

THE CAROLINA FLAG.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER—DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, GENERAL INTELLIGENCE, POLITICS, AGRICULTURE, AND SCIENCES, &c.

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The Battle of Bethel Church. We make the following extract from a letter which we find in the Petersburg Express, from a Soldier to his brother in Petersburg, writing from Yorktown.

"We marched about 14 miles down towards Hampton, until we reached a junction of roads, but their names I do not recollect, even if I heard them called. Here we separated—our company and three others taking the right hand road, the balance and the Lowitzer Company, and the North Carolina Regiment, going on to Bethel Church. At Bethel Church three roads met again. Here we threw up a breast work, and two days after all the companies left us, we being alone.

"On Monday morning about half past three o'clock, we heard the firing of cannon. This we subsequently learned, was caused by two or more regiments of the Federal troops meeting at a certain point, some from Hampton and others from Newport News, and mistaking one another for enemies, they commenced firing upon each other. It was quite dark, and I am informed that they played the d—l, all among themselves.

"About seven o'clock I was sent with a picket guard on the road to notify our Captain of their approach.

"About half past eight o'clock the fighting commenced in real earnest, and by George, you ought to have heard the 'war dogs' roar. My orders were to stand by my post until the enemy came in sight, when we were to fire and retreat. Anderson, brave boy, was on the outer post, within a quarter mile of the enemy.

"About 10 o'clock the firing ceased, which surprised us all. We soon learned the cause, however. A messenger came in at full gallop, and told me the enemy had been repulsed, and was then within a half a mile of us, on a rapid march, to flank our army, and thus reach Yorktown. I sent a message to the Captain to inform him of it, but was dismayed to learn that he had gone to the field an hour before, leaving me with eight men to guard the post, with a chance of being cut to pieces by 1,000 men. One of my men heard a wagon coming, when he fired and ran like a quarter horse, and then another followed his example, leaving me with six men. Anderson was on the outer post. He stood his ground nobly, though they did not come through, for they about-faced, and made a second attack, yelling like mad devils. The Yankees seem to think that the Southerners are easily frightened by their famous 'yell', which we so often heard when running with the machine. Deluded fools, they ought to know that many of our Southern boys were not born in the woods to be scared by owls!

"At this second attack, they met with a hotter reception than at the first, and were repulsed with terrible loss. I saw them strewn along the road, dead and dying, for several hundred yards.

"About 11 o'clock, I was ordered by the Colonel to take off my picket guard, and come down to the entrenchments as quick as possible, as the enemy had been reinforced. I carried my men a mile and a half in fifteen minutes, but got there too late, for the last charge had been made, and the Yankees totally routed.

left nipple, killing him instantly. As I gazed at his manly form, but a minute or two previous so animated, and now motionless in death, I could not suppress a tear. He was apparently thirty years of age, with comely features and a fine figure. His uniform was an elegant one, and exquisitely cut and made. A gold watch was found on his person, and a splendid sword with his name engraved upon the hilt, and an inscription upon it stating by whom presented. In his pocket was a letter written only the day previous to his wife. Poor woman, she will derive a melancholy consolation from the perusal of that letter should it ever reach her.

We took several prisoners, and from them learned that they expected scarcely any resistance at Bethel Church. Their destination was Yorktown, and they expected to camp there that night. Here let me remark, how fallacious are all human expectations! They say our artillery did terrible execution and that they killed must have been over 800!" E. W. M.

THE LETTER ON CAPT. WALDROP'S PERSON.

A gentleman informs us, says the Richmond Enquirer, as from a perfectly reliable source, that a letter was found on the person of Capt. Waldrop, who was slain in the late battle of Bethel Church, or County Bridge, directed to his sister, in which he said that he had not made much headway as yet; that he had captured twenty negroes, and when he had made sale of them he would send her a nice present.

Magruder's men express the most extreme satisfaction with his conduct, and say they will follow him anywhere.

The bearer of the flag of truce stated that five regiments had taken part in the battle. The return of the watch and sword taken from the person of Waldrop, was requested. The watch will be returned, but not the sword.

NORTH CAROLINA PLUCK UNDERESTATED.

We understand that some of the prisoners taken at the recent battle of Bethel, say that they were grossly deceived as to the fighting material of which our people are composed. The Yankees were addressed at an early hour on Monday morning the day of battle, by one of the officers, who told them that they would encounter about 300 North Carolinians and 100 Virginians, at Bethel Church. That they were commanded by an old Virginia militia captain, who had never planned nor fought a battle. That the North Carolinians were not cowardly, and that the Virginians were but little better. They could all be whipped with corn-stalks, but it was suggested that it would be better to take their guns along, so as to be prepared for any emergency. They are all now convinced, probably that the North Carolinians and Virginians cannot be whipped with the most approved rifles and muskets, and that too, when attacked in numbers greatly their superior.

From the Stanton Spectator. The Affair at Phillipa—A Reliable Account. We are at a great loss to know what to say about the affair at Phillipa, as we have heard a thousand and one stories, and no two concurring. We are even at a loss to know what to call it—not knowing whether a fight, skirmish or foot race is the most appropriate. Our forces, between 700 and 800 were at Phillipa, (not Phillipa, as it is usually, but erroneously, written,) having fallen back from Gratten. It seems that on Saturday, Ex-Governor Johnson brought intelligence to our camp at Phillipa that the enemy, about 12,000 strong, were at Gratten, and that on Sunday, the next day, at 2 o'clock, p. m., two heroic ladies, Misses Mollie McLeod and Abbie Kerr, arrived at Phillipa, having ridden from Fairmount, a distance of 84 miles, in great haste, to apprise our force that the enemy were marching upon them, and that they would be attacked that night or the next morning. Notwithstanding they had been forewarned, they remained at Phillipa in fancied security, neglected to have scouts sent out to give warning if the enemy should approach, went to sleep, and slept soundly, till they were awakened by the loud report of the enemy's artillery. They found, to their utter surprise and amazement, that the enemy, in overwhelming force, had caught them napping, and were cordially

bidding "good morning" in the strong voice of deep-mouthed cannon. The Commandant, Col. Porterfield, looked out of the window, witnessed the cordial greeting the enemy was bestowing upon our men, with a wise appreciation of their good fortune, gave the command, "Run boys, run!" and as they had learned the first duty of the soldier, they promptly, and with commendable alacrity, obeyed the command of their superior officer. As would necessarily and inevitably be the case under such circumstances, our men were panic-stricken, and thrown into inextricable confusion. The cavalry horses broke their picket ropes, and, without riders or saddles, dashed furiously in every direction. The companies retreated in disorder towards Beverly, with the exception of that under the command of Capt. Moomau. He, it seems, rallied his men in order, together with a portion of Capt. Hill's company, which, by some means, became separated from the other portion of their company, and by this means became the commander of a company of about 150 men. With this force he diverged from the main road, and took position in the woods. That portion of the enemy's force which had been sent around Phillipa for the purpose of cutting off the retreat of our men, were thus prevented by Captain Moomau's company from succeeding in their purpose. This part of the enemy's force was stationed upon a hill which commanded the position occupied by Capt. Moomau from which they kept up a constant firing upon his company, but, though within the range of the minnie guns, did not kill a single man. They shot too high. A ball passed through the hat of George Blakemore, one of the smallest men in the company, and it was very fortunate that he was, for otherwise he would have been killed.

Capt. Moomau knowing that that portion of the enemy which was firing upon him, was not within the range of his guns, (the common rifles) very wisely ordered his men not to fire upon them. He had but five rounds, and could not afford to throw any of them away. He reserved his fire for the main body of the enemy which he expected would attempt to pass along the main road in pursuit of our forces which had retreated beyond that point. In a short time the advance guard of the main body, approached as he had expected, when they were brought to a sudden halt by the firing of his company. The time for the enemy to be frightened had now arrived, and as they imagined that our whole force was there in ambush impatiently awaiting their approach, they thought "discretion the better part of the valor," and lost no time in retreating. They did not give this gallant company time or opportunity to kill many—it is supposed that they killed ten or twelve of the enemy whilst none of them were hurt.

The loss of the enemy is not known. It was reported by their own despatches that Col. Kelly was killed, but more recent despatches received through the same medium, say that he was only wounded. It is reported that Col. Kelly was shot by James Withers, a member of the Rockbridge Cavalry, Capt. McNutt. There were none killed upon our side. It was reported Mr. Thomas E. Simms, of Richmond, who was attached to the Commissary Department, was killed, but more recent intelligence affirms that he was merely taken prisoner. Leroy P. Dangerfield, an estimable gentleman and gallant soldier, a member of the Bath Cavalry, Capt. Richards, had his leg broken by a rifle ball, near the ankle. His leg was amputated a few inches above the ankle. James Hanger, a young man, not a soldier, who accompanied the "Churchville Cavalry" of this county under the command of Capt. Starrett, also had his leg broken. Robert B. Dunlap, a son of Bailly Dunlap, of this county, was shot in the arm. It was a flesh wound merely, and is not serious. By this surprise and retreat we lost all our wagons and stores and a considerable number of arms.

It is a common saying of moralists that the lower order of animals have not the vices of man, yet it is quite certain that some of the insects are back-biters, and all of the quadrupeds tale-bearers.

Why are book-keepers like chickens? Because they have to scratch for a living.

The Fight of Bethel Church. Information was yesterday derived from a passage on the Adelaide, that the slaughter of the Federal troops was fearful. The Confederates had a small battery of five guns in front of the heavy battery of rifled cannon, and that was supposed to be all they had.

The small ones were attacked by the Zouaves, who fought bravely, but the Confederates, by a judicious use of their muskets, and their heavy battery. Thus drawing the whole Federal column within range of their destructive fire.

The number killed and wounded was estimated at Fortress Monroe was one thousand at least. Up to the time the Adelaide left, nine o'clock on Monday night, two hundred and eighty wounded had been brought to the hospital, and still there were more left.

The fire of the Confederates was extraordinarily fatal, and they were so well protected behind their works that nothing was seen of any of them until after the Federal column began their retreat, when some of them mounted on the top of their works.

Who was in command of the Confederates was not a certainty, but it was thought that Colonel Magruder was there. The guns are said to have been served with great rapidity and unerring aim, not one having missed its mark.

LECT. GREENLE. This officer, who is reported among the killed, belonged to the regular army, and was a relative of Mayor Henry, of Philadelphia. An order was brought to the city by the Norfolk boat for a metallic coffin for the body of the fallen officer.

BRIGADIER GENERAL PIERCE. This officer, who commanded the troops during the engagement, is a Massachusetts man, and has held a military commission under the laws of the State for several years.

The steamer Adelaide, Capt. Cannon, left Old Point Comfort late on Monday evening, and reached this city at half past 8 o'clock yesterday morning. She brought intelligence of a battle between the Federal and Confederate troops at Great Bethel Bridge, twelve miles from Fortress Monroe, in which the Federal troops were repulsed and suffered severely.

OLD POINT, June 10, 1861. At a late hour on Sunday night Gen. Pierce left with about five thousand men, a part of which consisted of a German regiment, Col. Benedict, from New York, and one of the Albany regiments, Col. Townsend, and the Zouave regiment, Col. Duryea. The column was divided, and before reaching the Great Bethel bridge they met and mistaking each other for the enemy, began to fight.

The Albany regiment soon gave way and ran. Two were killed and nine wounded. The mistake was then discovered, and the entire column was reformed and marched towards the bridge, where it was said some four hundred of the Confederate forces were lodged.

On reaching the creek it was found that the Confederates had destroyed the bridge, but the whole Federal column was thrown on the bank of the creek.

At that moment a masked battery from the opposite of the bridge opened its fire with deadly effect on the Federal troops. Two pieces of Artillery was then directed against the battery, but without doing it any perceptible damage.

In the engagement Lieut. Greenle and Major Wintrop of the Federal forces were killed, and about fifty or one hundred of the troops were killed and two hundred wounded. The battle began about 4 o'clock in the morning, and continued for three hours, when the Federal troops were driven back.

sorrowful day at Old Point Comfort. General Butler having learned that the Confederates were forming an entrenched camp, with strong batteries, at Great Bethel, nine miles from Hampton, on the Yorktown road, he deemed it necessary to dislodge them. Accordingly movements were made last night from Fortress Monroe and Newport News. About midnight Col. Duryea's Zouaves and Colonel Townsend's Albany regiment crossed the river at Hampton by means of six large batteaux, manned by the Naval brigade, and took up the line of march, the former some two miles in advance of the latter.

The Confederate battery was so completely masked that no man could be seen, only the flashes of the guns. There was probably not less than one thousand men behind their sand batteries. A well-concentrated movement might have secured the position, but Brig. Gen. Pierce, who commanded the expedition, appears to have lost his presence of mind, and the Troy Regiment stood an hour exposed to a galling fire.

This is all we could insert of the despatch.

From the State Journal. The Fight by an Eye-witness. We are indebted for facts contained in the following sketch to Wm. Tiddy, Esq., of Charlotte, who was present during the whole time; and for the benefit of those who do not know our informant, we state that he is an intelligent gentleman and perfectly reliable.

It appears that our troops left Yorktown for Bethel Church at noon on Thursday last and reached that point by 7 o'clock in the evening. The cause of this movement is, of course, best known to the officers in command. Accompanying the troops was a battery of four howitzer guns, manned by the Richmond Artillery. On Saturday the Edgecombe Guards, Capt. Briggers, were off scouting and killed seven or eight of the enemy.

The time between the arrival at Bethel Church and the engagement was devoted to entrenching the position taken by Col. Hill—and our informant says the ground was admirably well chosen. By Sunday night every thing was in readiness—breakfasts complete and the place made impregnable.

On Monday morning the troops were beat to arms before day and advanced from their position some two or three miles, when they were met by an old lady from whom they learned that the Yankees were in force in that neighborhood.

This being confirmed by the scouting parties, the command of Col. Hill was ordered back to their entrenchments. The enemy's advance was reported as they progressed by our scouts. An attack was now inevitable. Col. Hill delivered his final instructions to his troops, having seen every man at his post, and ordered that strict silence should be observed and that no man should fire before the word was given. The Lincolinites were now in full range and then opened upon them. The first shot, as was learned from one of the wounded, killed four or five and wounded several. This fire was opened at 500 yards range.

The action commenced at 8 o'clock, A. M. The enemy promptly returned the fire from their artillery, but did not fight with spirit. Shot and shell were showered over our troops, but nearly all passed over the entrenchment and did no harm.

A flank movement was now attempted on the left of our line, but that was gallantly repulsed by the Charlotte Greys. In this attack Col. D. W. Wardrop, of the N. Y. 7th Regiment, fell mortally wounded. (Col. Duryea was not present and hence the statement of his death is incorrect.)

On the right of our lines, a swamp intervening, was posted a number of Virginia troops, with one howitzer gun. By some means this gun became spiked, owing, it is said, to the needle used at the touch hole breaking in the vent. The enemy, seeing this gun silenced, charged upon it and took possession of that point, threatening our right. Capt. Briggers was ordered to retake that position, which he most gallantly did, sustained by the fire from the battery in the center, and drove some 2,000 men before him with about 80. They fell back under cover of a house some

30 to 40 paces in front. Capt. B. called for volunteers from his company to fire the building. Some five stepped forward to the hazardous task, amongst them the brave Henry A. Wyatt, who immediately fell, pierced with a rifle ball. He died that evening. A companion of Wyatt's shot the Yankee who had killed his comrade, and the house now being on fire by a shell the four comrades returned to their ranks.

The Lincolinites made another attempt to dislodge our troops, and failing, retreated, followed shortly after by our cavalry, who were out on scouting duty. The Lincolinites had quite a start of the cavalry, but were so hotly pursued that they abandoned their knapsacks, and all their equipments on the road and left everything behind except their arms.

The forces are set down by our informant at 4,500 Lincolinites, (on the authority of one of their wounded) and 1,200 Confederate troops, including the First Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers. The Infantry did not pursue, and left for Yorktown soon after the fight, where they arrived about midnight.

The attack of the Edgecombe Rifles, on the 2,000 Lincolinites, is said to have been a gallant affair. And the manner in which the Richmond Artillery manned their guns, won for them well-merited praise. Indeed the coolness and courage of all the troops under Col. Hill, is said to have been admirable.

Fun in Abe's Camp. Some of the horses of A. L. have fun in them, and seem to be living "in clover." Read the following Washington letter:

I am living luxuriously at present, on the top of a very respectable fence, and fare sumptuously on three granite biscuits a day, and a glass of water weakened with brandy. A high private in the 22nd Regiment has promised to let me have one of his square jacket handkerchiefs for a sheet the first rainy night, and I never go to bed on my comfortable window brush without thinking how many poor creatures there are in this world who have to sleep on their mattresses and feather beds at their lives.

Before the great rush of Fire Zouaves and the rest of the menagerie commenced, I boarded exclusively on a front stoop in Pennsylvania avenue, and used to slumber regardless of expense, in a well conducted fish box; but the military monopolize all such accommodations now, and I give way for the sake of my country.

I tell you, my boy, we're having high old times here just now; and if they get any higher I shan't be able to afford to stay. The city is "in danger" every hour, and as a veteran in the Fire Zouaves remarked, there seems to be enough danger lying around loose on Arlington Heights to make a very good blood and thunder fiction, in numerous pages. If the vigilant and well educated sentinels happened to see a nigger on the upper side of the Potomac, they sing out: "Here they come!" and the whole blessed army is snapping Caps in less than a minute.

Then all the reporters telegraph to their papers in New York and Philadelphia that Jeff Davis is within two minutes' walk of the Capitol, with a few millions of men, all the Free States send six more regiments apiece to crowd us a little more. I shan't stand much crowding, for my fence is full now and there was six applicants yesterday to rent an improved knothole. My landlord says that more than three chaps set up house-keeping on one post, he'll be obliged to raise the rent.

The greatest confidence in General Scott is felt by all, and it would do you good to see the gay old hero take the oath. He takes it after every meal, and the first thing when he gets up in the morning.

Those Fire Zouaves are fellows of awful section, I tell you. Just for green, I asked one of them yesterday what he came here for. "Hah!" says he, shutting one eye, "we came here to strike for your alms and your fire—especially your fire." Gen. Scott says that, if he wanted these chaps to break through the army of the Potomac, he'd have a fire-bell rung for some anti-traitor on the other side of the Rebels. He says that a half a million of traitors could not keep the first Zouaves out of that district five minutes. I believe him, my boy.

From the Richmond White-Gallant Post of North Carolinians. We had an interview, yesterday, with Mr. W. F. McKesson, of North Carolina, who left Bethel Church in York county, on Monday morning at 7 o'clock, and arrived here yesterday afternoon from West Point by railroad. He communicated the following interesting news from that section of the State, touching for its general interest.

McDowell's company, of Asheville, N. C. (of Col. Hill's Regiment) started from Bethel Church on a reconnoitering expedition. The company numbered about one hundred men, but Lieut. Gregory, with ten men, marched about eighty paces in advance of the main body. When within two miles of Hampton, the advance guard unexpectedly encountered about two hundred of the enemy, and both sides came to a halt. The federalists were thrown off their guard by the boldness of the North Carolinians, in advancing so near the enemy's camp, and evidently supposed them to be a part of their own force.

Acting upon this supposition, their leader advanced and exclaimed, "We are friends—we belong to the New York 2nd Regiment," whereupon Lieut. Gregory presented his revolver and threatened to blow out his brains if he did not instantly drop his musket and surrender. The demand was instantly complied with, and the main body of the North Carolinians having now advanced, fired about thirty-five shots at the foe, who returned the fire, and fled towards their camp, carrying with them ten or fifteen killed and wounded.

On our side, "nobody was hurt," the balls passing over the heads of the North Carolinians, who being in those proximity to the enemy's camp, deemed it inexpedient to pursue the fugitives, and returned to Bethel Church.

The prisoner is an athletic fellow, named Geo. Mason. His musket and knife were brought to the city by Mr. McKesson, who sent them to North Carolina, and present them, in behalf of Lt. Gregory to doctor J. F. E. Hardy, of Asheville, N. C. The prisoner was sent to Yorktown.

From the Petersburg Express. Special Dispatch from our Ballouist. Glorious War News!

The Yankees Destroying Beach Okler.—Terrible and Beautiful Slaughter.—Confusion everywhere!—Lieut. Gen. Windaniffus Scott Attacked with Gout!—Gen. Coldwater Drowned!—Gen. Pigbat Sent to His Own! &c., &c.

CLOUDS OVER WASHINGTON, June 10th.—It is most authoritatively stated in circles below, that so far from the Confederates having won the victory of Bethel Church last Monday, the immense slaughter was occasioned by the Federalists firing on each other. It is all gas about the Confederates having killed more than two.

The plan of the campaign, I learn from most authentic sources, is to march on Richmond in three solid columns, one from Fortress Monroe, via Bethel Church, Yorktown, &c.; another Manassas Junction, and the third from Winchester, via Staunton; and further, I learn positively, that General Windaniffus Scott, by and with the direction of his master, has given secret orders to the invading General to fall on each other without mercy, as soon as they meet on the heights around Richmond, in case the Confederates should make any show of resistance.

LATER. MIDDLETOWN.—Gen. Windaniffus Scott had a severe attack of the gout to day after eating 15 hard boiled eggs for dinner. The eggs are believed to have been goose eggs.

Gen. Coldwater, in command of the Baltimore District, is reported to have stumbled his toe and fallen into the river to-day. He was drowned. A writ of habeas corpus was issued for his body, but the deep would not give it up.

Gen. Pigbat is believed to have received his quarters somewhere on the peninsula between Bethel Church and Old Point. BALLOONIST. The above is perfectly reliable and no mistake. Mrs. Partington wants to know if she were not intended that woman should drive their husbands, why were they put through the trials ceremony?