

THE BATTLES NEAR RICHMOND.

From the Richmond Enquirer, 30th inst.

The Battles Friday & Saturday. Glorious Succession of Confederate Victories!

The right wing of the enemy having been driven from its advanced positions, near Mechanicsville, on Friday morning, fell back upon its stronger works in the direction of the center. Gen. Stonewall Jackson was bearing down upon them with invincible energy, supported in front by Gen. A. P. Hill's Division, when Longstreet's Division was ordered, about four o'clock in the afternoon, down the north bank of the Chickahominy, to follow up the advance of Hill's Division on the main batteries of the enemy at the mill bridge, Gaines' cross roads. The Division (Longstreet's), halted by the Chickahominy, and Gen. Pickett's Brigade was detached as an advance to support Gen. Hill's assault, the latter being then engaged in a terrific fight in front of the works in view. Upon reaching the scene, Pickett's Brigade was ordered to support a battery which was then playing upon the enemy, who were retreating as they lay upon Gen. Hill's left. The brigade was then ordered to charge, which being accomplished, resulted in the repulse of the enemy. An Alabama and a Mississippi regiment came up to the support of the brigade, when the latter was ordered to fall: the Alabamians and Mississippians then charged over them upon the enemy, and the brigade rose again and followed.

The charge now became desperate, and never without such harassing difficulties encountered and successfully overcome. Our men found themselves suddenly charging upon the enemy in a dense wood, forming a portion of an extensive swamp, which presented somewhat the appearance of the pit of a theatre, surrounded by a ditch five feet wide by five feet deep, while on the opposite side, the mud of the marsh was knee deep, over which arose the hill, upon which the enemy's batteries were placed. At the foot of the hill the enemy had erected a parterre of infantry works, and another at the top, overlooking it, and also one on the edge of a ravine on the left of the brow of the hill. A battery was stationed in the ravine, while three others, in two tiers, ribbed the front of the hill, the whole presenting a fire upon our forces which told with terrible effect.

But our troops rushed on, crossed the swamp, the field officers having dismounted from their horses, it being impossible to carry them on, and charged upon the foremost batteries. In the first essay, the brigade and its support were repulsed; in the second they paused and laid down. The 4th Texas, and several North and South Carolina regiments came up, the rest of Hill's Division was pressing on, and Longstreet's was rapidly approaching the scene of conflict. The third charge was made, and the battery was taken. The number engaged in this charge was not more than 1000, while the enemy on the ground numbered about 10,000, confronting Gen. Porter's Division. Our supports now came up, and secured the possession of the hill, capturing many prisoners. The enemy's cavalry made an attempt to retake the position, but were repulsed, and fled precipitately. As our troops gained the brow of the hill Gen. Jackson appeared on our left, about 400 yards off, just completing his irresistible storm on the enemy's right flank, and aiding materially in securing the position then in the possession of our forces.

The general engagement, closing with this brilliant finale, brought into the field 10,000 Confederates and 50,000 Federals. The enemy was pursued for some distance out, when they finally disappeared, it being now eight o'clock at night, and our men, commended by their officers for their gallantry, and flushed with victory, were content to stop upon the field of their success and rest for the night. We regret to learn that our loss was very severe. It is estimated that in killed and wounded, Gen. Pickett's Brigade lost 40 to 50 per cent. Such daring, such sacrifices, were never before made before the altar of liberty.

Among the lost of Pickett's Brigade, were Col. Withers, 15th Va., mortally wounded in the breast; Gen. Pickett wounded in the arm, severely, but not dangerously; Maj. Wilson, 28th Va., wounded in the leg and side; Capt. Spessard, 25th Va., disabled; Capt. Robertson, of the same, in the breast, but not seriously; Capt. Nelson, 25th, reported killed, but believed to be a mistake. The total loss of the 25th Virginia alone amounted to about sixty per cent. of its whole force engaged.

We have been unable to gather the full particulars of our loss, nor that of the enemy, except so far as we learn from our prisoners, who report the loss as very severe. Two regiments, captured during the day, the 11th Pennsylvania and the 4th New Jersey, about 600 in all, together with their officers, reached the city about ten o'clock Saturday morning, and were quartered in the Libby and Greener's Friscons. Portions of several Federal Brigades were also captured on various parts of the field, and among them were large numbers of field and company officers. There arrived in the city at an early hour on Saturday, Brig. Gen. John F. Reynolds, of Illinois; Brig. Gen. Rankin, of Pennsylvania, (Philadelphia), and Capt. C. Kingsbury, Jr., aid to Gen. Reynolds. Several Colonels also arrived at the same time. The whole number of prisoners taken in the four days' fighting sums up, in round numbers, five thousand. 2550 privates and 93 officers, have already been brought to Richmond.

Our Generals, accompanied by staff and regimental officers, rode over the battle field of Friday, on Saturday afternoon, and estimated the number of Federals left dead on the field at 1000. A large number of their wounded also fell into our hands. Their total loss in the several engagements, is estimated at about ten thousand, in killed, wounded and prisoners. Our loss, all told, does not exceed 2500. The fighting on the Confederate side exhibited a degree of coolness and undaunted heroism which had never been excelled in the history of nations. The work of our men was rendered brilliant by the number, style and irresistible of their bayonet charges, which carried off every thing before them, and so completely repressed the "bayonet charges," which McClellan pictured up for the popular mind of the North, on the occasion of the battle of the "Seven Pines," that not even the shadow of a respectable hand to hand resistance was offered them.

In our combined assault on the strongest series of works on the right wing of the enemy, our forces increased to upwards of 30,000 men, while the enemy presented a force of about 50,000 strong, consisting of the whole of Gen. Porter's corps of 20,000, a division from Franklin's and a division of McClellan's corps of 10,000. The enemy was thus driven back upon his centre, and his entire position disconcerted. He was obliged to resist attack from the north on Saturday, in order to resist attack from the south on Sunday. The plan of attack in this day's battle may be summed up, as follows: Gen. Jackson made his way around the entire rear of the enemy, and pitched into their left, driving, or rather "huddling" them all up on their centre. He then passed around their rear and came up on their left, when Gen. A. P. Hill's corps was pursuing down upon the right of their centre, while Gen. Longstreet and D. H. Hill were driving back their front in the same direction. It must be understood that the battle was fought between one portion of our forces and one half of the enemy, the other half being on this (South) side of the Chickahominy, where no fighting of importance occurred at all.

The Battle on Saturday on the South side of the Chickahominy.—No fighting occurred on the north side of the Chickahominy, on Saturday. At an early hour, Gen. Magruder, whose forces threaten the front of the enemy's forces on the south side, sent forward a portion of his "Tombs" brigade, to capture a battery on the Nine Mile road. Our men were elated with the idea of at length joining in the fray which had so long been in progress, and moving on unharmed upon and charged the battery and captured it. The enemy, however, had strong batteries of howitzers in the rear, with which they played upon our men incessantly, so that at length they were compelled to abandon the work. Our loss in this charge was about 200 killed and wounded. Most of our killed and wounded in this engagement, including Col. Lamar, of Ga., were left in the hands of the enemy.

No more fighting occurred along the lines during the rest of the day. An armistice was agreed upon in the afternoon, for the exchange of the wounded and the burial of the dead, and thus closed the events of the day and week, the field, for the most part, in our possession, and the mantle of victory covering our dead.

The Position.—Our Generals having disconcerted the enemy's centre, and the latter seeing no earthly chance for themselves, so completely were they humbled in it, it is said, immediately made for their guns on the right, and endeavored to their attacking and honorable found themselves outflanked by the indomitable Jackson and his brave army. They then re-crossed the swamp in the wildest confusion, and fled towards their gunboats on the James River, closely followed by Jackson, Hill and Longstreet, who expected to overtake McClellan and his half of the army Saturday night or early Sunday morning.

The other half of the Federal army is represented as completely surrounded by our troops. Magruder in front, Holmes on their right, and "Bethel" Hill and other Generals in their rear. It was expected that all of these Generals would move against the enemy at an early hour Sunday morning, while those of our troops in their rear will probably advance upon the enemy towards Richmond. The enemy was, on Saturday, strongly strengthening their position in front and rear, so as to resist, if possible, the combined assaults of our forces—their rear being at the time totally unprepared to meet any vigorous attack.

We have thus given in as concise a manner as possible, a plain and true account of the operations of the army, as explained to us by a gentleman of whose intelligence and reliability. The reader will thus perceive that the skies are indeed "bright and brightening." Let the people of the Confederacy place implicit confidence in the skill of our officers and the valor of our troops, and our success is not only a question of time, but of degree. The entire army of George B. McClellan, "General commanding the army of the Potomac."

Operations of Sunday.—The operations of the enemy on Saturday night consisted in a clandestine movement, which they made to get into the city during the night, and to establish a battery of artillery, supported by a regiment of infantry and a squadron of cavalry. This force was scarcely in position before the 23d Virginia Cavalry were ordered down to take possession of the position, but arriving late, they nevertheless charged upon the Yankee Cavalry, and were repulsed, and then, perceiving their position, beat a retreat in good order, under their artillery and infantry fire.

Departure of the Enemy's Vessels.—We learn that all the vessels of the enemy, which have for some weeks past been anchored near York, six miles below Drum, on Sunday departed yesterday. It is not known whether they went down the river for the purpose of bringing up reinforcements, or to be in convenient distance to take on the retreating army of McClellan.

Army of the Potomac.—A large number of army wagons were captured by our forces near the Chickahominy Friday.

The Enquirer has a long list of yankee officers captured and actually arrived in Richmond. We count up those whose names are given: 1 General, 6 Colonels, 6 Lt. Colonels, 3 Majors, 33 Captains, 68 Lieutenants.

From the Dispatch of the 30th. When Gen. A. P. Hill had steadily driven the enemy from Meadow Bridge, and had taken up the line of march towards Mechanicsville and the road, evening had far advanced, and it was supposed that a halt would take place. Gen. Ripley, however, with the 14th and 18th Ga., and 2d and 3d N. C., made an attack upon the yankee fortifications at Ellyson's Mills, in which the 4th Va. and 3d N. C. suffered extremely, and did not succeed in taking them, owing to the impracticable nature of the ground. Operations were then suspended on our side, but the enemy kept up a deafening roar of artillery till late in the night. Longstreet's forces had meanwhile crossed and were in parallel with the Chickahominy. The brigades of Gen. Featherstone and Pryor were in advance, and proceeding some distance, halted for the night. About midnight, Featherstone received orders to change his position, and to occupy a skirt of woods near Beaver Dam creek, and facing the Federal batteries. He did so, and the men were scarcely asleep when, twilight approaching, the enemy discovered the bivouac, and immediately commenced to shell it vigorously. The men, thus unceremoniously aroused, seized their muskets and fell in, and Gen. Featherstone, just arrived from headquarters, led them to storm the position—mounting ten guns, and supported by two or three brigades. Sharp fighting now commenced on all sides, when Gen. Pryor sent for assistance, and Wilcox soon came upon the ground. Having engaged the enemy for a long time, and finding it impossible to cross the creek without a bridge, one was constructed, under fire, when the whole force advanced, and closed up with the enemy, driving them in great confusion from the field.

The attack of our men on this position was impetuous and daring, but the loss was great, for the foe were screened by their position it was impossible to get at them properly. Their loss was severe. The 12th Mississippi went out in the morning with 397 men, lost in this engagement 12 killed, 68 wounded, and 49 missing. The 19th Mississippi went into action with 521—had 31 killed, 150 wounded, and 2d Mississippi battalion, Col Taylor, went into action with 234 men, and had 30 killed and wounded. The loss of Pryor's brigade we have not learned; but hear that the 14th Louisiana and the remnant of St. Paul's battalion suffered severely. Wilcox, being in support, did not lose many. The Generals speak in high terms of the execution of our field pieces. While Featherstone, Pryor and Wilcox were thus successively engaging the enemy on the right of our advance, Gen. Maxey Gregg and his brigade were also hard at work, and successfully stormed the strong position of Ellyson's Mills, and took up the march on the left. They took the redoubts and rifle pits in flank, carried them with the bayonet, pushed through the camps and followed the road towards Gaines' Mill, whither the enemy were retiring.

From prisoners captured at both positions—who proved to be of the Valley Army—it was ascertained that we might expect stout resistance at Gaines' Mills, since three or four whole divisions were strongly encamped there, McClellan commanding in person, with Maj. Gens. McCall, Porter, Sedgewick, and others—their estimated force being not less than thirty odd thousand men. We conversed with prisoners, who informed us that their loss on Friday at Meadow Bridge, Mechanicsville, and Ellyson's Mills, had been fearful, and that the whole night had been occupied in burial.

The heads of our three columns having reached Walker Hogan's farm, north bank of the Chickahominy, about 9 miles northeast of Richmond, all came to a halt, and Gens. Lee and Longstreet took up quarters in the house and made dispositions for a further advance towards Gaines' Mills, distant about one mile through the woods. Featherstone's brigade having suffered much in the morning, Wilcox led, being followed by Pryor, and Featherstone in reserve. The composition of Wilcox's command is mostly Alabamians; Pryor has the 14th Louisiana, St. Paul's battalion, 3d Virginia, and one other regiment; Featherstone has the 19th and 12th Mississippi; and 2d Mississippi battalion.

To the Southeast of Gaines' house is a large tract of timber, commanding all advances upon the main road, and in this McClellan and McCall had posted a strong body of skirmishers, with artillery, to annoy our flank and rear when advancing on their camps on the high grounds.

It now being 3 P. M., and the head of our column in view of the Federal camps, Gen. Pryor was sent forward with his brigade to drive away the heavy mass of skirmishers. This being accomplished with little loss to us, Pryor returned and awaited orders. Meanwhile the Federals swept the whole face of the country with their numerous artillery, which would have annihilated our entire force if not screened in the dips of the land and in gullies to our left. Advancing cautiously but rapidly, Wilcox and Pryor deployed their men into line of battle—Featherstone being in the rear—and suddenly appearing on the plateau facing the timber-covered hill, rushed down into the wide gully, crossed it, clambered over all the felled timber, stormed the timber breastworks beyond it, and began the ascent of the hill, under a terrific fire of sharpshooters and an incessant discharge of grape and canister, from pieces posted on the brow of the hill, and from batteries in their camps to the right on the high flat lands. Such a position was never stormed before.

In descending into the deep creek, the infantry and artillery fire that assailed the three brigades, was the most terrific on record. Twenty-six pieces were thundering at them, and a perfect hail-storm of lead fell thick and fast around them. One of Wilcox's regiments was covered under the general push, the sword in hand, and threatened to head the first man that hesitated. Pryor steadily advanced, but slowly; and by the time that the three brigades had stormed the position, passed up the hill through timber, and cut felled trees, Featherstone was far in advance. Quickly the Federals withdrew their pieces, and took up a fresh position to assail the three brigades advancing in perfect line of battle from the woods and upon the plateau. Officers had no horses, all were shot—Brigadiers marched on foot, sword in hand, regiments were commanded by Captains, and companies by Sergeants, yet onward they rushed, with yell and colors flying, and backward, still backward fell the Federals, their men tumbling every moment in scores. But what a sight met the eyes of these three gallant brigades! In front stood Federal camps, stretching to the northeast for miles! Drawn up in line of battle were more than three full divisions, commanded by McCall, Porter, Sedgewick, &c.—innumers darkened the air—artillery pointed back incessant volleys of grape, canister and shell—heavy masses were moving on our left through the woods to flank us! Yet onward came Wilcox to the right, Pryor to the left, and Featherstone in the centre—one grand, unrelenting line of battle almost consumed by exploits of the day. Yet onward they advanced to the heart of the Federal position, and when the enemy had fairly succeeded in almost flanking us on the left, great confusion reigned in the woods—volleys upon volleys are heard, recognized and cheered by our men.

"It is Jackson!" they shout, "on their right and rear!" Yes, two or three brigades of Jackson's army have flanked the enemy, and are getting in the rear. Now, the fighting was bitter and terrific. Worked up to madness, Wilcox, Featherstone and Pryor dash forward at a run, and drive the enemy with irresistible fury—to our left, where Hood's Texas brigade, Whittier's comes after, and Pender follows. The line is now complete, and "forward" rings from one end of the line to the other, and the yankees, over 20,000 strong, begin to retreat. Wheeling their artillery from the front, the Federals turn part of it to break our left, and save their retreat. The very earth shakes at the roar! Not one piece of ours has yet opened! all has been done with bullet and bayonet, and onward press our troops through camps upon camps, capturing guns, stores, arms, clothing, &c. Yet, like blood-hounds on the trail, the six brigades sweep everything before them, presenting an unbroken, solid front, and closing in upon the enemy keep up an incessant succession of volleys upon their confused masses, and unerringly slaughtering them by hundreds and thousands!

But "where is Jackson?" ask all. He has traveled fast, and is heading the retreating force, and as night closes in, all is anxiety for intelligence from him. 'Tis now about 7 P. M., and just as the rout of the enemy is complete—just as the last volleys are sounding in the enemy's rear, the distant and rapid discharges of cannon tell that Jackson has fallen upon the retreating column, broken it, and captured 3,000 prisoners. Far in the night, his insatiable troops hang upon the enemy, and for miles upon miles are dead, wounded, prisoners, wagons, cannon, &c., scattered in inextricable confusion upon the road. Thus, for four hours, did our inferior force, enabled by a single piece of artillery, withstand over thirty thousand of the enemy, assisted by twenty-six pieces of artillery!

In total, we captured many prisoners, and thirty pieces of artillery up to 5 P. M. Friday, and in the battle of Gaines' Mills, captured 26 and in the battle of Mechanicsville, 65 stand of field-pieces, three Generals, (Reynolds, Sanders and Rankin,) and over 4,000 prisoners, including thousands of officers of every grade—from Colonel to Lieutenants of the line.

Every arm of the service was well represented in the Federal line—cavalry were there in force, and when our men emerged from the woods, attempted to charge, but the three brigades on the right, and Jackson's three brigades on the left, closed up ranks and poured such deadly volleys upon the horsemen, that they left the ground in confusion and entirely for their infantry to decide the day. McClellan's, Porter's and Sedgewick's "crack" divisions melted away before our advance, however; and had the fight lasted one-half hour longer, not one whole regiment would have survived it. McClellan, prisoners say, repeatedly was present, and directed movements, but when the three brigades to our left emerged from the woods, such confusion and havoc ensued, that he gave orders to retreat, slipped off his horse, and escaped as best he could. Some say that he was severely wounded. Everything had been previously prepared for a grand fight at Gaines' Mills, McClellan even promising to capture our whole force, should we attempt to storm his camps. Results were different, and so the Fates rewarded the greatest liar of his age!

Money was found quite abundantly among the slain. Some men, in returning the dead, often searched the pockets, &c., one man finding not less than \$150 in gold; another found out of some old clothes not less than \$500; another \$1000 in Federal notes. Watches, both gold and silver, were found among the spoils, one lucky individual having not less than six chronometers ticking in his pocket at one time.

Nothing in abundance was scattered about, and immense piles of new uniforms were found untouched. The cannon and arms were of superior quality and manufacture, and proved of very superior quality and manufacture. The cannon and arms captured in this battle were numerous and of very superior workmanship. The 26 pieces were the most beautiful we have ever seen, while immense piles of guns could be seen on every hand—many scarcely having the manufacturer's "finish" even tarnished. The number of small arms captured, we understand, was not less than 15,000, of every calibre and every make.

The Federal flag made by the yankees to float over our camps was captured by Major Bloomfield, of Gen. Magruder's staff, in the Federal camp, and was exhibited, with great applause, to our troops. It is an immense piece of work, fully 20 feet long, having 13 stripes and 32 stars thereon. We understand McClellan retained as a memento from the ladies of Boston, and promised to plant it on the veritable "last ditch" to which the rebels should be run, and afterwards, with all military honors, on our Capitol at Richmond.

[Of Saturday's and Sunday's operations the Dispatch's account is meagre, and we find nothing to add to the Enquirer's account above.]

THE FUTURE ON MONDAY.—Of operations on Monday there is little to be said. They were not destitute of importance, however, and their results were of a serious nature to the enemy. "The fields of the anarchy are lightning around him," and it is very evident that the "backbone" of the rebellion has been broken, and the cause of the rebels is some fighting, it is resulting more from efforts of the foe to cover his retreat than from any concerted plan for a regular fight. We think it will require greater genius than even McClellan possesses to relieve the invading force from its present calamity for a regular fight.

Our troops are still pressing upon the retreating foe, who seems to be effectually demoralized, especially those constituting the rear of the army. They are to be seen wandering in every direction through the dense woods near the retreating army, without guns or knapsacks, and many of them without hats, which indicates a thorough state of confusion among them. As an evidence of this we may state the fact that Dr. Thomas Carpenter and two companions succeeded in gathering up upwards of fifty, who without any organization, were wandering about in the woods, and other parties were similarly captured, and during the day small squads of a dozen or more were continually arriving in the city.

During the day, a portion of the cavalry of Gen. Stuart captured a regiment of the enemy, the 9th Pennsylvania, near West Point. This was the means of escape for the enemy being cut off, so that, in any view of the case, there seems to be little probability of their getting off in force.

Early in the day it was stated, with some degree of probability, that the forces of Gen. Jackson had succeeded in bagging some 4500 of the enemy; and although we have no positive confirmation of the statement, we are inclined to think it correct in the main. Certain it is, that the vigilance of that distinguished officer, as manifested in his energetic pursuit of the enemy, is the best relaxed in his operations on the Chickahominy.

The latest accounts which we can get from the critical portion of our lines, and recommended to our readers as reliable, represent that late yesterday afternoon the enemy was in position near White Oak Swamp, and all the night long they were engaged in a desperate contest, Jackson's division having a position at Bottom's Bridge, that a portion of our forces had got in the rear of the enemy and were driving him back, and that late in the evening our forces in his front had drawn up in two lines, and were endeavoring to break through the enemy's position, which was endeavoring to decline. The attack was made by Gen. Huger on the front of the enemy, who was at that time in the angle formed by the intersection of the New Market and Quaker roads, with Gens. Holmes and Magruder in his rear. After a short and desultory contest, the enemy was driven back, and Gen. A. P. Hill moved up, and attacked the enemy with great ferocity, and the action became general with rifle fire on our side, but terminated with the result of driving the enemy from his position, where he will be forced to fight in the morning with every prospect of the rout of his forces, as it is supposed that our attack will be made this morning, and will result in a great victory. The enemy is reported to have been badly cut up, particularly the brigades of Gen. Anderson of South Carolina and Gen. Kemper of Virginia. It is supposed that an considerable portion of McClellan's army may have retreated James river.—Banner.

Branch is safe, but not a single Colonel is left. Col. Lee is killed. Lane, Cowan, Barber, Fordy and Magruder were killed, but not reported as such. The 34th captured Gen. McCall. All right. We have the yankees surrounded.—Dispatch to Raleigh Telegraph.

The number of prisoners actually brought in to Richmond is about 3000. Many more on the way and many wounded that cannot be moved to the city. The great battle of Sunday took place in the evening near the York River railroad, some three miles from the battle of the "Seven Pines." Gen. Magruder commenced the attack about four o'clock, by advancing upon the Yankee encampments. The first line was broken after a sharp conflict and the enemy driven to another position. Waiting only long enough to get the artillery in position he was again attacked, and a small force of seven or eight hundred men, captured the enemy's camp, and in wild confusion, the firing continued until 10 o'clock in the night, when the battle ceased. In this brilliant fight the men of Gen. Magruder's division won great honor and maintained the fighting reputation which they acquired at Mechanicsville. The Yankees fought desperately and contested the ground closely, but they could not stand the force charges made upon them. The loss was heavy to the enemy, 175 yankees were laid dead upon the field, and eight hundred prisoners were taken. They were not less than 1000, although many a good man was injured.

The advance of our men upon the enemy is described by an eye-witness as exhibiting in the extreme. From their fortification to another they rushed with all the rapidity that could not be checked. In their advance several magazines were exploded and an immense quantity of stores destroyed. Arms, baggage, overcoats, knapsacks, caps and haversacks were scattered along the route in confusion. It is estimated that among the prisoners are some who have been here before, and paroled. If this be true, and the sounders can be identified, the usages of civilized warfare would demand their immediate execution. The "Seven Pines" episode.—The removal to the city of the spoils captured in the late battle was continued all yesterday. A considerable number of ambulances and wagons were brought in. Among the articles that attracted attention was a yankee balloon, with all the fixtures for inflating and elevating it. Yesterday afternoon a drove of horses and mules—several hundred in number—were captured in the woods. They were captured, we understand, by Gen. Stuart's cavalry.

Cotton Seed.—A fact not generally known.—We frequently hear of planting "enough Cotton for seed." Is this necessary when last year's seed is now in our hands? Happening with one of the largest, oldest and best planters of Georgia, some days ago, he informed us that cotton seed was far better for planting the second year than the first, and that they are quite as good the third as the first. His uniform practice is to plant seed of a year old, after sowing them carefully in a cool, dry place, where they will become neither heated nor wet. It is a fact which should be known, and we give it for general information. The authority is entirely reliable.—Savannah Republic.

The "Old Flag."—In one of our conquered Virginia towns, the boys among the Yankees much, by comments and criticisms, and sometimes by "beating them in the argument," as follows. One small boy asked a Yankee officer, abruptly, "What did you all come here for? What are you fighting for anyhow?" the officer replied, "Fighting for our flag." "Then," replied the urchin, "why don't you take your d—d old flag away from here? We don't want it."—Richmond Dispatch.

FROM EUROPE. The Enquirer of the 30th ult. publishes more in detail the news from Europe than it gave in its issue of Saturday. That we copied on Monday. We copy now the following additional passages of the Parliamentary debate, which ought not to have been omitted by the Enquirer and Examiner in their first publication.

"With respect to the rumors of mediation [said Earl Russell, concluding his speech on Butler], I was glad the question had been put, for such rumors were likely to lead to much mischief. Her Majesty's Government had made no proposal to France in reference thereto, and the French Government had made no proposal to England. Therefore, there had been no communications of any kind on the subject between the two Governments. Without, however, giving any opinion as to the propriety of offering mediation at some future day, if circumstances should prove favorable, he must say that the present time appeared to him most inopportune. He conceived that in the embittered state of feeling in America it would lead to no good, but retard the time for such an offer being favorably made.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Hopwood asked if there was any truth in the mediation rumors? Lord Palmerston said, that no communication had been received from the French Government on the subject, and as to the British Government they had no intention at present to offer mediation.

The "Times" says there will be no disposition to quarrel with the decision of the Cabinet, and the country will gladly leave the question in the hands of the Government to choose such an opportunity and mode of action as they may deem proper. It admits that advice from England would not be acceptable, but would rejoice to see the Emperor of France or the Czar of Russia press on the Americans the counsels which would be indignantly rejected if offered by England.

The "Times" thus speculates on the disastrous effect of either a Northern conquest, or the reverse, and argues that if the Southerners continue to protract the struggle, the time must come when the intervention of Europe will be demanded by the interests of humanity, and perhaps accepted by the exhausted combatants. England may then, with prudence, hold itself in readiness to support any proposition urged by its more favored neighbors.

The Morning "Post" says that Lord Palmerston's announcement that no mediation was intended, will be received with satisfaction, as an indication of the good sense of the governments of France and England, and of their respect for international laws.

After expatiating, however, on the uselessness of any present offer of mediation, the "Post" says the time may come, and that shortly, when it will become the paramount duty of the neutral States to interpose in the American troubles; but now, as at the commencement of the war, they are undoubtedly to stand aloof.

Telegraphic Rumors in the East.—The last arrival from Europe brings an important rumor that the Russian government has addressed a circular to all its agents in the East, recommending them to make preparations for their departure, a rupture of diplomatic relations between St. Petersburg and Constantinople being imminent. It is further reported that Napoleon intends to support the Emperor of Russia in his designs upon Turkey. So "the sick man" will soon be in greater trouble than ever, it rumor tells the truth.

An Omission.—Our Virginia exchanges, the Richmond papers and the Petersburg Express especially, are worthy of all praise for enterprise and industry in presenting news, and sometimes even more than "reliable" news. They are, however, very often in omission—they do not always give place to the fact that there are soldiers in the field from other States than Virginia, and they do not admit the fact that every Virginia soldier is not always a hero, and equal to any emergency.

For no purpose of either jealousy or complaint, but for the purpose of the ascertainment of truth, we refer to the following extract from a letter published in the Wadesboro' (N. C.) Argus, giving some details of the action of the Fourteenth North Carolina Regiment in the battles of Chickahominy.

The 14th was in the battle of both Saturday and Sunday—were under fire nearly the whole time. The letter says: "The enemy was totally defeated. We got possession of their entire baggage, all standing, when we took 100 barrels of whiskey, 500 prisoners of commissary stores, 6000 stand of arms, 900 muskets, and a great many other valuable stores. We kept possession of their camp two days and nights, and killed thousands of the enemy. It was a complete success. Our regiment lost two killed and four disabled. During the hottest of the fight, a Virginia brigade abandoned a position of great importance—they ran. General Hill sent for our brigade to take the position they had vacated. In approaching the deserted point, we were rebuffed by General Hill in magnificent style. The old veteran could not contain his pent up emotion, and rising in his stirrups, he raised his hat from his head and exclaimed, 'There go my own brave North Carolina boys, who never run!' (The old veteran) said he was going to take the place of troops who have just run from their position. You will never run, no never!' He was replied to by a brace of yells, that set his mind at ease on that score."

The same report has reached us from other sources, and it is due to justice that the matter should be known and stated.—Chas. Courier.

The Wheat crop in this county, especially in the earlier sorts, is a complete failure; a great many farmers being unable to gather more than one or two bushels to the acre; and in some cases they did not reap the fields at all.

The Hay crop is good, and we have had remarkable line weather for securing it. Winter crops are extraordinarily fine. The Spring sowing, however, suffered by rust and the wet weather, so that it failed to be an average yield. Upon the whole, the crops in this section promise now to fall considerably short of an average—such being the opinion of farmers; though according to our experience they are most apt to see the unfavorable side of the subject. Salisbury Watchman.

From the Southwestern—MOBILE, June 30.—A despatch to the Advertiser, from Jackson, on the 29th, says passengers from Vicksburg this morning report that, on yesterday morning, seven Federal vessels succeeded in passing up by our batteries. A severe bombardment commenced lasting two hours, from the fleet and batteries on the Louisiana shore. It is understood that several vessels, including the Brooklyn, were badly damaged. Heavy slaughter among the crews of Confederate boats, including one woman killed. Our batteries were unimpaired. The firing was principally directed at the army. Several houses were shattered. Describers report the enemy's loss heavy, and that they expected an easy capture.

Later.—We learn from Vicksburg that the enemy is slowly bombarding the town from their mortar boats to-day. The telegraph office has been smothered. Gentlemen from New Orleans say Butler has issued an order buying a tax of two millions of dollars on the city.

A despatch to the Advertiser from Jackson on the 30th, says the Yazoo correspondent of the Mississippi, writing under date of the 15th, says two of the enemy's gunboats were reconnoitering in the Yazoo river, when Com. Pickens burned the Confederate gunboats Van Don, Pak and Livingston. This action is considered unnecessary and much deplored here. The loss of property is heavy. Gen. Van Don issued an order on the 29th, to the army, declaring Vicksburg should be defended to the death. The Federals can never occupy Vicksburg. The fleet appears to be much crippled to engage in a successful battle with our batteries.

From Tennessee—AGUSTA, June 29.—A despatch to the Mobile Tribune from Grenada, Miss., dated the 27th, says that a courier from General Vilipliere's camp reported that Jackson's cavalry made a dash yesterday on the Memphis and Charleston railroad, burned the bridge 11 miles from Memphis, captured 17 cars loaded with Commissary and Quartermaster's stores, and over 40 officers connected with these departments.

Merc. Arms and Ammunition.—We have positive information of the sale arrival at a Southern port, of the Thomas L. Whigg, late the Nashville, heavily loaded with arms and ammunition. Much of her valuable cargo is already landed, and at a secure point in the interior.—Pat. Ec., 1st inst.

A CARD. I saw an advertisement from J. S. McLean, Capt. Co. E. 38th Reg't N. C. T. regarding me to go to that company or be regarded as a deserter. I have thought proper to give the facts of this matter, and to remove the impression likely to be formed by such notice.

I was never enlisted in that company, nor sworn in, nor signed any muster or payroll, nor authorized any one to make arrangements for me, although I had been in the company, and still retained an interest in the Company. Failing in this, I left the company to go with the company independently, but with him and sustain myself in any way, as I had done, and he would assist me in getting an appointment as drill officer or regimental position. Failing in this, I intended to join the company as a private, should further acquaintance justify. Just then there was a great need for troops for the war and I got a recruiting appointment to join an existing company, as a private, and in securing this I had got the following recommendations as I left:

"I am acquainted with Mr. M. J. McSwain, and he wishes to raise men or the war I take this occasion to recommend him as a very suitable person to entrust with such an enterprise. I regard him as an honorable, accomplished gentleman and well worthy and competent to fill any company officer."

"O. H. DOCKERY, Lieut. Col. Comd'g 28th Reg't N. C. T. "Gen'l J. J. Martin, Sir, M. J. McSwain, the gentleman spoken of by O. H. Dockery, is from the county I have the honor to represent in Convention, and I fully concur in all that is said of him. Respectfully, W. F. LEAK, Raleigh, Jan'y 25, 1862."

I failed to raise a company, and reported to the Adj. General, and gave the appointment of Drill Officer at Camp Mangum, which I have held since. The Adj. General informed me that as I left the Reg't before it was transferred from State authority, and no other appointment before reporting to the Reg't, this promotion would supersede any supposed enlistment in that company. The authorities of that company, if connected with a company and apparently a volunteer, he can be retained if a statement of facts from the Adj. Gen. and persons connected with it yet. I am at a loss to conjecture the cause of this, and have not the opportunity in view of the facts of the case. Capt. McLean probably means well generally, but unfortunately, he is regarded as partly insane, and if in that condition at the time, of course I excuse him from enmity and malice. M. J. McSWAIN, Raleigh, N. C., June 25, 1862.

The friends of W. B. WRIGHT, Esq., desire that he should be voted for as a candidate to represent the County of Cumberland and Harriet in the next General Assembly of the next General Assembly. June 30. 35c

For the Senate. We announce DAVID McNEILL, Esq., a candidate to represent the Counties of Cumberland and Harriet in the Senate of the next Legislature of North Carolina. VOTERS 45-1c

For the House of Commons. The friends of Dr. JOHN McCORMICK, of Harriet County, will support him at the next August election for a seat in the House of Commons from the counties of Cumberland and Harriet. June 18, 1862. 35-1c

We are authorized to announce J. G. SHEPHERD as a candidate to represent the County of Cumberland and Harriet in the next General Assembly, from the counties of Cumberland and Harriet. June 19, 1862. 35-1c

Having been solicited by many friends of Cumberland and Harriet Counties, I have concluded to submit my name to be voted for as a COMMONER for the Counties of Cumberland and Harriet. I shall not canvass the Districts, but if elected, I will use my best exertions to legislate faithfully for my constituents, for the State, and for the Southern Confederacy. ALFRED JACKSON, 30th June 20. 30c

In accordance with a custom heretofore established between the counties of Cumberland and Harriet, allowing two Commoners to Harriet, and one to Cumberland, we have solicited NELL McKEY, Esq., to become a candidate, as one of the Commoners, for the next August election, and to be entirely acceptable to the people of Harriet, would ask of him the support of their fellow citizens of Cumberland. MANY VOTERS, June 19. 35-1c

We are authorized to announce R. M. McSWAIN as a candidate to represent the County of Cumberland and Harriet in the next General Assembly of the next General Assembly of North Carolina. June 30. 35c

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