

OBSERVER.

FAVETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 7, 1864.

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE.—The rumor that Grant has retreated from Petersburg is not unexpected that we must await more definite intelligence before we give it credence.

TRICKERY EXPOSED.—The hope of Holden's election, if anybody entertains a hope of so calamitous and disgraceful an event, evidently rests upon the expectation that the people can be cheated into a belief that he is certain to be elected.

TO GIVE PLEASIBILITY TO THIS PRETENSE OF POPULARITY, some of the most prominent men in the State have been claimed as for Mr. Holden.

THE FOLLOWING IS GOV. GRAHAM'S LETTER:—HARRISBURG, June 30th, 1864. Sir—Your note enclosing an article from the Progress in relation to the pending election for Governor of the State, and inquiring whether my position in respect to it is correctly represented therein, has been received.

A FRAUD.—In the Raleigh Standard of Tuesday last, we find what purports to be an "Extract from the House Journals, Monday May 23, 1864."

THE COMMON FATHER.—Col. D. K. McKee, Senior Editor of the Raleigh Confederate, is sharing the common fate of every prominent North Carolinian. The Standard, having praised him in by-gone days, is now abusing him, libelling him in a pamphlet which, (Col. McKee alleges) has been sent Mr. Holden.

THE STANDARD.—A few days ago Gov. Vance authorized an emphatic contradiction of the Standard's statement that he had endorsed some Johnston County resolutions in favor of a State Convention.

SCREENING THEIR FRIENDS.—The Raleigh Standard does not notice the affidavits and certificate in relation to the treasonable association in Chatham and other counties, but contents itself with copying in an obscure place the following paragraphs from the Progress attempting to ridicule the persons who gave those affidavits and certificates.

"Signs and wonders and visions have been seen recently in the land of Chatham, and 'wise people' begin to think the end is nigh. One O. Churchill has had his eyes opened, and as if by a vision has seen a light, and given. And yet they do not believe he was forsworn until this day, Sunday, the 24th of June, 1864.

"The purpose of this is evidently to screen the members of the treasonable association, who, according to the Rev. O. Churchill, ('one O. Churchill') were expected to vote for Mr. Holden."

"The Standard is full of electioneering stuff, abuse of Gov. Vance, calumnious charges against him and his friends, ridiculous stories about the voters that Mr. Holden will get in August and his certainty that he cannot be elected; but it cannot devote a thought to the great charge ever made in North Carolina, no less than that his friends were engaged in a treasonable secret conspiracy—a conspiracy to overthrow the Confederate government and take North Carolina back into union with the hated band of robbers and abolitionists and murderers who are desolating our country."

"To give plausibility to this pretence of popularity, some of the most prominent men in the State have been claimed as for Mr. Holden. Among these we may mention, Gov. Graham, Gen. Patterson, Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., and Hon. N. Boyden. It was doubtless supposed that these gentlemen would not trouble themselves to contradict the story. But this was reckoning without their host. The 'subjected' letter from Gov. Graham to the Editor of the Raleigh Conservative shows how that eminent statesman stands, — a thorough friend of Gov. Vance's re-election, and for the most conclusive reasons. Gen. Patterson's friends have compelled even the Progress to retract its claim of him, and to admit that he is no Holden man. The Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., has 'authorized the Conservative to state that he is emphatically for Gov. Vance.' The Salisbury Watchman has equally exposed the claim of Mr. Boyden, and declared that he is in favor of Gov. Vance. Even the Hon. J. M. Leach, member of Congress from the 7th Congressional District, certainly will not vote for Holden, though he may not vote for Gov. Vance."

"The following is Gov. Graham's letter:—HARRISBURG, June 30th, 1864. Sir—Your note enclosing an article from the Progress in relation to the pending election for Governor of the State, and inquiring whether my position in respect to it is correctly represented therein, has been received."

"The Standard 'extract' then gives the year and says—'years 70, says 26'—and adds:—'So the resolution endorsing Gov. Vance and President Davis passed the final vote—years 70, says 26.'"

"No such paragraphs as these are in the Journals. The Journals show the truth, that the resolution endorsing Gov. Vance was adopted by a vote of 93 to 3, and that 'the other resolutions' (viz. Mr. Cobb's resolutions endorsing President Davis, which did not contain any allusion whatever to Gov. Vance) were adopted 70 to 26. The Standard manages, by a pretended extract from the Journals, to make it appear that Gov. Vance was endorsed by a vote of 70 to 26, instead of 93 to 3, as it was in truth, and as was well known to the Editor of the Standard."

"ELEGANT EXTRACTS.—A few days ago Gov. Vance authorized an emphatic contradiction of the Standard's statement that he had endorsed some Johnston County resolutions in favor of a State Convention. The Standard repeats the statement, and says in its last issue, July 5, 1864—'

"This endorsement was given about the 22d of February, when Gov. Vance delivered his Wilkesboro' speech, that he was not hostile to a Convention."

"A shocking bad memory has the Standard. In February it said that 'the impression prevails that Gov. Vance is opposed to the movement.' In July it says that Gov. Vance had endorsed the movement on Jan'y 1, and that 'the impression prevailed up to the 22d of Feb'y, when Gov. Vance delivered his Wilkesboro' speech, that he was not hostile to a Convention.'"

BY TELEGRAPH.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

From Richmond and Petersburg.—GREENSBORO, July 5.—The Richmond Whig of the 4th has been received, but it contains no news of importance. The following official dispatch, received at the War Department, is published:—'

"HEADQUARTERS, A. N. V., July 1.—Gen. Beauregard reports a feeble demonstration by the enemy on the morning of the 29th inst. His lines about 5 P. M. yesterday. His skirmishers supported by two lines of troops, drove in our line of skirmishers, which however was re-established at dark."

"The following Press Dispatch from Petersburg is published in the Whig:—PETERSBURG, July 2.—There has been some fighting on our lines, amounting to nothing. Nothing doing but shelling on the part of the enemy."

"The Petersburg Express of Saturday, as quoted by the Whig, mentions heavy musketry firing for 20 minutes on Friday night. Supposed that the Yankees had assaulted our lines, and, as usual, had killed and wounded left on the field. 100 prisoners, 13 pieces of artillery, 30 wagons and boxes, ordnance stores, and several hundred negroes taken by the enemy from plantations of the R. F. Lee, Gen. captured."

"YANKEE OPERATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI.—MERIDIAN, July 5.—A dispatch received at Clarion from Brandon, Miss., says that the Yankees again occupied Jackson at noon yesterday. Gen. Slocum says his object is to destroy the Railroad and bridges, and then return to Vicksburg. His force is estimated at 20,000 men. There is heavy firing to-day between Jackson and Canton."

"THE WHEREABOUTS OF EWELE'S CORPS.—A letter from an officer near Petersburg, July 1st, brought the following news:—The Yankees again occupied the Weldon by private hands and mailed their reports:—'

"We understand very heavy artillery firing was heard here yesterday, significant of an engagement between the two armies on the peninsula. The Petersburg and Weldon Railroad has been ordered to be repaired now, as the Yankee raiders have been pretty well stopped up. The repairs, it is said, can be made in a short time. The wires are working through to Petersburg."

"FROM PETERSBURG we have reports from different sources that Grant has left the front of the city with the whole or the greater portion of his forces. We are disposed to believe this to be true to some extent. Late Yankee papers betray a fear that Gen. Lee has stolen a march upon Grant and now threatens Washington. We infer this from the report that Burnside's corps had reached Washington City, and that Foster's corps had crossed to the north side of the James; and from the further fact that the Weldon and Petersburg railroad is wholly cleared of the Yankees, so much so that the road is being rapidly repaired and will be in a condition to enable trains to pass through to Petersburg to-day or tomorrow."

"SINCE the foregoing was written we learn that a fight or a battle raged yesterday at Petersburg. No particulars given.—Goldboro' State Jour., 6th. Fighting at Charleston again.—The Charleston Courier of the 4th reports a resumption of active operations in that vicinity. On Friday night a contingent of the enemy crossed over from Dixonsville to the South end of James Island, and on Saturday morning attacked our pickets and a detachment of Blake's Battery. Our men were posted behind a breastwork, and after 14 hours' fight repulsed the Yankees, who confess to a loss of 90 killed and wounded. The enemy's loss was 114 stand arms, 600 prisoners, 6 officers, 3 banners, 100 muskets, 2 guns and 10 to 15 prisoners. The enemy are since repulsed and have abandoned this point. On Sunday, another expedition in barges attacked Fort Johnson, James Island, and were handsomely repulsed. The Yankees claim to be 1000 strong. We took 140 prisoners, 6 officers, 3 banners, 114 stand arms. Enemy's loss in killed and wounded not known, as they were taken off in the barges. Our loss 1 killed and 5 wounded. The enemy made a demonstration also on John's Island, but was easily driven off. A demonstration is also reported near the Cape of Credit. A vigorous fire was kept up in a condition to enable port heavy firing was going on in the direction of Stono. Gen. Foster is said to have 4,000 men on Folly Island."

"DEATH OF COL. ANDREWS.—A letter has been received from a member of the 5th N. C. Cavalry, containing the following:—'Col. Andrews of the 2d N. C. Cavalry died of wounds received in a fight on the Southside R. Road. Col. Andrews we believe was a native of Ireddell county, and was captain of Co. B, when the Regt. was formed in 1861, under Col. Spruill. The new Brigadier Generals.—Some weeks ago a list of appointments of Brigadiers was published, and among them some five or six from this State. It was generally supposed that these appointments were permanent, but we learn that they are only temporary, except in one or two cases. The appointments of Grimes and Barringer to the command of Brigades are permanent, because they take the places of officers killed, but Cox, Toon and Lewis only command Brigades until the return of wounded or captured officers. So, also, in the case of Hamme's appointment of Major General—he fills the position and draws the pay of a Major Gen'l, until Maj. Gen. Edw'd Johnson, who was captured, returns to his command.—Chas. Democrat. Supreme Court.—Opinions have been filed as follows:—By PEARSON, C. J. In Hasbill vs Freeman, in equity, from Stanley, decree for plaintiff, and directing an account. In Sloan vs Mendenhall, in equity, from Gwynn, decree for plaintiffs and reference. In Edwards vs Parks, in equity, from Ashe, dismissing the bill. In Peeler vs Barringer, in equity, from Rowan, declaring that there is error in the order. By BATTLE, J. In Walton vs Gatin (habes corpus) judgment reversed, and judgment here for the plaintiff. In Haden vs Bradshaw, from Rowan, judgment reversed and venire de novo. In Carson and others, ex parte, from McDowell, judgment reversed. In Carson vs Carson, in equity, from McDowell, children of second marriage excluded from the trust. By MAX, J. In Turner vs Kirtland, in equity, from Granville, decree affirmed. In Whitaker vs Brown, in equity, from Buncombe, decree for plaintiffs. In Baker vs Harris, from Rowan, judgment reversed. In Chiles vs Lattimore, from Cleveland, judgment affirmed.—Raleigh Conservative, 6th. STANLEY CROPS AND POLITICS.—A letter from a subscriber at Norwood's, dated July 1, says:—'The wheat crops are very light; oats fine; corn now gloomy. 'Vance's prospects bright and Holden's doleful.'"

THE CAPTURED THIEVES.

From the Richmond Examiner of the 2d inst.

The precise number of mounted thieves lately captured by our forces near Petersburg, as they were returning from a pillaging expedition, is not, perhaps, exactly ascertained, nor is it material to our present purpose. Our present purpose is to show that these thieves are not prisoners of war, and that their case falls strictly within the province of Police. Whatever be the number of delinquents thus taken in the fact, there will be found in their knapsacks, purses, holsters, pockets—especially in those of the persons claiming to be officers—the very silver plate, the very gold coin, watches and sugar tongs which they had just taken from the drawers and presses of our citizens. There will be found in their possession the very horses and mules they had stolen, whose owners will be but too happy to identify their property—also, their slaves, in very large numbers, which they have carried off from their masters. Now when Gen. Loux captured the baggage of the bandit Ostar lately, he very properly advertised in the public papers for the owners of the stolen goods found in that robber's trunk. Here we have at Petersburg a certain number of the same sort of characters, be it 200, 800, or 1200, the number is nothing—the point is what to do with them, both for restoration of pillaged property and prevention of such marauding for the future. If our military authorities could forget for a little that they are in a military, and think of the real anguish of their own outraged people, and of the real wrongs done them for a protection, it were easy to say what should be done. A guard should be ordered to strip and search every man, especially the "officers" of the gang, make an inventory of their property, advertise in the papers, and call for the owners to come forward and claim it, and also to give evidence of the acts of outrage committed or commanded by any of the band at their houses. If the owners do not appear, the stolen property or plate should be sent to the State Penitentiary, those who had forced or seduced negroes away from their owners should be hanged. If we speak only of the comparatively petty affair of merely stealing or destroying property, but we all know that there is far blacker crime than this calling aloud for vengeance upon the miscreants. We have seen in the course of the war, men who have risen one crazy with despair and shame, seen to lead the air, and to demand of earth and heaven the blood of their ravishers. Gray-haired old men and women, with their hands on their heads, crying out with maniac yells or idiot drivellings. Draw a curtain over all that, and take the comparatively slight affair of property stolen and negroes instigated to revolt. We have seen in the course of the war, men who have committed crimes that expiate their crimes in the goal or on the gallows. The fighting men of those desolated counties are also seen to be in a military, and think of the real anguish of their own outraged people, and of the real wrongs done them for a protection, it were easy to say what should be done. A guard should be ordered to strip and search every man, especially the "officers" of the gang, make an inventory of their property, advertise in the papers, and call for the owners to come forward and claim it, and also to give evidence of the acts of outrage committed or commanded by any of the band at their houses. If the owners do not appear, the stolen property or plate should be sent to the State Penitentiary, those who had forced or seduced negroes away from their owners should be hanged. If we speak only of the comparatively petty affair of merely stealing or destroying property, but we all know that there is far blacker crime than this calling aloud for vengeance upon the miscreants. 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