truth, that a great majority of these men are raw troops. Nevertheless, I have known raw troops to fight behind breastworks as well as veterans. Besides which, all these men are Georgians, and I cannot believe they will fail to do their duty in this hour of their State's peril.

From the Atlanta Appeal.

A PROPHECY—SHALL IT BE FULFILLED.

In 1860, a pre-eminent journalist in this city at that time, predicted that the last and decisive battle of the war, would be fought near the Chattahoochee river. In the spring of 1863, a distinguished general, then on his way to Vicksburg, made the same prediction. It was not believed by the public. Part of the prediction has been verified.

The seat of Government, Richmond, is the prize which the Lincoln Government is now striving to obtain. They have sent a chosen leader, whose chief merit is obstinacy, to accomplish its capture. But while we believe that the possession of Richmond is their primary object, we are of the firm opinion that the fall of Atlanta is secondary to it. With Atlanta in their hands, they feel able to take Charleston; and marching into North Carolina hem Lee in Virginia. If they fail to capture Atlanta, they will hold Johnston and his army in check, and prevent the reinforcement of General Lee.

The enemy think by the capture of Atlanta that Charleston and Savannah will not only fall into their hands as easy prey, but that Columbus, Selma, Montgomery and Mobile will also be in their possession, giving them control of the country from New Orleans to Charleston. Impressed with this conviction, Sherman will doubtless be as obstinate as Grant. This leads us to believe that a battle will take place. If we defeat the enemy, and we have the utmost confidence in the result, it is highly probable that it will be the last contest of the war. If the enemy succeed, the war is indefinitely protracted.

It rests with the people to make it the most decisive battle of the war. Let them act cheerfully and hopefully, liberally and nobly. The troops under Gen. Johnston are worn down physically but not morally, by fatigues and hardships they have undergone since the evacuation of Dalton. It behoves the people to come up to their assistance. Let every one who has a negro and can spare him, send him to the front to build fortifications, if Gen. Johnston needs them. No one should murmur or complain. All classes should unite in supplying the army with vegetables. Strip your yards, and send their products forward. It is all important that the health of the army should be maintained. We trust that in this trying hour selfishness will be forgotten and avarice unknown.

BRUTAL ORDER OF A YANKEE GENERAL—Mosby Retaliates.

On commencing his movement up the Virginia Valley, Gen. Hunter, the Yankee commander, published a proclamation to the effect that, in case his supply trains were interrupted by Confederate forces he would destroy all houses and property of citizens within five miles of the scene of action. His threat, however, does not seem to have had the desired effect, as the following statement will show:

On the night of the 30th Maj. Gilmore pounced upon one of Hunter's trains in the vicinity of New Market, and destroyed 15 wagons heavily laden with commissary stores. One of the wagons was filled with medicines, and would, could it have been brought off, have made a valuable prize.

In retaliation to this act and under the provisions of his proclamation, Hunter proceeded to burn and destroy but had scarcely begun his infamous work when Mosby came down like a thunder clap on the incendiaries. Four or five houses had already been burned in New Market and vicinity. One of Hunter's men was caught with a torch in his hand proceeding to fire a dwelling. He was taken to the ruins of a recently burned mansion and in the midst of the charred timbers and half burned rafters, and on the hearthstone blackened with desolation, he paid the debt of his iniquity with a bullet through his heart. It was debated whether retaliation should not extend to some half dozen other prisoners, but it was considered that the one lesson was sufficient to reach Hunter's understanding and enable him to comprehend the fact that he had altogether mistaken the character of the men with whom he proposed to deal. He sent a communication to Hunter, announcing the execution as stated.

HOW THE WAR AFFECTS LINCOLN'S SECURITIES IN EUROPE.—The New York Herald contains two interesting letters from Europe. The one, dated London, May 7th, says: "Public expectation here is getting up to a pretty high point as to the probable result of the military movements in Virginia. If Grant should get the worst of it, it will give immense encouragement to the friends of secession in Europe."

The other, dated London, May 13th, says: "It is difficult to describe the species of panic that has existed here on American affairs for the last six or eight days, and far more difficult to account for the same on any rational or philosophical grounds. The monied men seem to think that Uncle Sam's future existence depends on Grant giving Lee a thrashing during the month of May. I heard an eminent business man (American) say that he believed if he had wanted to borrow £50,000 on last Saturday a week ago, on the security of £1,000,000 sterling in United States greenbacks, he would have found it impossible to get the money of a London broker. They seem to have made up their minds that unless Lee is defeated by Grant, Jonathan is a gone coon, and that extreme unaction may be at once administered.

"The consequence is, all transactions in American securities are about at an end until we get some more news from the battle fields of Virginia."

MORGAN'S CAMPAIGN IN KENTUCKY.—Danville, June 24th.—Gen. Morgan returned to Abingdon on the 21st inst., having made a brilliant expedition through Kentucky, capturing and destroying immense supplies and transportation, and mounting his entire command at Lexington. He visited Mt. Sterling, Lexington, Winchester, Georgetown, Clarksville, Cynthiana, Whitesburg, Paris, Flemingsburg. Captured 2,500 Yankees. He destroyed the railroad from Lexington to Cynthiana, to Frankfort and Louisville.

Executor's Notice.

All persons indebted to the estate of the late Joseph P. Smith are requested to come forward and make payment, and those having claims against the same are hereby required to present them for payment within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

June 20, 1864. L. H. SMITH, EY.

LOST OR STOLEN.

Three Bonds on the Wm. Char. & R. Railroad Company—one given in April, 1860, for \$100; one given in October, 1860, for Five hundred and eighty dollar, and one given in Oct. 1860, for \$43. All persons are hereby warned not to trade for said Bonds, as they are payable only to me.

June 20, 1864. H. T. RHYNE.

CERTIFICATES LOST.

Lost, from the side pocket of the subscriber, between Charlotte and his dwelling, one mile beyond Oak Lawn P. O. in Cabarrus county, the 26th of March last, two Four per cent Certificates, issued by the Depository at Charlotte, N. C., under the act of Congress of the Confederate States, Feb 17, 1864, in the name of John Fuggett, dated March 26, 1864, No. 2174, for \$600, and No. 2177, for \$400. A liberal reward will be given for their return to me, and all persons are warned not to trade for them.

June 20, 1864. M. W. JOHNSTON.

NOTICE.

The families of soldiers are requested to call on Blyer and receive what is due each one from our county, up to the 1st of June. After that time nothing will be paid until the 1st of August.

By order of the Committee, June 20, 1864. B. W. ALEXANDER, Chm.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

All those indebted to the estate of Dr. W. A. Ardrey, deceased, can pay if they wish, as I am in need of money at this time for the heirs. If they do not pay soon, I will necessarily have to exchange their notes for the money with some third party. By order of the executor, JAS. B. ROBINSON, EY.

June 13, 1864. Impd

ESTRAY.

Strayed from the Rutledge Mine, Charlotte, N. C., about two months since, a Black MULE, near six years old, rather under the medium size, and scarred on the hind legs. A liberal reward will be given for her recovery.

June 20, 1864. Sdud SAMUEL GROSE.

WOOL NOTICE.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT, Raleigh, June 9,