

WESTERN DEMOCRAT, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

FROM CHARLESTON.

On Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 11 o'clock, the Yankees approached close to Fort Sumter, and opened a terrible fire of shot and shell against her, writing from Kinston, N. C., says:

"Four Yankee deserters came in on day before yesterday. One of them talks quite freely concerning the condition of affairs below. He says that one hundred and fifty of the new conscripts drafted men deserted at Newbern last week; and are now as large below our lines, some of them endeavoring to work their way North, whilst others will come into our lines and join the Southern army if permitted to do so. He says the drafted men at the North will not fight; that all the fighting men in that country have joined the army some time since."

Accounts of the effect of the enemy's attack on Fort Sumter exhibit insignificant results; three men in the fort were wounded. On Morris Island, there was no new incident. The operations there on Wednesday were chiefly confined to the firing of sharpshooters on both sides.

The big gun with which the enemy commenced shelling Charleston, bursted, and therefore that operation ceased.

On Thursday everything was comparatively quiet; only an occasional gun fired.

CHARLESTON, Sept. 4.—Nothing of special interest has transpired since the last dispatch. Things are getting pretty hot at Wagner. The enemy have advanced—the sappers being only about one hundred and fifty yards distant. Sharp shooting is constantly going on. The enemy has not fired at Sumter lately.

All continues comparatively quiet, only occasional firing from the land batteries. The people of Charleston are in good spirits at the present aspect of the siege.

CHARLESTON.—The recent heavy bombardment of Sumter, by the fullest force of Yankee iron-clads, six monitors, and the Ironsides, under cover of night, was the culmination of Dahlgren's machinations against Charleston. The failure to respond to the call, then they cannot escape the charge of disloyalty, and a violation of their pledges, made at the beginning of the contest. This is the accusation made by "the fact" in North Carolina, and they propose themselves to adopt the same disloyal conduct. Their avowed sentiments lead to this. All men must be held, morally and legally, to intend the natural and the necessary consequences of their acts; and if this be so, the conclusion is irresistible, that when these men are called upon to render support to the cause of the country and they refuse to do so, but threaten violent resistance to the law, they are prepared for submission, for re-union! Nor does it matter whether they avow these sentiments or deny them, if they are prepared for resistance to a law of the land most essential to the defence of the country, does not their conduct lead directly to this result?

It would be unwise as it would be unjust, to attempt to magnify the importance of these manifestations of disloyalty, but they cannot be without evil tendency in encouraging our soldiers to desert their colors and abandon their comrades, in repressing their ardor, in sowing the seeds of distrust and despondency among the people of our sister States, and in encouraging the enemy to persist in his designs of conquest, prolonging thereby the horrors and distresses of the war. Beyond this, it is possible that the conduct of these men may bring on us a calamity to be deplored even by themselves. It is not impossible that these men should succeed in lighting the blaze of intestine civil war in our own State. The fate of Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri is before us for solemn warning. Be assured, the North Carolina troops will not turn back in the course which they have pursued hitherto. Their honor is too deeply pledged in blood to admit of this. Hardships and dangers we know to be in our onward path, but a ruin, worse than ignominious death, we know to be involved in turning back, and such must be the fate of all patriotic men. Those who refuse to aid us and invite the enemy to our conquest, would not escape in the general wreck of our political fortunes.

But there is yet a consideration to which your attention has not been invited. The systematic violation of all the laws of civilized warfare by the enemy, has not been without its natural influence in inflaming our resentment and exciting towards him extreme hatred. He has paid no respect to the inviolability of private property, or the personal liberty of non-combatants. He has made war upon innocent and defenceless old men, women and children, by driving them as refugees from their homes, burning their dwellings and taking from them their means of subsistence. He has employed in his service—in command of his armies—beasts in human shape, who have not hesitated to inflict upon ladies of the greatest refinement, the most cruel insults. His cruelties to our people have been limited only by his power. Surely there cannot be a man of honorable impulse or generous nature in our whole State who has not felt his heart swell with indignation at the recital of the inhuman barbarities of our foe. But it must occur to you as a matter exciting the greatest astonishment, that the employment of the slaves of the South, and the free negroes of the North, to murder our citizens and oppose us in honorable combat as soldiers, should not have fired the soul of every man in the South, and raised every strong arm in her defense. He who bears this enormity with patience, is a coward or a brute, "whose it would be base flattery to call a man." And can he who counsels submission, or whose course of conduct tends to this result, escape this condemnation? And under such circumstances, could we fail to transfer to our enemies at home and the main authors of our calamities, the hatred and revenge which we cherish for our public enemy?

But let us invite you to a Policy which shall avoid all apprehensions of evil and disaster. Let all the good and patriotic people of the State unite in a public avowal of their opinions, in denunciation of the sentiments and designs of this faction. This cannot fail to destroy it. If errors in the conduct of our affairs have been committed, let us brush them from our memory or throw over them the mantle of charity. Let the disgusting bickerings of partisans and politicians be once more banished from the arena. Let us in the midst of the fearful dangers that surround us, renew our pledge of devotion to the cause of the country, and light upon her altars eternal blazing fires.

Let us above all not permit North Carolina to recoil from the contest. Let her not become a laggard in the conflict, and let no stain rest upon her escutcheon, and then we shall be able through all time to say with true and just pride:

"Though the scorner may sneer at and willfully defame her, Our hearts swell with gladness whenever we name her."

Most respectfully your ob's servt's,

THOS. M. GARRETT,
Col. 5th N. C. Troops, Bertie Co.

BRYANT GRIMES

Col. 4th N. C. Troops, Pitt Co.

JOHN D. BARRY

Col. 18th N. C. Troops, N. Hanover Co.

SAM'L P. HILL

1st Lt. 6th N. C. Troops, Caswell Co.

H. C. JONES, Jr.

Lt. Col. 5th N. C. Troops, Salisbury

SEATON GALES

Capt. A. A. G., Ramseur's Brig., Raleigh

J. G. HARDY

Sergt. 6th N. C. Troops, Buncombe Co.

WAR ITEMS.

A correspondent of the Raleigh Journal, writing from Kinston, N. C., says:

"Four Yankee deserters came in on day before yesterday. One of them talks quite freely concerning the condition of affairs below. He says that one hundred and fifty of the new conscripts drafted men deserted at Newbern last week; and are now as large below our lines, some of them endeavoring to work their way North, whilst others will come into our lines and join the Southern army if permitted to do so. He says the drafted men at the North will not fight; that all the fighting men in that country have joined the army some time since."

FROM FREDERICKSBURG.—The Yankees are still on the banks of the Rappahannock, opposite Fredericksburg. They were seen Wednesday cutting away the undergrowth in front of the rifle pits on Scott's Hill, which they occupied when Burnside and Hooker were in Stafford, and it is supposed they again intend to make the hills bristle with siege guns. Their cavalry can be seen patrolling up and down the river bank all day long. The larger part of their force is above Falmouth, near the fords, where they crossed under Hooker to meet their last disaster in that neighborhood.

THE Fredericksburg correspondent of the Richmond Examiner says the main body of Meade's army is massed in three divisions, respectively stationed at Warrenton, Manassas Junction and Centreville. Fifteen thousand infantry of that army were lately sent to Gilmore at Charleston. The correspondent retreats, upon positive information, that the Yankee army of the Potomac is in a worse condition at this time than since the first advance upon this line after the Bull Run battle.

The Yankees have appeared in large force on the hills opposite Fredericksburg, their pickets extending down to the river.

Winchester is clear of the enemy, who are no nearer than Martinsburg.

THE BATTLE AT THE WHITE SULPHUR.—We learn that the Yankee force which was repulsed by Gen. Jones has retreated to Beverly, in Randolph county, Va. We have the following particulars of the battle, which occurred on the 26th ult.:

The opposing forces met at the point where the Anthony's Creek road enters the White Sulphur or Kanawha Turnpike, near two miles east of the Springs. The Yankees, chiefly cavalry, numbered, it is estimated, 3,000; our own force considerably less. The fight commenced at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning. The Yankees, if anything, had the advantage. The combat continued until dark without change of position, and was renewed early Thursday, when the enemy, making a fruitless charge, retreated precipitately. Our loss in killed and wounded, 160, the enemy's some 400, including prisoners. The enemy charged our men several times on Wednesday, but were repulsed.—Richmond Dispatch.

TORY RAID IN THE MOUNTAINS.—Some of the disaffected along the Tennessee line are getting quite bold. We find the following in the Asheville News of the 27th:

Goldman Bryson, at the head of about 120 disloyal men, made a raid on the town of Murphy, Cherokee county, last Sunday week. They did but little damage to private property, but demolished the jail, and carried off some fifty or sixty gun and considerable ammunition which belonged to the State, and had been sent to Cherokee for the use of the militia. They met with no opposition, there being nobody in town but a few old men, and the women and children.

AFFAIRS IN CHEROKEE.—From a gentleman just from Cherokee county, we learn that a deplorable state of affairs exists in that region. A cavalry force had been in pursuit of Bryson's band, and succeeded in dispersing them—which, to men acquainted with every road and mountain trail, as they are, just amounts to nothing at all. The militia are under arms, but great consternation prevails, and unless something is speedily done, the loyal men will be compelled to leave the country.

In the mean time, the Yankees have been

arrived at a Confederate port are described as follows: Length of the gun 16 feet; its diameter at the trunions is 4 feet and 2 inches; its bore is 13 inches; the weight of the gun 44,000 pounds; its range we do not think it proper to mention; the weight of its shot 651 pounds, without the steel point; the charge of powder 50 pounds; the size of the shot 128 inches by 20; size of shell 128 inches by 25.

FROM THE WEST.

EVACUATION OF KNOXVILLE.—The town of Knoxville, Tenn., was evacuated by our troops on Monday, and on Tuesday was occupied by the Yankee forces under Burnside. The Yankees came in so soon after the evacuation that they captured two or three trains of cars which had been left there by our troops. We hear nothing of the locality to which Gen. Buckner's command retreated.

It is supposed that the burning of a bridge on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad prevented the removal of the cars noticed above being captured. This feat was doubtless performed by the tories with which East Tennessee abounds.

[We think the evacuation of Knoxville was a result of a scheme to entrap the Yankees.]

The Confederate guerrillas took two transports below Natchez recently.

General Price has badly defeated the enemy on White River, Ark., capturing four Yankee Reg'ts.

TROUBLE IN THE YANKEE NEGRO CAMP.—A gentleman from Port Hudson reports that the negroes have revolted against their Yankee brethren, and that a number of Yankees were killed before they were overcome. At Baton Rouge a similar event took place, by which the Yankees came near being overcome by the African gentlemen.

A gentleman of undoubted veracity from Vicksburg, says that the Yankees sent three thousand negroes to garrison Richmond, La., when the Confederates made a descent upon them, annihilating the whole command. A Yankee Captain only escaped. All were killed outright, the Confederates giving no quarter.

CONDITION OF THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ARMY.—A correspondent of the Selma Mississippian, writing from Jacksonport, Ark., speaks thus encouragingly of the present condition of our army in that section:

"The army is in excellent fighting trim. The men are not encumbered with a superabundance of clothing, but they have enough for the season, and are healthy, active and full of confidence. In discipline, pluck and spirit to fight they cannot be surpassed by any troops in the service, and you may confidently anticipate a good account of them when they encounter the enemy. The Missourians are anxious for a march into Missouri. They burn to avenge the wrongs of their helpless friends at home, but they rely implicitly upon the clear head of their chief and are content to bide his time."

THE Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Virginia, has written a letter on public affairs, in which he says:

"On whatever side I look, I see no men for discouragement, but on the contrary, new grounds of association with regard to the ultimate and certain triumph of the great cause in which we are embarked. No local or occasional disaster can check the onward progress of our great cause which has been blessed with the approving smiles of heaven, sustained by stout hearts, with unceasing vigilance and unfaltering faith."

Several public men of Virginia have taken the stump and are addressing mass meetings in various sections. They are arousing the enthusiasm of the people everywhere.

DESERTERS EXECUTED.—The ten deserters from the 13th N. C. Reg't recently captured in Fluvanna county, Va., the command of Adj. Mallott, who was killed, were executed on Saturday last, in accordance with the verdict of a Court Martial, in the presence of Gen. Johnston's command, army of Northern Virginia.

Georgia Aroused.—The Atlanta Intelligencer says that it has reliable information from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Department of that State, that in response to the call made recently by the President upon Gov. Brown for 8,000 troops to be mustered into Confederate service for home defence, up to this time 238 companies have been tendered and accepted, making an aggregate of 15,250 men.

NORTHERN ITEMS.

THE reported intention of the Mexican Triumphant to recognize the Confederate States, is continually foreshadowed by the Imperial Press. Recognition will take place as soon as the news reaches Mexico that Maximilian accepts the crown.

The New York Times of the 29th says "Our government ought to make preparations for war with France." It proclaims the belief that Napoleon has secretly concluded or has in progress a treaty with President Davis. The language of the European press and the tone of the Emperor's organ—the Moniteur—indicate clearly enough the purpose of intervention in our affairs.

Reports from Fort Scott, on the 28th August, says the Yankee Gen. Blunt has been defeated in Arkansas with a loss of 300.

Great indignation is felt at the capture of the gun-boats Reliance and Satellite by the Confederates. The case is to be fully investigated by the Navy Department.

Vermont State elections, which took place on Tuesday, so far as heard from, is largely for Lincoln.

A Washington correspondent of the Herald states in view of a speedy capture of Charleston and the occupation of South Carolina by the Union troops, it is the intention of the Government to place Butler in command of that department as soon as Gilmore and Dahlgren complete their work.

[Rather than submit to brute Butler, the city of Charleston ought to be laid in ashes.]

THE Germans of New York held a mass meeting on the 27th, to take measures to test the legality of the Conscription Act. Several committees were appointed and much excitement prevailed. The speakers were loud in their denunciation of what they term the cruel and inhuman measure.

A Yankee correspondent says that, "speaking within bounds," four-fifths of the contrabands within their lines are anxious to return to their master.

TRIBUTE TO A NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIER.

The following interesting correspondence has been published by Gov. Vance:

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 19th, 1863.

His Excellency Z. B. Vance Governor of North Carolina:

SIR.—In the action of the 1st of July, near Gettysburg, the Sharpshooters of Brig. Gen. Ramseur's brigade under command of Lieut. F. M. Harney, 14th N. C. Volunteers, dispersed the 150th Pennsylvania Regiment. That gallant officer, with his own hands, wrested the standard from the color bearer of the Pennsylvania Regiment, and soon afterwards fell mortally wounded.

Gen. Ramseur, in communicating the above particulars, informed me that it was Harney's last request that the flag should be presented to his Excellency.

The wish of the dying hero has been complied with. The flag is in my possession and will be treasured by me as an honorable memento of the valor and patriotic devotion which the soldiers of North Carolina have displayed on many hard-fought fields.

I have thought it due to the lamented officer, with whose family I have not the advantage of being acquainted, to communicate these circumstances to you, as Chief Magistrate of his State, and to express through you to his State, his comrades and his family, the sincere sympathy I feel with them for the loss of one so worthy of their admiration and esteem.

Such deeds illustrate a people's history, justify a people's pride and sustain a country's cause.

I remain, very respectfully yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RALEIGH, N. C., Aug. 28th, 1863.

His Excellency, Jefferson Davis, President Confederate States:

SIR.—Your letter of the 19th inst. has been received, informing me of the gallant conduct and heroic death of Lt. F. M. Harney, 14th N. C. Troops, on the field of Gettysburg, and asking me to make known to his family your sympathy with them for the loss of one so brave and worthy of their esteem.

I do not know that he has any relatives whatever in North Carolina. He was born in Kentucky and saw some service as a soldier under Gen. Wm. Walker during his campaign in Central America. At the commencement of hostilities, he was residing in the town of Ashville, N. C., pursuing his occupation of carpenter, and joining the company which I had the honor to raise, he was made orderly sergeant, and by good conduct and hard fighting won his way to first lieutenant.

Though without kindred in this, his adopted State, I assure you she will be proud to see him placed on the long list of her heroic dead, and all will welcome his memory among their bravest sons, and mourn him as a noble brother slain for her defence.

I am sir, very respectfully yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

SOME papers and politicians in this State whose course is reproved by their fellow-citizens in the army, affect to be exceedingly scandalized at the idea of soldiers holding meetings and expressing their opinions upon matters in which their own honor, as well as the honor of their State is involved.

Now it should be recollected that the soldiers of North Carolina have not ceased to be citizens. That wherever they are, they are still voters of the State of North Carolina. It should be remembered that first to last, a large proportion of the voting population of North Carolina has entered the service, and that unless their views were known, the opinion of a majority of the voters of North Carolina would be suppressed. Surely if the example of the skulker, the militia officer—as one did in Surry,—if in fact those who stay at home to consult their ease or to make money have a right to hold meetings and express opinions, how much more right have the soldiers, the life and soul, the bone and sinew, the pride and hope of the Confederacy. The attempt to sneer at soldiers' meetings will not do, and might as well be abandoned. It is not the right thing.—Wilmington Journal.

COTTON INTEREST BONDS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.

Raleigh, August 18, 1863.

The rate of six per cent Cotton Interest Bonds of the Government having been fixed at five per cent premium, purchases of the same may be made at that rate, at the Treasury, or at any of its Depositories, until the 1st day of September, 1863.