

Hillsboro' Military Academy. This institution is an object worthy of public attention at present. It is the only military school in the State. Its Superintendent is universally regarded as an able and efficient officer; and its Corps of Instructors are gentlemen of education and experience.

But this institution was originally established and is still kept in existence by private enterprise, and is therefore denied many of the privileges enjoyed by State institutions of a similar character. We believe as a matter of course, the Cadets now under training are allowed, by the Confederate authorities, to pursue their studies until they become eighteen, when they become liable to be conscribed, if they do not previously volunteer.

But even taking this to be so, and to be certain, it exerts a very bad influence on the cadets. Knowing that they will not be allowed to remain to complete their education, or that it depends on a very remote contingency, while, at the same time, the thoughts of the enrolling officer are forever in their minds, every motive to excel in their studies is removed, and they either volunteer prematurely or become listless, inactive and indolent students.

If we are correctly informed, the Virginia Military Institute and the Military school at Columbia, South Carolina, labor under no such disadvantages. The Cadets at these schools are held as a reserve force, liable to be called out when their States respectively are invaded or to repel raiders; but for no other purpose are they interfered with. They are thus allowed to pursue their studies attentively and without fear of molestation, and a laudable rivalry to excel in literature, science and the art of war is kept actively alive among them, while they are ready, at the same time, and at all times, to rush to any point to meet the enemy.

Now why should not North Carolina enjoy the same privileges and immunities for her youthful sons, as are enjoyed by South Carolina and Virginia? If she do not, it is not the fault of either or both of those States; nor is it the fault of the Confederate Government. It is simply the fault of her own people. It lies at the door of their Legislators. It is chargeable solely to their want of public spirit and pride. Virginia has her military school. South Carolina has her military school. But when a private gentleman, or a community of private gentlemen, has enough of public spirit to impel them to establish a military school, our grave legislators cannot condescend even so much as to recognize them. We hope the approaching Legislature will look into this matter.

We cannot fully discuss this matter to-day. We cannot fully explain its merits. We can only call attention to it. We need a military school—a dozen of them scattered over the State would not be too many, the exigencies of the times considered. But we have one already established, and we hope the fostering care and protection of the State will not be withheld from it.

Perhaps a caution is necessary to prevent misunderstanding. Let no one say, then, that we wish this school to be or to become a retreat, or place of refuge, for skulkers. We want it to be and to remain what it is, and has been, a school for the young soldier of the State, where he will be qualified for future usefulness when his services are needed and are worth having.

Our contemporaries of North Carolina will readily perceive what we aim at in this cursory article, and we hope it will meet their approval and command their attention. Au revoir.

SUPERIOR COURT for the county of Wayne commenced its session in this town yesterday, his Honor Judge Shipp and Solicitor Clarke officiating. Of Mr. Clarke as a lawyer and gentleman it is unnecessary to speak, in a district where he is so well and so favorably known. Of Judge Shipp who, we believe, rides this circuit for the first time, we can truly say he is making a favorable impression on the bar and public beyond what his most ardent friends could desire. His address to the Jury here is highly commended for its legal research and practical learning. He was peculiarly pointed in his remarks against harborers of deserters and all offenders of like nature.

The Salisbury Watchman complains that the husketers of that place dole out "bits of bread, pies, eggs &c" to the hungry soldiers, who pass through that place, at exorbitant prices, some times selling them boiled eggs at a dollar a piece; and thinks this a proper case for adjustment by the Commissioners of the town. With the Watchman, we think something should be done to remedy the evil, and we see no better way of doing it, than by allowing the soldiers to draw rations wherever they go, when lawfully absent from their commands. If soldiers are worthy to receive a furlough, or if travelling under orders, or if returning home from sickness or wounds, or if returning to their commands, they should be allowed to draw rations; and, for this, facilities should be afforded them at every Commissary post in the Confederacy. There are enough of idle employees, at all such posts, who could be present on the arrival and departure of the trains, with a supply of food of the proper kind, to attend to these matters. It would give these gentlemen of leisure some trouble, to be sure, but it would afford them some slight appearance of having something to do, and the duty ought to be strictly enjoined upon them.

Of course, the wounded and sick soldiers ought to be cared for by the Ladies of Salisbury, as they are by the Ladies of Goldsboro and other towns; but commissaries and their clerks should be compelled to furnish all necessary supplies to all other classes of soldiers. With a little trouble it can be done and ought to be done.

AN ORDER TO INCREASE THE ARMY.—The following is a paragraph of General Orders, No 73, just issued by the Adjutant and Inspector General at Richmond:

"As soon as practicable, all officers and men now employed in the enrolling service, whether as enrolling officers, conscript guards, clerks, or otherwise, except such as are retired or assigned to light duty by the Medical Boards, will be relieved by details from the Reserve Forces and sent to the field."

If the above is enforced without fear, favor or affection, many a battalion of able bodied regulars will be added to our armies in the field. Orders, if not executed however by the authorities, are not worth the paper upon which they are printed. We shall see in due time what will be the practical result of Order No. 73.

THE YANKEES HAMMERING AWAY AT CHARLESTON.—The Yankees are getting tired of the "siege of Charleston." Hear what the New York News says:

For nearly one year and a half an iron hail has been rained on Charleston and its defences—more iron has been fired at Fort Sumter than would lay a railroad tract forty miles in length—more powder burned than would suffice to blow up every building in New York, and this day it is said to be stronger and better defended than the day when first assailed by the Monitors, iron-clads and other war vessels of our fleet. The cost has been millions—the success nothing. The capture of Charleston was to be among the first fruits promised, and in starting capitals the Abolition press called Charleston the "doomed city."—And yet Charleston still stands—Fort Sumter still flaunts a defiant flag, and its strength still "laughs a siege to scorn."

The number of graves in the Yankee Cemetery at Chattanooga number 6,000.

WAR NEWS.

FROM RICHMOND.

Grant renewed his operations below Richmond, last Wednesday evening, for the capture of the city, but it seems, the same old ghost is always in his path. We glean a few particulars from the Sentinel of Saturday:

On Wednesday night last heavy firing was heard in the direction of Chaffin's Bluff, which was continued all night.

On Thursday morning the roar of artillery was rapid and unceasing, and citizens came to the conclusion that another "On to Richmond" was being attempted on this side of the James.

It appears that Grant threw a large force to the North side of the river, at Deep Bottom, on Wednesday night, which, with the command of Gen. Foster, already on this side, moved against battery Harrison, a portion of our outer line of entrenchments, Northeast of Chaffin's farm, while a smaller body advanced on the Charles City road. Assaulted by an overwhelming force, the small number holding the battery were forced to retire after a gallant resistance.

The enemy then made an attack against the intermediate line of defences, but were repulsed with great loss. This repulse, and the opposition met with on the Charles City road, seems to have satisfied the Yankees that Richmond was not to be captured so easily, and induced them to take measures for acting on the defensive. In the meantime our reinforcements were arriving rapidly, placing the General commanding in a position to assume the offensive.

Lieut. Col. Maury, commanding at Chaffin's Bluff, is reported captured; and Major Taylor wounded and captured. Maj. Hardin was wounded in the arm.

The following dispatch was received from General Lee at nine o'clock, P. M., Thursday:

HD'QRS ARMY NORTHERN VA., September 29.

Hon. Jas. A. Seddon:

Gen. Gregg reports that he repulsed the several attacks of the enemy, made against the intermediate line of defences, capturing many prisoners. The enemy still hold battery Harrison on the exterior line. Our loss is very small.

In the repulse of the enemy's attack on Fort Gilmer on Thursday, his loss is said to have been very severe. Hundreds of dead and wounded negroes were left on the field. The wounded negroes say that the white soldiers were placed in their rear, with orders to shoot them if they did not advance.

The forenoon of yesterday was quiet, but the rapid and continuous firing of artillery in the afternoon gave intimations of serious work going on. We are without particulars of yesterday's operations, but understand the result was favorable, except so far as the recovering possession of Battery Harrison is concerned. The enemy still hold the battery.

FROM PETERSBURG.

The Petersburg Express of Saturday is hopeful in the highest degree and even jubilant over the operations of the last few days. It heads its glowing leader with the cheering caption, "SKIES BRIGHT AND BRIGHTENING." Relative to the operations in front of Petersburg, it says:

THE ENEMY GAIN ANOTHER ADVANTAGE.

We regret to state that the enemy, while advancing in force on the north side of the James river, have not been altogether idle on our extreme right.—A heavy force of infantry and cavalry was advanced from the Vaughan across to the Squirrel Level road yesterday morning, an attack was made upon Fort McRae, near Mr. William Peebles' house, occupied by a portion of Graham's (Petersburg) battery and the breastworks to the right, held by a portion of Col. Griffin's cavalry regiment.

The enemy's advance was steady and unbroken, though our forces fought most gallantly, and the two pieces of artillery in the fort poured a rapid fire of grape into their ranks. Overwhelmed by vastly superior numbers, but fighting till the Yankee column had reached within a few feet of the work, and flanked by a large force sent to take them in the rear, our men were compelled to yield the fort and retire rapidly to save themselves.

By the disabling of some of his horses, one piece of Graham's battery, with the horses attached, was captured, but the other was brought safely off.

The Yankees quickly mounted the work and turned the captured piece upon our men, who in their retreat, was also exposed to a fire from the flanking column. We regret to learn that Graham's men suffered considerably.

Pe... Leve... from... tant... Step... mov... thou... host... the... the... He... acro... the... ally... gre... Son... deser... Mar... who... of... Ha... be... P... o... y... a... t... d... d... R... R... We... the... he... is... de... is... de... st... our... cause... in... Vir... is... de... st... to... be... suc... cess... ful... not... with... stand... ing... the... mag... n... itude... of... the... effort... to... crush... it.

LA... TER—THE ENEMY ATTACKED—PRISONERS TAKEN. After capturing our works on Peebles farm, the enemy halted for a while and then advanced their columns—pouring through Pegram's, Dr. Boisseau's and Mrs. Boswell's farms until they reached Mr. R. H. Jones' plantation, where our cavalry was relieved, and the Yankee skirmishers were met, checked and forced back by the advance of Wilcox's Division. Wilcox's forces being in line of battle at once advanced upon the enemy and gave him battle, steadily forcing him back in the direction of his camp.

A neat little flank movement was executed on Mr. Jones' place, which resulted in the capture of about four hundred prisoners.

The battle progressed hotly but favorably—the enemy being pushed steadily back upon the works captured from us in the morning.

Gen. Hampton with a portion of his command, was at the same time engaged on the right; and succeeded in flanking a position taken by a portion of the enemy on the right of Wilcox's, on Boisseau's farm, by which movement he captured some six or eight hundred Yankees, who were at once sent to the rear, and our forces moved on.

The enemy was eventually driven into our late works on Peebles farm, where they were again attacked. The result of this assault, however, we were unable to learn, though it is believed that it was successful. Parties who left the vicinity at the time, state the battle was progressing favorably at the time of their departure, with every prospect of entire success. We shall probably hear full particulars early this morning.

The prisoners taken from the enemy will be brought in to-day. They number between 1,000 and 1,200.

THE YANKEE FORCE.

The Yankee force engaged consisted of Burnside's corps, which has lately been largely recruited. Some of the prisoners state that they assisted in the capture of Atlanta.

THE RESPECTIVE LOSSES.

In the cavalry fight in the morning, the two regiments of Dearing's brigade, (Giffin's and Talliaferro's) commanded by Col. Griffin, our loss was between 75 and 100 killed, wounded and missing. Griffin's battery also lost several men. The loss of the enemy at this point was several hundred.

In the afternoon, the losses were more severe—particularly so on the part of the enemy. Our men fired with a steadiness of aim unparalleled in destructiveness. Besides prisoners, it is believed that Burnside lost two or three thousand in killed and wounded. The ground in front of our advance, is said to have been strewn with the Yankees killed and wounded. Four or five hundred will cover our loss, so far as known.

FEINT ON THE LEFT. At the time the above engagement

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Our whole army rejoices over the promotion of Col. Basil Duke to the rank of Brigadier General. He received the appointment last Saturday. He certainly deserved it.—Bristol Gazette.

It seems to be the settled policy of our Government to keep matters moving—to allow nothing to rest. The late order transferring Gen. Magruder to Arkansas, Gen. Walker to this District and Gen. Buckner to the command of the District of West Louisiana is another proof of this. However much Texas may dislike to part with her favorite General, she no doubt is willing to concede any point and adopt any policy which the Government, of which she is only a component part, may decide upon, having as she does the utmost confidence in those who have been chosen to lead in such matters. Go where he may, Gen. Magruder is bound to command the respect and confidence of those under his control, and be he in Texas or Arkansas his name will prove a terror to the foe.

Gen. Buckner's antecedents have become historical facts. He will enter on his new duties, therefore, not as a stranger, but as one whose military reputation is established and whose ability no one will call in question. General Walker comes to us under the most favorable auspices. His career since he first entered the field has always been marked by indefatigable energy, and the confidence of those it has been his fortunes to command, is sufficient guarantee that he will discharge all duties which may devolve on him with credit to himself and the army.

We certainly have been blest with efficient commanding officers in the Trans-Mississippi Department, both before and since the fall of Vicksburg, and the result is we always have been and still are able to bid defiance to the enemy, come in what form he may, for had not those who do the fighting had full confidence in their commanding generals, the result would have been disastrous. That this new change may meet the approval of all parties interested, we cannot expect. It certainly will be long before the people of Texas will feel that confidence in any general as a military man, they felt Magruder. H. P.—Houston Telegraph.