State Library

THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

Volume XXV. GREENSBOROUGH, N. C., JULY 30, 1863. Number 1,260.

Written for the Patriot.

MARTYRS OF SOUTHERN FREEDOM.

BY HARRY HALL.

"Friend after friend departs:
Who has not lost a friend?"

THE GUILFORD DIXIE BOYS.

WILLIAM WASHINGTON SIKES.

When the field-hospital at Camp Rhett was broken up and Dr. Tanner, who had charge of it, was directed to report himself for duty to our regimental commander, all, who were too sick to join their companies, were sent to general hospital. Of this number was young Sikes.

William Washington was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, on the 27th of December, 1838. He is son Mr. Nathan N. Sikes. His father is a gentleman of small means, but his son, William, was fortunate enough to receive a respectable knowledge of the vernacular language.

Though he was quick tempered and of strong will, still he had learned to bridle his temper and to control that will. He lived like one who did not consider it all of life to live. He endeavored always to act toward his fellow-men with correctness and strict propriety. He talked freely with me on more than one occasion about the duties of life, and he seemed not only to know them well, but even to manifest a disposition and a desire to do them fully and faithfully. He was not selfish,—he strove to bless all who came within the compass of his influence.

He was a shoemaker by trade and he was an excellent workman for the length of time had been so employed. But he promptly dropped his awl and his last, when he heard of the threatened invasion of our territory by Lincoln's army. He came on with Capt. Clapp as a recruit and was not with us when the splendid army of Scott and McDowell was defeated and routed.

He was of his own choice an assistant of Mr. Housdy in the cooking department at Camp Rhett, until he was taken sick. That is a difficult position to fill with satisfaction to all in a company, so various are the tastes and so hard are some to be suited. He was a highly useful soldier, and wherever he was assigned to duty, he labored to discharge it conscientiously and satisfactorily.

He was exceedingly ill from his first confinement. Dr. Tanner watched him closely, and did all he could for him so long as he remained under his care and treatment. From the day he left for the general hospital, though, he was not distant from us in reality than fifty miles, I did not hear of his fate, until his brother, the Rev. Mr. Sikes, visited my camp in the last of October in search of him,—a period of nearly two months. We had made inquiry of the Medical Director at Manassas as to where he was sent, but could never learn. From this case, it can be seen in how loose and careless a manner our hospital department was conducted. Some allowance must be made for the rude and imperfect condition of the entire war department; but still it would have cost only a slight labor and trouble to have kept a correct register, from which every officer could discover the whereabouts of his men.

After spending a few days at Camp Gilmer, the Rev. Mr. Sikes returned to Manassas and, thence, to Culpeper Court house, where he learned that his brother was dead and that he had died there on the 19th of September, 1862, of typhoid fever. He thus wrote me from that place: "While I weep over his departure, yet there are two circumstances that cheer me: First and greatest, I trust he was prepared to die, and, secondly, he died a martyr to the cause of liberty and the rights of this country." That was a consoling reflection. We discovered nothing in his life inconsistent with such a hope,—he was a humble, a christian, and unquestionably, a pure, true and tried.

ROBERT COLLIER.

On Tuesday, the 16th of September, 1862, we were transported from Camp Critterden where the companies of Capts. Wharton and Boyd and my own had been tenting, on the Manassas Gap Railroad, to a wooded hill and in sight of Thoroughfare Station in Fauquier and Prince William county, Va., belonging to Mr. John Chapman. The nine other companies of the regiment pitched their tents a mile above us near Broad Run Station at the west entrance to the Gap. Our camp was called Gilmer in compliment of the Hon. John A. Gilmer. The country east of us was hilly, rather healthy, and exceedingly picturesque and romantic. And so near were we to the Bull Run Mountains, that its shadow, deep and cooling, rested upon us encamped most of the afternoon. Near us were the residences of several wealthy and worthy citizens, who received as many of our sick as they could in their own houses and furnished us out houses where others were comfortably quartered and attended. Not far away in the Gap was the celebrated Crooked Spring which leaped from the mountain-side a broad, unsurpassable, crystal stream.

Near the eastern entrance to the pass and in it, stood a massive, three story, stone building, the property of Mr. Chapman and which he allowed us to use as a regimental hospital. Orrow Coble, a son of Mr. William Coble, of Tenn., who was born in Guilford county, on the — day of 18—, was lying sick in this building about the middle of September. He had been sick with the measles and, before he entirely recovered, he took cold and passed into typhoid. He was nursed many days with his sister present. He acted imprudently, otherwise his impression is he would have recovered from the effects of the measles. He pulled off a flannel underwear in which he had been wearing a few days before his death, and he might not to have done so, as he was not aware that he had been all gather well, or that he knowledge, until after his death. He suffered greatly in his head, and, at times, his mind was really great thought not the most active, yet was baffled. On the last morning of his life, I saw him in company with his physicians. They all were of the opinion that he was out of danger, and that he was free from fever, they began to administer food and brandy to strengthen him up for the ordeal which produced his sickness. He was cheerful and looked like he was well, but to our much surprise, about sunset that afternoon, the 21st of September, he died of a copious hemorrhage of the lungs.

He never had been in a rational circumstances since he left his home, and consequently, he gave no evidence of, or write. Naturally diffident, this fact had been much to increase his backwardness and reserve. He was good natured, quiet, retiring, and sensitive, but was he fond of labor or society. He was brought up to the life of a farmer, and was a laborer in his father's neighborhood.

As a soldier, he was always dutiful and respectful, and was a true hero on the two occasions in which our regiment had fronted and breasted the enemy's guns. He loved his native South, was eager to defend her institutions, and only craved to perish, if perish he must, on the field where he could meet a foeman worthy of his steel. His remains now repose in the graveyard of Mount Pleasant in the eastern part of the county of Guilford. Blessed, honored be his name!

MARK BROTHERS.

"Thy spirit of heroism is stronger than thy body," has been fitly and aptly remarked of many a young man who has gone forth to the tented field since this war has been waged against the South. Of none could it have been more truly spoken than of Mark Brothers. He was not only feebly constituted, but quite young. He was born in Guilford county, on the 10th of December, 1842, and was, consequently, only a little turned of his nineteenth year. But his ardent love of his section and his proud youthful spirit urged him "to action and duty."

His father is a farmer, and reared Mark up to the life of an agriculturist; but, unlike some parents, he did not wholly forget, or neglect his son's education. Whenever an opportunity offered, Mark was sent to the public schools, where he learned the rudiments of his mother tongue. Though he was not very far advanced in his studies, had he not entered the Confederate service, his father designed keeping him at school, until he became a good English scholar.

Mark was a boy of a most lovely and fascinating disposition; and his life, like a little rivulet gliding with silver current noiselessly through a verdant savanna, moved through the green valley of youth into the vast ocean of eternity without a ripple or murmuring sound. He was too amiable, too quiet and too unobtrusive to have a single enemy, or to have caused even a pang of sorrow in a human breast by reason of his conduct. He was so evenly tempered, that he seemed always to be happy. No disappointment could unduly depress him—no good fortune ever too much elated him. His cheerfulness danced like a sunbeam; and he went to the discharge of his soldier-duties with the same joyousness that a school-boy hies to the play-ground. And notwithstanding his youth, on occasions when danger threatened, he lost not his self-possession and modest heroic firmness. At Bull Run and Manassas, he stared the molten bolts of death full in the face without apparent fear or quaking.

At length, consumption, that most deceitful of earthly maladies, marked him as its victim, though he was yet not nineteen years of age by three or four months. He lingered for several weeks in camp, but failing to improve there, the surgeon sent him to the newly established hospital at Front Royal, a handsome little town of about fifteen hundred inhabitants in the bosom of the blue hills west of the Ridge and near the banks of the Shenandoah where

"The whispering air
Sends inspiration from the mouniain heights."

There he received the kindest attentions from the ladies, who vied with each other in their efforts to alleviate the sufferings of our sick soldiers. But the gentle nursings of disinterested friendship could not stay the ravages of that fatal disease. On the night of the 9th of October, his father, Mr. Elbridge Brothers, reached him, but only to witness his release from his protracted earthly afflictions. On the second day after his death, Mr. Brothers started with his son's remains for North Carolina, and now his body is returning to its mother earth in the graveyard of Pleasant Union in the eastern part of the county which gave him birth. Sleep on, gentle, heroic soldier-lad!

Executive Department North Carolina, Adjutant General's Office, (Militia,) Raleigh, July 15th, 1863. General Order, No. 15.

I. In compliance with an act of the recent Legislature, Commanding Officers of the Militia are ordered to enroll as a GUARD FOR HOME DEFENCE all white male persons not already enrolled in the service of the Confederate States, between the ages of 18 and 50 years, including foreigners not naturalized who have been residents of the State for thirty days before said enrollment.

II. There shall be exempt from the operations of this order the Governor, the Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts of Law and Equity, Members of the General Assembly, the Officers of the several Department of the government, Members of Congress, Civil and Military Officers of the Confederate government in the State, the Ministers of the Gospel of the several Religious Denominations of the State, charged with the duties of such ministry, the high Sheriff and Clerks of the several Courts of Record, and the Public Registers in the several Counties.

III. After enrollment, the men enrolled shall be divided into Companies of not less than seventy-five men, nor more than one hundred, and shall proceed to elect their Company Officers. The certificates of such election will be forwarded to this Office with the papers of enrollment, in order that Commissions may be issued.

IV. Officers of the Militia will be enrolled for Home Defence, and their Commissions, when called into service will be suspended only during the period of such service.

V. This order is not intended to interfere with the enrollment for immediate service, those between the ages of 40 and 45 years under Order No. 13.

By order of Governor Vance:

DAN'L. G. FOWLE,
Adjutant General.

59-2w

Runaway.—Ranway from the subscriber on the night of 20th instant a negro boy named BROWN. The boy is by trade a shoe maker. I hired him the first of last January of Augustus Holly, of Bertie county. He is about 25 or 30 years old—he is very black, spare made, white eyes, and one of his ankles shows the effects of a serious sprain. He worked last year at Thomasville, and it is probable that he is lurking around that place or is in the vicinity of Raleigh. Any person apprehending the said negro will be suitably rewarded for so doing.

J. M. HUGHES,
Greensborough, N. C.

59-3w

Great Sale of Fine Tobacco.—On Wednesday the 12th, and Friday the 14th of August, 1863, I will sell at public auction for cash (Confederate Money) a large lot of LEAF AND MANUFACTURED TOBACCO.—16 hogsheads of leaf Tobacco at Madison, and 100 boxes, more or less manufactured, and a large quantity of leaf Tobacco at Martin & Chandler's factory in Stokes county. Sale at Madison the 12th, and at Martin & Chandler's the 14th August.

59-3w J. M. WEITH.

Bring on Your Hides!—You that want them tanned cheap. I expect to tan all hides of the ox species for one-third, and give the owner of the hides the privilege to buy the whole when tanned. I also desire to buy hides at the highest market prices.

D. P. FOUST.

july24 59-tf

Fayetteville Arsenal and Armory, June 25th, 1863.

WANTED,
10 Good Black Smiths.
10 Good Machinists.

Steady employment and good wages will be given. Apply to Maj. F. L. CHILDS,
59-3w Commanding Officer.

Tailoring.—My Shop is fifty yards north of Rankin & McLean's old storehouse, where I invite my friends and customers to call as I intend to give satisfaction to all who call on me. ESPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO GARMENT CUTTING. Prices in accordance with the times. Call and see.

14-tf A. DILWORTH.

Pocket-book Found.—A few days ago, I found a pocket-book, near Buffalo Church, containing a sum of money. The owner is requested to come forward, and identify the same, and pay for this notice.

W. P. HUGHES,
59-3w Greensboro' N. C.

Synopsis of Decisions

Made by the Secretacy of the Treasury, Under the Tax Laws.

AUCTIONERS are not liable to pay upon sales made for a dealer who is registered and taxed and at the place of business of such dealer. Auctioneers are required, with this exception to pay a tax of 2½ per cent. on all sales made.

ACCOUNTS.—Open book accounts are to be taxed according to their true value on 1st July, that the value to be ascertained by the Assessor in the best manner practicable, under the circumstances of each case, by the oath of the tax payer and any other availrble evidence.

ASSESSORS may be recommended, but cannot be appointed by District Collectors, as the power to appoint such is confined to State Collectors.

ARTICLES taxed by Sec. 1st—If any of the articles taxed by Sec. 1st of the Tax Act are sold by any person or firm whose business is required to be registered by Sec. 5th, the proceeds of such sales will be subject to the same tax as that imposed upon the sales of other articles by the same establishment. That is, the payment of the *ad valorem* tax of 8 per cent. upon such articles, does *not* exempt the proceeds of sale afterwards from the tax of 2½ per cent. under Sec. 5.

BANKERS.—An insurance company, in receiving and paying out the revenues of a State University, is regarded merely as a disbursing agent, and not as a banker, and is, therefore, not subject to the tax on bankers.

BONDS.—The interest on Confederate bonds is taxable as income under Sec. 8, Act 24th April, 1863. (See credits.)

BROKERS are taxed by Sec. 8 upon their commissions as income.

CATTLE.—B. Sec. 19, the value of *all* neat cattle, horses, mules and asses, not used in cultivation, is taxed 1 per cent, to be returned on 1st November, and tax paid on 1st January next.

COTTON.—No value is fixed on cotton by the Department. It is the duty of the person holding the cotton, when he makes return, to return it at its true value, according to quality and the locality in which it may be situated. If too low a valuation should thus be placed upon it, in the estimation of the Assessor, it will be the duty of that officer in each particular tax district, to place such value upon it, as the same quality of cotton would demand in that market, under ordinary circumstances of sale. That is, under circumstances of voluntary and enforced sale. The same rule will apply to the articles of wool and tobacco, as well as to every other taxable article. Cotton of the growth of any year prior to 1863, in the hands of manufacturers on 1st July, is liable to pay a tax of 8 per cent. Manufacturers selling their own fabrics by the piece, and other articles, are subject to be taxed as wholesale dealers. Also, to pay tax on their income—and joint stock companies and corporations to pay certain portion of anual earnings set apart as dividend and reserve fund, according to the per centum yielded on the capital stock.

Cotton in Confederate States, hypothecated for goods in Europe, is liable to tax under Sec. 1st. The goods so obtained, that is, their gross sales, are also liable to 2½ per cent. tax when sold in the Confederate States. If first sold by an auctioneer, wholesale dealer, or commission merchant, the proceeds will be chargeable with 2½ per cent. tax, and an additional 2½ per cent. will be paid by the next person selling and so on, until they reach the consumer. The net profits made by each business, person, or firm selling them, will also be taxed as income under Sec. 8, if the income of the seller, from all taxable sources, exceeds $500. Cotton factors are commission merchants in contemplation of the law.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS and others taxable under Sec. 5, Act 24th April, 1853. The specific tax is for the year ending 31st Dec., 1863; and the liability to pay the per centum in gross sales or profits attaches from and includes the 24th April, 1863, the date of the Act.

CREDITS.—Sec. 1st, taxing credits, is to be construed in connection with Sec. 8, taxing incomes. The scheme of the law is to lay an alternative tax of one per cent on capital, or 5, 10 or 15 per cent. on incomes. It is not designed to tax capital and again the interest; and this is the idea conveyed by the law when speaking of credits "upon which the interest has not been paid." *All* interest received during the year 1863 is subject to income tax, and no capital tax is, therefore, designed to be laid upon the credits producing that interest. The rule thus furnished, it follows that the one per cent. tax is not laid on credits upon which the interest has been paid and due up to the 1st July; but when the interest has *not* been paid, the tax falls upon the capital.

"Value of credits" is construed to mean the principal and interest, if not paid, of all solvent credits, and the estimated value of credits that the holder will swear are not worth the principal and interest. "Credits employed in a business the income of which is taxed under the Act" are exempt from the capital tax of 1 per cent. To be entitled to exemption the credits must form part of and be exclusively used in carrying on the business, and the money derived from them must also be so exclusively used when collected. In case of Confederate and State bonds and stocks, where the interest is payable at stated periods, and has been paid up to the last stated period when it fell due, and the 1st of July intervenes before the next stated period arrives, the credit is not taxed as capital, but the *whole* interest during the year must be returned as income on 1st January next. Credits include all unliquidated demands, such as open accounts due and unpaid, which are to be taxed according to their true value, at July 1st, 1863.

CURRENCY.—The words "other currency" as used in Sec. 1st are construed to mean all individual or corporation notes issued for circulation and generally received and used as currency or a medium of trade in any community in the Confederate States.

DISTILLERS.—All persons or partnerships who distil or manufacture spirituous liquors for sale, are distillers within the meaning of Act 8, Sec. 5, Tax Act, and whether they distil exclusively for the Government on contract, or for others, are liable to the taxes imposed upon distillers by the Act.

Where a person is engaged as a regular distiller, he is required under Par. VIII, Sec. 5, to register as such, and to pay the specific tax of $200 and 20 per centum on the gross sales. He will be authorized to sell all his spirits without making any other registry, or paying any other tax upon sales (always saving and excepting the tax on net income.) To distill fruit for ninety days or less is the lesser privilege, and is merged in the greater where a regular distiller distills fruit; therefore a regular distiller registered as such has to play no additional tax for the privilege of distilling fruit but he may, on the contrary, under his registration, distil fruit or anything else, and the spirit derived therefrom when sold is subject to the 20 per cent. on its value just like other spirits: But those who *only* still fruit for ninety days or less pay only $50 specific tax, for the time so engaged (not to exceed ninety days) and 50 cents per gallon for the first ten gallons and $2 per gallon on all spirits distilled beyond that quantity.

DWELLING HOUSES, &c.—Every person owning houses or building lots in a city, town or village, if not actually rented to another, whether occupied by himself or not, will be required to pay an income tax upon the estimated annual rent. This does not apply to uncultivated lands in the country. The Act does not tax the estimated rent of lands not cultivated, or dwellings or other buildings *not* in a city, town, or village.

EATING HOUSES.—If a steward's hall, or boarding house, for pupils of a school, belongs to and inures to the sale use and profit of the school, it forms a part of the income of the school, and is not taxable as an eating house. If the principal of a school, not being the proprietor, but receiving a stated salary, keeps a boarding house for pupils on his own account six or more boarding with him, then he is deemed to be the keeper of an eating house, and taxed according to the class of the house to be determined by the amount of estimated or actual annual rent.

GAMBLING HOUSES.—The income and profits of gambling houses not being exempted by the Act, are subject to their tax. This does not legalize or license gambling. If a tax-payer holds, on the first of July, a sum of money, he is bound to return the amount, and pay thereon a tax of one per cent. This law does not inquire how he came to possess it—whether by lawful or unlawful practices. He may have stolen it, yet the receipts by the Government of a tax thereon would not legalize the theft.

INCOME.—Persons returning income, should return income and profits derived from every investment of labor, skill, property or money, and the income and profits derived from *any source whatever, except salaries.* The interest on Confederate bonds is an income derived from the investment of money and therefore is taxable. So is the interest on interest bearing Treasury notes. Income from all sources, with the exceptions specified in the tax act should be returned the assessor. When a joint stock company or corporation reserves the portion of their annual earnings set apart as dividend and reserved fund, and pays the same to the collector, as required by article 6, sec. 8, Tax Act, then the dividend paid to the stockholder shall not be estimated as a part of his income for the purpose of taxation. Interest bearing Treasury notes being *currency* are taxed one per cent by sec. 1, excluding the interest which is taxed as income.

Income and moneys of schools, colleges, &c., are exempt; if the teacher is proprietor, the income and moneys derived by him from the school are exempt. But if he is not the proprietor, but employed at a salary his salary, is not exempt if above $1,000 per annum.

LIQUORS sold by commission merchants for others pay the same tax as other goods. But regular wholesale or retail dealers are prohibited from selling liquors, under their registration as such, and if they sell liquors, will have to do so under separate registry, paying the tax of five or ten per centum, as the case may be.

MANUFACTURERS of saddlery, harness, &c., and dealers in same, selling artillery harness to the Government, decided to be wholesale dealers, and liable to registry and tax as such.

Manufacturers of all goods, wares, and merchandize, whether of foreign or domestic manufacture, are liable to a tax of 2½ per centum on their sales. Therefore, nails, candles, cotton and woollen goods, cotton yarns, flour, shoes, boots, hats, clothing, and other articles of domestic manufacture are subject to the tax, whether sold by the manfacturers themselves on their agents.

Manufacturers of firearms for the Government, who sell to it under contract, are deemed wholesale merchants or dealers under the act, and taxed accordingly. The income derived from the manufacturing business is also taxed by sec. 8, Tax Act.

MERCHANTS COMMISSION.—Par. 12, sec. 5, Tax Act, only exempts the sales of agricultural products, when sold by commission merchants for the producers themselves.—The sales of negroes, whether sold for the persons who have raised them, or others, are *not* exempt.

NAVAL STORES, salt, wines, and all the other articles enumerated section 1, and agricultural products of the growth of any year preceding the year 1866, and not necessary for family consumption for the unexpired portion of the year, subject to a tax of 8 per cent. It is immaterial in whose hands they are found on 1st July; the person then holding, possessing or controlling them, is bound to return and pay the tax on them.

OFFICERS.—Under 39th Section of the Assessment Act, no person is eligible to any of the offices enumerated in the Act under the age of forty, unless he comes within one or the other of the two classes of persons named in the latter part of the Section. Persons under the age of forty, who have furnished substitutes, and who have not been disabled in the military service, or declared unfit for military duty by the proper board, are not eligible. Neither is any person under the age named eligible unless he is within one or the other of the exceptions.

PRODUCE.—The proceeds of the sale of produce consigned by the producer to commission merchants, and sold for account of the producer are not taxed.

RETURNS.—A person owning taxable property in a State other than that of his residence must see that it is duly returned in the Tax District where situated—he may make the return in person or by agent, but he cannot make the return to any officer of *another* State.

SALARIES of Ministers of the Gospel and Teachers are taxed under See, 7 of the Tax Act, if they exceed $1,000, unless the minister is employed in the military or naval service of the Confederate States, in which case his salary is exempt.

Any person, other than those mentioned in the exceptions in Sec. 7 receiving two or more salaries from different sources, amounting together to more than $1,000 per annum, though each salary may be less, must return the aggregate and pay tax thereon.

SLAVES.—The estimated value of the annual hire of all slaves, not engaged in the cultivation of farms, or some other business, the profits of which are taxed as income, is also to be taxed as income. And this includes all house and body servants, whether in town or the country, gardeners cooks, nurses, &c. If negroes be engaged partly in household and partly in planting duties, it will be proper to include the value of partial hire for household work.

STOCKS and money credits sold by auctionneers are liable to a tax of one-fourth of one per centum on gross amount of sales. No tax upon sales of such stocks, &c., when disposed of at a private sale.

SUGARS impressed in the hands of commission merchants, and the price thereof fixed by commissioners under the impressment laws, are liable to a tax of 2½ per cent. on the sales thereof to the Government—such sales, though under impressment, being legal sales to the Government. Where sugars or other property is seized by the Government, the sale is not effected until the price thereof is fixed by the Appraisers and paid. It is the payment which consummates the sale.

TOBACCO.—All tobacco, manufactured or unmanufactured, grown prior to the year 1863, is taxed 8 per centum, by sec. 1st, Tax Act. The manufacturer of tobacco is not considered a producer in the contemplation of the law, and commission merchants are liable for the 2½ per cent. tax upon sales of tobacco for the manufacturer.

VALUATION OF CREDITS.—The value of credits means the principle and interest due to July 1st added—that is, if the credits be solvent. If they are not solvent, the tax-payer will be required to so state under oath, and they will be valued according to the best evidence the nature of the case will admit of by the Assessor. All taxable subjects, whether capital, property, income or anything else, must be assessed and valued according to their value in Confederate Notes. If the holder of a credit refuses to endorse his willingness thereon to receive Confederate Notes in payment of such credit he thereby proves that he values it at a higher rate, and according to the provisions of Sec. 24, Assessment Act, in that case it will be the duty of the Assessor to regard the credit as representing so much silver or gold and to assess it as he would silver or gold coin at its regular market value on 1st of July. If, however, the holder will endorse upon such credit his willingness to receive Confederate Notes in payment, it shall not be taxed at any higher rate than the amount it may represent in Confederate Notes.

WOOL produced in 1862 is to be taxed in kind; and the farmer is not priviledged to commute by paying the estimated value thereof. The product of wool produced any year prior to the year 1863, pays a tax of 8 per cent., *ad valorem.*

The Sixth N. C. Regiment.

The Raleigh *Progress* publishes the following graphic letter, addressed to Gov. Vance, by a member of the thrice glorious Sixth Regiment. The letter was written by an officer of the regiment, and a gentleman of unquestioned integrity.

IN BIVOUAC NEAR HAGERSTOWN, MD.,
July 8th, 1868.

MY DEAR GOVERNOR:—Excuse the necesity of writing with pencil and the familiarity with which I address you but moments are precious, and while I am yet spared I must hasten to perform a sacred duty to you as the honored head of North Carolina, and to her brave citizen soldiers, especially those under Maj. Tate's command. The great reason for this is the fact that it was North Carolinians only, who succeeded in entering the enemy's works at Gettysburg—that our Brigade Commander was slain, and we have no friends who will tell of our success on the night of the 2nd July, *because all but the 6th Regiment failed.*

Our Brigadier General Hoke, being absent—wounded since the battle of Fredericksburg 4th May—Col. Avery was acting in his stead. Lt. Col. Webb, absent in Virginia sick, left Maj. Tate in command of the 6th, in the Pennsylvania campaign. Let me say at once, that we desire nothing and wish no notoriety, but we do want the glorious band of veterans in this Regiment to be appreciated and honored at home.—They are rapidly passing away, but North Carolina will have reason to point with pride to their valorous deeds.

On the 1st July the Confederate army made a general attack on the enemy posted in front of Gettysburg. Of Early's Division, the Lousiana and Hoke's Brigade were advanced to charge the enemy behind fences. It was rapidly done (as is our usual fortune, immediately in front, there was a stone fence,) and the enemy were driven before us through the town to their fortified hights behind. In this charge we lost a number of gallant officers and men, more than the balance of the Brigade, and captured a battery near the fence. This battery will be credited to *Early's Dickson*, see if it don't. The Virginia and Georgia Brigades were held in reserve. Next day, 2nd, we were ordered (Louisinia and N. C. Brigades) to charge the heights. Now it is proper to state that there are a series of heights there, upon which the enemy had been driven from all around. Longstreet charged on the West face and was repulsed and our two Brigades were, late in the evening, ordered to charge the North front and after a struggle such as this war has furnished no parallel, seventy-five North Carolinians of the 6th Regiment, and 12 Louisianians of Hay's Brigade scaled the walls and planted the colors of the 6th North Carolinia and 9th Lousiania on the guns. It was now fully dark. The enemy stood with a tenacity never before displayed by them, and with bayonets, clubbed musket, sword and pistol, *and rocks from the wall we cleared the hights and silenced the guns.*

In vain did we send to the rear for support. It was manifest that we could not hold the place without aid, for the enemy were massing in all the ravines and adjoining heights, and we were there, fully half a mile from our lines. Finding the enemy were moving up a line, our small band of heroes was ordered to fall back from the crest to a stone-wall on the side of the hill, where we awaited their coming. Soon they came over the hill in pursuit, when again we opened fire on them and cleared the hill a second time. Very soon we found they were very numerous in the flats in our rear, and now arose the question of surrender, or an effort to retreat. There was a calm and determined resolve, never to surrender, and under cover of the darkness, we were ordered to break and risk the fire. We did so and lost not a man in getting out.

On arriving at our lines, we learned, on inquiry that we had not been supported, because it was not known that we were in the works. Our regiment was the only one in the army of Northern Virginia which did go in and silence the guns on those heights, and what is more, if a support of a brigade had been sent up to us, the slaughter of A. P. Hill's corps the day following, would have been saved.

We still number 300 men. Col. Avery, a gallant officer, fell in front on the heights mortally wounded. He died 30 hours afterwards.

This hasty scroll I write to you, as an act of justice to the men before I pass off, if fall I must. We will have an engagement here or nearer the river in a day, or less, perhaps.

This regiment has had a reputation, you know, and I fear no harm that can come to it while any are left, but it is due to the noble dead, as well as the living, that these men be noticed in some way. I assure you this is no sensation or fancy picture. Such a fight as they made in front and in the fortifications has never been equaled. Inside the walls the enemy were left lying in great heaps, and almost all with bayonet wounds, and many with skulls broken with the breeches of our guns. *We left not a living man on the hills of our enemy.*

I write this now, for fear I will not have time to write at leisure hereafter. With your sense of propriety I need make no apology for this letter. It has no form, beginning nor ending, but is a simple story badly told.

All we ask is, don't let old North Carolina be derided while her sons do all the fighting. All our company officers are good, but there are, alas, many vacancies. Believe me, ever, your obedient servant,

---

On Saturday evening last, shortly after the arrival of the High Point stage, an altercation took place in the streets of our quiet village, between Col. J. Mastin and Wm. F. Shultz, Esq., growing out of a newspaper controversy, in which several other persons became involved. A little blood was spilt, but no bones were broken, when the parties were separated.

[*Salem Press.*

A PERTINENT INQUIRY.—The Charleston Courier very pertinently inquires whether any steps have been taken under the orders for placing invalid or wounded soldiers and officers in places of bureau duty or clerkships, where they can be as efficient as those who are now exempted from the field by such offices? Cannot the duties of enrolment, taxation, office copying, courts martial, police guard, hospitals, &c, be as well discharged by many persons not fit for the field as by others?

MARRIED,

On Sunday, 12th instant, by J. C. Skeen, Esq., Capt. JOHN LANIER and Miss SALLIE PEACOCK, daughter of Rev. Asiel Peacock, all of Davidson county.

DIED,

On the evening of the 3rd instant, of consumption, Miss VASHTI M. PARKER, daughter of Jonathan W. and Mary Parker, aged 16 years.

"Why should we mourn departed friends,
Or shake at death's alarms?
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends,
To call us to his arms."

Miss C. C. Dillard, youngest daughter of the late Col. Thomas Dillard, of Sommerville, Tennessee, died at Thornfield, Henry county, Virginia, on Sunday morning, 12th July. For a number of years before her death, she was a faithful member of the M. E. Church. Let us be comforted with the thought that death had no sting for her—our gentle—hearted friend, who has gone from us, in the full bloom of her beauty. She "has taken our summer hence." We cannot fully realize that her bright, sweet face will never again, in this life, be seen in our midst. Thank God, that it is so, for we could not bear for the full reality to come crushing down all at once upon our hearts. Oh how full of bitterness is the thought, that she has gone to the grave, and will never know the deep, heart aching love that we felt for her—the good and true. And oh, how our hearts sink with sorrow, when we feel that her glad, sweet voice, will fall no more upon our listening ears, making, as it always did, music all around us. But now, her sweet voice, is making sweeter still, the songs that are heard around the "great white throne.

"A new harp has been strung, and a new song given
To the breezes that float o'er the gardens of Heaven."

And another pure, fresh dew-drop has fallen into the great "river," which flows to the "shining sea."

Smut Machines of a superior quality, manufactured and sold by A. DICKSON,
21-tf Hill-borough, N. C.

Salt! Salt!!—500 Sacks Salt thoroughly dry, made in October last for sale by HIATT & STANTON,
51-tf Greensborough.

Extract of Logwood.—250 lbs Extract of Logwood for sale by A. A. WILLARD,
59-y Greensboro', N. C.

Notice.—We will pay Cash for old Copper or Brass. J. & F. GARRETT.
may-8 51-tf

Grain Sacks.—Grain Sacks, 2 bushels capacity for sale by A. A. WILLARD,
59-y Greensboro', N. C.

BLANK DEEDS, On good paper, for sale at the Patriot office.

Wagon for Sale!—One 3 Horse Wagon Apply to A. A. WILLARD,
58-td Greensborough, N. C.