

# The Beginning of the End!

**THIS WEEK---January the 20th to 25th**  
 Will Mark the Beginning of the End of The  
**GEO. O. GAYLORD and PLATT & HAAR**  
**CONSOLIDATION SALES!**

Ordinary sales, conducted in the sensational way, barely outlive the short duration of ten days. The fact that the sales now being conducted at the stores above named are as interesting to Wilmington shoppers now as on the opening day, proves that real bargains are being offered at both stores. The stocks are fast being depleted, yet there is a plenty left to make the coming week just as interesting as the first days of the sale. Every sale that's made gives just that much room for the new stocks now being purchased for the opening of the

*Gaylord-Platt-Haar*  
 COMPANY

Before the Week Is Over We May Decide on the Ending Date, So Again We Say, Attend, Ere it Be Too Late!

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**THE CHARGE OF LONGSTREET**

Capt. James I. Metts Replies to Some Virginia Critics of His Recent Article Published in Wilmington

Editor of the Confederate Column, The Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:—Replying to Mr. B. A. Robert's article in your paper of November 3rd, headed "Who is Captain James I. Metts?" beg to state that Mr. Roberts can learn of General W. R. Cox, of Richmond, Va.; Walter Clark, Chief Justice of North Carolina, or most any prominent citizen of Wilmington, N. C., my home.

If Mr. Roberts will correctly read the article, "Longstreet's Charge at Gettysburg," he will find that it is a compilation of statements of the valor or cowardice of the troops engaged made by historians and soldiers on both sides who participated in that charge, their names being given and not of my own personal knowledge. I do not claim to be superhuman, and could not be in two places at the same time. I was in my proper place as second lieutenant of Company A, Third North Carolina Infantry, during the charge up Culp's Hill on July 2nd, until shot through the body and right lung about 9:30 P. M. on the ridge to the right of the works captured from the enemy, and was sent to our hospital, about two miles in the rear, by Major Parsley, Captain Armstrong and Adjutant James.

I note that Mr. Roberts failed to include the Maryland Battalion as a part of Geo. H. Stuart's Brigade, which was among the best soldiers and fighters in the brigade, who by their position in the line fell heir to the Yankee works on the first ridge and joined on the left of the Third North Carolina Infantry.

After describing the position the brigade occupied at the foot of the hill along side of Rock Creek, where it remained till dark and then moved out, he says: "But in the meantime some of our boys had fallen asleep, and the next morning, the 4th of July, Major W. M. Parsley, of the Third North Carolina Infantry, found that he was short 156 men;" also, "if the Virginia troops acted cowardly in the Pickett charge the Third North Carolina acted doubly so in remaining behind the rocks at Culp's Hill to surrender to the enemy the next morning." Would not the same accusation apply to his own boys of the Forty-third Virginia, who "fell asleep behind the rocks?" He furnishes no proof that the Carolinians surrendered to the enemy; besides, if any of the Virginia troops acted cowardly in the Longstreet charge that is no evidence that the Third North Carolina Infantry was guilty of such a charge. It should be recalled, however, that I made no charge of cowardice of the Virginia

troops and do not now, my object being to establish facts.

I believe that none of the Maryland Battalion or of the Virginia regiments of Stuart's Brigade will support him in his accusations. On the contrary, the Third North Carolina Infantry went into the charge up Culp's Hill with 300 guns, and on the 4th of July only seventy-seven men were accounted for; the balance (223 men) were accounted for as killed or wounded, hence there could be no prisoners, and consequently the 156 men short, which he claims "lay behind the rocks to surrender next morning to the enemy," did not surrender to the enemy.

This old Tar Heel regiment smelt too much of the Yankee gunpowder and suffered too heavily in many hard fought battles with the Army of Northern Virginia under Generals Jackson, Grimes, Cox, Stuart, Colston, etc., and was too well-known in that army to have such charge hatched up about it. To corroborate this statement, I copy from Clark's Regimental History of North Carolina the part taken by the Third Regiment, North Carolina Infantry at Gettysburg, as follows:

From this camp the Third Regiment, with the brigade, marched via Hagerstown to Chambersburg, Green-castle and Carlisle, from which point we counter-marched and after a very long and tiresome march (twenty-five miles), on the 1st of July, 1863, arrived at Gettysburg about 7:30 o'clock and filed to the left, nearly encircling the town. Here we lay in line of battle until the evening of the 2nd, when about 6 o'clock we were ordered forward.

We were on the right of the brigade and were ordered to connect our right with the left of Nichols' (La.) Brigade, and at the same time by wheel to the right to properly prolong their lines. We did so, thereby in some degree disconnecting our regiment from the rest of the brigade. We continued to the front, driving the enemy's skirmishers before us without trouble, and with very little of his first line of breast-works. He was however, driven from those, and soon thereafter we received a front and oblique fire from behind his second line of breastworks, to which he had fallen back. He was soon driven from the portion from which we received the oblique fire, and then the fire from the front seemed even more terrible. A steady firing was kept up until 10 o'clock P. M., when, as by common consent, it ceased, reopening at 4:30 o'clock next morning. We here found our ammunition nearly exhausted, some men having not more than two rounds. We partially refilled our cartridge boxes from the rest of the dead and wounded, of whom there was a great number, and held this position that night and the next morning, exposed to a terrific fire until about 10:30 P. M., when we were ordered to move by the left flank along the line of the captured breastworks, and to cross them and to form line with the rest of the brigade to charge the enemy's works on what is supposed to be his right flank.

The few men then remaining in the regiment were formed on the right of

the brigade, and very soon thereafter were ordered forward, the line advancing beautifully under the heaviest fire until we found our regiment alone moving to the front, unsupported, when the officers and men were ordered to withdraw, which was done slowly and without confusion, the regiment being greatly reduced (one company, Captain John Cowan's, and a part of another being detached to fill up a space between the regiment and the Louisiana Brigade). Too much praise cannot be given to the officers and men of our command for their coolness and bravery, for the promptness with which they obeyed all orders given them, and their untiring zeal generally. The enemy was driven back to the Baltimore Turnpike in this charge by Stuart's Brigade which came so near inflicting a critical blow on the enemy's extreme right flank. Had this gallant movement been supported, the charge of Longstreet would not have been necessary.

That last charge on the third day was a cruel thing for the Third. They had borne their full share of the engagement, not even enjoying the protection of the works they had captured from the enemy by reason of their position, other regiments of the brigade happening by the fortunes of the battle to have them (breastworks) in their front. There they stood, heroes, holding their ground unprotected, receiving a most deadly fire and giving in turn, like true soldiers, what they could from their decimated ranks, most of their comrades being already down, dead or wounded, until ordered to the left to join the balance of the brigade to participate in the charge.

The battle of Gettysburg is generally conceded to have been the hardest fought battle of the war on either side, at least, of those in which General Lee's army were engaged. This regiment certainly suffered more in killed and wounded than in any of the many battles in which it was engaged. What fearful slaughter it endured is shown beyond peradventure by the figures. Entering the battle with 300 guns, it was greatly reduced by the killing and wounding of 223 men. When the regiment was mustered after the battle, seventy-seven were all that could be gotten in the ranks, and it lost no prisoners and had no stragglers. The loss was within a fraction of seventy-five per cent. Colonel Parsley, Captain B. H. Armstrong and Lieutenant Lyon were the only officers perhaps, not killed or wounded.

Please publish above in your Confederate column, and oblige, Respectfully yours, JAMES I. METTS, Captain Company G, Third North Carolina Infantry, Geo. H. Stuart's Brigade, Johnson's Division, Ewell's Corps, A. N. V.

Pickett at Gettysburg; Was it "Pickett's Charge?"

I have read Captain James I. Metts' two articles in The Times-Dispatch claiming that Pickett did not lead the charge on the third day at Gettysburg. The evidence he furnishes will be difficult to refute. The statement of Charles S. Venable, of Charlottesville,

and his staff is beyond cavil. It seems Pickett did not lead his own brigade, although writers of history in Virginia have been crediting him with leading the whole charge. Has Pickett no kin living to rescue truthfully his memory? If it cannot be done, then correct the school histories now being taught Virginia children and let Pettigrew's name be honored as it deserves.

"Neither Pickett nor any member of his staff, nor even one of his horses, was touched. Why? Because dismounted and on the farther side of a hill that protected them from the enemy's fire." If this be true, Pickett has been parading all these years in borrowed plumes.

The iconoclast is abroad in the land, pulling down off their pedestals some of their heroes, who since the war have been receiving unstinted homage.

If it can be done, let some one who knows show Pickett's right to be called leader of the famous charge at Gettysburg.

J. C. RENSHAW, Charlottesville.

Washington, January 16.—After two hours debate in executive session, the Senate today confirmed the nomination of Colonel Edward J. McClelland, of the First Cavalry, to succeed General Wotherspoon, as brigadier-general. There was no other confirmation, and the Senate adjourned with the understanding that immediately after the routine business tomorrow another executive session would be ordered to further consider army promotions.

Columbia, S. C., January 16.—Founders Day, commemorating the 108th anniversary of the University of South Carolina, was celebrated here today with elaborate exercises. Several notable speakers were heard, including Charles Francis Adams, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and Dr. Walter S. McNeil, dean of the Richmond College Law School.

"Till the Sands of the Desert Grow Cold." New and pretty song by Mr. Karp at the Grand Theatre tomorrow. (Advertisement.)

**GRAY FADED HAIR, OR BEAUTIFUL, DARK, ATTRACTIVE---CHOOSE, MADAM!**

Says Sage Tea Mixed With Sulphur Restores Natural Color and Lustre.

Gray, faded hair turned beautifully dark and lustrous almost over night, is a reality, if you'll take the trouble to mix sage tea and sulphur, but what's the use, you get a large bottle of the ready-to-use tonic, called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy" at drug stores here for about 50 cents. Millions of bottles of "Wyeth's" are sold annually, says a well known druggist, because it darkens the hair so naturally and evenly that no one can tell it has been applied.

You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur and draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. Those whose hair is turning gray, becoming faded, dry, scraggly and thin, have a surprise awaiting them, because after just one application the gray hair vanishes and your locks become luxuriantly dark and beautiful—all dandruff goes, scalp itching and falling hair stops.

This is the age of youth, gray haired, unattractive folks aren't wanted around, so get busy with the Sage and Sulphur tonight and you'll be amazed at your youthful appearance and the real beauty and healthy condition of your hair within a few days. Inquiry at drug stores here shows that they all sell lots of "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur" and the folks using it are enthusiastic.

Special Agents: J. Hicks Bunting Drug Co.

(Advertisement.)

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