

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

REMARKS OF THE RAPPANNOCK EXAMINER.

Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner.

HAMILTON'S CROSSING, Dec. 12, 8 P. M.

During the early part of Wednesday night the enemy's wagons were engaged in hauling pontoon bridges to the banks of the river, their rambling being the only sound heard in the deserted streets of the ill-fated town.

At four o'clock on Thursday morning the 17th Mass. regiment, on picket within the town, were ordered to the bluff overlooking the site of the old railroad bridge.

The moon was brilliant, and the enemy's forces working like beavers on a pontoon bridge stretching from the Stafford bank towards the foot of the bluff.

In the course of an hour the bridge had been stretched to within 60 yards of the southern shore.

The work was going bravely on, and the bridge as far as completed was thickly covered with men, when, at five o'clock, A. M., the two companies of the 17th, who were lying on the extreme verge of the bluff, were ordered to fire.

The order was deliberately given and executed. At the crack of our rifles the bridge-builders scampered for the shore, leaving their dead and wounded thickly strewn upon the bridge.

In a few moments they returned and bore them off. Immediately they were opened upon the bluff a terrific fire of shell, grape and musketry, which was kept up with little intermission until five o'clock, when our troops retired.

Twice again, at intervals of half an hour, the enemy renewed the attempt to complete the bridge, but was in each instance repulsed with heavy loss.

In every case the Yankees ran out to the end of the bridge, but, on receiving our fire, retired with equal readiness.

After the whole of Barksdale's Brigade was ordered to the support of the 17th, and were put into position, some in rear of the bluff and others higher up and lower down the stream.

At this juncture the enemy's fire from cannon and small arms became so tremendous and overwhelming that our force was only preserved from destruction by lying flat on their faces.

In every instance in which a man ventured to raise his head from the earth he was instantly riddled by bullets or torn to pieces by grapeshot.

It must be borne in mind that the position occupied by our men was swept by the enemy's batteries and sharpshooters not two hundred yards distant on the opposite heights.

It is estimated that whilst our men were under this terrific fire their loss in killed and wounded was at least 150.

Towards 5 o'clock, P. M., three rousing cheers from the river bank beneath the bluff announced that the enemy had completed the bridge, and that his troops had effected a landing on the southern bank.

About this time the order for a retreat was received by our men. The remnants of the brigade fell back by different streets, firing as they retreated upon the enemy, who closely followed them.

The brigade rendezvoused at the market house and faced the enemy. A sharp skirmish ensued, but our troops, acting under orders, again fell back and left the town in possession of the enemy.

The citizens, several hundred in number, who had returned to the town under the delusion that it would not be attacked, left it during the day, single or in families, and sought for refuge and safety in the country.

They are now scattered about, some in cabins and some in the open air.

This morning I met two women each with an infant and several little children wandering along the railroad.

The children were all barefooted, and it made the heart bleed to see their little blue feet treading painfully the frozen ground, blindly following their poor mothers who knew as little as themselves where to seek food and shelter.

Nearer the town we saw three women with a number of children who had established themselves in a three-sided shelter built of rails, and covered and lined with what straw they could find.

The open side of the shelter faced the south and the unconscious children, warmed by the genial rays of the sun, were playing as merrily as if there were neither war nor trouble in the world.

In two cabins within a mile and a half of the town, between twenty and thirty women and children were crowded.

Military operations today have been confined to skirmishing. If any damage was done on either side we have been unable to learn it.

About five o'clock the firing ceased on both sides and all was again quiet along the lines.

I have seen and mixed with troops in all the divisions of our army, and can only say that a healthier, better clad, more cheerful, joyous body of men the sun never shone on.

They are filled with gladness at the prospect of the fight and thoroughly confident of whipping the host of the insidious Barksdale.

It is said the enemy's forces on this side amount to one hundred and ten thousand men, sixty thousand having crossed at Deep Run, just below Fredericksburg, and fifty thousand at the town itself.

Our forces from Fredericksburg on three sides, Longstreet's corps being on the west and south, and Jackson's on the south and east.

THE BATTLE AT FREDERICKSBURG.

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—Passengers report that the enemy was driven back two miles yesterday, and our troops occupy the battle-field this evening.

Our loss, it is variously stated, will probably not be more than 500 killed and 2,500 wounded.

The enemy's loss is represented to be immense. A thousand dead lay in one field. The Federal General Hooker is reported killed.

Despatch from Gen. Lee.—The following despatch was received at the War Department at 9 o'clock P. M., Saturday:

"At 9 o'clock this morning the enemy attacked our right wing, and, as the fog lifted, the battle ran along the line from right to left, until 6 p. m., the enemy being repulsed at all points—thanks be to God! As usual, we have to mourn the loss of many brave men. I expect the battle will be resumed at daylight to-morrow morning."

"R. E. LEE."

"To General Cooper: Gen. Hampton reports that he entered Dumfries and captured 20 wagons with stores; and took 50 prisoners, all of which he brought to the Rappahannock. Gen'l Sigel is expected at Dumfries to-morrow."

"R. E. LEE."

RICHMOND, Dec. 15.—From an officer who came down in the train last evening, [says the Enquirer] we learn the following:

The fighting of Saturday was chiefly by Longstreet's corps, a part of Jackson's corps being in reserve at Hamilton's Crossing. A. P. Hill's division was of the part which was in the battle.

At the time Gen. F. R. R. Cobb was slain, his legion was holding in check 15,000 of the enemy. The remains of the gallant and distinguished gentleman were brought to Richmond on yesterday evening's train.

Lee's Battery repulsed the advance of two brigades of the enemy. The company lost one man killed and sixteen wounded.

Our loss in the battle of Saturday is variously stated at from 600 to 1000 in killed and wounded. The slaughter of the enemy was very great—scarcely exceeding ours. Our artillery was admirably served, and was very effective. It sufficed considerably.

Gen. Gregg of South Carolina, who was severely wounded and believed mortally wounded, was shot through the body.

Gen. Pender was slightly wounded in the head or arm. We understand he reported for duty again on yesterday.

Our informant heard of no other general officer who was injured. There were several unfortuneds reports here yesterday—one of which stated that the gallant Gen. Hood was killed. He was uninjured.

Several officers had very narrow escapes—among them Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, whose neck was grazed by a bullet.

On yesterday up to 14 o'clock, when the cars left, there had been heavy and irregular skirmishing, promising to grow into a general engagement. Jackson's corps was all in motion towards the front.

We learn by telegraph that as late as 4 o'clock there was still nothing but skirmishing.

Our soldiers were cheerful and confident of final success.

The enemy were driven back a considerable distance in the fight of Saturday. Our troops retained their strong position on the Massaponug hills, about 4 miles this side of Fredericksburg.

RICHMOND, Dec. 15.—Passengers who left Guinea Station at 1 o'clock yesterday and arrived by the early train, report that heavy firing was heard all the morning in the direction of Fredericksburg, and the presumption was that a general engagement was then going on.

It was also stated by the same authorities that our army had advanced two miles nearer to the town. No official information whatever could be obtained by the press yesterday, and all that we can give concerning what took place since the dispatches of Gen. Lee, on Saturday night, is conjecture.

The battle of Saturday commenced at 6 o'clock in the morning and raged with great violence until after dark. Our loss is estimated to be 2500 wounded and 500 killed. It is said that Jackson accomplished a flank movement, capturing 3000 of the enemy, but this is not generally received with credit.

A soldier of A. P. Hill's division says the enemy charged our men in their rifle pits and entrenchments nine times, and were repulsed with terrible slaughter, until our ammunition gave out, when our men were again charged in overwhelming force and driven back.

But having obtained more ammunition, our forces in their turn charged the enemy and drove them from the works in great disorder, taking a large number of prisoners.

Col. E. D. Hall, 46th N. C. T., telegraphs from Fredericksburg on Sunday that "yesterday was a glorious day for us."

Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner.

HAMILTON'S CROSSING, Dec. 14

From Fredericksburg the Rappahannock flows nearly due east. The valley of the river, lying mostly on the south side, is a mile in width near the town and widening as you go down stream.

At Hamilton's crossing on the railroad the valley is three miles across. From Hamilton's crossing to Fredericksburg the railroad and the old Richmond stage road, both running parallel with the river, skirt this valley.

South of the railroad, beginning near the town and running to a point at Hamilton's crossing, and also parallel with the river, is a range of hills covered with dense oak forest fringed on its northern border by pine thickets.

Our forces occupied the whole length of this forest. Longstreet's corps occupied the highlands above, opposite, and for a mile below the town. Jackson's corps rested on Longstreet's right, and extended away to the eastward, the extreme right under A. P. Hill crossing the railroad at Hamilton's crossing, and stretching into the valley towards the river.

Our front was about six miles in length. Most of the batteries of both corps were posted in the skirts of the forest, along the line of the railroad, the seven batteries in Col. Lindsey Walker's regiment and Stuart's horse artillery, being stationed in the valley, between the railroad at Hamilton's crossing and the river.

The enemy's forces occupied the valley north of the railroad from Fredericksburg to within half a mile of our extreme right. His light batteries were posted over the southern extremity of the valley, at from a quarter of a mile to a mile from the railroad, while the hills on the northern banks of the river from Falmouth to Pittsburg's farm, five miles below Fredericksburg, were studded at intervals of half a mile with his batteries of heavy guns.

At 8 1/2 A. M., on Saturday, Gen. Lee, attended by his staff, rode slowly along the front of our lines, from west to east, and halted in the valley a mile to the east of Hamilton's crossing, and half a mile in the rear of our batteries on the extreme right.

At 9 o'clock a column of our troops, which proved to be Ewell's division, Gen. Early commanding, advanced up the valley from the direction of Port Royal, and defiled into the woods to the left of Hamilton's crossing. Scarcely had the rear of this division disappeared in the woods, when directly in their front the artillery of the Old Stowell brigade, Woods, Braxton's and three other batteries opened a brisk fire on the enemy's batteries north of the railroad. At this time, owing to the fog, few of the enemy's batteries were visible.

After events proved that they were lying close to the south bank of the river. The cannonading soon became general along the front of both armies. In ten minutes from the time of firing their first gun, the Danville battery, Capt. Woods, had lost 15 men killed and wounded, a number of horses, and had two guns disabled.

In the course of an hour the artillery fight had become so general that it was almost impossible for an observer to distinguish what particular battery of the enemy was engaging the attention of any given battery of ours, and vice versa. Scarcely a battery that had been unengaged on either side but was exposed to a direct and enfilading fire. The roar of cannon along a line of six miles was tremendous. The air was resonant with the white smoke wreaths of exploding shells were everywhere visible among the trees of the forest, which hid our forces in the valley and away beyond the river in Stafford. Lines of ambulances could be seen bearing off the wounded of both sides, but there was nothing by which to judge that the advantage rested with either side.

About noon the enemy's infantry moved forward from the river towards our batteries on the highlands. As they pressed forward across the Valley, Stuart's horse artillery from our extreme right opened upon them a destructive enfilading fire of round shot. This fire, which annoyed them sorely, was kept up in spite of six batteries which were directed against the horse artillery, as soon as it was unmasked.

By one o'clock the Yankees columns had crossed the Valley and entered the woods south of the railroad. The batteries, on both sides slackened their fire; and musketry, at first scattering, but quickly increasing to a crash and roar, sounded through the woods. Dense volumes of smoke rose above the trees, and volley into a proceeeded volley, sometimes so rapidly as to blend division into a continuous roar. A. P. Hill's division of Jackson's corps were in different lines of reserves. D. H. Hill's division were in different lines of reserves.

At 2 o'clock the fighting was again in progress. The division was drawn up in Maryo's field, under a long hill, in rear of our line of battle. Here they remained during most of the day, being moved from time to time to the right or left as the exigencies of battle dictated. Shortly after the infantry fight began, a brigade of this division was moved at a double-quick a mile and a half to the right, and posted in a dense clump of pines in supporting distance of Stuart's horse artillery. In ten minutes they were brought back to their original position. The celerity of this movement would be incredible to any one who had not witnessed it. To an observer the

sight was singular and exciting. A long black line shoots from the position of the reserves, crosses the railroad at Hamilton's station, skims across the Valley, and in a few moments is lost in the pines nearly two miles away.

After scarcely a breathing spell, the same line emerges from the pines, retraces its steps into its original position. As this brigade resumed its position in reserve, the fire of musketry directly in its front slackened. A few crackling shots were heard to our left, along Longstreet's division, and then a succession of volleys, which were kept up at intervals during the remainder of the evening. The musketry fire on our right was soon renewed, and the battle raged with increased fury.

Our batteries along our whole front again re-opened, and Col. Walker's artillery regiment stationed in the open low grounds to the east of the railroad at Hamilton's station, moved forward several hundred yards in the direction of Fredericksburg. Hill's and Early's troops had driven the enemy from the woods and across the railroad in the direction of their pontoon bridges near Deep Run.

Our men pursued them a mile and a half across the bottom land, and fell back only when they had gotten under the shelter of their batteries. Our troops then retired to the south side of the railroad. Again the enemy rallied and returned to renew the contest, but were again, about five o'clock, P. M., driven back. All the batteries of Jackson's corps were at this time in full play, and in the approaching twilight the blaze of the guns and the quick flashes of the shells were more distinctly visible. The scene along the valley was at once splendid and terrific.

The result of the fight on our right wing may be summed up briefly. We drove the enemy back, killing three to one, and at night held the ground occupied by the enemy's batteries in the morning. The enemy had 20,000 men engaged on this wing; while altogether, from first to last, we had not more than 10,000 in the line of fire.

Longstreet's victory was even more complete. He drove the enemy into the streets of Fredericksburg, killing at least five to one. At dusk the firing ceased simultaneously on both sides.

Our wounded have all been removed from the field. The most severely hurt are receiving treatment in the field hospitals, whilst those slightly wounded are being sent down the railroad.

The battle was renewed on our left at sunrise this morning, and soon became general. The battle field is pretty much the same as that of yesterday. No particulars have yet transpired.

The following dispatches were received at Raleigh last Tuesday afternoon:

RICHMOND, 16th.—Officially it is announced that the enemy has disappeared in our immediate front, and has recrossed the Rappahannock. He may meditate crossing at some other point.

2d. No fighting of consequence since Saturday evening. The enemy sent flag of truce to bury his dead. Both armies occupy their original positions. Passengers state that Gen. Gregg died of his wounds on Monday. No confirmation of the death of Hooker.

3d. Officially it is announced that yesterday was spent by the enemy in caring for his wounded and burying his dead. He retains his position under cover of his guns on the North bank of the Rappahannock.

The Fight on Blackwater.—PETERSBURG, Dec. 15.—A courier direct from Gen. Fryor's headquarters at Franklin, reached here yesterday evening with dispatches for the General commanding this department. All was quiet along the line of the Blackwater Saturday and up to 5 o'clock yesterday morning.

In the skirmish at Zuni Friday afternoon, we are pleased to hear that our forces repulsed the invaders, with a loss to them of 40 killed and wounded. Our loss was 3 wounded only.

At Jayner's Ford, 4 miles below Zuni, we are informed, that the whole of Capt. Sykes' command was not taken prisoners. We lost two killed, two wounded and six prisoners. Among the latter is Capt. Sykes, who was also wounded. Our reinforcements at this point coming up at a time when the enemy was greatly elated with his little success, soon engaged the state of affairs, and caused the Vandals to retreat with great precipitation.—Express.

Murfreesboro, N. C. has not been occupied by the enemy, as was reported.

THE WAR IN NORTH CAROLINA.

RICHMOND, Dec. 15.

DEPARTED FROM GEN. EVANS—VICTORY AT KINSTON.

To General S. Cooper.—KINSTON, Dec. 14.—Gen. Foster attacked Kinston yesterday with 15,000 men, and 9 gunboats. I fought him 10 hours, and have driven him back to his gunboats. His army is still in my front. N. G. EVANS.

Raleigh, Dec. 15.—On Saturday last the enemy advanced in force up the south side of Neuse river towards Kinston, while their gunboats attacked the river works, a few miles below that place. Considerable skirmishing took place on Saturday between the infantry and cavalry, and on Sunday the fight became general. Our troops fought all day Sunday, and fell back towards the town in the evening, destroying the bridge, which is about one mile from the town.

Our troops fought with great steadiness and courage, but they could not cope in numbers with the enemy, whose forces are said to have been at least 20,000.

Our troops engaged were Evans' brigade, consisting of two South Carolina regiments, Radcliff's regiment, the 3d cavalry, the battalion of conscripts from Raleigh under Col. Mallett, and the 4th under Col. S. H. Rogers. We had not probably more than three thousand men in the fight. We learn that our loss is severe, while that of the enemy is very heavy.

We think it more than probable that the enemy is in possession of Kinston, our troops having retired towards Goldsboro'. Considerable reinforcements have been hurried to the latter place, and the belief is that Goldsboro' will be held against the enemy.—Standard.

From Kinston.—RALEIGH, Dec. 15.—All sorts of rumors are afloat relative to the fight now going on at Kinston. By reliable intelligence we learn that Foster is advancing at the head of 20,000 men, and that Gen. Evans is using all his efforts to stay his advance. On yesterday morning the Yankee gunboats were battering away at the obstruction in the river four miles below Kinston, while their land forces were advancing on the South side of the river.

At a late hour last evening we learned that the fighting was going on desperately at noon; but our troops were coming in slowly to our aid. Reinforcements were coming in slowly to our aid. Our troops were fighting gallantly and desperately. We learn that Col. S. H. Rogers, 4th N. C. T., and Col. Peter Mallett, with his fine body of new levies, who left here on Saturday, were winning laurels abundantly.

The cars last evening were crowded by people flying from Kinston and surrounding country.

Latest.—Our troops have fallen back before the hosts of the enemy, and have burned the bridges across the river. The Yankees have possession of the Clinton road on the South side of the river, whilst our troops occupy the North side. The Yankees were in pursuit of our forces, who were being reinforced.

The loss on both sides is considerable, but we have no particulars.—State Journal.

From the Raleigh Journal, 15th.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 14.—3 o'clock p. m.—Our troops fought all day and fell back across the river this evening and destroyed the bridge. The

bravery of our men not surpassed during the war. Our loss severe—the enemy far greater. Their strength is 20,000.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 15.—I have just arrived. Have seen the military authorities. There has been no fighting since yesterday. Our loss is not considered very great.

Kinston has been taken by the enemy. They occupied it last night, and now hold it. Our forces have fallen back 4 miles this side of Kinston, where it is supposed a stand will be made.

The enemy's force is supposed to be 30,000. We have troops in motion, but I refrain from particulars. Our troops are in excellent spirits.

Col. Peter Mallett's Battalion was in the fight yesterday, and fought gallantly and sustained considerable loss.

I can give you no particulars as to the killed and wounded yet, but will do so as soon as possible.

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 15.—Col. Mallett is supposed to be a prisoner, and Capt. G. C. Lewis is wounded in the thigh.

The Raleigh Journal of Tuesday has the following letter:—

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 15, 12 M.—I learn from officers direct from the battle field, that there was very hard fighting on yesterday. We numbered less than 3000 in the fight—the enemy at the lowest estimate 29,000.

On Saturday we lost one field piece. The battle on yesterday commenced about nine o'clock and ended about 5 p. m. Our men fought with great spirit; and not until they were flanked on both sides did they retreat.

The only open road left was over the bridge; and after a portion had passed, an attempt was made to fire the bridge; but it failed, and the enemy succeeded in crossing under a heavy fire of our artillery.

We had 20 guns bearing on the enemy, of which we lost three. Several of our men were burned and drowned in the attempt to destroy the bridge. A number of our men were cut off from crossing, and it is thought were taken prisoners—supposed to be some hundreds, but this is doubtful as to the number.

Our army is at Falling Creek, six miles this side of Kinston, which the enemy occupied last night.

Our killed will not exceed twenty. There are a large number wounded.

Men who were in the fight speak in the highest terms of Col. Mallett's regiment of Conscripts. They fought like veterans.

At eleven o'clock today, the last of six regiments passed through to Kinston, which will give Gen. Evans—thousand men. One battery of artillery, consisting of six pieces, is now awaiting transportation.

More reinforcements are expected and I learn that Gen. Evans is confident of driving the Abolitionists out of Kinston.

The State Journal of Tuesday says:

RALEIGH, Dec. 16.—A dispatch has been received here by Dr. Warren from Gov. Vance, requesting him to prepare the hospitals and citizens to provide for the wounded. It adds: We will probably fight this evening.

LATER.—1 o'clock, P. M.—We learn that fighting has commenced. Cannonading is rapidly going on.

A friend writes us from Raleigh on Tuesday evening:

Capt. J. M. Walker received the following dispatch which he has just handed me:

GOLDSBORO', Dec. 16.

Col. Mallett was wounded and taken prisoner, we cannot hear the character of his wound, but have reason to hope it was not mortal. He fought with unexampled bravery—all mouths filled with his praise. I will inform you if I can hear more. Z. B. VANCE.

This dispatch received since dinner.

No further news from Mallett's regiment.

A dispatch was received here from Goldsboro' saying that it is reported that the enemy had possession of the railroad at Milton, a point between there and Wilmington; that an engineer had started to Wilmington and returned, and said the enemy had the road at Milton. I give you this as I received it from Col. Barnes, the Aid of the Governor.

Another friend writes us:—

RALEIGH, Dec. 16.—The telegraphic dispatch received this evening from Goldsboro', states that the Yankees are in force at Milton Depot on W. R. R. Artillery skirmishing between Goldsboro' and Kinston. Great excitement.

We learn from a passenger in the stage that Gen. Gustavus W. Smith has taken command of our troops at and below Goldsboro', and that we have 13,000 men there.

The Wilmington mail has failed, but we are happy to learn that 6,000 men have arrived at that place, from what place we need not say.

From Charleston.—CHARLESTON, Dec. 15.—The enemy's gunboats have been again shelling James Island to-day—without effect.

From Louisiana.—PORT HUDSON, Dec. 14.—A yankee gunboat and a wooden boat were here on the 12th, and left after a sharp engagement of 2 hours with a light artillery company. Enemy badly worsted. Our loss 1 wounded.

From Mississippi.—OKOLONA, Dec. 14.—The Yankees routed Boddie's cavalry on the 12th at Yalcumbia. No particulars. 30 yankee cavalry were within 2 miles of Baldwin to-day, and scouts report a large force advancing in this direction.

Merited Promotion.—We are informed, and are much pleased to state, that Colonel John H. Morgan, whose exploits have gained him so much well deserved fame, has been appointed by the President a Brigadier General in the Confederate Army.—Richmond Enquirer.

The Chatham Railroad Company.—Messrs. L. N. Clegg & Co. have contracted to grade the middle division of the Road, 23 miles, from Carey on the N. C. Railroad, to Lockville, on Deep River, two miles above Haywood. They are to finish their division by the 1st January, 1864.

The valuable products of the coal basin of Chatham and Moore can be transported on the Deep River to Lockville, whence they will find their way along the line of the Chatham Railroad to the N. C. Railroad. The Directors of the Chatham Railroad intend, however, so soon as sufficient stock is subscribed, to extend their line from Carey to Raleigh, and from Lockville to the Coalfields.—Raleigh Standard.

An old lady, ten miles from Knoxville, made from a "washpotion," filled repeatedly with earth taken from beneath, 895 worth of salt-petre.

Steam Mill for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale, a STEAM MILL located on the Wilmington & Charlotte Road, about ninety miles from Wilmington, capable of cutting from four to five thousand feet of lumber in ten hours. Also a Sash and Blind Factory, in good repair. Apply to J. A. McKey, Grapeland, N. C. Oct. 10, 1862. 681st

AVON E. HALL.

Forwarding & Commission Merchant.

Will give quick despatch to goods consigned to him. Particular attention given to all produce sent him for sale. Consignments of Naval Stores, for sale or shipment, solicited. WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 1862. 621st

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The following resolutions were introduced in the Senate of this State, on Thursday last, by Mr. Graham of Orange, and ordered to be printed.

But for Mr. Graham's necessary absence those resolutions would doubtless have been taken up at once and passed. They will no doubt be passed through both houses this week by a large majority.

Resolution in relation to the seizure and transportation of the State of R. J. Graves, a citizen of Orange County.

Whereas, The General Assembly of North Carolina is informed that one R. J. Graves, a citizen of the county of Orange, has been seized at his residence in said county, by a person professing to be a public officer from Richmond, in Virginia, and both being transported to and detained in a prison in the said city of Richmond, and, whereas, neither the said Graves, nor any other citizen of this State, is liable to be seized and transported beyond the limits thereof, without the order and approval of the proper authority of this State; and the contrary, he and they are by law protected, and if seized, he and they are by law entitled to be restored to the custody of the proper judicial officer; and if seized, they are, by the express provisions of the Constitution and of the State Constitution, amenable only to the civil tribunals, and have a right to a hearing and trial before the courts of the State, and in which they stand charged; and that he had in open court, according to the course of law; and, whereas, it is the duty of the Government of North Carolina to protect from unlawful violence, as far as possible, every one of her citizens, and to insure to each a fair trial in a lawful court, having jurisdiction of his case; therefore,

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested immediately to demand of the authorities at Richmond, by whom the said R. J. Graves was seized and transported, and if not satisfied, that he be immediately returned to this State, to the end that he may be delivered over to the civil authorities here, either of this State or of the Confederate States, for examination, and if sufficient cause appear, for commitment and trial; that, if no cause appear, or if, by conviction and punishment by any court of law.

In the Senate, Monday was occupied in the consideration of the Revenue Bill. There is no report in the Raleigh papers of what was done, and we are indebted to a friend for the following statement:—

RALEIGH, Dec. 16.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: The Senate is engaged to-day in the consideration of the Revenue Bill; on yesterday the 3d paragraph of the 1st section, in regard to the average value of slaves as reported by the committee on Finance was struck out and the following substitute adopted: "All slaves under 5 years old shall be of the value of \$100; from 5 to 10 years old \$200; from 10 to 20 \$500; from 20 to 30 \$800; from 30 to 40 \$900; from 40 to 60 years of age \$200; and all above 60 years old shall be a distinctive class and be valued at \$25; and all slaves habitually employed in any mechanical trade to be of the value of \$700." You will perceive that the average value of slaves under 60