

The ROANOKE NEWS

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WELDON, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1891.

NO. 28.

STATEMENT FROM COL. POLK

IN REGARD TO THE CHARGE THAT HE ACTED THE COWARD AT WINCHESTER.

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 5.—Mr. Daniels: I wrote the enclosed communication for the *News and Observer* and requested that paper to publish it in tomorrow's issue. This it says it could not do and as I have special reasons for wanting it to appear to-morrow, may I ask that you do me the kindness to give it place in the *Daily Chronicle* and greatly oblige, yours, etc., L. L. POLK.

STATEMENT FROM COL. POLK.
RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 5.

Editor News and Observer:
It has been charged through the public prints that I skulked at the battle of Winchester, Va., on the 19th of Sept. 1864, and as your paper has been prominent in giving willing aid to this charge, I ask that you publish the following:

THE CHARGE.

Letters have been written from Raleigh to certain papers and have been reproduced in other papers, which are understood to have been written by one Max Gorman, in which appears interviews with J. P. Devereux, charging that I was hidden behind a rock fence, on the morning of the 19th of September, at Winchester, when my regiment had gone on and was engaged in battle, that Brigadier General Grimes and himself saw me there and had certain conversation with me—that I claimed to have a chill—that General Grimes called special attention of Devereux to the matter and said with an oath that he intended to court-marshal me for it, and would summon Devereux as a witness—that for some reason I was not court-martialed but was allowed to resign—that Lieutenant Ellerbee also of our regiment was skulking at the same time and would have been court-martialed but for his death, caused by a ball which struck him while far in the rear of the line.

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

I shall not ask you or your readers to believe anything I may have to say about the matter, except this: that Lieutenant Ellerbee at that time, had been buried nearly two months, having been fatally and horribly wounded in the fight and in line of battle, at Snicker's Ferry, Va., on the 18th of July, and died eleven days thereafter.

Now as to myself, I have in my possession the official record of a court-martial, which proves on the sworn testimony of Brigadier General Grimes himself and fourteen other witnesses that the above charge contains no more of truth in regard to myself than the one made against Lieutenant Ellerbee.

The official record shows that the charges were: "Misbehaviour in the presence of the enemy" and "Absence without leave."

Gen. Grimes makes no allusion whatever, either in the charges or specifications or in his sworn testimony to any lack of duty on my part during the morning, nor did he summon Devereux as a witness.

You ask in a recent issue of your paper, if I can prove by my Colonel that I was honorably acquitted? I cannot, because my Colonel was wounded and captured at Gettysburg and had not been released from prison. You ask if I can prove it by the record? I let the record answer.

The record shows that up to the 18th of September, I was acting Adjutant of my regiment, that on that day I received a certificate from the sheriff of my county, showing that I had been elected a member of the North Carolina Legislature. That on that day I turned over my horse, books, etc., to the proper authorities, preparatory for leaving for Raleigh on the next day, the 19th. That the commanding officer of my regiment had released me from duty, and that on the morning of the 19th I had prepared to start home, having previously filed proper application for my release from

duty, that finding a battle was imminent I went to the commandant of the regiment and asked his opinion as to whether I ought to go into the battle; that he said I was under no obligation whatever to go, but suggested that I talk to Gen. Grimes about it. After the line of battle was formed I approached Gen. Grimes and asked his advice as a friend. He advised me to go in, saying that there might be talk about it if I did not. That I told him I would go, that I took charge of Company "H" it having no officers with it. That we advanced and were halted under a heavy fire of skirmishers in our front; that the order to forward was repeated, but for some reason the regiment did not advance until I went in front and called to the color sergeant to follow me; that at that time, in addition to the skirmish line, the enemy had their lines of battle in front in open ground and a battery inflating us; that I led the charge through open ground for two or three hours under a heavy and destructive fire; that I was the only officer seen in front during the charge, and that I remained in front until the line was ordered to halt; that when ordered to fall back by General Grimes I assisted him in rallying the regiment on a line indicated by him, until Capt. Hall, the commandant of the regiment who was my former captain, was brought to me near General Grimes, and being, as he thought, fatally wounded, implored me, to take him to the rear, insisting that I had no business there, and appealing to me as a brother Mason. I took him from the field and to the hospital. Soon after reaching the hospital the report came that our line had been broken, and that the wounded should get out if possible; that I caught up my pistol and sword and went out and met some flying cavalymen and drew my pistol on the officer and held them until the troops came up. This is the record taken down in court by Major R. C. Badger, judge advocate at the time, and is now in my possession just as he handed it to me about the 1st of December, 1864. The witnesses were Brig. Gen. Bryan Grimes; Assistant Surgeon J. R. Goodwin, 2nd N. C. Battalion; Color Sergeant Wm. T. Barnes, Co. "C" 43d N. C. Regiment; Corporal J. N. Henry, Co. "I" 43d N. C. Regiment; Adjutant A. W. Green, A. A. A. G. Grimes Brigade; R. T. Hall, Capt. Co. "I" and in command 43d N. C. Regiment; J. H. Threadgill, Lieut. Co. "I" 43d N. C. Regiment; Adjutant Wm. S. Barnes, Adjutant 4th N. C. Regiment, aide de camp to General Grimes, John Stallings, Co. "G" 43d N. C. Regiment; A. W. Bridgers, Lieutenant Co. "G" 43d N. C. Regiment; W. L. Perkins, Lieutenant Co. "F" 43d N. C. Regiment; J. A. Boggan, Lieutenant Co. "K" 43d N. C. Regiment; S. D. Farrior, Co. N. C. Regiment; Cary Whitaker, Captain Co. "D" 43d Regiment; J. B. Strachan, surgeon, 32d N. C. Regiment.

Upon my petition, Gen. Grimes was instructed to try the case before the Division Court Martial and thus was allowed to select the officers who should try the case, and the following officers were chosen:

Brig-Gen. W. R. Cox, President; Col. D. G. Coward, 32nd N. C. Regiment; Col. W. H. Willis, 4th Georgia Regiment; Lieut. Col. J. C. Goodgame, 12th Alabama Regiment; Capt. Watkins Phelan, 3rd Alabama Regiment; Capt. H. T. Battle, 21st Georgia Regiment; Capt. J. T. Stancill, 4th N. C. Regiment; Capt. H. H. Tyson, 32nd N. C. Regiment.

These gentlemen after hearing all the evidence ordered the following verdict to be sent to me, which was handed to me in a short while by Col. Coward:

COURT MARTIAL, RHODES DIVIS. }
CAMP, RHODES DIVISION, }
November 30th, 1864. }

Lieut. L. L. Polk, Co. I, 43 Reg't. N. C. Troops:

MY DEAR SIR:—In accordance with the Act of Congress published in General Orders No. 53, Adjutant and Inspector General's office (present series) I have the honor to inform you that you have been honorably acquitted of the charges and

specifications preferred against you.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
R. C. BADGER.

Major and Acting Judge Advocate.

About 12 o'clock that night I was aroused and pulled from my bunk and placed on a stump and made a speech to my friends—the Brigade who had come to honor me with a serenade, on the evening of my departure for Raleigh. I left the next morning. A few days after my arrival in Raleigh I received the following from Chaplain E. W. Thompson: CAMP 43D N. C. REGIMENT, Near New Market, Va., Dec. 15, 1864.

According to previous notice the officers of the 43d N. C. Regiment held a meeting on the 5th of December, to express their sentiments with regard to the departure of one of their number, Lieut. L. L. Polk, to take his seat in the Legislature of N. C. Lieut. W. A. Bridgers was called to the chair, Chaplain E. W. Thompson was appointed secretary.

On motion a committee composed of Capt. W. I. Cobb, Chaplain E. W. Thompson and Lieut. H. Brown were appointed to offer resolutions expressing the sense of the meeting. The committee reported and the following preamble and resolutions were adopted.

WHEREAS, Our brother officer, Lieut. L. L. Polk has been elected to the Legislature of North Carolina, and has left us to take his seat in that honorable body, therefore,

Resolved 1st, That while we are highly gratified at the honor thus conferred upon him, we deeply regret that in the future we are to be deprived of his association as a Christian gentleman, and his aid and example as a gallant officer.

Resolved 2nd, That his gentlemanly deportment, his moral conduct, together with his gallant bearing as an officer, have won the esteem and confidence of the officers and men of the 43d N. C. Regiment.

Resolved 3rd, That we hope his conduct, while serving his country in her Legislative councils, may be marked by the same honesty of purpose, patriotic devotion and unflinching courage, that characterized him while serving it on the field of battle.

Resolved 4th, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Lieut. Polk, and also to the Raleigh "Confederate" and the North Carolina "Argus" for publication.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.
A. W. BRIDGERS, Chm'n.
E. W. THOMPSON, Sec'y.

It is due General Grimes to say, and it gives me great pleasure—that from the first time he met after this to his death, that our relations were pleasant and cordial.

If any honorable old soldier or other gentleman desires to see the record of this proceeding, in full, it will afford me pleasure to submit it in the hand writing and form in which Major Badger handed it to me.

I am sure that nothing that I could add would strengthen the stern condemnation in the minds of all impartial and honorable men of the malignant vindictiveness with which I have been pursued.
L. L. POLK.

Cleanse the scalp from scurf and dandruff; keep the hair soft and of a natural color by the use of Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer.

HOW TO REMAIN YOUNG.—Take frequent recreation.

Keep free from intense excitements. Insist upon abundance of regular sleep. Preserve the feelings and habits of youth.

Keep a clear conscience and lead a life void of offense.

If you wish to secure a certain and speedy result, when using Ayer's Sarsaparilla, be careful in observing the rules of health, or the benefit may be retarded. A fair and consistent trial of this medicine never fails, when the directions are followed.

LADIES
Needing a tonic, or children who want building up, should take
BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.
It is pleasant to take, cures Malaria, Indigestion, Biliousness and Liver Complaints.

BILL ARP ON MUSIC.

THE GEORGIA PHILOSOPHER HAS BECOME CULTIVATED, BUT STILL HAS A HANKERING FOR THE OLD TUNES.

Music is the only enjoyment that is innocent, refining, and that cannot be indulged in to excess. It stands by itself as the peculiar gift of God. It is the only art that is alike common to angels and men. It has a wonderful compass and variety, and yet from the grandest to the simplest it is all pleasing and innocent. Every other pleasure can be carried to dissipation, but not music.

The highest order of music is that which we never hear, but only read about and wonder. It is called the music of the spheres—the grand symphony that is made by the planets and other heavenly bodies coursing around the sun, and which Milton says is heard only by God and the angels. I don't suppose that such creatures as we are, afflicted and limited with original sin, could bear that kind of music. The child that is charmed with a lullaby, or soothed to sleep with "Hush, my dear, lie down and slumber," would be frightened at an oratorio from Handel. But musical taste is progressive, like every other good thing.

The time was when I thought "Billy in the Low-grounds" and "Bonaparte crossing the Rhine" perfectly splendid, but I don't now. I have advanced to a higher grade. By degrees the children have educated me, and as they climb up I climb a little, too. Time was when I thought "Kathleen Mavourneen" the sweetest song, and my wife, whom I was courting, the sweetest singer in the world. But I don't now—that is, I mean the song. There are sweeter songs; I don't wish to be misunderstood about the singer. No doubt her voice has the same alluring, ensnaring, angelic, elysian sweetness it had forty years ago, more or less, but the fault is in me, for when a man has once been allured and ensnared, and is getting old and deaf, he loses some of his gushing appreciation. Nevertheless, when her eldest daughter touches the ivory keys, and sings Longfellow's beautiful hymn of

CHILDISH FAITH.

An example of childish faith, of a kind a dull age wears away, was seen the other day. A little boy was sitting in the yard of an old country homestead; on either side of him sat a huge dog, patient and loving. The sun shown down scorchingly on the trio, and its rays were uncomfortable. Shading his eyes with his curved hand the child looked skyward and said: "Put in that sun, please." The sun shone brightly, and the little fellow repeated softly: "Please put in that sun, man up in the sky; it hurts my head." Just then over the face of the blazing orb there sailed a white summer cloud, then another, and the yellow blaze turned suddenly to a hazy, restful gray. Turning to the dogs, the little boy, putting an arm around the neck of each, said: "Did you see the sun pulled in, Romeo and Chiefstain? When you wants anything, if you is good and asks God for it, he gives it to you. The sun hurt my head, and I asked him to put it in, and don't you see how he did reach out and put it in for me?" The dogs looked wise, leaned their heads lovingly toward the diminutive little theologian, and, whatever might have been their belief, kept an inscrutable silence.—Providence Journal.

SHELLS ARMED WITH KNIVES.

TORPEDO BOATS DEFENCELESS BEFORE THESE TERRIBLE MISSILES.

A complete revolution in naval warfare will probably be the result of some successful experiments carried out on board Her Majesty's ship *Vernon* with the torpedo net cutters invented by Capt. Wilson.

The great momentum of the Whitehead torpedo, armed with Capt. Wilson's new torpedo net cutter, even when the latter is set at an angle of 45 degrees, without apparent retardation of its flight.

The cutter consists of blades arranged scissor fashion, which sever the wire meshes of the net, making the aperture sufficient for the entrance of the torpedo. Ironclads will no longer be able to defend themselves from torpedoes, as the utility of the nets, upon which they have hitherto relied for safety, is completely done away with.

"Not all is gold that glitters" is a true saying; it is equally true that not all is sarsaparilla that is so labelled. If you would be sure of the genuine article, ask for Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and take no other. Health is too precious to be trifled with.

THE ULTIMATUM.

AS LAID DOWN BY PRESIDENT MARION BUTLER, OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

Dr. R. L. Beall, of Lenoir, a member of the Farmers' Alliance, had a meeting with Mr. Marion Butler, President of the Farmers' Alliance, in Lenoir last Thursday, and the following interview was had. After pointing out the fact that the general drift of his speech tended to injure the Democratic party, especially his suggestion that both parties were responsible for the present financial condition, Dr. Beall asked Mr. Butler if any member of Congress from North Carolina had voted with the Republicans to bring on this condition.

Mr. Butler replied: "Why, certainly, Matt Ransom did. You are behind the times and ought to read up."

Dr. Beall: "Do you intend to stand by the Sub-Treasury plan even to disrupting the Democratic party?"

Mr. Butler: "Yes. We intend to stand by it if it splits the Democratic party. But we intend to go into the Democratic conventions and offer our platform."

Dr. Beall: "Do you intend to try to make the Sub-Treasury plan a part of the Democratic platform?"

Mr. Butler: "Yes, if we have the majority. We intend to stand by our demands let the consequences be as they may."

Dr. Beall: "Are you willing to have this interview published?"

Mr. Butler: "Yes; and I want you to understand that I do not speak for myself alone, but as officer of the Alliance.—Lenoir Topic.

LIQUID ENAMEL PAINT.

HAS BEEN IN THE MARKET 22 YEARS.
MIXED READY FOR USE.
ANY ONE CAN APPLY IT.

Wilson, N. C., Sept. 8, 1876.

Mr. C. P. Knight, Baltimore, Md.:

Dear Sir:—In reply to your letter as to the merits of the Liquid Enamel Paint, it affords me pleasure to say it has given entire satisfaction, so much so it has converted the painter that applied it. In fact the opposition to it was so intense when I was about to buy, I should have likely bought lead and oil had I not have known you so many years and having great confidence in your integrity.

Yours truly,
R. R. COTTEN.

ARMSTRONG, CATOR & CO.,
WHOLESALE MILLINERS,
Baltimore, Md., 1884.

Mr. C. P. Knight, Sole Agent, N. J. E. Paint Co., Baltimore:

Dear Sir:—In January 1878, our store was painted with the Liquid Enamel Paint made by the New Jersey Enamel Paint Company. We used tints that generally show the effects of exposure, but the paint has retained its color, gloss and freshness. We shall take pleasure in using it in the future.

Yours truly,
ARMSTRONG, CATOR & CO.,
Chapel Hill, N. C., Jan. 9, 1884.

Mr. C. P. Knight, Baltimore:

Dear Sir:—I take pleasure in stating that I have used, with much satisfaction, your Liquid Enamel Paint on our dwelling house in this town, and can confidently recommend it to all who would like to use a beautiful and durable paint for any purpose.

Very respectfully,
E. B. MARTIN.

JOHN ROBINSON, President,
JOHN T. PATRICK, Secretary,
DIXIE AGRICULTURAL & MECHANICAL FAIR ASSOCIATION,
Wadesboro, N. C., Nov. 31, 1879.

Certificate of merit awarded to C. P. Knight, Baltimore, for best prepared paint, being the New Jersey Enamel Paint, exhibited at the Dixie Fair of November, 1879.

Petersburg, Va., Dec. 16, 1880.

Mr. C. P. Knight, Baltimore:

Dear Sir:—We have used the Liquid Enamel Paint made by the New Jersey Enamel Paint Co., which I purchased through you, and we found it first class in every particular, and it justly deserves all that is claimed for it as to beauty, durability and economy.

Yours, etc., LEROY ROPER & SON,
Woodsboro, N. C., Oct. 31, 1877.

C. P. Knight, Esq.:

The paint, Liquid Enamel, reached me promptly. I will state that it has given entire satisfaction to both myself and painter. I regard it as the best to use as to quality and economy and I can unhesitatingly recommend it as such.

Very respectfully,
B. H. READ,
Baltimore, Dec. 18, 1880.

C. P. Knight, Baltimore:

It gives us great pleasure to certify to the good quality of your Liquid Enamel Paint, made by the New Jersey Enamel Paint Co. After using the old style paint for a number of years, we were induced to try your paint by those who had used it. We have now been using it some six or seven years, both for inside and outside work, and it gives entire satisfaction.

Yours respectfully,
DEFOUR & CO.,
C. P. KNIGHT,
SOLE GENERAL AGENT,
No. 102 South St., one door South Lombard St.
BALTIMORE, MD.
(Sample Cards furnish'd by mail gratis.)
2-3-91.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE KING
OF ALL
COUGH CURES;
DOCTOR
ACKER'S
ENGLISH
REMEDY.
SOLD IN
ENGLAND
for 1s. 1½d., and in
AMERICA
for 25 cents a bottle.
IT TASTES GOOD.

For Sale by W. M. COHEN, Weldon, N. C. apr 83

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Having qualified as Executor upon the estate of the late W. H. Whitaker, I hereby notify all persons holding claims against said estate, to present them to me at Enfield, N. C., on or before the first day of October 1892, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and settle and save costs of suit. This 22nd day of September 1891.

JNO. R. WHITAKER,
Executor of W. H. Whitaker, dec'd.
David Bell, Att'y. sep 24 91.

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