

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE. THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1865.

The News.—There is great anxiety, of course, to know what is the situation of things South of us at Cheraw. We regret that we have but little information to give. The mail from Cheraw comes but once a week, and we have not learned of anything material being brought by carriers. Tuesday morning brought a note stating that Sherman was at Lynch's creek, 22 miles from Cheraw. On Wednesday night, with a prearranged yesterday morning, in substance, that the most definite information I can get is that Sherman is in the vicinity of Lynch's creek. They divided at Lynch's creek one corps, the left wing, taking the Tiller's road towards this place, the others crossing the Thompson's creek, about 4 miles from town. They were brought in in small squads. Our country has held the enemy in check to-day. Troops have gone out to reinforce those already at Thompson's creek.

The poetical written yesterday morning merely says: "Couriers going all night. Nothing further this morning." That we hear of the amount of prisoners at Cheraw, it would be improper to publish. So that in truth we can give our readers but little information in regard to prospects. We will say, however, that we pin our faith to Gen. Lee's conclusion, that "SHERMAN CAN BE BEATEN AND WILL BE DEFEATED." From Wilmington and that quarter we have no news except the account of the fighting at Fort Anderson and its evacuation, the evacuation of Wilmington, &c., furnished by a correspondent in Hoke's army. There are rumors of a mixed ball in Wilmington, at which a Wilmington man and his daughters (Northern people) are said to have figured, and of some other personal matter; but they are merely rumors.

There have been reports of the appearance of the enemy at various places, White Hall, Elizabethtown, &c. &c.; but they are evidently false.

RECALCIBRATION OF PRISONERS.—It is a very great relief to know that the Yankee General at Wilmington reconsidered his refusal to receive the thousands of Yankee prisoners who were tendered to him there, and finally consented to receive them for exchange. They had undoubtedly been great sufferers, and their condition excited the commiseration of those who most abhor the whole Yankee species. Their condition in the temporary prisons, say at Florence, from which we suppose these came, was bad enough; but when the approach of the enemy's army compelled their sudden removal to other places, that condition became much worse, because at Florence provision had been made for feeding and covering them as far as it was in the power of the government to do so, whilst at such provision could be made at the points to which they were unexpectedly carried. It is a happy providence, ere we are almost inclined to say, if the Yankees should again cheat us by refusing to send our prisoners over thus receiving their own.

There will doubtless be a great ho, raised at the North when these people get back home. If their ragged and dirty and half-starved condition, afflicted pity here among those whom they came to rob, and to murder, what will it do there? They will be remembered that these were invaders, guilty of every sort of insult and injury to the invaded people, their captives. They will not choose to remember that their own acts put it out of the power of the Confederate government and people to feed and clothe them adequately, for they have not only destroyed all public property wherever they went—which was admissible by the laws of war—but also destroyed private property along with it, which is contrary to the laws of war. It has been the enemy's avowed object, which they boast of having accomplished to the utmost, to deprive the Confederate people of food for themselves and their soldiers and even for their cattle. How then could they expect us to have food for such of them as fall into our hands? But worse than this: With a spirit that would do no discredit to the very devils in hell, after destroying or carrying off all the food of families, they have taken the pains to destroy the farming implements, to prevent if possible the raising of new crops for the subsistence of those whom they had thus stripped and beggared. Can they wonder that there was not sufficient food to satisfy their appetites? They left not enough for our own soldiers and women and children, all of whom are upon scant rations, and of course there was not enough for them.

The case is different in the United States. There is an abundance of food and clothing there. They not only produce an abundance, but have the whole world open to them also. It is base and unmanly in them to stint such of our soldiers as they capture. Yet it is notorious that they have stunted them, and further that they have generally in other ways so treated them as to force the conviction that they would to kill them, or at least to ruin their health so that they could not again do duty as soldiers. They are thus murderers, in intent and in fact, as surely as if they had deliberately shot or stabbed one of our men because he was unarmed and in their hands. In the view of God and man, upon their heads rests the blood of every Confederate who has perished by exposure or ill treatment or want in their prisons. They did not, and would not. They murdered him in cold blood.

Again we say, it is a happy thing to get rid of these Yankees whom Lincoln has obliged us to hold so long, and who have suffered because their own inhumanity deprived us of the means of feeding and clothing them. But what joy to hope, that such of our own gallant men as have survived the cruelties of many weary months of almost hopeless imprisonment, will soon be restored to the embraces of the dear ones at home. In forty thousand families in the Confederacy there are hundreds of thousands of hearts of wives and children, mothers and fathers, which bound at the prospect of such a meeting once more.

The effect of the exchange upon the relative strength of the opposing armies will be great. Whilst the time of service of most of the Yankees has expired, and they will not come back into the army if they can avoid it, every exchanged Confederate who brings back vigor enough for the field, will be under arms again, to swell the ranks of Lee or Johnston, and determined to avenge the wrongs he suffered whilst a prisoner. Their influence upon the present campaign it is impossible to estimate. May we declare, May Heaven grant that it shall be.

AN OUTRAGE DEMANDING REVENGE.—The execution of Capt. Beatty, by the Confederate States Army, calls for prompt retaliation. He was convicted as a spy and one of the late Erie "pirates."

"TIRED OF THE WAR"—Who is not tired of the war? It is not possible to conceive of any one, either in the Confederacy or out of it, who is not anxious for the close of this desolating war, and who does not pray daily and hourly, that God would in his mercy stay the hand of the destroyer, and once more bless the land with Peace. Demagogues and fools may prate of the speculator's gains, of the chieftain's desire of fame, or of the ruler's ambition, as motives urging them or any of them to entertain a desire for the prolongation of the war; but the idea is utterly inadmissible. If really entertained by those who advance it, it only shows that their own hearts are corrupt.

There is but one way to secure peace; and that is, to conquer it. Let the Confederacy establish its Independence, and there will be indeed what we all pray for, "a lasting Peace." Not otherwise. We shall not be a Power of such magnitude among the nations as to make us hasty to give or to take offence. The horrors of this war will live in the memories of generations to come as a wholesome warning against re-opening the gates of Janus. If the dead, who made themselves only the more dear to their countrymen because they died gloriously in defence of their country and its rights, could be forgotten, if the sleepless ones, the wooden legs should all, as they will in time, disappear from our midst, and if the favored of Heaven, who passed through a hundred battles unharmed, should

"Sink to rest." "With all their country's best blood!" there will still be enough in tradition and history, and in the ever present debt and taxes entailed by this violent war, to serve as a beacon to warn us against future wars.

Not so with the United States, and emphatically not so with the United States if the Confederate States were unfortunately reunited to her. It is our belief that this present war was permitted in part to prevent that great power from becoming a scourge to the world. Inflated with self conceit beyond any people under the sun; powerful beyond any nation of such brief duration, and arrogant beyond any from a sense of that power, the United States was inclined to dictate to "a world in arms," and had really come to believe, or at least to boast, that they "could whip that world in arms." The amazing capacity for war which they have shown during the past four years, makes it necessary that the Confederacy shall be free, to restrain the arrogance and ambition of the United States. Re-united, and inspired with ten-fold more, if possible, of the natural and boasted conceit of the Yankees, there would be no keeping the peace of the world. In the confident expectation of conquering the Confederacy, the United States are but suspending two other wars which they do not hesitate to avow their determination to enter upon—wars with two of the most warlike and powerful nations of the earth; wars of ambition and conquest, which Seward did not hesitate to admit to our Peace Commissioners that he expected to occur.

We must "conquer a Peace," or we shall be engaged in these wars. It is idle for any man who is "tired of the war" to hope for peace in any other way or on any other terms. Submit to the Yankees; allow them to subjugate us; re-unite with them upon any terms, even if they would consent to terms, which they will not—none of these would bring Peace. They would bring new wars—wars in which we have no interest and for which we have no inclination, and yet wars in which we should be compelled to fight. Most probably, instead of being under our own chosen officers, selected from amongst ourselves and sympathizing with us, we should be divided in Yankee regiments; have Yankee officers put over us, to demoralize with hateful tyranny over an abject and inferior people. We can imagine the condition of the Confederate soldier in the Yankee army—a subjugated Confederate soldier, drafted into the service to fight in a war in which he has no concern, and under officers whom he hates and who despise and hate him. Subjected to every indignity and injury in camp, in battle he will be put in the front, as the negroes now are, to save the carcasses of the Yankees from harm. And he will have the sad consciousness that he deserves his fate, for he might have been free and would not.

These views may not be new to our readers, but they are none the less important. We submit that they are true; that it is a miserable delusion to suppose that re-union with the Yankees would bring peace. How infinitely better, on the contrary,—how infinitely more safe and honorable—to fight out this war for our own rights and property, rather than lead ourselves to the Yankees to fight their wars with England and France and the rest of "the world in arms." Success in this war will be our success, our safety, our honor, our Independence. Success or defeat in the Yankee war would but ensure to their benefit and glory and to our degradation and oppression.

AN INCIDENT FROM HISTORY.—The failures of the mails enable us to copy Macaulay's account of the flight of Lord Rodney, one of the most remarkable events in history, and one well calculated to inspire our people with hope and confidence of triumph, if we will only be wised and true to ourselves.

In the preceding part of the chapter from which we copy, is an account of the efforts of Lundy, the Governor of Londonderry, to discourage the people. He was a regular croaker, as bad as any would-be Governor who has disgraced the Confederacy. He was in secret communication with the enemy. Some charged that he had affected to be against the enemy only that he might the more effectually aid him. Others attributed his dastardly conduct to his faint-heartedness and poverty of spirit. He had sworn fealty to his royal sovereign, just as some people in this Confederacy signed the Ordinance of Secession and pledged "the last dollar and the last man" to maintain that act. Lundy wished the inhabitants to "try to make good terms for themselves," he himself meaning to "withdraw privately." He sent a private messenger to the enemy with assurances that the city should be peaceably surrendered on the first summons. We wonder if any such message has gone to the enemy from North Carolina? When Lundy's conduct became known, the spirit of soldiers and people swelled up high and fierce against the dastardly; they threatened to shoot or hang him. He hid himself during the day and ran off to the enemy at night. His name is to this day held in execration in the North of Ireland, where his effigy is still annually hanged and burned.

After the traitor ran away, King James sent a flag of truce who made large promises to induce the garrison to surrender. He was more liberal than Lincoln, "offering a free pardon for all that was past if they would submit," and Murray, who was sent out of the city to meet the flag, was offered "a colonel's commission and a thousand pound note." What was the reply of the noble Murray? "The men of Londonderry," said he, "have done nothing that requires a pardon, and own no sovereign but King William and Queen Mary. It will not be safe for your Lordship to stay longer, or to return on the same strand. Let me have the honor of seeing you through the lines."

Glorious Murray! glorious people who maintained his pledge, though it did not require "the last dollar and the last man" to do that, and to triumph.

FROM GEN. WHITING AND MAJ. HILL.—Letters from these gallant officers to their families, dated Governor's Island, Feb'y 10th, came to our care this morning, which we know not how to forward, and therefore state that Gen. Whiting writes that he is very weak but doing well; wounds slowly improving; had been treated with great kindness; it will be a long time before he can walk. Maj. Hill writes that he is well, and hoping for the speedy exchange of all prisoners.

CAPT. BRADY.—The following is just at hand—
FOUR OF BRASSARTYVA.
Richmond, Va., Feb'y 23, 1865.

Messrs R. J. Halo & Sons: I have just received from Capt. K. J. Brady, 26th Reg't N. C. T., a letter dated Feb'y 6, 1865, and written from Fort Columbus, New York, from which I take the following extracts: "I understand it has been established in one of the Raleigh papers that the fall of Fort Fisher was caused by the surrender of the garrison by me. I will thank you to put a card in the Observer, and request other State papers to copy, branding this statement as a famous falsehood. All of my captured common soldiers, who swoked off by me, I will testify that I had nothing to do with the surrender; that I was one of the last to surrender. Of the six men I had, acting as infantry, twenty were killed wounded. This statement must have been made by some one who swoked off by me. There was a white flag discovered at night, and I was ordered by Maj. Kelly to take and burn it. What I meant I did, and found it was not the case. In violation of the orders of the Confederacy, I have known as a faithful and gallant soldier, and I have passed three years, I respectfully ask that you will not insert in your paper any article recommending that Gen. Lee be clothed with power to treat for Peace, which were referred to a committee of conference. The bill abolishing the office of Provost Marshal, except within the limits of the army, was amended and passed. The Senate bill requiring the Secretary of the Navy to report to the Committee of conference on the Currency bill; and also in the House amendment to the Senate bill authorizing the Secretary of War to negotiate with the several State Governments for slave labor. An Hon. Mr. T. Leach submitted resolutions recommending that Gen. Lee be clothed with power to treat for Peace, which were referred to the Military Committee. The House then went into secret session, after which the bill providing for payment for cotton purchased in Trans-Mississippi by Gov't agents was discussed until adjournment.

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TO OUR ARMY.
FOR THE OBSERVER.

It is mortifying, but lamentably true, that many of our people have grown despondent with the fear of subjugation, and their courage is "soaking at their finger's ends" while others are absorbed in devising subterfuges by which they hope to save their property and their persons from the general ruin inevitable upon our ultimate defeat—many of them the vile speculators who have made fortunes during the war. And these, although a small proportion of our population, added to the disloyal from the beginning, make up a party of "horries," denominated so in 1777, and entitled to that appellation now. Did this discourage our patriot fathers, or relax their exertions to maintain the great principle of American liberty—the right of self-government? Verily not. Let the record speak, the historian says: "As the contest assumed a more serious aspect and became better understood, causes of irritation multiplied and real injuries were sustained, the number of those who were determined at every hazard to maintain the principle asserted by America greatly increased, but the party disaffected to this position assumed a more distinct form, and in every part of the Union appeared in greater force than had been at first apprehended. Many were found unwilling to encounter the danger and hazard of the contest and to be more disposed to admit the supremacy of the British Parliament and trust to their not abusing it, than to risk everything in order to maintain a principle not deemed by all of equal importance. These men were viewed with disdain and contempt and detestation and denominated Tories. In many places where their numbers were considerable, they manifested a disposition to take up arms. In North Carolina they collected in a very formidable body but were dispersed; and in New York similar dispositions were manifested, but they were subdued by Gen. Schuyler. The conduct of the government to them was first truly lenient. Gen. Washington afterwards, however, pressed the stop line of such vigorous measures as would certainly subvert the disaffected from practicing the injuries they contemplated. This was the state of the country prior to the Declaration of Independence. That necessary measure was issued out by the roots every hope of conciliation; but still many hung to the hope that the British commanders, (Lord Sir Wm. Howe) who the sword, possessed powers which might constitute a proper basis of negotiation. Where the previous measures of the central and local governments had been cordially and generally supported, the public mind was fully prepared for the Declaration. In New England, Virginia and a great part of South Carolina, scarcely a dissenting voice was raised against it. It was not only assented to with acrimony when declared, but most ardently wished by all classes of people, and a clear disposition was manifested by all, and in some of them exercised even to precede Congress in making this declaration. From New York to Maryland inclusive the people were more divided. Great bodies of disaffected were found almost sufficient to neutralize the spirit of those States as might be expected. In North Carolina a considerable body of men were friendly to Independence, but in its bosom were powerful enemies ready to seize the first opportunity which might offer for the manifestation of their hostility. Georgia was weak, and not united." When our History is truthfully written, may it not be said that the Tories of the first Revolution had conspicuous descendants in the Tories of this. And how very remarkable—that the ancestor and progeny, separated by 90 years time, talked and acted alike under similar circumstances! Do not suppose, therefore, that some strange thing hath happened upon you. Let the result of this conflict teach the Tories of 1865 the lesson taught their progenitors in 1776. And has not the time arrived when Gen. Washington's advice should be heeded "to adopt such vigorous measures as would certainly disable the disaffected from practicing the injuries they contemplate." I conclude in the language of an eminent patriot of 1776: "I firmly believe that we shall ultimately succeed, because I firmly believe that justice is with us." P. M. W.

BY TELEGRAPH.

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