

THE SENTINEL.

Thursday, April 26, 1866.

CITY AND STATE ITEMS.

Reported, specially for the Sentinel.

Trial of Major Jno. H. Gee.

SYNOPSIS OF TESTIMONY.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, April 25, 1866.

Edward G. Yellowley, sworn: Lives in Pitt County, N. C. Was Lt. Col. 25th N. C. Regiment; was in command of the troops at Salisbury, for eight or ten days, until relieved by Col. Hoke. These were State troops. A small portion of the stockade was put up after I arrived; no platforms when I got there. The fence was made of planks, 8 or 10 feet high, placed perpendicularly and close together, nailed to cross pieces. I did not consider it very substantial. A few men might have knocked through it. I think eight or ten men might have pushed down any portion by their weight. My impression is, that the planks were nailed on the outside; that the posts and scantling allowed on the inside. I never examined it thoroughly; it looked like an old wall.

I issued an order to post sentinels outside the wall. [The witness pointed out on map the position of his regiment and the other commands.] One morning, it was reported to me that two men escaped after the outside line had been posted, and on another occasion three prisoners got out through the ditch that ran from the sink through the field—these last were taken. The two who escaped were fired at by a sentinel, but ran away. After a rain, a man could dig under the wall without much difficulty.

I went to Salisbury about the 10th of October, and on the 2nd of November, got a thirty days' sick leave. When I returned, the regiment was encamped in the woods, on the other side of the creek. Major Gee wanted to have a company encamped opposite the water-gate. I declined to do it.

My officer told me that he made the three prisoners who escaped aware through the outlet. He did not report it to Major Gee.

It was a difficult matter to get wood hauled to our camp. We had wagons belonging to the command which reached us about 10 days after we went there, but at first the Quartermaster of my regiment complained. I heard Capt. Goodman frequently complain. His best teams had been taken away from him.

I heard that a soldier of my command shot Lieut. Davis. Maj. Gee had no power to furlough him. He could only be furloughed in the usual way. I was in command of the regiment at that time, so no such furlough went through me. If I had been furloughed, I should remember it. I had my information of the shooting from several officers, and either wrote to see or sent to the officer of the day at the time of the occurrence, who belonged to my regiment. His statement corroborated what I had heard, that this sentinel had shot a prisoner that had crossed the dead line. I think the officer of the day was Capt. O. W. Grandy. There was a necessity for the dead line. It was important that the prisoners should not get near the wall.

Maj. Gee represented to me that he had men digging wells night and day. He had the idea of enlarging the prison, to the creek. I heard a conversation between him and Gen. Martin about directing the creek so as to have a stream of water run through the prison. I afterwards thought it could not be done. It would have taken a considerable outlay and length of time. Prisoners of war were allowed to go to the creek for water, about one-fourth of a mile. They were strung along the whole road going and returning, from 30 to 40 going constant. I never passed that way without seeing them. I have seen them wading in the creek; the guard did not seem to hurry them.

Our rations were not abundant or choice. When we first arrived there we got fresh bread for a week or ten days—afterwards, on only every other drawing day—alternated with sorghum. Very often I had only sorghum and flour. I had an abundance of it—a very little of it was abundance. Major Myers visited me and apologized for the provisiveness and at the same time said he would not be able to give us fresh beef much longer. He had a large supply, but had sent it off to Lee's army before the arrival of the prisoners, and then he had but short notice of their arriving, and was unable to get supplies for them.

I was able to purchase bacon for my mess from the commissary. We were authorized by law to draw one ration and purchase one.

On one occasion I enquired of Major Gee about the number of prisoners, and he told me that he had requested that no more should be sent, that it was against his wishes they continued to arrive.

I heard him speak of Maj. Morfit's inefficiency. Gee stated that Morfit was semi-free as a prison quartermaster, and that it was his duty to have shelter built and to procure wages for the prisoners—that he could not get him to do anything. Maj. Gee or Capt. Goodman told me he had made a requisition for 200,000 feet of lumber for shelter. I wanted some lumber and saw to see Goodman, and he told me that he had only one mill that he could run, and then the timber had to be cut and hauled before it could be saved. The duty of the guard was pretty heavy.

Maj. Gee spoke of shelter and the small space for ground for the prison—he was especially negligent in regard to water.

Cross Examined.—I was in command of troops for about 5 days in the early part of October—I had no authority over the prison or Major Gee. My duty was to grant him such details as he might make—no authority to refuse him troops. The guard around outside was an additional one to that which Gee called for. When I was in command of the troops, if the prisoners had suffered for water, and Major Gee had made a requisition for a stronger guard, I could have granted a small one. There were 1300 or 1400 altogether. When I first went there he asked for 150 a day; afterwards from 250 to 300—can't say exactly. There were some 4000 or 5000 prisoners there when I first went to Spikebury.

I know of no other efforts of Maj. Gee apart from what he said in these conversations. The sensations caused to my men were the same in quantity and quality as those I used to. I remember asking the question, whether the prisoners received the same rations, and his reply was that they did. It was enough to get along. We always received plenty of bread.

On one or two occasions, I went upon the platform and looked into the prison. I saw a good deal of emaciation, some looked very detected, some cheerful.

My command had ten guns. Colonel Hoke's regiment built quarters. I think there could not have been a force sufficient to guard the prisoners. I think the guard was too weak for the number of prisoners there. Gen. Hoke's command carry the number on their shoulders. They rivet the boards at their quarters.

If there had been 10,000 real convicts in that prison, would they have suffered as those prisoners did?

A. I don't see what there was to prevent it. The lumber that Hoke's regiment used would not have built the stockade.

Col. Hoke's command came by squads, and were organized at Salisbury.

Q. Was there any excuse for not allowing prisoners to go and get as much water as they wanted at the creek?

A. There was not enough guard.

The man who shot Lieut. Davis could have received a flogging, upon Maj. Gee's recommendation, without going through my hands. I don't know that he did not recommend it; think I would have known, if he had.

The man who did this shooting was removed from his post.

Re-Direct.—From the report made to me there was no ground for punishing him. The guard, as I understood it, warned the prisoner and he rejected the warning and was shot. It was Maj. Gee's duty to investigate it.

To the Court.—The man who shot Davis was small, about 17 years old, thin, had a scraggly look, rather undersized, was very reported to me as unfit for duty as a sentinel, because of any mental disability.

Before I went home on furlough there was no shelter for the prisoners, but they had tents afterwards.

Of a large ratio of the dead I should have regarded confinement and want of exercise and shelter as the causes.

The size of the stockade was limited. I don't know why it was not enlarged. The deficiency in procuring timber and the scarcity of the guards were good reasons against its being enlarged.

Court adjourned until 10 A. M. to-day.

GENERAL STEPHEN AND FULLERTON.—We noticed, on yesterday, the arrival of these gentlemen in this city, on the mission upon which they were sent by the President, viz.: To investigate the operations of the Freedmen's Bureau and report upon the social status of the Southern States. They have been doubtless called upon by many of our citizens, who are competent to give them correct and unperverted information as to the true state of affairs in our midst.

A correspondent of the New York Herald, who accompanied these distinguished officers in their tour through Virginia, describes the result of their observations as having shown conclusively that the representations of radical leaders and papers, showing antagonism between the races and outrages upon the weaker race, are exaggerations of individual cases, and wholly inapplicable to the people generally. The correspondent was strongly impressed before his visit with the idea that the antagonism between the races was bitter and relentless, and has been astonished to find its entire absence. He respects the reliance, respect and dependence of the days of slavery as still existing, and pictures the native Virginians as the friends and tutors of their former slaves.

HEDDLE, SUPERIOR COURT.—This Court was held last week. The criminal docket was not large. Ex-Gov. Vance was in attendance, and, the American says, is obtaining an extensive practice at the bar.

NEWBERRY AFFAIRS.—The Commercial chronicles the arrival, by steamer El. Cid, of a large number of white emigrants, farm hands and house servants intended for planters in the vicinity and citizens of the city, furnished by Messrs. Nash & Graham.

RALEIGH NATIONAL BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

A Remarkable Case.

DODSON IN WHICH THE LIVER AND THROAT ARE INVOLVED.—Mrs. Phoebe Perkins, Petersburg, Va., (Aug. 26, 1855,) says: "I hereby certify, that two years ago last June, I was afflicted with a disease commonly called the Breast Complaint; the pain and weakness of the breast caused me to believe that I could not bear my children; but I did not. I had a piece of tissue paper I sewed on externally to breast, a general debt my mind overcame over my whole system—so much so, that I could not walk up the stairs without dragging myself up by the banister; had a continuous hacking cough, which distressed me greatly; four times during my illness, but Hooke, my doctor, said: it was the opinion of my friends that I must die. I did not consider it very substantial. A few days later: it was advised to use the SOUTHERN HERPATIC PILLS, after using three boxes, according to directions, I find myself in the enjoyment of perfect health. I have a good appetite, have come so easily as I ever was, sleep sound and sweetly, am not subject to fits, nor to any such disease as I ever had. I have a perfect charm in me."

For sale by the Druggist. Directions accompany each box. Sent to any part of the United States for \$3 per dozen. Address: GEORGE W. DEEMS & CO., April 3, 1855, Baltimore, Md.

RALEIGH MONEY MARKET.

CORRECTED BY JOHN G. WILLIAMS & CO., BROKERS, RALEIGH, N. C.

PRICES OF NORTH CAROLINA BANK NOTES.

BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

1 Cape Fear.....20

2 Charlotte.....20

3 Lexington at Graham.....25

4 Roxborough.....25

5 Wadesborough.....10

6 Thomasville.....10

7 Winston.....10

8 Concord.....5

9 Washington.....5

10 Fayetteville.....5

11 Clarence.....5

12 Yanceyville.....5

13 Miners and Planters Banks.....5

14 Farmers' Bank, Greensborough.....5

15 Commercial Bank, Wilmington.....5

16 Greensborough Mutual.....5

17 Virginia Bank Notes, about.....25

18 South Carolina.....18

19 Georgia.....20

20 Gold.....125

21 Silver.....118

22 Old Coupons.....46

23 North Carolina Railroad Coupons.....5

24 North Carolina Exchange on New York.....5

25 RALEIGH NATIONAL BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

BUYING RATES.—N. C. BANK NOTES.

BANK OF CAPE FEAR.

20 Charlotte.....20

21 Commerce.....12

22 Fayetteville.....12

23 Lexington.....10

24 North Carolina [Gold].....25

25 Roxboro.....25

26 Thomasville.....10

27 Wadesboro.....10

28 Washington.....10

29 Fayetteville.....5

30 Commercial Bank, Wilmington.....5

31 Merchants' Bank, Newbern.....5

32 Miners and Planters' Bank.....5

33 Virginia Bank Notes, average.....25

34 South Carolina.....18

35 Georgia.....20

36 Gold.....125

37 Silver.....118

38 Old Coupons.....46

39 North Carolina Railroad Coupons.....5

40 North Carolina Exchange on New York.....5

41 RALEIGH NATIONAL BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SELLING RATES.—N. C. BANK NOTES.

20 Charlotte.....20

21 Commerce.....12

22 Fayetteville.....12

23 Lexington.....10

24 North Carolina [Gold].....25

25 Roxboro.....25

26 Thomasville.....10

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