### [From the Petersburg Express.] THE BRILLIANT AND SUCCESSFUL RAU OF GEN. HAMPTON.

The fact was generally known in this city and beyoud its limits, that Gen. Wade Hampton started on a raid to the enemy's rear on Wednesday last, for the purpose of bagging a large drove of cattle, said to be grazing at or in the vicinity of Coggin's Point, Prince George county. The matter was widely discussed, the probabilities of the success or failure duly weighed, and curiosity was raised to the highest point in the bosoms of all to learn the result of the expedition." We have it at last, and the expectations of the mast sanguine are fully realized. On Saturday the glad tidings of Hampton's success reached the city, and the most joyful congratulations were secretly and openly extended to the noble chieftain and his command.

#### THE MARCH.

At an early hour Wednesday morning, Gan Hamp ton, with W. H. F. Lee's division, (Barringer's and and Chambliss' brigades) and Bosser's and Dearing's brigades of cavalry, and Graham's and "NeGregor's batteries of artillery, struck tents in the vicinity of Petersburg and started on his important expedition. He encamped at night in the vicinity of Duval's Mill, Sussex county, about eighteen miles from town. Thursday morning the march was resumed, the column passing within three miles of Stony Creek, and thence across to the Jorusalem Plank Road, sround to the Norfolk and Petersburg railroad, and encamped five miles north of Waverly, at 8 o'clock in the afternoom. At 11 o'clock that night the column was again put in motion and marched in the direction of Sycamore Church, Prince George county, about fifteen miles from town, where the enemy's forces were known to be encamped. A halt was called about one and a half miles from this spot and preparations made for the attack at daylight -a rest of some two hours being allowed the men and animals.

## THE SPIRIT OF OUR MEN. .

The spirit of the men was excellent. Scarcely one of them but knew the object of the expedition, the favorable effects of its success, and all were cool and determined, but impressed with the importance of the undertaking before them. They were the right men for the duty.

# THE ATTACK BOUT OF THE ENENT.

All necessary disposition of the troops having been . made, Gen. Lee's division guarding every channel of approach to prevent reinforcements coming from a distance, an attack was ordered upon the enemy just before daylight, Friday morning. His left, neur Syca-more Church, rested upon a hill, well fortified and protected by abattis. His right, some two miles distant at Cox's Mill, was protected by a series of breastworks and rifle-pits. Gen. Rosser assaulted the left and Gen. Dearing the right, simultaneously, and with like result. The attack was a surprise to the enemy, and their position was carried with a rush. The charge of our men at both points, is represented to have been faultless. On the enemy's right, Dearing's men swept like an avalanche over their work, meeting with a rapid hat irregular and momentary fire of musketry, which only served to increase their ardor and enthusiasm. So sudden and rapid was the assault, that the Yankees rushed from their tents en dishabilie, and were enabled to make comparatively but a feeble resistance Gen. Dearing took thirty-five prisoners, five or six Gen. Lee halted and fed and walered his animals . teams, and the enemy's camp. Demoralized and panic Kantz also halted. But we understand from good austricken, the balance of the enemy fled in great disorder to Sycamore Church, where, finding Gen. Rosser in possession of their works, they immediately surrendered.

On their left, at Sycamore church, the enemy

encampment of Speer's troops, capturing some prisononers and horses, and putting the balance to fight. Speer's headquarters were at Mount Sinal Church, and, had time permitted, he would also have been routed or captured.

#### THE BETURN.

The object of the expedition being accomplished, our force started on their return home. Generals Rosser and Dearing were in the advance of the captures. and Gen. Les brought up the rear. The cattle stretched out for a distance of four or five miles, but were moved and guarded in the most systematic manner The captured wagons were loaded with seed dats and other stores captured from the Yankees. Everything progressed favorably until the arrival of the head of the column at Belsohes! Mill, on the Jerusalem Plank Road, eighteen miles from town, where the Yaukce General Gregg, commanding two divisions of cavalry, codfronted it.

## BATTLE AF RELSCHES MILL.

Gen. Gregg was drawn up in battle array immediately across Hampton's road, and it was found necessary to give him battle. Rosser and Dearing were ordered to attack at once, which they did in the most determined style, forcing the Yankees back in the direction of Petersburg, one mile and a half. They retreated across a creek at this point, burning the bridge to prevent pursuit. Here they planted a battery, and opened fire upon our troops, while the main boy of their forces took a road to the left in order to flank us. They were met by Gen. Lee, who after a sharp fight of an hour, completely routed them. Graham's and McGregor's batteries, were in the meantime brought up and placed in front of the Yankee battery, and such was the precision of their fire, that they soon silenced it, and compelled its removal. Lee's conflict with the Yankee cavalry was one of the most decisive of the war. He not only defeated, but routed them and caused them to retreat in the most shameful confusion. Cheered by their brilliant success in the capture of cattle, prisoners and stores, and determined to bring them safely into our lines at all hazards, his men went, into battle with a will which made them irresistible. The Yankees charged time and again, but were reputs d all round, with considerable loss., They were compelled to retire at last, and allow our column to pursue the even tenor of its way.

Where all acted well, it would be inviduous to particularize, yet we must be permitted to say that the general testimony of officers and men point to the action of the artillery engaged in battle at Belsches' Mill as unsurpassed, and as terribly destructive to the enemy. It was largely instrumental in galaing the victory,

#### SAFE ARRIVAL.

After the disastrous and ignominious defeat of Gregg, Hampton continued his course towards our lines, and arrived in camp without further interruption at 6 o'clock on Saturday mo ning. He brought every thing safely with him him, losing only some 20 or 30 cattle from fatigue. These cattle were brought through town yesterday afternoon, and have been placed in a position secure from Yankee raiders.

#### POOR KAUTZ.

During the return of the expedition from Prince George, Gen. Kantz followed in Lee's rear with fifteen hundred men and four pieces of cannon, but he at no time, came within shooting distance. At one time Gen. Lee hatred and fed and watered his animals. , the boxes at Mr. Gaddy's house not later than Octothority, that after the battle at Belsches, Kautz turned his troops loose upon the citizens of Prince George, and robbed and pillaged them generally, in revenge for our success. This is poor revenge for a brave man



ADVERTISING-S2 00 per square of ten lines for first insertion and \$1 50 far each subsequent insertion. For inserting only one time, \$2. Obituaries over five lines one dollar per square.

#### LOOK OUT FOR THE CROSS-MARK.

We send this week's paper to's large number of our subscribers with a cross (X) maris on the margin, with the number of the paper at which the term for which they paid expired. If they wish to renew their subscriptions they will be prompt in notifying us.

Alarge number of our subscribers are due us for subscription. It is in the power of many of them to pay us in corn and provisions. They will confer a great favor if they will help us in this way. It is a matter of impossibility for us to be running over the county looking for something to eat and at the same time to give the attention to the paper it ought to have. We dislike obtruding personal matters upon our readers, but this eating question is such a vi(1)tal one we cant help it.

100. We would be much obliged to any of our frignds, receiving letters from Early's command, if they would send us the lists of casualties any of them may contain of the fights of the 19th and 22d. We have seen one letter containing a partial list of casualties in Co. C, 14th Regt., but we do not deem it prudent to publish it.

## REMEMBER THE SOLDIERS.

We are requested by Mr. J. T. Gaddy, Co. K. 26th N. C. T., to state that he will leave this county on the 5th of October, to rejoin his command, and that if any one wishes to send anything to members of his company-particularly something to est, and by all means regulables-they will have the articles nicely packed in hoxes and sent to his house. He will take great eleasure in taking charge of the boxes and dulivering them to the partles to whom they may be directed. Recullect, ladies, the duties that the members of Co. K, have been performing the past summer. They have been in' the entrenchments nearly all the time, debarred from the opportunities of getting vegetables and fruits that troops in more open fields have had. You can send them onicits, potatoes, dried fruits, and anything that will keep and which you know the boys would like. All who intend to send must have

"LIST YOUR TITHE."-Attention of "all whom it may concorn," is invited to the potice of Messrs Robinson and Knight, who have reason to complain that the farmers have not been as prompt in attending. the appointments at the respective precinct, rendervous as they should have been and in listing their wheat, onts, rye; hay and wool. These geatlenion offer them one more chance to make all right. If you neglect this last call (see advertisement) remember you are subject to a forfeiture of 500 per cent. upon the estimated value of each article you are liable to list.

we have received from "Gamma," an esteemed friend and correspondent, a member of Co. A, 4th N. C. Cavalry, a longthy account of "Gen. Hampton's raid upon Grant's beef, in which the 4th was a partici pant. We regret to say that it was received so late and our space is so limited that we cannot give the letter this week. We feel it our duty however, to make room for the following extract, giving the casunities in Co. A:

Lieut. J. P. Kendall, Co. A, 4th N. C. Cavalry, was killed in a charge on the morning of the 16th. We have known him long, ever since our entry into the service, and we have known no one more brave and strictly conscien lous in the performance of his duty. Strictly a war man he practiced what he preached, and with a rocklessness of life he dashed himself among the foremost ap-bravery that Yankee prowess could not overcome. We shall miss his familiar face. Death may strike those we do not know and we feel it not; but when the fatal shaft brings low a comrade we feel it deeply, and extend to his bereaved family our earnest sympathy though we know them not. Private E. C. Doster of the same company was also killed-a brave h nest. upright, and worthy man. Wounded-James Gray, W. F. Curlee, Robt. Lockhart-the last slight in arm.

TRUBINE EFFECTS OF LIGHTNING .- We learn that on Saturday afternoon last, about five o'cleck, Mr. Nelson Low, who lives in this county, between Lilesville and the Grassy Islands, bad three children (boys) killed from the effects of lightung-aged respectively 17, 14 and 7. It appears that at the time they were killed no rain had fallen immediately in their neightorhood, and that two of the children were sitting in the door watching the play of the lightning as the cloud was passing, with the third lying behind them on the floor, near the door. Their mother was somewhere about the house. She was considerably shocked by the stroke that killed her children. When she rochyered her first thought was of her children, and when she went to look after them, she saw the one that had been lying on the floir, still in that position with his clothes on fire. She put the fire out, and found him dead. The other two had fallen from the door outside-one lying on his face, the other on his side, and both dead.

Bor "J B.V wishes to know what has become of Argus's "hundred eyes" that were want to figure at the head of these editorial columns. "J. B." is informed that the said "hundred eyes" complained to us that they were tired of looking after the "reopie's rights" with nothing to est; and that they desired to go on a hunt for corn, bacon, chickens, eggs, anything that would sustain the inner man, and naurish their mental vision. . These being very "tight" times we let them go, of course. We understand they met with such poor success in the first week of their hunt after the articles named that they have turned their attention to young puppies, rats and mice, they being informed that said articles are much esteemed as food among the Celestials.

THE CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER .- Jno. D. Hyman, Esq., has withdrawn from the Editorial chair of the Conservative, and the paper is to be conducted hereafter by J B. Neathery & Co. A gentleman of learning and ability has been secured as permanent Editor. but a few weeks must elapse before he can enter on the discharge of his duties. His name is not given.

much more strongly fortified. He held position of a hill with formidable barricades in his front. Gen. Resser demanded a surrender, but the Yankee commandant, seemingly conscious of his ability to hold his potion, returned a positive refusa', wi h the additional remark that he intended to fight to the last. Gen. Rosser determined to give him a chance, and ordered his men to charge. They obeyed the command with great cheerfulness and gallantry. They reached the barricades, pulled them to pieces, leaped over and through them and reached the enemy's work in the three miles south of Winchester Newtown is eight miles face of a heavy fire. which fortunately, did little exccution. A number of prisoners were taken-including Major Baker, of the 1st District of Columbia cavalry, commanding. As soon as Gen. Rosser reached their position, the Yankees scattered in all directions. and fied from the place in the most precipitate matther. It was here that the men who fled before Gen. Dearing, were made to surrender. Gen. R. took about two hundred and fifty prisoners and several valuable teams, in addition to the enemy's camp.

THE PRISONERS AND THEIR CAMPS. The prisoners captured by Gens. Rosser and Dearing belonged to the 1st District of Columbia Cavalry, commanded at the time by Major Baker. They were armed with sixteen shooters, many of which weapons fell into the hands of the captors, and were safely brought off. The camps were prolific of delicaties and provisions. Oranges, lemons, cigars, crackers and good things and useful, were found in great profusion, and not a few of them were secured. Everything not brought off, was destroyed, and we learn much more was destroyed than secured, on account of a lack of transportation.

#### CAPTURE OF THE CATTLE.

The enemy having been completely routed and demoralized, it was determined to push ahead at once after the cattle, supposed to be at Coggin's Point. Away in the distance, by the faint light of the breaking dig, were seen a vast herd of animals. Gen. Rosser took them to be dismounted cavalry, and at once prepared to attack them. Before he movel off. however, a note, captured in Major Baker's teut, was brought to him, which explained the presence of this great host. It was addressed to Gen. Grant's chief commissury, and read as follows ?

I have the honor to report the arrival of 2,486 head of cattle bere. I have this day moved them from. Coggin's Point, as the grazing in this vicinity is the finest in the country. I only fear it will not hold out long enough. The cattle are in splendid order.

#### J. S. BAKER Com'dg 1st D. C. Cavalry.

There was no difficulty in securing the cattle, for such the great drove of animals grazing in the distant fields proved to be, and our galant horsemen. pushed forward to gather them in. It was a great and glorious sight, and one that did the soul good, to witness them as they dame up bundred after hundred. They are all Northern beeves, raised especially for that market, in spleudid condition, and all young steers. Our troops greeted them with joyful cheers, and no doubt smiled in anticipation of many a jaicy sirloin.

A DASH AT SPEER'S MEN. While Rosser and Dearing were fighting the enemy, a detachment of Gen. Lee's command dashed into an HORSES CAPTURED.

In the fight at Sycamore Church and Cox's Mill three hundred fine Yankee horses were captured which will be put to useful service in the Confederate army.

# THE FIGHT IN THE WALLEY.

The Richmond Examiner of Thursday says: .

According to the best information we have been able to obtain the battle here mentioned took place two orsouth of Winchester, and Fisher's Hill eighteen miles further up the Valley. It is a very strong position on have had reports of large numbers of Yankee prisoners the south bank of a creek which empties into the Shenabdonh river, a cannon shot south of Sharp-barg. From this point to Stannton the distance is sixty miles. Gen. Early's position at Fisher's Hill is impregnable the partsof the guard or remissness somewhere, severto any force attacking in front. The only way he can be reached is by a wide flank movement up the Luray Valley.

In this battle our forces were greatly outnumbered A gentleman recently on Gen. Early's staff, who left Winghester on last Sunday night, says Sheridan has thirty-five thousand infantry and ten thousand cavalry. It is believed that the Yankee force in the Valley has been recently greatly augmented by reinforcements from the Mississippi Valley and from Sheeman's army. Some think that Sherman has sent to Virginia as many as twenty thousand troops.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE FIGHT.

From a gentleman who left Gen. Eary's army on Monday night we have some few particulars of the fight.

The attack was made by the enemy on Monday morning just after daybreak Our camp was taken completely by surprise. The enemy came upon our men in overpowering force, and his attack was so suilden and unexpected that our forces were thrown, for Tuesday morning two more by Wm. Lockbart. the while, into considerable confusion.

The fight roged all day. At night General Early fell back to Fisher's Hill, bringing off with him all his wagonshod supplies. This point, Figher's Hill, is two miles this sile of Strasburg and eight miles this side of Winchester.

The enemy had been strongly reinforced just before the fight. Accounts state that reinforcements to the number of some fifteen or twenty thousand men had was in great strength,

Gen. Rhodes was killed about ten o'clock in the morning, while in the act of rallying some portion of his division. He was struck on the head by a fragment of shelf and was killed Instantly-never speaking after receiving the blow.

Gen. Fitzbugh Lee was reported wounded, but it was thought not seriously

The enemy made no pursuit of our forces, in their retreat. When our informant left our army had reached Eisher's Hill.

Persons having Irish potatoes, onions, sour krout. &c., to sell will confer a great favor on our soldiers in the trenches at Petersburg by furnishing them to Maj. T. D Hogg. Raleigh ; Maj. J. Sloan. Greens-boro' ; ' John L. Brown, Charlotte ; J. D. Brown, Salisbury ; A. C. Murdock, Hillsboro' ; J. A. Boyden, Wadesboro', or G. H. White, Statesville,

YANKEE PRISONERS -For a week or two past we being gathered in the neighborhood of a certain point in South Carolina, and that through carelessness on al hundred of them had been permitted to escape. Report further said, to case the public mind, that the greater portion, if not all, of the escaped had been recaptured. But we do not believe this last-report, for we have evidence that a great many of them have made their way up into this country, and that they are committing extensive depredations upon potato patches, ben coops, and dairies. One of these gentry w s arrested hear Morven on Friday afternoon by Hiram Pratt and Mr. Amos, and brought to this place and turned over to the County, Enrolling Officer, Lieut. Holt, who sent him next morning to Cheraw in charge of W. H. Mills, Lientenant in Home Guard. On Sunday night two more were brought in by W. W. Winfree and John and George Boggan. On Monday night one more was brought in by W. W. Winfree; and on

The one brought in Monday night had succeeded in divesting himself of all traces of Yankee clothing and federate uniform. Written directions were found upson him, as to the points he was to avoid and the route he was to take to reach Knoxville, Tenn. These papers were given him at or near Society Hill, S. C. been received. Everything indicates that the enemy The name of the party who gave them is known and has been sent to the proper authorities.

> We deem it our duty to tell our people to be unusually vigilant at this time, and arrest every man they see passing about as an escaped Yankee prisoner who cannot give a good account of himself. They should not look for evidence of the nationality of the party in the clothing he may be wearing, for no doubt, becoming emissaries among the slaves, m many of them will think it their duty to do, they' will be aided by the slaves in changing their clothing and passing through the country. Look to your barns, bridges; and cotton if you have any on hand, for no doubt efforts will be made to fire these; and, look to your negroes that they are not corrupted, and that your po. tato patches and smoke houses are not robbed.

gen\_ RRey Cagle, of Montgomery county, Co. E. 16th N. C. Regiment, a notorious deserter and robber and the murderer of an old man named Simmons, has been on triat for a considerable time at Petersburg. Witnesses had to be sent from Montgomery county. He was finally convicted, and was shot on the 1Stn of this month.

gen, Gen. Beauregard, (says the Baleigh Canfederate, of the 19th.) was in this city last Friday. We did not see him on our streets, and understand that he spent most of his time with Gov. Vance. On his arrival at Greenshora' the cars were closed round by a throng of citizens of all ages and both sexes, to catch a glimpse of the immortal hero. Being waited upon, says the Greenshoro' Citizen, Gen. Beauregard presented himself at the car platform and after the band finished a patriotic air, he made them all a handsome, encouraging, conversational speech He said we had een-crowned with many victories; that we must look for some reverses; that every rose has its thorns and we are, ever and anon, to feel them; that he never despairs even in the midst of the most terrible battles, that all is going well at Richmond and Petersburg; that we must endure, hope and fight, and our independence will be vouchsafed by the wise and beneficent Ruler of the Universe.

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTS AND DETAILED MEN .----The War Department has ordered the registration of all male white persons between the ages of seventeen and fifty years who are not now actually in the field or getting others in their place assimilating to the Cone win the reserves, and also of all boys who will attain to the age of seventeen within the next twelve months, with the month in which they will become seventeen. The grounds of exemption or "detail will also inve to" be given. Under this order, Captain Coke, the enrolling offcer for this district, will proceed with the registration without delay.

> Ber Gen. R. C. Gatlin, &djutant General has given the following explanation of a recent order from his office

> Ministers of the Gospel of the several denominations in the States charged with the duties of such ministry, are exempted by law from enrollment in the Guard for Home Defence., They cannot be required to perform duty in that organization.

> nen; Iu a dispatch to General Bragg, General Hood says he is very much gratified at the feeling now existing among the officers and men of his army, and that they are in better condition for battle than at any time since they crossed the Chattahoochee.

> mor It is said that within a few days the price of coru in Columbia, South Carolina has declined from \$25 to \$12 a bushel. Beef, bacon and other articles of prime necessity, have declined considerable.