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[WHOLE NO. 245.]

[From the Sentinel.]
THE PEARLY GATES AJAR.

BY FANNY FOSTER.

I gazed down life's dark labyrinth,
A wildering maze, to see,
Crossed o'er by many a tangled clue,
And wild as wild could be;
And as we gazed in doubt and dread,
An angel came to me.

I knew him for a heavenly guide—
I knew him even then,
Tho' meekly as a child he stood—
Among the sons of men—
By his deep spirit loveliness,
I knew him even then.

And as I leaned my weary head
Upon his proffered breast,
And scanned the peril-haunted wild
From out my place of rest,
I wondered if the shining ones
Of Eden were more blest.

For there was light within my soul,
Light on my peaceful way,
And all around the blue above
The clustering starlight lay;
And easterly I saw appeared
The pearly gates of day.

So hand in hand we trod the wild,
My aged love and I—
His lifted wing all quivering
With tokens from the sky—
Strange my dull thoughts could not divine
'Twas lifted but to fly!

Again down life's dark labyrinth
I grope my way alone,
While wildly through the midnight sky
Black hurrying clouds are blown,
And thickly in my tangled path
The sharp thick thorns are sown.

Yet firm my foot, for well I know
The goal cannot be far,
And ever through the rifted clouds
Shines out our steady star;
For, when my guide went up, he left
The pearly gates ajar.

The following are the Resolutions of the Army Convention recently held at Orange C. H., Va., as published in the Richmond Enquirer:

1st. *Resolved*, That our separation from the Northern Government was, from the beginning, intended to be final and eternal. For this have we suffered and endured so much; for this have so many of our comrades fallen and for this do we still intend to endure all and every ill; nor do we intend that the action of any portion of our people at home shall so bind our hands as to make further resistance on our part impossible. That we are daily confirmed in our determination by the unnatural teachings of the Northern press, by the insane and fanatical acts of the Northern people, by the inhuman and unprincipled acts of the Northern Government, the crowning one of which is shown in the late proclamation of Lincoln, threatening retaliation on our soldiery for our treatment of slaves found in insurrection, and by the innumerable acts of savage barbarity of the Northern soldiery in every part of our land.

2d. *Resolved*, That earnestly as we desire peace and long for a return of its blessings, we do utterly repudiate all acts of persons or authorities tending to a peace upon the basis of reconstruction or submission; and that, while we are, and have always been, anxious for an honorable settlement of our difficulties, the agitation of the subject on any other terms than our perfect independence of Northern rule is in the highest degree incompatible with the honor and interests of the good people of North Carolina. Nor can we comprehend the base feeling that would return to the embraces of an enemy who has carried on a war of invasion against us for more than two years, coupled with every savage infliction which he has had the power to impose, culminating in the employment of our slaves and the free negroes of the North to murder our citizens and oppose us in honorable combat as soldiers.

3d. *Resolved*, That while the soldiers are fighting, suffering and dying for our independence, it is wrong that their friends at home should be continually dampening their ardor, casting a chill and gloom on their hopes, and unnerving them for the contest by untimely repinings and base leanings toward submission; that we would be untrue to our principles, untrue to our wives and children, who would be the greatest sufferers by submission, untrue to our noble

dead, untrue to our interests, untrue to our State, untrue to our Confederacy, and untrue to the cause of freedom, now to submit to the domination of such as rule the Northern people, and that we fear their rule more than their wrath.

4th. *Resolved*, That we have learned with deep mortification and regret, that several meetings have been held in North Carolina, in which resolutions have been adopted declaring opposition to the further enforcement of the conscript law in our State; that we cannot regard such action, taken by a portion of our people in any other light than as favoring the cause of our enemies with whom we are contending, and in this point of view as disloyal, and to us, who have been relying upon those at home for support and sympathy, as treacherous in the extreme; that we cannot regard the appointment of an obnoxious tithing man, or the failure of the other States to do their duty patriotically, as any excuse for North Carolinians to refuse to perform theirs in any respect; that the alleging such an excuse shows that they do not plead any inability to comply with the requirement of the law, but that it is a species of canting hypocrisy, employed by those who desire to escape the dangers and hardships of the war.

5th. *Resolved*, That the course of the Raleigh Standard and its supporters in North Carolina, in encouraging this spirit among our people, meets with our unqualified condemnation, and we denounce the statement of the Editor of that paper, that his course is approved by a large number of the troops from North Carolina, as utterly false, and that for the fair fame of North Carolina, we sincerely hope that no such statement will be reiterated.

6th. *Resolved*, That in a struggle of the character in which we are engaged, involving as it does the preservation or destruction of all our rights as freemen, the freedom of the press does not demand that any sentiments, however treasonable may be uttered with impunity; that this inestimable right in every well regulated government is, and should be restricted within such limits as to forbid this; and if it should be found that true patriotism in North Carolina had so far lost its hold upon the minds and hearts of her people as to be unable to check the course of the Standard and other papers which are giving utterance to such sentiments, then the public authorities would be recreant to the cause of the country if they should fail to take measures for their suppression.

7th. *Resolved*, That we heartily approve of the noble and patriotic course of Gov. Vance in the struggle for our independence; that we are willing to entrust the honor and integrity of our State in his hands, and that we are confident he will not betray his trust.

8th. *Resolved*, That while the resolutions adopted show truly the sentiments of the Convention upon all the points embraced in them, inasmuch as it is impossible in this form to embody all that the Convention and those whom they represent, desire should be said to the people of the State, with the arguments and considerations which might be brought forward to sustain them, the President of the Convention be authorized to appoint a committee of three gentlemen of the Convention, who shall be entrusted with the preparation and publication of an address to the people of the State, specially appealing to the good and the patriotic to rise in their might and put down the small (as we believe) but treasonable faction in their midst, whose machinations we have more trouble to resist than the power of our enemies.

Sustain the President of the Confederate States. So certain as the shining of the sun, it is the surest—it is the only way to bring peace to the country and a speedy solution to our national difficulties. From the inception of this Revolution for Southern Independence, as our Chief Magistrate, he has been all that we could have desired; up to the present dark hour. The ordeal hath proved him worthy of the trust. Patient, persevering, patriotic and prudent, no other man in the Confederacy than himself, could have more satisfactorily fulfilled

the duties of his high and responsible office. In our earlier political education we were not one among the number of his adherents. Since his elevation to the highest office in the gift of the free people of the young Confederacy, and during the past two years of the present arduous and trying administration, we have seen much in his course to admire and but little to condemn, despite the murmurs of the discontented who have found fault with his military appointments and attributed to him motives of personal revenge and prejudice in his selections. The President may not be free altogether from these charges. But to doubt his patriotism as some have already done, to ascribe to him a reckless disregard of his country's cause, in the directorship of his interest the various departments of the army—the advancement of some commanders and the displacement or neglect of others, is absolutely an absurdity. The chief ends of his administrative labors are the establishment of the national independence of the people over whom he has ably presided, and the restoration of Peace to his beloved country.

We repeat that the hope of our success lies in the aid and support, the people of the Confederacy afford him in this the most momentous period of our struggle. We have the utmost faith in his capacity, the highest confidence in his discretion and in his patriotic zeal and devotion. It behooves us now, as a people to respond with alacrity and cheerful willingness to his recent proclamation, and address to the nation. Without the encouragement of his countrymen, and more especially their personal assistance, he is powerless. But with a ready response to his earnest appeal and a hearty cooperation in the effort to increase and strengthen our military organizations, it will materially aid him in the furtherance of our independence, and insure beyond any doubt, the certain safety of our government. From the ashes of our reverses let there spring up new hopes and a spirit purified and revived and strengthened for still greater and more heroic efforts.

Chat. Rebel.

OVER FORTY-FIVE.—We find the following good one in the local column of the Enquirer:

Three young men, handsomely dressed, sat by the west fountain in Capitol Square, yesterday morning, smoking and chatting pleasantly and leisurely. While thus engaged in whiling away time, a respectable looking citizen, whose head was rather grayish, and expression somewhat stern and cynical, took a seat on the same bench, and managed to glide into the conversation turning its course, meanwhile, to the army, at length he asked, "How is it, gentlemen, that you, in the full tide of health, with apparently plenty of time, well brought up and all that—how is it, that you can sit here idly, and see others fight and be butchered up and sickened to death for your sake?" "Well," responded one, "the army would suit me well enough, but for one thing: If you will pull off that neatly fitting shoe and roll up my drawers, you will find a leg made of leather straps and iron ribs. The 'original' I left at Sharpsburg." "As for me," remarked the second, "If you will take the trouble to feel this left arm, you will discover that the bone between the shoulder blade and the elbow, to the length of five inches, has been removed. When I stand upon my right foot, also, I am balancing on my toes, the heel being gone. Result of bullets in the second battle of Manassas." The third youth scarcely knew what to say, but looked daggers at the cynical old codger, and finally broke out: "The same sort of talk forced me in. I was a shaking skeleton when I joined, and on the first march I broke down, got put in one of the meanest hospitals in the country, and came out paralyzed in one side." (Here he lifted up a shivered and lifeless arm.) "And may I ask, sir," he added, "what keeps you out? You seem to be in excellent vigor." "Me! I? Why—ahem—I'm over forty-five."

It is estimated that the Morgan raid will cost Ohio one million dollars.

ROBERTSON'S CAVALRY BRIGADE.

Of the large Brigade raised and organized by Gen. Robertson in North Carolina, but two Regiments were brought to Virginia. These have been doing good service in the late campaign, and well sustaining the reputation of North Carolinians as good fighting troops. It has been the lot of this small Brigade to do the heaviest duty of the Cavalry Division, from the beginning of the advance to the present time, till but few are left to tell the tale. Its first engagement was on the evening of 17th ultimo, when, learning that the enemy's Cavalry was at Middleburg; it charged into that place, and found the enemy had left at the first sound of their horses' feet. Detachments were sent up in every direction, and it was soon found that they had made a stand half a mile from town, in a dense wood, on a road leading to the right. Then ensued a night fight, the result of which was a perfect rout of the enemy and the entire extermination of the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry. Our severest casualty on this occasion was a severe wound received by Major McNeill, of 68th North Carolina troops—a most valuable officer. The Yankees returned next morning in large force, drove in our pickets which were beyond the town, and renewed the fight. The engagement of the 18th was almost entirely confined to sharp-shooting, without much advantage to either side. On the 19th the fight was renewed at an early hour, and quite a brisk artillery fire was kept up all day, with few intermissions and slight loss to us. On the 20th, the enemy yet more strongly reinforced, both in Cavalry and Artillery, commenced a brisk skirmishing and artillery fire, till about mid-day, when they charged our skirmishers and were driven back with the loss of many prisoners, and several killed and wounded. Our loss this day was almost entirely confined to the sharpshooters which were cut off by the enemy's charge. On the next day, the 21st, at an early hour, the enemy, by a general advance in three columns, commenced pressing us heavily. Gen. Stuart's Division could make little resistance to such a force. Gen. Jones' Brigade was sent to the left, towards Snicker's Gap, to prevent our being flanked from that direction. We fell back slowly—our Artillery doing execution from every position of advantage and the Cavalry charging when opportunity offered. As we approached Upperville, they pressed us closely. Here we had some desperate fighting, with severe loss on both sides. Beyond Upperville, Robertson's Brigade, a squadron at a time, made several desperate charges which checked the enemy in their advance. Two field officers were here lost to the brigade in rapid succession—both captured—and one of them, Col. P. G. Evans, most seriously wounded. The fighting was concluded as we approached Ashby's Gap about dark. Our loss was great, on this, the fifth successive day that this brigade was engaged. On the 22d, having been reinforced by some of Longstreet's infantry, we advanced from the Gap and moved towards the enemy. They retired so rapidly before us that we ceased the pursuit upon reaching Middleburg again. A day or two after this, by direction of General Stuart, General Robertson moved across Ashby's Gap and was joined by General Jones. With the two brigades, he moved through Millwood, Smithfield and Martinsburg towards Williamsport where he crossed the Potomac, following in the rear of General Lee's army. From Williamsport, General Robertson moved directly towards Greencastle, Pa., and thence to Chambersburg. On the 3d July a part of General Jones' brigade, which was in advance engaged the 6th U. S. Cavalry at Fairfield and routed them before Robertson's brigade reached the ground. This was the last day on which General Lee engaged the enemy at Gettysburg. The next morning his long wagon train commenced passing. General Robertson sent a squadron to be deployed on Jack's Mountain, over which there was an approach to Fairfield, which exposed the left of the wagon train; he also picketed other approaches. In the afternoon, a squadron of the enemy made a dashing charge up and over the mountain. They met a warm reception; the captain was wounded and made a prisoner with several others, the rest were repulsed and driven back to the regiment beyond the mountain. They made no other effort. The brigade sustained no loss in this engagement. The same afternoon General Jones moved towards the head of the wagon train, (for which no guard seems to have been provided,) learning an attack was threatened there. Colonel Ferebee's regiment, of Robertson's brigade, (through a mistake in the delivery of an order by a courier,) moved also in the same direction. The attack was made at Monterey, at night in large force and was repulsed, but not without severe loss to Ferebee's regiment which General Jones attached to his brigade during the engagement. In the confusion many were taken prisoners and horses and men wounded. It was a mere accident that Ferebee's regiment was engaged on this occasion.

The next engagement was on the 6th July, at Hagerstown. Robertson's Brigade approached the town it was announced that the enemy were holding the place. Soon their skirmishers were seen on our left. Brig. Gen. Iverson was about to enter the town on his way to Williamsport with a part of Gen. Lee's wagon train (which had been attacked the night of the 4th,) and one or two hundred infantry. Gen. Robertson, (the ranking officer,) immediately took command, sent the wagons to the rear, and deployed Iverson's infantry as sharpshooters. The Brigade at this time was represented only by about three hundred men. Soon W. H. F. Lee's Brigade of about two hundred men and one piece of artillery commanded by Col. Chambliss, came up. The piece of artillery was put in position and opened on the enemy's sharpshooters. About this time, a large party was observed moving around to our left, evidently with the design of making a flank movement. At this time three more pieces of artillery, (of Col. Chambliss' command,) came up, were put in position and opened on the enemy's flanking party. This had the effect of driving back both the sharpshooters and larger force. Just then, a large squadron of the enemy charged up the main street of the town. As they came by Iverson's shooters, they received a round which stopped many and caused their surrender. The rest came on till a bend in the road brought them in sight of our cavalry drawn up in the road in column of fours. A platoon advanced to meet them at a charge. The result was, that none of the squadron returned—a few being killed and the rest taken pris-